



News and Views

of

East Sussex DA

Chairman's Chatter

As I write this the sun is shining, the sky is blue, and I am looking forward to our first outing in the caravan with our DA friends. Regrettably we will be unable to attend many meets this year as Roger has managed to book weekends when we are busy with other things, (a wedding, 40th anniversary, marketing, friends get together and we are off to Germany for the FICC this year staying away for over three weeks and returning just in time to attend the NFOL in Cheshire).

I was absolutely delighted to see so many of our members attend the AGM last Saturday, details of which are laid out later in this newsletter. However, it was a little disappointing that we did not gain any new committee members thus we are now down to minimum numbers and as two members spend a lot of time in Europe realistically it leaves just four to do the organisational work and the opportunity for new ideas to be raised and discussed in committee has again been missed.

Next year it will be crucial to gain an absolute minimum of two new committee members as both Yvonne & I are standing down; this decision having been deferred for a year to ensure that the DA is not put at risk of closure.

We are also looking to our younger members to consider being trained up and certified as youth leaders, we have 1 youth member and some young ones who are growing up fast and hopefully will want to join the youth and gain the benefits thereof.

I am looking forward to seeing you all again in a field somewhere and I am hoping that our DA will be very well represented at the South Eastern Region 70th Anniversary Meet at Hole Park. Full details are laid out below to whet your appetites and booking forms are in your Region sites book which were handed out at the AGM as well as on our website.

NFOL 2018

Bookings for National Feast of Lanterns Arley Hall 2018

With all the bad weather and cancelled meets, did you miss the block booking cut-off date for this year's National Feast of Lanterns?

Don't worry, there is still plenty of time to get a booking in to HQ. The North West Region have been working very hard to produce a spectacular event in a beautiful location

Below is just some of the fabulous entertainment which they have organised: -

For the Kids	Day Time Adults/Family	Evenings in main Marquee
Archery	Dog show	Houghton Weavers
Cave Bus	Mardi Gras	Outer Limits
Sand Pits	Trade Stalls	Out of the Blue
Tea Cups	Cadac Cooking Competition	Club Band – including: last
Giant Slide	Cooking Displays	Night of the Proms
Bouncy Castle	Food Court with Real Ale	

Not to be missed are the Real Ale Bar (quality beer which is cheaper than the south), Quiet Bar, The Fantastic Lighting Up of Units, Lantern Parade and the general camaraderie of these events.

For more information regarding the location, places to visit THS's to stay at before or after the event and further detail regarding the event itself visit: - <http://nfol.co.uk/>

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

Time is running out – get your booking in now to save £2.50 pun for every night that you can join us be that one night only or all four nights or any other combination thereof.

This is the 70th SER Anniversary meet, and we are making it a very special one. The subcommittee have been working hard to ensure it meets or exceeds expectations however it can only succeed if members attend and join in with the fun and games. We hope to get some inter DA competitions going again this year as well as older children's games, however these all depend on who and how many book/turn up.

The programme as always is subject to change due to weather or other reasons however it is set out below for your information, I am sure that you will agree **it is a great deal for only £7.50 PUN - Pre-booked and paid by 09 May 2018** (plus additional adult charges): -

Thursday

0900-1900 Admin open
1000-1700 Welcome tea and biscuits
1930-2300 Marquee open
2000-2230 Quiz (interval circa 2100-2130)
2300 All quiet

Friday

0900-1900 Admin Open
1000-1700 Welcome tea and biscuits
1100-1700 Games competitions
1500-1630 Scones & Jam available
1930-2300 Marquee open
2000-2100 Gnome racing
(NB 50/50 tote – income goes to chairman’s charity)
2100-2115 Official Opening
2130-2230 Gnome racing (continues)
2300 All quiet

Saturday

Time TBA Royal wedding will be screened
0900-1900 Admin Open (Closed for lunch)
0930-1230 Games competitions including older children’s games
1100-1200 Children’s Entertainer
1230 Pennon competition entrants closes
1230 Celebration Buffet lunch
1400- **All** games competitions continue
1400-1500 Joint table top and Artisan Sale
(NB Donations to chairman’s charity)
1400-1500 Children’s Sand Pictures
1400-1600 Arts & Crafts exhibition/demonstration
1400-1700 Home grown Live Music entertainment
1530 Mardi Gras
1700 Cadac Cook Off competition
1930-2300 Marquee open
2000-2230 Entertainment by Glitter Boots
2300 All quiet

Sunday

0900-1100 Admin Open
1000-1045 Church service
1045-1230 AGM – meeting commences 1100 (please remember your membership card)
1330 Final of games followed by: -
Prize giving, closing event, and raffle
1730 Communal BBQ (weather permitting)
1730 Marquee open for socialising
background music

Monday

Assistance with taking down the marquees, packing away and general site clearance would be appreciated

You are welcome to stay at this lovely site with lots of interesting places to visit nearby until 05 June for the ongoing Temporary Holliday Site

All the Club rules apply

Please note that dogs are not allowed in the Marquees at this event however an event shelter has been provided for them

Arts & Crafts

Demonstrations or Show and tell

We are 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. **The more people we have showing or demonstrating the better the event.**

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 contact Jenny Croney ASAP tel 01306 611359 or email jencrony@btinternet.com to let her know how many and what hobbies she could expect, so that she will know how to set out the marquees for the craft show.

Mayday

Revised Location

Sharnfold Farm, Stone Cross BN24 5BU

04 May to 07 May 2018

Again, this promises to be a very enjoyable weekend for only £9.00 PUN at this very popular location

Friday	Marquee up and social
Saturday	Race night
Sunday	music quiz Provided by Kevin Hawkins
Monday	coffee morning and Marquee down

There will be a raffle and all donations will be very gratefully received.

A Brief Synopsis from the SER Council Meeting 09 April 2018

Appointed National Councillor – Allen Russell

Structure of Council In answer to a question, the Director General advised the Council that he had met with the Club's Lawyers and outlined the situation in respect of the Executive Committee positions and the fact that they can be removed from their Executive positions by vote of the members and that Council wished to secure these positions. Work on this was being carried out and proposals would shortly be made to the Council.

Chairman reported that since the last meeting P Henson had not been re-elected to National Council and therefore would not be appointed as Director of the Camping Club of Great Britain and Ireland Ltd. He proposed that R Talbot as the new Club Vice Chairman should be appointed to the Directorship and the Committee approved the recommendation.

The Council noted the proposal that subscription rates for 2018/2019 should be:

Joining Fee £10.00

Paper member £45.00

Digital member £39.00

Veteran member £22.50

Youth (12-17 inc) Free

Youth (18-20inc) Free if Youth Test passed by 18th birthday

Senior Youth (21-29 inc) £22. if Youth Test passed by 18th birthday

Associate £21.00

PRO – Harry Leach

I am sure that you will be happy to know that we will again be marketing this year. Currently we have the following booked:

Camping World Horsham

Saturday 17 and Sunday 18 March 2018 - Yvonne & Harry Leach

Saturday 28 and Sunday 29 April 2018 - Jenny & David Croney plus Sue & George Moore

Saturday 09 and Sunday 10 June 2018 – Currently Yvonne & Harry Leach – **Urgent help** needed as it Clashes with a major marketing event at Detling

Saturday 14 and Sunday 15 July 2018 - Yvonne & Harry Leach

Saturday 11 and Sunday 12 August 2018 - Ros & Allen Russell

Sussex Caravans East

Saturday 24 & Sunday 25 March 2018 - Pauline & Trevor Wilson. There will be another opportunity later in the year

Caravan Tech Robertsbridge

Saturday 14 and Sunday 15 April 2018 - Pauline & Trevor Wilson. There will be another opportunity later in the year

Johns Cross Motorcaravans & Camping Centre, and Sussex Caravans West TBA I understand that Chris and Alan Armstrong will be attending their open day however I do not have the details at this time.

Countryside Care – Sue Moore

To date, I have not received any information from EKDA or ESDA. I attended the Graffham Club site pre-opening meet which was very poorly attended with only two units camping and five members visiting; we did what we could in the very short time available. Unfortunately, some pitches were not cleared of winter debris. East Sussex DA advised that they were unable to field a team at Crowborough this year due to members not being sufficiently fit for the work required. East Kent advised that they had completed a successful weekend at Canterbury.

Webmaster - David Croney

The three DA websites in the SE Region have all been re-registered for 2018 per Green Paper 5.2 v11 The Regions website is up-to-date and includes a front-page feature of the SER meet and prominent display of the discount for pre-booking, plus a downloadable booking form link.

Treasurer's Report – David Croney

The treasurer gave a detailed report on the preceding financial year and the first quarter of the current financial year. It is worthy of note that the finances are in good order.

SER Anniversary and Revised Budget 2018 – Harry Leach

Fully covered earlier in the newsletter

Matters of Concern to DAs and Sections

East Kent DA advised that for some reason, Quex Park were not accepting bookings for 2019 at present although they had in previous years.

A Brief Synopsis from the ESDA AGM **21 April 2018**

Chairman's Report – Harry Leach

2017 was dominated by the NFOL being held by our region. I am extremely proud of our DA in the way in which they supported this event, indeed I believe we provided more bodies to the working party than any other DA or Section within the region. Jeannie May celebrated her 70th birthday at the meet and an impromptu party was organised by Sue & Laurie Bishop with assistance from others. Laurie did a fabulous job as Compare the best I have personally seen in many years, and the whole event was fantastic. I would like to personally thank the East Sussex District Association members who participated in the event.

Your committee again did a sterling job in particular Jane in controlling our finances and Roger Wynn (non-committee) in procuring excellent sites for us to meet. Sadly, both Michael May and David Abbey have decided to stand down at this AGM on health grounds. I am very grateful to both Michael and David for all their hard work over the years and the help and support that they have given to me personally over my three years as chairman.

Also, after some 10+ years Geoff Baldwin has decided to rescind his non-committee position of equipment officer. As you all know Geoff (with the support of Pat) has done an extraordinary amount of work for the East Sussex District Association and we are eternally grateful to them both and look forward to continuing to see them at our meets.

I am delighted to record that recently Mr & Mrs R Matthews and Mr D Knight who are registered East Sussex District Association members were presented with 50 years' membership awards.

I would like to close by thanking all the members of the committee and site stewards for their sterling work last year which is very much appreciated.

Honorary Secretary's Report - Yvonne Leach

I am delighted to confirm that we have had two families who have requested a change from their allocated DA to ours. We were notified by HQ of two families who had shown an interest in joining our DA, welcome letters plus other issues were sent to them.

Honorary Treasurer's Report for year ending 31st December 2017 – Jane Tanner

Good Afternoon Everybody

What a difference a year can make. Last year I started my report saying how good Easter had been. This March as you are all aware Cathy had to cancel as the field was too wet.

2017 was a good year over all. There was an increase in the number of units out and nights camped. This was helped by the weather and the bigger meets going ahead unlike 2016. There was actually a decline in the numbers for our quiet weekends and the THS at Wylands, which makes a significant contribution to our running costs. Specifically, hall or barn hire, food and entertainment at our Birthday and Christmas meets. Thanks go to Colin and Joan, with their helpers who so faithfully steward Wylands, Dave and Lynn with Mick and Jeannie who steward Sharnfold. Thanks also to all the people who stewarded weekend meets. Without you there wouldn't be any camping.

Looking at the Income and Expenditure Account you can see that we have a deficit. The raffle income is up because our Easter and Birthday meets took place. The income from the Birthday meet raffle was donated to the charity Children with Cancer based in Polegate. You can see that as a donation in the expenses.

The camping expenses are up as we bought new pennons and new bungees and bits for the marquees.

After the Sharnfold THS in May we suddenly found we couldn't return the trailer to its place of storage. Dennis kindly let us keep it at Sharnfold till the Birthday meet by which time we had found another venue. However, the expenses are up as we lost 7 month's rent.

The Balance Sheet shows that we still have more than adequate funds in the bank accounts. The Debtors and Prepayments consist of money paid to Seaford Head for Christmas meets booked for the next three years and the Sea fishing meet, plus trailer rent paid in advance, also some raffle prizes bought for 2018. The creditor is for site fees that weren't paid until January this year.

Before I receive any questions, there may be, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Ian Kirbell and Wendy Dickson for auditing these accounts.

Auditors' report – Ian Kirbell

This year it falls to me to speak on behalf of the Auditors' and all I can say is what a treasure we have for our Treasurer.

As usual for the audit this year Jane emailed to Wendy and I the club accounts for us to study and pore over at our leisure before meeting with Jane to check all paperwork and to sign off the accounts.

This year both Wendy and I had even fewer queries to raise on the accounts – in fact there were only 2 queries which were quickly cleared up when we were able to examine the receipts and VAT invoices (or lack of a correct VAT invoice in this case which could have saved the DA a few more pennies). Therefore, after a pleasant evening chatting to Jane, Wendy and I, as the auditors, had no hesitation in signing off the accounts as being correct and recommending them to the members for your approval and those are the accounts that you see before you now.

Once again Wendy and I would like to thank Jane for her hospitality for the audit and to congratulate her on another year well done and we hope that she will continue for as long as possible as it will be difficult to find another more qualified replacement.

Ian Kirbell and Wendy Dickson

Public Relations Officer's Report – Harry Leach

The Region PRO has continued with the marketing and he is extremely grateful to the few who have supported this initiative again. Interestingly whilst I was manning the General Enquiries Desk at the NFOL 2017, I again met with some new to the club families as well as some seasoned ones attending the NFOL for the first time but had never attended a DA/Section meet thus I took the opportunity to promote the benefits of DA/Section camping, this was also continued whilst taking refreshments outside the Farmyard Kitchen and just talking to others who were also taking their refreshments.

Please consider supporting your Region PRO initiative, remember you are the best advert and marketing that the club and our DA has.

Region Representative's Report – Yvonne Leach

The key items to report from last year are the huge successes of the Region Dinner and Dance organised by Jenny & David Croney and the SER Anniversary meet organised by the Region vice chairman. Our thanks go to the organisers for all their efforts in making these a huge success again.

This year's Anniversary meet, and AGM have moved date and location, the anniversary meet will be held at West Field, Hole Park, Rolvenden, Kent and commences on the 17th of May through to the 21st with the AGM on the 20th. A THS will follow until the 5th of June.

Full details were in the last newsletter and booking forms are in your regional sites book. I am sure you will agree when you see what you are getting for your money it is incredibly good value.

I hope to see a lot of our East Sussex District Association members in attendance.

Site Secretary's Report – Roger Wynn

January 2017 for me started with the Region dinner dance at the Cumberland Hotel Eastbourne, a well-attended event good for meeting up with camping friends. This is very well organized, and thanks go to Jenny Croney, the current Region Chairperson.

Overall the 2017 Camping season showed an increase over 2016 with increased camping through our w/e meets although our THS numbers were down.

No `working party` at the Crowborough Club site in 2017 due to a lack of support, also there was very little support in 2016, thus to save any embarrassment I did not arrange a meet for 2018.

Easter week-end had 19 units attend Roy Hill Wood with use of the barn to make it cheerful. You may recall, we went through a period of cancellations of our Easter meets therefore some members make other arrangements for this holiday time, so 18 was a good number.

May Day week end 2017 at White House Farm, always a favourite venue & I would like to thank Doreen & John Hughes for stewarding the meet. As newcomers to East Sussex D.A. they jumped in at the deep end with a larger meet, 29 units and Committee run entertainment so well done to them.

Also, in May Sussex Farm, stewarded by Yvonne & Harry, another favoured site that usually attracts units from other areas so 9 units was a bit of a disappointment.

Our traditional week long THS at Sharnfold Farm, run by Mick, Jeannie, Lyn and Dave attracted a good many returning units. This is run in conjunction with the Club supported `National Camping week` and showed nearly a 15% increase. Unfortunately, as you know we have had to cancel this for 2018 thanks to Wealden District Council.

The end of June and we were back at White House Farm for the D.A Birthday meet, 23 units attending and stewarded by Terry and Sue Harvey. We put the marquees to good use with entertainment and a Disco.

Early July the Laughing Fish Isfield. The first stewarding experience for Sue & Peter who managed to coerce deputies Mick & Jeannie while a deal was done on a new tow car. It's a few years since we were at this site, a lot of work has been done by the villagers to make it a very nice field. A bonus was the Long Man Morris men to entertain us at the pub on the Saturday evening.

As I advised at the AGM 2016 the Course fishing meet at Wylands lakes has been dropped from our annual list due to lack of support.

The midyear visit to Roy Hill Wood 2017 had a lot to compete with over 2016; However, Sue and Laurie managed to create a quiet meet with a creditable 13 units.

Wylands Lakes THS through August showed a significant reduction for 2017, very disappointing for Joan & Colin who always do a sterling job for us there. It is possible that the introduction of the `Air show` meet could have had an affect; also of course the NFOL 2017 at Hickstead may have been a distraction albeit it had been well advertised by the Region PRO as a great location to visit before the NFOL.

September and we were back to White House Farm, for Uckfield Carnival week-end. Only 9 units but the weather was kind and those who ventured into the town enjoyed the atmosphere on the Saturday.

September back to Sussex Farm for the FOL, many thanks to Kevin & Angela for taking care of the paperwork & booking in 21units in total. With the aid of a few gazebos and the loan of a small region marquee we were able to have a good social evening undercover enjoying some cheese & wine provided by Mick & Jeannie.

The Sea Fishing meet saw Terry and Sue looking after Seaford Head School, this is always well supported and not just for the fishing. There is now a traditional walk from the site over the cliffs to the Cuckmere estuary and a pub lunch. I think perhaps we should rename it a `pub walk` with sea fishing as an optional extra. Space is at a premium at this venue, so things do get a bit cosy.

Our Christmas party and Disco was held at Willingdon School, only 8 units camping was disappointing for Terry and Val, but it was well supported with evening visitors. A fish n chip supper organised by Mick May and the usual evening disco all went very well. A local Christmas fair held in the school hall on the Saturday morning, provided us with something a little different and added a bit more to the week-end.

It is my intention to continue with the meets on alternate weeks to give our members a chance to do other things. I'd like to thank the Committee and the various Stewards for their support throughout the year.

The idea of having secondary `Booking Stewards` for the Committee run meets seems to have worked well. I would ask for member support as stewards for meets, it's not difficult. If we do not get stewards then the meets will be cancelled at short notice, so please think about it, your Committee do other jobs for the Club and are busy people. All we ask is for someone to collect the fees and take care of the paperwork when on site; after all it is your D.A. and we would all like it to continue.

Equipment Officer's report – Geoffrey Baldwin

The trailer is now at Jane's house as we have been unable to find anywhere else suitable or at a reasonable rent. It was blocked up over the winter period as usual to prevent damage to the tyres and wheel bearings. I have recently unblocked it so that it is now ready for use again.

I have been unable to fit the tow hitch security lock kindly donated by one of our members however I was able to adapt the existing one utilising parts from the donated one thus we now have two keys again for the hitchlock.

As the trailer is now some distance from my house and the reduced amount of time I have available during the year I have to, with some regret, tender my resignation as equipment officer, a post I have filled for more than 10 years.

Adoption of the new constitution

The new constitution was agreed by a unanimous vote.

Notice of appointment of Honorary Treasurer

The chairman advised that he was ecstatic that Jane Tanner kindly agreed to continue in this role and the committee had unanimously voted her as Honorary Treasurer.

Notice of appointment of Youth Leaders

It was noted that again no youth leaders had been appointed.

The Chairman drew everybody's attention to the fact that we needed to be looking for youth leaders so that we can get them trained and certified. He stressed the fact that we have members with young children who will quickly grow up into youth and indeed we already have one youth member who was also in attendance at the meeting.

Appointment of President

It was noted that under the new constitution the President was deemed to be appointed at the AGM. It was the committee's proposal that Arthur Hovell be appointed again for his tenth year and he has agreed to stand

Election of Committee

The new constitution requires a minimum number of 6 committee members and a maximum of 10

The following Committee members were due for re-election: -

Joan Pannell
Jeannie May
Michael May
David Abbey

It was noted however that Michael May and David Abbey did not wish to stand for re-election thus only the following two were put forward for re-election

Joan Pannell
Jeannie May

Both were elected by a unanimous vote.

Requests for proposals from the floor resulted in no nominations.

Jane Tanner reinforced the need for new members and new ideas plus the fact that we only hold 4 meetings per year and the more committee members there are the less work each member needs to do.

Jane also stated that we work hard or at least the secretary, site secretary and treasurer do. When the above failed to produce new volunteers, Jane went on to ask that the members are very careful how they criticise the way we run weekends.

Election of Auditors

Upon request both Ian Kirbell and Wendy Dickson agreed to be the auditors again for the fiscal year.

They were elected by a unanimous vote

Notices of Motion – None received

- a. The chairman then presented Geoff Baldwin, Mick May and Dave Abbey with certificates of appreciation and commemorative beer mugs.

Date, Time and Venue of the next AGM

It was agreed to hold the 2019 AGM on Saturday the 13th of April 2019 at 14:00 hours ideally at St Luke's Parish Centre, Rattle Road, Stone Cross, Pevensey, BN24 5EB subject to availability. TBC.

Post AGM Open Forum

1. Harry welcomed everybody back and commenced the meeting by advising that Arthur & Beryl Hovell had recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary and that they had received a card from the Queen. This was met with a loud round of applause and some cheering.
2. Harry then advised that that the appointed officers of the committee were:

Chairman – Harry Leach
Vice Chairman – Colin Pannell
Secretary – Yvonne Leach
Region Representative – Yvonne Leach
Deputy Region Representative – Roger Wynn
Public Relations Officer – Harry Leach

Executive Committee:

Chairman – Harry Leach
Treasurer – Jane Tanner
Secretary – Yvonne Leach
Ordinary Member – Jeannie May

Other Appointments:

Site Secretary – Roger Wynn – Non-committee
Equipment – Roger Wynn – Non-committee
Countryside Care Officer – Not appointed
Youth Leaders – Not appointed
Webmaster – Mick May – Non-Committee

Harry also advised everybody that both Yvonne and he would be standing down from committee in 2019, having deferred the decision for a year to ensure that the DA was not compromised.

3. Will Dickson advised the meeting that he was again doing a sponsored walk for Sussex Heart, including some humorous recounting of his previous exploits. He requested that members considered sponsoring him and he had a sponsorship form with him which would be placed on the small table for people to complete.
4. Trevor Wilson then read out the following letter: -

Hi All

As we are not able to attend your AGM this year, we would like to take the opportunity to thank all your members who assisted in the running of the National Feast of Lanterns last year.

East Sussex had the highest number of any DA on the working party, no doubt due to a certain amount of arm twisting by your Chairman and Roger Wynne.

Whilst the event was not the financial success we had planned, we did bring it home within budget, sadly it was not supported by the members who left us with more than 300 empty pitches.

However, the weekend was viewed as a great success in terms of the organisation and the family friendly, party atmosphere created at the event.

Again, my personal thanks to East Sussex for your support and the work put in by your members.

Yours Sincerely

Allen & Ros

Allen & Ros Russell

5. Trevor then went on to speak about the SER Anniversary meet at Hole Park which would be followed by a THS until the 5th of June 2018 stressing the discount PUN for the 4 nights of the Anniversary meet and requesting attendance at the AGM.
6. Jenny Croney then spoke about the craft show at the Anniversary Meet and requested that any members with arty/crafty skills which they could show and tell to contact her ASAP so that she could coordinate the craft event.
7. Jenny also advised that the 2019 Dinner & Dance booking forms would be available at the Anniversary meet and online on the SER Website. She also advised that the event was returning to the additional availability of the traditional Sunday Evening meal in lieu of the 2018 additional cost Sunday lunch as whilst this had been popular members had found that it was too soon after a large breakfast.
8. Following earlier comments about existing members attending the NFOL who had never DA or Section camped Sue Bishop asked if it was possible to have a table at the NFOL together with personnel who could market the benefits of DA camping. Harry agreed to pass this idea along to Allen Russell who sits on the NFOL Committee, however he also said that the best advert was all of us talking to people.

John Hughes former Holiday Site Manager, stated that when they had spoken to members about DA camping they found that the common response was that the visitors required toilet blocks, showers and electricity. Trevor Wilson requested that we are not negative in our thinking, as he found when marketing for the Region PRO that there was a good response from the younger generation who are looking for good family holidays/breaks at a comparatively low cost.

Richard Hart reminded everybody that 28 years ago he had been persuaded to try a DA meet against his better judgement and now you can't get rid of him.

Harry advised that just this week East Kent had been inundated with 27 new requests to be members of their DA and that they were growing rapidly which belied the general belief that DA camping is no longer popular, what we need to do is to find the same or similar formula to follow suit.

9. Geoff Baldwin advised that he believed that the Vintage Vehicle and Steam show had been resurrected albeit not necessarily at Ardingly. Terry Harvey agreed to look into it and advise the committee accordingly.

Post meeting note - Horsham Historics club do run a show attached to the Gatwick Aircraft museum, but space is very limited, and camping is for exhibitors only. There is a much larger Steam show & rally at Wiston House nr. Steyning, but public camping is not allowed within the grounds, again exhibitors only.

Feedback from members since the last newsletter

March the 29th 1958 dawned, dry, dull and windy, nothing unusual except today was my wedding day. All went off okay, Arthur managed to find the church although he was late! Now sixty years later still together. Where did those years go?

We've had a lovely weekend of surprises and celebrations; one surprise was a special delivery from Buckingham Palace" a card from the Queen. She did forget to put the invite to Harry and Megan's wedding with it. Wont bother to buy a hat now!!

Family came from Cornwall, a niece (my bridesmaid) with her husband from Devon, our other daughter and family from Horsham. In all there was sixteen of us all enjoyed a lovely meal out. Another outing was a trip along the canal at Loxwood visited by Easter Bunny who gave out chocolate bunny eggs to children and small eggs to adults, all enjoyed.

Now its back to everyday life and looking forward to some camping weekends.

Arthur & Beryl

Easter Weekend - Faversham

As Roy Hill Wood was cancelled and the van was packed and ready to go, we decided to go over to a part of the country we hardly ever visit. It was booked in a school so was unlikely to be cancelled due to wet ground.

It was lovely, very friendly and lots of entertainment, although no Easter Eggs, but to be fair no children either. I think there were about 22 units and a few familiar faces, so it was great to have the school hall for the evenings to socialise

We had dance lessons on Friday evening, some ballroom (waltz), some line dancing and some lindy hop. All very light hearted and fun. On the Saturday it was karaoke and that was hysterical. Well done to everybody to got up and had a go, but in between 'acts' there were lots of singalongs for us all to join in. Sunday evening was just socialising

We managed to get out and about and visited places we hadn't been to, like Whitstable where we came face to face with a nephew and his girlfriend!! Small world. Faversham itself is an interesting little town with a lively street market on Saturdays, however like everywhere else for three days it rained, and it rained, and it rained. Luckily for us dogs are allowed in cafes and other places, so we did drink a lot of coffee. We went in one pub where I ordered salmon with a hint of chilli, without my glasses on I ate a huge piece of raw chilli and my mouth was numb for about an hour!!! We were lucky to have a dry day to go and visit Canterbury on Easter Sunday although all shops other than food and drink places were shut. However, we walked for miles and saw bits of Canterbury we hadn't seen before, so we had a good day. Harriet was allowed in the Cathedral grounds and cloisters. In fact, we were too tired to go over to the hall in the evening. The weather didn't tempt us to stay the extra day, so we came home on Tuesday. It was a lovely weekend, but a bit weird being without all our mates – and no Easter eggs

Jeannie, Mick and the girls

Happy Birthday

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

On the 8th of May, we wish Will Dickson a very Happy Birthday

On the 26th of May, we wish Jane Tanner & Rachael Leach Very Happy Birthday's

On the 3rd of June, we wish Jade Ann Louise a very happy birthday

On the 24th of June, we wish Sandra Haywood a very happy birthday

On the 2nd of July, we wish Paul Harber a very happy birthday

On the 17th of July, we wish Arlene Thorpe and Richard Hart very happy birthdays

On the 29th of July, we wish Arthur Hovell a very happy birthday

Just for Fun

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

Exchange & Mart

No items have been submitted for inclusion in this newsletter

A few stewards are still required as highlighted below

EAST SUSSEX D.A.SITES LIST 2018						
	DATE	SITE	TYPE	MAP REF	P/CODE	STEWARDS
MAY						
	4/5 - 7/5	SHARNFOLD FARM	Mayday w/e	199/605051	BN24 5BU	D.A. Committee
	18/5 - 21/5	Hole Park Rolvenden	SER AGM (Sun)	199/835316	TN17 4PF	S.E. Region
JUNE						
	8/6 - 10/6	Seaford Head School	week - end meet	198/488987	BN25 4LX	
	14/6 - 17/6	White House Farm	BIRTHDAY meet	198/472229	TN22 2EA	D.A. Committee
					Bkg. stwd. John &	Doreen Hughes
	29/6 - 1/7	Sussex Farm	week-end meet	1988/187192	RH13 8JR	
JULY						
	13/7 - 15/7	The Laughing Fish	week-end meet	198/451173	TN22 5XB	
	27/7 - 29/7	Roy Hill Wood	weekend meet	199/521226	TN22 5HU	
THS	27/7 - 27/8	Wylands Lakes	THS start	199/737137	TN33 0SU	Colin & Joan
				co-ordinates	N54.50.084	E000.27.168
AUGUST						
THS	15/8 - 20/8	SHARNFOLD FARM	5 day meet	199/605051	BN24 5BU	Mick, Jeannie
			Airshow 16-19 Aug.			& Roger
	23/8 - 27/8	NFOL	Arley Hall Cheshire	N.W.Region	CW9 6NA	Block booking tba.
SEPT.						
	31/8 - 2/9	White House Farm	Uckfield Carnival w/e	198/472229	TN22 2EA	stwd
	14/9 - 16/9	Sussex Farm	D.A. FOL	198/187192	RH13 8JR	stwd
	28/9 - 30/9	Seaford Head School	Sea Fishing	198/488987	BN25 4LX	Ian for Comp.
DEC.						
	30/11 - 2/12	Seaford Head School	Christmas party	198/488987	BN25 4LX	D.A. Committee
					Bkg.stwd.	

ESDA Committee for the 2017-18 Season

President	Arthur Hovell		
Chairman	Harry Leach	01342 712835 07710 196831	leachh@btinternet.com
Vice Chairman	Colin Pannell	01424 431016	colin.pannell@btinternet.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 (non- committee)	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	Jeannie May	01323 489486	jeanniemay73@gmail.com
Equipment (non committee)	Roger Wynn	01273 514998	rfwynn@talktalk.net
Auditor	Ian Kirbell		kirbell_ian@tinyworld.co.uk
Auditor	Wendy Dickson		wdickson@virginmedia.com

The next newsletter is due out late May/early June 2018 with details of the birthday meet so please get some articles in to me for inclusion.