



Caravan and Motorhome Club - Suffolk Centre

It's what the weekends were made for!

June 2021 Newsletter and Rally Update

This is your Second Newsletter for 2021, and contains some updates and information from your Committee, who are still working from home.



Volume 6 - Issue 2

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 September 2021.

CHAIRMAN'S BLOG

Well by the time you read this, and the easing of restrictions, I hope you have been able to get out in your units and enjoy yourselves, either on club/commercial sites or rallies with the other clubs some members belong to, especially with the good weather we had over the bank holiday, we have been able to get to 2 Suffolk Centre rallies, and albeit they are run very differently to what we are used to, it does mean we can meet up and speak with the many of our friends and new ralliers on the rally field, we just have to raise our voices a bit, its a shame that we can not do flag pole and thank the marshals as we are accustomed to, but I feel sure most if not all members leaving the rally make a point of thanking them for the rally, there is always social media to enhance that if you wish.

We can only hope that we can resume some form of normality after the 21st June, but still taking care out there until we get the message that it is positively safe to go back to the free and easy sociable people that we are.

Garry - Suffolk Centre Chairman - June 2021

RALLY MARSHALS AND VENUES FOR 2022

There is a list on the website for the proposed programme for 2022 showing rallies with dates reserved and spare dates. Some marshals have "stood down" over the last couple of years, some venues are still available, so if anyone feels they would like to organise a weekend (or longer) please ask and full details can be discussed. This Centre organises rallies through the marshals, not like other Centres booking venues and then looking for someone to run them. Please get in touch and get your date reserved – the programme is announced at the AGM in October – and you will be helped every step of the way.

Rally Secretary - Alan Dobson

CENTRE SECRETARY RAMBLINGS - NEW MEMBERS & MEMBERSHIP

The last year has seen an influx of new members not seen before certainly in the time I have been with the Centre. We welcome everyone and hope there will be a rally they will join us on. The switch over to emailed PDF handbooks has come into it's own over the last year with less postage, but we know many still prefer their "printed edition". We will be discussing over the months to the AGM and the 2022 edition on what to supply to members. I do email – where I can – when membership is coming up for renewal and then again when I get a report showing someone has not renewed and left the Club. For data protection after then no further correspondence should, or will, be sent so please check spam or junk boxes for emails to make sure nothing has been missed

Janet Dobson—Centre Secretary

CENTRE SECRETARY RAMBLINGS - INFORMATION / AGM & COMMITTEE FOR 2022

Those on committee for 2021 have carried on working “behind the scenes” whilst we have been shut down, and we have tried our best through both the website and FB groups to keep members informed on the updates from the Club and the restrictions placed on rallies as time has gone on. We are governed by the Club – we have been asked why us and not them in relation to other Groups and organisations seemingly doing different than us (social gatherings, tea/coffee, visitors to the rally) and have asked further but it is a decision that CAMC has taken in relation to their sites/CLs/rallies. We hope to resume our socials as soon as we can, but hope members understand and feel comfortable attending our rallies at this time. It is infuriating at times when different slants are taken on wording on the same page we are all reading but our exemption certificate would be in grave trouble should anything happen and be reported.

Looking ahead over the coming months when we can all get together again we need to ask members to look at volunteering for committee for 2022. Every post becomes vacant each AGM, normally the Chairman role is for a maximum of 3 years, and just because someone has been in a post for a while there is no reason why someone else could not come forward to volunteer. Yes there is a certain way the committee runs – the meetings for one – but new ideas are always needed. There is information on the main posts – some from the Club guidance we have – so please get in touch if interested. We now have the ability to do nominations by email as well as the printed slips in the handbook, which has made life a bit easier.

We sincerely hope that the AGM for 2021 will go back to “normal” and is scheduled for Trinity Park in Ipswich on Sunday 17th October. So why not book it now?

Janet Dobson - Centre Secretary

CENTRE TREASURER

At the time of writing this we are still on the 3rd step of the roadmap out of lockdown, with everyone hoping June 21st will be the return to more normal times particularly when rallying. Currently we are having to obey the instructions issued by the CAMC last Autumn, which in a nutshell, stating us to avoid cash payments; cheques should be in a sealed envelope dropped into a bag, and not opened for 3 days, also to find other ways to accept payments, and they recommended using a card system in particular ‘SumUp’.

‘SumUp’ terminals are of three types, one that a rally Marshal would have to link to his own phone, one with a built in chip so no phone needed, and the third with a printer to issue a receipt. The centre rejected this option basically on a cost basis; these terminal cost £99 and they then take 1.69% of all amounts. Also current limit for contactless payments is £100, although most places use a limit of £45, after which point you put your card in and enter pin. So really no difference to paying with cash, both would be handled by two people. If we had gone for this, could we have increased the amount payable to reflect the charge? The answer is NO, as it is illegal to charge more if paid in a different manner than cash.

We have made the facility for Marshals to arrange for prepayment transfers, (which can of course be done with on-line banking on a phone) Should Step 4 be delayed any Marshal wishing to do this, can contact me and we will work together on this. It is of course possible that the CAMC may revise their instructions on handling payments, especially as payments in cash are now being used by many more people than during the Summer of 2020.

We have to follow the regulations issued by the CAMC, so it is not the Centre imposing these different methods, hopefully when you read this things may change, what is important either way is to continue to enjoy your rallying.

Paul Wade, Centre Treasurer.



REDE HALL FARK PARK RALLY - 21-24th May 2021

This rally held at one of our favourite sites was run differently due to Covid regs, the usual cream tea and charity event was not able to take place, although in smaller groups we enjoyed a sealed 'muffin' and our own drinks, and the marshals managed to raise by Covid friendly donations over £90, Nigel brought Jasper up onto the rally field with his training 'cart' harness after watching him doing some circuits around the farm tracks training a young lady on driving for us to see, he also opened up the tack room and carriage garage for us to look in independently, weather was a bit cool, and as you may note Brian had a chimney installed on his van, I did wonder why he was out collecting logs, thanks to the Marshals for getting us out on a rally.

Garry



For some unknown reason, there appears to be a chimney on top of Brian's Van?

Is this a new feature?

WILLIAM FERGUSON (BILL) PAST CHAIRMAN - SUFFOLK CENTRE

Many in the Centre were sad to receive the news that Bill Ferguson passed away on 7th April. Bill was a longstanding member of the Centre, and his wife Wendy has kindly put together the following about their time with Suffolk Centre. Bill was a dedicated and hardworking Centre and Committee Member, and his family is in our thoughts as they face the future without him. Bills funeral was held on 21st May 2021.

1977 - Bill and Wendy with Sarah and Andrew joined the Caravan Club and in 1979 met some Centre members from Lincolnshire who told them about rallying with centres. This was the beginning of new adventures.

1980 - First rally at East Bergholt with Dot and Brian Thompson followed with their holiday rally in Penrith.

1983 – First time as a Rally Marshal at Gt. Bentley which continued on over the years.

1984 – Elected onto the Committee as Rally Equipment Officer.

1988 - Elected as Vice Chairman to 1993 which included doing 2 jobs.

1993 – Elected as Chairman to 1996.

Bill encouraged his daughter Sarah to join the Junior Committee in 1987 and she was Chairman from 1990 -1992.

Bill and Wendy were presented with their 700th plaque at Peewit Rally in 2017 after returning to Centre Rallies, although Bill was still involved from 2001 with other groups and going often to the Covert in Thetford - a favourite site of his. Regretfully their caravan was sold in 2020, but Wendy is still a member of the Centre and hopes to visit when we are at Homestead, Weeley.

A MEARE WEEKEND IN THORPENESS RALLY - 28-31st May 2021

It was a nice afternoon when we arrived, to a full number of vans on this rally, Saturday was also a lovely warm day, with several ralliers walking into nearby Aldeburgh, being a bank holiday weekend, everywhere was packed, and extremely busy, Sunday was not so nice with overcast skies and a cool breeze, however we found out that about 3 miles inland it was a beautiful day, all to soon Monday was upon us and time to go home in a lovely hot day, but again a real pleasure to be away, it is the first time I have been on this rally as we are normally away on the sadly cancelled National.

Garry Pyett - Centre Chairman

It was good to finally see members back on the rally field at the Meare Weekend rally in Thorpeness. The rally was well supported with in excess of forty vans. We also welcomed three visitors from other Centres and also two first ralliers over the weekend.

Julian Fincham-Jacques - Centre Vice-Chairman and Rally Marshal



THE FOUR STAGES OF LIFE:

- 1) You believe in Santa Claus.
- 2) You don't believe in Santa Claus.
- 3) You are Santa Claus.
- 4) You look like Santa Claus.

SUCCESS:

At age 4 success is Not piddling in your pants.

At age 12 success is . . . Having friends.

At age 17 success is . . . Having a driver's license.

At age 35 success is . . . Having money.

At age 50 success is . . . Having money.

At age 70 success is . . . Having a driver's license.

At age 75 success is . . . Having friends.

At age 80 success is . . . Not piddling in your pants.

WEBMASTER/VICE CHAIRMAN'S WEBDINGS

Updates have been continuing on the website. Please keep watching the website and Facebook page, for updates regarding rallies, as Covid restrictions continue to be amended.

Looking forward I hope we all can continuing to catch up with fellow ralliers on forthcoming rallies.

Julian Fincham-Jacques, Vice-Chairman & Webmaster

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 first Newsletter of 2021, 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

ENLIGHTENED PERSPECTIVE

I've learned.... That the best classroom in the world is at the feet of an elderly person.

I've learned.... That when you're in love, it shows.

I've learned.... That just one person saying to me, "You've made my day!" makes my day.

I've learned.... That having a child fall asleep in your arms is one of the most peaceful feelings in the world.

I've learned.... That being kind is more important than being right.

I've learned.... That you should never say no to a gift from a child.

I've learned.... That I can always pray for someone when I don't have the strength to help him in some other way.

I've learned.... That no matter how serious your life requires you to be, everyone needs a friend to act goofy with.

I've learned.... That sometimes all a person needs is a hand to hold and a heart to understand.

I've learned.... That simple walks with my father around the block on summer nights when I was a child did wonders for me as an adult.

I've learned.... That life is like a roll of toilet paper. The closer it gets to the end, the faster it goes.

I've learned.... That we should be glad God doesn't give us everything we ask for.

I've learned.... That money doesn't buy class.

I've learned.... That it's those small daily happenings that make life so spectacular.

I've learned... That under everyone's hard shell is someone who wants to be appreciated and loved.

I've learned.... That the Lord didn't do it all in one day. What makes me think I can?

I've learned.... That to ignore the facts does not change the facts.

I've learned.... That when you plan to get even with someone, you are only letting that person continue to hurt you.

I've learned.... That love, not time, heals all wounds.

I've learned.... That the easiest way for me to grow as a person is to surround myself with people smarter than I am.

I've learned.... That everyone you meet deserves to be greeted with a smile.

I've learned.... That there's nothing sweeter than sleeping with your babies and feeling their breath on your cheeks.

I've learned.... That no one is perfect until you fall in love with them.

I've learned.... That life is tough, but I'm tougher.

I've learned.... That opportunities are never lost; someone will take the ones you miss.

I've learned.... That when you harbour bitterness, happiness will dock elsewhere.

I've learned.... That I wish I could have told my Dad that I love him one more time before he passed away.

I've learned.... That one should keep his words both soft and tender, because tomorrow he may have to eat them.

I've learned.... That a smile is an inexpensive way to improve your looks.

I've learned.... That I can't choose how I feel, but I can choose what I do about it.

I've learned.... That when your newly born grandchild holds your little finger in his little fist, that you're hooked for life.

I've learned.... That everyone wants to live on top of the mountain, but all the happiness and growth occurs while you're climbing it.

I've learned ... That it is best to give advice in only two circumstances; when it is requested and when it is a life threatening situation.

I've learned.... That the less time I have to work with, the more things I get done.



The exact dates for the Caravan and Motorhome Club National for 2022, is still being confirmed, but what a great venue for the 2022 National - Belvoir Castle!!

Looking forward to seeing you all there!! I'd better get fit now for all those great events coming your way!!

Next year the Caravan And Motorhome Club will hold the annual National Rally at Belvoir Castle. The 4 day event has tons of entertainment for children and adults alike, there really will be something for everyone.

Over 5,000 Club members attend the last National Rally and took part in all the activities available. What stands out the most to me are the huge amount of activities for children.

With most activities 100% free for the children to enjoy, which will certainly help with the pockets of mum and dad.

So if your child wants to hold animals, climb walls, get their face painted or tire themselves out on the bouncy castle all day it won't cost a penny.

In the evening, the Club makes sure that the children and parents alike are kept entertained well into the evening. On the final evening of the event the Prom Night Concert takes place.

I cannot express enough just how much fun there is at a National Rally. Everyone just seems like they are on holiday and loving life the whole time. It's really refreshing to see how many younger Club members there are, which just proves how popular touring holidays are becoming.

Chris Stammers - Competitions & Junior Liaison Officer

GREAT TRUTHS THAT LITTLE CHILDREN HAVE LEARNED:

- 1) No matter how hard you try, you can't baptize cats..
- 2) When your Mom is mad at your Dad, don't let her brush your hair.
- 3) If your sister hits you, don't hit her back. They always Catch the second person.
- 4) Never ask your 3-year old brother to hold a tomato.
- 5) You can't trust dogs to watch your food..
- 6) Don't sneeze when someone is cutting your hair..
- 7) Never hold a Dust-Buster and a cat at the same time.
- 8) You can't hide a piece of broccoli in a glass of milk.
- 9) Don't wear polka-dot underwear under white shorts.
- 10) The best place to be when you're sad is Grandma's lap.

GREAT TRUTHS THAT ADULTS HAVE LEARNED:

- 1) Raising teenagers is like nailing Jelly to a tree.
- 2) Wrinkles don't hurt.

3) Families are like fudge...mostly sweet, with a few nuts.

4) Today's mighty oak is just yesterday's nut that held its ground.

5) Laughing is good exercise. It's like jogging on the inside.

6) Middle age is when you choose your cereal for the fibre, not the toy.

GREAT TRUTHS ABOUT GROWING OLD

1) Growing old is mandatory; growing up is optional.

2) Forget the health food. I need all the preservatives I can get.

3) When you fall down, you wonder what else you can do while you're down there.

4) You're getting old when you get the same sensation from a rocking chair that you once got from a roller coaster.

5) It's frustrating when you know all the answers but nobody bothers to ask you the questions.

6) Time may be a great healer, but it's a lousy beautician.

7) Wisdom comes with age, but sometimes age comes alone.

I WALKED DOW A STREET WHERE THE HOUSES WERE
NUMBERED 64K, 128K, 256K, 512K AND 1MB.

THAT WAS A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE

SOME LIGHTER MOMENTS



*This is a strictly mathematical viewpoint...
and it goes like this:*

What Makes 100% ?

*What does it mean to give MORE than
100%?*

*Ever wonder about those people who say
they are giving more than 100%? We have
all been to those meetings where someone
wants you to give over 100%.*

How about achieving 103%?

What makes up 100% in life?

Here's a little mathematical formula that might help you answer these questions:

If: A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Is represented as:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26.

Then:

H-A-R-D-W-O-R-K

8+1+18+4+23+15+18+11 = 98%

And

K-N-O-W-L-E-D-G-E

11+14+15+23+12+5+4+7+5 = 96%

But ,

A-T-T-I-T-U-D-E

1+20+20+9+20+21+4+5 = 100%

And,

B-U-L-L-S-H-I-T

2+21+12+12+19+8+9+20 = 103%

AND, look how far ass kissing will take you.

A-S-S-K-I-S-S-I-N-G

1+19+19+11+9+19+19+9+14+7 = 118%

*So, one can conclude with mathematical certainty, that while Hard
Work and Knowledge will get you close, and Attitude will get you there, it's
the Bullshit and Ass Kissing that will put you over the top.*

Now you know why politicians are where they are!

Have you ever seen a better explanation than this formula.....

EQUIPMENT OFFICER EXPEDITIONS

All rally marshals. The extra equipment that is used by you, is waiting to go on the rally field, once we get clearance to run rallies at a level we're used to.

Ron King

Suffolk Centre Equipment Officer.

Don't believe what you see in the cartoons. No matter how hard you throw a toilet plunger, it won't actually stick to someone's face. Don't ask me how I know this.

Parenting is wanting to be with your child forever one minute and being tempted to sell them the next

CHECK FOR ALZHEIMER'S - PRETTY AMAZING

The following was developed as a mental age assessment by the School of Psychiatry at Harvard University. Take your time and see if you can read each line aloud without a mistake.

The average person over 60 years of age cannot do it!

1. This is this cat.
2. This is is cat.
3. This is how cat.
4. This is to cat.
5. This is keep cat.
6. This is an cat.
7. This is old cat.
8. This is fart cat.
9. This is busy cat.
10. This is for cat.
11. This is forty cat.
12. This is seconds cat.

Now go back and read the third word in each line from the top down and I betcha you cannot resist passing it on.....

Students in an advanced Biology class were taking their mid-term exam. The last question was, 'Name seven advantages of Mother's Milk.' The question was worth 70 points or none at all. One student was hard put to think of seven advantages. He wrote:

- 1) It is perfect formula for the child.
 - 2) It provides immunity against several diseases.
 - 3) It is always the right temperature.
 - 4) It is inexpensive.
 - 5) It bonds the child to mother and vice versa.
 - 6) It is always available as needed.
- And then the student was stuck. Finally, in desperation, just before the bell rang indicating the end of the test he wrote:
- 7) It comes in two attractive containers and it's high enough off the ground where the cat can't get it. He got an A.

A woman and her 12-year-old son were riding in a taxi in Detroit. It was raining and all the prostitutes were standing under awnings. "Mom," said the boy, "what are all those women doing?" "They're waiting for their husbands to get off work," she replied.

The taxi driver turns around and says, "Geez lady, why don't you tell him the truth? They're hookers, boy! They have sex with men for money." The little boy's eyes get wide and he says, "Is that true Mom?" His mother, glaring hard at the driver, answers "Yes."

After a few minutes the kid asks, "Mom, if those women have babies, what happens to them?" She said, "**Most of them become taxi drivers.**"

Life Explained...

God created the dog and said:

'Sit all day by the door of your house and bark at anyone who comes in or walks past. For this, I will give you a life span of twenty years.'

The dog said: 'That's a long time to be barking. How about only ten years and I'll give you back the other ten?'

So God agreed.

Then God created the monkey and said:

'Entertain people, do tricks, and make them laugh. For this, I'll give you a twenty-year life span.'

The monkey said: 'Monkey tricks for twenty years? That's a pretty long time to perform. How about I give you back ten like the Dog did?'

And God agreed.

Then God created the cow and said:

'You must go into the field with the farmer all day long and suffer under the sun, have calves and give milk to support the farmer's family. For this, I will give you a life span of sixty years.'

The cow said: 'That's kind of a tough life you want me to live for sixty years.. How about twenty and I'll give back the other forty?'

And God agreed again.

Thereafter God created humans and said:

'Eat, sleep, play, marry and enjoy your life. For this, I'll give you twenty years.'

But the human said: 'Only twenty years? Could you possibly give me my twenty, the forty the cow gave back, the ten the monkey gave back, and the ten the dog gave back; that makes eighty, okay?'

'Okay,' said God, 'You asked for it.'

So that is why for our first twenty years we eat, sleep, play and enjoy ourselves. For the next forty years we slave in the sun to support our family.. For the next ten years we do monkey tricks to entertain the grandchildren.. And for the last ten years we sit on the front porch and bark at everyone.

Life has now been explained to 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.

SOME HAPPY MOMENTS



Last night my wife sent me a text, saying she was in casualty. When I got home I watched all 50 minutes of itnever saw her once. She still hasn't come home yet and I'm starving! :(

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