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Chairman's Welcome

EKDA Chairman : Trevor Pilbeam
Newsletter Editor: Heather Hayward
www.eastkentda.co.uk

Hello everyone and welcome to our Feast of Lanterns at Painters Farm. Firstly I would like to apologise for not being with you all this weekend. Doreen and I are away with our daughter, her husband and our grandson Evan - for a short family break at Weymouth. Also Vic and Jean are away on their 2nd honeymoon after 50 years of marriage. Our congratulations to them. I am certain that the rest of the committee will make you feel very welcome and have a very enjoyable time. For those of you who attended our 80th Birthday Meet at the beginning of July I would like to thank you all for your support and hope you enjoyed yourselves as much as I did. On that note thank you to the Committee and Sub-Committee who put in a lot of hours and hard work.

Return from NFOL

As you may have heard by now on the the way home from the N.F.O.L. I accidentally ran into the back of Ken's Caravan. (Names now ranging from Jeremy Clarkson to Mr. Bump). The experience afterwards was more stressful to all of us than the accident itself. I thought I was covered for accidents on my AA Membership and Ken on his Green Flag. Not so. I telephoned the AA and a recovery vehicle turned up after 1 1/2 hours. The guy was very helpful but it turned out that the cover I had included what was termed as Accident Management. As I was the one who caused the accident my cover reverted to Roadside Assistance only. My car and van was towed to a safe place off the now very busy A17. Luckily although the front of my car has taken a beating it was still drivable and I was lucky enough to drive my car and caravan home. Ken was not so lucky, he called his Breakdown Cover - Green Flag and was told that because it was an accident not a breakdown he was not covered, so they didn't turn out to help him. Between us we sorted things out and both cars and caravans are now safely back home. What this has taught us is to check what cover your policy is giving you in regards of an accident. Please read them and don't get caught in the situation we were, we thought we had covered all eventualities.

Trevor Pilbeam

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80th Birthday Meet featured in the Faversham News!

For more details of this meet see page 3

Pitching up to celebrate club's 80th anniversary

THE East Kent Camping and Caravanning Club spent the weekend celebrating its 80th anniversary.

A total of 68 trailers, tents and caravans pitched up at Painter's Farm in Painter's Farm where they marked the formation of the club in 1931.

The weekend of festivities opened on Friday night with a fun horse racing competition shown on a screen.

Other games played included French boules and bat and trap,

while there was also a fancy dress competition.

Attractions included a show from Ozzie the Balloon Man who made amusing objects from balloons, a performance by the 5678 Dance Group and a 1963 vintage caravan on display.

Len Saunders, the secretary of the East Kent Camping and Caravanning Club, said: "We had a fantastic weekend and the weather was absolutely brilliant. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves."

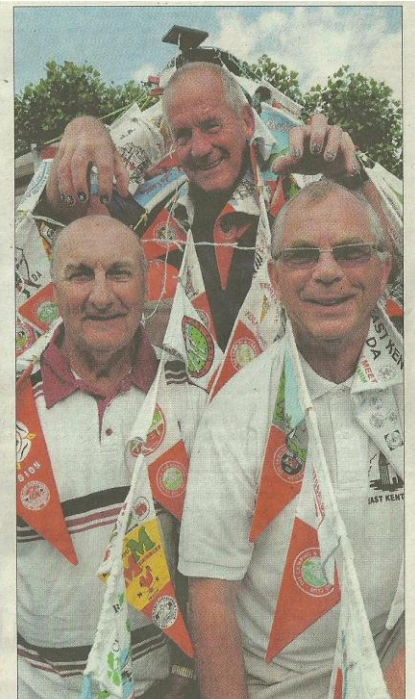


HAPPY CAMPERS: Ian Hawkins and Elizabeth Wright

Pictures: Barry Duffield PD1870319 Buy pictures from kentonline.co.uk



MAP READERS: Checking their route, Jason Longhurst, and Chris Nicholls



RALLY ROUND: Surrounded by Rally Pennants, are, left, Len Saunders, club secretary from Herne Bay, Roger Vine and Trevor Pilbeam, club chairman from Chartham



RIGHT: Murphy Custons-Reynolds, six, inside the vintage caravan depicting caravanning in the 1930s

PD1870317

Learning to Tow

“The true beauty of being able to tour in the caravan is the freedom and tranquillity it brings. It’s great to be able to visit somewhere and discover new sights but likewise, it’s also nice to be able to sit down and meet old friends and have a chat”

This is a quote from my mum, Sylvia Avery, who was interviewed recently by the editor of the club magazine for an article that will appear in the October issue on towing.

Following my dad’s death in October last year my mum had two choices. She could sell the caravan and give up a hobby that she loves, or she could continue and caravan on her own. Fortunately, she chose the latter, and seems to spend more time away in the caravan than she does at home! This decision was made much easier for her because she learnt to tow back in 1977, supervised by my dad, and continued to do so as his health started to fail.

Sylvia is now passionate about getting partners, husbands and wives who do not tow to learn how to while they have somebody on hand to help.

Before having a go it is worth checking your driving licence because if you passed your driving test after 1st January 1997 then there are restrictions on what you can tow and these can only be overcome by taking an additional driving test called the “B+E Driving Test”. This will allow you to tow any car and caravan combination. Without the B+E entitlement on your driving licence you will be limited to the following:

- Towing a car and caravan combination of no more than 3,500kg maximum loaded weight
- The towing vehicle’s kerb weight must be greater than the maximum laden weight of the caravan or trailer (preventing you from hiring a box van trailer)

One East Kent DA member who recently decided she would take the B+E driving test is Denise Longhurst. She passed first time and is now legally able to drive their Land Rover Discovery with their twin axle Bailey caravan. I’m sure she would be more than happy to talk to other members who may be considering taking the test.

If you passed your driving test before 1st January 1997 then the above restrictions do not apply to you and you could drive pretty much any car and caravan combination, subject to your tow cars limitations.

Should you decide that now is the time to learn to tow, then go for it.....you won’t regret it, and you never know when you may need to use new found skill.

Nigel Avery, (B+E Driving Instructor)

www.asm-driving.co.uk



What a great weekend!

We had very good weather, entertainment and competitions enjoyed by all. Members were greeted with a very warm welcome by stewards Tracey and Chris Nicholls, assisted by Rex and Pat Knight, booking in 68 units over the weekend.

We had invited guests camping with us, namely Club Vice Chairman (Albert Walker), Club Magazine editor (Simon McGrath), Past Club Chairman (Darryl Stubbs and Wally Garner), Regional Chairman (Paul Westripp) and Regional councillors.

From Thursday lunchtime we saw a steady flow of units enter the field and members were invited to a welcoming cup of tea.

Friday evening the meet was officially opened by Albert Walker (Club Vice Chairman), and Trevor Pilbeam (D.A.Chairman), which was followed by evening entertainment of horse racing.

Saturday we had family competitions:- Boules and Bat and Trap which turned out to be very entertaining as a few of the entrants had never played these games before.

During the afternoon the children and some of the adults were entertained by Ozzy the Balloon man who did not have time for a cup of tea when offered one by Chris Saunders because as soon as he sat down outside our unit he was set upon by children and their parents.

At the reception which was attended by the Farm owner Pearl and her manager Lorraine we were entertained by 5.6.7.8. Dance Group. This was followed by American tea party with some members dressed up depicting the Theme, Camping and Fashion through the ages. The birthday cake was then cut and distributed to all members.

During the evening when entering the barn a presentation and display of the History of E.K.D.A. (1931-2011) was seen, then we were entertained by Epi-centre disco , followed by Fancy dress competition and then hot dogs.

Sunday morning we had the finals of the Boules and Bat and Trap competitions.

Boules winners were Vic Ansell and Charlotte Nicholls.

Bat and Trap winners were Denise, Chuckie and Harry Longhurst and Bob Stedman.

The Youth sealed the Time Capsule and the meet was closed.

The winners of the Pennon (Lewis Saunders) and Plaque (Bethany Embleton) were presented with a framed Pennon and Plaque.

Prizes were then presented for all the competitions and then the raffle prizes distributed. Our thanks to Christine Saunders and Terri Glynn for doing the raffle.

Over the weekend the Youth raised £120 for Demelza House by washing cars and Nail art. The weekend activities were covered by The Faversham News.

A big thank you to the owner of the vintage caravan Mr David Clover of Chartham, who so kindly loaned it to us to display.

Thank you to Ozzy the balloon man and Caroline Milsom for bringing her Dance group 5.6.7.8.Dance who came and entertained us at very short notice.

Thank you to the sub committee for planning this meet and the main committee for their help over the weekend and all the other helpers.

Simon McGrath the Club Magazine Editor aims to have coverage of the meet in the October issue.

Len Saunders



From Left to Right - The 80th Birthday Cake, Ozzy the Balloon Man in action and Two Hippies dress up for the Fancy Dress competition (Len and Chris Saunders)

Our Holiday

My wife Doreen and I had our main holiday this year on the north Norfolk coast, along with Len and Christine Saunders, we spent a total of 12 days on a 5 van CS site.

Our holiday cost a bit more than we had planned as I took up Fishing, and needed to buy all the equipment, Rod reel and all the other bits that you need, including a Fishing license,

It was worth the expense as we all had a good time on the river bank watching the river boats trying to navigate the bridge at Ludham, we also visited Potter Heigham and Wroxham.

We then went on to the NFOL at Newark, Friday it RAINED and RAINED but the rest of the weekend was fine, there were 7 units from East Kent camped with us, also one in the disabled area, and CCY and the youth leaders in the youth area.

Plenty to see and do during the day, with a choice of 3 venues, the evening entertainment was first class, and for anyone who has never been to a NFOL if you get the chance I would recommend it.

So all in all we had a really good holiday

Tony Roberts

Campsite Review - Heath Farm, Sleaford, Lincs

On our way home from the National Feast of Lanterns we stayed at Heath Farm Caravan and Camping Site at North Rauceby, Sleaford. The site is a 10 van Listed site close to RAF Cranwell. It is on the same site as the Cranwell Aviation Heritage Centre, and admission to the centre is free. Next door to the site is the Carligh Caravan Centre and a caravan accessory shop. The site itself is level and was once the large front lawn of the neighbouring farm house. Each pitch has a hook up available and all campers have the use of a modern, clean toilet, washbasin and dish washing facility in a converted stable block. Pitches are close together and there is some traffic noise from the nearby A17, but we felt with the facilities available it offered good value at just £7.50 per unit per night with electric hookup, or £6.00 per unit per night without electric. Contact Mrs Ireland on 01529 488409 or have a look at their website: www.heathfarmcaravanandcampsite.co.uk



The Hayward Family

NFOL Meet Report

I would recommend the National Feast of Lanterns to anyone who has never been there before as it was a truly spectacular meet, suitable for people of all ages. From the minute you arrive to the second you leave, you are surrounded by millions of activities and a friendly atmosphere. I stayed for 5 days and was pitched in the youth where we were surrounded by other people our age from across Great Britain, which is a good opportunity to make friends and meet new people who otherwise you may not have met.

The National Feast of Lanterns was unlike any of our meets (although i do thoroughly enjoy the EKDA's meets) as there was a beach that had been made, 6 different huge warehouses full of activities, music and games, and many different stalls selling a variety of items and good prices. Every night in one of the warehouse's situated by where I was staying was a disco every night that played until 11pm although we could stay in there until which ever time we liked, which gave us some more freedom. Not only was there a disco every night for the youth, there was also a free juice bar where you could get unlimited refills of squash and electric points where we could charge our phones; trikes where we had time trials and races; laser tag; a rock climbing wall and a foam party, all which were free!

Throughout the 5 days many parades took place such as the pennant parade where every DA carried their flag through the campsite; the fancy dress parade, the Robin Hood Guinness book or records attempt (we did beat the record of course!) and the actual feast of lanterns which again was indescribable!!

Trade stalls were available throughout the whole weekend selling anything ranging from camping and food goods, to everyday items and vehicles, clothing and even caravans/camper-vans at bargain prices!

And if you don't feel like doing any of these activities you could go see a tribute act on site, relax back at the van or even entertain yourself.

The youth, myself and the other people that i spoke to there all said they will be returning next year up in the north west of the country, and we all hope to see you there, so you too can experience this wonderful event :)

Courtney Hawkins



Pennons on Parade at the NFOL - Left to Right - Region Pennon, EKDA Pennon and EKDA CCY Pennon

Jack Banks

Dad is going in hospital on the 31st August for a knee replacement. He is still staying at our house until he has had his operation and will continue staying with us until he is well enough to go home afterwards.

As you will be aware he was involved in an accident recently whilst towing his caravan. We still do not know where his car and Caravan is, it is being held by the police as part of their investigations. We are filling in lots of forms and until it is all sorted out we are not able to find a replacement car or caravan. So camping been out for us this year, the last time we were out was at Easter.

I was at the hospital this week myself and was told I got go in for another operation on my arm soon and just waiting for the date, so I will not be able to drive for few weeks.

Dave Banks

Camping Wordsearch

See if you can find the following words in this wordsearch:

AIR BED
 AWNING
 BOTTLE OPENER
 BLANKET
 CARAVAN
 CAMPING
 CUP
 CUTLERY
 FUEL
 FLY SHEET
 FIRE BUCKET
 KNIFE
 MALLET
 MUG
 PILLOW
 PEGS
 PLATE POTS AND PANS
 ROPE
 ROLL MAT
 RUCKSACK
 STOVE SLEEPING BAG
 SPOON
 SOCKS
 TENT
 TIN
 TORCH
 TEA TOWEL

R	A	C	U	P	I	L	L	O	W
O	S	A	Q	D	P	Z	I	O	A
L	B	R	U	C	K	S	A	C	K
L	A	A	Y	G	M	P	Q	E	P
M	T	V	P	F	I	O	T	X	P
A	E	A	O	P	Z	O	C	I	E
T	A	N	T	A	W	N	I	N	G
F	T	B	S	S	P	I	Z	L	S
H	O	O	A	L	F	F	C	O	Z
U	W	T	N	E	I	L	A	P	X
S	E	T	D	E	R	Y	M		W
T	L	L	P	P	E	S	P	L	A
O	X	E	A	I	B	H	I	I	T
V	R	O	N	N	U	E	N	J	E
E	P	P	S	G	C	E	G	Y	R
V	L	E	Q	B	K	T	J	F	B
F	A	N	R	A	E	K	C	Z	O
U	T	E	V	G	Y	R	U	K	T
E	E	R	I	L	A	S	T	O	T
L	L	K	A	S	D	B	L	F	L
D	T	I	N	K	J	L	E	A	E
H	A	D	F	I	S	A	R	T	X
A	Q	Z	D	Y	F	N	Y	H	J
R	R	A	I	R	B	E	D	X	O
M	X	O	P	H	N	T	N	Y	K
P	A	S	P	D	S	F	L	M	N
M	A	L	L	E	T	O	R	C	H
U	K	O	P	B	E	A	C	S	D
G	A	L	L	T	N	P	U	K	G
D	S	F	Z	Y	T	L		K	S

Thanks to Claire Notley for creating this wordsearch.



CCY Training Weekend

It was raining, it was cold and at least half of us felt that we had come down with hypothermia. So, the set-up, a muddy field full of depressed teenagers, the date, July 15th - 17th, the reason, torture. We set up on the Friday afternoon in the warm glow of a sunset and crawled into our tents after a night of socialising and card games. The next day we woke up to the sound of pounding rain on our tent tops and at least one of us can recall so much rain she was almost able to swim to the toilet (Georgia) so of course the youth leaders made us go on a hike. Many things cropped up in this hike such as the necessity to be able to read a map (fail), staying upright (fail) and staying as dry as possible (also a fail). All in all, everything went well. All of this happened in teams. Team 1 - Kerry, Ashleigh, Liam, Terri and Sam, Team 2 - Georgia, Nathanael, Bradley, Courtney and Jamie. At the end of the hike after over four hours of walking in soggy fields and torrential rain we had completed six tasks: film a 30 second TV advert for the CCY, pass a kit check, boiling water on a primus stove without burning ourselves or dropping all of the water, putting up a tent that had miraculously 'lost' one of its poles, giving first aid to an injured person and then making a stretcher out of two crutches and a bit of string to carry the patient on and a contest to see who could eat the strawberry lace fastest. Points had been given and deducted from teams all day from lighting a stove the fastest or not wanting to participate in a strawberry lace contest (no I'm not going to let it go) and at the end of the hike team 2 were winning (well we were so much better than team 1:P) Saturday night, we came back to the field and had a crisp tasting contest where we had to guess the flavours, and

our very own crisp fanatic won (Georgia... again). Instead of having a normal dinner we decided to fuel our imaginations with a game of 'Ready, Steady, Cook!'. We were all given a bag of meat and 3 vegetables and had to create a meal using these ingredients, with help from a 'store cupboard'. Master chefs were made (i.e. Bradley, who came first, Georgia, who came second and Ashleigh, who came third but mostly Georgia because she's epic and we have to specially mention Nat's dish as it was that amazing it just couldn't be scored :P) and it was also discovered that some of us shouldn't even legally be allowed near a cooker (Kerry as she managed to cook her chicken but keep it raw). We had a campfire at the edge of the field full of singing fun (Kerry's amazing guitar skills) and also a Smartie eating contest... with chopsticks (Kerry's amazing Smartie skills also won with 33 in 30 seconds) ((well she did have to win something that weekend)) Sunday morning the rain had passed and we all finally managed to go home to our warm beds with our comforting plastic gold medals and the happy thought that it might not rain as much next year....as we'd do it all again!

Kerry, Nathanael & Georgia

List below is subject to changes, please check website www.eastkentda.co.uk first!

	<u>Site</u>	<u>Map ref</u>	<u>Postcode</u>	<u>Youth Area?</u>	<u>Stewards</u>	<u>Meet Fee</u>	
September							
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		CT15 5AF		Mick & Kath	£7 per unit/night
November							
4 th - 6 th	BONFIRE	Painters Farm, Painters Forstal	178/990591	ME13 0EG		Rex & Pat	£16 for weekend