



The Midland Centre of the
Caravan & Motorhome Club



BULLY NEWS



Winter 2021



Chairman's Chat

Well, here we are again, can you believe it's nearly Christmas already. It's hard to believe how quick this year has flown by. Since my last chat we have enjoyed many great weekends away as well as a holiday rally as well as a dose of Covid.

At the end of September, we made our way to Wilmcote for the Annual Stewards meet. A great weekend was made even better with so many rallies being taken at Sunday mornings stewards meet. We now only have 3 outstanding rallies that require stewards for 2022. Thank you to everyone that has taken on rallies for next year. Remember without people volunteering to run rallies we have no rallies and without rallies we have no club.

The following weekend we made our way to Hatton Country World. Though the weekend was a tad moist we still enjoyed a nice walk to the pub on Saturday, followed by a very expensive walk around the craft fair. Thank you to the stewards Tony & Jo Harrison and Roger Phillips and Barbara Beckford for such a great weekend.

A week later it was off to Drayton Manor for our AGM weekend. It was great to see so many people turn out for the meeting to show their support for our club. Saturday night we were entertained by Jonson supported by our very own Mix & Match. A great night and a great weekend. Thank you to the committee for their hard work especially our Social Secretary Lindsay Grant for organising it.



Only 3 rallies still requiring stewards as follows:

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

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 next year is available on our website as is a digital version of our Rally Book for 2022 available to print if required.

Chairman's Chat continued.....



Thank you to Barry and Sandra Hodgetts for being my guest of honour and sharing some of their memories from their 38 years in the club. Also, to Mick and June who were made honorary members for their 40 years' service and commitment to the club.

With the following weekends rally being cancelled I had a weekend at home before making our way to Cornwall for the October half term rally at Trevarrian Holiday Park. Friday nights journey was eventful due to car issues, thankfully my co steward Mr Grant is an ex AA Patrolman which is always handy when having car issues. So, after a 2 hour delay whilst Granty worked his magic we concluded our journey. We enjoyed a great week with a bowling night and a surprise 30th Birthday Party for Gemma Smith. A fantastic rally, thank you to all that came.

Sadly, on my return from Cornwall I fell victim to the Rona. Yes after avoiding it for 18 months I fell victim to the virus which took me off my feet for over a week, and as I am such a sharing person it was only fitting that passed it on to Beth and also Daddy dearest, so thanks to me Dad spent his 70th Birthday isolating on his own as Mummy dearest was in the QE recovering from a 9 hour operation to remove a brain tumour.

Due to isolating I was not allowed out until Warwick Marching Band which was being hosted by Mick & June Hale and Roger Phillips & Barbara Beckford. I do like this venue as you can walk into Warwick. Saturday night we enjoyed a Beetle Drive and a music quiz. A splendid weekend.

A week later we were at Yew Tree Farm Far Forest as co stewards to James Harris for the First Midland Centre Gin Festival. A good turnout of members had the choice of 10 Gins to try whilst enjoying the sounds of Mix and Match. What a weekend, great fun Thanks to all that supported us.

The next weekend we were co stewards again this time with Damian and Dawn Campbell to run a Murder Mystery Weekend at Astley Village Hall. Saturday morning, we were without power due to a storm during the night. Thankfully this was back up and running in time for us to prepare for the evening's events. So, after transforming the hall into a cruise ship ralliers arrived in best bib and tucker to work out who dunnit. The evening ended with lots of music and dancing, Thanks again to Mix and Match for supplying the tunes. Thanks to our actors Lindsay Grant, Lynne & Martin Campbell, John Todd and Dave Palmer for joining in and to our stewards Damo and Dawn for a great weekend.



Chairman's Chat continued.....

After a weekend at home, we went to Stratford Racecourse for the Family Christmas Party. This was the first one since 2018. Friday night we raised an amazing £210 for the Juniors Charity by hosting a cryptic auction. One of these prizes being a secret outfit for yours truly to wear during the kids party.

On Saturday afternoon the kids were entertained by Jagasounds before the arrival of Santa and his helpers, yes that's where the outfit comes in, turns out I was Santa's sexy little helper, well according the label on the outfit anyway. Never have I worn anything that has made me feel so vulnerable, I'm sure some of the audience felt the same as well but it was for a good cause.

Saturday night we were entertained by Sally Rivers, what an amazing voice she has. Mix & Match followed keeping the dance floor full. A great night and a great rally. Thank you to your committee and to Santa.

I am pleased to say that after 7 weeks in Hospital Mommy was released on Friday 17th December to continue her recovery. Thank you for all the cards and well wishes that she has received. She is truly grateful.

So, all that's left for me to say is, from Me and her indoors Beth and the kids. Have a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Stay safe, get your jab, wash your hands and I'll see you on the other side on a rally field soon.

Mike Downs - Chairman



Midland Centre Business

Senior Committee - 2021/2022



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

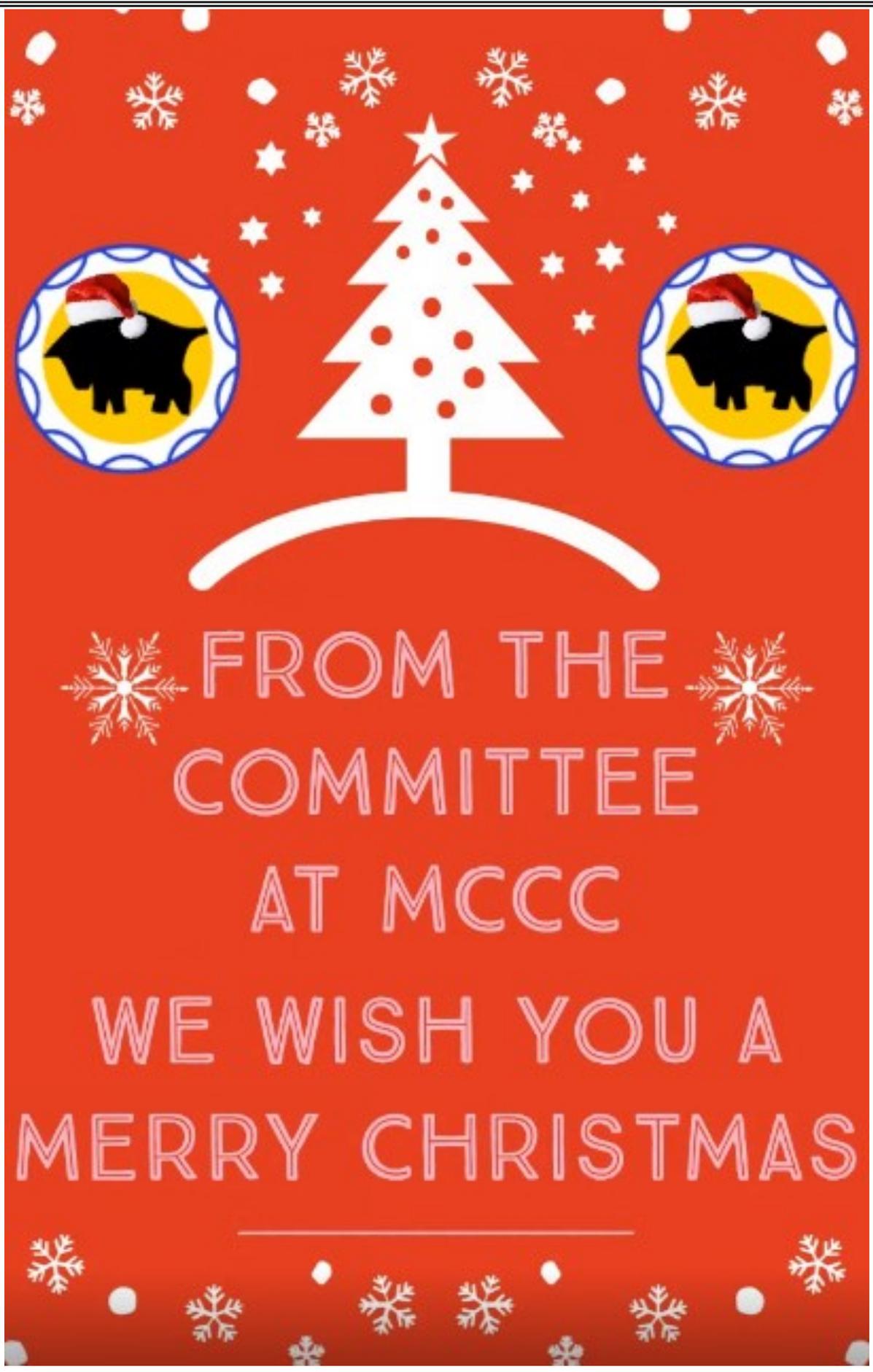


Midland Centre Business

Junior Committee - 2021/2022

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

Rally Programme January – April 2022

01	7 - 9 Jan	The Lenchford Inn, WR6 6TB	Norman Hirst Memorial Rally
02	28 - 30 Jan	Lapworth Village Hall, B94 6LD	Friday cakes, Saturday curry
03	4 - 6 Feb	Astley Village Hall, DY13 0RF	Lindsey's 40th Birthday Bash
04	25 - 27 Feb	Dinner Dance, B78 3TW	Black Tie Dinner Dance
05	4 - 6 Mar	Warwick Marching Band, CV34 6JW	Beetle Drive
06	11 - 13 Mar	Fillongley Village Hall, CV7 8EQ	Gaynor's Infamous Chinese Auction
07	18 - 20 Mar	Clays Farm, DY14 9NN	Fishing Available on site
08	25 - 27 Mar	Binton Social Club, CV37 9TU	Basket Meals & Skittles Night.
09	1 - 3 Apr	Hyde Farm, WR10 2DX	TBA
10	8 - 10 Apr	Willows Farm, B79 0HS	TBA
11	14 - 19 Apr	Easter Rally, DE72 2BU	Fun Packed Easter Weekend
12	22 - 24 Apr	Hatton Country World, CV35 8XB	Stewards Required. Please contact Andy Pickrell (07853 930369), andypickrell@googlemail.com).
13	21 Apr - 5 May	Porth Beach, TR7 3NH	Porth Beach Holiday Rally
14	29 Apr - 2 May	The Cotton Arms, CW5 8HG	Bank Holiday

Remember—Midland Centre have 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.

Over to you



Honorary Membership

Mick & June Hale would like to thank the Chairman and committee for making us Honorary Members at the Annual General Meeting this year. We knew nothing about this (so the committee CAN keep secrets!).

As Treasurer of the Centre, I am aware of the financial burden this could place on the Centre for a regular rallier, so we have agreed to the new terms for Honorary Membership. Previously, Honorary Membership entitled the holder(s) to attend all weekends and Bank Holiday rallies run solely by the Midland Centre, with free site and rally fees.

Honorary Membership of the Midland Centre now entitles the holder(s) to attend all committee run rallies including site and social fees free of charge. The Centre will also pay the holder(s) Caravan and Motorhome Club Membership fee.



Editor: One of very few photos I can find of Mick & June together!! Just goes to show how hard they work for the club—Mick is usually behind his decks and June is usually in the kitchen giving us 'inexperienced ones' a run for our money!!

Over to you

Midland Centre Children's Christmas Party

Stratford Racecourse

We arrived on the Thursday night as there was plenty to keep me occupied on the Friday whilst Matthew was at work. Obviously it was dark when we arrived so was set up, dinner and relax after a busy day.

When I woke up on Friday morning Matthew had left for work hours ago, so coffee and breakfast before I headed over to the hall. The Children's party had not run since 2018 as in 2019 was flooded out and we were not able to even move our caravans/Motorhomes in 2020 – so was great to be back. Jim arrived with everything that we needed so we all set to decorating the hall. I am sure Chris reached his goal of having lights plugged into every socket that was available. I am sure those attending will agree, the hall was definitely looking festive. I can promise 'elf and safety was considered with everything that we did.



I had to rush to get the van decorated before Matthew came back from work, to surprise him!

Friday evening was a Cryptic Auction with prizes donated by the committee. This raised £160 and was followed by a surprise for Mr Downs who could be the only winner if donations were generously given (and they were). £50 later Mike opened up his surprise to reveal a new costume for him to prance around to achieve his Christmas wish of helping the big main man at the party on the Saturday. A big thank you to everyone who donated.

On Saturday the children's party was great, a magician kept the children entertained alongside his glamorous assistant for one trick – our very own Beth. When the man himself arrived ringing his bells the children were very excited and eagerly listened for their name to be called. I think all the children loved their gifts – thank you Santa and of course your elves.

Over to you

Midland Centre Children's Christmas Party

Stratford Racecourse *continued*.....

Saturday evening we were entertained by the talented Sally Rivers who had everyone up and dancing on the dance floor and of course our very own Mix and Match.



It was great to be able to attend a social as near to pre covid as it could be, everyone was being sensible and staying as safe as we can do in the current climate.

We thoroughly enjoyed the whole rally and would like to thank all those that were there as everyone played a part in making the rally fabulous.

Matthew and I would just like to wish everyone a super festive time, happy Christmas and all the best for 2022.

Gaynor Hart

Over to you



Wishing all our Midland Centre friends a very **Merry Christmas. This year, we have decided to donate to the Juniors' charity fund, '**Air Ambulance**' in lieu of sending Christmas cards. This is such a brilliant service, which certainly paid a big part when Pilko needed help. Because of the Air Ambulance and our NHS, he is still with us today and looking forward to spending time with his family and friends. Martin says "Pilko, I was so close to inheriting your sunglasses. You can now forget your promise and please keep them." Lol. Here's to an enjoyable New Year and a happy and healthy **2022** for everyone.**

**Lynne & Martin
AKA Laird & Lady Campbell**



Over to you

Warwick Marching Band

Even though we arrived very late we were not the last to arrive. Mick showed us to our pitch for the weekend and left us to set up. Previous visits to the site we had found a superb Chip Shop a short walk away, so as soon as we were set up we headed over. The Chip Shop did not disappoint and we were soon in the hall for a catch-up with friends.

Saturday was a walk into Warwick to visit the Christmas Market and support the local economy. We found the pub that we frequented last time we were all in Warwick for refreshments. We all decided to head back towards the site for a meal as there was a pub apparently very close by with a children's play area – so it was booked and we went our separate ways as I wanted to pick up a couple of Christmas gifts on the way back.

Close by turned out to be a 20 minute walk but the pub welcomed us and looking at the menu it was worth the walk. The children's play area was much smaller than we had anticipated though. We had a super meal and headed back for a snooze before the evening entertainment.

The Beetle Drive was just as much fun as the last time. Everyone needing to roll the 6 to start creating their beetles. I spent most of the time moving tables and occasionally seeing Matthew on a table. After the Beetle Drive we had a music quiz, Mick had set the questions and Matthew and Mike knew many of the answers which we all enjoyed the tub of chocolates that we won at the end.

It was remembrance weekend so before flag went live on Facebook we had our silence .

A big thank you to Roger, Barbara, Mick and June for a super rally.

Gaynor Hart





Midland Centre Easter Rally

14-19 April 2022 Weston-on-Trent Ukrainian Centre.

Full programme of Easter Events for Adults and Children

which will be announced with full details closer to the event



Essential 80s

Terrific 4 piece tribute act nothing short of amazing, performing your favourite 80s hits. Blasting out instantly recognisable hits, performed with a bucket load of energy means Essential 80s will fill the dance floor in no time!

Rachel Cooper

A welcome return to the Midland Centre for this Professional Cabaret Singer. Music from 1950s through the decades to today. Sit and listen or get up and Dance. Rachel's first Easter with us but has done AGM and Dinner Dance.



Social Fees £15.00 per Adult
Site Fees £12.00 per night

Book online at midlandcentre.co.uk or send booking form to Mick Hale treasuremccc@gmail.com

All persons attending rallies and social events do so entirely at their own risk. No responsibility for persons or property is accepted by the organisers or The Caravan and Motorhome Club.

Website: www.midlandcentre.co.uk

Facebook Group: www.facebook.com/groups/MidlandCentre2020

And the winner is.....

Bully Article Prizes for 2020/21

Cash prize for the best article from each edition will remain at £20 per winning article.



Autumn 2021 Article Winner

The winner of the best article from the Autumn Edition of the Bully was Ann & Brian Miles for their Norfolk Holiday Rally write up. They will receive £20 for their contribution.

Thank you to Lynne & Martin Campbell who were winners of the bully article earlier in the year and have kindly donated their £20 winnings to this year's Junior Charity which is the Air Ambulance.

Monthly Prize Draw Results

At the end of each month, all those booked onto the next 6 weekend rallies via online bookings will go into a prize draw to win £10 . This will be drawn at the last flag of every month.

Winners so far:

October - John & Lynn Todd

November - Kevin & Diane Stokes



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**](mailto:Kerry.Silver@hotmail.com) putting '**Bully**' in the comments box.

Please can I have any articles for the Spring edition by the beginning of March.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year!

Kerry

