

CHAIRMANS REPORT

Well ...where can I start - what a challenging year this has been since I became chairman. Who would have thought it would turn out the way it has.

First the elements were against us and we had endless rain causing the field at Brockham to be water logged and the rally cancelled. (I must admit I didn't miss the cow pats.)

The rain continued but Jon and Wendy still managed to have horse racing at Birdham..... with the ladies all in their best hats.

Unfortunately I was unable to attend Sheepcote but have heard there was a lot of fun..... making raindeer antlers out of balloons and various other frivolities. I know Steve and Fiona always put on a great rally.

Our New Year rally was a little quieter than usual but we all had a great time, we started off the evening with a lovely roast dinner followed by dancing the night away to Forever Young. New Years day was a leisurly walk to the pub for brunch and in the evening we had our very own Room 101 where everyone got to air their grievences.

Burns Night at Midhurst where we had the use of the youth club which has great facillities. (Good for future events.)

The evening was entertaining, when most of you got into the occasion and came in Scottish dress.

Hamish Wightman piped in the Haggis followed by myself John and Fiona..... who then read out the Burns poem.

Valentines at Steyning where we continued with torrential rain and winds but we had a great evening with Disco Dave playing music from the 40s 50s and 60s, enjoyable food and my special vodka Martinis to loosen the dancing feet.

Every time I looked up Betty Steele had a new partner.

On into March and Pete and Freda ran the Worthing rally.

With a walk to the pub and an enjoyable meal in the evening.

Sadly by this time China had shared Covid 19 with us so this was to be our last rally for 5 months and I'm sorry if a few of you thought I didn't pull my weight as Chairman during the lockdown, but I thought the government and CAMC had enough to contend withwithout me adding to their problems. We were following the directive from CAMC and we as members have to follow their guidance.

We were eventually allowed back rallying with restrictions.

I can't believe how much I missed seeing you alland being on the rally field.

Burstow was the first with the restrictions in place and hand sanitizer everywhere fortunately the weather was warm so we were able to socialize outside maintaining our 2 mtr distance from each other.

I was able to bring my birdboxes which I've been making for my charity which is Cancer Research UK. I think most people in the West Sussex centre have either a birdbox or table. Thank you everyone who has donated.

Olivers Battery ran by Nick and Sandy started off with rain lightening and wind but then the sun came out and everyone relaxed. I think most people went home with sloes and blackberries. There could be a lot of Sloe Gin about this winter.

Mac and Marilyn ran Long Furlow which I believe was another warm weekend with lovely walks for the fitter ones amongst us.

2020 was a very strange year because of covid and I guess we still have more to come.

I would personally like to thank all the members of the Committee and their partners for the effort they have put in for your benefit.

I would also like to thank Carol for all the extra work she has put in this year booking and cancelling rallies... which unfortunately still continues.

She has put together another amazing rally program for 2021.

We have been very fortunate this year to have Keith on committee who has built us an amazing long awaited new website....which I think is fantastic.

Now members can book rallies online..... ask questions directly to committee...and keep up to date with centre news.

It will save the centre over £1000 in printing ...and posting the rally books.

(not to mention hours of work for Nick and Sandy)

Well done Keith a huge thank you from all of us.

This year we say goodbye to two of our committee members Sam Wood and Janine Aylemore, we wish them both well.

Now please would everyone join us in a minuets silence for the members that are no longer with us,

especially our former chairlady Fran Phillips who so recently passed away, she was a wonderful lady, always keen to be involvedand I will miss her smile.

My thoughts are with her family.

Thank you once again for attending a very different AGM, hopefully we will all be out rallying again later in the year ...until then stay safe.