



CHARITY MEET SPECIAL



Chairman's Welcome

Demelza

On behalf of the committee I would like to welcome you all to Cowgate farm for our Charity Meet in aid of Demelza House Hospice Care for Children.

The attendance on our first four meets of the season have been beyond expectations I hope this is the trend for the rest of the year. Comments passed to me and committee members have been very pleasing and I hope that this weekend will be as successful as our previous ones. Keep your eyes open on the website for events going on for the rest of the season.

After my appeal at Easter and Mayday I am pleased to say that we have had a volunteer to succeed Nigel Avery as Treasurer for the DA next year. This has taken a big weight off of the committee shoulders as without a Treasurer we cannot operate.

Hope to meet you all round the field over the weekend.

Trevor Pilbeam - Chairman

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EKDA 80th Birthday Meet

30th June to 4th July 2011 At Painter's Farm, Painter's Forstal, ME13 OEG

Site opens 12noon Thursday.

TOILET FACILITIES PROVIDED FOR LIGHTWEIGHT CAMPERS AT THIS EVENT!

Site Fees:- £15 per unit per weekend

Thursday & Sunday fees £4 per unit per night

Birthday Weekend Programme is as follows:

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
7.30pm Barn opens . 8pm Opening Ceremony followed by Opera Singer (Ms. Demelza Stafford). Dog racing.	10am Games and Family competitions Boules team (2) 1 adult & 1 child. Bat & Trap team(4) 2 adults & 2 children. Afternoon. Entertainment - Ozzy the Balloon Man and 5,6,7,8 dance troop. Reception followed by American tea Party (Everyone brings food for the table). You can wear your fancy dress to this! The cutting of the Birthday cake. Evening. 7.30pm Barn opens. History of the D.A. at side entrance to the barn. Disco 9pm. Fancy Dress competition. 9.15pm. Hot dogs will be served. Close at 10.45pm.	10am Final of games competitions. 11am. Time Capsule. 12.00. Closing Ceremony followed by Raffle.

What is a Children's Hospice?



Children's hospices support children and young people (0-19) who are not expected to reach adulthood, and offer support to their families.

Children's hospices can differ significantly from adult hospices in that many of the conditions children and young people are suffering from are degenerative in nature and progress over many years.

This means that children's hospices have the opportunity to offer children, young people and families the chance to build memories as a family unit, undertake a range of activities that are age and needs specific that they may not ordinarily be able to access.

When a diagnosis is given, families often feel very isolated. Children's hospices provide the necessary short breaks and a range of specialist services benefiting the children and young people themselves and their wider family, which are simply not available elsewhere.

Demelza House has hospices in Sittingbourne and Eltham (South East London). It also runs "Demelza Care" which is a hospice at home service for East Sussex and parts of South West Kent. Demelza relies on fundraising and charity donations as its main source of income.

Music on The Hill

'Music On The Hill', is a whole weekend of international artists at Kings Hill! Three days of stunning entertainment in a festival setting from **24-26 June 2011** at one of Kent county's biggest ever events - will provide a special atmosphere and it's all for a great cause. 100% of profits from this major event go to Demelza Hospice Care for Children and The Children's Development Trust.



Katherine Jenkins, McFly, the Sugababes, Stacey Solomon, ABC, Bjorn Again and Ben Mills all star in the amazing line-up that Music On The Hill has to offer! Katherine performs on Friday 24 June with The National Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Anthony Inglis, McFly, supported by City Stereo, headline Saturday 25 June and Family Summer Sunday features A great line-up including the 'Queen of The Jungle', Stacey Solomon, 80's legends ABC, the worlds most successful Abba tribute, Bjorn Again and X Factor finalist Ben Mills. There is a host of family entertainment to add to the bill on Sunday as well as Kent County Cricket Club and Charlton Athletic F.C., plus Kent sourced food and drink on offer on all three days.

This is the biggest event ever organised for Demelza, working with Liberty Property Trust and Kent County Council, and it really is Great Music for a Great Cause!

For tickets and booking information go to <http://www.musiconthehill.org.uk/> or call the 24 hour booking line on 0844 873 7339.

My experiences of Demelza House, Sittingbourne

Hi my name is Bethany Hayward and I am a member of East Kent DA's Camping Club Juniors.

There are many things that make Demelza house a great place. It could be something to do with how nice and welcoming they are there or it could be something to do with the fact that when you need it (and I certainly did) there is always someone there to help you. But in all honesty I think the thing that rises above all to make Demelza house the lovely place that it is, is because of the way that it gave 'time-out' to those who desperately needed it - my Mum and Dad.

I used to go to Demelza House for what the grown-ups called 'respite care'. This means that my Mum and Dad could get some rest after looking after me. As I was born with complex congenital heart defects, I was always connected to my oxygen tank and feeding tube. I had to take lots of medicines that kept my heart working. I used to need care from my parents 24 hours a day and they were very tired. When me and my sister Kerry went to Demelza House, people would greet us as soon as we got in the door. After we were 'buzzed' in through the reception door, we would go through to the living room. In the front room of Demelza there was, a TV with a fire place under it, a cream leather sofa, and glass games cabinet. We would spend hours on end playing with the dolls house and discovering the great wonders that were to be found in the wooden treasure chest. At the house they had a gigantic garden with a Wendy house and a shed full of toys. I would give Mum and Dad a big hug and go and join my friends to play games. Down the hall, to the left, was a door with a golden plaque on the door spelling out to everyone that passed by that it was my room. The high bars around my bed only made it more comfortable for me to sit and snuggle down to the bedtime stories and movies (but mainly Winnie the Pooh).

Demelza made me feel welcomed and happy. I didn't ever want to leave when it was time to go home, but at least I knew that we'd be back again soon. Sometimes I'd have a tantrum when we were about to go home. Over the years the Doctors have worked hard to try and help my heart work better. I don't need any oxygen, feeding tubes or medicines anymore, just my pacemaker which keeps me ticking along. Because I'm better now I no longer go to Demelza House but I'm always grateful for the help they gave me and my family when I was poorly.



Bethany with Jon in 2002



April 2011. Very well!

Bethany Hayward

Easter and Mayday Weekends

Assisted in part by the glorious weather at the time, our Easter meet attracted 50 units and was followed by our Royal Wedding/Mayday meet weekend which had 27 units in attendance. It was great to see so many people out camping with the DA.

The Royal wedding was celebrated in style with an American Supper. Some campers even dressed up in their best outfits for the occasion. A communal BBQ later in the weekend gave another opportunity for the campers to dine together.

See below a small selection of pictures from both weekends (More will be on the website soon):



Fir Tree Farm - Chairman's Breakfast



Fir Tree Farm is lovely lush green campsite in Rhodes Minnis, near Elham. The site is only used for camping which means the grass is cut short, is relatively level and free from sheep poo! There were also a limited number of electric hook-ups available and full waste recycling facilities for campers. Our 'quiet meet' weekend at Fir Tree saw an impressive 23 units in attendance with all units attending the 'Chairman's Breakfast' on Sunday morning. Trevor and helpers kindly cooked breakfast for all on site Sunday morning, and in doing so contributed to the total raised over the weekend of £90 for Demelza House Hospice Care for Children. A special thanks to Mrs Woods, the landowner who also donated the Thursday night site fees to the Demelza 'pot'.





Easter and Mayday

We've had a successful 2 meets for the Camping Club Youth (CCY) & Camping Club Juniors (CCJ). At Easter, we had 7 CCY camping. For the CCJ's we had 5 camping in the area. As Easter was such a busy meet we also got many enquiries from other young people on the field who would like to join, and gave out lots of registration forms.

Mayday was a little quieter. Again 7 CCY's and 4 CCJ's but less units on the field which meant more space for us to spread out and have fun!



Being the first meet of the season the Youth spent most of the weekend catching up with their friends who they hadn't seen properly since last season. During the Mayday weekend we did however play a game where they were split into two teams and they had to take down identical tents, pack them into the tent bags, run around the field as a team with the tent and then put the tent back up again. The fastest team won chocolate from the tuck shop. The teams were one group of 4 and one group of 5 (using some of the older CCJ's to help make bigger teams). The team of 4 won the challenge, completing it in 14 minutes. Despite the initial complaints about doing this it was the one thing they were still talking about it into the evening afterwards so it can't have been that bad! The photos on the left are of the two teams in action.

We also held a doughnut eating race, organised by Claire Notley. The CCY and CCJ's had to keep their hands behind their backs and eat a ring doughnut off a piece of string held in the air. (Alexia did cheat though....)The person to finish their doughnut first won the race. Good fun had by all!

Heather Hayward



Many thanks to Christine Saunders for the Doughnut eating photos, and to Claire Notley for the puzzle below.

Puzzle Corner!

Unscramble the following they will either spell a Site, Youth Leader or Committee Member

Mfecwaogtra

dfgnimaolrwr

Rteovr

Rrfmatereif

nle

Cvi

Eenreabrsdrtc

raeehht

Reycat

Smrferaapnit

nadyn

Nke

Mwodafrsloea

noj

Earcli

List below is subject to changes, please check website www.eastkentda.co.uk first! Meets cannot run without a Steward. Can you help?

	<u>Site</u>	<u>Map ref</u>	<u>Postcode</u>	<u>Youth Area?</u>	<u>Stewards</u>	<u>Meet Fee</u>
May						
27 th - 30 th 30 th - 5 th	CHARITY MEET Followed by THS	Cowgate Farm, Hawkinge	179/226403	CT18 7AR	CCY and CCJ	Sylvia - Charity Vic & Jean -THS £22 for weekend £5.50 per unit/night
June						
10 th - 12 th	RARE BREEDS	Rare Breeds, Veteran Car Rally	189/957344	TN26 3RJ		Tracey & Chris £30 for weekend
17 th -19 th	SER	Hop Farm, Beltring. AGM			CCY Only	(Region) PREBOOK ONLY
30 th - 4 th	BIRTHDAY MEET	Painters Farm, Painters Forstal	178/990591	ME13 0EG	CCY Only	Tracey & Chris £15 for weekend Thurs or Sun £4
July						
14 th - 18 th	GOLF MEET	Four Winds, Eastry	197/303544	CT13 0LA		Vic & Jean 5 DAY BOOKED MEET
15 th - 17 th	YOUTH MEET	Woodleas Farm, Aldington	189/066370	TN25 7DX	YOUTH ONLY	Jon & Heather TBC
22 nd July- 14 th Aug.	THS	Cowgate Farm, Hawkinge.	179/226403	CT18 7AR		Vic, Jean & Committee £5.50 per unit/ night
August						
26 th - 29 th		Hill Green Farm, Stockbury	188/833622	ME9 7UP		Richard Nash £15 for weekend
25 th - 29 th	NFOL	Newark Showground			CCY only	(NFOL) PREBOOK ONLY
September						
2 nd - 4 th		Farming World, Faversham.	179/047599	ME13 9SP	CCY Stewards	Jon & Heather £8 per unit/night
16 th - 18 th	FOL - Kids TV	Painters Farm, Painters Forstal	178/990591	ME13 0EG	CCY and CCJ	Rex & Pat £16 for weekend
30 th - 2 nd		Penny Springs, Detling.	188/798588	ME14 3HA		Tony & Doreen £6.50 per unit/night
October						
14 th - 16 th		Woodleas Farm, Aldington	189/066370	TN25 7DX		Vic & Jean £6.50 per unit/night
21 st - 23 rd	NEW SITE!	The Field, Coldred nr Dover	179 /277473	CT15 5AF		£5 per unit/night
November						
4 th - 6 th	BONFIRE	Painters Farm, Painters Forstal	178/990591	ME13 0EG		Rex & Pat £16 for weekend