

THE TRECKER



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Editor's Corner

I suppose it was always going to be too much to expect this summer to be a repeat of last year's and so it's turning out. We were wilting in the heat on the first day of the gala rally, as the UK recorded its second hottest day ever, and then shivering in the marquee at the AGM on the Sunday, as the rain hammered down outside. Luckily the large contingent of Suntreckers who attended Nudifest earlier in July enjoyed mostly fine weather and were able to promote our club again with well-organised pétanque sessions - more on this later.

The summer rally programme lies at the heart of our club and I've been able to catch up with a good number of you at Marsh Farm (mostly cool and damp), South West Outdoor Club (mostly warm and sunny) and Greenhill Park (rather mixed). That's probably all we'll be able to manage in this country before the winter programme starts but we're off to France soon to join up with the rally at Camping du Port.

Geoff Heyes
PPO

Chairman's Chat

Hello everyone and may I first of all say a big thank you to the membership for voting in both Jenny as Company secretary and myself as Chairman at the AGM. What a weekend that was too! The rally started on the Thursday in record temperatures but after it started to rain on the Saturday morning it hardly stopped till Sunday night.

Despite the weather doing its worst Jenny and I both had a great weekend and we wish more Treckers would join the Gala Rally. We have both said in the past that the Gala Rally wasn't our type of event, so it just goes to show how wrong we were!

We both feel it's a large step to take, jumping into the Committee right at the top so to speak! We hope we don't make too many faux pas along the way and feel sure that the other committee members will guide us through. We do have some prior committee experience, both within naturism and outside. Jenny has been both club secretary and treasurer of a local naturist club (now sadly closed) and I am a trustee and treasurer of a very active prostate cancer charity, of which Jenny is also an active committee member and trustee. I have to say we don't always see eye to eye on some matters - Jenny is nobody's "yes person"!

We are both keen ralliers at home and abroad, and I would like to extend my thanks to all the rally officers who make things run smoothly. A lot of planning and preparation goes into this so I would encourage you all to try to attend at least some of the rallies on offer. We'll be doing our bit next year by running the rally at Le Coteau de l'Herme, a site new to Suntreckers down in the Périgord region, not far from Laulurie and Le Couderc. By the time you read this we'll have deserted the UK in favour of France, where we'll be attending the rally at Camping du Port, another new site for us secured by Monty. We hope to see some of you there.

Peter Chapman
Chairman.

Rally Organiser

I'm in the process of dealing with a few items which cropped up since the AGM but in the meantime there are a couple of points you should be aware of whether you are a rallier or a rally officer:-

1. TO RALLY OFFICERS: If a site offers a free pitch to the rally officer then site fees cannot be claimed back.
2. MEMBERS WITH PETS: A private members site has recently modified their rules so that anyone who wishes to bring a dog onto their site will be required to produce a copy of their dog insurance policy showing that public liability relating to their dog is included.
3. On a more upbeat topic we have received a letter of appreciation from BN thanking all the Suntreckers who attended this year's Nudefest and helped out with a number of roles at the event. John Furley was singled out for his efforts in organising the pétanque sessions - you can read more about this later in an article on Nudefest.

Steve Wagstaff
National Rally Organiser

Gala Rally

Firstly I would like to pass on my thanks for all the hard work and assistance Tess and I received not only from our dedicated assistants but from the ralliers who helped with the games, entertainment on the Sunday evening and taking down the decorations in the marquee afterwards. All of the hard work would have been in vain if you the members hadn't supported the gala rally and made the running of it a pleasure.

The theme this year was "Easter", with Easter-themed games taking place both inside and outside the marquee on the Friday afternoon, while the weather was still fine. We played bingo on the Friday evening and held a table-top sale on the Saturday lunchtime, by which time the weather had taken an alarming turn for the worse. Our spirits weren't dampened though and after an egg-decorating competition in the afternoon it was party time in the evening with the usual fancy dress parade and dancing to the music of *Sounds Familiar*.

In addition we had the usual pétanque competition running on Friday and Saturday, a round the van quiz, an Easter egg hunt and of course the Sunday raffle. As always I'd appreciate your feedback on how things went and what we could do to improve it - my contact details can be found in the Yearbook. This applies equally to the majority of you who don't come to the gala weekend. Your opinions are just as important and any suggestions on what we could do to encourage you to turn up next year would be valuable.



Fluffy bunny (or 2)



Nude bunny



'Rachel' bunny



Fancy dress winners - Liz Stewart and Malcom Burland.

Several suggestions for next year were received over the weekend and after discussion at the post-AGM committee meeting it was decided that next year's theme will be "Harry Potter" and the subject of the Ken Webster photography competition will be "Travel".

Steve Wagstaff
National Rally Organiser

Long service awards 2019

10 Years

Michael and Susan Betts
Bryan Bunce
George and Judy Cooper
Chris and Katherine Genn
John and Aileen Hobrough
Gordon and Ann Neve
Graham and Lucille Scott
Mike and Lyn Ward

15 Years

Gregory Carr
Jim and Yvonne Matthews
Fred and Marion Newman
Peter and Chris Preston
Cliff and Diane Sutton

20 Years

Tony and Ellie Drakard
David and Margaret Jones
Jim and Iris Montgomery

25 Years

Stuart and Janice Dowson
Eric and Angela Hounslow
Steve and Pat Wiltshire

30 Years

Terry and Mary Cadby
David and Diane Howard
Len and Ann Jones
Michael Murray

35 Years

Tony and Angela Berry
Russell and Sylvia Ferne
Colin and Avril Gorham
Gwen Harding and June Crozier
Barry Jennings
Alan and Valerie Judge
John and Heather Tidbury
Ken and Pam Wilson

Competition Winners

Easter Games

1st Tom Hay
2nd Les Todd
3rd Steve Wagstaff

Easter Egg Hunt

1st Andrew Hine

Egg Painting

1st Maureen Burland

2nd Adey Jarvis

Fancy Dress

Lady Winner Liz Stewart

Gentlemen Winner Malcom Burland

Pétanque

Grand Final Winners Ian Sinclair and Roger Coggan

Grand Final Runners Up Will Rees and Monty Toplis

Friday Runners Up Eddie and Pat Silk

Saturday Runners Up Ray and Trish Moore

Photography

Ken Webster Trophy Winter scene on a canal Philip Stafford

General Photo Bringing home the bacon David Whittaker

Round the Van Quiz

Winners Rod and Liz Stewart

Raffle

Our first year of running the raffle was quite successful in as much as it raised about the same as last year. This was due to our band of ticket sellers and in no small way to the wonderful prizes donated by the ralliers to whom we give a big thank you, especially as I forgot to do it on the day. Sorry about that (we are learning).

We are striving to make next years even more successful, so please buy your tickets when you see them on sale during rallies. We are working on it so watch this space.

Terry & Lesley Jackman

Raffle Prize List

Prize	Winner
£100 Cash	Peter & Chris Preston
Duvet & £40 Gift voucher	Ashley & Claire Day
Easter Hamper	Steve & Tess Wagstaff
Picture	Dick & Julie Farthing
Metal Bird	Tom Hay & Andrea Tinson
Photo Coasters	Guy & Vi Baker
USB Fan	Brian & Barbara Morgan
Poker Set	Ray & Trish Moore
Costa Coffee Voucher	Ron & Ann Twining
Cutlery	Peter & Jenny Chapman
Ludo	Monty & Trina Toplis
Bathing Items	Don & Linda Clark

Prize	Winner
Whisky	Terry & Mary Cadby
White Wine	Les & Eveline Todd
Cefnsuran Discount Voucher	Andrew & Kathleen Hine
Pot Pourri	Mike Parkinson & Ivana Boksan-Cullen
Metal Rabbit	Mike & Lynne Ward
Jigsaw	David Poole
Cool Box	Ron & Janet Wilding
Suntrecker Bag	Bryan Bunce
Colouring Book	Mike Parkinson & Ivana Boksan-Cullen
Lavender Wrap	Les & Eveline Todd
Mugs & Mats	Tom Hay & Andrea Tinson
No7 Cosmetics bag	Geoff & Eileen Heyes
Mystery Prize	Les & Eveline Todd
Fleece	Robert & Pauline Finney
Pot Pourri	John & Lyn Furley

UK Rally Reports

Rally 59 - Cambridge Outdoor Club

Gwen Harding has been running these rallies for many years. She says it is at least ten years, but it could be more. With two rallies a year at this club, that must add up to well over twenty rallies.

She is now retiring, so we had a collection and presented her with a large potted plant for her garden, a bouquet of flowers, a bottle of Prosecco and a gift voucher. We all appreciate her hard work as she organises so much for us. We started with a coffee morning, then on Saturday night the club members cooked and served a four course meal with coffee.



On Sunday, we had a barbeque, and in the evening Gwen held a Chinese auction. This was great fun for everyone. The popular prize of an LED fairy light was passed round all the time and Ray Moore was eventually the lucky winner.

On Tuesday, Gwen ordered fish and chips for us and after that we had a quiz. There was a pétanque competition over a couple of days won by Joe and Karen. Jeff had a lucky dip prize.

Wendy Clarke

Rally 61 - Greenhill Park

Terry and Lesley Jackman are well known as excellent rally officers but on this occasion they excelled themselves. I suppose the kindest thing to say about the weather was that it was “mixed” and Terry’s double gazebo, known as “The Pleasure Dome” was put to good use for some of the coffee mornings and evening get-togethers. The Saturday had been earmarked for a ‘fete’, with a various games followed by an afternoon tea.



Games winners: 1st Clark, 2nd Terry, 3rd Phillip

Terry clearly must have an innate ability to predict the weather as the rain held off, the sun shone and we all got stuck into the games including bows and arrows, darts, ring toss, horseshoes, shoot the king of the castle and hook a duck or a fish. Fun was had by all - the winners were even presented with medals - see picture.

The rally quiz was rather challenging, having come from Qi but at least it resulted in some interesting discussions.

Being so close to Stratford on Avon we were able to visit the RSC and attend performances in the Swan Theatre and The Royal Shakespeare Theatre, even an open air one in the park. We also visited their exhibition and went up the tower as well as enjoying a behind-the-scenes tour of both theatres. If you're interested in the history, you can purchase one ticket that gives entry to all the Shakespeare houses and lasts for a year. Keep up the good work T & L we'll all be back, especially the new members attending their first rally who thoroughly enjoyed themselves and were made to feel extremely welcome.

Adrienne and Clark Jarvis

Nudefest 2019

Although not a Suntrecker rally, there were times when it felt a bit like one as a large contingent of our members attended this year. Once again our learn to play pétanque pistes had a prominent position with a large Suntrecker banner on display for all to see. Thanks should go to John Furley and his team of helpers for all the hard work involved in setting up and running these sessions.

The obvious benefit to the club is publicity and we had several enquiries from potential new members. We also got some radio coverage - John Furley, Micaela Stafford and Wendy Clarke were all interviewed live on BBC Radio Somerset and succeeded in mentioning Suntreckers six times between them.

We also had a Suntrecker wedding as Mike and Wendy Clarke, who were officially married last year, had organised a rather unusual pagan wedding ceremony on the Friday.



Congratulations to Wendy and Mike

Finally we received a very complimentary letter from Nigel Pinkstone, organiser of Nudefest, in which he expressed his thanks to Suntreckers and John Furley in particular for setting up and running the pétanque sessions. Quoting from Nigel's letter: "Every time I talk to a Suntrecker member or cajole one of them into helping in some capacity they all have a 'can-do' attitude and more importantly have a smile on their face. If Suntreckers were a brand I would recommend it to everyone."

Continental Rally Report - Rally 41 - Le Clos Marot

Ours was the largest of the early Continental rallies (12 couples and 4 singles) and we hit that amazing heatwave at the end of June. It's the friendly ANCA club site, which gave us several activities with local members, also not far from the sea, which mitigated the great heat elsewhere. Just one evening stayed oppressively hot. The site re-opened the pool and switched on the underwater lights, allowing French and Brits to pile in – no room to swim, just enough to gratefully wallow!

ANCA provided an *apéro* with flowing wine (literally, they have a fountain!) and nibbles, and when we enquired about a possible crêpe van, members themselves cooked a meal of cheese, ham and egg galette, followed by a sweet crêpe with Breton cider. Another night there was a BBQ and Suntreckers provided the entertainment. Sue Watt's belly dancing always gets a rapturous reception. For music she and Mike were joined by Jeff Mason, a very accomplished professional musician. Jeff promises to bring his saxophone next time, but even with an electronic substitute he and Mike made amazing music that had some French couples dancing in the aisles.



Sue's belly dancing

The Rally Officers contributed a couple of things. Officers in the Army are taught to think of the worst that could happen and prepare in advance:

“What’s the worst that can happen?”

“It’s Brittany, it’ll be cold and wet!”

“Hot crumble and custard will cheer them up!”

Well, the weather turned out hot but somehow hot apricot crumble and custard proved popular anyway. There was also a quiz that included a sheet of anagrams. The anagrams were generated automatically from the names of Treckers at the rally by a mischievous computer . Unfortunately, some turned out quite rude, like ‘*My randy rater*’ and ‘*A perverted alien*’, though ‘*I naked muse*’ was rather nice.

Couples were split up for the quiz, which was won by Peter Perkins and Don Kent’s wife Jill. Remarkably, Peter was also co-winner of the boules. After saying he didn’t want to play for long, he was paired with Norman Wedley, a ‘complete beginner’, yet they won the competition against stiff opposition like Alan and Margaret Taylor. “Must be beginners



Winners of the boules competitions

luck!” said Norman. The parallel competition for first round losers was won by Monty Toplis and Terry Cadby. The Rally was attended by Ron and Ann Twining, Suntreckers’ Chairman and Secretary, whose history goes back to the very beginnings of the club. It happened to be Ron’s birthday on the third day. This was duly marked with cake for everyone and candles too numerous to count. Other gatherings were impromptu, like when people put their dinner tables side by side on a warm evening. Others tack on, until there’s a long line. One such evening was after Boris (no not that one) had arrived selling fresh shellfish fresh off the boat – literally, he put boards across. Much of the food that night was oysters, cockles, and moules marinières.



Ron's birthday celebrations



A long table on a warm evening



Shellfish fresh off the boat

A good site, a good crowd, and good weather. One long-standing member even said 'I think it's the rally I've most enjoyed'.

John and Sue Cole

Winter Rallies 2019/2020

<u>Rally</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Dates</u>
82	White Mark Farm, Oxfordshire	11-14 October
83	Hyde Farm, Worcestershire	CANCELLED
84	Greenhill Park, Warwickshire	30 November - 3 December
85	Kingfisher Farm, Lincolnshire	29 December - 2 January
1	Telford Naturist Club, Shropshire	24 - 27 January
2	Stanton Lakes, Leicestershire	14-17 February
3	Windmill Farm, Lincolnshire	6-9 March

Malcolm & Maureen Burland

Continental Rallies 2020

Below are the plans for our continental rallies next year, taking in both France and Spain. Proposed dates are given but not all rallies are confirmed yet.

- 1 Camping Relax-Nat, Palamós (Costa Brava)
www.relaxnat.com
Tuesday 12 May - Monday 25 May **to be confirmed in December**
- 2 French site, awaiting confirmation
Wednesday 27 May - Saturday 6 June
- 3 French site, awaiting confirmation
Monday 8 June - Thursday 18 June
- 4 Club du Soleil de Touraine, Clère-Les-Pins (Indre et Loire)
www.cstouraine.fr
Monday 22 June - Thursday 2 July
- 5 Lous Suais (east of Limoges)
www.loussuais.com
Wednesday 2 September - Saturday 12 September
- 6 Le Coteau de l'Herm (Dordogne)
www.naturisme-dordogne.com
Monday 14 - Thursday 24 September

Monty Toplis

International Pétanque Competition 2019

The annual INF Pétanque competition was played this year at Le Betulle Naturist Campsite near Turin in Italy from 30 August to 1 September, with 55 mixed-pair teams from 7 European countries - report from John Furley.

Seven British Naturism teams competed, with 3 of those being Suntrecker members. The overall competition was won by a Swiss couple who beat a couple from the Netherlands in the final match. The top British team of Karl and Carole was placed 17th overall and were duly presented with the David Argent trophy as the best placed Suntreckers and the Chalfont cup as the best placed Britons.

Results for BN teams as follows:

Carole & Karl (Suntrecker)	17
Rae & Ken (Suntrecker)	20
John & Lyn (Suntrecker)	29
Ian & Annie	33 - Winners of the Plate Competition
Brian & Brenda	39
Garry & Sue	40
Glyn & Barrie	41

Some sad news

John Clayton passed away peacefully at the beginning of September after suffering a major stroke. John served on the committee for 14 years and had been a member for over 30 years. Family contact can be made through Alan (Webmaster) and Jackie - details in the Yearbook. The funeral will be a small, family occasion.

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 ppo@suntrecker.org.uk

Thank you to John for sending this newsletter by email, and to Malcom and Maureen for printing and sending out the paper version. Also thanks to Alan for putting it on the website.