



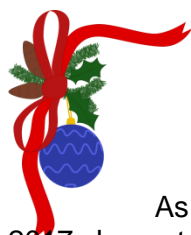
Beds CC Flyer Winter Edition 17

Committee 2017/18

Centre Chairlady	Carrie Irvin
Vice Chairman	Lawrie Coleman
Honorary Secretary	Maureen Gauge
Honorary Treasurer	Pat Darlow
Honorary Rally Secretary	Linda Horn
PR Officer	Andy Gray
Social Secretary	Jo Gray
Junior Liaison Officer	Kathryn Ward
Newsletter Editor	Sarah Lawson
Committee	Allan Brown
Committee	Terry Darlow
Committee	Jenny Lambert
Committee	Simon Perkins
Committee	Marion Stewart

Junior Committee 2017/18

Chair	Hollie Irvin
Vice Chair	Jordan Irvin
Treasurer	Rhiannon Ward
Committee	Ruby Hannan



Christmas Message

As the Festive season begins with the Christmas rally and Carol Service and 2017 draws to an end, I'd like to personally take this opportunity to thank you all for the efforts that you have put into running the rallies this year and for attending and supporting the rallies. Without rally officers and enthusiastic members our centre would really not be the great that one that it is. We truly are very lucky to still have such a thriving centre.

We have enjoyed so many local rallies this year with the weather being on the whole very kind to us and we have also travelled further afield for holiday rallies, both in the UK and over the pond! Some of you were lucky enough to float across (or swim under) the English Channel with your Caravans and Motor homes twice in 2017!

Any queries, suggestions, ideas please speak to a member of the committee

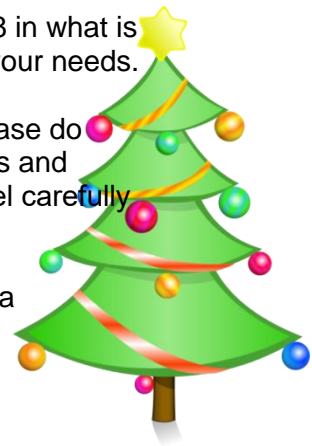


2017 has also seen us celebrate our eagerly awaited 50th Anniversary of the Centre. What a marvellous achievement! We were lucky enough to have so many of our members join us for the celebration weekend at Cardington, along with special guests, visitors from other centres and the Chairman, Chairladies and Committee members of years gone by also.

A lot of hard work has gone into providing a rally programme for 2018 in what is becoming an increasing challenge and we hope you will find it suits your needs.

As the frequency of rallies tails off during the early winter months please do take care in the colder weather and if you are travelling for Christmas and New Year, with or without your "home away from home", please travel carefully so that we can meet up again on the rally field in 2018.

So finally, on behalf of my family and the committee, we wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and look forward to sharing many more weekends on the rally field making more memories.



Carrie, Mike, Hollie and Jordan

Chairlady and Family

Upcoming Rallies

Sunday 10th December at 3.00pm Annual Carol Service – St Andrew's Church, Rectory Lane, Ampthill, MK45 2EL refreshments in Chapter House after service

29 Dec - ! Jan - New Year Celebrations at Gamlingay College – this rally still has vacancies at time of going to press please contact Diane and Colin Richardson

2018 Dates for your diary

19-21 January	Chinese New Year	Derwent Lower School
9-11 February	Valentines	Derwent Lower School
23-25 February	Burns Night	TBC

Any queries, suggestions, ideas please speak to a member of the committee



Roving Reports

Rally No. 31 Maulden

14 vans

We were blessed with some late summer sunshine, which made for a nice relaxing weekend.

Saturday saw us turn back time to the 1970's, during the afternoon the children enjoyed some impromptu games and the evening brought us together for some wine and food under gas lamps complete with a "70's" themed quiz; the prize a bottle of Mateus Rosé!

The evening managed to raise £28 for our centre charity, St John's Hospice.

Rally No. 34 AGM – Ampthill Park

44 vans

A busy weekend we arrived Thursday afternoon to set the field out for 44 vans in the pouring rain (not good). Friday was a lovely warm day all vans in by 8pm

Saturday was all about the AGM, we had a good turnout with members and visitors that were not on the rally. It was lovely to see how much money had been raised for Cancer and a cheque handed over to a lady from Cancer UK. Many trophies and friendship plaques were presented.

We finished the evening with a nice meal followed by music and dancing. It was nice to have security people on site for the evening.

Sunday morning was flag at 11.00 some people with a sore head. Well done to Carrie for her first flag as Chair Lady. We left about 3.30 after a good weekend. It was also Jenny's 70th birthday and we had a birthday cake which was enjoyed by all, Jenny would like to thank everyone who gave her cards and presents and made her birthday extra special

Rally No. 37a Skittles Rally, The Cock at Broom

A warm welcome was on offer on arriving at The Cock at Broom. Friday and Saturday were both lovely sunny days to visit the pub or Jordan's Mill. We watched the Vikings arrive on Saturday afternoon, although it seems they drive transit vans and saloon cars, not boats! On our way into the pub on Saturday evening, we snook a peek into the area laid out for their banquet, but decided to carry on in for a pint and a great laugh playing Skittles. Bill Bowie won the Killer round taking the prize money of £8.00!

After sausage rolls provided by our rally officers, we carried on for a round with the first person to 31. I was the lucky winner of the prize fund of £6.50! Both Bill and I put our winnings to the centre charity, St John's Hospice, Moggerhanger. A few stayed on to play darts too. A short flag on Sunday morning finished off the weekend.

Thank you to Maureen, Linda and Pete for looking after us.

Carrie Irvin



Rally No: 37b Brighton Holiday Rally**23 vans****(inc 2 Herts centre/1 Derby centre/1 Northants & Rutland centre)**

Vans started arriving on Friday afternoon, with the remainder arriving over the weekend. Brighton Club Site is ideally located just 2 miles east of Brighton and just a short walking distance inland from the Marina.

On the Tuesday morning Bill Bowie lead a group of “energetic” walkers up the South Downs and along the side of the golf course whereby we had a good view of the site and we could see our rally marshal’s waving to us; on our return we had bacon rolls, tea and coffee.

Wednesday evening saw us all at The Hollywood Bowl trying to get a strike or in my case just pleased the ball stayed fairly straight and actually knocked some pins down.

Thursday afternoon a small group spent the afternoon at the race course and some managed to beat the bookies.

On Friday afternoon we had chocolate cake, tea and coffee provided by our rally marshal’s. A short flag was held on Saturday afternoon due to the strong winds and Storm Brian making himself known.

Thank you to Eric, Margaret and Theresa for looking after us all so well, a very enjoyable week was had by all.

Rally No. 38a Euro Disney

The Journey down to Paris went very smoothly, meeting up with raliers old and new ‘en-route’ to form a small convoy for the last leg of the journey.

Arriving at the campsite was a lovely surprise with grass super pitches, the site owners were very helpful, providing tips and information on the area.

The rally officers kicked off Sunday morning with croissants and orange juice (yummy).

After this everyone embarked on their own itineraries, top of everyone’s list was a trip to Disneyland, I’m not sure who enjoyed it more - the oldies or the youngies!

Paris was also on a list of ‘must see’ with lots of ‘selfies’ taken at iconic venues.

For some of us the week concluded early Friday morning with a dash back to Gamlingay to join the Halloween fun, while others extended their holiday with a few extra days enjoying what the area had to offer.

The holiday was fantastic and certainly exceeded my expectations; I would certainly return again another time.

Thank you to all involved that made this new experience for us possible, the Hannan’s had a great week.

Jacky, Neil, Tilly and Ruby Hannan



Any queries, suggestions, ideas please speak to a member of the committee



Rally No. 39 Halloween**22 vans**

22 vans rolled into Gamlingay for a weekend of ghouls and ghosts! On Friday evening a supper of homemade soup and French stick was served up whilst everyone nattered and chattered! Thank you to Peggy for entertaining the children with an impromptu session of sleeping lions and various other games.

Saturday kicked off in the morning with Halloween themed crafts for the children and the urn was on for whoever needed a cuppa. After lunch we screened "Hotel Transylvania" for young and old alike with hands of popcorn to nibble on. Tables were decorated during the afternoon for the decorated table prize and doors were knocked on as the children went around trick or treating. The children were very well treated-thank you to everyone for your kindness filling the children with E numbers. We also got to see your fabulous Pumpkin carvings as we escorted the children around, some real talents on show.

Saturday evening we entered the hall via the spooky tunnel, decorated by our very own ghost loving team Carolyn and Dale, thank you once again it was truly magnificent. Freshly baked jacket potatoes with a choice of chilli, beans or cheese were on offer for dinner, followed by homemade apple crumble and ice cream. The apples were picked, peeled, stewed and bagged up by Kathryn and Simon Ward, thank you for providing such delicious apples. Prizes galore on offer during the evening, best fancy dress, best table and best pumpkin, congratulations to all the winners, fabulous efforts. After dinner, Neil treated us to some of his interesting Halloween games, the photos say it all. Thank you Neil for your light entertainment and thank you to his victims for taking part. The most competitive game of the evening helped raised over £30 for our centre charity St John's Hospice, Moggerhanger. Thank you again Neil for donating the bottle and for organising. Halloween Bingo proved more difficult than Christmas Bingo, I guess we are not so familiar with the spooky songs.

We gained an extra hour in bed on Sunday morning, due to the clocks changing. Thank you to all those that took the time to fill in the word-searches and to the children for their fabulous colouring and congratulations to all the winners.

Thank you to everyone who helped with the cooking, clearing, decorating, seeing vans in and most of all everyone who entered into the spirit of the weekend.

Rally officers retreated home shortly after 1pm for a well earned rest.

Carrie, Mike, Ann and Bill

Rally No. 40b Bonfire Spectacular – invite from Mid-Anglia**78 vans**

Rally opened on Thursday afternoon and we were all carefully positioned in place by our rally marshalls who did a good job in ensuring that virtually no levelling was required which was no mean feat due to the undulating field. On Friday night our marshalls supplied us with hot dogs and soup and we had a nice catch up around the fire brazier. Saturday we awoke to heavy rain showers and a free day to catch up with friends and visit the local town. Saturday evening were treated to a spectacular firework display and bonfire by the Hemingford Grey Fireworks Committee, on Sunday morning we had bacon rolls for breakfast provided again by our rally marshalls.

Unfortunately this looks like the last time we will be able to rally here due to the field not being available anymore, though watch this space as I am sure we all hope a new venue will be found for 2018 as this is a very popular rally as shown by the large number of vans attending each year.



Rally No. 41 Illuminated Van – Centre Competition

11 vans

(inc 1 North London & 1 Herts)

This is an opportunity to decorate your van with lots of pretty lights, both inside and outside and there were some very good efforts. We had Christmas themes, Beds 50th and some twinkly vans.

Saturday daytime was spent decorating our vans, during the evening we all took part in judging the best van and 3rd place was given to Bill and Gill Thompson with their Christmas theme reminding us its only 44 more sleeps till Christmas, 2nd place went to John and Sue Waller with their Beds 50th Birthday theme complete with an actual homemade birthday cake which we all shared after judging and 1st place went to Peggy and Keith Slater with their Christmas Village scene complete with artificial snow. Our rally officers served us with Burgers kindly donated by Colin Richardson and Hot drinks and we all had a slice of birthday cake that Sue had made.

Sunday Morning we all assembled early for flag at 10.45am and a 2 minute silence was held at 11.00am for Remembrance Sunday. Rosettes and the Cora Moules Illuminated Van trophy were presented to the winners.

£11 was donated to our centre's charity St John's Hospice, Moggerhanger owing to a mix up over the amount charged for electricity by the site.

Some caravans and John's motorhome had to be towed off site by the tractor due to the soft ground and we all had left by 12.30 after having had a thoroughly enjoyable weekend, many thanks to John Moules and to his assistant rally officers Bill and Gill Thompson who stepped in at the last minute to assist.

Our nominated charity for 2017/18 is Sue Ryder St Johns Hospice, Moggerhanger; we are hoping to have a charity cycle ride during the year, further details to follow, though we are open to any additional suggestions for raising much needed funds for our charity.

Christmas Messages

Wishing everyone in the Beds Centre a happy Christmas and all the best for 2018
Love From Ann and Danny Pickett.

Best Wishes for Christmas and the New Year from Jenny and Les Lambert

On behalf of the committee I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and hope to see you on the rally field next year

Sarah Lawson
Bedfordshire Centre Newsletter Editor



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