



News and Views

of

East Sussex DA

Obituary

It is with great sadness that I start this newsletter by advising of the passing of Barry Rook on the 14th of October 2017. Over very many years Barry was heavily involved with the running of the club including being a current Vice President and club Archivist and a previous club Chairman. He will be sadly missed by all who knew him and our thoughts are with Pauline and his family at this difficult time.

We are also sad to note the passing of Margaret Hawkins who many in the DA will remember. We send Kevin and other family members our deepest sympathy at the recent passing of his mother and earlier this year his father (John).

Other Sad News

You may already be aware that Sussex Caravans East suffered from a huge fire on Monday 09 October 2017 destroying 20 units albeit the fire service managed to save 40 units.

This is a family run business and some of our members have purchased their unit from them in recent years. It was particularly devastating for them as they had a special weekend planned for the following weekend to exhibit the 2018 models most of which were destroyed in the fire.

This dealership had also agreed to allow the South-Eastern Region to market ourselves over the weekend which would have been a first time at this location. Not only that but they went the extra mile and more to ensure that we would have a good location and would be very well looked after.

Whilst delighted that they have managed to keep trading our deepest empathy goes out to the family and all who work at the site and we wish them a speedy recovery to normal business for the time of year and hope that they can run the special weekend event at some date in the future once they have been able to procure replacement units.

Chairmans Chatter

As our camping season comes towards the end I am sitting here thinking "where did the year go" however I am then also reflecting on some wonderful memories from the meets that we managed to attend.

I have again been delighted to welcome members from other DA's to our meets and it is particularly pleasing to receive many compliments from them regarding the friendliness and warmth of our members and their gratitude for how well they have had been welcomed and looked after. A great credit to all our members.

It was a very special year for the region as the host of the NFOL and I am both delighted and proud that ESDA were extremely well represented in the working party which made it such a success, the warmth and camaraderie within the working party was a joy to be a part of. The entertainment MC was outstanding but then it was our own Laurie Bishop, who else could have performed the role with such confidence and alacrity. Even the gods were on our side, given the generally poor summer weather and the bad weather leading up to the event, we had wall to wall sunshine and boy was it hot in the marquees. Well done all of you and also many thanks to those who just came along and enjoyed the event.

Of very special note was that Jeannie May celebrated her 70th birthday whilst working on site to get everything ready however good friends came to the rescue as usual and a slightly impromptu party was held at Sue & Laurie's unit to celebrate her birthday. This also had a very comical moment when Roger disappeared into a camping chair and needed assistance to be released.

Our own Feast of Lanterns was particularly well supported albeit by other DA members greatly out numbering our own. Plans for the evening had to be very quickly changed and we took an opportunity to borrow a Region Marquee to accommodate all the campers. Good job we did as the Saturday night was extremely wet and there were areas inside that had little indoor water features. This was yet another fabulous weekend and our thanks go to Jeannie & Mick assisted by Roger and Jane for organising the Friday Night Social and Saturday night Cheese and wine plus Sundays (bring your own) coffee morning.

A huge thank you goes to Roger for procuring sites for us to enjoy our weekends and particularly to our stewards without whom there would not be a meet. A special thank you to our THS Stewards who give of their time to run the THS's and in so doing provide some funding to cover the excess costs involved in our special meets.

Next year due to increases by the landowners we have no choice but to increase many of our meet prices however they are still good value.

I regret that due to other commitments we are unable to join you for the final meet of the year at Willingdon School (Full details later on P11) so I will take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a Happy, Healthy and successful 2018 with many more camping memories and new camping friends gained.

Finally, a huge congratulation to **Colin and Brenda Tarrant** on the celebration of their Golden Wedding on the 30th of September. How did their daughter Wendy manage to organise not one but two parties and keep them totally secret and their original bridesmaids turned up wearing replicated dresses from their wedding day, how fabulous! Well done Wendy and Love and Best wishes to both Brenda and Colin.

Camping Reports

Despite many promises there is again a shortage of reports for this newsletter however detailed below are those few which have been received.

NFOL 2017

So much time in the preparation and it is all over in a flash. After such a poor summer and given the poor weather leading up to the event we were blessed with superb (HOT) weather for the event (One camper even asked me to turn the heat down).

A reduced working party of just 80 people worked tirelessly throughout the event to make it a very special event which was reflected in the positive comments made by regular attendees and in particular senior members of the National Council.

Many regular workers at Nationals around the country commented about how warm and friendly the event had been.

The number of units on site was extremely disappointing and of course there were the usual little hiccups at the start which were resolved with great alacrity.

The children's entertainment was extremely popular and the evening entertainment was very well received. It was of note that the home-grown entertainers (as previously requested by members) of Abacus, Folk Dance and Song Group and the Club band were all very popular and most enjoyable.

Ali Ray demonstrating eat local always had a good sized and interested audience.

The Mardi Gras was as always very eclectic with some superb outside the box thinking like Chasing time and Snail racing to name just a couple.

A highlight of the event was the lighting up on Saturday evening and what superb displays there were, additionally Solent DA collected money for the two charities totalling £54.00. How wonderful that a brand-new member who knew nothing about lighting up their unit until they arrived on site managed to win the individual competition.

Both Charities have benefitted to the tune of circa £700.00 each plus what they made at their stalls as well as making new connections with camping businesses.

A late replacement Ice Cream seller sold out of all stock very quickly each day. All Food outlets were reasonably priced and very popular, plus the Farmyard Kitchen and Garlic Wood Farm procured and sold essential items when the pop up shop failed to arrive.

We had promised that it would be the best National in 2017 and it certainly was.

Thanks go to all who were involved in the organisation, working party and the attendees for making it such a wonderful event. A special mention should also be made of the NFOL Chairman Allen Russell for controlling things so well and his wife Ros who catered for the committee meetings and worked tirelessly in the background as well as supporting Allen and keeping him sane when things were not going too well.

TOMBOLA NFOL

Thanks must go to everybody for all the donations i received many which were passed on to the raffle (too good for tombola). One prize in particular given by Chichester Caravans was a lotus grill/BBQ valued at £140 and was raffled separately and raised £167 for the charities. A big thank you to Carol Harris for selling the tickets over the weekend.

Thanks to my small team Darrell, Maureen, Rosemary and Ann they all worked every day some all day. Must not forget Jane for helping one morning putting all the prizes out.

It would have been nice to have some more volunteers so that we could have enjoyed the NFOL.

Chris Armstrong

NFOL Acrostic

Hot hot hot

In the tea tent. "do you have camomile tea"

Children's entertainment - brilliant

Country **K**itchen - very tasty breakfast

Sunday Evening - Last Night of the Proms - fantastic

The Stadium Bar on Friday - a rocking evening

Excellent MC

Abbas Tribute Band - great

Did I mention the excellent MC

Val & Terry Nunn

Laughing Fish Isfield 07-09 July 2017

What a smashing weekend. On Friday evening everyone went to the pub to watch the Morris Men, some energetic campers even joined in.

It was so hot on Saturday afternoon that the planned Horseshoe competition took place during the evening. The last games were played by moonlight after which we had an impromptu "concert" by Ken with his guitar, from West Sussex. A lovely evening.

Thanks to Sue and Pete who stewarded for the first time - hopefully it won't be the last.

Val & Terry Nunn

Roy Hill Wood, Blackboys 20-24 July 2017

It was great to catch up with everyone. We also had some campers from the Caravan Club - let's hope we didn't frighten them away and they come again.

A boules match was planned for Saturday afternoon but the weather was terrible. Some hardy souls got soaked walking back from the pub, but others came back by car.

The sun shone for the coffee morning on Sunday after which some people left but some were able to stay until the Monday.

Thanks to Sue and Laurie for a lovely weekend.

Val & Terry Nunn

Looking forward to 2018:

South Eastern Regions Dinner Dance Saturday 20th January 2018

All are invited.

The nights are closing in, camping is nearly over for some of us, we are now looking forward to Christmas which is only two months away and maybe you are even planning your next year's ventures out in the field.

Why not blow the winter cobwebs away and join us at the Region's Annual Dinner Dance to celebrate the start the Region's 70th Anniversary, over the weekend of the 19th-21st January 2018 being held at the Cumberland Hotel Eastbourne.

We are offering a flexible weekend package consisting of: -

- Full weekend break for £105.00 per person, which includes, 3 course dinner Friday evening, bed and full English breakfast Saturday morning.
- 5 course Gala Dinner Saturday evening followed by dancing to 'Heartbeat' plus bed and full English breakfast on Sunday.
- Saturday night only for £65.00 per person, which includes, 5 course Gala Dinner Saturday evening followed by dancing to 'Heartbeat' plus bed and full English breakfast.

Or

- Just come for Saturday evening's 5 course Gala Dinner followed by dancing to 'Heartbeat' at £38.00 per person. Carried at 12.15am.

This year we are offering optional extras.

- for £37.00 per person you can partake in the hotels Sunday carvery lunch then extend your stay Sunday night with full English breakfast Monday morning.

Or

- for £13.50 per person, you can partake in the Sunday lunch carvery before commencing your journey home. Come join us, looking forward to meeting you there.

Booking forms have been sent to all DA's and Sections or can be downloaded from the South-Eastern Region Website.

SER 70th Anniversary Meet,
West Cross Park, Hole Park, Rolvenden, Kent TN17 4PG
17th to 21st May 2018

This is the 70th SER Anniversary meet and as such we are setting out to make it a very special one. The SER Council has approved sponsorship to the tune of £1k to facilitate enhancement of the programme.

As the event is linked to a THS which follows on, the same camping fee of £10.00 pun (plus the relevant charge for any additional persons over 12 years [excluding CCY under 18 years]) must be charged for both events. Taking due cognisance of this and with the intention of giving our members a better deal the subcommittee has agreed to offer a discount of 25% pun only for pre- booking (including payment) for the nights of: Thursday 17th, Friday 18th, Saturday 19th & Sunday the 19th. Vis; if you pre-book and pay, the main event nights stated above will be at the rate of £7.50 pun only. Pre- booking must be received by the booking officer not later than 9th May 2018.

As a guide and still subject to change the outline programme will be:

ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE			
	MORNING	AFTERNOON	EVENING
Thurs	Pennon Competition open		Quiz with David Croney
Fri	Sports	Sports 3pm tea and scones	Gnome Racing
Sat	12 noon Close Pennon Comp Sports Eat Local – Cadac Cooking Competition	12.30pm buffet lunch Incidental music all afternoon 2.30pm Craft, Children's Sand Pictures and Sports	7pm Fancy Dress 8pm Evening Band Vote Pennon Comp
Sun	10am Church Service 11am SER AGM	1pm Table Top Sale Completion of Sports 3pm Prize Giving, Closing Ceremony and Raffle	6 pm Bring your own BBQ and food outside marquee
Mon	SER Anniversary Weekend closed – follow on THS at same venue		

Items we need to make this all work:

At this year's Anniversary Meet the Region would like to bring back the Craft show, with your help!

I am hoping to vary the exhibits by including contributions from all camping members; male, female and children, producing the widest possible variety of hobbies to view.

I am inviting all crafty people to show and tell their particular talents to encourage members who may be considering taking up a new hobby or just happy to view the work of others.

Craft groups could include Woodwork, Metal work, Fishing, Painting, Oil or Water, Pencil Drawing, Calligraphy Ink work, Computing, Sugar Craft, Bead work, Card making Knitting and wool work, needlework including embroidery, dressmaking, patchwork, quilting, tapestry, cross stitch, glass painting, jewellery making, Map reading/Orienteering; the list is endless.

There are many talented people out there, some may lack the confidence to demonstrate their skills but would be happy to have a natter about their hobbies with like-minded friends.

Please can you help?

I would appreciate a call or e-mail to let me know how many and what hobbies I could expect, so that I will know how to set out the marquees for the craft show.

Thanking you in anticipation.

Kind regards



01306 611359

jencronney@btinternet.com.

We also need to borrow a strong waterproof 4-sided gazebo to house the raffle and an event shelter to provide shelter for dogs and their owners should the weather be particularly kind. Please contact Harry Leach on the email address below if you can help with either of these items.

Book the dates in your diary now and don't miss out on what is going to be a special weekend in our 2018 calendar.

A Brief Synopsis from the SER Council Meetings **03 July 2017**

The SER Council meeting of 03 July 2017 was largely taken up with the NFOL 2017 however detailed below are the other salient points: -

- a. It was announced that Bernard Davey had sadly passed away following an accident on holiday on the same day as he was elected as a Regional Councilor, the SER would be represented at his funeral.
- b. A suitable location for the 2018 Seminar is still required
- c. A new location for the storage of the two trailers is required following the loss of the Great Wigswell Barn storage
- d. The following councilors are due for re-election in 2018 (should they agree to stand): -
 - i. Alan Armstrong
 - ii. Jill George
 - iii. Sue Moore
 - iv. Michael Froude
 - v. Harry Leach
 - vi. Additionally, there are vacancies of 2 for 2 years and 2 for 1 year

02 October 2017

Below are the salient points from the SER Council meeting of 02 October 2017:

- a) SER Seminar now deferred to 2019 – location with halls and camping still required
- b) Rex Knight is standing down from SER as Boating rep following hip operation and he will be moving to Devon
- c) Three complaints had been received at Exempted camping regarding the lack of dry waste disposal at SER members THS's
- d) Request that Section/DA minutes were identifiable in their emailed title

- e) Exempted council looking at the definition of pup tents following complaints that families are using substantial tents for youth and only expect to pay a single unit price. The committee agreed that this was necessary as it had been noted that families with teenage children sometimes had multiple units and that the teenager's tents were quite large.
- f) Reminded of need to get sites lists and adverts to Trevor Wilson PDQ SER THS and Anniversary meet booked at Hole park 17th May to 05 June, Anniversary meet 17 to 21 May, AGM Sunday 20 May 2018. These dates will be replicated at the same location in 2019
- g) 4 youth members camped in the Youth area at the NFOL. • 2x South Down • 1x East Kent: Joined at the weekend • 1x East Sussex: Joined at the weekend
- h) Bookings for Dinner Dance going well, if you have not booked please do so ASAP
- i) Agreed to purchase bags to protect the marquees and for some repairs to the trailer
- j) David Croney was elected as treasurer for another year and Alan & Coren Moore were elected as RYLO for another year.
- k) Anniversary meet draft budget approved with a £1000.00 donation from the SER.

Salient points from the ESDA Committee Meeting 04 October 2017

Site Secretary

Activity since the last meeting:

The Laughing Fish Isfield, (2nts.) 18 units/ 34 nts. A site we have not visited for a while, a lot of work has been put into this field by the village, making it one of the best in the area. The weather was particularly kind to us and we had the bonus of The Long Man Morris Dancers at the Inn on the Saturday as entertainment.

Wylands Lakes course fishing competition w/e, the attendance to this event has been dwindling over the past few years and the decision has been taken to withdraw this from our calendar.

Roy Hill Wood, (4nts.) 13units/ 37nts. a good w/e with reasonable weather, this is still one of the nicest sites we use for both the walks, the views & the peace & quiet.

Wylands Lakes THS. (31nts.) 62 units/ 394 nts. down on last year (82/517) which is disappointing considering the extra advertising we had with Harry promoting the venue for NFOL visitors.

Sharnfold Farm THS. (13nts.) 49 units/ 217 nts. (54/183) 3 nights longer this year, still manages to attract return visitors on a regular basis not only for the Air show but also for its easy access to Eastbourne. But it is slow in attracting the numbers I was hoping for.

White House Farm, (3nts.) 9 units/ 20nts. Low for numbers, possibly due to the NFOL the previous week. The Carnival in Uckfield was very good again this year and I would have hoped to have seen more of our D.A camping. We did however have 3 units with us who normally `rally` with the Caravan and Motorhome Club who had attended the NFOL & seemed more than happy with the way we do things, in fact 1 of them returned to our FOL at Partridge Green.

Sussex Farm FOL, (4nts.) 21 units/ 62 nts. One of our best attendances of the camping year, unfortunately East Sussex was outnumbered by units from other D.As but with the help of the Region`s small marquee for a get together, Jeannie and Mick's Cheese and Wine contribution meant that we had a very pleasant evening. The FOL trophy won by Gwen and Paul.

The sites list for next year was discussed together with the increase in fees due to increases by the landowners.

Additional charges for specific meets (Vis food at the birthday meet) was discussed and it was agreed that a per head charge for the night would be made and ticketed any member who did not wish to partake could avoid the charge but would not be allowed to attend food/external entertainment if they did not have a ticket. This will ensure parity whereby single occupancy units are not charged the same as multiple occupancy units or those camping for more nights paying more than those with less nights.

It was agreed that the additional fee would be included in the Out & About portion of the club magazine.

It was noted that an ESDA registered family had turned up at a meet with their adult daughter who was not a member and had expected to be able to camp in the same unit. Words of advice were provided.

Green paper 3.18 v10, refers (extract below)

1. Stewards of THSs should be provided with a supply of Membership application forms and a Members Guest Book prior to the event start date. Both should be obtained from the organising Club Unit Secretary.
2. Members may accommodate guests (non-members) in their unit/pitch on payment of £3.50 (inc. VAT) per adult for the duration of their stay. The use of a small dome/ridge tent would be acceptable providing the use is for sleeping purposes only. This fee is not required for Children under the age of 18. A Member's Guest Book ticket should be issued for the duration of the stay at the event and is not transferable to another Temporary Holiday Site
3. A non-member cannot stay at a THS with their own unit. To do so, they must enrol as a full member, and may join the Club at the THS, on completion of a Membership application form and payment of the relevant subscription, prior to pitching.

4. Overseas holders of a Camping Card International may camp at THSs, without the requirement of attending with a full Club member. This does not apply to UK based holders of a Camping Card International, who are still required to become a full Club member to attend THSs in their own unit.

Important Points for Meet Stewards

5. Attendance at Five Day Meets is available to all Club members, regardless of the organising Club unit. Camping fees at Meets should be the same for all Club members, and differential pricing for non-members of an organising Region, District Association or Section is not permitted.
6. Guest and non-members are not permitted to camp overnight at Meets organised under the Club's exemptions to the 1960 Act. Day visitors however, are acceptable unless otherwise stated by the organising unit.

New Constitution

Concern was raised regarding the change from election of the President by the outgoing chairman to the President being elected at the AGM however it was agreed that the outgoing chairman could still nominate the President for election at the AGM.

On this basis the new constitution was agreed as written and is to be voted on at the AGM before submission to HQ

Election of Treasurer for 2018

Jane Tanner agreed to stand and there was unanimous approval

Christmas Party 2017

This will be held from 01 to 03 December 2017 at Willingdon School Eastbourne

Steve's Tropical Disco has again been procured for your entertainment/dancing etc.

Hi Folks

We have decided to go for a fish and chip supper at the Christmas Party/Social this year which will be served at approximately 6.15pm ready to proceed into the evening at Willingdon School.

Please remember to bring plates and cutlery with you together with any sweet/pudding that you wish to have to finish your meal.

You can order any of the following.

Regular Cod and chips £ 5.20
Regular Haddock and chips £ 5.40
Regular Huss and chips £ 5.20
Steak and Kidney Pie and chips £ 3.60
2 Regular Sausages and chips £ 3.40

**Orders in advance please. Contact Mick May By
Email mick_may@ymail.com , Text 07486916204 or if you must by phone
before 8.30pm 07486916204.**

**The DA will be supplying a quantity of drinks to start the evening off so again
remember to bring your glasses.**

Any donations for the raffle will be gratefully received THANK YOU

Happy Birthday

We are pleased to send the following members our very best birthday wishes: -

On the 10th of October Gwen Harber

On the 20th of October **Brenda Tarrant a very special 70th birthday**

On the 31st of October Yvonne Leach

On the 7th of November Harry Leach

On the 10th of November Colin Pannell

On the 26th of November Pearl Goodwin

On the 27th of November Pat Baldwin

On the 12th of January Phil Grant

On the 14th of January Beryl Hovell

On the 7th of February Sue Bishop

On the 23rd of February Debbie Evans

Exchange & Mart

For Sale

No items have been submitted for inclusion in this newsletter

Just for Fun

Due to the length of this newsletter this item has been excluded on this occasion

ESDA Committee for the 2017-18 Season

President	Arthur Hovell		
Chairman	Harry Leach	01342 712835 07710 196831	leachh@btinternet.com
Vice Chairman	Mick May	01323 489486	mick_may@ymail.com
Secretary	Yvonne Leach	01342 712835 07905 167993	leachyvonne@btinternet.com
Treasurer	Jane Tanner	01273 555910 07880 743310	jane.tanner@ntlworld.com
PRO	Harry Leach	01342 712835 07710 196831	leachh@btinternet.com
Site Secretary (non- committee)	Roger Wynn	01273 514998	rfwynn@talktalk.net
SER Rep	Yvonne Leach	01342 712835 07905 167993	leachyvonne@btinternet.com
Webmaster	Mick May	01323 489486	mick_may@ymail.com
Countryside Care	Vacant		
Youth Leaders	Vacant		
Newsletter	Harry Leach	01342 712835 07710 196831	leachh@btinternet.com
Ordinary Member	Joan Pannell	01424 431016	joan.pannell@btinternet.com
Ordinary Member	Colin Pannell	01424 431016	colin.pannell@btinternet.com
Ordinary Member	Jeannie May	01323 489486	jeaniemay73@gmail.com
Ordinary Member & Equipment support	David Abbey	01323 761661	dvabbey@btinternet.com
Equipment (non committee)	Geoff Baldwin		hydeaway6@fsmail.net
Auditor	Ian Kirbell		kirbell_ian@tinyworld.co.uk
Auditor	Wendy Dickson		wdickson@virginmedia.com

The next newsletter is not due out until late January 2018 thus the editor wishes all members a very happy, healthy and successful 2018 with great camping opportunities, new friends and happy memories.