



The Midland Centre of the  
Caravan & Motorhome Club



# BULLY NEWS

DECEMBER 2020

## *Chairman's Chat*

I can't quite believe that, as I write this, we are just 10 days away from Christmas Day. Normally we would be building up to running the Christmas Rally at Cookhill, alas due to Covid 19 this is not to be. Instead that stress has been replaced with the stress of wondering whether we will be moving house 4 days before Christmas or whether we will have to wait until the New Year. Fingers crossed!

Its been a strange old year, to be fair one that I can't wait to end. With the roll out of a much needed vaccine I hope we can get back to some sort of normality at some point in 2021.

In the latter part of 2020 at least we have managed to enjoy our hobby even if a little different to the norm. It is pleasing that at this years very different Stewards Meet, people have taken on rallies for 2021. There are still some rallies without stewards so if anyone is interested in taking on a rally, please do not hesitate to contact our Rally Secretary Andy Pickrell.

This year also saw the first 'virtual AGM' for the Midland Centre, special thanks must go to Daniel Mitchell for making this such a success with his technical know how. I am truly grateful to all of your committee for there work this year in keeping the centre running when so many other centres are struggling. You may have noticed the recent website overhaul, again our Technical Guru, Daniel has done us proud giving the site a refresh.

To all of you, I hope you are safe and well. It seems an age since I saw many of you but I am sure by the middle of next year we will start to see a return to normality and we will see each other on the rally field.

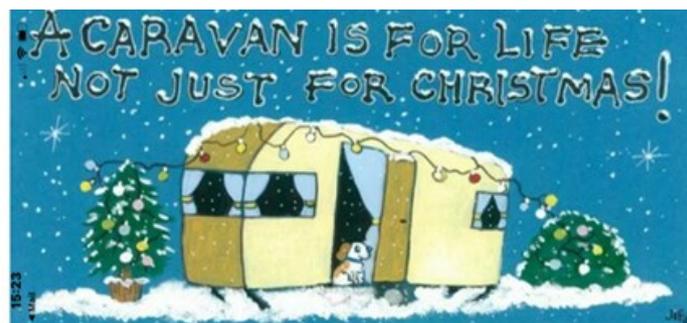
I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a safe & Happy New Year, Joy to the world and all that Jazz,

Dow forget your masks, and keep washing them donnies

Mwah!

*Mike Downs*

*Chairman*



# **Midland Centre Business .....**

## **Senior Committee for 2020/2021**

|  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| <b>Chairman</b>  | Mike Downs      |
| <b>Vice Chairman / Website / Regional Representative</b> | Gordon Mitchell |
| <b>Secretary / Regional Representative</b>               | Matthew Hart    |
| <b>Treasurer/Plaque Officer</b>                          | Mick Hale       |
| <b>Social Secretary</b>                                  | Lindsey Grant   |
| <b>Rally Secretary</b>                                   | Andy Pickrell   |
| <b>Junior Liaison Officer</b>                            | James Harris    |
| <b>Regalia Officer</b>                                   | Graham Bird     |
| <b>Ex-Officio Bully Officer</b>                          | Kerry Silver    |

**Our Senior Committee wish you all a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year!**



# ***Midland Centre Business .....***

## ***Junior Committee for 2020/2021***

|                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| <b>Junior Chairperson</b>       | Ellie                                  |
| <b>Junior Vice Chairperson</b>  | Martha                                 |
| <b>Junior Secretary</b>         | Mollie                                 |
| <b>Junior Treasurer</b>         | Lanis                                  |
| <b>Junior Committee Members</b> | Charlotte<br>Aston<br>Ellia<br>Eleanor |
| <b>Junior Liaison Officer</b>   | James Harris                           |

**Our JLO & Junior Committee wish you all**

**a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year!**



## Christmas Wishes!



Hi all old and new members of the Midland Centre of the Caravan and Motorhome Club, Chris and I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

We would also like to say to the committee, new and old, a very big thank you for keeping the centre moving forward in these very unprecedented times. A very special thank you to the Chairman and the Secretary for keeping us informed of all the new regulations and changes. It is lovely to know that when we are all ready to come out into the light the centre will still be shining.

Love to you all from

*Chris and Jim Porter*

## Merry Christmas!

Merry Christmas everyone and a healthy happy new year. Take care and stay safe.

Hope 2021 is a better year for us all and we are all out there enjoying our caravanning again very soon. 🧑‍🎄 🍷 🧑‍🎄 🍷 🍷 🍷 🍷 🍷 🍷



Love and best wishes from

*Chris and Dave Pitt*

**Stay safe. Keep smiling!**

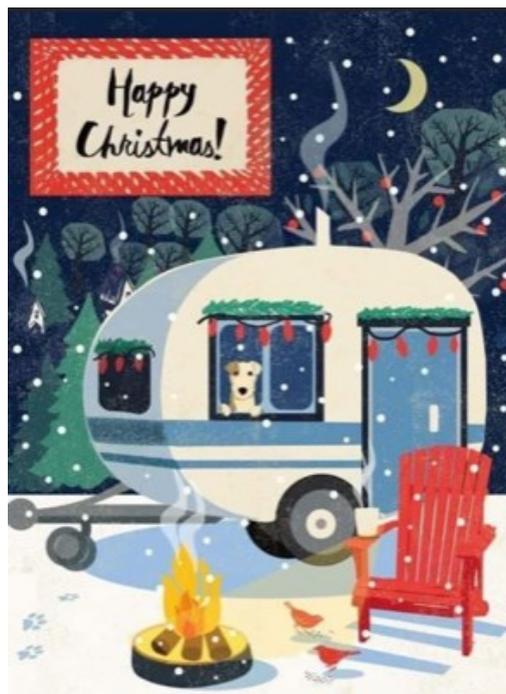
What an unusual year we have all had. The Campbells send Christmas greetings to all our friends and relatives in the MCCC. Christmas will be very different for most people this year. Our thoughts go to those families who will not have their loved ones with them!

Enjoy celebrating the best you can. Stay safe. Keep smiling. We'll meet again, don't know where don't know when, but I know we'll meet again some sunny day! 🎵 Hope you were singing this as you read it. We were as we wrote it! Lol.

🥂 To a much better 2021. At least at our age there is an advantage to being 'old', we're high up on the list for the vaccine! Lol.



*Lynne & Martin X*



## ***Donations Gratefully Received***

We are extremely pleased to say that we had some donations from the French Rally for the Junior Charity.

**Steve & Suzanne Cowell (Midland Centre)                    £40**

**John & Lesley Bettinson (Devon & Cornwall)                    £10**

As I am sure you will agree, these are significant donations and we are incredibly grateful for their kindness and generosity.

Also, at New Year 2019/20 Heather collected some donations for a marathon runner, "Rosie". Although the London Marathon was cancelled (twice) the donations still went to the charity (NSPCC) Thanks to those who contributed.

Regards

***Steve & Heather***



**Over To You!** .... articles and rally reports from our members out on the rally field....

## Camping Du Letty 2020

Although not members of the Midland Centre, we have been on all the French Rallies organised by Steve & Heather and Mike & Brenda. This rally was certainly different for us as we were no longer accompanied by our beautiful Old English Sheepdog, Betty, who sadly died last year.



However when we found out last November that we could go on the August 2020 rally to Camping du Letty, we were really excited and immediately booked our place.

Then came the long and uncertain wait caused by Covid 19. Luckily we didn't have any symptoms and were hoping that the rally would go ahead as planned.

We left Portsmouth on August 4<sup>th</sup> for a two week tour before meeting with the rally on the 16<sup>th</sup>. The ferry was very quiet with all the hygiene and distancing measures in place.

After a wonderful and very hot two weeks we arrived at Camping du Letty to be greeted by Steve & Heather and one other unit, (the 4<sup>th</sup> unit had now cancelled due to new quarantine measures recently announced).

We had lovely spacious pitches which also turned out to be fully serviced, so no carrying water or emptying waste water, (a bonus for Ken!) The next morning as there was no flag, Steve & Heather had prepared a delicious breakfast of warm croissants, fruit, cheese, ham, boiled eggs, and orange juice, individually set out on covered trays, and set out on our own socially distanced tables.

The campsite was really nice with a fabulous outdoor pool, indoor pool, bar, take-away and shop. There was plenty of entertainment if you wished it and Ann, one of our fellow ralliers, took full advantage of daily aquacise sessions and even won an archery competition.



***Over To You!*** .... articles and rally reports from our members out on the rally field....

### **Camping Du Letty 2020 continued.....**

In the second week, we had the pools to ourselves almost, which was brilliant! Adjoining the site was a quiet beach with wonderful views, and we spent quite a few lovely warm evenings on there watching the windsurfers and drinking wine until the sun went down. We enjoyed outings to Quimper with it's beautiful Cathedral and little bars and cafes, The Walled City in Concarneau, the Chateau Keriolet, and walked or cycled into Benodet, enjoying quite a few lunchtime meals out. Steve and Heather had arranged various evening 'socials' including a pre-dinner drinks and nibbles, a cheese and wine evening, a pizza evening at which Ann and Dave (who had decided to move to another area of the site), came back to join us.

All too soon the holiday came to an end, Steve & Heather prepared us a lovely send-off lunch of Galettes and Crepes. The ferry from Roscoff was also empty and we had a virus risk free journey home.

Although it was disappointing that so many units cancelled, and we missed Mike & Brenda, we had a brilliant time, didn't need to worry about the virus, (the French were well prepared and there were strict guidelines in place to protect everyone) and we would like to thank Steve & Heather who were, as usual, brilliant hosts, giving lots of help and guidance as well as providing the "socially distanced" social events and giving us another very memorable holiday in these difficult times.

***Eileen & Ken Brown***

***(South Yorks Centre)***



## ***And the winner is.....***

### **Best Bully Article Winner— Post (1st) Lockdown Bully**

Gordon & Helen Mitchell were chosen as the winners for the 1st Post Lockdown Bully for August 2020. They will win £20. Well done Gordon & Helen!

### **Bully Article Prizes for 2020/21**

Just a reminder that the cash prize for the best article from each edition will remain at £20 per winning article.

### **2021 Rally Book Cover Competition**

Many congratulations to Sam who won the poll for the Junior Challenge Rally Programme Cover. This was announced at the AGM. A very big well done to all of the other entries. More challenges to follow in the New Year.



### **Midland Centre Rally of the Year**

Each year ralliers vote for their favourite rally of the year. Normally voted for at the AGM, this year was slightly different and a Facebook poll was held instead. The 80s Weekend at Yew Tree Farm was announced at the winner - WELL DONE TO THE ATKINSONS AND THE GRANTS!



Due to the sale of our touring caravan we have the following items up for sale:

**Kampa Rally Air Pro 330 awning**, including carpet and roof lining

£295

**Sunncamp 'Swift Canopy 330'** open-front awning

£75

**Sunncamp Protekta 7'** canopy

£60

**2 x Hitchman 40-litre Aquarolls**, with storage bags

£20 each

**40-litre Hitchman Wastemaster**

£20

**Lock'n'Level**

This brilliant leveller makes it easy!

£75

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**Cadac Grillogas** with storage bags and cover

£40

**Hi-Gear Elite 4-shelf collapsible cupboard**, with storage bag

£15

**Floë Drain Down Kit** with DVD

£40

**Rotary dryer**

£15

**2 x £20 Caravan & Motorhome Club gift vouchers**

£30

**Collect in person only from north Birmingham,  
approx. 1 mile from M6 Junction 7 (I would post the vouchers).**

**Graham Dodd 0779 681 7779 or 0121 358 4353**

## *From the Editor.....*

The year 2020 has turned out to be nothing like any of us planned. Christmas with the Silvers will be a very different affair this year. Charlotte (nearly 11) wasn't even 2 years old the last time we had Christmas at home and Archie's only experience of Christmas has been at Cookhill.... in fact he was very nearly born at the 2014 Christmas Rally but decided to hold out until the early hours of New Year's morning instead!

This year is not about the things we don't have, its about being thankful for who and what we have right in front of us!

Thank you to everyone for their contribution throughout the year and as always many thanks to Gordon & Daniel Mitchell for uploading it onto the website and onto Facebook.

Please continue to send in any articles you wish to see appear in future editions to [kerry.silver@hotmail.com](mailto:kerry.silver@hotmail.com).

