



Caravan and Motorhome Club - Suffolk Centre

It's what the weekends were made for!

December 2020 Newsletter and Rally Update

This is your Fifth and last Newsletter for 2020, and contains some updates and information from your Committee, who are still working from home.



Volume 5 - Issue 5

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 any upcoming rallies and any other matters you should know about, around every Two/Three Months, the next in March/April 2021.

CHAIRMAN'S BLOG

This unprecedented pandemic shows no real signs of abating soon, and following the easing of some of the restrictions which allowed us use of our caravans and motorhomes, albeit in a totally different way to what we are accustomed to, only to find ourselves in another lockdown.

I was very pleased to be re-elected as your Chairman for an additional year, and I can only hope that we will be able to get out on the rally field so that I can fulfil my role as I would wish to and meet face to face with new members and friends.

I am please that we kept our Committee team together, with just a change of Treasurer, thanks Mark for your commitment to the Centre, sad to lose you, however I am pleased to welcome Paul Wade on board the team as our new Treasurer.

Covid restrictions and Winter weather allowing, I hope you are able to get out in your units on Club, commercial and CL sites when they reopen after this 2nd lockdown, and with some members belonging to other clubs not governed by the restrictions placed on the Centre at the moment from HQ, you get to enjoy your weekends and holidays.

The rally handbook should be with you soon, confirmations from site owners have delayed it, well done Alan for pulling it all together, a lot of work at the last minute.

Connie and I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and really hope that any restrictions in place do not impact your enjoyment to much.

Looking forward to meeting up again when we are able to do so, please feel free to ring us if you feel like a chat, our number is in the book.

We sincerely hope you and your families are keeping well, please Stay Safe, remember:

Hands – Face – Space.

Please stay positive, and above all Stay Safe.

Garry - Suffolk Centre Chairman - September 2020

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 2019 Newsletter didn't happen as a result. I decided to take up the cudgel again and this is the fifth 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

SUFFOLK CENTRE AGM - OCTOBER 2020

Sunday 18th October 2020 saw a Suffolk Centre AGM like no other – and hopefully not to be seen again – although the day passed off without incident.

It saw current and prospective candidates for the Suffolk Committee for 2021 attend – duly socially distanced – at Hintlesham Village Hall for a closed AGM meeting. All members had been informed in one way or another – email or letter – and a process was put in place where members could send in questions or comments to a specially appointed “Member Representative” so there would be no advance notice of what was to come – just like the real AGM should be. Thanks go to our Past Chairman Graham Noye for handling this for us.

We arranged to put up all the AGM relevant paperwork a week before the meeting and even put the front cover competition on the Members Facebook Group in a poll where they could still choose the front cover. I understand the worthy winner was David Kent with his entry of “Summer Rally in the Garden”.

We also welcomed Joy and Mick Threadgold to the meeting as “Tellers” and to monitor we were doing this right. Joy is currently Chairlady of North Essex Centre. Representing the Anglia Region, we welcomed Janice and David Kent – Janice is currently Regional Secretary and is a Past Chairlady of Suffolk Centre. We also welcomed Connie Pyett as Garry was to stand for Chairman again for 2021 and so became Chairman’s Lady once again.

We saw the sad departure of Mark Terry as Treasurer and welcomed Paul Wade into our band of Merry Men and Ladies as our Treasurer for 2021.

Many Centres have managed, one way or another to hold their AGMs but with the lockdown for November some are still outstanding. Many things have been delayed this year and no doubt this will have a knock-on effect on committees and rally programmes.

Janet Dobson, Secretary, Suffolk Centre



Our Chairman & Chairlady



The Centre Horse



Part of the Committee, Visitors & Member Representative



Part of the Committee, Visitors & Member Representative



Publicity, Rally Sec, Treasurer, Vice-Chair & Equipment



The Top Table



Regional Representative



Part of the Committee, Visitors & Member Representative



Top Table & ‘Tellers’



General View

SPOOKY SOUTHWOLD RALLY - 23rd to 27th October 2020

Spooky Southwold rally was the first rally run under COVID-19 government rules. No mixing in Van unless in a bubble didn't cause any problems. Normally at a rally we would be running a number of events where we can all get together, but obviously this was not allowed. It is a shame that our rally was restricted because of the virus, although we still felt lucky that we could get out on holiday when many at present can't. The weather was great which did help as many went on walks to the local coffee shop and some of us ventured into Southwold for a few drinks. Overall theme was 'Be Wise and Sanitise'. Mark Terry.

I was pleased to be able to speak to 3 new sets of ralliers albeit at a social distance and it was also amusing to watch socially distanced couples moving the chairs across the field following the available low set autumn sunshine, until they almost ended in the hedges, but it was nice to be able to do this new form of being sociable, thanks Mark, Debbie, Natashia, Tony & Karen for the few days away as a Centre" Garry Pyett



CENTRE TREASURER

Some of you may wonder who your new Treasurer is, and may never have heard of me before, so a few words about myself to put your minds at rest. I am a qualified Accountant, and have worked for a few large global organisations, for last 13 years mostly abroad, more recently focussing on process improvements and project management, prior to Covid mostly operating out of the World Trade Centre in New York

I started caravanning with my parents over 50 years ago, and after I had started my own family we embarked upon it again, our first Suffolk Centre rally was a bonfire rally were we welcomed by the then Vice-Chairman Graham Noye. However as a family we found ourselves attending more Norfolk rallies, so we crossed the border. I became their Treasurer for 5 years, and then was the Chairman for 3 years at the turn of the millennium.

When my spell was done, I thought thank heavens, life can go back to normal... After a couple of years I was approached to be the Region Secretary, which I did for a couple of years, before work took me to the Mid West of the US. My wife Sue, took over the role and was one of the Regional Representatives to the Club Council.

I think that we have done close to 400 rallies as well as marshalling many rallies, but with work commitments we have not caravanned for the last few years. Over the last few years I have become a Trustee of my Village Community Centre and that takes up a fair proportion of my time

Having seen the "plea" to keep the Centre going I could not ignore, I am here for twelve months to ensure that the Suffolk Centre does not hibernate; I pledge that the funds of the Centre, which are your funds are in safe hands.

KESSINGLAND RALLY - 7th to 11th October 2020

We went to the Norfolk Rally at the Kessingland Club Site along with 6 other vans from Suffolk Centre on a somewhat rainy few days but it was good to get away. The Club seemed to have everything in place for those on the site but whether the rain kept people away or the ongoing concern over the pandemic we heard that quite a few had cancelled. The site was never full. It was strange attending a "rally" where you said hi from a distance, no get togethers or flagpole and no written paperwork. We managed a sit out in the sun a few times to chat to friends (distanced of course), and a visit to Southwold for a brisk walk along the seafront but the showers weren't too far away. Janet Dobson.

CENTRE SECRETARY SCRIBBLINGS

If you have received a printed handbook in the past, and have supplied us with an email address, you should have received emails from me asking if you would prefer to keep this or would be happy to have an emailed PDF full copy instead.

Please check spam emails in case my message has been directed there because we are now at the point of needing to look at book numbers to order. So if you haven't received or replied to such a message can you please let me know your preference of book or PDF copy by emailing secretary@suffolkcentre.co.uk.

For those that don't answer you will receive an emailed copy in the first instance when the books are ready.

We have been delayed this year and although I do my utmost to get books posted before Christmas this may not be possible for everyone this year so please bear with us until the New Year if you have not received your rally handbook for 2021. Rallies are still bookable and I understand the programme should be up on the website.

Janet Dobson, Secretary

1. The dumbest thing I ever bought was a 2020 planner.
2. 2019: Stay away from negative people. 2020: Stay away from positive people.
3. The world has turned upside down. Old folks are sneaking out of the house & their kids are yelling at them to stay indoors!
4. This morning I saw a neighbour talking to her dog. It was obvious she thought her dog understood her. I came into my house & told my cat. We laughed a lot.
5. Every few days try your jeans on just to make sure they fit. Pajamas will have you believe all is well in the kingdom.
6. Does anyone know if we can take showers yet or should we just keep washing our hands?
7. This virus has done what no woman has been able to do. Cancel sports, shut down all bars & keep men at home!
8. I never thought the comment, "I wouldn't touch him/her with a 6-foot pole" would become a national policy, but here we are!
9. I need to practice social-distancing from the refrigerator.
10. I hope the weather is good tomorrow for my trip to the Back Garden. I'm getting tired of the Living Room.
11. Appropriate analogy. "The curve is flattening so we can start lifting restrictions now" is like saying "The parachute has slowed our rate of descent, so we can take it off now."
12. Never in a million years could I have imagined I would go up to [a Bank Clark wearing a mask & ask for money.](#)
13. The spread of COVID-19 is based on 2 things:
 - 1 How dense the population is
 - 2 How dense the population is

SOME FAMOUS CHURCHILL QUOTES



Diplomacy is the art of telling people to Go To Hell in such a way that they ask for directions.

Fear is a reaction. Courage is a Decision.

A nation that forgets its past has no future.

There is nothing Government can give you that it hasn't taken from you in the first place.

A good speech should be like a woman's skirt: long enough to cover the subject and short enough to create interest.

A Pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity; an optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty.

One man with conviction will overwhelm a hundred who have only opinions

However beautiful the strategy, you should occasionally look at the result

Life can either be accepted or changed. If it is not accepted, it must be changed. If it cannot be changed, then it must be accepted.

I'd rather argue against a hundred idiots, than have one agree with me.

Life is fraught with opportunities to keep your mouth shut

An appeaser is one who feeds a crocodile, hoping it will eat him last.

TED & JEAN WOODS - MEMORABILIA DONATION

A while ago we were approached by a lady enquiring if we would be interested in a donation of rally plaques that were her late father's. It appeared we were talking about Ted and Jean Woods who started caravanning with the Suffolk Centre in 1970 and finished in 2009.

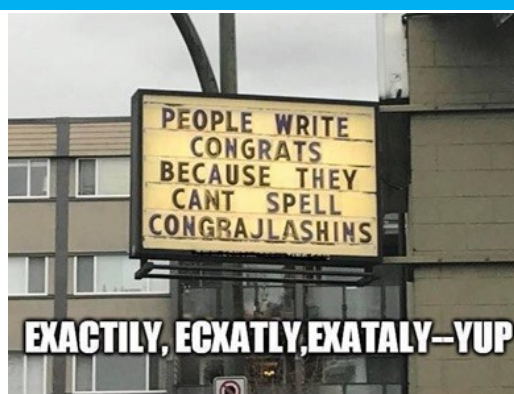
Gillian told us that previous to that they were keen caravanners and sadly lost Dad in September 2015. "Anyone who knew Dad knew that he loved his caravan and the outside life that it gave him. They had many friends who were caravanners as well - Doreen and Ray (now deceased) Last from Stowmarket; Jim and Jean Nunn (both deceased) from Framlingham and Geoff and Phil Slingsby (both deceased) from Horringer to name but a few. Due to this extensive caravanning life it is how my brother and I saw the UK and very grateful we are today. As you can see from the plaques Mum and Dad did loads of rallies. Although not committee members they were rally marshals six times. For example, the Windmill at Saxtead Rally which I can remember as I was there!" Mum (now 92 and in a nursing home, although very active), highlighted some of the best rallies as being: Germany in 1986 (before the wall came down) interesting experience; International Rally 1996 Near Dublin (massive rally noted by aerial view photos); Golden Wedding Rally 2003. Five couples had their golden weddings that year so they had their own 5 van Rally at Sibton near Framlingham.

A folder, full of precious memories of rallies past, has been given to the Centre where it can be displayed with any other memorabilia and the family are very grateful that it has gone to a good home and not the local tip.

More long-standing members will remember the rally plaques of old – the many shapes, sizes and colours and the imagination of the Rally Marshals in finding names and pictures to depict their event. It also shows from the mention of the Saxtead Rally that some of our venues have been supporting us for years as that rally continues to this day.

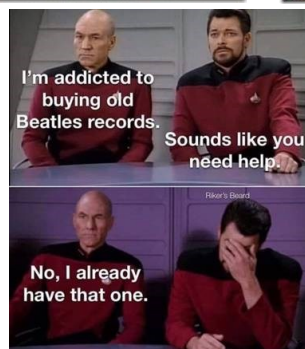


SOME LIGHTER MOMENTS



I DON'T LIKE THE FACT THAT MY CHANCES OF SURVIVAL SEEM TO BE LINKED TO THE COMMON SENSE OF OTHERS

I trained my dog to fetch beer. It may not sound too impressive but he gets them from the neighbor's fridge.



The longer I stay home, the more homeless I look.

RALLY SECRETARY RAMBLINGS

Advertisers and Supporters

We are grateful to those that support and advertise with us and we will look at putting updates of offers on the Facebook Group to help support them as they re-open for business. If you use one of the Advertisers, please mention you saw the advert in the handbook, or are a Suffolk Centre member, so at least they get feedback that the advert was worthwhile.

RALLIES FOR 2021

The programme for 2021 has been later than normal this year and I hope members can appreciate the problems we have had in not only marshals being able to run something next year, but the sites themselves in confirming our bookings. Many simply do not know themselves where they stand at the minute, many have been shut down for months, but we are seeing light at the end of the tunnel. Hopefully the programme for 2021 will be up on the website shortly and the book details heading off to the printers. Rally Slips can now be sent to the Marshals. Please keep an eye on the website and Facebook Group for updates. Please also remember that your Rally Marshals, all volunteer for this and will also be working under the rules and guidelines of the Club, so please follow the information they will give you, for their particular rally. Alan Dobson - Rally Secretary - November 2020

WEBMASTER/VICE CHAIRMAN'S WEBDINGS

As we approach the end of what has been a very strange year. May I take this opportunity to wish everyone a Merry Christmas.

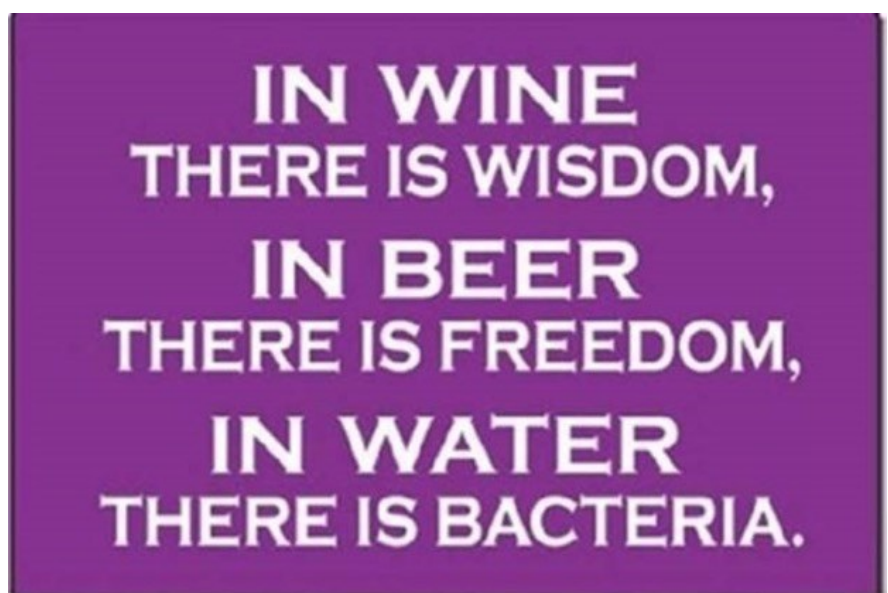
I hope that everyone is keeping safe and well.

Now that we have received the welcome news of possible vaccines on the horizon, let's hope that things begin to improve over the coming months so that we can start to return to something like normal on the rally field sometime next year.

In the meantime, updates will continue to appear on the website as we receive them from the club. We should also be in a position to start updating the website with the details of next years rallies at the beginning of the New Year.

My contact details can be found in the rally book or I can be contacted via vicechairman@suffolkcentre.co.uk or webmaster@suffolkcentre.co.uk email addresses for anyone that would like to express an interest in and / or, suggest items that we may be able to make available to members. Julian Fincham-Jacques, Vice-Chairman & Webmaster

SOME WINE JOKES - OR SHOULD THAT BE WHINE!



EQUIPMENT OFFICER EXPEDITIONS

Now all the rallies have finally come to an end for this year. The rally equipment is all stored away and ready for 2021.

I am continuing to do the roll of Equipment Officer for the new rally season, where it's hoped the centre can get back to near normality. As I have said in the past, if you require extra equipment to run your rally, don't hesitate to contact me and I will do my best to accommodate your needs.

Look forward to seeing you on the rally field, but in the meantime have great Christmas and a happy New Year.

Ron King - Equipment Officer.



REARRANGE THE LETTER

PRESBYTERIAN - when rearranged, becomes : BEST IN PRAYER

ASTRONOMER - when rearranged becomes: MOON STARER

DESPERATION - when rearranged, becomes: A ROPE ENDS IT

THE EYES - when rearranged, becomes: THEY SEE

THE MORSE CODE - when rearranged, becomes: HERE COME DOTS

DORMITORY - when rearranged, becomes: DIRTY ROOM

SLOT MACHINES - when rearranged, becomes: CASH LOST IN ME

ELECTION RESULTS - when rearranged, becomes: LIES - LET'S RECOUNT

SNOOZE ALARMS - when rearranged, becomes: ALAS! NO MORE Z's

A DECIMAL POINT - when rearranged, becomes: I'M A DOT IN PLACE

THE EARTHQUAKES - when rearranged, becomes: THAT QUEER SHAKE

EQUIPMENT BOXES - WHAT'S INSIDE ONE?

I expect you have heard the Rally Chairman at Flagpole 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

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

Ever wonder how some old sayings and phrases came about?



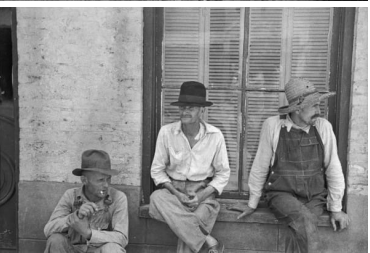
"They used to use urine to tan animal skins, so families used to all pee in a pot. Once a day it was taken and sold to the tannery. If you had to do this to survive, you were **'piss poor.'** But worse than that were the really poor folks who couldn't even afford to buy a pot. They **'didn't have a pot to piss in'** and were considered the lowest of the low."



"Most people got married in June because they took their yearly bath in May, and they still smelled pretty good by June . However, since they were starting to smell, **brides carried a bouquet of flowers to hide the body odour.** Hence the custom today of carrying a bouquet when getting married."



"Baths consisted of a big tub filled with hot water. The man of the house had the privilege of the nice clean water, then all the other sons and men, then the women, and finally the children. Last of all the babies. **By then the water was so dirty you could actually lose someone in it.** Hence the saying, **' Don't throw the baby out with the bath water!'"**



"Lead cups were used to drink ale or whisky. The combination would sometimes knock the imbibers out for a couple of days. Someone walking along the road would take them for dead and prepare them for burial. They were laid out on the kitchen table for a couple of days and the family would gather around and eat and drink and wait and see if they would wake up. Hence the custom of **' Holding a 'Wake.'"**



"In old, small villages, local folks started running out of places to bury people. So they would dig up coffins and would take the bones to a bone-house, and reuse the grave. When reopening these coffins, 1 out of 25 coffins were found to have scratch marks on the inside, and they realized they had been burying people alive. So they would tie a string on the wrist of the corpse, lead it through the coffin and up through the ground and tie it to a bell. Someone would have to sit out in the graveyard all night ('the graveyard shift') to listen for the bell. Thus, someone could be **' saved by the bell,'** or was considered a **'dead ringer'."**

A man in a car stops in Norwich and asks a passer-by what's the quickest way to Ipswich, the passer-by asks are you driving or walking? Driving the man says. Well that's the quickest way then said the passer-by.

It's very disconcerting to realise that your Wheelie-Bin has been out more than you!

SPORTS & JUNIOR JELLY BEANS

Just a reminder that we are still wanting your drinks and food can Ring Pull Tags. Please save them and give them to any of the Committee when we are back to (sort of) normal again, which we all hope will be sooner rather than later.

The last target of a Wheelchair for a disabled child was met, (well done everyone), but we still need them to raise funds for the Junior section of the Suffolk Centre of the Caravan & Motorhome Club.



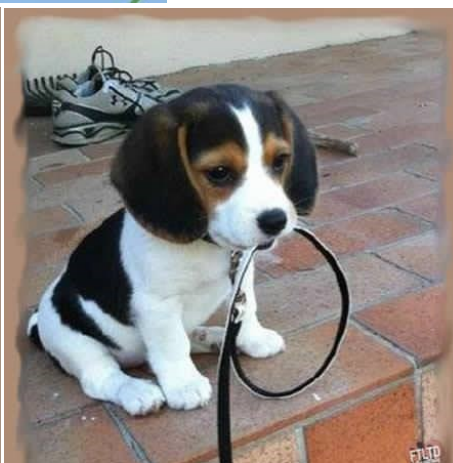
I read that, by law, you have to turn on your headlights when it's raining in Sweden. How the hell am I supposed to know if it's raining in Sweden?



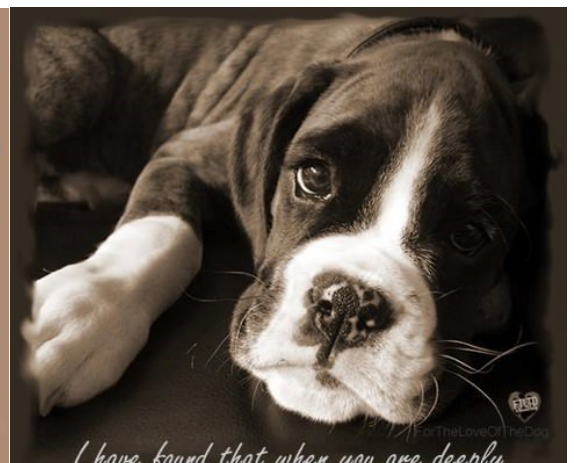
I had a really bad day. First, my Ex got run over by a bus. Then I got fired from my job as a bus driver.



One of the oldest human needs is having someone wonder where you are when you don't come home at night.
~ Margaret Meade ~



Some of our greatest historical and artistic treasures we place with curators in museums; others we take for walks.
~ Roger Caras ~



I have found that when you are deeply troubled, there are things you get from the silent devoted companionship of a dog that you can get from no other source.
~ Doris Day ~

Fundraising

Chairman's Charity - Supporting the East Anglian Air Ambulance