

The Lynton Herald

The best Newsletter that money can't buy.



Autumn/Winter
2013

Chairman's Christmas Message



Dear All

It's hard to believe that I am writing this already. It hardly seems five minutes since I wrote the last Chairman's Message.

Anita and I haven't attended many rallies this year but those we did attend were great fun as usual.

Thanks as ever to those of you who did attend a rally and more importantly, sincere thanks to those who marshalled and assisted as without you the rallies wouldn't happen.

My thanks also go to my fellow Committee members who work tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure the smooth running of the Club.

I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

See you next year.

Best wishes

Phill



From the Editor...

Well, another great caravanning year is over – I hope you've enjoyed reading the rally reports in our Newsletter. Thanks for sending them in and, of course, for your photographs. As always, if you have anything you would like included next time, please email:

stevenhelenball@virginmedia.com

Merry Christmas!

Steve

Message Board

Membership Renewals

Once again a reminder to renew your membership by promptly by 1st January 2014, and please send off your standing order mandates to your bank if you have yet to do so. Thank you.

AGM 2014

The 2014 AGM will be held at Cannock Woods, Rugeley, on Sunday 20th April at 12.30pm. We are hoping to have a Race Night in the evening, courtesy of Mike Smith, with a Fish 'n' chip supper.

Nev & Jacqui and Helen & Steve have agreed to put their awnings together for a Saturday Evening Quiz Night, or whatever we decide to do at the time.

The Children's Easter Egg hunt will be held on Sunday Morning.

Rally Updates

2014 Rally Programme

- March 21st – 23rd Packhorse Bungalow, Belper Road,
Alderwasley
- April 17th – 22nd Cannock Woods, Rugeley
- May 2nd - 5th Arden Fisheries, Snitterfield,
Stratford-upon-Avon
- May 24th – June 1st Whitsun Holiday
**Unfortunately, Llenewi Park has been cancelled by the owner – if
you have any alternative suggestions please contact Lynn.**
- June 20th – 22nd Sycamore Farm, Nether Alderley,
Macclesfield
- July 18th – 20th Carsington Water
- August 21st to 25th Smeaton Lakes, Newark on Trent
- September 12th – 14th Great Heywood, Staffs
- October 10th – 12th Marston Caravan & Camping
West Midlands

Full details of Marshals and site fees will be included with your renewal pack.

Rally No.387 **Holme Valley CC Park Holmfirth** 20th-22nd Sept

We arrived 1.45 pm Friday (early for us), just after Sheila and Graham, to be greeted by rally marshal Mike, who generously made tea for us all, tho' he'd only been on site a short time himself. Later we were joined by Gail and Ben, assistant marshals Colin & Jacqui (Neville & Doris), and by John and Lynn. That was it, just the five of us – a very select group though I say so myself. After fetching a fish and chip supper the evening was spent either with the accommodating marshals/assistants or watching telly. Although the club has been here before, I'd forgotten what a lovely sun-trap open field the rally field is (in spite of the many mucky ducks) – so much better than the actual site with its cheek by jowl outfits amongst the trees. Shame also about the approach to the 'park' down a long, steep, unmade road. But I moan too much.



Saturday dawned sunny and warm, so some of us did the touristy things by visiting Holmfirth to see Nora Batty's house, and have a coffee at Ivy's café (now Syd's), with all sorts of memorabilia relating to Summer Wine on sale.

Ron and I also had to visit a nearby caravan dealer's (don't we always?) for a water pump as ours had packed up. There's a grand atmosphere in the town as though Compo, Clegg and Foggy were still around; still are, on numerous repeats.

Saturday evening we all gathered in the Big Awning(s) for nibbles from Mike/Gail/Colin/Jacqui, and a couple of 'Who am I' quizzes. By the end of the evening we were all dab hands at quickly describing the characters which came up, for all the rest to guess. Mike & Gail decreed it should be boys vs girls, and the 'boys' won by 2 points. (We *wuz* robbed say I). Members also marked Sheila's 70th birthday on 11th September by bawling a raucous rendition of Happy Birthday for her. She and Graham kindly provided lovely cakes for us all, as well as Champagne. With all the food from the Marshals, assistants and Sheila and Graham, we were truly stuffed by chucking out time!



Why does Sunday come round so quickly? We'd only just arrived... At coffee morning, there was the usual raffle, in which every member won a prize. Very well organised.

Dennis, Jo and Zoe were the last to arrive and parked their 5th wheeler effortlessly to the admiration of all on site.

After a lovely tea of lobster and Bolly, we were too full and tipsy to join the gathering in the marquee so had an early night.

Saturday dawned bright, sunny and warm again and we headed off to Harrods to do some shopping. Purchases made, we headed back to the comforts of our trailer and after a fabulous tea and more Bolly we made our way to the marquee for the evening entertainment. The red carpet stars were out in force – Sir Graham and Lady Sheila of Brunt, Lord John and Lady Lynn of Ashbourne and the Protector of the Realm, Sir Dave, with his good lady wife Gill, to name but a few.

The fabulous entertainment was provided by the spectacular *maggikian*, Nevillo the Great, who had recently finished a 6 month stint on stage in Las Vegas. He was stupendous.



More Bolly flowed and the caviar was devoured in double quick time and before we knew it, the carriages had arrived to take us back to our trailers.

What a fantastic time we were having.

Then we woke up..... and realised that, just like a story line in a cheap Hollywood TV show, it had all been a dream. It was coffee morning, it was cold, it was windy and the rain was coming. What really happened was:

- Dave and Sally won longest tow
- All the children received a prize for the kids competition
- Pam and Graham won the adults competition
- Neville and Doris received their 25th rally plaque

Oh well, it doesn't hurt to dream.

Phill and Anita Yates



And finally, a blast from the past.....

Rally No. 254

Billing Aquadrome

5th-7th November 1999

“A Dirty Weekend that went off with a bang”

Friday, as the people who attended this rally already know, it rained. Nothing unusual in this you may remark, but what was unusual was the condition of the pitches allocated to your club – mud everywhere, water laying in great puddles (the ducks were having a great time), with little chance of finding a pitch offering a small chance to avoid either! “Never mind”, thought Marshal Geoff Norris, “I will solve this problem” whilst sat in the awning drying out, “...the only way I know how – I’ll worry” and what do you know – it worked! All the caravans were found a pitch. Not ideally the best, but the best that could be expected under the conditions.

In the evening we all went to Geoff & Jenny’s caravan where they put on coffee, tea, sausage rolls and ham rolls, which were very enjoyable and very much appreciated by all.

Saturday greeted us with a dry day, cold and windy but somewhat better than Friday’s offering, and the weather forecast promised it would remain so, giving a good clear night for the fireworks display and bonfire. The fireworks show could not have been better – a brilliant display befitting November 5th and the celebration of Sam Yates’ 7th birthday – many happy returns for Friday Sam, from all the members. After the fireworks we again returned to Geoff & Jenny’s awning to tuck into hot dogs with onions, hot drinks and a little later on, the traditional “juice of the grape”. Many thanks to the people who loaned their gas to cook the mountains of bangers and onions.

Sunday we had coffee morning and the raffle and the normal bits of plastic were awarded with Roger & Mary Husband receiving their well deserved Assistant Marshal plaque, and Arnold and Joan

Searby taking the honours for the longest tow. Geoff was nearly smiling by this time. I say nearly, because I had told him earlier that rain was forecast and he still had to take his awning down! It did not arrive however and he was able to accomplish the task. The weekend did not pass without incident, with Jenny falling into the sink hole at the tap whilst collecting water (it was about 18" deep) and with the water container tangled in her legs, it made it somewhat awkward to get out. She wouldn't repeat what she said, only that the air was blue. I did ask for a slow motion replay – couldn't hear her reply but I assume it meant NO! What about our Italian member – the electricity went off a couple of times which saw Tony Fioravanzo rushing around trying to find a hook up post that still worked, denying that he was the reason for it tripping! Try getting your kettle checked out Tony.

Jenny, Geoff, Mary & Roger, you started the season holding a meet at Welland, Worcs, where you had water running through your awning.... And you ended the season at Billing, Northampton with more or less the same conditions. What would we do without marshals like you to make caravan meets so different?

One last thing to be done is to say many thanks from us all for the food you put on Friday and Saturday evenings and all the hard work you put into making a silk purse out of a pigs ear – Well Done!

Tugboat – Alias Len Skipper 781



Bye, see you again soon.....!

Produced by Steve Ball
stevenhelenball@virginmedia.com