



# East Kent Centre

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Hello fellow ralliers, welcome to our new Centre Magazine. I would firstly like to take this opportunity to thank Becky Watson for all her hard work in producing the centre newsletter over the past few years, her contribution have been greatly appreciated.



Please support Terry in his new role of producing the Centre Magazine by sending in your reports, photographs, articles and rally adverts, your input is essential if the magazine is to be a success.

I hope everyone has been enjoying their rallying over the past few weeks, it almost seems that we have not had any rain since the last edition was published back in February. We have had a busy programme of rallies since the last newsletter and I would like to thank all the Marshals and their Assistants for running the rallies for our enjoyment.

Congratulations and well done to our Youth Section for raising approximately £900 for their charity, Preston Skreens during their rally at Quex Park at the beginning of May, my thanks to them and their parents for an excellent weekend.

I would also like to congratulate Tony & Diana Brown and Brian & Dorothy East who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversaries earlier this year.

Our annual quiz competition, the Conference Cup, was held at Brogdale and this year it was won by Darren & Cheryl Charnock with Cheryl's mum Joy Wallis and Norman Silvester, congratulations to them and thanks to everyone who took part.

The Birthday Rally is almost upon us again and I look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible to support our charity, the Oliver Curd Trust. There is also a full programme of events laid on over the weekend for your enjoyment.

Our annual dinner dance is back at the Hop Farm in September. Special booking forms are available from our Social Officer, Margaret Kinchin or myself, please come and support this important occasion in the centre's year and enjoy the evening.

It may seem a long time away, but at the AGM in October all positions are open for members to put their name forward for election. The centre needs people to keep it running, so if you feel you can spare some time to help out on committee, please see the Hon Secretary, Kevin Bailey for a nomination form. Our Hon Treasurer, Chris Allen will not be standing again this year, so if anyone feels they could take on this role, please speak to Chris who will provide further details as to what the job entails.

I hope you enjoy the new centre magazine, if you have any comments on the either the content or the format, please feed them back to either Terry or myself. If you are off on your holidays over the next few weeks, I hope you have a great time and look forward to seeing you on a rally soon.

Best wishes and please enjoy your rallying. *John*

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**Magazine contributions to [terrymcdonald@eastkentcentre.co.uk](mailto:terrymcdonald@eastkentcentre.co.uk)  
or for postal Address call 07768 585475**

## Editorial

I should like to thank my Niece Becky Watson for all her hard work in producing the Centre Newsletter over the past period. I hope that I can live up to the high standards she has achieved.



I should also like to thank the Committee for having the confidence to accept me as Becky's replacement I will do my best to not let them or you down. Of course I can only hope to do this with you the members help and contributions.

I have changed the format and have elected to use the term Magazine, I hope that you will find it enjoyable. It is hoped that there is something for everyone, we do try to ensure that everything is Rally related but a little licence has been gained from the committee which it is hoped will win your support.

Thank you in advance for your contributions which can be emailed to me at the address on page 1.

**Terry**

## Yalding

Many members were using Yalding as a follow on from Easter in the New Forest and they were already enjoying glorious sunshine and location when we arrived on Thursday evening.

The party tent was used by some members to watch the royal wedding together on a 'big screen' and they were kept refreshed by the youth with tea/coffee and cake. Lots of picnic rugs, blankets and plastic were placed 'strategically' to reduce the sun light in the party tent. The party tent resembled a launderette more than a cinema.

With Wills and Kate hitched, the attention turned to the BBQ street (Boulevard) party. Caravans were decorated with bunting and tables lined the first row. The majority of members attending the rally ate together and enjoyed the sunshine and the patriotic atmosphere.

Friday evening was spent in the party tent enjoying a good old chat, back ground music and an American supper.

Saturday was free to enjoy the Spring sun and many explored the local area. My family and I had a stroll down to Teapot Island and spent the afternoon by the river watching the kids enjoy themselves in Paul Whites dingy.



**The River at Yalding**

A royal race night was the theme for Saturday evening, and we were suitably entertained by Darren, Cheryll, Gary, Nicki and Rachael.

On Sunday we saw the traditional East Kent May Queen competition. The outgoing May Queen Holly Webster presented my daughter, Chantelle Bailey, with her robe, crown and flowers. Congratulations Chantelle and well done Danielle for being a supportive sister.



**Ann Ward with her Nosh**

Finally I would like to thank the marshals for looking after us so well during this extended Royal wedding bank holiday weekend. It was an enjoyable weekend spent in a lovely part of Kent with some great company.

Kev Bailey



**The Street Party**

## The New Forest, Yalding and Quex Park

Easter in the New Forest perfect weather, perfect location and with all our friends what could be better! Had to go back to work for 2 days and then onto Yalding for a QUIET weekend perhaps the marshals should check the meaning of quiet in the dictionary, anyway much enjoyed rally on another lovely location and with friends again.

We had to go back to work for a few days and then onto the youth rally at Quex Park. This is another nice venue and still in glorious sunshine and lovely to see the youth enjoying themselves soaking the chosen few in the stocks in the afternoon and despite the downward economic climate we still managed to raise an amazing amount for the charity.

Ben has particularly enjoyed the last few rallies or so he tells me! but wasn't keen to return from Yalding when we took him straight to the vets as he had an infection on his ear. Despite all the medical attention that he has had over the last year he is still amenable to vets pulling him about and still smiles afterwards-what a good boy eh!

Due to work and family commitments, we will

not be out again with EKC for a month and it will feel like a lifetime. David and I (that's the royal we) started this rallying lark some 5 years ago after meeting Brian Mack at the national as a non centre member and being initiated through beer and loved it. (good job really as the way our country is going we may well be living in our mobile hotel when we retire if we are ever allowed to). Anyway we have made lots of friends and it has become our hobby so long may it last and thank you to everyone for being our friends, see you all soon and to pinch Rachael's saying- " See you all on the rally field soon"

*Shelley, David, Lucy, Katy and Ben Whittam*

### The Oliver Curd Trust

The Adult Charity

The objective and purpose of the charity is to provide fully equipped holiday accommodation to families supporting children and young people in the UK, suffering from childhood cancer and other life threatening illnesses.

Eileen Killick, our Charity Officer would like to thank the many members for their generous donations to the Oliver Curd Trust to date. She would especially like to thank Cathy Brown who donated her Bonus Ball win to the Charity.

## Simon Langton Girls School Rally - Canterbury

This rally in March saw the first of an annual darts completion. This competition is in memory of a past member and dear friend Peter Dent, who was an enthusiastic darts player and affectionately known as "half past two".

After some very exciting rounds - well some were anyway - Sue managed to hit the board twice! - the final winners were Gary Fisher and his partner for the night Jim Byrne. Is this a sign of a miss-spent youth?

Our thanks go to Karen and Darren Burch for donating the trophy and not forgetting our marshals for the weekend Marion Dent and Brian Mackender.

*Peter and Sue Smith*



**Jimmy Byrne and Gary Fisher holding their newly won Trophy with onlookers John Forrest and Nikki Fisher**

## The Adventures of Duke

Aunty Sue gave a weary sigh as she put down her knitting needles and looked at the handsome Teddy Bear she had created. He was yellow like the sun and she decided to call him “Duke”, he was in fact a very special bear as he could walk and talk, “Aunty Sue” he said “I want to rally with my new Mum Pat at EKC and have adventures and make friends with the boys and girls on site”.

It was agreed that he would do just that, so he packed his bags into his caravan and set off for his first rally, which was in the New Forest! “This is a beautiful place” thought Duke as he neared the campsite. On the roadside he saw horses, sheep, cattle and even pigs, chewing the lush green grass. He waved at them all “I’m and EKC Bear and I’m on Holiday” he shouted.

When he arrived at Greenhill Farm he unpacked his fishing rod and walked to the nearest lake. He cast out his line and landed three small fish. When he was walking on some Lily Pads he disturbed a goose with her newborn goslings, she was very angry and hissed at him to go away!

He headed back to the rally field to have supper, then he went to bed and fell asleep dreaming of all the fun he would have here in the New Forest. Duke enjoyed the Easter activities , he had Hot Cross Buns on Good Friday and joined in the Easter Egg hunt on Sunday with the younger ralliers. He had his fill of yummy chocolate eggs and went to bed that night feeling very happy.

Next day Dukes Mum came back from shopping to find that Duke was missing. She found a note in the van saying that unless money was paid to charity Duke would never be seen again. Duke’s Mum



Duke walking on water in the New Forest

was devastated and asked everyone if they had seen him and she looked and looked but there was no sign of him “ Poor Duke”. “I wonder where he can be? I hope he’s come to no harm!”



**Duke**

On returning to the van she found a second note had been delivered it told her to pay £1 ransom to the Charity Fund at Flagpole if she wanted Duke returned. “I’ll do that to get my very special bear back” said Duke’s Mum, “But who would have committed such a heinous crime” she thought”.

Flagpole time arrived and EKC Chairman John informed everybody about the kidnapping of Duke, Pat, Duke’s Mum, had her £1 with her but that wasn’t a very large sum to give to the charity fund especially for such a famous bear, so a collection was made and £16 was raised.

Duke was duly returned, but guess who had kidnapped him in the first place? Yes it was Aunty Sue, but she had only done it as a stunt to raise money for the “Oliver Curd Trust”!

“I’ve had a lovely time” said Duke “ I’ve been in Aunty Sue’s van having tea and scones with her and my new friend Lambie and Aunty Sue would never harm me! I have enjoyed myself here on my New Forest holiday and tomorrow we will move onto Yalding to continue my caravanning experiences”.

It was another lovely sunny and warm day when Duke got to Yalding, so he went out to look round the area. He watched the children playing for a while and then decided to walk to a place nearby called Teapot Island. He went into a shop which sold beautifully decorated teapots of all shapes and sizes! He couldn’t afford one of these so he settled for a Teapot badge as a souvenir. He also bought a large ice cream cone then walked by the river watching the ducks and ducklings swimming up the river in family groups.

He looked at his watch “It’s getting late I must get back as I want to BBQ some sausages for my supper” he said and so he walked back and had two sausages and some cola!

*(Continued on page 5)*

*(Continued from page 4)*

It was the day of the Royal Wedding and everybody was looking forward to the celebrations, Duke made his way to the Party tents to watch the ceremony. He waved his Union Jack Flag and cheered with the crowds on the screen. "The Bride is very beautiful" he thought "One day she might be queen, what a very happy day it is."

When the time came for the Street Party Duke was missing again. "Oh no, not another Kidnapping I trust" said Mum Pat. Suddenly someone shouted "Look there is the EKC Bear he is up in the air at the top of a flagpole" His Dastardly Dad Mal was the culprit, he tied poor Duke at the top of a flag pole for a very naughty joke!

However Duke just waved and shouted "I love it up here I can see the lovely countryside for miles and all of you in your fancy home made bonnets, but if my Mum will bring me down now I'm ready to start Partying and tucking into some of that lovely food."

After all the food had been eaten everybody toasted the "New Bride and Groom" and by the end of the day Duke was very tired and fell asleep having had a very special and exciting day.

Unfortunately Duke missed the Youth Rally because he went away to see a tailor in town to be fitted for a suit of clothes. He came away looking very Dapper in a beautiful bright blue suite. "I look very smart" he said "I know I'll get my Mum to sew on my teapot badge to my jacket. I can collect badges and pin them on my suit to remind me of all the places I have been visit with EKC".



**Duke with his Fishing Rod**

Dukes next rally was at Brogdale, once again the weather was good and the fruit farm sold lovely fresh fruit and vegetables, there were even pies and meat, there was also a café there.

Duke took a ride on a train through the orchards, singing merrily as the train

chuffed its way through the countryside. Then he went to Auntie Sue's van to have tea with Lambie and showed him the lovely suite Terry the Tailor had made for him. In the evening they both went over to the hall for a sing along with all their EKC friends. They applauded as Auntie Sue sang Don't Dilly Dally on the Way and joined in the chorus.

At the end of the evening Duke said goodnight to his friend "I'm going to Sellindge Steam Fair next and I'm looking forward to that! We'll meet up at the Birthday Rally my friend"

Friday arrived and Duke helped his Mum set up in Sellindge, he was very excited! "Tomorrow the Steam Fair opens and if I'm good my Mum will give me some pocket money to spend there" he said. "I want to see all those old fashioned Steam Engines and look around the fun fair and stalls, I can't wait" he exclaimed.

The next day Duke put his money safely in his purse belt, walked across the field to the fair. As well as all the engines there were huge shire horses and he went up to one and stroked its head and nose. The horse told him how in his harness he could plough farmers fields and how at one time all farmers used horses to work their land before modern machinery was available which could do the job more quickly.

Duke went to the Tombola Stall and won a prize, an ornament, which he kept for his mum. Then he bought some fudge for himself which left him just enough money to pay for three rides on the fun fair, at the end of the afternoon he went back to his van.

Over the weekend he enjoyed taking part in a quiz and listened to live country music in the Party Tents. "I've enjoyed my time here" he said "My next rally is in Faversham where I will continue my adventures, maybe I'll see you there too"

## **Mal's Centre Shop**

For EKC Monogrammed Fleeeces and T Shirts and much much more.

Mal's Shop is at most Rallys for your convenience. Let Mal know in advance if you want something special and he will try and get it for you at the next Rally!

**Contact details are on the Centre Web Page**

## 1st Time Ralliers at Sellindge

After our very short drive all of six miles, we were greeted by the friendly rally marshals at the Sellindge Steam special. We were pitched by the marshals after they skilfully guided us round the rabbit holes which must have taken a lot of time walking the field and marking it out. On our first night we popped along to the party tent for a noggin and natter, where we were invited by Kevin Bailey and Malcolm Johns to come along the next afternoon to meet up with the first time ralliers, we where all introduced and one by one the marshals explained their roles and how the week-end works which we found very helpful being on our first East Kent Centre rally. On Sunday we went over to the Steam Special which was very interesting just a shame the windy weather may have kept the numbers down. In the evening we went along to a fun quiz night and surprised ourselves we didn't get the wooden spoon. On Monday we went to flag pole and received our first time plaque along with all the other info. We enjoyed our weekend very much which we feel was made all the better by the warm friendly and helpful welcome by all the marshal team. Thank you very much

*Dave and Margaret*



## Sellindge Pictures

Top Shire Horses

Middle 67 Vans on Site

Bottom Shire Horses with Becky, Pete and Megan



# The Puzzle Page

## SUDOKU Puzzle No 1

			1					
	5		2		9		6	
		6	3	7	8	5		
7	8						2	9
		4				8		
3	6						7	5
		9	7	6	5	1		
	7		1		4		9	
				3				

## Quick Crossword Puzzle No 1

1		2		3		4	5		6	7
					8					
9							10			
11					12					
	13	14					15			
16										17
18				19			20	21		
22					23					
24						25				

### Across

- 1 Air-filled liquid globule (6)
- 4 Noise as of mouse (6)
- 9 Important town (7)
- 10 Warwickshire forest (5)
- 11 Did little or nothing (5)
- 12 All come (anag) — purgative (7)
- 13 Part of warship used by officers (11)
- 18 Thane of Fife (7)
- 20 Greek letter (5)
- 22 Piece of paper, linen, or water (5)
- 23 Efface (7)
- 24 Hang provocatively (6)
- 25 Difficult to unravel (6)

### Down

- 1 It carries wound yarn (6)
- 2 Girl's name (5)
- 3 Wash (clothes or money) (7)
- 5 Game bird — cower (5)
- 6 Belonging to a particular area (7)
- 7 Set alight (6)
- 8 What poultry get! (7,4)
- 14 (Ritually) tainted (7)
- 15 Receptacle for use with hand brush (7)
- 16 Entertained (6)
- 17 Cheerfulness — merrymaking (6)
- 19 Up to the time when (5)
- 21 French writer, Jean, d. 1986 (5)

## Recipe Corner

### Barbequed Baked Beans

by Margaret McDonald

- 4oz Streaky Bacon
- 1oz Butter
- 2 Sticks of Celery
- 1 Medium Onion
- 1 Can (15<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> oz ) Baked Beans
- 1 Tablespoon of Horseradish Sauce
- 1 Teaspoon of French Mustard

Cut the bacon into small pieces and place in a heavy flameproof pan. Heat gently until the fat starts to run. Add the butter and finely chopped celery & onion. Cook gently until golden, add the beans, horseradish and mustard. Cover and heat through over medium coals until the beans are hot! Enjoy

## Where was The Maypole This Year

I really missed the fun and endless enjoyment of the May pole dancing at the Youth Rally this year, I've watched and taken part in at least 3 and you really can't have a May Queen with out a Maypole dance its like Christmas with out Santa, or Easter with out eggs....its the one time of the year that you can play Terry Wogan trying to sing the floral dance. And yes I will carry the Maypole if asked. Did anybody else miss it? Can we please have it back for next year!

*David Whittam...*

## Freddie's First Rally

The most recent addition to the Fisher family, Rachael's hamster 'Freddie', made the journey to the New Forest for the Easter Rally along with several other pets, children and adults. With direct access onto the Forest within 100 metres of the rally field, it was a wonderful location.

Dogs had a lovely time being exercised in the Forest amongst the ponies, many of whom had young foals. Lucy (Charnock) found a new pursuit in bog snorkelling, but it is unlikely her owners will support her continued participation! Many of the children (and some adults) brought along their bicycles and were able to enjoy the freedom of the Forest too. Of course the highlight for the children was the Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday morning and the fact that the Easter Bunny still managed to find them all, even though

they were away from home.

The marshals provided hot cross buns and coffee on Good Friday morning, but with the glorious weather, most ralliers spent their days enjoying their own pursuits, which in our case was just relaxing with our family and friends. A band of willing helpers erected the party tent which was available for an evening get together on Good Friday and a social evening on Saturday. Some of us though were unable to attend as we were too busy fashioning an Easter bonnet from the newspaper provided by the marshals for a parade on Easter Sunday. What a fascinating sight it was when everyone's millinery skills were displayed by the cooks at the Easter Sunday communal BBQ. Such a variety of Easter Bonnets, the marshal's had a difficult task in judging the winner, Mike Pascall. Following the BBQ, we joined John and Pearl in a celebratory toast and cake to mark their 30<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. The only down side to the rally was the kidnapping of Duke the bear. No doubt this was traumatic for both him and his owner and we hope they have made a full recovery. However this tragedy, together with an excellent Easter raffle raised considerable sums for the centre's charity.

So, did 'Freddie' enjoy his first rally? Who knows, but we certainly did! Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make it happen.

*Ray and Stella Fisher*

Solution to Crossword Puzzle No 1

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

# Don't Cheat

Solution to Sudoku Puzzle 1

6	5	7	2	3	9	8		3
3	9	2	4	8	1	5	7	6
4	8	1	5	6	7	9	3	2
5	7	4	1	9	8	2	6	3
4	3	8	7	2	6	4	9	5
9	2	6	3	5	4	1	8	7
1	2	5	8	7	3	6	4	9
8	6	3	9	4	2	7	5	1
4	7	9	6	1	5	3	2	8



Top Left -The Fishers enjoying the fine weather

Centre Top -Tables ready for Communal BBQ

Top Right -Which Twin drank too much beer

Centre Right-The Rally Field

Centre Left- Normal New Forest resident

Bottom-BBQ's fired up and wearing silly hat's



**Pictures on this page Courtesy of Ray Fisher**



## Sellindge Steam Fair Rally An Assistant Marshall's View

It was a big Rally with approx 63 units, and coupled with the rabbit burrow scenario we knew that a lot of footwork/legwork would be required. With both Mal and Terry still “running-in” their new knees it was with a certain degree of trepidation that we set off on the Thursday morning to start sorting out the site.

We arrived on site and popped in to check with Pat that we were parking in the correct place. The landowner – Les Birch – was sitting with Pat and immediately we became involved with his tales of bygone times including his wartime experiences. Unfortunately we had to curtail his stories because of the amount of preparation required before the remaining Ralliers arrived on Friday.

This may give the impression of loads of time as it was only Thursday, but the amount of work required was massive. Pat and I spent the afternoon marking rabbit digs with red-topped sticks, and also totally marking off all of the areas containing any burrows that we could see. By the time we had finished nearly one quarter of our field was marked off. Mal and Tel had been out to site the EKC direction arrows. This in itself was a mammoth job because of the circuitous route once you had actually reached the Steam Fair site.

When Mal arrived back he and Tel started the difficult job of fitting in the 63 units expected. They had marked out fifty sites by late afternoon and decided to finish the job Friday morning, as both Mal and Tel were more that a little “leg-sore”.

Mal and Keith were marking out the remaining sites when we were told we could use the bottom field as well. This was a great relief and enabled us to

accept another four units including a Winnibago. The rest of the morning was spent erecting the four party tents with the additional help of Ken and Vera, so by 14.00 hours we were ready to accept our fellow ralliers.

During the next five to six hours the girls were kept busy handing out the brown envelops and warning about the rabbit problems whilst the men must have walked miles siting the units. At 22.00 hours we still had one unit outstanding. Were they lost? Had they decided not to come? Perhaps they had had an accident! At 23.00 hours we left the party tents and retired to our vans for a coffee, or something stronger to warm us up, as it had been very cold in the tents.

On Saturday both Mal and Tel had calls on their mobiles. Our missing unit (from last night) couldn't find us! It transpired that they had spent the night in the first field from the road and had mis-understood one of our EKC direction markers but with Mal's directions we soon had them safely sited with the rest of us. We had just one more 'van to come in during the morning. It really is very helpful if we have an idea when you hope to be on site, however approximate the time may be.

Saturday and Sunday passed fairly quietly. The rabbits had been busy over night, so more holes had to be marked. We had a visit by some H&S officials who didn't like a hose being connected to the drinking water supply – this was nothing to do with us, just a hose one of the ralliers had left. We had a few vehicles proceeding at more than five mph through our site - not our members - but a quiet word in their ears seemed to sort most of that out.

Monday saw a slow exodus from the field, as the finishing time was 18.00 hours. It was really nice to have so many units stop on their way to say thanks and that they had enjoyed a good weekend. It really does make a lot of difference to know that all of our efforts have been appreciated.

Margaret McDonald (AKA Fred)

