



THE SUNTRECKERS TRECKER



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www.suntrackers.org.uk

EDITORS COMMENTS

Well here we are entering summer the weather has picked up, the flowers are blooming and all is rosy, I bet by the time I've finished writing the Trecker we will be back in the grip of a very wet and cold spring, but that is the vagaries of British weather and to be honest I prefer it to wall to wall sunshine for most of the year, idiot I can hear most of you saying, but that's me idiot or not.



In the last Trecker If you can remember that far back I was bemoaning the fact that we have vacancies for a PPO, and Treasurer, further to those the role of Company Secretary, Membership Secretary, Rally Organizer, Equipment Officer and General member are also up for re-election. It's too late for anyone of you to be elected at the AGM but you could put yourselves forward to be co-opted to the committee. It could be that those up for re-election may decide to stand down and then there would be no committee, to run the club on your behalf. So at the AGM I will be watching with bated breath for the forest of arms shooting skywards demanding to be part of our committee and having an influence in how our great club is run.

Now I've got that off my chest what else is inside the Trecker well we have one or two articles about rallies that have happened and upcoming ones, including a rally that was sunk without trace and then resurrected from the depths by the ingenuity of its rally officer, there is something about the Gala rally (which you must all attend).

I'm not going to say anymore just sit back and enjoy the Trecker either through the medium of paper or its digital format.

Please let me have for the future Treckers any articles and photographs of your rallies and experiences with Suntreckers please email your articles photographs etc to: ppo@suntreckers.org.uk.

CHAIRMANS CHAT



Hi Fellow Treckers,

As I write this, we have just returned from the May committee meeting which had been very productive. The sun is at last shining, and Ann is working in our little garden and it looks like the summer may be coming at last.

All seems to be going well for the Gala Rally. So have you booked in yet? Unfortunately, we had to cancel some rallies this spring, due to lack of ralliers, and rally officers. Have you ever thought of running a rally, it can be quite good fun! It would also certainly be good to see more people attending rallies, the more who attend then the more enjoyable they can be.

Currently we are getting the camper back on the road after the winter, we have been waiting for caravan repairers to fix a roof leak (*only had to wait 8 months!!*), then we are off to join the Suntreckers at the Luxembourg rally. We are booked on the ferry from Portsmouth to Caen, arriving Caen in the evening, then the 380-mile drive to Luxembourg, where we are hoping to arrive early Sunday evening.

Just as everything was organised, ferry bookings, breakdown insurance, travel insurance, so the French decide to shut the filling stations, but as true campers, we are still going, just hope the French do not delay us too much and we get back in time for the Gala Rally!!

Ann and I are looking forward to seeing some of the new ideas for the Gala weekend in practice, please do come, remember it is your AGM, your Gala and we need your participation to make it work.

By the way, we really do need some new people to fill vacancies on the committee, to replace those who have worked hard for many years and are retiring. Remember it is your club, so why not have a go at helping to run it.

We look forward to seeing you at the Gala Rally and at many other rallies during the rest of the year.

Safe travels all of you and enjoy your trekking and hopefully the summer will come along with lots of sunshine.

Ron Twining
Chairman

RALLY ORGANIZERS COGITATION



We have had successful rallies, cancelled rallies and saved rallies the whole gambit inside the first few months, but what is life if not varied.

What is really important apart from my writings (some may call it gibberish) is the fact that you enjoy yourselves that is what the club is all about and if the way you enjoy the club is by sunbathing on some far flung beach, sightseeing, or at a club or field site and thinking of ways to improve the club then so much the better, if you are having a great time then let me know, if you are moaning about things then let the chairman know.

That's the lot from me but before I go make sure you have sent your booking forms in for the Gala rally it's the main one of the season, it's your rally and your fees help pay for it, so come along and enjoy, it's your attendance that makes it a great rally.

Look forward to seeing you all.

Steve Wagstaff
National Rally Organizer

Rally 10 – Whitehouse Farm Radway **(The sunken rally – resurrected)**

After a long winter I was looking forward to running the rally just as much as the ralliers were looking forward to attending, so Thursday afternoon saw me arrive at the entrance to the CL site, open the gate, drive in and instantly bog down!

Abandoning the car, I squelched my way on foot through the CL to the rally field. It looked promising, the hedges were trimmed, the overhanging branches and shrubbery at the entrance cut back, and the grass short, but a quick look at the ground with my wellies an inch deep in water and sinking quicker than the barometer I splashed my way back to the car. Unhitched the caravan, turned it 180 degrees by hand, re-hitched, and stood in the lane to flag down a passing farmer who kindly pulled me and my unit back to solid ground when I then had to inform the rally organiser and land owner that the rally would have to be cancelled, and 13 phone calls/texts to the members that had booked hoping to save them a wasted journey the following day. Terry and Lesley Jackman voiced their disappointment at the cancellation and made the suggestion of meeting somewhere else.



A few phone calls later and Roger and Andy, the owners of Greenhill Park said their field was free and although wet they could accommodate us. So back to my phone and 13 more phone calls and/or texts to the ralliers informing them of the new venue, and time to drive home.

Now armed with internet, email and land line as well a better mobile signal I contacted the Rally Organiser for his approval and to confirm the new venue could still run under the Sunterecker flag, followed by calls to members that had still not responded to my earlier contact.

Of the original 13 units booked, 10 agreed to attend Greenhill Park – the last contact being made at 7am on the Friday morning as both they and I were preparing to leave, me to Greenhill, and they, until that point, for



Radway!

Greenhill was wet, but the hard-core road in the site allowed caravans and motorhomes to get in and out with the minimum of wheel spinning and damage to the grass.

The weather was more designed for rust than suntans, but with gazebos in place, the banter, laughter, and silliness that goes on at rallies continued as normal.

Many shortened their stay to 2 or 3 nights due to the weather, but typically of British weather, the 2 of us that remained enjoyed some decent periods of sunshine for the last 2 days



Many thanks to the ralliers (and Andy and Roger the site owners) for making the weekend worth it, and thank you to my land line and mobile suppliers for my free phone calls tariffs, that enabled a wet weekend to be saved, have a good time, and still make a profit, albeit a small one, for the club.

Ian, S12118.

RALLY 20 – TYTHING BARN

Ever since I had booked this years' Tything Barn rallies in 2015 for the yearbook Tess and I have been looking forward to going there either as ralliers or if nobody came forward then as rally officers.

We were greeted by Mike & Jo on our arrival, then left to our own devices. One of our first jobs after levelling the caravan etc is to erect not an awning but a great big what looks like a windbreak but is in fact a corral to keep our dog 'Peggy' in (she's frightened of other dogs so tends to snap at them, not that she is a timid little dog but a big German Shepherd and a coward to boot) mind you the corral also acts as a very effective wind break as well.

The rally was early in the year, the weather wasn't expected to be brilliant, however, we had unseasonably sunny weather for most of the rally which was really welcome.

We had three other couples apart from ourselves, they were Mike & Wendy, Ray & June and Ray & Trish, another lovely couple Tony and Hilary joined us late into the rally and although they didn't officially join our rally they entered into the spirit, and talking about spirit Ray and Trish offered Tess and myself a very questionable drink of sherry (which they thought originally was wine, they really should learn how to read Spanish) which had travelled all the way from Spain not very successfully, this sherry was brought out at every opportunity in the hope that the contents would be exhausted by the time the rally ended, it wasn't so I am now the proud owner of a mostly drunk box of sherry.

Apart from coffee mornings and an afternoon tea of scones, biscuits and the inevitable sherry everyone did their own thing, we hope they all enjoyed what Tess and I believed to be a relaxing rally. We look forward to going to the September rally being run by Ray & June so book up early.

Steve & Tess Wagstaff

RALLY 22 - EAST MIDLANDS SUNFOLK

Once again East Midland Sunfolk acted as hosts for our spring rally in May, and a very good job they made of it.

FRIDAY NIGHT - FISH & CHIPS TO ORDER. A joint Suntreckers and Sunfolk gathering made a good social occasion of it to make us all feel part of a friendly group right from the start.

SATURDAY DINNER - Sausage & Mash, Onions, Yorkshire Puddings & veg, followed by Apple Strudel.

Everything starts with a good nosh at EMS. Also a topical quiz was fitted in by Mike & Heather with the expertise that we have become accustomed to.

We had spot-on weather until Tuesday, when Lincolnshire let us know how it can rain, but that doesn't bother seasoned Suntreckers because we made very good use of the lovely conservatory for afternoon tea, laid on by our Rally Officers Marion & Fred.

Don't forget to check out the Suntreckers' Year Book for the next rally at EMS this year, which will be organised by Les & Delia in August.

Fred & Marion

A HISTORY OF TYTHING BARN (AND SURROUNDING AREA)

Tything Barn is a unique Naturist experience not just in the UK, but arguably in the whole of Europe, if not the World. Situated on tidal salt marsh on the Carew River which drains into the Cleddau Estuary, a part of the beautiful Pembroke National Coastal Park; the clothing optional resort ironically came about as a result of an ecological disaster.

On 15th February 1996, a miserable Thursday evening, the Sea Empress a single hull oil tanker went aground while attempting to negotiate the route into Milford Haven to deliver 72500 tonnes of heavy crude oil. Due to mismanagement during the initial hours the incident turned into the worst ecological disaster ever to occur in Wales; the effects of which are still with us to the present.

In 1979 June and Joe Folder, confirmed Naturists, were looking for a larger place having outgrown their small holding and tiny naturist campsite. They became aware that Tything Barn was being sold by 'Old Tom' a local character and managed to buy the place.

Now with 23 acres including a salt marsh foreshore on the Carew River, they were able to realise their ambition of developing a business and a larger Naturist Resort. 'Old Tom' had run the place as not much more than subsistence farming with four cows and a few sheep although

he managed to buy the place by securing a mortgage from a local butcher which was paid off with a regular supply of rabbits!

June and Joe faced a formidable task as the existing buildings were in a poor state of repair and the site, originally used as a stone quarry, was overgrown and dilapidated. Over the next eighteen years they gradually built a successful oyster farm and enlarged the clothing optional campsite.

Of the 72500 tonnes of heavy crude deposited by the Sea Empress into the Cleddau only 3000 tonnes have ever been recovered, despite the heroic efforts of local people and environmentalists. Although the spill itself did not reach Tything Barn the results of the chemicals used in the clean-up may have done. June and Joe's oyster farm was ruined. They decided to invest in growing the Naturist campsite into the superb resort it is today.

Although June and Joe have taken a well earned retirement from the running of the business they have now leased Tything Barn to Jo and Mike who have taken the business from strength to strength. June and Joe can both still be found pottering around the site and are always happy to chat. June is something of an authority on the bird life around the site, and it is a real joy to listen to her as she talks enthusiastically about the subject.

This site was meant to be enjoyed naked. Criss-crossed by short cropped grassy paths around pools of water each turn and rise provides a fresh vista and a new perspective. Swimming in the pools is allowed and one even has a couple of rowing boats, another has a platform with ropes to cross the water. There are a number of seats and picnic tables but good advice is to take lightweight collapsible chairs to enjoy the different views in comfort. The foreshore is tidal so at low tide, vegetation and mud channels are visible, as the water rises a huge area of water changes the view dramatically. A truly unique naked experience, not one to be missed.

Jo and Mike have been at Tything Barn since 2012; they are wonderful hosts, very friendly, and always happy to help and assist. They are very keen to welcome members of Suntreckers, so please ensure that you tell them you are a member when enquiring and make sure that you take your membership card with you.

Tents, Caravans, Motorhomes are all accepted at Tything Barn, in addition to which there are cabins and cottages to rent. For the latter you will need to book well in advance so plan carefully. Day visits are also welcome but you will have to leave the site by 6p.m.

The showers toilets washing facilities are of a good standard; hot water comes from thermal solar, so guests are asked to be careful and think of others when using it. A quirky club room and outdoor fire pit are also part of the facilities. Regular visitors told me, that when the club room

is decorated for an event it has a wonderful ambience. Wood is provided for the fire pit and a very pleasant evening can be had sitting around a roaring wood fire as dusk turns into night. A large polytunnel is available for use by visitors it has seats, tables, a delightful garden and a fountain; very useful in the case of bad weather. Other facilities include Petanque courts, Badminton and Croquet. Canoeing/Kayaking is also very popular from the site. Be aware that the site has water and vegetation conducive to biting insects, if you suffer from this make sure that you take medication with you.

Around Tything Barn there is much of interest to cater for all tastes. The site is surrounded by narrow lanes and is good for cycling and walking. Perhaps for Naturists the 8 mile long beach Cefn Sidan in Pembrey Country Park would be of most interest. It is 41 miles from the site but is worthy of consideration. The beach has beautiful pine forest as a backdrop through which National Cycle Route 4 meanders, as an alternative the sand is hard enough to cycle on; walking always being an option of course. Sadly, this is an unofficial Naturist beach, the Park Authority are not keen on Naturism and have put up signs and included warnings in their information leaflets prohibiting Nudity on the beach. Nudity is not illegal in Wales so the 'prohibition' has no basis in law. Joe Folder made a well- reasoned public argument in support of continued Nudity on the beach in April 2012. I personally have used this beach on a number of occasions and had no problem, however I would strongly advise that you check the current situation for yourself before going naked on this beach. There is also Swanlake lake Bay near Tenby this is also a known naturist beach but not official. The beach is 8.7 miles from Tything Barn via the B4318. I am told that there is a layby for parking near to East Moor Farm but I cannot find it on google maps. The nearest parking, I can find is at Manorbier. This beach is impossible to get to for anyone who has even the mildest of mobility difficulties.

For many of us west Wales is a long trip but transport links are good. By road the M4 is a good route provided you are careful with the time at which you travel. Motorway distances in miles from Manchester, Birmingham and London are 277, 206 and 240, respectively. The nearest railway station is at Lamphey (5.4 miles) with services operated by Arriva Trains Wales and GWR. By way of example at the time of writing a train from London Paddington leaving at 08.45 will arrive at Lamphey at 14.02 at a cost of £82.80 return. National Cycle Route 4 (London Greenwich – Fishguard distance 432 miles) is 3.7 miles from the site.

Mike and Wendy

AGM & GALA BOOKING - HISTORY

In 1992 for the 10th Anniversary of Suntreckers the Rally Officers Clive and Brenda, said it was hard work without assistance, so the Assistant Rally Officers came into being in the form of Ken & Pam who took the bookings, they also had a third Assistant who were Colin & Avril. This format was adopted from then on and Pam & Ken have been booking officers for 21 of the last 24 years

In 2001, the AGM Social was held for 1 year only at Hill Farm Barrow on Trent. The Rally Officers Ron & Ann Twinning, decided on a change and had Michaela & Philip as the booking officer. Mickey asked Pam for help, and followed the same format.

In the following two years 2002 and 2003 at Syresham Fields, it was decided to be run by the committee, so the bookings were done by Keith & Sue.

From 2004 the booking officers job went back to Pam & Ken, who have been doing it ever since. For a while we had the responsibility of booking the Marquee and paraphernalia. Since Steve & Tess took over as Rally Officers in 2008 they have done the booking and got the cheque from the Treasurer. So all the booking officer has to do is pay out the few expenses in running the rally and the main bill, pay the site owner for the number of nights.

This year 2016, we have given up caravanning, but we are still taking in the bookings for the gala.

Pam & Ken - Gala & AGM Booking Officers

GREAT SUCCESS FOR SUNTRECKERS AT BRITISH NATURISM'S NATIONAL PETANQUE

The tournament was held at Broadlands Sun Club on 30 April/1 May in fine weather with lots of sunshine and blue skies. The host club had things well organised as usual with excellent meals, entertainment and dancing Saturday and a Quiz on Sunday evening much enjoyed by us all.

This year we managed to field five teams thanks to the recruitment of Malcolm & Maureen plus a new Suntrecker 'partnership' team. There was some excellent play with many close games and on the second day excitement started to mount as it became apparent who the front-runners were. Our new 'partnership' team of Rae Argent and Ken (of Ken & Nita Fogl) found themselves playing for a place in the final and after a marathon game recovered from being 9 – 12 down to win the game 13 – 12. Then to the Final of the competition, which always takes place in front of all the players, where they were always trailing their opponents Gill & Andy Kerry of the Springwood Club up to 9 – 12. Then in the final end to the amazement of us all they scored four points to take the title 13 – 12. The rest of the Suntrecker teams also did very well against stiff opposition with four of the teams qualifying to play in the INF-FNI-EUNAT Tournament next September. The placings out of the 29 teams taking part were as follows: -

Rae Argent & Ken Vogl -	1 st
Marion Halsey/Phil Boarder -	4 th
John & Lyn Furley -	9 th
Malcolm & Maureen Burland -	12 th
Colin & Avril Gorham -	19 th



Congratulations to Rae & Ken and it was my pleasure to present them with our Reg Wellings Memorial Shield for the top placed Suntrecker Team. I also took the opportunity to present Marion & Phil with the Dave Argent Memorial Shield for being the top placed Suntrecker at the INF-FNI-EUNAT Tournament held in September 2015.

I almost forgot to mention the 'icing on the cake' when it was announced that we had won back the Club Trophy by just one point (300 – 299).

Finally, I must congratulate Malcolm & Maureen for doing so well in their first attempt, having only previously played on a rally field. Now they have the opportunity to play in an international tournament. Their experience should be enough to encourage more of you Suntreckers to join us next year.

Colin Gorham - (Club Petanque Captain)

Gala Rally 2016

Date: Thursday 21st July - Monday 25th July 2016

Theme: PIRATES

Ken Webster photograph theme: Wild Birds

Saturday Nights Entertainment: Ancient Mariners

This years' entertainment is by a group called the "Ancient Mariners" a rock group but who play all sorts of music especially when they have had a beer or two and I'm confident you will find them enjoyable (at least they will be close to our age group).

For those of you who have never been before (shame on you), there is ample room on the field and the marquee will be heated or cooled depending on the weather which by the way I have ordered so it should be wall to wall sunshine so get your booking forms in.

This year as in previous years we are holding an auction, the auctioneer will be John Clayton who will again give up a lot of his free time to run it so please support him and bring along items you would like to sell, it would make money for you and welcome money for the club.

Talking about money for the club there will be a raffle, those of you who have attended rallies will have had your arm twisted to buy raffle tickets, the prizes this year are excellent and well worth the cost of a few raffle tickets, so keep digging deep into your pockets and buy an extra half dozen tickets.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR TREASURER

TREASURER'S ROLE

As you are all probably aware I am definitely standing down as Treasurer at this year's AGM after being persuaded, last year, to continue for another year.

I will have been Suntreckers Treasurer for 4 years, after temporarily(!), taking over from Liz Stewart whilst she and husband Rod went travelling in Europe for a year. Well they are still travelling, but I do feel the need to step down.

The Treasurers job is not too difficult, but does need someone who can keep accurate records of all money coming into the club and also expenses being paid. There is a system in place, based on manual records but to enable the ease of producing accounts at year end, those records need to be entered onto a computer spread sheet.

The spread sheet just needs data entry, it was created by a member that was an accountant so all formulas are automatic and password protected so can't be amended in error by the operator.

If anyone would like to know more about the role I would be happy to show them the records I keep and talk them through the tasks.

I have created a detailed help file, and would be willing to 'mentor' someone, from the end of a telephone/computer, for the first few months or until they felt confident to continue without help.

There are several roles within the committee that the club can't manage without, one of them is the Treasurer, so if you feel you would like to take on this role, please contact me on either 01773 880762 (there is an answer machine if I am not available), or by e mailing me at: *treasurer @suntreckers.org.uk*

Kathryn Gascoyne

RULES / SUNTRECKER CODE OF CONDUCT AMENDMENTS / CHANGES PAGE

PHOTOGRAPHY INCLUDING ELECTRONICALLY PRODUCED IMAGES

(ORIGINAL RULE)

The photographing (including any electronically produced imaging) of adults may only be undertaken with their expressed permission. The photographing of children under the age of 18 years may only be undertaken if the parents or guardians are present and have given their permission to do so. Such photographs shall not be used for any purpose likely to bring the naturist movement into disrepute and photographs of children shall not be electronically transmitted or passed on to third parties. Photographs taken at rallies may only be used for publication in publications approved by the National Committee and are subject to the obtaining of a completed release form signed by all recognisable individuals included in the photograph.

PHOTOGRAPHY INCLUDING ELECTRONICALLY PRODUCED IMAGES

(AMENDED RULE IN HIGHLIGHT)

The photographing (including any electronically produced imaging) of adults may only be undertaken with their expressed permission. The photographing of children under the age of 18 years may only be undertaken if the parents or guardians are present and have given their permission to do so. **The photographing of vehicles (including cars, caravans and motorhomes) may only be undertaken with the expressed permission of the owner/user of that vehicle.** Such photographs shall not be used for any purpose likely to bring the naturist movement into disrepute and photographs of children shall not be electronically transmitted or passed on to third parties. Photographs taken at rallies may only be used for publication in publications approved by the National Committee and are subject to the obtaining of a completed release form signed by all recognisable individuals included in the photograph.

FIVE DAY RALLIES (ORIGINAL CODE OF CONDUCT)

Exemption Certificate rallies on farm field or other similar sites can extend to a maximum of five night's duration usually shown in the programme as Friday to Wednesday. However, it must be accepted that a lot of members who are in work are likely to leave Sunday or Monday morning. The rally is officially designated as five nights to allow retired members to enjoy a further 2/3 days of relaxed naturism but there is unlikely to be any organised rally activities. If you do not wish to be left alone or with a small number of others, you must ascertain the position from the rally officer either before the rally or immediately on arrival.

FIVE DAY RALLIES (AMENDED CODE OF CONDUCT CHANGE IN HIGHLIGHT)

Exemption Certificate rallies on farm field or other similar sites can extend to a maximum of five night's duration usually shown in the programme as Friday to Wednesday. However, it must be accepted that some members may wish to leave Sunday or Monday morning. The rally is officially designated as five nights to allow **(THE WORD 'RETIRED' NOW REMOVED)** members to enjoy a further 2/3 days of relaxed naturism but there is unlikely to be any organised rally activities. If you do not wish to be left alone or with a small number of others, you must ascertain the position from the rally officer either before the rally or immediately on arrival.

YEARBOOK AMENDMENTS & CHANGES

1. Rally No: 61 Mill Bank dates should read Friday 12/08/16 – Friday 19/08/16 and not Wednesday to Wednesday.
2. I have been informed by the new rally organiser at Mill Bank that Suntreckers site fee will be increased from £9 per unit per night to £11.

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and their team
for Printing & Distributing
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