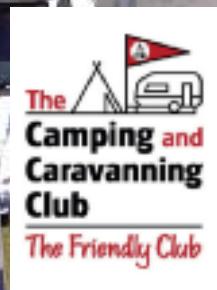


# Waggoner's Talk

Summer 2016 - Issue 173



**The Magazine of the Motor Caravan Section of the Camping & Caravanning Club**

# Your Contacts

## *Elected Council Officers*

**Chairman** - Bill Lees, 12a Allanpark Street, Largs KA30 9AG  
Tel: 01475 674472 – Email: susanlees67@outlook.com

**Vice Chairman &** - Martin Whitaker, 46 Hillside, Kingsbury, Tamworth, Staffs B78 2NH  
**Deputy Membership Secretary** Tel: 01827 873105 – Mob: 07738 833 604 – Email: memsecmcs@gmail.com

**Past Chairman** - Edith Lang, 55 Wilkins Drive, Allenton, Derby DE24 8LU  
Tel: 01332 341567 – Mob: 0795 443540 – Email: edithlang24@gmail.com

**Treasurer** - Paul Bastin, 27 Hyde Heath Court, Poundhill, Crawley, Sussex RH10 3UG  
Tel: 01293 423203 – Email: Paulbastin@blueyonder.co.uk

**Secretary/PRO/Web Master** - Kathy Giles, 62 Poplar Drive, Heme Bay, Kent CT6 7PY  
Tel: 07951 063401 – Email: kathygiles@mac.com

**Minutes Secretary** - Susan Lees, 12 Allanpark Street, Largs KA30 9AG  
Tel: 01475 674472 – Email: susanlees67@outlook.com

**Deputy Minutes Secretary** - Bill Gosnay, Berthias, Rhydowen, Llandysul, Ceredigion SA44 4QB  
Tel: 01545 590360 – Mob: 07986 140170 – Email: irisandbill@yahoo.co.uk

**Membership Secretary** - Catherine Hodson, 24 Gay Meadows, Stockton on the Forest, York Y032 9UJ  
Tel: 01904 400935 – Email: cathy47hodson@gmail.com

**Regalia Officer** - Rosemary Sexton, The Brambles, Clay Pits Lane, Dibden S045 5TN  
Tel: 02380 840908 – Email: aandrsexton@yahoo.co.uk

**Appointed National Councillor** - Bryan Giles, 62 Poplar Drive, Heme Bay, Kent CT6 7PY  
**& Waggoner's Talk Editor** Tel: 07719 640614 – Email: bryanmgiles@me.com

**Deputy Appointed National Councillor** - Paul James, 13 St Christophers Park, Ellistown, Leics LE6 1FG  
Tel: 07855 295995 – Email: paulaace13@yahoo.co.uk

**Rep. to Special Interest Forum** - Trevor Stenton, 55 Lutterworth Drive, Adwick-le-Street, Doncaster DN6 7DA  
Tel: 07984 050833 – Email: ts.cs@talktalk.net

**Councilors without Portfolio** - Ruth Randall, Meadowside, Lower Road, Croydon, Royston, Herts SG8 OEF  
Tel: 01223 208934 – Email: hrmcs@hotmail.co.uk  
David Blair, 33 Dirrans Terrace, Kilwinning KA13 7PH  
Mob: 07835 475411 – Email: dblair1944@gmail.com

## *Appointed Council Officers*

**Devon & Cornwall** - Mrs Janet Pearce – Tel: 01752 491691 – Email: peaj@yahoo.co.uk

**East Midlands** - Bill Cooper – Tel: 07983 706465 – Email: billcooper60@outlook.com

**Midland** - Colin Lang – Tel: 01332 739693 – Email: colinlange@ntlworld.com

**Northern** - Dennis Rowley – Tel: 01924 211250 – Email: dennisr@blueyonder.co.uk

**North West** - Peter Knibbs – Tel: 01922 631153 – Email: peterkknibs@gmail.co.uk

**Northern Ireland** - Robert Coupples – Tel: 07715 468933 – Email: mcsnisec@gmail.com

**Scotland** - Susan Lees, 12a Allanpark Street, Largs KA30 9AG  
Tel: 01475 674472 – Email: susanlees67@outlook.com

**South West** - Rosemary Sexton – Tel: 023802 840908 – Email: aandrsexton@yahoo.co.uk

**Southern** - Roy Davies – Tel: 01634 696502 – Email: roydavies@mac.com

**Wales/Deputy Rep to Special Int Forum** - John Hunt – Tel: 01443 672195 – Mob: 07505 767440 – Email: jwah@talktalk.net

## *Area/Group PROs*

**Devon & Cornwall** - Rose Jeffery – Email: rose@baycotts.plus.com

**East Midlands** - Liz Smith – Tel: 05367 12869 – Mob: 07788 101333 – Email: sensiblesmith@virginmedia.com

**Kent** - Peter Smith – Tel: 02083 021941 – Email: Smiths-KentMCS@hotmail.co.uk

**Midland** - Colin Lang – Tel: 01332 739693 – Email: colin.lang@ntlworld.com

**Northern** - Carol Rowley – Tel: 01924 211250 – Mob: 07794 317285 – Email: carol2@virginmedia.com

**North West** - Ian Taylor – Tel: 01253 365760 – Mob: 07940 107320 – Email: autograph765@icloud.com

**Northern Ireland** - Robert Coupples – Tel: 07715 458933 – Email: mcsnisec@gmail.com

**Scotland** - Jim Burns – Tel: 01417 799224 – Mob: 07794 564899 – Email: james\_c\_burns@hotmail.com

**South West** - Derek Maidment – Tel: 01425 475415 – Email: derek.maidment@tiscali.co.uk

**Southern** - Mrs Mabel Shaw – Tel: 01843 842927 – Email: mmshaw52@msn.com

**Surrey & South London** - Mrs Chris Bastin – Tel: 01293 887732

**Wales** - Christine Symonds – Tel: 01633 431034 – Email: lessym32@gmail.com

# Contents

Your Contacts .....	2
Editor's Message .....	3
Chairman's Chat .....	4
Corrections.....	4
Thank you .....	5
Letters to the Editor .....	5
Around the Sections .....	6
National AGM.....	10
Obituaries.....	11
Re-plating our Rapido .....	17
Congratulations.....	17
National PRO Report .....	18
Regalia .....	19

## Waggoner's **Talk**

Next deadline date is 11 September 2016

Cover photo by Derik Maidment

## Ramblings of the Editor



Hi everybody, Just back from the National, great event in a superb location. The weather as expected in Cumbria wall to wall sunshine, after which we went to Lakeland DA's THS at Kendal, where we were welcomed by Robin, great site with supermarket outside the gate, and buses to everywhere.

Now back home and nose to the grindstone!!!

*Bryan*

### WT - WAGGONER'S TALK

**Website:** [www.waggonerstalk.co.uk](http://www.waggonerstalk.co.uk)

**Published By:**

The Motor Caravan Section of the Camping and Caravanning Club

**Editor:** Bryan Giles

**Email:** [bryanmgiles@me.com](mailto:bryanmgiles@me.com)

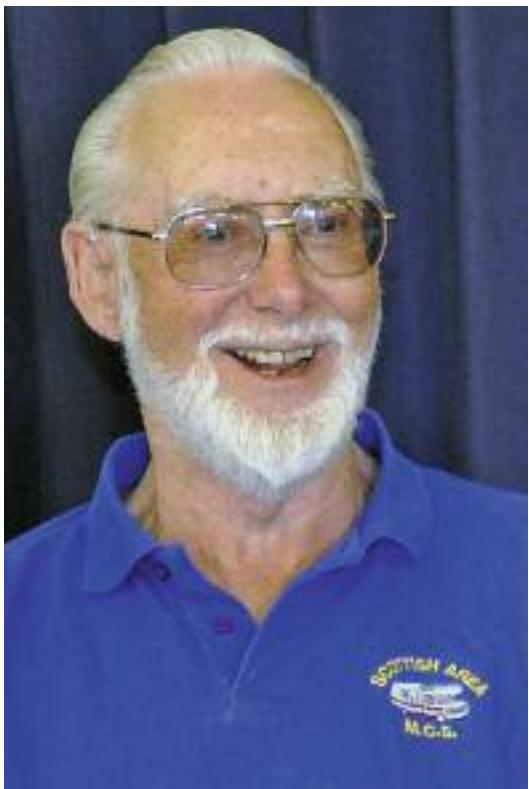
Printed in the UK by Truprint Media Ltd.,  
tel. 01843 220200 - website: [www.truprintmedia.co.uk](http://www.truprintmedia.co.uk)

### Magazine Policy

This magazine and all items contained herein are copyright, no other use is permitted without the written permission of the Editor. Readers should note that the views expressed by the contributors are not necessarily those of the Publishers, Magazine Team or the MCS. However we believe that all contributors should be allowed to express their own opinions. All submissions are unsolicited & therefore subject to Editorial change. Submitted photographs are taken to be released for publication. Whilst every care is taken to ensure that the contents of Waggoner's Talk are accurate, we accept no responsibility for any consequences that may arise from any errors or omissions.

The Editorial Team

# Chairman's Chat



Hello everyone, I always find myself surprised that the months have passed so quickly, however we are well into the Summer months again. Unfortunately, due to my health problems I have missed out on what, according to all reports was a fantastic AGM meet at Cartmel Racecourse, with lots of sunshine about as well. The Committee and helpers of North West Area did a great job and made everyone feel very welcome. Next year 's AGM meet is already being planned for Wales, another beautiful area of Great Britain and I look forward to being there.

My thanks go to our Vice Chairman Martin Whitaker for stepping to at the last minute to cover for me. Congratulations to Alf Sexton who is our new President and Howard Randall our new Vice President.

The Area Committees have all worked hard to provide a variety of meets for members and there are still lots of lovely places to visit before the end of the Season. If you have never been to one of our meets or Temporary Holiday Sites, I would urge you to try them out. You will be made very welcome and you will meet a lot of great friendly people.

I hope it won't be to long before I am Out & About again and I look forward to catching up with both old and new friends.

*Bill Lees* – Chairman

## Corrections

It is our policy to correct errors that have appeared in our magazine - when pointed out to us.

Please note the following amendments:

- 1) On page 16 of the Spring issue we omitted to include the Holiday meets hosted by our East Midlands Area and apologise to their Committee and members - details of these are as follows:

### **17th June–4th July**

*Broadings Farm, Guisborough Rd, Whitby N Yorks Y021 1TL - MR94/876101 - £9.50 pu int - A Good base for visiting Yorkshire coastal resorts.*

### **2nd–16th September**

*Batemans Brewery, Salem Bridge Brewery, Wainfleet, Lincs PE24 4JE - MR122/495586 - £9.00 pu ont - An ideal base for visiting Lincolnshires coastal resorts.*

- 2) On Page 17 of the Spring Issue we included a meet for Northern Area at Durham Rugby Club DH1 3JU MR88/280420 - this is in fact a 5 day meet and the dates should read **15th–20th July £7.00 pu pnt - Do Not Arrive before 2pm**

We also omitted to include the following Holiday Meet;

**24th August–9th September** – Annstead Farm, Beadnell, Northumberland NE67 5RT – MR75/228300 – Site opens 12.00 noon – £9.00 Pu pnt +£3.00 per add adult. Opposite beach & dunes, cliff top walks to Seahouses & Beadnell, close to Bamburgh Castle/Alnwick & Farne Isles. Excellent for walking and cycling.

- 3) On Page 19 of the Spring issue - Item 7 - 15th–20th July is should be **Durham Rugby Club** - incorrect Spelling. Our apologies to Northern Area Committee & Members

# Thank you letter

10th June 2016

Dear Bill and members of National Council

I am writing to say thank you to you all for inviting us to lunch at Cartmel Race Course on the occasion of the MCS Annual Meeting. We enjoyed the meal very much, and appreciated the local theme of it. Having never attended an Annual Meet before (I'm ashamed to say), we are hooked now and will certainly be in Wales next year. As members of the host Area this time it was satisfying to see members enjoying the Meet, and it was good to talk to people from so many different places and backgrounds.

Thank you all again, with best wishes from

*Brian & Chris Parker*

North West Area

## Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor

Its difficult not to notice when on our travels just how many motorhomes are now on the road. The industry is reporting record sales of both new and used vehicles, they appear to be flying off the forecourts much to the salesmen's delight. However, can the industry keep up with the service requirements?

I recently approached my dealer to have my 2 year old vehicle serviced, both habitation and chassis to be informed that they were fully booked for 6 weeks, a very different situation to my car main dealer where the response is normally what day next week would suit you best, and unlike the previous year where the booking period was just two weeks.

I naively asked my dealer what should I do as there were warranty issues in leaving the servicing for six weeks to be told to try somewhere else. I followed their advice and was greeted with a similar story but they sympathised my plight and offered me a cancellation in 4 weeks.

It does appear to me that the motorhome dealers are not backing their increase in sales with an increase in servicing facilities

Still, I should be ok next year as I have put a note in my diary for early January to book the service for the beginning of May but not sure which dealer though.

*Paul - Kent Group*

---

Can we just express to you the enjoyment we had at the Motor Caravan Section weekend meet at Cartmel. In particular we would like to thank the North West Area for all the work they put in making sure the meet was so successful. As those of you attending the AGM will know I handed over my job of treasurer after twenty years so have seen many AGM's during that time and few have been more successful. With fantastic weather and a great location all was set up for us all to enjoy ourselves.

Thank you to the North West Area and to all the helpers. We look forward now to next year in Wales.

*From Howard and Ruth Randall*

# Around Your Areas and Groups

## *Devon and Cornwall...*

Our meets for Spring have taken us to the four counties of the South West before venturing away from our roots and heading up north for the National Meet at Cartmel.

Our first meet was at Whitsands Bay Holiday Park in Cornwall between 18 and 20 March, admirably stewarded by Brian. 27 Units attended on what was a dry, blustery weekend. On the Saturday, Philip led a walk for about 20 brave souls from Cawsands to Cremyll in time for lunch before catching the bus back to base. Sunday started with our Annual General Meeting, when a presentation was made to Margaret King who retired as Treasurer after 5 years' service. We then had coffee morning and an open meeting to discuss various issues. All this talking worked up an appetite for Sunday Carvery.

The next meeting was in North Devon between 8–10 April at Hidden Valley Park, near Ilfracombe, marshalled by Margaret and Denis with 23 units. On the Saturday sixteen people joined a walk led by Heather from Croyde to Baggy Point. The walk involved two buses each way to Croyde and back. A couple of showers, one of hail, didn't spoil the day as the warm spring sunshine made the lunch stop very pleasant, especially with the super views over Woolacombe Bay. The coffee morning on Sunday was held in the Clubhouse.

It was a wet and dismal day when Jonathan and June welcomed 26 Motorhome and caravan owners to Porth beach campsite, near Newquay, over the weekend of 22–24 April. The weather improved on the Saturday when people went off site to walk or bus etc. returning in the late afternoon when June supplied cake to celebrate, belatedly, the Queen's birthday and St George's day. They then introduced the group to their favourite game of Mölkky, similar to skittles played on grass. The game was won by Michael. The coffee morning & raffle was well supported on Sunday morning with everyone dispersing off to their next destination.

Dorset beckoned for the next meet at Wool between 4 and 8th May. This 5 day meet was marshalled by Roger, Nina, Janet and Laurence who organised various activities for the 28 units that attended as they were blessed with warm, sunny weather the whole weekend, apart from rain which finished by breakfast on the Sunday. Friday morning Phil led the walk across the fields to the Bovington Tank Museum. Friday afternoon everyone was invited to a cold buffet organised by Roger doing the buying. On late Saturday afternoon Nina organised an 'Irish Raffle' and much hilarity took place when various prizes were going backwards and forwards across the group. Sunday coffee





morning took place outside.

15 units attended the meet at Warren Farm Holiday Centre, Bream Sands, Somerset, marshalled by Lynn and Charlie, between 16–20th May. This meet took place Monday to Friday with very variable weather. A communal evening took place on the Wednesday evening in Bream Down Inn, when several members also enjoyed dinner. The Inn very kindly opened up especially to host the coffee morning as the weather was too inclement to be outside. Members cycled, walked and took the bus into Weston-Super-Mare.

10 units travelled 350 miles to Cartmel Racecourse for the 54th National AGM of the Motor Caravan Section from Friday 3rd to Monday 6th June. This event was admirably organised by the North West Area and we all had a very enjoyable weekend, with live entertainment a mammoth raffle, and a Transport Trio day out on Monday, not forgetting the various meetings we attended. At the AGM Janet Pearce was presented with the Certificate of Merit for her long service, holding various posts from Treasurer to our Section Council representative and her sterling work in organising last year's National.



#### **Future Meets:**

##### **15th–17th July**

Ladysmile Holiday Park, Dawlish, Devon – Bus service to Exeter, Dawlish or Teignmouth

##### **29th July–1st August**

Tiverton Rugby Ground. This 4 day will be our birthday meet and a barn dance is planned for the Saturday Evening.

##### **12th–14th August**

Timaru Camp Site near Wadebridge. Please note Own facilities essential

##### **9th–11th September**

Carlyon Bay Camping Park, Cornwall, very near to Carlyon Beach and Charleston

Please note the meet arranged for Wooda Farm Holiday Park on 30th September has been cancelled.

#### *Rose*



## *East Midlands...*

Website – [www.eastmidlandsmcs.co.uk](http://www.eastmidlandsmcs.co.uk)

### **Smeaton Lakes Easter meet**

Firstly a huge thanks must go to Pam and Dave Lewis who stewarded the THS through hurricane force wind, rain, hailstones, snow, mud, towing units off, always being there with a smile and helping hands. Absolute stars. They also lost their awning in the hurricane winds whilst collecting their fish and chips so thanks to those members who rescued it in the pouring rain.

Dave and I arrived on Friday 1st to reasonable weather and a warm welcome. There were a lot of units already there from far and wide as the National Councillors gathered for their meeting. The hall in the evening was a very noisy affair, I put it down to the acoustics rather than the members!

Saturday morning was very wet so we waited for the rain to abate before getting the bus into Newark.

In the evening there was a magnificent bring and share followed by a game called 'Kim's Game' with 42 items in. Yes there were 42 items even after several recounts! Well all I can say is that there are a lot of mature people in the MCS with very good memories. A team from oop north won.

So once again thanks to Dave and Pam and also to Bill and Linda who organised all the refreshments and games.

### **Shardlow Marina May Day weekend**

Contrary to the weather forecast, this weekend proved to be quite dry except if in Nottingham on Saturday where it snowed!! However the forecast was correct – yes it was freezing. However the turnout for the meet just proves what a hardy lot we are. Not sure accurate number but around 30 units so thank you.

The wind proved too windy Friday so the tent was erected on Saturday! The tent was definitely warmer inside than outside but it did prove too cold for me after a couple of hours. Mind you after a quiz and card bingo all that hot air did keep me going for those two hours!

Finally there was a bit of warmth in the air on Sunday. In the evening there was some games of bingo – Paul wasn't happy, he reckoned someone had taken his numbers out of the bag!!

So to today, the raffle was held with coffee and thank you for some lovely prizes. Together with the sale of books and plants we raised over £100 for the Rainbows Hospice in Loughborough. Great stuff.

Lastly I must thank Tony, Val, Terry and Bre for stewarding the meet with great grace and fortitude in freezing conditions, it was much appreciated by one and all. Thank you.



### ***Write up for Hatton Country World – thanks to Bill and Linda Cooper***

Friday we arrived at the meet with a welcome from our host Eddie with his smile took our money and we had our programme with lots of information. I held my breath hoping that the van would not sink but Bill said don't worry we will be fine. (And we were!) Sue had the men putting the tent up for the evening.

Bill set the van up we had a few minutes to settle down. Friday evening we gathered in the tent for a chat and a few drinks. During Friday night the rain started and went on most of the night .

Saturday day morning most of the ladies had a great time at the shops and some of the men!

There was a lovely walk down the canal plenty of locks to see and a very nice pub, just ask Liz and Dave.

Saturday night Sue and Eddie did a cheese and wine evening, we had a great time. A few ladies entertained us with a few songs well they will be on the new year entertainment.

Sunday morning our coffee morning was outside in the sun yes sun. The raffle was entertaining with some going home with their arms full Liz. (Actually only 4 Linda!)



So to finish – many thanks must go to Eddie and Sue for stewarding so close from their return from their holiday and for the cheese and wine. I know they had great support from others so thanks to them.

*Liz*

PRO East Midlands MCS

#### **Future Meets:**

##### **29th–31st July**

£8.50pn. The Old Priory, Breedon on the Hill, Derbyshire DE73 8AT.

Stewards - John and Barbara Taylor 07719 657056

##### **12th–14th August**

£10pn. Ashby Lane Farm, Bitteswell, Leicestershire LE17 4LW.

Stewards - Colin and Sue Chester 07986 586018

##### **26th–29th (August Bank Holiday)**

£10.50. Manor Farm, Brixworth, Northamptonshire NN6 9DG.

Stewards - Tricia and Terry mobile 07411 015534

##### **2nd–16th September THS**

**£9pn. Batemans Brewery, Wainfleet, Lincolnshire PE24 4JE**

Stewards – Linda and Bill Cooper 07983 706465

##### **23rd–25th September**

£8.50pn. Bretford Village Hall, Warks CV23 0JY

Stewards – Chris Giles and Stan Underhill 07511 962009

##### **7th–9th October**

£8pn. Collingham Cricket Club, Notts NG23 7RD

Stewards - Derek and Mary Farmer 07929 782881

##### **28th–30th October (Halloween)**

Invitation to Midlands MCS. £8pn. Copt Oak Memorial Hall, Leicestershire LE67 9QB.

Stewards – Doreen and Martin Whitaker 07738 833604



# Cartmel Racecourse National AGM

This was held at Cartmel Racecourse last weekend. For us the journey from Ilkley was uneventful till we turned off a junction too soon and consequently explored the delights of Grange over Sands, the peninsular and finally the village of Cartmel. I would like to say at this point I (ME) was driving and Dave (HIM) was navigating. So what can I say about the village of Cartmel, well it had lovely shops, a must see Priory and many eateries. However, the racecourse was probably the most challenging place to access and exit the National AGM as we had to drive through the village. That's all I'm going to say!!!

As East Midlanders we were quite disappointed with our allocated position, it was another challenge to park and get level. We were up a hill. Thank goodness the weather was fantastic and no rain descended upon us. Perhaps on this particular occasion we would have been better not to have booked as the non bookers had a lovely level piece of field. I hope next year's National at Chepstow will be more level for all.

After all that stress – well mine! we went and booked in which was a very well organised affair followed by a drink and ONE cake. Our neighbour had the temerity to go for two – he does still have ten fingers but only just!! Friday night was a relaxing evening in the marquee meeting up with friends.

Saturday morning Dave and I decided to cycle to Grange over Sands, this did prove to be our third challenge of the weekend. It was up and over a mountain – it was to us anyway but it was worth it, we cycled along the promenade with a fabulous view. Did meet up with Candy from the Northern area who bussed it in – sensible lady!! The opening ceremony

went off well, must congratulate Martin for doing a cracking job. Saturday evening was the Houghton Weavers who proved to be excellent, funny and entertaining. Well done for booking them.

Sunday morning was the AGM held again by Martin the vice chair. Unfortunately my bid to join the National Council was unsuccessful. In the afternoon our Chairman Linda and helpers gave a cream tea and drink to all East Midlanders plus some newbies so thanks to all for that.

Rob Mason 'our very own flavour of Lancashire' who entertained on Sunday evening was again very good and enjoyed by all who went. I could hear the laughter and singing from my van.

Monday was the day trip, lots and lots people gathered together and went off to the car park to catch two coaches. According to my husband it was well organised, the itinerary was really good, the weather was fantastic. The itinerary included a boat trip on Lake Windermere, a steam railway trip and finally a visit to the Motor Museum. Fortunately Dave had taken a packed lunch with him as the café was incredibly busy. I did the tour of the Priory which was most enjoyable, the guide was very knowledgeable and did have to battle over the organist who was rehearsing – apparently!

Sadly we left Cartmel Monday evening to travel home however with happy memories of seeing friends, gorgeous weather and nice scenery. Many thanks to the North West for a great National and AGM.

*Liz – PRO EMMCS*



# Obituaries

## **Marion Knibbs**

It is with great sadness that we have to announce the loss of Marion Knibbs, wife of past President of the Section Peter Knibbs of North West Area in May. Marion was known to many members all over the country and will be a great loss to us all. Our sympathies to Peter and his family

*Kathy Giles* – Secretary on behalf of Motor Caravan Section Council & Members

## **Madge Clay**

I am sad to tell you that Madge has gone to that lovely motorhome in the sky. Madge was a joy to know always cheery and she has a lovely sense of humour. I spent many times sharing a conversation with her at our meets and it was always a pleasure. She had been a member of Midland Area for many years, well before I joined, and she kept in touch with her old friends who no longer could join us. She helped us celebrate at Vera and Gerry's golden wedding meet regaling us with past amusing events. Lately she was unable to join us and we missed her company. A lovely lady who is sadly missed. Our commiserations go to her son and daughter and their respective families.

*Edith Lang*



TRUST US FOR

# COVER: WHEREVER



**MOTORHOME INSURANCE WITH CLUB CARE**

**WITH 8/10 MEMBERS CHOOSING TO RENEW THEIR POLICIES, ISN'T IT TIME YOU GAVE US A TRY?**

**0800 056 9955 [CLUBCAREINSURANCE.COM](http://CLUBCAREINSURANCE.COM)**

## Kent...

Hello folks, from Kent. We have had a pretty good start to the season so sit down, pour yourself another drink (Not you Bryan) and I will put you in the picture.

Our rally at Hawkhurst had to be cancelled as the field was too muddy after a visit from a circus. Our stewards, Pat and Stan, had to be towed off and they and a couple of other units camped in the car park overnight but were able to get a warning to the rest of us. Well you can't say "it aint fun".

The following week was much better when we held our annual horseshoes challenge at Quex Park. (Its where we hold our THS in July). Fine weather brought a good turn out and after long battles the winning couple this year were Marilyn and John Gowens.

The following week turned out even better with sunshine which brought thirty two units to Overshore, near Rainham, Kent. This was our annual craft weekend and apart from attracting our own artistic folk, we also had some crafty members from Essex and Sussex. We had a great diversity

of displays including several stalls showing oil and watercolour paintings along with demonstrations plus presentation of rope work, embroidery and model making etc. It was our best Craft weekend ever so many thanks to all involved.

We went to one of our favourite venues the following week - namely Appledore. Just the week before it had been made fleetingly famous by a visit from TV's "Antiques Road Trip". It being my birthday weekend Kathy organised a surprise birthday party for me. Sadly I was unable to attend but a couple of members said it was the best party they had been to and asked me to stay away next year.

The following weekend, Kathy (who enjoys a good party) did not let me get away with it entirely and organised an evening get-together at Hole Park where we enjoyed a special "Bryan" bonfire and barbecue with baked potatoes and sausages. The rest of the select group who camped that weekend, provided salads / etc and Kathy baked one of those cakes that only she can bake. Despite a thunder storm in the midst of the evening, we all had a very good time, so "Thank You" everyone who was there. You have made an old man very happy. {PS: I got two slices of cake as well!}

I have heard from some our group who were at the AGM at Cartmel, laid on by our old chums North West. The entertainment was first class / weather very good and everyone enjoyed themselves. I wish I could have been there just to see our old mate Rob Mason. Well done to all those hard working folk who did all the admin and ground work.

A bit of personal news - some of you may remember our cat "Crackers" who travelled far and wide with us for nearly nineteen years. Just before Christmas she passed away and is buried in our garden in one of her favourite spots. We

**CONGRATULATIONS  
TO  
KATHY & BRYAN GILES**  
**from everyone in the Kent MCS for your  
very well earned  
CERTIFICATE OF HONOUR  
Presented at the  
NATIONAL AGM AT CARTMEL.**





missed chatting to her so much that eventually we decided we needed a new companion. Soooooo, we have just adopted a young cat from the Cat Protection League whom we have called "Blossom". She seems to have taken to camping like a duck to water although on her first weekend out with us at Partridge Green, she did manage to scarper from her harness and lead. Despite an absence of some 18 hours, she found her way back to our camper despite having been in it only for one day before hand. With the aid of young Lily from the camper next door to us she was enticed into their motorhome and returned to the fold, so many thanks to them.

Well that's about all the news from Kent, so happy sunny camping for the rest of the Summer folks and you know where Kent MCS can be found each weekend so why not come and join us.

*Peter Smith*



#### **Future Meets:**

**30th June–3rd July**

Sissinghurst Cricket Club.

**7th–10th July**

Kent County Show weekend at Penny Spring Farm, Detling.

**14th–17th July**

Bridge Farm, Appledore.

**15th July–9th August**

THS at Quex House Gardens, Birchington.

**28th–31st July**

Boules Competition, Bowbridge Marina, Wateringbury.



## *Midland...*

Welcome to the Midland section

### **Rugeley Cricket Club, 18th–20th March**

Well the green came out, the Caffreys' flowed and the Irish music played for those who attended. We had a lovely shared supper and as always there was more than we could eat (in one sitting). The weekend welcomed new visitors to the area and those who fancied a go look see around Rugeley. This is the first time for a while we have used the cricket club and it has good facilities for our motorhome section to use.



### **Uttoxeter Racecourse, 8th–10th April**

This was our change of venue for the AGM and it proved a good choice as we had more members attend than in recent years. The music and card bingo on the Friday night went down well and the music quiz we played on Saturday got many people thinking about their music listening background and days gone by. It was good to see Jim (who was wheeled in) and Shylie as they haven't been able to get out and about much this year. I would also like to say thank you to the magicians of the buffet who worked hard to give those who attended the AGM a lovely 'spread' (if you pardon the pun). We have welcomed Phil Gary to the committee who has already been active looking for new sites for 2017.

### **Stafford Boat Club, 29th April–2nd May**

We what can I say it was wet! However the weekend wasn't a

total wash out as the entertainment and the coffee morning was held in the club house. This weekend was stewarded by Alan Mason and for his time he did a good job making sure everyone knew where things were etc, thanks Alan.

### **The Beeches, Hadnall, Shrewsbury, 20th–22nd May**

This is currently the furthest west we go in our area and Keith and Ann Snelling stepped in to steward for us. The weather wasn't too kind here for us but those who camped managed to get out especially into Shrewsbury which is a lovely place to visit.

### **54th National Meet, Cartmel, 3rd–6th May**

The North West area did an excellent job of putting on the National meet and we congratulate them for entertaining us



for the long weekend. We managed to get out on the arranged trip on Monday and it was brilliant, however it did make feel a little older when some of the cars I used to drive only the other year are now in a museum! We had a combined tea party with our friends in the East Mids area and it was a really sociable afternoon so thanks to them.

For those who haven't been to a national in recent years then you missed a great time this year and I would recommend you think about attending next years meet in Chepstow.

### **Future Meets:**

#### **Peak Rail, Rowsley Station, Matlock, DE4 2HX 15th–17th July 2016**

Peak Rail is a great place to visit as it's in the Peak Park with so many attractions nearby. It is of course based at the railway so you can relive bygone years by travelling by steam down to Matlock and back. There are also other local attractions: Peak village for some bargains, the lovely town of Bakewell and the majestic Chatsworth house are all close by. We usually hold socials in the train at night but this subject to availability so it would be nice to have as many members visit as we can particularly if this is your neck of the woods.

#### **Shardlow Marina, Shardlow, Derby, DE72 2GL. 5th–7th Aug 2016**

The marina provides us with a good base to camp and is quite popular with all camping units. It has good social venues nearby (I can think of at least four pubs) so eating out shouldn't be a problem for those who like put their feet up at the weekend. For those who may wish to venture further then there is a good bus route on the main road that goes to Derby in one direction and Loughborough via Castle Donington in the other direction. So come along as there's plenty of space.

#### **THS, Evesham Sports Club, Albert Rd, Evesham, WS11 4LE. 19th–25th Aug 2016**

This year we are running a THS at Evesham. This has been a popular site in the past as it is a short walk in Evesham for those who like to explore the town. There is also a cracking walk along the river that takes you to the town where you can see all sorts of nature etc or enjoy the peaceful tranquillity of the water passing by. The site will also provide a good stopping off place prior to those going to this year's NFOL which is being held at The Three Counties Showground, Malvern.

#### **Green Acres Farm, Fradley, WS13 8PD. 16th–18th Sept 2016**

A nice village that has a hall we use for socialising at night. In the past we have had sausage sizzles etc but this depends on the audience and whether they fancy a banger at night. This place lends itself to some good walking and just up the road is the Fradley canal junction with tea rooms and a pub to relax in. For those wishing to go a wee bit farther then there is Lichfield or perhaps those visiting the area then the national arboretum is close by.

### **Midland Members**

Where you would like us to hold meets in the Midland area as it stretches from Gloucestershire to Derbyshire and Shropshire to Warwickshire?

We would like the members to feel that they have a say in where we camp so they can enjoy the weekends more so if you have ideas for a venue let us know.

We have had some new stewards come forward this year but we would always welcome some more to steward a meet, if you are interested then let us know as it's not as hard as you may think and we can pair you up with someone else if possible.

If anyone is interested in joining the committee to help us make the camping better then let us know as we have space for more committee members.

May I take the opportunity to welcome the new and existing members to the Midland area and hope to see you out and about on a meet? If you haven't camped with us before or if you haven't tried a weekend meet then give us a go. You will find us friendly and have a good time as we can cater for those who want to put their feet up and for those who like to join in.

If anyone would like any information then feel free to get in touch with me or any of our committee members.

Can I add a special mention to those who are stewarding for us this year?

You are doing a great job, we really appreciate it!

Please refer to [www.waggonerstalk.co.uk](http://www.waggonerstalk.co.uk) for up to date information

All the best

*Colin*

Midland PRO

# Re-plating our Rapido Motorhome

Having discovered that our Rapido Motorhome had 2 vehicle weight plates, the first fitted by Fiat (base vehicle) 3.5 tonne and one fitted by the converters Rapido for 3.85 tonne.

We had spoken to SvTech at the Lincoln Show and we decided to update to 3.85t. For a payment of £120 and photo's of the 2 plates SvTech sent all the relevant forms etc for the DVLA and instructions on how to complete them. These I then sent off to DVLA and within 2 weeks all was back with a new plate for SvTech. All very simple and the best part, I got a refund of previous tax paid and now have PH.G. (Private Heavy Goods) for which the tax is now £60.00 per annum cheaper!! So in 2 years the outlay will be recovered.

SvTech provided an excellent service, easy to understand and I can certainly recommend them and their contact details are as follows:

SvTech Ltd., Chandler House, Talbot Road, Leyland, Lancs PR25 2ZF

Tel. 01772 621800 – Email: richard@svtech.co.uk

*Paula & Paul James* - East Midland Area

## Congratulations to...

Mr D Wilson; winner of the £100.00 prize donated by Truprint Media, with PRO Kathy at the 54th AGM at Cartmel Racecourse.



## *North West...*

In glorious, warm and sunny weather, the North West Area welcomed 153 units of the Camping and Caravanning Club, Motor Caravan Section to the 54th annual meet and AGM at Cartmel Racecourse, in the village of Cartmel, home of the 'Sticky Toffee Pudding' in the beautiful English Lake District. Home made cakes, made by ladies from the Section accompanied by tea and coffee were on offer to welcome members on arrival and throughout the meet. Friday evening was a 'free and easy' evening allowing members to meet both old and new friends while relaxing to the sounds of Ian Green our resident DJ.

Saturday saw the Chairmans reception and lunch take place and present was the Vice Chairman of the Camping and Caravanning Club, Mel Hill, the Hon Club Treasurer, Steve Harris and his wife Carol, Martin Whittaker MCS Vice Chairman, his wife Doreen and Peter Knibbs the outgoing MCS President. Vice Chairman Martin Whitaker officiated at the event due to our Chairman Bill Lees not being able to attend due to illness. After lunch the Reverend Nick Devenish and his wife Dianna attended the opening ceremony where they declared the meet officially open.

Saturday evening saw members gather in the marquee while being entertained by Lancashire's premier folk band the Houghton Weavers where members were highly entertained enjoying a superb evening.

A well attended, successful AGM was held on Sunday morning with Martin Whitaker presiding including a members vote in respect of National Councillors followed by a Section Councillors meeting. Sunday afternoon saw members continuing to enjoy the warm weather on site or visiting the surrounding area with many taking a beverage or two in the village.

Sunday evening members again gathered in the marquee where members expectations were running high at the prospect of winning one of the many raffle prizes on offer. The lucky winner of the £500 donated by the Club Travel Service went to Martin Parker... Well done Sir! The evenings entertainment ensued to the packed audience where our very own Rob Mason, 'A flavour of Lancashire', involved all in Lancashire comedy dialect to the amusement of many and the bemusement of some.

Monday morning saw members heading to the coaches where they enjoyed the organised 'Transport Trio' trip, taking them to Lake Windermere and a cruise on the lake followed by a trip on the Lakeside & Haverthwaite Steam Railway before an interesting look back in time within the Lakeland Motor Museum. For those not attending the coach trip, many members took a leisurely walk into the village of Cartmel and enjoyed the guided

tour of the 11th C Priory Church of St Mary & St Michael's followed by an alcohol beverage in Unsworth Yard Brewery.

Monday evening saw members again attending the marquee to relax, reminisce with friends old and new and listen to tracks from the 60's & 70's sung by one of our members Phil Jackson.

Both during the meet and on our return home we received many 'Thank You' cards and letters of appreciation from those attending the event. The location, the weather and you, the members attending, assisted in making this a very successful meet. We would wish to thank all area members who offered assistance during the meet especially to those members who volunteered to Steward their individual areas. A further thanks to be conveyed to the Lakeland D.A. Committee and Stewards who ran both the pre & follow-on meet at Kendal on our behalf.

We now look forward to meeting everyone again at the 55th annual meet to be hosted by the Wales Area and held at Chepstow Racecourse, Chepstow, Monmouthshire, 26th-30th May 2017.

### ***Obituaries:***

#### ***Joy Abram***

It is with great sadness and regret that we have to announce the death of Joy Abram. Joy was an original member of the cycling and association of lightweight campers and always enjoyed small tent camping. All her life she followed outdoor pursuits particularly enjoying trips to the Scottish Isles and Iceland in her motorhome and she once cycled in the Velodrome in Paris and latterly enjoyed rallies with the North West MCS where she is sadly missed by all her friends.

Our sympathies go to Noel and the immediate family.

#### ***Marion Knibbs***

It is also with great sadness and regret that we in the N.W. MCS have to announce the death of Marion Knibbs. Marion passed away May 13th 2016. Marion was a long serving member of our Area for 31 years alongside her husband Peter who for many years has been our Area Secretary. She was a joyful lady who liked nothing better than a good laugh with the ladies on Saturday nights in the halls. Marion never aspired to Office herself being content to lend support to her husband, but she and Peter were awarded the Certificate of Merit for 2016. Sadly she passed away before she could receive her share, but she was in all our thoughts as Peter picked up the Certificate.

Our sympathies go to Peter and the immediate family.

# National PRO Report

The only way to start this report is to say a BIG Thank You to North West Area Committee and members for hosting the 54th National Meet and AGM at Cartmel Racecourse. I am sure that all members who attended this meet had a wonderful time, with fantastic weather, superb venue, great hosts always with a smile on their faces and good entertainment - what more can I say, if you did not attend take a look at the report and the pictures they tell a story. Next year the 55th National is being hosted by our Wales Area at Chepstow Racecourse, Chepstow, Monmouthshire over the Spring Bank Holiday weekend - **don't forget to book this date in your diary** - further details will be on our website and in the Autumn Edition of the magazine.

On to shows - at Peterborough this year despite the weather conditions, my team and I had a successful show recruiting new members to both the Club and the Section and meeting with existing members and giving them information on all services the Club has to offer plus weekend meets and Holiday meets. Our next show is at Norfolk Showground 22nd–24th July, and then the Western Motorhome Show at Malvern - 12th–14th August, and last but not least The Grand Motorhome Finale at Lincoln 23rd–25th September. So if you are at any of these shows please come along for a chat.

Finally if you have not been Out & About yet this year, there are still some great venues to visit and you will always be met with a warm welcome wherever you go.

*Kathy*  
PRO

## *Northern...*

Stanhope was yet again a successful meet even if it was a bit cool in the club house. It was unfortunate that the footbridge over the river into town was missing but a good time was had by all.

Because of the poor weather preceding our meet to Beverley the meet at Willow Lane was cancelled and the Racecourse was booked instead where the vast majority of campers were on hard ground. Steve and Paul helped out with the entertainment by singing and playing their musical instruments.

Barnoldswick was its usual success with access into the Rolls Royce social club for the evenings.

Thirsk Racecourse was again the venue for the AGM with some 50+ units camping over the weekend. The AGM went well with 70+ members attending. A full committee was elected and for those who could not attend the positions are as follows Chairman - Giles, Vice Chairman - Mike Moores, Secretary - Carol Rowley, Treasurer - Denis Rowley, Appointed Section Councillor - Dennis Rowley, Appointed Region Councillors - Mike Moores (Yorkshire) and Warneford Johnson (North East), Regalia/PRO/Membership Carol Rowley & Trevor Stenton. Other members that were elected are Linda Pennock and Peter Richardson. Co-opted member Alex Wilkinson.

As usual there was a good turnout at Malham where some members of the Lakeland DA joined us for the weekend.

The follow on meet was hosted by Lakeland DA at the Ravenglass Club site and a number of our members made the journey to the west of the Lake District. On the Friday night a journey on the miniature railway was organised. At the end of the line where the travellers enjoyed a fish and chip meal before making the journey back to site.

Both Grinton and Horton in Ribblesdale in the Dales National Park had good attendances.

## Regalia

Section Pennons - £3.00 inc VAT - Postage £1.50 | Lapel Badges - £2.50 inc VAT - Postage £1.50  
Umbrellas - contact your Area/Group Regalia Officer

Please make cheques/PO's payable to the Camping & Caravanning Club Motor Caravan Section.  
Cheques should also be crossed.

Orders to Mrs R Sexton, The Brambles, Claypits Lane, Dibden, Southampton SO45 5TN.  
Tel: 02380 840908 email: [aandrsexton@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:aandrsexton@yahoo.co.uk)

There was a good turnout at the National Railway Museum at Shildon. There was a social each night and a new comer, Kevin, entertained us on the Saturday night playing his mandolin and singing country and western type songs. An american supper was enjoyed by the majority of campers.

### **Future meets:**

#### **23rd July–7th August**

Caedmon College (formerly Community College), Airy Hill, Whitby YO21 1LA. Map Ref 94/892104

Toilets and showers on site. Bus route and close to lovely fishing harbour of Whitby. Boat trips, Abbey and of course many fish and chip cafes to tempt you. £11.50 pun extra adults £3 each per night.

#### **10th–14th August**

Cherry Tree Park, Nawton Nr Helmsley YO62 7RZ. Close to the North York Moors National Park.

There toilets and showers together with a limited number of electric points. Situated on a bus route for trips to Helmsley and Pickering-Scarborough £7 pun

#### **14th–19th August**

Malton and Norton Rugby Union Football Club YO17 7EY  
Map Ref 100/825350

Toilets and showers. Room for evening socials. Situated on a bus route. £7 pun

#### **19th–24th August**

Mount Terrace, Pickering YO18 8JH. Map Ref 100/796846  
Lovely market town with a ruined castle, museum and close to the station for the North York Railway for those long forgotten steam train journeys. A must for those steam train enthusiastic members. £6 pun.

#### **24th August–9th September**

Annstead Farm, Beadnell, Northumberland Map Ref 75/228300.

Situated on the coast road with buses to Bamburgh and Berwick upon Tweed in one direction and Alnwick and Newcastle in the other. Lovely sandy beaches and good food outlets. £9 pun extra adults £3 each

#### **9th–28th September**

Seaburn Camp, Seaburn, Sunderland SR6 8AA Map Ref 88/405606.

Situated on the coast road next door to Morrisons supermarket. Nearby food outlets include fish & chips, Italian, Chinese and Indian so something for all tastes. Good sandy beach and the museum of glass is within easy reach. Regular buses to South Shields and Sunderland. £8 pun extra adults £3 each

#### **16th–19th September**

Hawes Auction Mart DL8 3NP Map Ref 98/876897.

In the Yorkshire Dales and on hard standing. Home of the Wensleydale cheese factory where you see it being manufactured and sample the finished product. Visit the Gayle mill and see the working of wood turning machines powered by water. £9 pun

#### **29th September–3rd October**

Fort Paul, Kingston upon Hull HU12 8FP.

On the banks of the Humber estuary to the east of the city of Hull and in the grounds of a Napoleonic military fortress free entry into the museum and for those who like a bit of bird watching this is the ideal place. £6.50 pun

#### **6th–9th October**

Marsden Cricket Club HD7 6HL. Map Ref 110/044105.

This is a must for all those fans of jazz and the big band sounds. Two days of packed entertainment and quite a lot of it is free entry as well. Bus route down into Marsden. Room for socials at night. **Please note that this is a booked meet with bookings to be made in early September.** £5 pun

#### **14th–16th October**

Westcliffe Primary School, Whitby YO21 3EG. Map Ref 99/893112.

Close to town centre with all the usual things you would find at the seaside plus the magnificent Abbey overlooking the harbour. Some of the best fish and chips to be found anywhere. Nearby bar in the Rifle Club. **Please note this is a booked meet with bookings to be made in early September.** £5 pun

#### **21st–24th October**

Wetherby Racecourse LS22 5EJ. Map Ref 105/973518.

Mainly hardstanding. Room available for socials on Friday and Saturday nights. Possible antiques fair over the weekend. £7 pun

*Trevor*

## Northern Ireland...

Hi Folks

What a year so far! Since February we have had nine meets, all very different, all very good and all well attended.

In February we celebrated St Valentines day with our stewards the Two Johns and Joyces. Games such as Mr & Mrs and Love heart collection set the scene, a wonderful meal was provided and that old romantic Bill McBride presented each Lady with a Red Rose. Isn't Love just great.

March and we were in Downpatrick with Bill & Daphne as our stewards, a relaxing weekend with some enjoying the local shops while others watched the Rugby. Everyone enjoyed a meal in the Cricket club on the Saturday night and young Molly McBride celebrated her Seventeenth birthday.

Easter weekend and our A.G.M. a good turn out with Twenty Two units attending, all went well with no hitches. Richard Montgomery stepped down as our chairman after many years of dedicated service to our section and we all wish him well. Peter Williamson stepped into the post and we know he will do an admirable job. We had a quiz and a supper on the Friday night, music and dancing on the Saturday night with the music provided by our own Billy & Drew. Easter Sunday and Heath, Archie and Hugh had their first go at stewarding and they made a great job of it, well done.

We had Three outings in April with great attendance, Colerain, Holywood and Londonderry. Each one close to a town with plenty of shops and eating houses which believe me we took full advantage off. Colerain had an Artisan Market which was very good with Food to try and Crafts to buy.

Londonderry had a Jazz festival which was very lively. In the evenings we had good craic, a game or Two and great entertainment provided by Bill & Drew. We even had our first Barbeque of the year.

Kenny and Karen were our stewards at the Lower Maze Social Club which was a new venue for us. This meet



coincided with the Balmoral Show which is the biggest agricultural show in NI. The weather was gloriously warm and most of us enjoyed a day at the show or went into the town for a little shopping. A great Barbeque was held was held on the Saturday night, followed by a sing song in the club house. "I think they said we were welcome back"

The glorious weather continued when we met in Newcastle Co Down, Peter & Bobby stewarded this one. The town had various events on which we enjoyed, Ice cream sales were up and the Barbecues got another airing. Billy & Drew provided the entertainment in the evening, Thanks again boys. Great company, great craic what more could you ask for.

Our meet in June was stewarded by Bill & Michelle. This was another week of glorious sunshine allowing us to walk into the city and enjoy all it had to offer. Two nights of barbecuing and sitting outside enjoying the company, great.

We had a game of play your cards right on the Saturday night which was great fun. The evening was topped off by Bill & Michelles daughter Molly presenting them with a cake to celebrate their Twenty Fifth wedding anniversary. Congratulations to them both.





#### **Future Events:**

##### **1st–3rd July**

Springhill National Trust Property. Springhill Road, Co Derry, BT45 4JY. Fee £10.00 P.U.P.N. Entry from 14.00 hrs.

##### **15th–17th July**

Portaferry Gala Festival week. Portaferry Primary School. High St, Portaferry, Co Down BT22 1QW. Fee £10.00 P.U.P.N. Entry from 14.00 hrs.

##### **22nd–24th July**

Red Sails Festival St Collums Primary School, Lever Road, Portstewart, Co Antrim BT55 7EF. Fee £10.00 P.U.P.N. Entry from 14.00 hrs.

##### **5th–7th August**

The Festival of Flight. Shimna College, King Street, Newcastle, Co Down, BT33 0HD. Fee £10.00 P.U.P.N. Entry from 14.00 hrs. **THIS IS A BOOKABLE MEET TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT PLEASE BOOK EARLY.**

##### **12th–14th August**

Carrickfergus Sailing Club, Rodgers Quay, Carrickfergus, Co Antrim, BT38 8BE. Fee £10.00 P.U.P.N. Entry from 14.00 hrs.

##### **26th–29th August**

Thornfield Special School, 8–12 Jordanstown Road, Co Antrim, BT37 0QF. Fee £10.00 P.U.P.N. Entry from 14.00hrs.

##### **9th–11th September**

Tandragee Junior High School. Armagh Road, Craigavon BT62 2AY. Fee £10.00 P.U.P.N. Entry from 17.00 hrs.

##### **23rd–25th September**

Bangor Intergrated Primary School. 6 Castle Park Road, Bangor, Co Down, BT40 4TF. Fee £10.00 P.U.P.N. Entry from 17.00hrs.



## *Scotland...*

### **Bill Lees**

As many of you know Bill had a stroke a number of weeks ago. In an email from Susan, she thanks everybody (Club Members) for Cards and good wishes, commenting that it really makes a difference. Bill is now doing quite well and is beginning to get some movement on his right side with help from physiotherapists, speech is more or less back to normal. He is determined to get home as soon as possible. Bill is a great asset to both the Scottish Area Motor Caravan Section and is our Vice President, and also Chairman of the National Council. We miss his wise counsel and experience, and his friendly chat, and wish him a speedy recovery.

After our (as always) successful meet at Cairnsmill Meet (11th–16th March) 46 units attending, we were next at Bridge of Allan. Our meet, held from the 1st–6th April was memorable by the dreadful weather; it seemed to rain incessantly causing a few Motorhomes to get stuck in the mud. However, led by our intrepid Stewards Joan and Mary

we made the best of a bad job, running our morning coffee and evening entertainment in the heated!!! wooden hut. Our next outing, at Kelso, we joined the BCC for an altogether more enjoyable meet. With special thanks to the BCC Stewards Gerry and Graham, for their hospitality. There were 45 units on site, 22 Caravans and 23 Motorhomes. The meet was held from the 12th–16th May in Springwood Park Kelso, to coincide with a Vintage Rally, run annually and included Vintage cars, motorbikes, lorries and agricultural Tractors and machinery. Inevitably mention has to be made of the weather, which turned out to be warm and sunny. For those of you thinking of joining our future THS and meets, just to say that the sun does shine some of the time in Scotland!!!

Our first THS of the year was held at Benderloch (near Oban) from 27th May–6th June. In total some 88 Units attended over the 10 Days, and because of the good weather there were up to 50 Units most nights. The Stewards, Tony and Marjory Groundwater, Anne and





George Kyle and Les and Carol Wiseman laid on a very interesting programme. In addition to a Nashville Blues Concert in the local Village Hall, there was a quiz, A Zen Doodle Workshop, Wine tasting evening, a one pot supper, and a Boule Tournament. Overall there was a very friendly atmosphere, and more is the pity that will be the last THS to be held at this venue as the field has been sold.

#### **Future THS and Meets:**

##### **1st–11th July**

A return again to Crieff. The THS is being held at Crieff and Strathearn Rugby Club. Crieff itself is a lovely town with all the usual amenities, and is within walking distance of the site. In addition there is a bus stop near by for those of us who want to travel further afield e.g. a visit to the beautiful city of Perth is highly recommended. There is also a Glass Making factory close by, making among other things beautiful paper weights.

##### **22nd July–3rd August**

A THS at Bankhead Farm Crail. A nice location overlooking the sea, with good walks along the coast, and close to the Fishing Village of Crail. On a Bus route for other fishing villages and towns.

##### **12th–22nd August**

The Scottish Maritime Museum in Irvine. Very near to the centre of the town. The local Marymass festivities are worth a visit with different events running every day and evening. It is essential to book in advance for the THS as there is limited space.

##### **16th–21st September**

Returning for a 5 day meet to Springwood Park Kelso.

*Jim Burns*

PRO Scottish Area Motor Caravan Section

## *South West...*

Hi Campers, Well six months gone already, & we are still looking for some nice Hot & Sunny Weather.

Pam & Myself were the stewards for our Easter Meet at Ringwood Junior School.

On the Friday Evening we all had Fish 'n' Chips in the School Hall. Saturday Eve we had several games of Bingo & Sunday we had a Beetle Drive with Trish winning the Ladies & Den the mens & Poor Bob the Chairman won the Prize for the lowest score, The Easter Bonnet Competition was won by Pam & Derek. No it was not fixed.



Our Holiday Meet at the Beehive Bradford-on-Avon was a great success despite the bad weather for the 1st week, Cold with strong winds, Rain, Sleet, Thunder & Lightning & yes on the Saturday a covering of snow. Despite all of this all said how much they enjoyed there stay with bus stops at gate entrance to Bath Etc. I must give a big thanks to all who helped to Steward the meet, Peter & Sheila, Bob & Trish, Den & Liz, Pam & Del Boy.

19th–23rd May Once again at Royal Victoria Country Park Netley. Pam & Derek Stewards.

Again the weather was bad but still had 17 Units, Friday & Sunday eve we saw the world's Largest ship leave Southampton The Harmony of the Seas. 1188ft Long 215. 5ft Wide, 6780 Guests & 2100 Crew.

We are always looking for Stewards to help us out for 1 day or even just a few Hours.

### **Future Meets:**

#### **7th–11th July**

Bamptons Farm, Lymington SO41 5SH

Ideal for a trip to the Isle of Wight, Lymington Market on Saturday.

Walk or take a short Train ride. PYO Strawberries close by. £8.50 pupn

#### **28th July–1st August**

Swanage & Wareham Rugby Club, Bestwalls Rd, Wareham BH20 4HY

Bus to Corfe Castle, Swanage, Bournemouth & Poole. £8.50 pupn

#### **11th–14th August**

Henstridge Airfield, Somerset, BA8 0TN

On the border of Dorset & Somerset, Air Ambulance on site on Airfield.

Small Cafe to watch the Planes & Get together in the Evenings. £7.50 pupn



## *Southern...*



### **8th–11th September**

Longhorns Farm, Longhorns, Wareham BH20 7NS  
Next to Monkey World & Close to Bovington  
Tank Museum.

£9.00 pupn

### **8th–11th October**

Greenjackets St Cross Winchester, SO23 9RJ  
Bus Stop by Gate or stroll along by River to  
Winchester & The Cathedral.  
£11.00 pupn

For any Changes & up to date Details check out  
Waggoner's Talk & Website or Phone me on  
01425 475415 Mobile 07977 061454

Happy Camping  
*Derek*

Firstly our heartfelt thanks go to the North West Area for a brilliant National Rally at Cartmel. The company was good, the entertainment was good, and the weather was outstanding, I really don't know how they did it. I spent my honeymoon in the Lake District and it rained for a whole week. The village and surrounding countryside was just how you imagine the Lake District to be - beautiful.

Congratulations to Bryan and Kathy from your Southern Area colleagues, the Certificate of Honour was well deserved, and the presentation from Mel was also well deserved.

I spent the Bank Holiday weekend with Surrey & South London Group on their Rally at Runnymede. This is a perfect venue, not only does it have the Magna Carta Memorial but it now has a new attraction. To mark the 800th Anniversary of the sealing of the Magna Carta there is an artwork called the Jurors by Hew Locke. The Jurors is formed by 12 bronze chairs, each decorated by symbols to past and ongoing struggles for freedom, rule of law and equal rights. The chairs form an oblong five on one side, five on the other and one each end. Each chair is adorned both back and front with different symbols and images. You can actually sit on these chairs but be warned they are very cold!



I cannot believe we are almost to midsummer's day where has the time gone, it was of course a rather late start to summer. Now it is in full swing with visits to the South Eastern Region Anniversary Meet at White House Farm, Uckfield from 16–20 June. Following this we are going to the coast for a taste of sea air first of all with Kent Group at Rye Rugby Club 23–27 June and then with Surrey & South London Group to Royal Victoria Country Park, Southampton 29 July–2 August.

Kent have their Holiday Meet at Quex Park, Birchington from 15 July–9 August, plenty of things to do, easy access to the coast or the towns and if you wish to go further you can always take a ferry to France.

The National Feast of Lanterns this year is to be held from 25–29 August on the Three Counties Showground at Malvern, the theme for this year is the "World of Movies"

Whatever you do or wherever you go this summer have a good time.

*Mabel*

## *Surrey & South London...*

They do say time flies when you are enjoying your self, and I must say that 2016 is proving to be just that with so much to choose from that one is spoilt for choice, with delightful week-ends already to recall and so many to come we are a lucky bunch of campers. Paul and I had a delightful first visit to the Rally in Holland where the British once more showed the flag, and Paul flew the Section Banner. A very jolly garden party was provided on the hottest day there with lots of old friends attending. As it was Pauls first continental Rally we were so impressed with the venue 4000+ pitches with wonderful entertainment, four lakes, and too many things going on, you had a job to fit in all that was on offer. So now that we are hooked, on continental travel again, we are off to Portugal F.I.C.C. Rally that his Dad and I have attended in years gone by, so we look forward to seeing friends old and new, as we did in Holland so watch this space for my report. Now to report on the excellent Section A.G.M. that was hosted by North West Area on Cartmel Racecourse in wall to wall Sunshine the whole four days, in the most charming setting that we could wish for. The Committee made every one welcome from the word go, with tea and cakes on arrival and all the information regarding the area and programme, so well done all the members for a smashing meet to remember. We don't often go to follow on meets, but as Paul is now retired, and as the Sun continued to shine down on us we called in to the meet at Kendal, and once again what a delightful part of the country it turned out to be, all you need as a base to visit Lake Windermere. On the bus to



Keswick the following day with the Sun still shining, I must say for a first visit to this part of G.B it wont be my last as I often say we are lucky bunnies to be able to visit this green and pleasant land. Let's not forget it's the members who work very hard in the background who make all this possible, so the next time a steward greets you think of all that goes into making your visit special, and if need be offer to help out when needed, you know it makes sense. By the time you read this the S.E. Region Anniversary Meet will be over, as will several other old and new favourite venues for us all to enjoy, but of course it's a good plan to jot these down for future outings in 2017. For your information we are looking forward to joining Kent at Rye Rugby Club, E Sussex just down the road for us, and I hope we get a good turnout at Gabriels Farm Edenbridge Kent, and our next in July at Royal Victoria Park, Netley a firm favourite with those who know the Park with Ships sailing by and Southampton a bus ride away, it's all there for you to try and buy. At this point I like to remind you, don't forget your bus pass, it opens up places we never knew existed.

### ***Future Meets:***

#### **11th–14th August**

Swiss Farm International Marlow Rd, Henley on Thames, Oxon RG9 2HY site opens 13.00PM - £10.00. PUPN - 3 NTS  
Lovely site walk into town invite to Kent & S/West

#### **25th–29th August**

Weyhill Fair Public House, Salisbury Rd, Andover, Hants SP10 3EL site opens 1300 PM £8.00 PUPN. Bus stop

## *Wales...*

outside site, to Salisbury etc. Pub serving good food on site full programme.

### **15th–18th September**

Booked Meet - Crowborough Club site, Goldsmiths Recreation Ground, Crowborough, E Sussex TN6 2TN site opens 12.00 Noon £12.00 PUPN H/S & Elec - 3 Nights To Book Contact Committee – BOOKED MEET

### **14th–16th October**

Chertsey Club Site – See YBSB for directions - Sat evening Social, full programme etc. BOOKED MEET

### **28th–30th October**

Tillingbourne School, New Rd, Tillingbourne, Guilford, Surrey GU4 8NB site opens 14.00PM - £8.50 PUPN - 2 NTS H/S & HALL full programme Bus stop close to Guildford

### **4th–6th November**

Bonfire Meet, Booked Meet, St Nicholas C of E School Parsonage Rd, Cranleigh Surrey, GU6 7AN Site opens 17.00 p.m. £850. PUPN 2 NTS H/S to book contact Committee member.

### **25th–27th November**

Cranleigh 1st & Middle School Xmas Nosh and card exchange, Parsonage Rd, Cranleigh, GU6 7AN - site opens 17.00 p.m £8.50 PUPN 2 NTS H/S & Hall to book contact Committee Member, Fish and Chip Supper with Card exchange, full Programme with live music, so bring your dancing shoes and lets all have a good knees up together, that's what this Club is all about, so look forward to seeing you there.

*Chris Basting*

At the AGM held at Dan yr Ogof a number of changes to the committee were have taken place, these can be viewed on the Waggonerstalk web site.

A number of members made the trip to The National AGM which was held at Cartmel Race Course in the Lake District, the area of the lakes is a well-known tourist attraction. Whilst there, a trip was organised to visit, Windmere lake for cruise, then onto a steam railway, finally a stop at a motor museum which included the recording breaking cars and boats of the Campbell family. It was a memorable AGM for beauty of the area, the weather and the well organised event held by the North West Area.

The 2017 National AGM and Meet will be organised by the Wales Area, which will be held at Chepstow Race Course on the Spring Bank Holiday 27th–29th of May. The event is run by members for members and is dependent on volunteers to help in various to enable the running of the AGM. By the next issue of the magazine, details of the programme and entertainment will be known.

### **Future Meets:**

**8th of July** for five nights, The Museum of Childhood, Newcastle Emlyn SA44 5EX. The museum displays toys and games from bygone years and you can engage your mind to those days of happiness as a child. The site is situated on a main bus route between Carmarthen and Cardigan; there are toilet and shower facilities plus a café on site.

**13th of July** for five nights, Dia,s Farm at Rhodyrferwig, near Newquay, you can cycle in or walk to the resort, not feeling energetic you can catch the local bus!

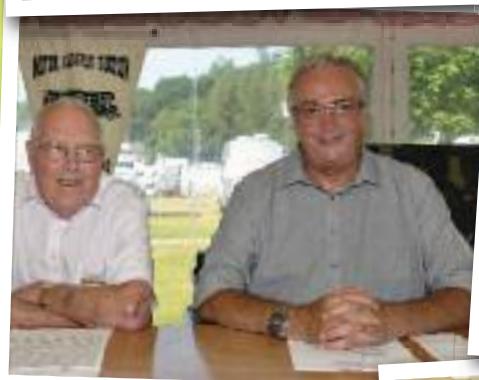
**21st of July** for four nights, Porthkerry Caravan Park, Rhoose, CF62 3XP. The site as a club house and is near to Barry Island, for a day out at the seaside or a shopping trip.

**1st of September** for five nights, Riverside Caravan Park, Stratford upon Avon CV37 7AB. The site as full facilities including ehu, catch a bus or cycle into the town to visit the birth place of one William Shakespeare, you can laze about by the river or have boat on it. The town as many eating places, pubs, places of interest and shops, you can do own thing in this town and do not forget it as a theatre of some renown.

**6th of September** for four nights, Tudor Caravan Park, Slimbridge, GL2 7BP. You do not have to drink and drive at this site! It is at the back of a public house and they serve meals as well. Not far away is the well-known Slimbridge Wild Fowl Trust, well worth a visit for a day out, if you're not into birds why not hiring a barge for a day's sailing.

**22nd September**, four nights Merrixton Farm, Nr Tenby SA67 8PJ. Old favourite of many club members, ehu on a card. A great place to visit some of the coastal resorts of the area.

*John Hunt*



Have you enjoyed your visit?  
Join us today!

