



# Caravan and Motorhome Club - Suffolk Centre

It's what the weekends were made for!

## April 2022 Newsletter and Rally Update

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### YOUR COMMITTEE FOR 2022

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

## 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](#)



## 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](mailto: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.

## HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED WHAT THE DIFFERENT COMMITTEE ROLES ENTAIL?

### WEBMASTER

The role of the Webmaster is to maintain the website as a source of information, historic and new, for members. Also, a view into the club for those people who are considering joining and want to find out more information.

The website works alongside the Centre Facebook page to provide updates on rallies, centre / club events and any other information that may affect Centre members. Where possible urgent updates are placed on the Facebook page as soon as they are received and then followed up with further details on the website later.

Members may not be aware that the website also provides the facility for members to advertise items for sale. Now is the perfect opportunity to dust the cobwebs from those items you do not use anymore and offer them out to other members. You can even upload your own photos to showcase your items.

Julian Fincham-Jacques, Webmaster

### PUBLICITY OFFICER

The role of Publicity Officer is to liaise between the Club and the Centre. To provide as much information covering our rallies as possible for inclusion in the magazine under the dedicated centres section, pictures are always a good idea, 'pictures paint a thousand words', always useful to feature happy smiling members. Another aspect of the role is to ensure that the centres publicity leaflet is updated regularly and distributed to as many caravan and motorhome outlets as possible. Also, part of the role is to double up as Dealership Days Officer, however unfortunately with COVID being dominant for the past 2 years it has not been possible to arrange any but it is hoped that with the easing of regulations that role can now be brought back into play. It is an important aspect in introducing the Centre and its activities to potential new members.

Melody Gosling  
Publicity Officer

## UPCOMING RALLIES

Here is a list of rallies being held over the next few months:-

- April 14th to 18th. 'A Trinity Easter—Trinity Park, Ipswich. An Easter-themed Rally with music, games and hopefully a Fish 'n' Chips Supper. 50 units
- April 22nd to 24th. 'Can You See The Sea Monster?', Peewit Caravan Park, Felixstowe. Licensed site with toilet/shower block. Within walking distance of the town & seafront. Social get-together on the Saturday evening. **THIS RALLY IS FULL—WAITING LIST IN OPERATION**
- May 6th. to 13th. "Springtime in the Forest". Forest Camping, Rendlesham. Electric hook-up on all pitches. Rally bookable for a minimum of 2 nights. 40 units.
- May 13th. to 15th. "Cheesey Friday 13th. Weekend". Clopton Village Hall. A gentle, relaxing weekend and get-together. Cheese and Wine social. 25 units.
- June 2nd. to 5th. "A Meare Weekend in Thorpeness". Enjoy a relaxing Platinum Bank Holiday weekend in beautiful Thorpeness. 50 units.
- June 17th to 24th. "Midsummer Break", Bromeswell. A get-together for walks, cream teas & light-hearted games. 32 units.
- June 27th to July 9th. "Return to The Dordogne Holiday Rally". St Leon sur Vezere, France. Relaxing holiday rally at Le Paradis holiday park in the Dordogne. 20 units.

Please see the [2022 Rally Handbook](#) or the [Suffolk Centre website \(www.suffolkcentre.org.uk\)](#) for more details.

## FEATURED RALLY

### Meare Weekend at Thorpeness.



This year's Meare weekend takes place at the Ogilvie Pavilion and Sports Ground over the Queens Platinum Jubilee Bank Holiday, Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June to Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June.

Why not enjoy the Platinum Bank Holiday Weekend, relaxing with friends and family in beautiful Thorpeness? Take advantage of the Meare, beach, shops and tearooms. You can also visit nearby Aldeburgh by foot, bike or car.

Family/Children's activities are planned to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee. There will also be an award for the best jubilee themed caravan over the weekend.

If you wish to attend, then spaces are still available. You can send your rally slips to the address in your rally book, or you can email them to [thorpenessmeare@suffolkcentre.co.uk](mailto:thorpenessmeare@suffolkcentre.co.uk)

## RALLY REPORTS

### FIRST RALLY OF THE YEAR, SAXSTEAD. 7TH-9TH.JANUARY 2022

Arrived at the Old Mill House, Saxstead to a dry Friday afternoon.

In the evening it was time to meet friends for a few beverages in the bar and catch up on news since we were all together.

Saturday was a disaster, as regards to the weather. Rained all day, even those that would walk the two miles into Framlingham took to four wheeled transport.

In the evening we all got together in our little groups and enjoyed the cuisine that was there for the offering. A varied menu was on offer, followed by a good selection of sweets. Thank you to our hosts Nick and Ruth for putting on a great menu.

Sunday was a much crisper day and Flagpole was held outside my van. A total of nine units made it to the weekend rally.

Looking forward to next year,

Ron



## RALLY REPORTS

### VALENTINE RALLY, HALLOWTREE. 11th. - 13th. FEBRUARY

The weekend got off to a good start on Friday afternoon for myself and Denise, in as much the weather stayed fine and no wet clothes to dry. I must admit I kept getting side tracked while setting up and Denise did the majority of the work, including fetching the water and priming the system.

Friday night, we all gathered in the hall for tea/coffee and a catch up with friends.

After the marshals finished doing their duties it was down to a game of Bingo where the proceeds were split between the winners and the Chairman's Charity. A bit of fun was had while the numbers were called out, an alternative version for the numbers was also used along side. I seem to remember a lot of spitting and two little ducks were some of the alternatives.

Saturday night we all congregated back in the hall, where a three course meal was served with wine and very nice it was too. Well done to the marshals for putting on an excellent spread. Once the dinner was over, we were entertained by A1 Disco who played our Valentine requests and of course had to get up and have that dance with your loved one.

I think I can speak for all those that came and supported the rally, that we thoroughly enjoyed our weekend away in our units.

The money raised playing bingo, plus donations and sales of Air Ambulance merchandise a total sum £33.00p was raised.

Look forward to next Valentines.

Ron King.



**People have always  
named children after  
expensive things,  
Mercedes, Dior,  
Chardonnay next year  
watch out for  
Electric, Gas and  
Petrol. 😂**

## NATTER & CHATTER HALLOWTREE 13<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2022

Sunday morning saw the weather turn out quite pleasant with the sun shining, although a bit breezy.

Members were made welcome with tea and coffee. Chris Stammers with Lily and Chris's mum organised bacon butties for people to purchase at very good rates. Chris and Lily decided with the little bit of profit that was made from the sale of the rolls should go to the Chairman's Charity, East Anglian Air Ambulance. Thank you for £15.00 donation, along with the £33.00 raised at the rally, £48.00 was raised for the Centre Charity.

A good turnout from Suffolk Centre members attending the informal meeting, after last year's Natter & Chatter had to be cancelled due to the Covid Pandemic. Because of the threat of Covid still on people's

minds, every opening that could be opened, was done so, with people accepting the cool breeze coming in from the outside.

At the meeting John Kent, Chairman of Anglia Region gave a short speech about the region and their involvement with centres this next coming year. Greg Potter who is the nominated member for Anglia Region and also on the Club Executive Council Committee, was invited to the meeting to update on where the club is moving forward after the pandemic. He made reference to the Club Fest and the waiting list for people who want to attend. The organising committee have been able to secure about another two hundred spaces for the weekend.



A good turnout for this year's Natter & Chatter



Karen & Tony Reed accept the Don Alcock Shield

It was a great pleasure for me to present Sarah Fincham-Jacques with the Dave Totman Shield for most rallies attended by junior members of our club for the last year. Sarah achieved ten rallies. WELL DONE SARAH.

Ron King

This year, because many rallies had to be cancelled, it was decided to lower the number of rallies attended by members to receive a Fellowship Plaque to six. Fourteen families qualified, with eight families achieving six to nine rallies. We had five families achieve ten or more with two families making thirteen trips to the rally field. Garry and Connie Pyett and Tony and Karen Reed. As Garry and Connie were not eligible for the Don Alcock Shield due to their role as Centre Chairman and Lady, the honours went to Tony and Karen. WELL DONE TONY & KAREN.



Sarah Fincham-Jacques receiving the Dave Totman Shield

What is...



Have you ever seen the "what3words" description in the information about a rally and wondered what it means? Then read on.

Simply put, "what3words" is a navigation system that provides the location of any place on the planet to the nearest 3 metres by 3metres.

Street addresses weren't designed for 2022. They aren't accurate enough to specify precise locations, such as building entrances, and don't exist for parks and many rural areas. This makes it hard to find places, especially in the countryside and prevents people from describing exactly where help is needed in an emergency. Most of us will have the experience of trying to find somewhere in a remote rural location by entering a postcode into our satnav, only to find we are hundreds of metres away!

"What3Words" divides the world into 3 metre squares and gives each square a unique combination of three words. It's the easiest way to find and share exact locations. It does not aim to replace street addressing, rather, it is a useful addition when street addresses are not accurate enough.

For example, the address of the main entrance to the site at Trinity Park is...

**///peanut.installs.towel**

You can download the "what3words" app to your smartphone or tablet and integrate with Google Maps to navigate to your destination.

The "what3words" location listed in the details of each rally should be the location of the entry to the site off the nearest road. *Although a "what3words" location will identify a precise spot, it is important to be aware that the approach directions given in the rally details should **always** be followed as they provide the safest way to approach a rally location with your caravan or motorhome.*

## AN UPDATE FROM OUR TREASURER

I am able to inform the centre membership, that the independent examiner has completed his review of the accounts of the centre, for the Financial Year ended 31st Dec 2021 and these have been forwarded to the club for consolidation into their annual accounts.

I am not allowed to disclose the figures until our AGM, however for those of you who were unable to attend last year's AGM, or were asleep when I gave my report, I gave a forecast that they should reflect a fair to reasonable surplus for the year. I am allowed to tell you though, that my forecast was in my opinion accurate.

Should any Marshall have any questions relating to VAT or other financial issues prior to their rally, please contact me.

Paul Wade  
Treasurer

## 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](mailto:secretary@suffolkcentre.co.uk) and I will confirm if you are a current Centre member or not.

Janet Dobson, Secretary

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### 'Bye for Now

I hope you have enjoyed reading this 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](mailto:newsletter@suffolkcentre.co.uk)