



The Midland Centre of the Caravan & Motorhome Club



BULLY NEWS



Autumn 2021



Chairman's Chat

Hello Folks, How are we, hope you are all well. Well can you believe it, here we are its September and Summer is over, now there's a depressing thought. Soon be Christmas though aye!

Since I last wrote we have enjoyed many weekends away, the weather has been a bit hit and miss but either way we have had fun along the way.

In July we enjoyed a weekend at Raphael's Restaurant in Evesham where we were co- stewards to first time Midland Centre Stewards Scott Crumpton and Louise Acraman. Unfortunately the River festival was cancelled this year but never the less we enjoyed our time. Scott & Louise treated us to a Hook a Duck competition on Saturday followed by Cornish skittles. Well done to Steve Cowell for winning both. The weather was kind to us and it was good to see fellow ralliers that we haven't seen for a while. Thank you to our Stewards Scott and Louise for a cracking weekend.

After a weekend at home, we made our way to Clays Farm at Clows Top. Steve & Heather Lloyd were our hosts for the weekend. I've never been to this site before but I can honestly say I was most impressed, a beautiful location just outside of Bewdley. On Saturday we enjoyed a walk around Bewdley followed by a meal in a local hostelry. A nice relaxing weekend in a great location. Thanks to our Stewards for a cracking weekend.

The following weekend I took the caravan to Weymouth so the wife could enjoy a weeks R&R with the little cherubs by the sea. It also enabled us to collect Mr & Mrs Pilkington's car and take it home following Mikes health scare. I know he always wanted to go in a helicopter but that's an extreme way of doing it. Special thanks must go to Mummsy and Daddy for taking Brenda back & forth to Southampton to visit Mike in Hospital and also to Steve & Heather Lloyd for sorting out Mike & Brenda's Insurance so that Brenda and the Motorhome could be taken home. Finally to the Stewards of the South Staffs rally for helping Mike & Brenda in their hour of need for this we are all grateful. They also had to spend a day with Lanis so well done for that alone!

The following weekend I returned to Weymouth to collect the wifey and kids and get them home.



Our Stewards Meet was held 24-27th September with only 5 rallies still requiring stewards as follows:

Rally 12: 22nd-24th April
Hatton Country World

Rally 32: 26-29th August
Fir Tree Farm

Rally 42: 28th-30th October
Hampton House Farm

Rally 44: 11th-13th November
Warwickshire Marching Band

If you are interested in taking on any of these rallies please contact **Andy Pickrell** on:

07853 930369

or

andypickrell@googlemail.com

Full rally programme for 2022 is also included within this edition of the Bully.

Chairman's Chat continued.....

Our next weekend out was at Lichfield Cruising Club, a site that hasn't been used for quite a few years by the Midland Centre. I have to say I was most impressed, lovely location by the canal, very nice public house around the corner and also a club house. On Saturday we enjoyed a day at The Fuse Festival in Lichfield with live music and various food traders, and on the evening we were invited to join the locals in the Cruising Club. What an amazing place, we were made to feel very welcome and the beverages were exceptionally well priced. I have to say I slept well on Saturday night. Following flag on Sunday we made our way home after a thoroughly splendid weekend away. I think I have a new favourite site now. Thanks to Gordon, Helen and Daniel for being our hosts. A top weekend.

Another weekend, another rally this time very local for me as it is literally 5 minutes from where I store our van. Steve & Heather were our hosts at Cuckoos Corner, Romsley. A charming little venue in the Clent Hills. Unfortunately the weather was a little moist however this did not deter our stewards. The gentleman's afternoon tea was delivered to our vans by Steve due to Saturday afternoon's inclement weather. Well done to Steve & Heather Lloyd for another cracking weekend.

For August Bank Holiday weekend we made our way to Woodhouse Farm, Button Oak where we were co stewards to Phil & Lindsay Grant. Saturday we enjoyed a walk down to the Severn Valley at Arley, where we supported the local economy to enjoy a few beverages and a ploughman's. In the evening we gathered in the shelters for a drink and a chat. On Sunday following another visit to the pub we enjoyed a Dads vs Kids football match. Its fair to say I'm not the most sporting of folk. But hey the kids enjoyed it. Lovely weekend even though I was aching on Monday.

The following weekend we made our way to Catton Hall for the Fireworks rally, which was also the Junior fundraising Rally. This was the first time since September 2019 that the juniors had been able to do any fundraising. With 50 plus vans booked on this was the perfect opportunity for our Juniors to raise funds for their chosen charity Acorns Hospice. This was also James Harris's first major rally as JLO. Its fair to say with his Juniors they did a cracking job. I assisted by going into the stocks and being pelted with freezing cold wet sponges. I then followed this up by having my Legs waxed by our Social Sec and resident beautician Lindsey Grant. This proved particularly painful. Saturday night included the usual, Hotdogs and Fireworks. The weather was fantastic as was the generosity of everyone in attendance. The juniors managed to raise significant funds which continue to rise, at this point they have raised over £1000. Remember if you haven't made a donation yet there is still time. Thank you to all of the Senior and Junior committee for all their hard work and also to Craig & Kerry Silver and to Chris & Gemma for helping as well. Finally thank you to all that came and made it a weekend to remember.

A week later we were back in the van, this time at Hampton House Farm to celebrate Gaynor Hart's Birthday. Again we enjoyed a nice pleasant walk on Saturday which resulted in us finding a pub, Shock Horror! Then in the evening games in the shelter with the birthday girl as host. A nice quiet weekend after the previous weekends fun and frolics. Thanks to Matthew & Gaynor for being our hosts.

So that's it, next weekend it is the Stewards meet at Wilmcote, this your opportunity to support your club and take on rallies next year. Remember without stewards we have no rallies and without rallies there is no club.

I look forward to seeing you on the rally field soon

Tara a bit!

Mike Downs

Chairman—Midland Centre Caravan & Motorhome Club

Midland Centre Business

Senior Committee - 2021/2022

Chairman	Mike Downs
Vice Chairman / Website / Regional Representative	Gordon Mitchell
Secretary / Regional Representative	Matthew Hart
Treasurer/Statistics Officer	Mick Hale
Social Secretary	Lindsey Grant
Rally Secretary	Andy Pickrell
Assistant Rally Secretary	Beth Downs
Junior Liaison Officer	James Harris
Regalia Officer	Graham Bird
Bully Officer	Kerry Silver
Sports Officer	Chris Emms
Assistant Sports Officer	Aiden Probin

Midland Centre Business

Junior Committee - 2020/2021

Junior Chairperson	Lanis
Junior Vice Chairperson	Sophie
Junior Secretary	Charlotte
Junior Treasurer	Aston
Junior Committee Members	Ellia Layton Freya
Junior Liaison Officer	James Harris

Midland Centre Business

2022 Midland Centre Provisional Rally Programme

No	Dates	Site	Event
1	7th - 9th Jan	The Lenchford Inn, WR6 6TB	Norman Hirst Memorial Rally
2	28th - 30th Jan	Lapworth Village Hall, B94 6LD	
3	4th - 6th Feb	Astley Village Hall, DY13 0RF	
4	25th - 27 Feb	Drayton Manor Park, B78 3TW	Dinner Dance
5	4th - 6th Mar	Warwickshire Marching Band, CV34 6JW	
6	11th - 13th Mar	Fillongly VH, CV7 8ET	Chinese Auction
7	18th - 20th Mar	Clays Farm Clows Top, DY14 9NN	
8	25th - 27th Mar	Binton Social Club, CV37 9TU	
9	1st - 3rd Apr	Hyde Farm, WR10 2DX	
10	8th - 10th Apr	Willows Farm, B79 0HS	
11	14th - 20th Apr	Ukrainian Centre, DE 72 2BU	Easter Rally
12	22nd - 24th Apr	Hatton Country World, CV35 8HG	
13	29th Apr - 13th May	Porth Beach, TR7 3NH	Holiday Rally
14	29th - 1st May	Cotton Arms, Wrenbury, CW5 8HG	
15	6th-8th May	Bridgnorth, WV15 8NA	
16	13th-15th May	Croxall Farm, B46 2DA	
17	20th - 22nd May	Mayalls Farm, Upper Welland, WR14 8XJ	
18	27th - 30th May	Lichfield Cruising Club, WS13 8PX	
19	31st - 5th June	The Pastures Highfield Farm, Etwall, DE65 6LS	Whitson Bank Holiday
20	10th - 12th Jun	Weston Park, TF11 8LE	
21	11th Jun - 25th Jun	Morthoe, EX34 7EJ	Holiday Rally
22	17th - 19th Jun	Himley Hall, DY3 4DF	
23	24th - 26th Jun	The Cob House, WR6 6YE	Fishing Rally
24	1st - 3rd Jul	Monks Barn Farm, CV37 6YE	
25	8th - 10th Jul	Raphaels Restaurant, WR11 4BP	Evesham River Festival
26	15th - 17th Jul	Yew Tree Farm, DY14 9RE	Stevo Memorial Rally
27	22nd - 24th Jul	Dodderhill Equestrian, WR9 0BE	
28	29th - 31st Jul	GreenHill Park, B95 6DN	
29	5th - 7th Aug	Forest View Cannock, WS15 2UF	
30	12th - 14th Aug	Hoar Park, CV10 0QU	
31	19th - 21st Aug	Cuckoos Corner, B62 0ND	
32	26th - 29th Aug	Fir Tree Farm, North Banbury, OX17 1JL	Bank Holiday
33	2nd - 4th Sep	Catton Hall, DE12 8LN	Fireworks
34	3rd-17th Sep	South Lychett Manor, Poole, BH16 6JB	Holiday Rally
35	9th - 11th Sep	Statfold Barn, B79 0BU	Rail & Ale Weekend
36	16th - 18th Sep	Button Oak, BY12 3LD	
37	23rd - 25th Sep	Eccleshaw Castle	
38	30th Sep - 2nd Oct	Wilmcote Holding Stables, CV37 9XX	
39	7th - 9th Oct	Drayton Manor Park, B78 3TW	AGM
40	14th - 16th Oct	Top Barn Farm, WR6 6NH	
41	22nd - 29th Oct	Wall Park Caravan Park, Brixham, TQ5 9ET	Half Term Holiday Rally
42	28th - 30th Oct	Hampton House Farm, CV35 0JN	
43	4th - 6th Nov	Astley Village Hall, DY13 0RF	
44	11th - 13th Nov	Warwickshire Marching Band, CV34 6JW	
45	2nd - 4th Dec	Yew Tree Farm, DY11 9RE	
46	9th - 11th Dec	Stratford Racecourse, CV37 9SE	Family Christmas Party
47	23rd - 27th Dec	Cookhill Christmas, B49 5JS	Christmas Rally
48	28th Dec - 2st Jan	Henley Arden High School, B95 6AF	New Year Rally

Issued: 23/08/2021

Midland Centre Business

Cashless caravanning.....

So much has changed over the last 18 months due to COVID and some things may never return to how they were. Since we have resumed rallying, the Midland Centre has not been able to accept cash payments on arrival, which has not suited everybody. So as we move closer to a cashless society, not wanting to be left behind, the Midland Centre have now invested in a credit/debit card reader, so you will be able to pay on arrival using any card and even Apple or Android pay.

Matthew Hart



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Christmas at Cookhill

23rd—27th December 2021



The Stewards are busy making their list and checking it twice for this year's Christmas at Cookhill!!!! Its not too late to book on!!!



Rally Price: Adults £110 each, Children/Teens £XXX, Under 5s FREE

Guests are also welcome to join us at each meal (for a small cost) if booked in advance.

ALL **included** within in the rally price (plus lots more.....):

23rd December

Rally opens, cake & coffee on arrival, 2 x course evening meal at The Neville Arms.

24th December

Am - mid-morning mince pies & tipples. Pm - welcome reception, 2 x course meal served in the hall plus evening entertainment, followed by welcoming in Christmas Day at midnight.

25th December

Champagne reception, 3 x course turkey dinner with all the trimmings, a visit from Santa and his elf, evening entertainment.

26th December

Am - mid-morning mince pies and tipples. Pm - Sherry reception, 3 x course beef dinner with all the trimmings, evening entertainment.

27th December

Rally closes

Throughout the rally there will be a selection of alcoholic and non-alcoholic tipples and snacks on offer as well as wine served with each meal.

Should you wish to book onto the Christmas Rally or have any questions, please contact Craig Silver on 07875 097855.

Thank you

Hi everyone. Brenda and myself would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those in the Midland Centre who offered their kind thoughts and well wishes following my recent health crisis whilst down at the South Staffs Weymouth rally. In particular, our gratitude goes to Graham and Jane Downs for driving Bren back and forth to Southampton Hospital and supporting her throughout, Steve and Heather Lloyd for also giving the much needed support and for arranging with the insurance to get Bren and my Motorhome safely back home. Thanks also to Phil Grant for driving our little car home too and last but not least thanks go to the Rally Stewards, Steve and Tim, who assisted the Medics to get me into the ambulance. (What a first rally for them!). What would we have done without you all. Bren can empty the toilet and fill water up now. Good result!!

The support you all gave us has been wonderful and we're both truly grateful. I'm on the mend now albeit it is a slow process. Brenda has been an absolute rock throughout and I don't know what I would have done without her. Anyway, we are hoping to venture out soon and will look forward to seeing you all in the near future.

Mike Pilkington



Thank you

Catton Hall Festival of Fireworks

Junior Fundraiser for Acorns Children's Hospice

What a brilliant weekend! Absolutely shocked at the generosity of the members of the Caravan & Motorhome Club community. Always known it to be giving but this weekend all expectations have been exceeded. So thank you to all those who put hands in pockets.

We are currently sat at a total figure of over £1050. An amazing total for over the weekend. It couldn't have been done without the team of juniors doing their bit, the people behind the scenes, members of committee, partners, parents, cake bakers and hot dog cookers. Big thank you to Mike Downs for the punishment he put himself through.

Hope all enjoyed the fun and the fireworks!

James - JLO



Over to You.......... articles and rally reports from our members

Greenhill Rally

Hello everyone, just a few words regarding the above rally. Firstly, what a lovely, picturesque and well kept site. It was our first visit and definitely one for the notebook for a return visit. Location was ideal midway between Henley in Arden and Stratford Spoilt for choice. Although we arrived and set up in pouring rain (oh, the joys of caravanning) the weekend weather was really very good with just the occasional shower or two.

Ralliers were able to meet up at the stewards vans both Friday and Saturday evenings for a long overdue catchup. Saturday morning was free and easy and in the afternoon the Stewards organised Cornish skittles and a Cornish cream tea, which was brilliant, enjoyed immensely by everyone. Sunday morning was sadly time to break camp for the journey home.

11 o'clock flag was an opportune moment to thank our stewards Roger Phillips and Barbara Beckford who were running their first Rally for the Midland Centre well done both, ably assisted by Tony and Jo Harrison. Many thanks to you all for a job well done.

We really enjoyed our weekend. Take care everyone and stay safe, see you soon.

Dave and Chris Pitt



Over to You.......... articles and rally reports from our membersContinued.....

Holiday Rally at Old Brick Kilns near Fakenham in Norfolk

We are just finishing a great Holiday Rally at Old Brick Kilns near Fakenham in Norfolk. It was great to meet up with old and new friends on the field. A boules competition ran most days with some very good scores. Cornish skittles was enjoyed by all who took part. The site has a good restaurant where a carvery meal was served to the ralliers on both Tuesdays.

Our holiday would not be complete without Brian studying all the brochures of the things to do in the local area which included a trip from Morston Quay to see the seals (many more than when we were last in Norfolk), a visit to a watermill, a railway trip from Holt to Sheringham, Cromer including Fish and Chips at Number 1 and a visit to Pensthorpe Natural Park. I also managed to track down where my Dad was stationed during WW2 when he was in 199 squadron in the 100 group. The control tower for the airfield is now a B & B. We have generally been blessed with good weather, particularly for the time of year.

Thank you to our stewards Graham and Jane Downs who were ably assisted by Roger Phillips and Barbara Beckford.

Ann and Brian Miles



And the winner is.....



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.

Summer 2021 Article Winner

The winner of the best article from the Summer Edition of the Bully was Gordon & Helen Mitchell for their Statfold Barn write up. They will receive £20 for their contribution.

Tote

For information about the tote or to purchase a go on the tote, please see Mick Hale.



Rolling cart for
Weber Q1000/2000 gas BBQ
Hardly used
£35.

Contact: Chris n Dave Pitt
Tel: 01905 451584



From the Editor.....

If you've attended one of our rallies and loved it then let everyone know about it!! There's £20 in it for you if you write the best article for that edition.

Please send all articles and 'items for sale' details to me at Kerry.Silver@hotmail.com putting '**Bully**' in the comments box.

Please can I have any articles for the winter edition sent to me by mid December.

Stay safe.

Kerry

