

# The Lynton Herald

The best Newsletter that money can't buy.



**SUMMER 2012**

## ***From the Editor...***

Thanks to those who kindly sent photos for inclusion, if you have anything for entry (especially scandal) please email me @ [sjb100@btinternet.com](mailto:sjb100@btinternet.com)

Steve

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## **Message Board**

### **A message from Janet Bowring**

“Lynton Winter Lunch - Once again I have arranged this at Biggin Hall (between Buxton and Ashbourne) on Saturday, 11 November - 12 noon for 12.30 pm. I am currently awaiting the full details from them - price and menu - but if you are interested, could you please let me know **by the end of September at the latest** and I can then e-mail you the menu to make your choice. My e-mail address is [janet6002003@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:janet6002003@yahoo.co.uk) and telephone number is 0114 2307570.”

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## **Rally Updates**

Rally No. 378 **14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> Sept The Smallholding, Rugeley**

Marshals: Neville & Doris

Tel: 01217 474498

Email: [brainbird99@live.co.uk](mailto:brainbird99@live.co.uk)

## The Lynton Wall of Fame



Congratulations to 81 year old Derek Howarth, father of members Dave & Gail, who proudly carried the Olympic Torch through Stockport on 24<sup>th</sup> June. A member of Leigh Harriers Athletics Club for over 50 years, Derek has coached and mentored children all his life and still coaches runners today.

Recently enrolled St John Ambulance Cadet, Katie Ball received her first certificate and took her oath “For the Faith and in the Service of Humanity” at an Annual Awards Ceremony in Stratford-upon-Avon in July.

Katie says “I was inspired to join after enjoying a St John First Aid demonstration at school”.



Rally 374

## Kendal Holiday Rally

1<sup>st</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> June

Janet, Kathryn, Gail and Mike arrived on Thursday to set up.

On Friday we arrived followed by Ted and Jen and Graham and Sheila. We all gathered in the evening and Gail and Michael set the agenda for the week with regards to activities for the evening. We were to play a game every night and the points would be totted up through the week and there would be one winner at the end of the week. We were to play in couples (that was risky, I wondered who would still be together by the end of the week).

The first quiz was taking a look back through the Number One singles over the decades. Really made us think and blow out the cobwebs. Sheila did really well and she let us into a secret that Graham had bought her very first record player, *ahhhh*.

For those up early enough on Saturday morning the sun shone and no clouds in sight; for those that rose later the clouds had set in for the day. Lyn and John arrived at 11am and that made up the family for the week. It was a free and easy day - many went shopping to stock up for the week. M&S had their Dine for Two on offer so some made an early dart. We were disappointed there were no steaks on offer (oh sorry, we had Gail with us to cause havoc with the management) needless to say 6 of us enjoyed succulent steaks on Sunday for our tea. Janet had been baking for the afternoon so we all had our tums filled.

Another night of quizzing tonight's subjects were Jobs, Parts of the body that have pairs, Herbs, Countries beginning with A. We had to try and match what was on Gail's list to gain the points.

Sunday we awoke to rain; it had been bouncing of the roof all night. The car booters went off to hunt for bargains Gail, JB and Janet, they were back within the hour quite disappointed.

The rain eventually left us in the morning, but left us with a very blustery day. The evening gathering was a gambling night - we played the card game Newmarket. The Newell's were the clear winners and wiped the board clear (did I say we were only playing with pennies just in case the children read this). We finished the night off with chase the ace which JB and Lynn won.



I was up very early on Monday, I could stand the snoring no more. I saw Graham leaving very early and I thought he had fallen out with Sheila and was off in a grump (as men do) but no, he arrived back later in the day, but it was a mystery where he had been. Again the sun shone in the morning and left us in the afternoon. In the evening we played the Humming Game to hit records or TV programmes, it was hilarious, worse than a cat's choir (mentioning no names).

Tuesday was Jubilee day and again the weather was not too brill (I am sounding like a stuck record with regards to this weather surely it must get better.) We had a gatecrasher at the party but a very welcome gatecrasher...Louis, Julie and Bernard came to say hello. Louis looked wonderful although a little more frail, but has still got that cheeky smile and the one liners she kept dropping in, a real hit with the men of course.

We had a lovely buffet lunch, which everyone contributed, a wonderful display of food and some alcohol infused dishes and it was all washed down with lots of punch. Whilst we were eating lunch we had some strange visitors arrive in the field - Janet and I went out with our Miss Marple hats on to investigate. We saw people trying to break into Sheila and Graham's caravan but on closer inspection and some shifty investigation and some DNA samples it was Sarah, Colin and Maria who had come for a visit.

We had an afternoon of games, pin the nose on the clown, target games with balls and the Frisbee that Michael had rigged up. It amazes me how Hazard tape, balls and Frisbees' could bring out so much laughter. An excellent day and we were all wiped out by the evening.

Wednesday brought a day of mixed weather and many chose to go out for the day. Kirsten and Ben arrived to spend a couple of days with us. The evening games were Scattagories, Gail gave the subject and a letter you had to list as many words you could think of. For example Subject Metal and the letter M, Janet and Ben teamed up as Kathryn had a headache and turned in early (we think it was a hangover from all the punch she had drunk the day before) anyway their list comprised of Metal Pan, Metal Can, Metal Plate I don't think they quite got it.

There was uproar in the camp as you can imagine and Mike had to wade in and break up the fight, it was great fun.



Thursday was another rainy day (no, it is not getting any better). The evening brought another game of scattagories because we had so much fun the night before and finished off with Chase the Ace.

Friday again the rain came down and then it went and we were quite hopeful, as it kept appearing to get brighter. We were all in the awning having a chat when we overheard Graham saying that he was going to have to go back home again. What do you mean **again** Graham, “oh I had to go home because the generator was not working so had to buy a new one” (mystery solved that is where he had been on Monday and no row with Sheila thank God, and no men going off in a grump.

Mind you he was lucky because poor Sheila had had her fair share of chores this week, mechanic, tyre changer (not saying a word about Graham's driving), electrician and battery repairer, talk about multi tasking that would look good on any CV.

We of course were not going to let him go home again so we rigged his power lead up to our generator so at least he could get charge in the van, then JB's battery went flat so Graham rigged another lead into JB's van, gosh it was all happening.

Friday night was chippy night, Kathryn and Janet went off get the grub whilst we all waited banging our cutlery on the table for them to return - excellent food. We played the newspaper game in the evening, which for those of you that have played before you will know how fast and furious that can be. We finished off after all the carnage with Chase the Ace.

Saturday was free and easy and yes you guessed another rainy day. John and Lyn had gone out for the day so we played Newmarket - we wanted to get our revenge on the Newell's and we did.

Sunday had arrived and it was a rush for all to get the awnings down before the rain set in - we could see it coming from afar. We had a creamed tea for coffee morning, which was gratefully received. Louis, Julie and Bernard joined us, it was lovely to see Louis again. We had been set a Royal Quiz for us all to complete during the week which was quite challenging, but it did help that the newspapers were full of the Royals all week, but alas we did not win - John and Lyn won. We won the overall quiz of the week and it had been great fun. Ted and Jenny got the longest tow 158 miles.

Thanks to Janet, Kathryn, Mike and Gail for their hard work all week and well done to them for an entertaining rally.

## **Gill Howarth**

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Rally No 375 **Hollington End Farm, Thorpe** 22<sup>nd</sup> -24<sup>th</sup> June

We arrived Friday afternoon at Hollington End Farm, Thorpe, near Ashbourne, to be greeted by Mike and Gail Smith who were the marshals for the rally.

After a phone call from Mike on Thursday afternoon, telling us that Dave and Gill Howarth unfortunately couldn't make it, we agreed to step in and join awnings to make the communal meeting area. It was so nice of Gail and Jacqui to sit inside the caravan talking and drinking tea, while myself and Mike soldiered on putting the awning up, with the help of Dave and Sally De-Schoolmeester and Dave and Christine Milward. Rain showers followed but at least we got the awnings together and were dry.

Eight caravans turned up in the end including Pam and Graham Ball, who were later than they had anticipated due to a flat caravan battery. On Friday evening everyone gathered for a catch up, drinks and nibbles in the marshal's awning.

Saturday was a "hit and miss" day weather wise; Mike was going out of the awning, then suddenly realised he had put his Wellies on the wrong feet! (Well, I wasn't going to tell him was I) - it was funny though. Mike saved the day for Pam and Graham whose battery went flat again, so out came the "Genny" to charge it back up.

We had a committee meeting on Saturday morning, and once the meeting was over some of us did brave the elements to visit Ashbourne where the local carnival was on, and street entertainers were doing their thing between the rain showers. Helen was looking around the market for a new pair of glasses as the ones she had were missing an arm. She did look funny taking notes at the committee meeting when they kept falling off.

Pam and Graham also had a problem with their BBQ - after cooking theirs and Steve, Helen and Katie's tea for two hours, they still had to finish it off in the caravan oven. The chicken was that under cooked it was still clucking. (Try using more charcoal next time Graham).

Saturday night we all met in the marshal's awning for a game of Scattergories. This was a great laugh with everyone arguing over answers, but Mike had the last say as he was the marshal. Mary Beers really came out of her shell though, and came up with some wonderful words such as "Ar\*e, Trump and Pornography", we really saw Mary in a different light. Then not to be out done, John and Lynn had an answer for something that flies beginning with the letter N – they tried to get away with "Gnats". Mike thought this was a good answer until we pointed out that it began with a silent G and everyone was in hysterics. *(Some answers were highly questionable; Gail remarked that at times it was more like Call my Bluff!)*

As the evening wore on everyone started to retire to their caravans in the rain (which didn't stop all night) and that left me, Jacqui, Steve and Helen to see the night out in our caravan. As Mike and Gail had to get up early Sunday morning so they could go and watch Gail's Dad run with the Olympic torch, we had to be **really quiet** *(Nev and quiet*

*don't quite go, do they...)* so we did not disturb them. All was going well until Helen had the titters when they were going back to their caravan - I didn't help though as when I pushed the rain off our awning roof it made a right racket and there was a lot of shushing going on (*the water hitting the bottom of the awning sounded like someone manically banging a drum, the more Nev tried to stop it the worse it got. We were all in silent hysterics at his antics*). How Mike and Gail slept through that and all the laughter was amazing.

Sunday morning came and Mike and Gail headed off around 7.30am saying they would try and get back for coffee morning. Lynn, myself and Jacqui set up for coffee morning and Mike and Gail arrived back just in time.

They were both really proud to have watched Derek Howarth do his run with the Olympic torch and Mike even confessed he had a lump in his throat as Derek ran past. Good on you Derek, not bad for someone who is 81 years old.

The site owner, Steph, joined us for coffee morning along with her husband and their young son.



The customary raffle took place and then the longest tow award was presented to David and Christine Milward who had travelled 143 miles. They also won the adult's competition getting a perfect 22 out of 22, correctly guessing place names from cryptic clues.

Katie Ball won the children's competition working out anagrams of pop stars' names - mind you it wasn't hard as she was the only one there!

After coffee morning it was time to pack up and go home. Luckily, despite the rain falling most of Saturday night, all the awnings had dried out thanks to sunshine and wind.

A special thank you goes to Mike and Gail for a great weekend which everyone thoroughly enjoyed.

### **Neville and Jacqui Willis.**

Footnote: The elsan point was at the far end of an adjoining field, which was inhabited by the biggest bull you have ever seen in your life. Although we were assured that it was friendly and had “never attacked anyone *before*”, it was noticeable how nervous members were in crossing the field, sussing out escape routes as they went.

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Rally No.376 **Elm Cottage, Winsford, Cheshire** 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> July

Little Budworth was another victim of the inclement weather resulting in the rally venue being waterlogged. Luckily, Lynn was able to book an alternative venue at the last minute, hence our re-visit to Elm Cottage.

It was a small rally with only four vans in attendance – Marshal's Mike & Gail with Ben, Ron & Mary, Steve, Helen & Katie and Us.

Having both managed to get Friday off work we arrived on site in the mizzle a few hours earlier than we were expected. Great for us but not for Marshal Mike who was catching 40 winks when we pulled up outside his caravan. Sorry Mike. We were lucky enough to be set up and sitting in the 'van before the heavens opened again.

A little while later the rain stopped and Steve & Helen appeared at the caravan door asking if we were going to be having fish and chips for tea. We hadn't planned on it but who can resist when there is a fish and chip van parked on site. He was very popular both Friday and Saturday evening.

Friday was a lovely relaxed evening spent in Mike & Gail's awning, chatting and catching up and the time flew by. Saturday dawned bright and sunny (hooray!) with a few fluffy clouds dotted around. We decided to head off to Chester by way of the Park & Ride for some retail therapy. It was only when we'd parked the car at the Park & Ride station that we realised we had the grand sum of £2.70 in cash to our name. Not good when the return tickets cost a total of £3.40!

So back into the car we get and spend the next 40 minutes queuing in race day traffic all the way to Chester town centre. Half way there I wondered why we hadn't had the sense (and cheek) to ask Ron & Mary for a sub, as they were right at the front of the Park & Ride bus queue!

After an enjoyable few hours mooching around the shops, we headed back and were greeted on site by Mike with the words "I need a word with you". Oh dear, what had we done/not done?

It transpires that Herr Hitler, er sorry, the site warden had goose stepped his way around our small 4 caravan set up and had found that 3 of us were letting our waste water drip into the scrub ground at the rear!

Not only that, the cheeky wotsit told Mike "you're not in a farmer's field now, you know". Oh mein Gott!! What is it with these wardens?? I wish we'd not smiled and waved to the four of them (who were sat doing nothing outside reception) when we drove in. Never mind, at least we only broke one rule .....

It was lovely to see Natalie, her hubby Michael and baby William (or Billy depending whether it's Granny or Grandpa you're talking to) on Saturday afternoon. It's hard to believe that William is 13 months old already.

Dave & Gill also visited and stayed after tea for the Lads v Lasses quiz. What a great quiz it was too. After each set of questions, we had to nominate a team member to take part in the Family Fortunes round. Each team member had to shout out the answer to a question and if their answer matched one of the five top answers, you were scored accordingly. It's easy as a spectator but not so much when you're in the spotlight! A random "Who Am I?" round part way through the evening sorted out the Lads from the Lasses, with the Lads being the overall winners. Mind you the Lasses are convinced that the Lads cheated and they were accused of shouting JUDY DENCH after overhearing Gill say it.

How come Sunday arrives so quickly? The raffle was a small affair but took an exciting turn when Ron discovered he had some BOGOF tickets that were stuck to the back of one of his other strips!

During the official stuff, Mary stood up and said.... "I have an announcement to make". Everyone looked at each other in anticipation – what was she going to say??!! *(there was even some speculation that she was pregnant...?)* We'd only gone and had a win with our lucky dip lottery ticket.



*The Founding Members of the newly formed Seychelles, Florida, Mauritius, and Australia branches of the Lynton Caravan Club celebrate their small win.*

*Since the win, and purely by coincidence, the club now has vacancies for Chairman, Vice-Chair, minute secretary, equipment officer and newsletter editor.*

“We’ve won £85” said Mary. How fantastic, shared between the four vans it meant that we’d more or less had a free rally!

Katie won the children’s Treasure Hunt competition and Steve & Helen won the adult’s quiz.

Steve & Helen also won the Longest Tow.

Ron & Mary were presented with their 200<sup>th</sup> rally plaque. What an achievement, well done.

Our thanks to Mike & Gail (and Ben of course) for another fantastic weekend.

### **Phill & Anita Yates**

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

Rally No. 327 **Spring Bank, Weston Park** 25<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> May 2007

It was not until the last evening before coffee morning that we learned of our horrible fate. Jayne, Mark, Mary & Ron got the booby prize in the beetle drive (even though we cheated with the best of them) and our prize was... to write the rally report!

On arrival at the site we were given about 20 acres in which to park, but being a sloping field the options were a bit limited. Nevertheless, there was plenty of room for the 10 outfits which braved this rather inclement weekend.

On the Saturday after the barbeque there was a fiendish several-part quiz held in the football pitch-size double awning of Dave & Gill and Mike & Gail, won by the Balls and Yates', followed by entertainment from Jayne with her hilarious monologues, with guitar recitals from Mike Smith and Neil Stout enjoyed by everyone present. Then came the rain, which stayed. Pounding on the awnings it did not deter a true Lynton spirit. A game was created using a torn up chocolate box (*pick it up off the floor with your teeth, it gets lower each round*). Very simple, at first!!!!

Various contortions amused the onlookers as the development of the fierce competition engulfed all who took part. "***Spread your legs and bend over more***" could be heard by all in the 120 acre park. God knows what they thought was going on. However, nobody could match the bendy body of Gill Howarth. Anti-inflammatories were the order of the day to treat the groin strains that resulted.

On Sunday evening, after a day of continuous downpours, we were all invited to partake of cheese and wine provided by Marshals Jo & Neil, ably assisted by Gill & Dave. We all enjoyed this lavish array of cheeses, biscuits and grapes, not to mention the wine. The cheese and biscuits tasted even better after they have been rained on through the awning roof!

The feasting was followed by the said beetle drive, won by Roger, Mary, Janet & Kathryn. Their box of chocolates prize (shared with all its losers) was much better I have to say, than the 'prize' of rally report writing. Neil, a man of many talents, then entertained us with his skill on the guitar, and joined by others later, by which time the Beers' had succumbed to the need for sleep and they left the proceedings by 11pm. Determined to beat Gill, those of us who considered themselves at all supple set about even greater postures. The memory is bringing tears to my eyes as I type.

Monday morning dawned dry – just – and the coffee, biscuit and treacle tart went down a treat. The children’s competition of making a miniature garden was too close to call and Jayne the Judge felt all participants (Geordan, Emily, Kirsten & Abbie) should each receive a prize. There’s a rumour that one more ‘garden’ was built, but like the cake in Macarthur Park, was left out in the rain, so became too mushy to enter (*Sam Yates’?*).

The adult competition was different in that all the questions were in Morse Code. This resulted in a tie between the Beers and Smiths, and the Beers won due to the luck of the draw. Thanks for the Mingles.

One of the quiz questions on Saturday evening was “Do moles live underground, or in bushes?” and yes, you’ve guessed it – one team gave the answer as “in bushes”. To mark this highly unlikely possibility, Dave Howarth was presented with a box containing a mole in a bush. Much hilarity ensued!

The longest tow was won by Jayne & Mark with 94 miles. “What exactly were you towing?” (*they had a motorhome*) went up the cry. Many thanks to Neil & Joanne for agreeing to marshal this long weekend as their first marshalling experience. They are now fully-fledged and don’t need any guidance from anyone on ‘have you run a rally?’ so we all look forward to many more with them at the helm. Thanks also to Dave & Gill for assisting, and to Mike & Gail for the continuous use of the double awning.

Phil and Anita celebrated their wedding anniversary of 23 years, or was it 123 years?

**Jayne & Mark Huxley and Mary & Ron Beers**

## CARAVAN SERVICING

At least four of our members (*including us, we have used him for 14yrs*) now use the mobile services of John Neal, who really does a very thorough and efficient job. Based in Daventry, John operates within approximately a 30 miles radius and is happy to service your van at your home, storage place or on a rally field. He comes very highly recommended, and currently charges £90 for a full service for both single and twin axled caravans.



*John Neal* **Mobile Caravan  
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**Office: 01788 521366  
Office Mobile: 07747 864983**

The advertisement features a white caravan with a dark front panel and a door on the side, set against a light blue background. The text is arranged in a clean, professional layout, with the business name in a mix of script and bold sans-serif fonts, and contact information in bold red text at the bottom.



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

*Produced by Steve Ball  
sjb100@btinternet.com*