

THE TRECKER



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Editor's Corner

With no winter rallies these days it seems an awfully long time since the last rally of the 2025 season, so I'm sure we're all itching to get rallying again and join in the fun. The new rally programme has a good mix of field sites and club sites as well as three continentals so there should be plenty to tempt you.

There was some concern about the 2027 season after Martin stepped down as national rally organiser, but that has now been resolved as Carole has volunteered to take over. I'm sure you'll all join me in wishing her well in her new role.

A new feature we're trying with the Trecker this year is to give rally officers the opportunity to promote their upcoming rallies. We're focussing on the first half of the season in this issue and will feature the second half in the June issue. This should give you a sneak preview of what's planned and encourage you to get booking. Look forward to seeing you soon!

Geoff Heyes
Editor

Chairman's Chat

So much has been going on this year and it's still only March! Firstly, we had the challenge of finalising all the rallies for the new season, compiling the Yearbook and getting it off to the printers. It took a bit longer than usual, which meant the Yearbook did not get to you in the first week of February as normal. We did our best and that is now behind us. Talking of the Yearbook, the ink was still being applied to paper when I managed to do some arm twisting resulting in a new webmaster. If that was not enough to celebrate I very soon discovered a willing new face to be rally organiser. Things are looking good! Read on to meet Steve and Carole in the next section.

All that remains is for me to wish you all a good Suntrecker season and hope to see as many of you as we can on some rallies.

Alan Ingram
Chairman.

New committee members introduce themselves

Hi you lovely lot, we are Steve and Carole V. We haven't been members for very long but have now joined the committee to take over as Webmaster (Steve) and National Rally Organiser (Carole), all thanks to Alan Ingram who coerced, or should I say, invited us to take on these roles. This was after I demonstrated my amazing technical abilities by forgetting my password and Carole impressed him by making some lemon cake at a rally! He must be easily pleased.

On a personal note, I have worked in IT for over 45 years and Carole trained as a chef and ended up managing 47 school kitchens, boy, that's a lot of dins! We have been married for near on 48 years, raised a family of two daughters, who now have families of their own, and we are both now retired.



Carole and Steve - not sure about the choice of location!

We are also fortunate to own a campervan and have been enjoying holidays around the UK for the last few years and have been members of a few naturist clubs too. Then we bumped into Suntreckers and have now been on some awesome rallies with you.

These committee roles are pretty new to us, so any help or advice would be most welcome, and just in case, apologies in advance for any inadvertent hiccups we might make along the way. Or you could just blame Alan for picking us in the first place! Our main duties in these roles will primarily be keeping the website running and preparing next year's rally programme, but we would also like to see if we can improve things a little to help out our fellow Treckers, and for this can we ask for your help? Is there anything you would like changed or added to the Suntreckers website, be it the rally list, bookings or information? Similarly, anything on how the rallies themselves are created, run, organised? Anything at all, just jot it down and send it across to us and we will see what we can do. No requests for lemon cake please, Alan has eaten the lot!

Thanks all and look forward to meeting you at a rally.

Steve & Carole V

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rallyorganizer@suntreckers.org.uk

Upcoming UK rallies

It's been a long while since our last rally in October so we thought we'd give our rally officers a chance to promote their rallies in the first half of the new season. Plenty to whet your appetite, so time to get booking if you haven't already. We plan to do the same in the June issue, so if you're running a rally in the second half of the season (July to October), why not give it some publicity? Just send your contribution to thetrecker@suntreckers.org.uk

Willows Farm - Rally 2 (Thu 9 Apr to Tue 14 Apr)

Willows Farm is situated on the east coast a couple of miles from the sea, with Skegness about 4 miles away. The camping area is situated in a private part of the site and is surrounded by tall hedging.

During the rally there will be pétanque, a fish and chip supper and an afternoon tea. It will be a relaxing rally where you can join in, have a drink or two and chat with other members at the coffee mornings, or just go out and enjoy the surrounding area. It is after all your rally to do as you please and enjoy it.

So come along and join us. Please try to book by 14 March.

Look forward to seeing you.

Steve & Tess Wagstaff

South West Outdoor Club - Rally 3 (Thu 16 Apr to Tue 21 Apr) and Rally 23 (Tue 23 Jun to Tue 30 Jun)

The April and June SWOC rallies will be our first time as rally officers and we have been very honoured to have attended several rallies at SWOC run by David Poole. It will be a very hard act to follow.

SWOC is in the middle of a nature reserve in Dorset, very much back to nature with some fabulous country walks. It is near Dorchester and not far from the Cerne Giant. The site is in a woodland and is very flat and accessible. There is a club house with a fully functional kitchen which visitors are welcome to use. Wheelchair-accessible toilets are a new addition. There is no drinking water on site but it is available to collect from a nearby establishment (3 minute drive away).

The club house has a wood burner and solar powered lighting which we will be able to use for evening get-togethers. SWOC are famous for their Sunday afternoon teas. These rallies will be no exception, and we can look forward to afternoon tea on the lawn as put together by Mel and the ladies.

The Saturday of the June rally coincides with the SWOC midsummer meal - always a grand occasion to which you are all invited. If you've been before you will know you will be well fed without having to cook or wash up!

Chris and Caroline

Tything Barn – Rally 4 (Thu 23 Apr to Thu 30 Apr)

Tything Barn was the location of the first Suntreckers rally that my wife and I attended back in the early 1980s. At that time it was still a working oyster farm. Unfortunately, following the tragic oil spill of the Sea Empress in 1997 the oyster farm ceased production.

Today Tything Barn is a 23-acre naturist retreat with circular walks and meandering footpaths of approximately two miles that lead you through mixed woodland, small glades and around the reclaimed quarries, which hold two salt-water lagoons. One of these covers two acres, curving around two small islands and is great for paddling and wild swimming.

There is a purpose built polytunnel with tiled floor, a small pond and Mediterranean style planting which we can hopefully use to sit and relax in if the weather isn't so great. There are badminton courts and boules pitches and, if there is sufficient interest, we can organise

a boules competition with a small prize for the winning team. If the weather is kind to us we can also have a communal BBQ. Of course there will be an initial coffee morning and I'd be happy to host one every day if people would like to join me.

I hope to see you at this beautiful site in April!

Chris Handy

Apollo – Rally 7 (Thu 7 May to Tue 12 May) and Rally 25 (Thu 2 Jul to Tue 7 Jul)

Margaret and I love Apollo Naturist site near Brighton. So much so, that in May we are becoming members, even though we live by the Forest of Dean!

And so, we are delighted to be your rally officers for Rally 7 and Rally 25. Apollo has now installed a lovely outdoor swimming pool, and along with their club house, sauna, woodland walk and BBQ site, there is something for all weathers.

Do join us! We will have coffee mornings, quiz nights, live music, boules and croquet competitions. In the unlikely event you will want to leave the site for an outing (!) you might enjoy the countless local attractions, garden centres, National Trust gardens and even Brighton's very own naturist beach!

Ed and Margaret

Candy Farm – Rally 9 (Thu 14 May to Tue 19 May)

It's a great place to relax, with Doncaster and Gainsborough just over half an hour's drive in either direction. If you'd like to explore the area there's a model railway, garden centres with cafes, and loads more.

For those of you who'd like to attend another naturist event to make your journey more worthwhile, why not link our rally to Nudestock. There is a three-day gap after the end of our rally until Candy Farm hosts Nudestock which starts on Friday 22 May and ends on Sunday 31 May.

All the information for Nudestock can be found on the website

<https://candyfarmnudestock.co.uk/>

There is a lot going on - music, food, games, and meeting others.

Monty and Trina, with Mila our dog.

Cambridge Outdoor Club – Rally 9 (Thu 14 May to Tue 19 May)

Come and join us at a lovely rural location with a club house, sauna, sun terrace, swimming pool, boules pitch and much more and of course good company.

It's within easy reach of historic Ely and park and ride to Cambridge, though we hope it will be sunny with no need to leave the site. We hope to run a boules competition, evening quiz, BBQ, fish & chip evening and afternoon tea as well as an evening meal provided by Cambridge Outdoor Club. If you have any other ideas we'll try to accommodate you, and of course as many morning coffees as you wish.

Suntreckers need YOU at Rally 9. And if you can bring the sun that's an added bonus!

Joe & Karen

Woodside Field – Rally 10 (Wed 20 May to Wed 27 May)

This will be the first of our Taster Rallies this year, which give non-members the chance to try us out and see what they think of our club – you can read more about our taster rallies in the next section. Woodside Field is a lovely site and as always, we'll do our best to organise lots of fun activities for you to enjoy during your stay. We'll also be running two more taster rallies at Woodside later in the year (details in the article below).

Terry and Lesley

Lower Poulza Post – Rally 13 (Wed 27 May to Thu 4 Jun)

This is a lovely site that both we and Suntreckers have frequented for about 30 years. It is a great place to chill out and enjoy the sun. If sightseeing is your thing too then not far away is Bude, Boscastle, and of course Tintagel with its legend of King Arthur. While on the rally Suntreckers benefit from £5 discount, subject to numbers, so come and join us and grab a bargain.

Alan & Jackie

Western Sunfolk – Rally 14 (Sat 30 May to Thu 4 Jun)

Looking forward to welcoming friends old and new at Western Sunfolk, near Monmouth, South Wales - if you're looking for a peaceful and rural retreat to get your summer started, you will be warmly greeted at this well-established site with all the usual activities and more! There will be the usual tea/coffee mornings for us to get together and put the world to rights. Sunday will officially mark my becoming a 'work-shy layabout' so I hope you will join me for Pimm's and cake to celebrate and maybe, just maybe, a fish supper one night? - If you have 'nothing on' it'll be grand to see you there!

Tim Clarkson

Rally 16 – Heritage (Thu 4 Jun to Tue 9 Jun)

Heritage Naturist Club is a regular venue for Suntrecker rallies. It is a club site with many facilities. First and foremost is the outdoor heated swimming pool. In addition there is a sauna, a steam room and a jacuzzi. Sports facilities include tennis, miniten, boules and volleyball, each with well-maintained courts. Volleyball is played on grass, tennis and miniten on high quality asphalt, while the boules courts are graded gravel and sand. There is also a shuffleboard court and indoor table tennis. At previous rallies we have had both boules and shuffleboard competitions and if enough people enter there will be small prizes for the winner or winning teams.

In addition to the unusual introductory coffee morning, I'm happy to host one every day. We can also use the clubhouse should the weather turn inclement.

Heritage is one of my favourite rally sites and I'd be very happy to see you there!

Chris Handy

Carbeil – Rally 17 (Thu 4 Jun to Thu 11 Jun)

Rally 17 at Carbeil in Cornwall is booking up fast. Spaces are limited so book now to reserve your spot. Who can resist a site with a swimming pool and jacuzzi, all within walking distance of a naturist beach? Beach strolling, pint at the pub, quiz, Prosecco cream tea and boules - oh and the obligatory coffee morning! Come to Cornwall to receive a great welcome from your host Ann and Kerry the lovely helpful owner. See you there. Book now so you are not disappointed.

Ann Stuckey

Taster rallies

Hi all, Terry & Lesley here wishing you a happy new rally season. We are rally officers for rallies 10, 35 and 47 at Woodside field, which will be run as "taster" rallies, previously known as invitation rallies, where non-members can "try before they buy" – in other words see what Suntreckers has to offer and decide if it's for them.



Woodside Field in the sunshine

They were successful last year and we're hoping they'll be even better this year. We'll be advertising them in several places including the website, as part of our drive to increase membership so please try to fit at least one into your schedule as we would like to have a good number of members present to give prospective members a good feel for what a rally is really like. Also, please promote this to any of your friends who might be interested as this is a golden opportunity to bring them along. The cost to them is the same as for members.

In addition to our rallies at Woodside Field there will also be taster rallies at Cambridge Outdoor Club and Blackthorns this year. Full dates as follows:

Cambridge Outdoor Club	14 - 9 May and 30 Jul - 4 Aug
Woodside Field	20 - 27 May, 4 - 11 Aug and 15 - 22 Sep
Blackthorns	9 - 15 Jul and 20 - 27 Aug

If you'd like a printed advert about the taster rallies to post anywhere, please contact a committee member.

Terry & Lesley Jackman

Continental rallies

Camping Relax Nat, nr Girona, Spain – Rally 12 (Sat 23 May to Sat 30 May)

RelaxNat is in the far north-east of Spain, just 50 miles from the French border. Going south of the Pyrenees often seems sunnier and weather data bears that out - this first of the continental rallies is ideal for catching some early sun! A pleasant bar area overlooks the big pool, and the smaller pool is in fact a warm jacuzzi with steps down into it. Outside, a disused narrow gauge railway made into a cycle path provides an easy walk to a sandy beach with a naturist section and a beach bar.

NOTE: Prices in the Yearbook are correct but misleading because there's a 30% discount for 7 nights. Last year everybody did save money simply by enjoying one more day in the sun! That's why the start date at the top of this article is a day earlier than in the Yearbook.

John and Sue

Le Couderc, Naussannes, France – Rally 15 (Tue 2 Jun to Mon 8 Jun)

Located within the beautiful Dordogne region, Le Couderc is a big and lively site with an excellent restaurant and an impressive swimming pool. However it still manages to retain large “peace and quiet” areas and Suntrecker rallies are usually located in one of them. Pétanque games take place most afternoons and all are welcome to join in.

L’Oliverie, Poitou-Charente, France – Rally 18 (Thu 11 Jun to Wed 17 Jun)

L’Oliverie is a family farm dating back to the 18th century, located in the heart of the Poitou-Charentes region close to the medieval city of Parthenay. There is a heated swimming pool and attractive communal area, where owners Alex and Mélanie usually put on themed evenings such as BBQ, paella etc.

Should you wish to leave the site there’s plenty to see – for example Parthenay only 10 minutes away and Futuroscope can be reached in about 45 minutes.

A fond farewell

Time to say goodbye to the following long-term members who have not renewed this year:

Joint Name	Years
Donald & Linda Clark	35
Mike & Janice Goodall	35
Alan & Cindy Mayes	27
David & Margaret Rose	20
David & Hillary Jones	18
Alan & Maxine McPherson	17
Alan & Margaret Taylor	10
Paul Underwood	10
Alan Flux	9
Karl Scott & Carole Harding	9
Peter & Sarah Brigden	7
Brian & Gemma Lofthouse	7
Graham Grim	6
Martin & Anita Hodgson	6
Gerry Martin	6
Gerwyn & Donna Thomas	6
David Ross	5

And a warm welcome

to the 17 people who have joined us since December last year.

***** STOP PRESS *** Free Renewal**

At the committee meeting on 17 March 2026, it was decided that we needed to take some positive action to grow the membership of Suntreckers, ideally women and couples.

As an incentive to recruit more members, from now on the reward for introducing any new members would be a **totally free renewal** rather than a £5 discount. So next time you are chatting to fellow campers, tell them about Suntreckers and give them an application form (there's one in the Yearbook), then when they fill in the form make sure they add your name and membership number. The **free renewal** will automatically take effect for the following year.

And finally...

Members' contributions for *The Trecker* are always welcome, as are photographs, which should be sent as separate files and not embedded in a document. Please remember that you need permission from everyone in your photograph.

Please send all contributions to thetrecker@suntreckers.org.uk

Thank you to John for sending this newsletter by email, as well as to John and Lyn for printing and sending out the paper version. Also, thanks to Steve for putting it on the website.