

# Suffolk Centre

Winter 2023

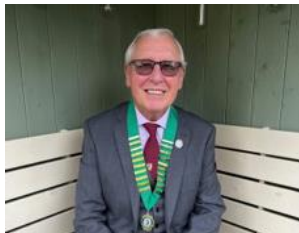
Newsletter



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## Update from Centre Chairman

by **Ron King**



I am now into my third year as Chairman of our centre and the time has gone rather quickly. In my time as Chairman, with Denise we have represented the Suffolk Centre on numerous occasions, not only within the Anglia Region, but also with the Scottish and National Rallies.

The last couple of years we have taken on the role of Camp Site Crew Leader for Anglia Region at ClubFest Belvoir Castle and Kelmars Hall, with a team made up from Suffolk and other centres within the Region. We managed to site, upwards of three hundred units attending for the weekend festivities on the opening day.

It has been said before. If we didn't have people coming forward to serve on the committee or organise events for us to enjoy in our spare time, we wouldn't have a Suffolk Centre.

I would like to say, a big thank you all you people who give up time for the centre and enjoyment of others.

For 2024, I have decided to carry on having East Anglian Air Ambulance as the centre's dedicated charity. With that in mind, I will hold a Chairmans Charity Weekend at Bromeswell, during the Mid-June Break rally, 14 th -18 th June 2024.

The 2024 Rally Book produced by Alan and should be available very shortly.

Last time I spoke with Alan, he was waiting on information from other centres, with their invitation rallies to go into our book. Once again, the marshals who organise the rallies for us, have come up with a varied programme that should appeal to us all.

Myself and Denise have attended, along with other members of Suffolk Centre the funerals of some well-known people from days gone by over the last two years. I would like us all to remember our past members who have passed away and contributed so much to the success of the centre.

Finally, Denise and I would like to wish all our members a good Christmas and a happy New Year and look forward to seeing as many of you on rallies in 2024.

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## Upcoming Events

Well we are nearly into 2024 already, so it is time to start thinking about where to rally next. The following rallies are planned for the spring and would welcome your support. For full details please refer to the rally book or contact [rallysec@suffolkcentre.co.uk](mailto:rallysec@suffolkcentre.co.uk)

First Rally of the Year – Old Mill Saxstead 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> Jan

Burns Supper Rally, Hallowtree, Ipswich 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> Jan

Winter Warmer, Hallowtree, Ipswich 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> Feb

Lets Do It Again at the Barn Dance Hop, Chelmer Valley High School, Broomfield 23<sup>rd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> Feb

**New!!! FREE SEASONAL LAUNCH** – Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2024 – Martlesham Community Hall (NOT A RALLY)

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## Rally Books for 2024

by **Janet Dobson**

The rally books are underway and will be sent out to members as soon as possible. If you are unsure if you are listed as a Centre member you can either check via the Club or drop me a message at: [secretary@suffolkcentre.co.uk](mailto:secretary@suffolkcentre.co.uk). Members are reminded that Centre membership is not automatically renewed by the Club - it is down to members to opt in or out.

If you have not received your copy by mid January please again let me know by email.

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## Equipment Update

by **Paul Fitch**

Hi everybody, I will be handling the rally equipment this year.

As per usual the rally bags will contain a schedule of where each bag needs to be so that marshals can liaise with each other to arrange a suitable handover between rallies.

We will also be taking a look at all the urns with a view to fixing or disposing of any that are not fit for purpose.

Any issues or problems please contact me [equipment@suffolkcentre.co.uk](mailto:equipment@suffolkcentre.co.uk) or 07802 844026

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# Your Centre Needs You!



by **Diane Fitch**

Recent years have seen Covid and economic challenges impact many centres including our own. In fact some centres have folded due to lack of support or have had to combine with neighbouring counties in order to remain a going concern.

I like other committee members have joined this years committee to try to prevent our centre from following a similar fate. I, like many have spent many years as both a child and adult attending wonderful rallies that have provided some of my fondest memories, and I feel it is time to give back. To that end over the next year we as a committee need people to step up and help reinvigorate our centre and rally programme. We need new locations, rallies and marshals and for people to support our rally programme. Do not be put off that you may not have run a rally before we are planning on providing even more assistance to new marshals this will include:

<p><b>BUDDY PROGRAMME</b></p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learn the ropes off experienced marshals.</li> <li>• Volunteers welcome even in a non-marshall capacity too!</li> </ul>	<p><b>VIDEO TUTORIALS</b></p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trevor Smith and myself will be working on a video tutorial covering all aspects of running a rally from finding a venue, calculating the rally fees, rally processes.</li> </ul>
<p><b>MORE RALLIES</b></p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aim to increase the number of rallies ready for next Oct onward.</li> <li>• If you know of a great idea for a rally venue or would be happy to get involved with running a rally please reach out</li> <li>• We will provide any training or support you may require.</li> </ul>	<p><b>MAKING IT EASIER</b></p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Your committee are investigating how to make it easier to book and pay for rallies so watch this space</li> </ul>

So can I ask that you take a few minutes to think about the following and whether you can help?

- Do you want to see the centre continue and thrive?
- How many rallies have you attended and how many have you run or helped run?
- Would you like to give back in a small way with support?

If you would like to discuss anything please reach out to myself using [newsletter@suffolkcentre.co.uk](mailto:newsletter@suffolkcentre.co.uk) or on my mobile on 07717071193



## Next Edition - Ralliers Stories

by [Diane Fitch](#)

We would love to hear of any great stories about your experiences on rallies and any great photos would be lovely too. These can be recent events or blasts from the past.

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## And Finally...



by [Diane Fitch](#)

On behalf of the entire committee we want to wish you all a wonderful Christmas and New Year and we look forward to seeing you all on a rally field soon



[READ MORE ON OUR WEBSITE](#)