

# *South Staffs*



## *Snippits*

*Issue No 12.*

## Editor's Foreward

This is the second edition of the year and sorry that it is later than stated in the last issue. The main reason being that I have not had enough material sent to me to make it worth printing a booklet for, however, after twisting a few arms I now have something to write about.

I am wondering if it was because I had only put in the new centres website e mail addresses, I will put in my normal e mail in future.

It was a shame that the Charity Rally at Bridgnorth was changed to a free and easy as there was not enough ralliers who would run any stalls, unfortunately there wasn't an entry for the Peggy Tomlinson trophy competition either, which was a bit disappointing.

As I said in the last issue the current committee are getting a bit stale now and we need new members to take over the various roles to keep the centre alive, I also stated that Steve McGuire our current Chairman said he would stay on another year, he has now rescinded this and will be retiring as Chairman at the next AGM in October.

The End of Summer Ball has had to be cancelled due to not enough bookings before the cut-off date. It is hoped those who booked in are not too disappointed as the centre has to promise a minimum number of people to attend or the centre has to pay for the shortfall. It is important that if you want to go to these venues then you must book in by the specified date, this also applies to rallies with food, entertainment etc.; where deposits have to be paid. Also see Centre Rules 14 & 15.

Whilst on the subject of Centre Rules I would like to draw everyone's attention to a few others as now there isn't a general hard copy to look at.

All rallies start at 2pm on Fridays as some marshals cannot get to the site until that morning. Earlier arrivals may be allowed by prior arrangement with the marshals concerned.

Members who do not arrive must pay £2.00 (even if cancelled prior to the rally) and any expenses incurred and also pay for any social tickets unsold. If payment of £2.00 is not paid, the Treasurer will send the member an invoice for £5.00 to cover additional administration costs. On limited rallies the full cost must be paid

A Fire Bucket or Fire Extinguisher is to be placed in front of your unit as this is now mandatory in this centre.

With regard to Health and Safety, please note that no pets including dogs will be allowed at Indoor Social events or in the Coleman Shelters.

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I asked my daughter if she'd seen my newspaper. She said that newspapers were old School. She said that people used tablets nowadays and handed me her iPad.

The fly didn't stand a chance, didn't do the iPad any good either.



## Chairman's Corner - May report

### Brookleys Farm, Bidford on Avon

We arrived at this lovely site Friday night just in time for flag.

The marshals as always were very welcoming and explained their planned activities for the weekend as everyone enjoyed a drink at flag.

Saturday most people went out and about to Bidford on Avon - whilst we sampled the local public houses.

Saturday evening we had a social in the barn. We had balloon modelling competition - which I must say the best person won - me!! We all had a good laugh trying to make various shapes/animals. We then had a couple of games of bingo followed by some music and chatting.

Sunday lunchtime myself, Tracy, Trevor and Sue all went for Sunday lunch at The Cottage of Content - highly recommend this local establishment - the food and service was amazing.

We then arrived back at the site just in time for the fun and games on the field. This involved throwing sticks of wood at a 'dolly' balanced on a stand. This may sound easy but believe me it was not! This did cause rather a few laughs whilst everyone sat around watching enjoying the sunshine.

On Sunday evening we all joined the marshals in the barn for another social. This evening we had a quiz, bingo and music.

Monday unfortunately came round rather quick and a few of us had to leave the rally to get back to 'work' - whilst the fortunate ones stayed an extra night.

All in all a very enjoyable weekend and special thanks to the marshals for the weekend - Anne and Steve Bell and Debbie and Ray Gardner.

Steve McGuire

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May Day

1<sup>st</sup> Embarrassment - My embarrassment would be trying to put up our air awning on the Friday only to watch it fall down again an hour later. Yes, we had a puncture, our air awning is jinxed, at the May Bank Holidays (last Year it exploded!)

So we had to borrow Ray's porch awning to run the Rally

Steve Bell

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YOUR CENTRE NEEDS YOU  
6.

May Day at Brookleys Farm Bidford on Avon  
With Anne, Steve, Debbie and Ray

We had a great time. Saturday Night we had food and all had balloons to make animals out of them, we also had bingo music and a good time

Sunday we had games on the field and Ray had a good time playing Aunt Sally. Sunday night we had a quiz and music, the weekend was fun packed. Thanks again to the marshals

Sue and Trevor

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**May Day Rally, Brookleys Farm, Bidford on Avon : 3rd-7th May 2019**

Arrived Saturday morning due to work commitments. Feet down, kettle on, sorted. Time to catch up with friends. Visited Coughton Court, an imposing Tudor house set in beautiful gardens. The kids enjoyed it and even dressed up! Sorry we missed the games back at base. Thank you to the marshals Steve & Anne Bell for a great rally.

Ann, Andy and Joshua Davies

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Teacher. Clyde, your composition on 'My Dog' is exactly the same as your brothers. Did you copy his?  
Clyde. No Sir, it's the same dog.

Me driving home from work knowing Im only going home to eat and sleep so I can do it all again tomorrow



Teacher. Donald, what is the chemical formula for water?

Donald. HIJKLMNO

Teacher. What are you talking about?

Donald. Yesterday you said it was H to O

Teacher. Harold, what do you call a person who keeps talking when people are no longer interested?

Harold. A teacher

Benicassim Spain

MAY

Brian, Pauline, Chris and Keith Spent 4 weeks on holiday at Benicassim Spain during May, just a few odd things that happened during the stay.

**2nd Embarrassment. Pauline fell off her bunk on the ferry.**

**3rd Embarrassment. Brian was cooking Tattie Bravas in the awning and put the chip pan lid on upside down.**

We had 2 games of dominoes and the women won 7 – 0, then again 3 – 2.

We never moved the cars for the whole of the time as we went everywhere on our bikes.

We moved 300 miles to Harrow for our last night as it was only 100 miles to the ferry then.

Next morning started out to Bilbao but only a few miles down the motorway a pulley on my Jeep broke which also wrecked the fan belt, result, no power steering, no battery charging and an overheating engine.

We managed to limp to the next exit as we didn't want to stay on the motorway. Brian and Pauline followed but had to leave us there as they would have missed the ferry as well.

Eventually we managed to get in touch with Red pennant but it was 4 hours before the breakdown truck arrived. We later found out it had travelled 100 miles from Bilbao to us.

The breakdown crew were very good and got us the 100 miles - first to take the car to their garage and then us with the caravan to a site in Sopelana.

Because there were problems with the ferries due to the one which caught fire a month earlier, when the car

was repaired we had to sail from Santander a week later. Other than that a very enjoyable holiday.

Chris & Keith

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### **Greenacres Farm, Fradley : 17th-19th May 2019**

Free and easy it said and free and easy it was! No Josh this weekend as he was at Scout camp so kicked back and chilled. Had a trip into Lichfield on Saturday and a laugh with friends on Saturday evening. We could get use to this! Roll on retirement. Thanks to Chris, Kim, Ben and Fin Moore for a relaxing rally.

Ann, Andy and Joshua Davies

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### **Spring Bank Holiday, Newland Meadow, Malvern Rally: 24th May-2nd June**

Nice site at Malvern, just a shame about the electrics which kept tripping. We know who the culprits were!! Had a walk up over the Malvern hills in the rain and got soaked, but all part of the fun. Celebrated Andy's birthday with a BBQ and beers. Visited the food festival and bought some unusual jam – Liquorice and Raspberry Jam, Maple Syrup and Fig Jam! Could have stayed there all day, the atmosphere was brilliant.

Although the weather was a mixed bag it didn't stop us from getting out and about and Trevor kept us entertained with gatherings in the colman shelters. Good time had by all. Thanks to the marshalls Trevor & Sue Watkins.

Ann, Andy and Joshua Davies

## Chairman's Report June - Stafford Boat Club

Our regular yearly visit to this lovely site.

Unfortunately the weather this weekend was not kind to us - but it did briefly stop raining for an hour whilst we had opening flag - then a few of us then went to the Clubhouse for a few drinks.

Saturday evening we had the usual game of killer skittles - which always brings a few laughs and Trevor Kerr won! He kindly gave his winnings to Luke and Ben who both worked extremely hard all evening setting up the skittles and throwing the ball back down the alley. Well done lads.

Sunday morning the sun did come out just in time for closing flag and as usual as everyone was packing up to go home!

Special thanks to my Co-marshals Trevor and Sue Watkins for getting everyone parked and for putting the signs out etc. as unfortunately myself and Tracy only just arrived from work in time for flag.

Steve McGuire

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Home Brew Rally and Children's Sports and Activities.

Many thanks to Chris, Keith Kim and Chris they all worked really hard to make it a great weekend. It was our first outing for a while and it was so lovely to meet up with old friends.

Friday was a chill out day but Saturday was a glorious day with the sun out all day.

We had a ride out to Rugeley and came back to see the kids (and adults) all enjoying the circus fun. The entertainer was really good and after doing his performance he helped everyone to join in with the hoopla, balls, skittles and stilts, some of the kids even mastered the mechanical stilts (no easy feat), well done to those that did it.

This was followed by a BBQ which everyone enjoyed.

Afterwards it was time for the sports and it was great to see the children all joining in and having a lovely time. Then it ended with the WATER coming out and of course everyone got soaked, then they turned on the adults and they all got a good soaking, luckily they left the oldies alone but it was good entertainment.

We hardly had time to get our breath back and it was time for the social in the shelters.

The Home Brew was excellent and we all had good fun tasting it all. I had my first taste of flavoured Gin and it was really nice, Gordon said I enjoyed it too much.

We had a lovely night and stayed outside till 10.30. I think some of the adults involved in the sports etc. were shattered by 9pm.

Sunday came – too early! And it was time to get ready to go home. I nearly forgot the Sumo Wrestling (what a laugh) after the children the adults had to have a go! Hilarious.

Thanks to all for a lovely weekend, their hard work was appreciated.

Mona and Gordon Clemson 12.



## Homebrew and Children's Sports and Activities

As rally No 13 was cancelled the Children's Sports and activities were moved to join the Home Brew Rally. Kim and co did a marvellous job organising the day for the children, anyone who did not go missed a great weekend.

There was only one entry for the Beer named 'Martha's No 1' and this was won by David Johnson.

There was one Red wine and one White wine entry but 3 Gin entries so it was decided to lump these together. 1st place went to the Blueberry Gin, Dave Bean and the White Wine from Brian Humphreys came 2nd although there was only one point between them both, and the Rhubarb Gin came 3rd.

Josh, Junior Chair, also said thanks to our JLO Kim for the work she had put in for the Sports etc.:



Chris & Keith Orchard.

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Payment for weekend rallies – cash payments only would be appreciated, this will enable marshals to pay for halls and artists.

Can members who pay by BACS transfer kindly notify the marshal of the rally that they have used this method of payment. Also let them know the amount they have paid. This will assist the marshals with their paperwork.

## Meringue torte

Serves: 8 Ready in: 1hr 15min (plus cooling time) Total cost: £6 Cost per serving: 75p

- 3 egg whites, at room temperature
- 225g/8oz caster sugar
- 1tsp vanilla extract
- 1tsp white wine vinegar
- 2tsp cornflour
- 2tbsp blanched almonds, chopped
- 600ml/1pt double cream
- 250g/9oz raspberries
- 4 kiwi fruit, peeled and thinly sliced
- 2tbsp coconut rum
- 2tsp icing sugar, for dusting

1 Preheat the oven to 150°C/fan oven 130°C/Gas Mark 2. Line

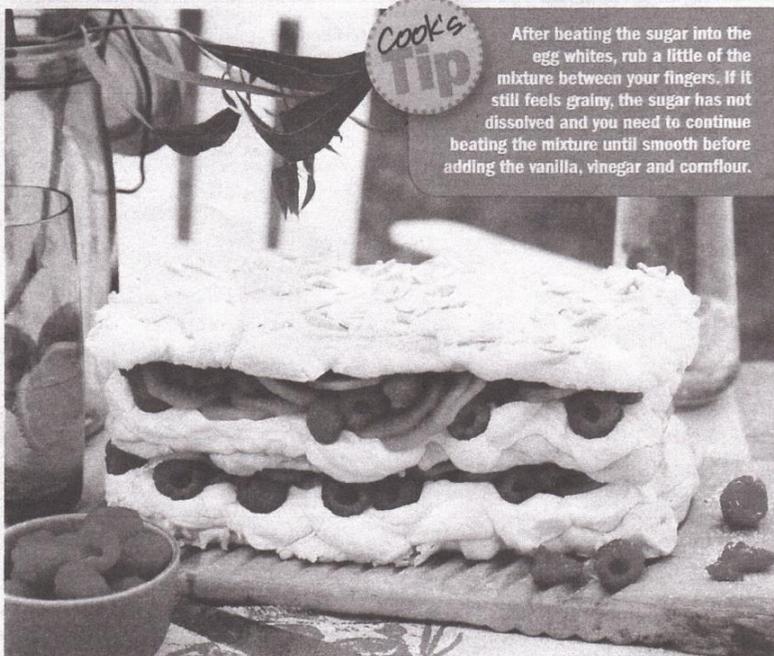
three large baking trays with baking paper and draw a 12cm x 25cm rectangle on each one in pencil. Turn the paper pencil-side down.

2 In a large spotlessly clean and dry bowl, beat the egg whites, using an electric mixer, until they form soft peaks. Add the caster sugar, 1tbsp at a time, beating constantly until the mixture is thick and glossy (see Cook's Tip). Beat in the vanilla extract, vinegar and cornflour.

3 Divide the meringue mixture

between the prepared trays, spreading it out to fill each rectangle. Scatter the almonds over one of the rectangles. Bake for 45min, then leave to cool completely in the oven with the door ajar.

4 Whip the cream to form soft peaks. Place one of the plain meringues on a serving platter or board. Top with half each of the cream, raspberries and kiwi fruit. Drizzle over half the rum. Repeat with the layers again, then top with the almond meringue. Dust with icing sugar, and serve.



## Blythe House Farm Rally, Children's Activity,

21<sup>st</sup> – 23rd June 2019

Oh Wow. What a rally. So many happy faces. My sides were aching with all the laughter.

The circus skills on Saturday morning were brilliant. All the kids joined in, even the very big kids! Ann couldn't quite get to grips with the stilts but she did learn to juggle 3 balls! Andy and Josh mastered the jumping stilts and didn't get injured thankfully. Coco the clown and his wife made a brief appearance (AKA Chris and Kim Moore – see web site photos) and showed us how to hool-a-hoop but I think Chris Orchard was the best at that particular skill and Theresa definitely got to grips with plate spinning. There were some experts amongst the kids too. Yoyo balancing, juggling, plate spinning tightrope walking and the stilts were all enjoyed immensely by all. Burgers and hot dogs for lunch with cake for after, what more could you ask for... but there was more as you will read.

Saturday afternoon saw the kids' sports day, which all parties enjoyed, although I think the Junior Liaison Officer may have regretted having a water round!! Thanks to Andy and Katie, Kim got very wet indeed!

The kids were then able to have a fight... as sumo wrestlers! They just didn't stop all afternoon. Bout after bout. Just don't know where they got the energy from.

Saturday evening and the wine and beer flowed for the Home Brew competition. Ann's favourite didn't win but they were all excellent and deserved credit.

More sumo fighting, but this time the adults had a go too. Think this might have been something to do with the wine and beer tasting earlier! Andy lost his first 3 bouts to his son Josh but regained his "title" in a rematch later. Ann ran away from Theresa in their first bout but they ended up dancing in the last fight and Ann winning. An epic evening of entertainment.

Sunday and Ann was asked to do the TOTE at flag. Well there is a first time for everything!

Brilliant and memorable weekend had by all. Thank you to Chris and Keith Orchard, Kim, Chris, Joshua, Ben and Fin Moore and everyone involved. What a brilliant Kids Activity Rally.

Ann, Andy and Joshua Davies

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A guy goes house to house looking for work. One homeowner hands him a brush and a can of paint and offers him £50 to paint his porch.

A few hours later, the guy comes back to the homeowner and says, 'I'm finished now but you should know that your car's a Ferrari not a Porsche.

## Charity Rally Bridgnorth

The weather was nice and hot and the 40's weekend was also running at the railway station.

Unfortunately this year there were not enough people who would run the charity stalls so we had to make it a free and easy weekend.

The Peggy Tomlinson Trophy was still on the menu but disappointingly no one entered that either.

On Saturday evening we cooked Burgers and Hot Dogs which were sold with the profit going to the charity and Jim and Phil gave us some tunes on their Ukuleles.

Chris and Keith

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The teacher asked little Johnny if he knew his numbers.

'Yes' he said. My father taught me

Good, what comes after 3? 4, answered the boy.

What comes after 6, Seven

Very good said the teacher, your dad did a good job.

What comes after 10?

The Jack, Queen and King.

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A young man went into a pet shop and asked for 387 cockroaches, 18 rats and 5 mice. 'I'm sorry sir we can only supply the mice', but what do you want them for said the pet shop manager. I am moving out of my flat today and the landlord says I must leave it in the same condition as when I moved in.

## Lichfield Cruising Club

A rather damp weekend and the Saturday afternoon Skittles match with the boaters did not happen as they had decided to hold their AGM instead so Chris and I were asked by Brian and Pauline if we would like to go into Lichfield to look at the 'Cars in the Park'.

On arriving at the car park Brian spent a few minutes driving around trying to find a disabled spot, finally he found one and parked up.

3rd embarrassment, he went to put his Blue Badge on the dashboard only to remember it was in the other car at home. He blamed Pauline. He then had to drive around again to find a normal parking spot.

We put in for 4 hours parking but left after 2 hours because we were soaking wet.

The evening at the boat club went well and they must have got more beer in as they didn't run out like they did last time we were there.

The skittles went well and was won by Anne who gave the winnings to the Charity.

4th embarrassment, Trevor Watkins cooked himself a bacon sandwich on the BBQ but it beat him into the van when he tripped.

Thanks Anne, Steven, Debbie and Ray for the weekend.

Chris & Keith

## Fishing Carney Pools

It was not a bad turn out and the following were winners

Male Winner Kevin Element 15lb.5oz

Heaviest fish joint winners both caught 6lb.7ozs Kevin Element and George Moore

Juniors – only 5 took part and Hayley Busby caught 2lb 9oz. unfortunately the others did not catch a thing.

This year we did not have any ladies entering. Maybe next time.

The good news was the South Staffs won the Inter Centre Shield. Total weigh in SSCC 31lb.13oz MCC 15lb.9oz.

The captain of the Team Steve and Andy Busby unfortunately did not catch anything and they tossed for the booby prize.

It was nice to see Ben Hadley and although he did not take part in the competition because he is a non-centre member he did catch a very good fish weighing 9lb.14ozs, well done Ben.

Overall the fishermen did not catch as much as usual and they all agreed it had been very slow.

It was said that they had enjoyed the weekend and the weather was great.

Jill Davies

Question time all the answers feature a drink in the title

1. Who were Whams female backing singers that went on to have a solo career.
2. What line follows "Fifteen Men on a Dead Man's Chest?"
3. In which film did Sylvester Stallone play Kurt Russell's cop partner.
4. Which song gave Alannah Myles a top ten UK chart hit in 1990.
5. Which UK act won the Eurovision Song Contest in 1981?
6. Which movie saw Brooke Shields deserted on a desert island with Christopher Atkins.
7. Which Wurzels hit song had the same tune as Una Paloma Blanca?
8. Written by Neil Diamond, which song was UB 40's first No1 UK hit.
9. Which drink translated into English means 'Aunt Mary'?
10. Which former English Rugby Union Captain is rumoured to have had an affair with Princess Diana.
11. What is the four letter name given to a horse's ankle?
12. Which novel by Laurie Lee, set in Gloucestershire, was on the approved list of books for Secondary Schools in England and Wales in the 1980s and 90s.
13. What name was given to the Japanese Suicide Pilots in World War 2? ANSWERS ON BACKPAGE

Teacher      How old is your father?  
Kid.            He is 6 years old  
Teacher.      How is this possible  
Kid.            He became a father when I was born

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Paws for Thought (source unknown)

The dogs all gave a party. They came from near and far.  
Some by fancy aeroplane and some by motor car.

But 'ere into the hall, they were allowed to look, each  
had to take his bottom off and hang it on a hook.

Hardly were they seated, each mother's son and sire,  
when a dirty little yellow pup, jumped up and hollered  
Fire.

They all got up and rushed about, they had no time to  
look, but had to grab at random, a bottom from a hook.

They got their bottoms all mixed up, it made them  
really sore, to have to wear a bottom, they'd never had  
before.

And that's the reason why, when walking down the  
street, all the dogs that you should meet, sniff at one  
another's seat.

And that's the reason why, a dog will leave a bone, to  
sniff another's bottom, He's trying to find his own.

Thanks Pauline for those wise words of wisdom.

## THE WEB PAGE



If you want to put anything on the Webb site give Norman a ring, a letter or an email.

This can include Photo's, advertisements etc.

He also puts on the copies of Snippits, and more especially the rally book so that you are never without it.

It is now so easy to book a rally, only a few seconds on the 'book now' section.

You will find him on the centre Webb site

[webmaster@southstaffscaravanclub.co.uk](mailto:webmaster@southstaffscaravanclub.co.uk)

[southstaffscaravanclub.co.uk](http://southstaffscaravanclub.co.uk)

## Chairman's Report Riverside Bridgnorth

Again our usual visit to this beautiful venue. It was decided that this year we would not make it our charity rally and this enabled everyone to go out for the day and enjoy everything Bridgnorth had to offer.

Friday evening we held opening flag and everyone came with their chairs and drinks and enjoyed the sunshine. After flag - Jim Poulter and his friend Phil entertained the crowds with their ukuleles and sing song

Saturday - the weather was absolutely stunning all weekend and most people went either into the town of Bridgnorth or up to the Severn Valley Railway as they had a 1940s weekend in the town.

Saturday afternoon the Committee cooked burgers and sausages for the Charity (Kidney Research UK - in memory of Terry Jones) and this raised £73 - thanks to everyone who was involved. Saturday evening - there was another performance from Jim and Phil and the singing continued until it went dark and chilly.

Sunday we had closing flag and unfortunately there were no submissions for the Peggy Tomlinson Trophy this year.

Thanks this weekend to the main marshals Trevor and Sue as they did all the work getting the caravans sited, the paperwork and the quiz (even though everyone said it was hard!) Overall a good weekend with stunning weather in great surroundings.

## **Eccleshall Castle Rally**

Arrived Friday morning at this lovely venue (not used by us for many years) just as the heavens opened with heavy rain so got back in the car for ten minutes. The sun came out after a while so after lunch we put up the Coleman shelters ready for the evening gathering.

Saturday dawned with sunshine but as showers were forecast the afternoon Pimms on the lawn became Pimms in the shelters.

We joined up in teams for a castle making contest with scissors & cardboard etc. supplied by Ann. The winners were judged to be Brian, Pauline and team.

At the evening gathering we played 'Who wants to be a millionaire?' which was won by the WOFS. Namely the Watkins, Orchards and Franks. This was followed by Bingo.

The sun shone for Flag on Sunday. Yours truly won the Castle Quiz and we all finished up with a good natter.

Many thanks to our Marshalls, Andy, Ann, Trevor & Sue.

John Franks



## Eccleshall Castle

We had a great time at Eccleshall Castle, the weather was hot!

We sat in the Coleman shelters for protection from the sun, tea & coffee Friday night and a chat.

Saturday afternoon – free and easy – we had a bunch of craft box's etc, on our table.

We had to build a castle ?!!

We built a Beanborough Castle – lol - it had a working drawbridge, but the castle that won was amazing!!.

What fun.

Saturday night Quiz time, 'Who wants to be a Millionaire? Us.

We got into groups and had question cards that said 'Phone a friend, 50/50, or ask the Audience.

We almost won, then a tie breaker went to Trevor Watkins, we lost.

Brilliant Rally Ann, Andy & Josh

Lorraine & Dave Bean

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### Useful Hints

To stop getting holes in the top of your rotory line covers  
put a plastic plant pot on the top before you put the cover on.

## Buzzard Valley

We arrived at Buzzard Valley on Friday, lovely flat field. Friday night, tea, coffee and a good chat with old and new friends.

The competition was draw the food you had in your envelope. (In writing of course)

Ours was bangers and mash, how hard is it to draw a sausage?? Then place the picture in your window. Then we meandered around looking at the pictures.

The evening we had a couple of quizzes, all good fun.

Thank you again to the marshal's

Kim, Chris, and the boys.

Lorraine and Dave Bean.

(surprised they didn't mention the monsoon weather we had Saturday night and Sunday which ruined Flag.)(editor)

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Teacher. Maria go to the map and find N America

Maria. Here it is

Teacher. Correct, now class, who discovered America

Class. Maria

Teacher. Glen, how do you spell crocodile?

Glen. KROKODIAL

Teacher. No that's wrong

Glen. Maybe it's wrong, but you asked me how I spell it.

Avril Erica Edwards 17-2-1945 to 27-5-2018

After a troublesome first half of the year I was finally given the go ahead to travel on an emotional journey to camping la Rabine, Machecoul, France. On arrival at the site I was very warmly greeted by Anne Marie and Bruno shedding a few tears at the reception. Later in the week a BBQ was held for family friends, English and French, to mark the occasion. A remembrance bench was placed in position 'By the Bar!!!' with a red flowering shrub donated by Machecoul twinning association, with the inscription.

“Sit a while and have a drink with Avril”.

A very emotional two weeks of meeting with old friends that we had made during the last 29 years there.

Derek Edwards



## OBITUARIES

Centre members past and present who have passed away since the last issue.

Mr Derek Tomlinson – Past Chairman and Committee

Mr Graham Roy Fereday – Past Chairman and  
Committee

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The vet just delivered a litter of kittens to the old lady's cat. She said "I don't understand it, Tibbles is never allowed out and no other cats are allowed in the house"

"But what about him" asked the vet pointing to a large tomcat sitting in an armchair?

"Don't be silly" she said "That's her brother"

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Forest View on the Chase was a lovely relaxing weekend, the weather was perfect with smashing views and scones and cream provided by the marshals Norman and Barbara.

A little bit different from this weekend was the rally at Wilmcote, it was rain, rain and more rain but this didn't stop the marshal's from still doing some of the games, they were determined. Trevor Kerr won the Aunt Sally and Tony Davies the Boules.

Thanks to Steve, Anne, Ray and Debbie

Chris Orchard

**Another Embarrassment**

**P.S. Sorry to Ann Moore for knocking her over and both of us ending up on the floor with our legs in the air doing the dying fly act.**

New Meeters at Forest View was Anthony and Jane Green.

New Meeters at The Holding Stables, Wilmcote was Simon and Jane Atkins. Also at this rally were 5 South Staffs and 14 visitors.

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NO WONDER I'M TIRED  
THOUGHT I WAS KNACKERED LATELY AND I'VE FOUND  
OUT WHY  
THE POPULATION OF BRITAIN IS 51 MILLION  
21 MILLION ARE RETIRED  
THAT LEAVES 30 MILLION TO DO THE WORK  
THERE ARE 19 MILLION AT SCHOOL  
2 MILLION ARE UNEMPLOYED AND 4 MILLION ARE  
EMPLOYED BY THE GOVERNMENT  
THAT LEAVES 5 MILLION TO DO THE WORK  
1 MILLION ARE IN THE ARMED FORCES  
THAT LEAVES 4 MILLION TO DO THE WORK  
3 MILLION ARE EMPLOYED BY THE COUNTY AND  
BOROUGH COUNCILS  
THAT LEAVES 1MILLION TO DO THE WORK  
THERE ARE 620,000 PEOPLE IN HOSPITAL  
AND 379,998 IN PRISON  
WHICH LEAVES 2 PEOPLE TO DO THE WORK?  
YOU AND ME AND YOUR'E SITTING ON YOUR BACKSIDE  
READING THIS  
NO WONDER I'M SO DAMM TIRED

Thanks Chris Moore for this bit of information

Dear Tracy, Steve, Sue and Trevor,  
MONKEY TREE HOLIDAY RALLY.

I am just writing to you to thank you for running an excellent holiday rally at Monkey Tree in Newquay.

We arrived on the Friday with the rally commencing the following day. Notwithstanding this we were made to feel very welcome and eventually 4 other caravans, all from the Berkshire Centre of the Caravan and Motorhome Club, arrived to make us into a party of 6 caravans. We had absolutely perfect pitches for us all to mingle, erect our gazebos and still enough room for the 10 children to play happily day in and day out. Also enough room for the adults to start a water pistol fight one day in the sunshine.

The Pimms and nibbles gathering went down extremely well. Some of us found it a tad more difficult to negotiate our way back down the field than others! Musical bingo was definitely a challenge. Bingo numbers kept the children busy collecting them and then crossing off the numbers. Unfortunately we failed to get the right numbers though.

The site itself was really good with excellent facilities and plenty to keep everyone amused. The children loved the pool especially when they discovered the water was "heated".

Mid way through we had pasties and pint evening with yet more of the delicious Pimms. The competition was

fun too and tried to make our brains work a little more than they had been doing previously.

We had fun at The Club especially on my husband's 71st birthday when he was called up to the stage to blow out candles after a rendition of "Happy Birthday to You". When about to leave the stage he was called back by the senior entertainer Liam to perform the "baby Shark" song. Such a funny evening with very happy family memories made for one and all. Strangers even said "goodnight Graham" when we left.

The envelope competition kept us up at all hours trying to sort out the colours and one in particular stumped me for ages – that is until a balloon floated by – yes "99 red balloons" and I was there. Not only that but I also won the competition and received a lovely bottle from Tracy.

The weather on the whole was really good and we all came back with a tan. Unfortunately a storm arrived on the Thursday before the rally finished on the 10th August which meant cancelling the closing flag.

It now leaves me to say a very well done to all the rally officers on running such an excellent rally at such an excellent venue. We all thoroughly enjoyed ourselves and the journey home to Reading on the Sunday took only 4 hours –perfect end to a perfect holiday.

Many thanks

Angela Massey Past Chairlady of the BCC.

We have had some really good rallies this year thanks to Trevor organising them and all the committee & other members for marshalling and of course the Chairman and his wife.

We used to come out most weekends but those days seem a long way back unfortunately. When the children grow up you think that's it, now it's our turn but they are still attached (elastic) every day another appointment appears on the calendar & every day there is a knock at the door and there is a mad scramble in the freezer to see what we can find for them to eat. I wouldn't want it any other way as we are lucky we have a family around us, so we come away for a rest and a chat. We are at Holding Stables at the moment and we had visitors from home already.

It's been raining on and off but sunshine as well. We were lucky yesterday, had game of Boules on the field and the rain held off. Final between Trevor Kerr and Tony Davies was won by Tony, very close. It started to rain again so the Aunt Sally might not be played this afternoon (another game on the field) marshals working hard again.

We have been to 10 weekend rallies and everyone had something to write about but I can't remember what they are, like the man halfway up the stairs and can't remember if he is going up or down!  
AGM is coming soon – hope we get some volunteers for the various jobs that might become vacant, otherwise we shall become the “has beens”.

Can't believe we are halfway through August, it seems only yesterday we were booking for 2 weeks in Dawlish & it is almost here. How many days to Christmas?

Dark clouds are gathering again, glad we don't live near rivers poor souls by the reservoir, Trevor's flood was bad enough.

Enjoy the rest of the summer rallies, look forward to sun, I think we have done well so far but we do need a little rain, hard work for Trevor watering the vegetables and garden, thank goodness for the automatic watering system in the greenhouse

Sylvia and Trevor

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A train was quite crowded, and a U. S. Marine walked the entire length looking for a seat, but the only seat left was taken by a well-dressed, middle-aged, French woman's poodle.

The war-weary Marine asked, 'Ma'am, may I have that seat?'

The French woman just sniffed and said to no one in particular 'Americans are so rude. My little Fifi is using that seat.'

The Marine walked the entire train again, but the only seat left was under that dog.

'Please, ma'am. May I sit down? I'm very tired.'

She snorted, 'Not only are you Americans rude, you are also arrogant!'

This time the Marine didn't say a word; he just picked up the little dog, tossed it out the train window, and sat down.

The woman shrieked, 'Someone must defend my honour! This American should be put in his place!' An English gentleman sitting nearby spoke up, 'Sir, you Americans seem to have a penchant for doing the wrong thing. You hold the fork in the wrong hand. You drive your cars on the wrong side of the road. And now, sir, you seem to have thrown the wrong bitch out the window

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After a slow start the magazine entries has now boomed and this is the largest page edition to date.

Thanks everyone for your stories, comments and funnies please keep them coming in as I hope there is something of interest to all.

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### Drinks Answers from page 21

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|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. PEPSI & Shirley      | 2. Y o ho ho and a bottle of RUM |
| 3. TANGO and Cash       | 4. BLACK VELVET                  |
| 5. BUCKS FIZZ           | 6. BLUE LAGOON                   |
| 7. I am a CIDER drinker | 8. Red Red WINE                  |
| 9. TIA MARIA            | 10. Will CARLING                 |
| 11. HOCK                | 12. CIDER with Rosie             |
| 13. KAMIKAZE            |                                  |

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