

Ralliers Prayer

Our Second home, that art on wheels, hallowed be thy outfit
The break away from routine has come, the liberty is on the
open road.....and we are in heaven
Give us this day our daily freedom and forgive us for
complaining about impatient drivers, as we forgive them that
overtake dangerously
Lead us to a modern well equipped rally field, but deliver us
from very steep hills and a grumpy rallier on the next pitch
For this is the gas bottle, the jockey wheel and oh.... The
chemical toilet forever Rallying



Amen



Have a fantastic Christmas, a prosperous New Year
and we look forward to seeing you all on the Rally
Field in 2008



THE BEDFORDSHIRE CENTRE OF THE CARAVAN CLUB

CHRISTMAS RALLYGOER



**The Chairman, Officers & Committee
Would like to wish you all
A Very Merry Christmas
& A Happy New Year**

Chairman's Chat



With Christmas fast approaching, everybody is saying where has this year gone?

This year has been a very busy year for the Centre celebrating its 40th birthday and the Caravan Club centenary year.

A big thank you must go to our rally officers for giving their time up to run rallies because without them we would not have a hobby, so make sure you book in early to avoid disappointment in the coming year, there's a varied selection of rallies and events to suit all tastes with the re introduction of the dinner dance on 15 November 2008.

Both Bronya and I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a healthy and happy new year, looking forward to seeing you all in the near future.

Warm regards.
Martin.

The thoughts of a Beds Rally Officer

Monday morning and have arrived at the office, sneaky phone call to the plaque maker as the plaques ordered last week have not arrived yet! Seven hours later no lunch break, a further hour on stuck in traffic, home safe. Quick bite to eat and off to collect the urn from the Centre garage, oh blimey more traffic, but hey we will have tea at flag on Sunday !

Tuesday: home from work , lets get stuck into the rally envelopes and the attendance sheet.....mmmmm haven't got all the details required on the rally slips, phones ringing. Ones cancelled, oh well, just cross them of my attendance sheet and try and sell the plaque at the rally.



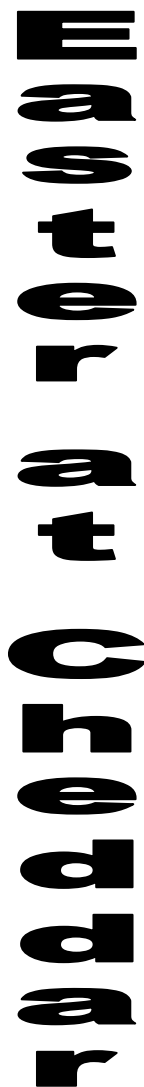
Wednesday: Overtime today got a lot on at work if I am going to have Friday off. Sneaky bit of copying Welcome letters, hope the boss is late in today ! Home at eight, get letters in envelopes, yahoo plaques arrived but postman cannot fit in letter box!

Thursday: Six thirty start to collect plaques from sorting office, photocopy quizzes for envelopes and kids colouring competition, blimey boss approaching ...smile sweetly. Lunchtime, fly round Tesco's....how many rashers of bacon did we need for Saturday night, tea, coffee, sugar, make note to collect rolls on Saturday, get vat receipt for return! More traffic on motorway, another ones cancelled, attendance sheet looking messy now, get home, hitch up, load car and off we go. Arrive at Rally site, hurrah co rally officers are there, erect party tents, mark out pitches, set up urn, oh it's ten o'clock shall we have dinner?

Friday: Up with the lark, rally signs out, water signs out, check elsan is safe, find cash tin , make tea , sit down for a well earned rest. Who is this coming in the gate at 9am, can't be a rallier we definitely said open at noon.....oh well good morning Bedfordshire how are we all today ? I will have a rest on Monday at work, phones ringing its the rally sec, wants us to help out next week as the rally officers have dropped out

Family coming Monday,
away with work till
Wednesday, gardening,
car washing, clean van,
shopping.....

"Hi Jo, yes we can assist but we may not be able to get there until Friday teatime, okay then see you later tonight when you have finished work !"

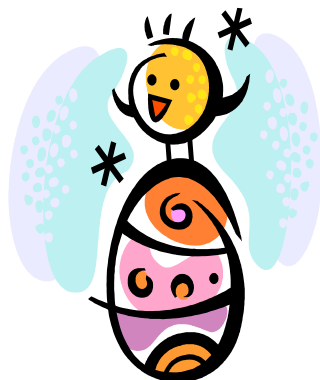


Join us for Easter at a brand new Rally field on the outskirts of Cheddar. The ten-acre field is located next to the land Owners Livery Yard, on the edge of the Somerset levels, at the foot of the Mendip hills and provides a very even surface upon which to park. Facilities to charge batteries is provided free of charge.

Dogs on a lead are welcome and a waste bins are provided along with an area to let them off should this be required.

The aim of the landowners is to provide a quality environment for members of Caravan Clubs to enjoy – close enough to walk to the shops but far enough away to enjoy the countryside. A network of droves (unmade roads) are available for you to explore as well as the better known attractions such as the Gorge and caves, Wookey Hole and the City of Wells.

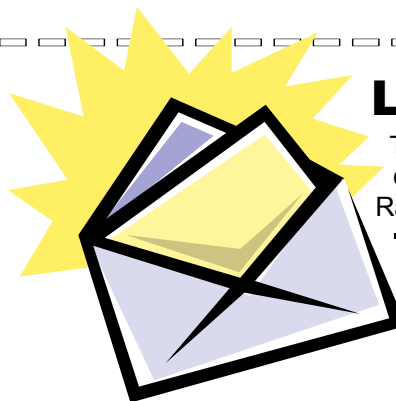
We would like to invite you to come and enjoy a few days in the beautiful Somerset countryside



Please see Rally Brochure or Centre Website for full details and directions. Don't miss the chance to see the Easter bunny bearing gifts for everyone.

Letters page

This is the place where you get your chance to communicate with your fellow Ralliers.



Morris & Sandy McDowell

Would like to wish

All our Friends In the Beds Centre

A Happy Christmas And Prosperous

New Year A donation will be made To the Centre Charity, instead of sending cards.



Thank you to all our friends in the Beds Centre who encouraged us not to give up caravanning. We are now the proud owners of our little Abbey and look forward to many years of rallying with the Beds Centre. Thanks to everyone who has helped us with little upgrades on the new van.

Bob & Rita Kennedy

The Month After Christmas

'twas the month after Christmas .and all through the house, Nothing
would fit me, not even a blouse
The cookies I'd nibbled, the eggnog I'd taste, at the holiday parties
had gone to my waist.
When I got on the scales there arose such a number! When I walked to
the store (less a walk than a lumber)
I'd remember the marvellous meals I'd prepared; The gravies, the
sauces, the beef nicely rared.
The wine and the rum balls, the bread and the cheese, and the way I'd
never said "no thank you please"
As I dressed myself in my husbands old shirt, and prepared once again
to do battle with dirt.....
I said to myself, as only I can, "you can't spend the winter dressed a s a
man"!
So.....away with the last of the sour cream dip, get rid of the fruit
cake, every cracker and chip.
Every last bit of food that I like must be banished, 'till all the additional
ounces have vanished.
I wont have a cookie not even a lick, I'll want only to chew on a long
celery stick.
I won't have hot biscuits, or corn bread or pie, I'll munch on a carrot
and quietly cry.
I'm hungry, I'm lonesome and life is a bore..... But isn't that what
January is for?
Unable to giggle, no longer a riot, Happy New Year and to all a good
diet !!!



Beds Centre Kids Club

Beds Centre Kids Club

The Centre Committee have decided to start a kids club for all the Centre members' children and grandchildren up to the age of 12 years. The children of the Centre are our future and I am sure that those of you who have been with the centre for a number of years have watched children grow up in the centre and now see them with their own families on the rally field. The children of years gone by are now committee members and regular rally goers who are putting time and energy back into the centre making rallying enjoyable for all of us. So if we invest in our children now and make them a big part of rallying as we become more senior members of the centre hopefully those who are children now will still be caravanning then.

So with this in mind for the 2008 season we will pilot the [Beds Centre Kids Club](#). So at the first rally your child or grandchild attends in 2008 they will need to go to the committee member taking flag and get their collector card. Once the child has a collector card all they have to do at each flag they attend is collect a signature. Once the child has five signatures the children's rally will be a free event for the child. Although if a child does not collect five signatures then each signature will be worth 50p off for that child i.e. 3 signatures will be worth £1.50.

It does not stop there though after that they go on collecting until they have a total of ten signatures and then the Christmas party will also be FREE. Again if the child has not managed to get ten signatures those they have got will be worth 50p off, although you can only cash signatures in once so if they were cashed in for the children's rally they can't be cashed in at Christmas, so only those not cashed in will count and these are the only two events the signatures can be cashed in against.

So for those children on the New Year rally this will be a chance for you to get signature number one and start collecting. For those not out at New Year, remember the first time you go out,

GET YOUR CARD.

Jerry Waite – Bedfordshire Centre Sports Officer

Reminders for the Rally Field



Please have the courtesy to stop at the Rally Officers van and wait to be sited on arrival. Please remind any visitors that they should stop and notify the Rally Officers of their arrival.

Rallies open at 4pm unless prior arrangement is made with the Rally Officers to arrive early.

Please remember that the Rally Officers decision is final and that some rally Officers have to work and early opening is not always possible.



Please keep your dog on a lead no longer than 10 feet and ensure that you always clean up after your pet



Committee news



Following the resignation of our Centre PRO please forward any letters, information, for sales etc for the Rally Goer to the Centre Secretary.

We have a fabulous new website and a new Webmaster, Andy Gray. Please direct anything for the Website to Andy Gray via the Website or on the rally field .

Our 2008 rally brochure has been produced by the Rally Book Sub group, a lot of work has gone into the production and our thanks go to Martin, Sue, Jo and Tom all of whom have put in a lot of hours to produce this brochure.

The Committee have agreed not to send Christmas cards from the Centre as in the past, but a donation will be made to our chosen Centre Charity **Sue Ryder at Moggerhanger** . We look forward to seeing you on the Rally field soon, we have a fabulous programme of rallies and events for the forthcoming year as well as Winter walks, Spring walks and much more.....

Centre Darts Competition

We rallied at Drayton Parslow for our annual Centre Darts Competition in October. Everyone was welcomed by the Rally Officers, Bill & Jill Thompson ably assisted by Fred & Janet Blunt in the absence of the co rally officers who were at work ! Everyone enjoyed a get together and a selection of sandwich platters on Friday evening in the Clubhouse. Saturday kicked off with the darts competition as the competitors fought to the last dart for the Centre trophies. It was lovely to hear of the arrival of the Junior Darts Shield, the new Committee felt the Juniors should have the same opportunity to compete for a Centre Trophy as the adults, so the Centre has purchased the Shield and it will be presented to this years winner at the AGM. Everyone enjoyed the fish & chip supper.

Thanks to Tom Gilks who organised the darts competitions and to Steve Waite who organised the killer pool which was great fun even for the spectators ! An excellent weekend was had by all, and we are looking forward to next year.

Congratulations to our winners;

Mens

1st Fred Blunt

2nd Tom Gilks

3rd Tom Leath & Jerry Waite

Ladies

1st Jean Stewart

2nd Jo Gray

3rd Karen Waite & Janet Blunt

Juniors

1st Matthew Gray

2nd Aidan Waite

3rd Emma Gray



BEDFORDSHIRE CENTRE OF THE CARAVAN CLUB

FESTIVAL of FAIRGROUND **ORGANS & CRAFT FAYRE**

**60 Plus Fairground, Concert, Dance,
Street Organs Playing and on Display
Full size and Model Steam Engines
WW2 Military Transport
Fire Service Museum
Catering and Licensed Bar
Handmade Craft Stalls**

Glenn Miller Museum, Twinwoods, Clapham, Bedford.



10th to 12th October 2008

**For more information, please contact Tom Gilks:~
events@bedscentrecc.com or Tel: 07742 556 482**



BEDFORDSHIRE CENTRE OF THE CARAVAN CLUB

MOTORHOME SHOW

25th to 27th APRIL 2008

Peterborough Showground



Thursday to Monday. See the latest motor homes and accessories.

Seek expert advice and help from the experts

Entertainment in hall every evening. Saturday night is chargeable

**For more information and a special booking form, please send a
SAE for a special booking form to Martin Findlay, 123 Dells Lane
Biggleswade, Beds SG18 8LD Tel: 01767 222 097**



CENTRE CAROL SERVICE

Sunday December 16th 2007

Please note that due to a double booking at Ampthill Church
the Centre Carol Service will now be held at 3pm at

**Shefford Methodist Church
Ampthill Road
Shefford
SG17 5BD
Bedfordshire**



Sandy Mc Dowell our super social sec
will be providing afternoon tea in the Church hall following
the service. Please join us for this lovely family service at
Christmas time.



Book Exchange

Social Secretary, Sandy McDowell

Has started a

'Book Exchange'



The books will be carried in the car, the idea being you can either

Purchase a book for a nominal fee for the nominated charity

Or exchange a book, so you will always have access

to a good book for those lazy afternoons in the sun.



Remember this is your RallyGoer
Please send in your articles, news, Rally Updates to Centre
Secretary by either email or just plain old 'pigeon post'.



BEDFORDSHIRE CENTRE OF THE CARAVAN CLUB

BEDFORD RIVER FESTIVAL 2008

11th to 13th JULY 2008

30th ANNIVERSARY OF THE
BEDFORD RIVER FESTIVAL

- **PARADE**
Decorated vehicle
Procession through the own Centre
- **RAFT RACES**
Home built rafts racing teams down the river.
- **DRAGON BOATS**
16-20 paddlers racing in traditional style Dragon Boats
- **IT'S A KNOCKOUT**
Teams of 12 people battling in the Main Arena
- **COMMUNITY STAGE**
Singers, magicians and other performers

For more information and a special booking form, please contact Tom
Gilks at: events@bedscentrecc.com or Tel: 07742 556 482





**Bedfordshire Centre Of The Caravan Club
Dinner Dance**

Arlesey Football Club

Saturday 15th November 2008



*Dancing to
Mixed
Blessing*

Four Course Meal

Sherry Reception

£40 per person

**Further Details contact:- Martin Findlay
Tel:- 01767 222097**

E-mail :~ chair@bedscentrecc.com

The Bedfordshire Centre Caravan Club

On Behalf of all ralliers attending the holiday rally in 'Noja' may we say thank you very much to the rally officers, Maureen, John, Pat, Terry, Pete & Maggie for a lovely holiday. You all worked so hard, especially through the monsoons of the first week.

We all enjoyed the lovely breakfast, the bacon rolls for supper, the paella evening, and the chicken salad meal, and of course Terry's do'nuts.

The boules tournament was a lovely way to mix with the visitors, and something to look forward to in the evening. Some matches were very closely fought with Terry and Maureen contesting the final. Well done to Terry for winning the trophy.

The beach also proved popular with us all enjoying the games and the belly boarding. The social area was a nice relaxing way to end the day.

Well done to all of you and thank you for running a superb rally.

Terry & Lesley Brinklow



MURDER ON THE RALLY FIELD

Are you the next Sherlock Holmes ?



Can you solve the crime ?



Murder Mystery Weekend
Edward Peake School,
Biggleswade



Who Done It?

29th Feb to 2nd March 08

Centre Events

Events are open to all members of the Caravan Club who want to make the most out of their caravan or motor home and enjoy parking in the near vicinity often on site at major attractions. The Events planned for 2008 by the Beds Centre are to be held in a variety of attractive locations, well located but basic, so you will be required to use your onboard facilities. You will need sufficient gas and remember that there is no electric hook up available. The Events are excellent value for money and an excellent way of visiting new places, great attractions and making new friends. Do take a look at the Adverts for events in the forthcoming year and feel free to contact me should you require further information or booking forms.

Tom Gilks

Events Liaison

E-mail : events@bedscentrecc.com