



Caravan and Motorhome Club - Suffolk Centre

It's what the weekends were made for!



December 2021 Newsletter and Rally Update



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Volume 6 - Issue 4



The 2022 Suffolk Centre Rally Handbook is now complete and will shortly be sent out to all registered Centre members. For information can be found on the website - www.suffolkcentre.co.uk.

Thanks go to Alan Dobson for all his hard work in compiling the handbook and to all



EDITOR'S WAFFLE

This is the last edition for 2021 and I trust you will find something of interest. It is also my first as Newsletter Editor and I'd like to pass on my grateful thanks to Peter Wilson who has so skillfully produced this publication for the last several years, he has made it a difficult task for me to follow in his footsteps. I've personally enjoyed reading it and had many a chuckle at the jokes, which I hope Peter will continue to contribute. I'm a great believer in the old adage that "if it ain't broke don't try to fix it", so I don't plan to make too many changes.

Sadly, we say goodbye to Garry as our Chairman and to Connie, who has supported him so well over the last four years. We are grateful to him for extending his chairmanship into a fourth year thus providing an experienced pair of hands to support and guide the Centre through the upheaval caused to the our activities by Covid, which resulted in several rallies being cancelled in 2020 and 2021.

This edition sees the Centre with a new Chairman and Committee, following the AGM in October. The number of Committee members has increased from last year allowing more members to take on new roles that couldn't be carried out previously—we look forward to their contributions over the coming months.

As in the past, 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. If you would like to see something not currently included then please feel free to contact me at newsletter@suffolkcentre.co.uk. All contributions are very welcome, especially if they're amusing!

Graham Gosling, Newsletter Editor

YOUR NEW COMMITTEE

Following the 54th AGM on 17 October 2021, your new committee for 2022 is as follows:

Chairman	Ron King
Vice Chairman / Webmaster	Julian Fincham-Jacques
Secretary & Attendance	Janet Dobson
Treasurer	Paul Wade
Rally Secretary	Alan Dobson
Centre Equipment Officer	Tina King
Publicity Officer	Melody Gosling
Competitions Officer	Alison Stammers
Newsletter Editor	Graham Gosling
Junior Liaison Officer	Sarah Aldis
Sports Officer	Karl Moles
Regional Representatives	Chris Stammers and Ron King



My husband and I divorced over religious differences. He thought he was God and I didn't!

A Message from your Past Chairman

For those of you who were not at the AGM I would like to thank the committee and centre members for the wonderful gifts presented to me on standing down as your Chairman, the engraved whisky glass in particular will be a constant reminder of the 4 years that I had the privilege of being our Suffolk Centre Chairman.



Connie would also like to thank everyone for the beautiful flower arrangement, you will be pleased to know that they lasted a long time for her enjoyment.

I wish every success to our new Chairman Ron King and his Lady Denise, and I hope he enjoys his term as Chairman as we did, we made so many new friends, and we really enjoyed meeting first time ralliers and we were please to see many of them join us on further rallies.

Our thanks also go to my fellow officers and committee members for their valued support, and we pass on best wishes to the new committee in joining and running the centre for us during the next few years.

I hope to see friends on the rally field in the future, and as I take

on my new role as the Secretary for Anglia Region of the Caravan and Motorhome Club, it will give me additional chances of meeting up with old friends and new friends around the region.

Garry Pyett

Secretary, Anglia Region Club Council

Caravan and Motorhome Club.



Friends, please put on those masks. It saved a mate of mine's life yesterday. He was in the pub with his girlfriend and his wife didn't recognise him.

A NOTE FROM YOUR NEW CHAIRMAN—RON KING

I am writing my first piece for the newsletter, with a new Editor in place. Welcome Graham, we look forward to reading your publications

My thanks go to the retiring Editor Peter Wilson and best wishes for the new adventures that await him.

As we come up to Christmas, we are reminded that covid has not left us. A new variant called Omicron is out there and poses as much of a threat, if not bigger, than previous variants that have gone before us. Hopefully all of you are jabbed to the maximum that you can have, depending on age group.

I am like a pin cushion at the moment, Triple vac for covid and also annual flu jab.

Lets hope all the restrictions put in place, will not have too much of an impact on families over the Festive period and allow families to get together.

I am very honoured to have been accepted as Suffolk Centre Chairman for this coming year. In the next coming season of rallying I intend to attend as many rallies where possible, meeting up with many long standing members and newer members who have joined our centre recently.

The rally programme is down on numbers this year, but we do have various rallies that takes us to different places in our county and excursions into neighbouring counties. Also those who would like to travel a bit further afield, a holiday rally in the Dordogne, France.

The rally book for 2022 has been completed and is at the printers. It shouldn't be too long before the book will be dropping through letter boxes.

This year we welcome new additions from members of the centre, who have kindly joined our existing members on the committee. It's nice to have new ideas and thoughts that will take the centre forward in the modern era.

Denise and myself, wish all our members and their families Merry Christmas and a healthy New Year. Let's hope that the restrictions that are put in place do not last too long and allow you to enjoy your rallying.

We are looking forward to meeting up with you and remember we are always there for you, if you like talking as I do.

I am contactable by phone, which is in the rally book, also by email chairman@suffolkcentre.co.uk

Last but not least, as some of you may be already know I have chosen EAST ANGLIAN AIR AMBULANCE as the chosen charity to support. In July we are running a charity event at Trinity Park where we aim to raise money with a draw. If anyone would like to donate prizes contact me or my co marshals for the event. More on this in the next newsletter as to what we propose to do that weekend.

Ron King
Chairman Suffolk Centre

NEW VENUES FOR 2022

As well as some regular venues, 2022 sees the return of old favourites to the list of rallies—

Clopton Village Hall, 13 /15 May.

Henham Steam, 16 / 18 September

New venues for 2022: -



Swann's Nursery, Bromeswell, 17 / 24 June

Applefields Caravan Park, Leiston, 7 / 11 July

Gresham's Prep School, Holt, 25 / 29 August

Lessingham, Norfolk, 2 / 5 September

More details can be found in the 2022 Centre Handbook

Caravan Camping And Motorhome Show NEC — 22 to 27 February 2022

The much-awaited Caravan, Camping & Motorhome Show returns to the NEC, Birmingham from the 22 - 27 February 2022. This is your first chance to see and compare all that's new for 2022 from the major UK and European caravan, motorhome and campervan manufacturers and dealers.

As a CAMC member, you can book your tickets on the CAMC website from only £7.25 using code **CMCSOL1**. Parking and a show guide is included.

Fingers crossed this one doesn't get cancelled as well!

And the winner is.....

Congratulations to Wendy Johnson for her winning entry in the 2022 Rally Handbook Cover competition. The design, which is entirely Wendy's original work depicts caravanning throughout the four seasons of the year and was made from cross-stich & then photographed. What a work of art!

In an exclusive interview with the editor of the SCCC Newsletter, a surprised & delighted Mrs.Johnson said she would not let her fame change her and hoped that people will enjoy her work..



A MESSAGE FROM OUR RALLY SECRETARY

COULD YOU MARSHAL A RALLY?

Bit of an old saying - Your Centre Needs You - but it's true. Members that volunteer to act as Rally Marshals are the mainstay of the Centre - without them the Centre can't function. We operate our Centre by members either finding a venue - or being pointed in the direction of one via the committee - and with the help of the Rally Secretary and others, help is at hand to put it all together. Worried about the finance side - no need to be, our Treasurer is on hand to go through everything. Many marshals you will see return year and year so it can't be too daunting otherwise they would be running for the hills.

If you're interested for 2023 then either drop me a line at rallysec@suffolkcentre.co.uk, or perhaps come along to our Natter and Chatter meeting in February and chat to the committee that will be there, along probably with several of the Rally Marshals for next year.

Alan Dobson, Rally Secretary.



I don't suffer from insanity, I enjoy every minute of it.

UPCOMING RALLIES

Here is a list of Rallies being held before the next edition of the Newsletter;

January 7—9. 1st. Rally of the Year—Saxstead. Do as you please weekend in the grounds of a lovely pub. Visit the Saxstead Green Post Mill, enjoy a meal in the pub, or take a walk into Framlingham and visit the market.

January 21—23. Burn's Supper at Hallowtree. Unfortunately this Rally has been cancelled.

February 11—13. Valentine's Rally at Hallowtree. Valentine-themed weekend with entertainment, music and a three course meal. There are still spaces on this rally—see handbook for contact details.



PUBLICITY OFFICER UPDATE

As Publicity Officer part of my role is to increase awareness of rallies being run by the Suffolk Centre to both members of the centre and to non-members of the centre but members of the Caravan and Motorhome Club. However, the past two years have made it very difficult to visit dealerships and meet with people purchasing new or used caravans in order to 'spread the word'. Dealer days are a way of getting to talk to new owners in a relaxed atmosphere but again, unfortunately it has not been possible to hold these events.

Also, part of my role is to liaise with the Caravan and Motorhome Club magazine and submit relevant material, such as chairman's reports on rallies attended, for inclusion in the 'Centre Pages'. However these have not been featured over the past two years but is due to be included again in the next issue.

It is important to reach new members of the CAMC together with keeping existing members up-to-date as this is how our centre continues and hopefully thrives in the future.

Melody Gosling,
Publicity Officer



RALLY REPORTS

Regional AGM & Rally 10–12 September

I attended the regional AGM rally at Chelmsford with 1 other Suffolk member in September, along with officers of the region and members from other centres, unfortunately due to the change in date requested by CAMC and the understandable concerns of Covid whilst meeting up in halls etc, there were only 15 units on site, but we managed to have a good time, with the low numbers, a normal full meal was not viable, so we all enjoyed a very nice fish & chip supper delivered to our table, followed by an excellent solo artist entertainment. Garry

Chill Time Rally. 30 September—3 October

I was pleased to be able to attend the rally at the forest camping site in Rendlesham, plenty of space to set us all out in the normal fashion, I do enjoy being in a forest environment, unfortunately restrictions still meant we could not mix as freely as we would have liked, the weather let us down badly on Saturday PM with heavy rain, but I was still able to hold my penultimate socially distanced flagpole as the centre Chairman, it gave me a chance to introduce 3 sets of 1st ralliers, always a pleasure. Garry

54th AGM Rally. 15–17 October



The rally this year was held on a different part of Trinity Park, however it was level, EHU and toilets and showers etc. on hand, so it worked out well, a bit further to the hall, but no police to stop you on the park roads, so you could use the car if you didn't want to walk.

A chinese meal of your choice which you prepaid and was collected by the marshals and delivered to your table, I was then able to present my very last flagpole as your centre Chairman followed by Chris providing his excellent A1 disco playing the music we wanted to hear.

A nice sunny day on Sunday gave us chance to pack up our vans, following the AGM. Garry

The guy sat next to me on the train pulled out a photo of his wife and said, "She's beautiful, isn't she?"

I said, "If you think she's beautiful, you should see my missus mate."

He said, "Why? Is she a stunner?"

I said, "No, she's an optician!"

The other day I accidentally swallowed some Scrabble tiles and now I'm experiencing constant vowel movements. The next trip to the bathroom could spell disaster.

RALLY REPORTS

SPOOKY SOUTHWOLD 22-26 OCTOBER 2021

The rally attracted 21 units for the Halloween weekend, which included four visitors from other centres.

The families comprised of two caravans from Norfolk Centre, Father and Mother, also their Son, wife and two young boys.

They got into the spirit of the weekend with dressing the van and the children in costume.

The other couples came from North Pennine and Warwickshire centre, who were touring the area in their Camper Vans and used the rally as part of their holiday.

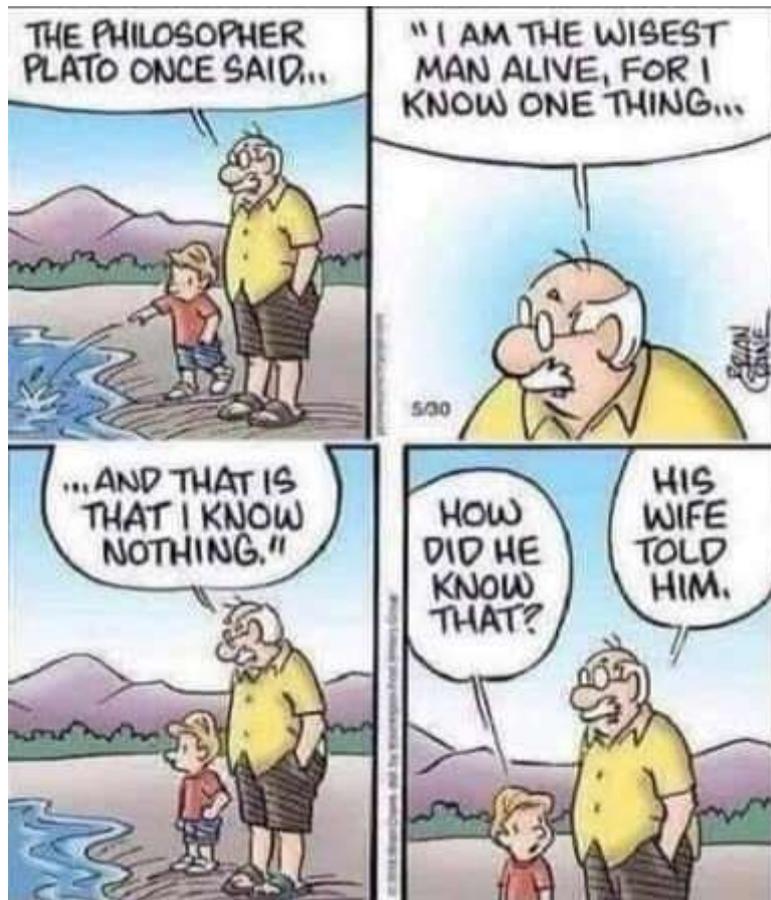
The weather was a mixed bag, wind, rain and sun. People were able to sit out and enjoy the sun, when it came and chat with friends.

Most of the people who attended the rally made their way into Southwold. Some even ventured to Walberswick by foot from the school. Denise and myself drove down to the quayside at Southwold and walked into Walberswick and then came back via the ferry. We had fish and chips at Mrs T Fish Bar, situated on the river side with some friends we met up with in Walberswick.



Sadly this is the last time Mark will be able to run a rally at St Felix School, as the area that has been used for the rally, is now sold as part of the development for new houses.

Ron King



CHRISTMAS CRACKERS

Why are people cutting back on Brussels sprouts this Christmas?

— The cost of gas is too high.

Why does Christmas scrabble take so long with Boris Johnson?

— He keeps going back on his word.

Why did Rudolph's nose have to self-isolate?

— It failed the lateral glow test.

Why won't Jeff Bezos, Elon Musk and Richard Branson see each other this Christmas?

— They all want space.

Why is Christmas dinner vegan this year?

— Because Turkey is on the red list



What did Mrs. Claus say to Santa as she looked up at the sky? "Looks like rain, dear."

What did Santa sing when he went down the chimney? "Chestnuts roasting on an open fire..."

What do you call an elf wearing earmuffs? Whatever the hell you want. He can't hear you.

What do you call people who are afraid of Santa Claus? Claustrophobic

What do you call Santa's helpers? Subordinate clauses. .

Dear Santa, I would like a new birth suit this year. The old one is wrinkly and sagging. Thank you!

What do you call a kid who doesn't believe in Santa? A rebel without a Claus.



RALLY REPORTS

CHILDREN IN NEED RALLY 12-14 NOVEMBER 2021

We arrived at Hallowtree Scout camp for the Children in Need rally, organised by the Eastern Region of the CAMC and hosted by Suffolk Centre.

The weather soon deteriorated and rained quite heavily, making the ground slippery and muddy.

About thirty three outfits turned out for the weekend. Suffolk Centre made up at least fifty percent of the units that supported the weekend charity event.

In the hall on Friday night, beef burgers and sausages in a roll were sold as part of raising money, along with fun and games brought more money in for Pudsey Bear. One of the rally goers Carol Larcombe made biscuits and were sold, when people went for tea and coffee adding to the charity donations.

Rolling a coin towards a bottle of whiskey, proved to be very popular, again boosting funds.

Saturday night we all sat down to a three course meal cooked by the marshals. Very nice indeed. After a short break we enjoyed an evening of live music. At the half way stage a raffle took place. Rally goers donated prizes and then bought raffle tickets to win the varied prizes on offer.



Sunday morning, Flagpole took place to coincide with the two minute silence observed for all those that sacrificed their lives in two great wars and other conflicts.

The weekend was a great success and a grand total of £760.22p was raised for CHILDREN IN NEED.

Ron King



It snowed last night, so...

8:00 am: I made a snowman.

8:10 - A feminist passed by and asked me why I didn't make a snow woman.

8:15 - So, I made a snow woman.

8:17 - My feminist neighbour complained about the snow woman's voluptuous chest saying it objectified snow women everywhere.

8:20 - The gay couple living nearby threw a hissy fit and moaned it could have been two snow men instead.

8:22 - The transgender man/women/person asked why I didn't just make one snow person with detachable parts.

8:25 - The vegans at the end of the lane complained about the carrot nose, as veggies are food and not to decorate snow figures with.

8:28 - I was being called a racist because the snow couple is white.

8:31 - The middle eastern gent across the road demanded the snow woman be covered up .

8:40 - The Police arrived saying someone had been offended.

8:42 - The feminist neighbour complained again that the broomstick of the snow woman needed to be removed because it depicted women in a domestic role.

8:43 - The council equality officer arrived and threatened me with eviction.

8:45 - TV news crew from BBC showed up. I was asked if I know the difference between snowmen and snow-women? I replied "Snowballs" and am now called a sexist.

9:00 - I was on the News as a suspected terrorist, racist, homophobe sensibility offender, bent on stirring up trouble during difficult weather.

9:10 - I was asked if I have any accomplices. My children were taken by social services.

9:29 - Far left protesters offended by everything marched down the street demanding for me to be arrested.

By noon it had all melted.



And finally...A 'NUDGE' FROM OUR CENTRE SECRETARY

MEMBERSHIP

Just to remind members not to forget Centre membership is not automatically renewed, and to remain a Centre member you must contact the Club yourself when your Club membership is renewed, to remain with the Centre.

With rally books being prepared to go out even more important if your membership is due November or December as your copy may be delayed if you don't renew. If you are unsure drop an email to secretary@suffolkcentre.co.uk and I will confirm if you are a current Centre member or not.

Janet Dobson, Secretary



Your Committee wishes all Centre Members a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year and we look forward to seeing you on a rally field soon. Stay safe.



'Bye for Now

I hope you have enjoyed reading this, my first newsletter. Please feel free to comment and to let me know what you would like to see in future issues. Any pictures, rally reports, jokes or notices can be sent to me (Graham) at newsletter@suffolkcentre.co.uk