



Caravan and Motorhome Club - Suffolk Centre

It's what the weekends were made for!

March 2020 Newsletter and Rally Update

This is your first Newsletter for 2020, and contains reports of rallies held up to early March and details of rallies for the next couple of months.



Volume 5 - Issue 1

NEWSLETTER SPOTLIGHT

This is the latest edition and I trust you will find something of interest. We will be issuing a regular Newsletter on the website, outlining the upcoming rallies and any other matters you should know about, around every Two/Three Months, the next in late May/early June 2020.

CHAIRMAN'S BLOG

WRITTEN 17TH FEBRUARY 2020

Now into my third year as your Chairman, and it has already been very busy, attending pre-season dinner rallies with other Centres, centre rallies, and Regional meetings and events.

The caravanning season is under way, with three rallies already been and gone, as you will see in the rally reports and now looking forward to getting into the main part of the season.

As I write this we have just had one storm 'Ciara' which gave some of us problems, with the Orwell Bridge closed etc., making it very difficult towing and travelling, causing some of us to remain an extra night at Hallowtree, and now we hear another storm 'Dennis' is possibly going to give us more problems this weekend, however we are reasonably lucky in East Anglia and not having the flooding problems that is being experienced elsewhere, we feel for them. The weather and seasons are getting more and more unpredictable.

The Natter and Chatter was well attended, especially as the weather and travelling conditions were against us, but I was pleased to be able to present 8 fellowship plaques, it was also a great pleasure to present the Don Alcock Shield to Tony & Karen Reed for attending 23 rallies, this is the 4th time in a row and 6 times overall that they have won this shield; the Junior shield was presented to Sarah Fincham-Jacques who attended 15 rallies, well done to everyone.

Unfortunately due to the weather, it was not possible to have a volunteer representative from the East Anglian Air Ambulance to attend, so I have just made arrangement to pass on your generous donations of £1,133.15p raised last year, thank you all.

As many of you are aware we have lost 2 of our long standing members of our Centre recently, a very large contingent of current and past centre members attended the funeral of Jan Fitch to say farewell to this lovely lady, and we will be attending a true gentleman, Ken Syzling's funeral next week.

Connie and myself wish all of you good health and look forward to meeting up with many Centre members during the coming year on the rally field, let us hope you can get out and enjoy the caravanning year.

Garry

Suffolk Centre Chairman

CENTRE NEWSLETTER

Due to the ever changing complexities with our previous method of distribution of the Newsletter, we had to stop using this method and the September Newsletter didn't happen as a result. I decided to take up the cudgel again and this is the first Newsletter of 2020, which is now only available on the Centre Website until we can find a method of distribution to my 1200 avid readers, that will not immediately declare any email address used as a Spammer. This brings about all sorts of problems, but we will overcome these in due course. Peter - Editor

1st RALLY OF THE YEAR - 3 - 5 January 2020

Arrived at Saxtead just after midday and welcomed by our marshals for the weekend, Carole and Nick Harbottle.

Melody and Graham Gosling the other marshals were unable to attend, due to Melody having an operation to her foot and was unable to walk. Eight units attended the rally, Nick and Carole managed to site everyone with little difficulty.

Friday Evening some of us had an evening meal in the Public House; and very good it was. Saturday was a do as you please day.

Quite a few people decided to walk the two miles into Framlingham. The weather was on our side and made a pleasant walk. Some looked around the castle, others browsed around charity shops, also the local tea rooms were frequented for much needed refreshment. Some managed to walk the two mile back, while some of us took advantage of our Senior Citizen Concessionary Travel Card. In the evening, back into the pub restaurant, where we used our discount voucher, for another superb meal.

Sunday at 11am we had Flagpole and presented Nick and Carole with their Marshals Plaque.

Informed the rally members that the new 2020 Suffolk Centre Rally Handbook had been delivered to most members of the Centre.

Ron King - Rally Chair

BURNS SUPPER RALLY - 24th - 26th January 2020

The Burns supper rally is always a well organised affair, normally running at full capacity, starting with a get together on the Friday evening for refreshments, leading into Scottish dancing sessions, trying to teach the steps for Saturday evening, this turns into great fun when trying to remember steps and directions.

Saturday evening we all sat down for the traditional Burn's meal preceded by the piping in of the haggis and a wonderful rendition by Andy, the meal as always was excellent, and then jokes and tales from Andy followed by the toasts to the lassies and laddies, and then into Scottish dance mode, with most up on the dance floor.

Martin gave us some wonderful bagpipe music during the evening, and his requested playing of Highland Cathedral was very well received, well done Martin.

Sunday morning we all gathered for a porridge breakfast followed by flagpole, thanks to the Burn's team Ron, Wendy, Martin, Liz and Julie for all the hard work behind the scenes and 'front of house', I understand that the rally next year may well already be almost full. Garry - Rally Chair

VALENTINE'S RALLY - 7th - 9th February 2020

The weekend weather wasn't the best for camping. Twenty plus units braved what was to come and had a great time, Friday night we all gathered in the hall for a game of bingo. Melody sitting along side the caller was giving the alternative version to numbers being called. Some strange and funny alternative were heard. £60.00 was raised for the Chairman's Charity, East Anglian Air Ambulance.

Saturday was do as you please until the evening, when a three-course meal was served and the entertainment was provided by A1 Disco. The dinner was fantastic, plenty on the plate and no need to go for more. Well done to the chef and helpers.

Once dinner was completed, we had Flagpole, followed by the disco, where a request for your treasured song was played during the night for your loved one. The floor was busy all night, from the first dance to the last. It must have pleased the DJ for getting the music right. Thank you Marshals for a brilliant weekend. Looking forward to next years Valentines as you have set a high bar to follow. Ron King



The Inner Rally Field



The Main Rally Field



Enjoying their meal



Flagpole in Progress



Love is in the Air!



Dancing through the Night

NATTER & CHATTER - 9th February 2020

It was gale force winds with lashing rain for the Natter & Chatter, but despite this, there was a very good turnout. The Junior Crew provided bacon rolls at £1.50 a roll and tea and coffee were also served. It was nice to see people catching up with each other, while sorting out what rallies they will be doing in the coming year'

Birchwood Caravan Services Ltd, Donated the Rally Marshals Hi-Vis Vests to the centre and LS Plaques supplied the logo printing at no cost to the Centre. Thank you, Rupert & Julie Moody and Chris Stammers, Amy Hindle & Lily for your contribution, much appreciated. Ron King



Winner of the Don Alcock Shield for the 6th time, Tony & Karen Reed - Well done that couple.



Suffolk Hi-Vis Vests presented by Birchwood Caravan Services with LS Plaques printing the Logo for Free.



The Junior shield being presented to Sarah Fincham-Jacques who attended 15 rallies

ESSO FUEL CARD

As a Caravan & Motorhome Club member, then you are **entitled** to apply for an Esso Fuel Card at no cost to you. This is administered by Fuelpecker on behalf of Esso and entitles you to apply for this card to get quality fuel at a price normally cheaper than supermarket fuel prices. Once you receive your card (which takes around 1-2 weeks, due to the popularity of this offer), then you will receive a text message each Friday with the latest fuel price for Diesel, Unleaded Petrol, Premium Diesel and Premium Unleaded Petrol, from Sunday, which lasts at that price until the following Saturday night. You will need to register a Debit Card with Fuelpecker, which is used to pay for your fuel at that weeks price. If you fill up at an Esso Station, which has a forecourt price that is lower than your Fuelpecker Card, then Fuelpecker will only charge you the lower price for your fuel, so you can't lose.

As an example of the amount you can save, for Standard Diesel this week **my** local supermarket is charging £1.29.9 per litre and my local Esso station is charging £1.36.9 per litre, whereas Fuelpecker is at a discount price at £1.23.6 per litre, which is lower even than the supermarket and still gives you quality fuel at a greatly discounted price. You can also use your card at ESSO stations in Belgium, France, Germany, Italy and the Netherlands as well as every ESSO station in the UK. The above prices for diesel are at **my** local service stations and it maybe cheaper near you, but I still expect Fuelpecker will be cheaper than you can get overall. I have also seen a 3mpg increase when towing since using my Esso Card, with a better quality fuel.

You can apply for your **FREE** (I do like that word) Esso discount card at: [Click here](#) - so what are you waiting for?

When you pay for your fuel at an Esso station using your Esso Fuel Card, you will still get a receipt showing the cost of the fuel without the discount. A few days later, you will receive an email showing the discounted price you have actually been charged, so don't worry that you have been overcharged.



I have covered up some of the details on my card for security reasons.



And don't forget the Fuelpecker App, available in the Apple App Store although it doesn't seem to be available in Google Play just yet. Once you log-in, you can see all the information available on the Fuelpecker website and also where the nearest Esso fuel station is in relation to your current position.

MEMBER GET MEMBER OFFER

The Club is currently offering an incentive to get new members. For every member that you recruit, you will receive £10 and the new member will receive £10 too. See the link <https://www.camc.com/friend> for more information on this.

THE CLUB BAND

The Club Band are currently looking for new recruits. If you know anyone, young or old, who has a musical talent then please contact Ian Clowes, Chairman, on camccbchairman@gmail.com for further details

2020 DIVISION AND REGION EVENTS

Our Divisions and Regions have organised some fantastic member engagement events for 2020. Look out for the advertisements in the Club Magazine and other channels of communication. They will also be arranging cover for the Information Marquee at the 2020 National at Belvoir Castle. Please support them wherever possible.

DISABLED AND MOTORHOME MATS

Although the Club have a special mat for the disabled to get from their caravan/motorhome over the gravel to the roadway and for whenever a motorhome gets stuck in grass or muddy situations, they have at most, only one per Club Site. The Club obtain their supplies from

<https://www.nrshealthcare.co.uk/>

Should you require a mat for your motorhome or are disabled, then we understand that this company offer these mats at very competitive rates.

EQUIPMENT BOXES - WHAT'S INSIDE ONE?

I expect you have heard the Rally Chairman at Flaggpole state 'I have my Equipment Box with me if anyone want something from it' and not given it a thought as to what actually there is in The Box! Well, here is a list of the typical contents, with a photo and prices for you:

SCCC Horsehead Decal
Each at £1.50

Tablecloth Clips
Set of 4 at £2.00

Groundsheet Pegs
Pack of 5 at £1.50

Luggage Hooks
Pack of 2 at £3.00



8" Red Pegs
Bundle of 12 at £2.50

LPG Sticker
Each at £1.00

Rubber Awning Toggle
Each at 40p

LED Keychain
Each at £2.00

More exciting 'Items for Sale' will be announced shortly; so watch this space.

EXTRA CENTRE EQUIPMENT

Would like to remind Rally Marshals, if you're requiring extra equipment for your rally. Things like Tea Urns electric/gas, Event Shelters, mobile radios, extra saucers, notice boards or even a P A System, are there to be used.

The Equipment Officer have these at your request to use and help you run a successful rally.

Please be minded to place your requirement at the earliest opportunity. There is a limited amount of equipment the Centre hold. To make it easier to manage what people require, a rota will be drawn up with what rally marshals have asked for.

PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE IT TOO LATE, YOU KNOW YOUR REQUIREMENTS. For more information please contact via email equipment@suffolkcentre.co.uk

Looking forward to your cooperation and hope you all have an enjoyable rally.

Ron King - Equipment Officer

FORTHCOMING RALLIES

**MOTHER'S DAY AT SUTTON
SUTTON MEMORIAL HALL
OLD POST OFFICE LANE
SUTTON, WOODBRIDGE IP12 3DU**

20 - 22 MARCH 2020

Friday evening tea and coffee in the hall, practice your bowling skills. Saturday, Indoor Bowls, playing for the 'Dermic' Trophy kindly donated by Derek Scott and Mike Prentice. Saturday evening a Mother's Day meal followed by entertainment.

Ron & Denise King, Tony & Karen Reed with Alan & Janet Dobson

[Click here](#) for more details

**FEASTER EASTER
TRINITY PARK
FELIXSTOWE ROAD
IPSWICH IP3 8UH**

9 - 13 APRIL 2020

An Eggs-ultant Easter with racing and crafts for all. Highlights to include Hot Cross Buns and family entertainment.

Chris Stammers with Amy Hindle and Lily and Rupert & Julie Moody

[Click here](#) for more details

**SUN, SAND AND SEASIDE
PEEWIT CARAVAN PARK
WALTON AVENUE
FELIXSTOWE IP11 2HN**

17 - 19 APRIL 2020

Well not so much sandy beach, more pebbles, but worth a visit. This is a do as you please weekend on the coast in Felixstowe with a get together on site (room available) for flagpole on Saturday evening, with tea and coffee and a chance to chat with old friends and make new ones.

Alan & Janet Dobson with Tony & Karen Reed

[Click here](#) for more details

**QUESTION TIME AT IWM DUXFORD
INVITATION FROM MID-ANGLIA CENTRE
FOWLMERE RECREATION GROUND AND VILLAGE HALL
CHRISHALL ROAD
FOWLMERE, ROYSTON SG8 7UY**

24 - 26 APRIL 2020

Rally is run in conjunction with the Anglia Region Question Time, which is being held at the Imperial War Museum Duxford. There will be a social on the Saturday evening including an evening meal and live entertainment in the village hall. You will be able to bring your own drinks.

If you attend the Question Time, then you will be given a **FREE** Ticket to the IWM at Duxford. Question Time is on Saturday 25th April starting at 11:00

John & Jasmine Kent with the Mid Anglia Committee

[Click here](#) for more details

**SPRING IN TANGHAM
FOREST CAMPING
TANGHAM CAMPSITE
RENDLESHAM IP12 2NF**

24 APRIL - 1 MAY 2020

This rally is being run earlier than normal for 2020 due to the change in the date of the Early May Bank Holiday. From 2 to 7 nights rally in the heart of Rendlesham Forest. Time to get those walking boots on or dust the cycle off to explore the many trails and paths, all of which are signposted. Lazy do as you please days and for those staying during the week, there will be a 'refreshment' get together. Flaggpole will be on Saturday late afternoon.

Janet and Alan Dobson with Tony & Karen Reed

[Click here](#) for more details

PRESENTATION OF CHARITY FUNDS RAISED FOR EAAA

Ben from East Anglian Air Ambulance was presented with a cheque for £1,133.15 by Garry and Connie Pyett, Chairman of the Suffolk Centre of the Caravan & Motorhome Club from donations collected during 2019.

Well done to all who contributed or raised funds for this vital charity.



Suffolk Centre Caravan & Motorhome Club

Thank you for raising the amazing amount of

£ 1133.15 by Donating funds raised at various rally's in 2019

Patrick G. Peal Patrick Peal,
Chief Executive



Together we save lives

Thank you for helping us to provide life-saving services. Without your support we would not be able to fly our dedicated air ambulances. Our helicopters are based at Cambridge and Norwich airports and can reach anywhere in the region in under 25 minutes, ensuring our Doctors and Critical Care Paramedics are on scene as quickly as possible.

East Anglian Air Ambulance is proud to serve the communities of Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Norfolk and Suffolk.



East Anglian Air Ambulance, Haagar E, Gamling Close, Norwich, Norfolk, NR6 8EG 03450 669 999 www.eaaa.org.uk

Registered Charity in England and Wales
Registered Charity number 1002276



CENTRE SECRETARY SCRIBLINGS

PRINTED BOOK BY POST OR AN EMAIL COPY?

This message is aimed at those members who have always received a printed handbook in the post.

Early in January all members that have had books in the past were emailed – wherever possible – with the offer of changing to an emailed PDF copy. Many replies have been received; many others have so far not yet responded.

We have had to take such an approach for varying reasons: The cost of postage being one and the actual printing costs (which we try to keep to a minimum helped by our much-loved Advertisers). Can I dispel a myth here by the way? Our Advertisers help support the book – postage costs we have to find as our Club Grant cannot be used against these costs. Our Club Grant is for the running of the Centre – AGM and Committee meetings, Equipment and any other expenditure as listed by them.

We are rightly proud of the handbooks produced over the years – and by Club directives we are only obliged to give a list of the rallies we are putting on – and have no intention of not producing one – we just need to be mindful of offering options to members in this day and age and have in fact been asked by members to have their copy by email. For the 2020 book we also used the foot and engine power of most of the committee in wandering the streets of Ipswich and beyond to hand deliver a quantity of books. This is something much appreciated but cannot be guaranteed year on year.

By knowing a more precise number of books we can budget more effectively as well, avoiding waste of resources.

So, if you haven't replied, lost the email in spam box, it really would be helpful to know your wish on this. To those who have replied a big thank you and thanks also for some of the comments and suggestions given on how to approach this problem – your comments have been taken to committee and no suggestion has been discounted as yet!

So please can you spare a few minutes to email me at scccsecure@gmail.com (a specific email address for distribution of books) and I can then mark down your preference. Many thanks – Janet Dobson, Secretary, Suffolk Centre

GENERAL INFORMATION

Questions or Comments? Email us at newsletter@suffolkcentre.co.uk

Please send any reports, pictures, rally reports and notices for future Newsletters to me (Peter) at newsletter@suffolkcentre.co.uk

Fundraising

Chairman's Charity - Supporting the East Anglian Air Ambulance