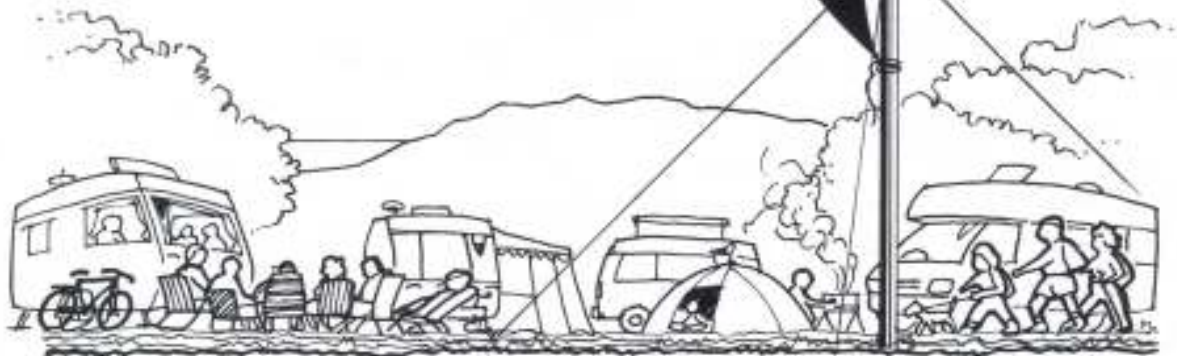


THE NEWSLETTER
of the

SOMERSET
District Association

The Camping and
Caravanning Club

*The friendly
Club*



Forthcoming Events

**Please note – The site opening time is the earliest time of arrival
Stewards must take note of VAT information supplied with the meet sheets**

Date	Venue	Stewards	Notes
Oct 2-5	Shrubbery Caravan Site, Rousdon, Lyme Regis DT7 3XW	Stella & David	MR 193/296914 YBSB 193/230 3 night meet site opens 12.00 pm
Oct 10	SWR Dinner & Dance		Thistle Hotel Exeter
Oct 9-11	Webbers CaravanPark, Castle Lane, Woodbury, Exeter. EX5 1EA	Ann & Robin	Booked site for dinner dance MR 192/017873 YBSB 192/91 Site opens 12.00pm
Oct 16- 18	Church Camp site, Glebe Cottage, Long Newton Tetbury GL8 8RR	Sue & Rex	MR173/911926 YBSB 173/118 site opens 12.00 pm
Nov 5-10	Beech Tree Farm, Burdenham, Westonzoyland Bridgwater TA7 0JB	Ann & Robin	<u>Booked meet</u> Carnival MR182/369346 YBSB 182/54 Site opens 12.00pm
Dec 4-6	South View Farm, Burtle TA7 8NB	Sandra & Terry	MR 182/401431 Site opens 12.00pm
Dec 5	Burtle Village Hall TA7 8NB		DA Xmas party 7 pm onwards See details elsewhere in Cyder Press

On their 50th wedding anniversary Derek says to his wife, “whatever you want, just name it and I’ll buy it for you. It doesn’t matter how much it costs. Just say what you would like for our anniversary.”

Betty replies “A divorce”

“To be honest” Derek says “I wasn’t thinking of spending quite that much”.



Latest date for items for inclusion in the Dec 'Cyder Press' will be Nov 20th

Next committee meeting 18th Nov

I was very saddened to hear whilst on holiday, of the deaths of both Charlie Shearstone and Mike Harris. Charlie has not been out with us for quite a while but Mike has been out camping until quite recently. They were both lovely people and I'm sure many of us will have good memories of them.

New Year party

Please look at the booking form for New Year.

We were short on DA numbers last year and as it is a full programme with lots of things going on in the hall it seems a pity that more DA members don't come. If you haven't been to a DA New Year party before then give it a go. If you haven't been for a year or three then perhaps it's time that you resurrected it.

Xmas Party

You will not recognise Burtle Village Hall when you get in there this year as it now has a state of the art kitchen, a new heating system (no coats needed this year- bring your bikini), a full sound system and improvements in all other aspects. Have a look at **www.burtlevillage.co.uk**

The evening will consist of homemade style games, (please bring a pack of playing cards and a supply of 10p pieces), a raffle (a wrapped raffle prize would be appreciated) and a supper. See tear off slip.

Date for your diary

St Margaret's Hall Bradford on Avon Saturday 6th March 2010

Bath Light Opera Group (BLOG) are organising another barn dance on the above date.

This was a very good event last year. June and Don went with Jeannine and myself and we had a good time (worth going for the food alone).

I hope to put more information in the next Cyder Press

TERRIES TWADDLE

How much has changed since the last issue of the Cyder Press. As most people know Carolyn stepped down from being chairman due to health reasons. Following this the committee met and confirmed me as chairman with Ron agreeing to be vice-chairman.

This summer has seen members of Somerset DA, being represented at Regional, National and International events.

Numbers were slightly down at our THS, but this seems to have happened across the country, including some large events.

We now look forward to the Autumn and Christmas.

Our Christmas social will be at Burtle, the new hall is ready and has been checked by members of the committee. The social this year will include Quizzes spot prizes, Panto, raffle, music. There will be a hot supper. If you do not book you can still come but will not be able to have any cooked food.

I know that some members want to go elsewhere. If you are one please please, look for a new venue, it needs to be in the middle of the county, with camping in sensible winter night walking distance, there needs to be a hall with use of a suitable size and equipped kitchen, and available for the 1st Saturday in December 2010. It will need to be booked in the next few weeks; otherwise we will have to book Burtle again for 2010.

The AGM date has been CHANGED it is now Saturday 13th March 2010. The original planned camping, meeting and meal venue was, on investigation by several DA members, found unsuitable.

The committee listened, thought and investigated alternatives. Remembering that members wanted the AGM to move around we will stick to the Bath area for 2010, Taunton area for 2011, and then make a decision on returning to the Wells area or moving around.

For 2010, the AGM will be at 11am at Camerton Village Hall, followed by a cooked meal, members meeting, more details to follow when details are confirmed.

This will allow people to come for the day, although camping is available. The changes will hopefully allow everyone to know what job people are doing for the following year.

A policeman on a motorcycle pulls over a car. "What's up" says the driver.

"Your wife fell out of the passenger door three miles back", says the policeman.

"Thank goodness for that" says the driver, "I thought I'd gone deaf".

STOWFORD MANOR FARM

19th-21st June 2009

The site at Stowford Manor Farm is only a few miles from home but we actually left Bath on 30th May and took a very scenic route via Northern Ireland & Co Donegal before arriving for our duties as stewards. Thank you Ann & Robin for bringing the kit home with them from the meet at Taunton Racecourse – very much appreciated.

There were eight units on site and the whole weekend was a lovely relaxing lazy time. A cup of tea was offered to folk as they arrived and we all spent a pleasant afternoon enjoying the hot and sunny weather and of course each other's company.

The only problem on Saturday seemed to revolve around what time should we all go for a cream tea. Sixteen of us took over the tables in the Manor House and enjoyed the scones, jam and loads of cream all washed down with lots of cups of tea. After that treat the planned communal BBQ was cancelled!

During the evening Tony was the winner when we played the card game that Mike & Barbara brought with them. No doubt this game will be used again at DA meets.

Sunday was yet another sunny day and during Coffee Morning the results of the quiz were announced (well done Sue & Dave) and thanks to Mike for the Site Secretary's Speech.

We left for home during the afternoon to face all the washing and ironing after our holidays.

Roger & Suzanne

Xmas Party at Burtle

5th Dec

If anyone has reservations regarding the standard of the facilities at Burtle, I think that you will be more than mildly pleased when you see it.

Jeannine and I visited the hall and had a guided tour and everything seems to be state of the art with a very well fitted out kitchen, a sound system with four speakers set under the roof, a heat exchange heating system and a full width stage.

The evening will have a different format than before with games (**please bring a pack of cards and some 10p pieces and a wrapped raffle prize**). There will be a supper of a filled jacket potato and a sweet.

Please see tear off slip at end of this issue

Pearash Farm, Penselwood

2nd - 7th July

We arrived at Pearash Farm on Wednesday afternoon to set up, unusually it was so hot we had to decide whether to look for shade or find a level bit near the gate. We opted for the latter so that we could control the rush of arrivals (and it was a short run to the gate if, as predicted, it should rain.) Dawn arrived a little later to help with the booking in on Thursday as Creina had to go to Dilton Marsh to help with the day centre. After Webster did a tour of the field Dawn decided to join us in the sun rather than spending the night alone further down the field. Levelling caused Webster some head scratching, but having achieved some stability he retreated home to civilisation. Later Dawn found her fridge had joined in a strike against working in hot weather. We were both pleased that there were kind souls who helped us with cooling milk and ice packs.

Thursday midday, those not gainfully employed, started to arrive, some chose to stay with us for the evening shade, the others went further down the field for morning shade. We are not used in this country to have it so hot that shade is important. We were 'upper class and looked down on them', but there was a lot of fraternising (walking's good for you).

Theresa had asked, that on Friday evening, we arrange for a short meeting of the DA, at which she announced that Carolyn was standing down as Chairperson. We expect there is a formal announcement elsewhere in the Cyder Press. Everyone was sorry to hear this and hoped Carolyn, Ian and Owen will join us somewhere in a field soon.

Saturday morning, Suzanne's friend, Don, visited us and took a party for a walk around Penselwood, telling them tales of his childhood and some of the characters who lived there.

We had not arranged much of a programme for the weekend, this worked quite well, the energetic ones walked, the others did what they do best – drink tea or coffee and chat. We set Saturday afternoon aside for the Trevor Vowles' Laughter Cup. The game devised was based on golf without clubs, using boule balls, which most campers have in their kit. There were six visitors playing for a bottle of wine, this was won by Jenny (an ex TTG member visiting Theresa and John).

Sixteen Somerset DA members played for the TVL Cup, producing quite a lot of hilarity as everyone played the game in the spirit in which it was intended. Barbara came out as winner, taking only 23 throws to complete the 10 holes.

It was thought that we would need time for a play-off for tied games, but as we had winners in the first round, we brought forward the tea and cakes by half an hour. If we use this game again, changes have been noted.

Theresa and Dawn presented the prizes after the tea and cake. The cake makers did us proud, both in choice and quantity, there being enough for coffee morning on Sunday even though seconds had been taken.

Sunday, apart from coffee morning, was another please-yourself day. Walkers walked and the supporters of our pensions drifted off to do their best for us.

Monday the walkers went to Stourton, where a little liquid refreshment was being taken outside, when a very hard shower caused a quick retreat into the Spread Eagle. When the

rain stopped there was just enough time for them to get back to the field. This was weather for the rest of the day – heavy rain between showers – which is how it was the last time we were stewards here.

Tuesday dawned bright and sunny. Great – get the awning down dry - no way, just as it was getting dry, more rain. Fortunately the ground was dry enough for the motorhomes to get out unaided.

Update on our fridge – it needed a jet which is now discontinued, so we called in the DA mafia and now, thanks to everyone who helped us, we now have the jet, passed from hand to hand across the county, ready to be fitted. A big thank-you Somerset DA.

Paul & Creina

Pearash Farm, Penselwood (alternative report)

2nd - 7th July

Thinking of the request in the Cyder Press for short meet reports perhaps this alternative report might be better, with leanings towards the Latin “I came, I saw, I conquered”.

We came to Pearash Farm

Webster deposited Dawn next to us and departed

Creina went home and to Dilton Marsh Day Centre

Creina returned

Theresa announced Carolyn not Chairperson – boo hoo

Barbara won Trevor Vowles’ Laughter Cup – hooray

Jenny, ex TTG, won wine – hooray

Weather started very hot, turned wet, wetter, deluge – boo hoo

Lot of walking, some very wet

Heavy rain, wet awning

Went home to dry out.

Paul & Creina

A man walks into a bar and settles down with his drink next to a little fellow who's staring miserably at his scotch. After about 20 minutes, the little guy is still sitting there, so the first man grabs the scotch and drinks it down. The little chap starts to cry.

Hey, I'm sorry, says the first man, but I thought maybe you didn't want it. Let me buy you another.

No it's not that. This is the worst day of my life. First, I oversleep, get to work late and my boss fires me. When I leave the building to go to my car, I find it's stolen. I get a cab home, but leave my wallet in it. I get inside my front door, and find my wife in bed with my brother.

Then to top it all off, I come to this bar, and just as I'm thinking of finishing it all, you show up and drink my poison.

PANTOMIME VISIT

Some of the DA members enjoyed a local amateur production of Snow White and the Seven Garden Gnomes last January.

The details of the 2010 pantomime are as follows:

Pantomime: Dick Whittington

Date: Saturday 23rd January 2010

Venue: St Philip & St James Church, Odd Down, Bath

Time: 2.30 pm and 7.30 pm

Ticket Prices: Not yet announced

If anyone is interested please contact:

The Booking Officer by Email: secretary@somersetda.co.uk

A Somerset farmer got in his Land Rover, drove to his neighbours farm and knocked on the door. A young boy aged about 9 opened the door.

"Is yer dad 'ome" said the farmer.

"No he ain't," replied the boy "he went to town".

"Is yer mum in" said the farmer.

"No, she went with Dad"

"Ow about yer brother Howard, is he 'ere"

"No 'e went with Dad"

The farmer stood there for a minute shifting from one foot to the other and mumbling to himself.

"Is there anything I can do for you" said the boy, "I know where all the tools are, if you want to borrow one, or could I take a message fer Dad".

"Well" said the farmer uncomfortably, "I really wanted to talk to yer Dad. It's about your brother Howard getting my daughter Suzie pregnant".

The boy thought for a moment "You would have to talk to Dad about that" he finally conceded, "but if it helps any, I know that he charges £250 for the Bull and £25 for the pig, but I don't know how much he gets for Howard.



Ron and Beryl with the tankard that he was presented with on the closing weekend of Staple Farm.

Ron has been helping with the stewarding of this THS for the last 15 years alongside Bob and Pam and latterly with Robin and Ann and has now decided to call it a day.

The Somerset DA has been very grateful for his hard work and we all wish him well for the future.

To anybody that remembers Alec, I received this letter from him whilst I was on holiday, in response to the tear off slip to receive the 'Cyder Press'.

I always find it quite sad to hear of anyone having to give up camping, although, I know it happens to us all at some time or another.

Dear Robert

Many thanks for the recent 'Cyder Press' which I have enjoyed for many years, but have decided to call it a day. We are still endeavouring to 'MOVE HOUSE' and not only that but I had to dispense with our caravan and by the end of the year the car will also go.

This is the last use of my club paper which is well and truly OUT OF DATE will forward to you with my best wishes to you and your newsletter.

Please pass on my best wishes to Robin and Ann, both of whom I have been in touch with for more than a few years as well as Stan and Dianne.

Kindest regards

Alec

AGM 2010

Camerton Village Hall has been booked for Saturday 13th March 2010 with camping adjacent on 12th -14th. We have the hall from 8.00 am to midnight at a cost of £130.00. Camping charges will probably be £6.00.

The address of the Hall is Camerton Village Hall, Meadgate, Camerton, BA2 0NL. MR 172/679585 - Its website is www.camertonhall.com More details in next issue.

Elmsdale, Marstow.

August 27 – 31, Bank Holiday Meet.

David and myself arrived on Tuesday 25th. For once the weather was dry when we arrived. Several campers were on the field with instructions to move off by Thursday as a rally was booked to start then.

Wednesday we visited Ross on Wye to check out local amenities. We listened to the weather forecast and were expecting the tail end of a hurricane to hit us, but fortunately it passed us by leaving a breezy day. By teatime we considered it calm enough to put up our Pod awning, but the rain decided it was time for us to get wet that day and the heavens opened. Undaunted we carried on.

Thursday was a bit dryer and we did see some sun, so out came the chair. Folk started to arrive around Lunchtime. Both ourselves and Ted had taken Gazebos with us so we put them up ready for the evening gathering. Decorated with lights and banners and balloons.

Friday more campers arrived and at 4pm we gathered in the Gazebos for tea and cakes provided by the Stewards – ourselves. On clearing up the Heavens decided once again to make its presence felt and duly soaked the Gazebos and those of us still in them.

Saturday the hardy walkers left us for a few hours to discover the local countryside. Following the communal BBQ in the evening we all enjoyed Strawberries and clotted cream provided by Ted and Marriane. Ken and Liz arrived and after sorting themselves out and feeding the inner

man, Ken and helpers erected the dome tent he had brought for extra shelter. Woman power won the day and the dome was duly sited where Ted had requested it to be.

Sunday the walkers left us again, and everybody else did their own thing. Marianne provided cakes in the afternoon and the Stewards made the tea. 7.30pm saw everybody under cover to celebrate Ted's 90th birthday. He cut his cake, kindly made by Creina. Ted was rather overwhelmed on receiving his presents, a Solar Panel, BBQ and cash. He was a little bemused when Peter handed him his mobile phone to find Jeannine and Robert on the other end speaking from France. The evening continued in a jovial manner.

Monday several units left us to return home for work and other commitments. One or two also left due to the cold wet weather, 9 units stayed until Tuesday and some gathered in our Gazebo for a chin wag in the evening.

Tuesday after going round to say our good byes to the remaining few David and I went out for a few hours. Arriving back the field was empty. Time to RELAX as we thought as we were staying until Wednesday. At 6.00pm a white van arrives with a Sponsorship sign on the side – John O Groats to Lands End on Monkey bikes. They promptly parked behind us and worked on the bikes until 10.00pm slamming sliding doors on the van every few minutes and revving engines, all in torrential rain.

Ha Ha !! An apology next morning was refused, They were a fire hazard 6ft away from the rear of the caravan with a van between us, very dangerous!

In all a very good Bank Holiday meet with 21 Somersets, 2 Coventry and one guest.

We held a raffle for the Dorset and Somerset air Ambulance and raised £67.

Thanks to all,

I would like to thank all my "Little Helpers"(Stellas Little Helpers) who served tea and coffee and Mariannes cakes.

See you all soon.

David and Stella.

TREVOR'S LAUGHTER CUP 2009.

Well, as usual when there is a DA meet at Penselwood, the weather was lovely. Paul and Creina were the stewards, but as Creina had to go back home to make dinner for her luncheon club, I had to be assistant steward for the first day, Thursday. We weren't really expecting there to be too many units, as a lot of people were away, travelling around various parts of Europe, but there was a really good turnout over the whole five days.



Because of the good number of people there, the game of "Golf with Boules" that Paul had devised for the Cup was well supported. It was very amusing, with people entering teams of two to six. Even the obstacles that Paul had put in place didn't seem to deter the participants from getting good scores.

However, the Cup was won by Barbara, and the prize of a bottle of wine for the highest scoring visitor went to Jenny

Afterwards everyone sat around in the glorious sunshine and partook of tea and cakes. Thank you to the people who kindly made the fantastic cakes, there were so many we had them with coffee the next morning as well! Thank you also to Paul for his well thought out game, which everyone seemed to enjoy. And next year, Barbara, we shall be expecting something ingenious from you!

Dawn.

The chocolate calculator.

Pick the number of times that you would like to eat chocolate in a week (more than once but less than 10).

Multiply this by 2. Add 5.

Multiply this by 50.

If you have had a birthday this year, then add 1759, if not then add 1758. Subtract the four digit year that you were born.

Result

You should have a three digit number.

The first digit is your original number.

The next 2 figures are your age

LONGLEAT RALLY LATE SPRING BANK HOLIDAY



You missed it!!

Admittedly Longleat seemed to want a lot of site fees but compared with the *Caravan Club Site* at approximately £25.00 pun it was not so expensive, and you do not normally get the opportunity to camp on Lord Bath's front lawn and within walking distance of all of the amenities.

After all the hard work arranging it and the stress for the stewards, we could not have asked for a better weekend. The sun shone all day and after the communal BBQ, Mike and Barbara got us playing field Rummy Cub. Definitely a game to be repeated especially when you have teams from different DAs competing!

We felt sorry for the day trippers who had to rush their visit whilst we could take our time to see all the attractions at the Tudor House (not all of which had to be paid for). In fact Queen Elizabeth I was seen taking photo calls outside the mansion and this was before we opened the wine.

Having not seen the Safari Park for 40 years (yes we visited it in 1967) we were surprised how much it had been developed. We were fortunate enough to be visiting when the tigers, lions and wolves were being fed which added to the photo opportunities.



Too soon Monday dawned with overcast skies and rain but as ordered by the stewards, by 10.30 the sun burst through again.

Unfortunately his Lordship was unable to join us for drawing the raffle prizes and coffee morning owing to his being involved with a TV shoot the whole day. After that we took the opportunity to take the boat trip before the main crowds arrived and were able to see the sea lions, hippos and the gorilla. According to the guide, gorillas have 97% of all human characteristics and are grumpy morning, noon and night. I have no reason to doubt him but it did ring a few bells!

In all we had 51 units of which only 8 were Somersets which kept our stewards and assistants very busy. Many thanks to them all. Our conclusion was that the park was a well run, very slick operation and extremely popular and was especially very good value for our reduced entry rates.

Chris and Ron

What did the Essex girl say when she found out she was pregnant.

“I wonder if it's mine”

Not a holiday- just a new way of life!

A brief account of our recent trip missing out the interesting bits. June 3rd – September 1st

The concept

The idea was not to treat it quite like a holiday for the following reasons.

- 1 You can get stuck into the booze on a week's holiday but for a three month trip the liver and the pocket won't like it.
- 2 You don't need to zoom down the motorways to get to your destination when you have three months thereby saving on motorway charges and lowering fuel consumption.
- 3 Shopping can be enjoyed at the village markets rather than having to save time by doing big supermarkets.
- 4 No need to spend every day charging about walking, cycling and sightseeing, but we could just sit in the shade sometimes and have a doze
- 5 We could camp at cheap, low facility sites which we like anyway and save a fortune on site fees

The reality

- 1 It was too hot not to drink the beer. The wine was still cheap and so the more you drank, the more you saved and foreign spirits have to be tried as you don't get the opportunity at home.
- 2 We decided to go to so many wonderful places that we had to use the motorways.
- 3 No time to waste on unnecessary shopping time.
- 4 Jeannine wouldn't let me.
- 5 The areas that we were visiting were so popular that the camp sites were mostly at premium rates.

This holiday therefore cost more than anticipated so please send cheque payable to RJ & JC Harrison.

3rd June. Drove to Dover and camped handy to the ferry. We took all day to do this although we used to do it after work on a Friday.

4th June. Camped near Charleville Mezieres, near the Belgium border. Good cycling along the 'Trans Ardennes' cycleway and not bad walking either.

8th June. Moved to Orbey, near Kasersberg in the Vosges. Very difficult pitch to get on to, so the motor mover decided to pack in. A couple of Germans and a French guy came over to help. The caravan was going all over the place as nobody could speak to each other.

13th June. Moved to Lake Titisee in the Black Forest. We had a tourist card giving free bus and train travel which we put to good use. We took one bus ride where we were jammed in like sardines and the bus driver spent the whole journey cracking jokes. At least I think they were jokes but as it was only me and Jeannine that couldn't understand, he may have been taking the p--- out of the English.

18th June. Moved to Lake Forggensee in Bavaria where King Ludvig built those posh castles.

Super site on the sandy banks of a turquoise lake. Pity it rained for the five days that we were here.

23rd June. Moved to Mayrhofen in Austria. The site was called 'Camping Hell' and was the best site that we had been on. We even had hot water to rinse out the loo, still, I suppose everything should be hot in hell. We spent most of the time here going up and down cable cars and walking about in the mountains looking down on the cloud instead of up. Super.

2nd July. Moved to Berchtesgaden in Bavaria where Hitler used to hang out in his spare time. One of the highlights of this area was a visit to the Schnapps distillery, where they show you how it is made (boring) and then letting you taste as many of the 150 varieties available as you like (interesting).

I had to leave the car in the factory car park and go for a very long walk up the Almbachklamm Gorge to walk off the Schnapps. When we got back to the factory our car was the only one there but they had thoughtfully left the barrier up.

7th July. Moved to Lake Bled in Slovenia. Real picture postcard stuff this and the weather is now getting decidedly warm. I was in danger of standing on my hair as I hadn't had a hair cut for a couple of months so we visited Irene at her house. Unfortunately Irene speaks no English and Jeannine, our holiday linguist has absolutely no grasp of Serbo Croat. Actually her grasp of Italian later in the holiday wasn't up to much either and her German was schoolboy stuff. She chats on in French pretty good but sometimes I think she uses all the wrong words. Anyway I came out of Irene's with less hair than a mouldy peach and Jeannine who had a light trim looked a bit like Vera Lynn. Irene just dapped a few more euros on the bill and smiled sweetly as we left.

15th July. Moved to Puntica near Porec in Croatia. The Croatian economy is doing well out of tourists this year as they have started a vignette system to use their motorways but they haven't told anyone yet. This meant that they were pulling over all the tourists and fining them 150 euros on the spot, us included.

Camp site was ok. The showers were much colder than the sea but who cares as the water in the aquaroll is hot enough to make tea with so we need a cool down when we shower.

We had a good time at a nearby village one evening as they were staging a 'Fishermen's Fest' where they cook a variety of fish at the harbour edge and straight off the boats and sell them to you for a few beans. A plastic beaker of beer and a hunk of bread with a plate of fresh sardines, lovely. Several dance bands were playing and by the time we had walked back to our camp site my legs were aching and it was about 2.00 am. Unfortunately we had a heavy thunderstorm at 6.00 am the next morning so we had to go out in our Jim Jams and get the awning in.

20th July. Moved to Chioggia near Venice. A nightmare of a drive as all the Italians seem to drive as if they have got to get to their destination before their Cornettos melt.

Managed to get to the camp site alive and this was the first site that we had a hook up as it was included in the price so I could give the solar panel a rest.

One of the interests of this site was an Italian lady opposite our unit. This was the first time on this holiday that we had heard somebody chattering in Italian, and I thought it sounded good, but I soon went off it as she had an indeterminate number of children (they didn't stay still long enough to count) and she was calling to them incessantly. We nicknamed this lady Gina, as in Gina Lolabrigida. She supplemented her holiday expenses by being the camp hairdresser and she had a different bikini for every day of the week. She also had a cute little Chihuahua. I thought I would go over to her and stroke and tickle her Chihuahua in the name of British / Italian relations but Jeannine said that to stroke a woman's Chihuahua uninvited was to ask for trouble and as I'm in trouble often enough I left Gina and her Chihuahua well alone. The sea was as warm as a bath here but as I can't swim, it did get a bit boring standing in the sea for hours, which was necessary in order to keep cool.

24th July. Moved to Levanto on the Mediterranean coast in Italy. Our main intention at this site was to walk the footpath which linked villages of the Cinque Terre. This is a world heritage site and wonderful coastal walking. The five villages are also linked by rail which is mostly tunnelled through the cliffs so we could take the train out and walk back. We tended to walk from 6.00 pm to 9.00 pm as it was too hot during the day. The camp site was our most expensive at 34 euros a day. The pitches were fairly small, hedged and shady (essential) but the camp access roads were so narrow that we had to unhitch and, with help from other campers, push the van all around the camp site to our allotted pitch. Anyone with a really big van would not be able to access most of the pitches at all.

1st Aug. Moved to Castellane in the Alpes de Haute-Provence, France. This is about 50miles north of the med and quite near to the Italian border. The main attraction of this area is the Gorges du Verdun, the biggest canyon in Europe which is a deep and narrow gorge with only the river at the bottom. We took a coach out to the start of the walk and had to climb/walk down 300 yards to the valley initially and then along the valley using ladders, steps, tunnels and ropes to make our way along the gorge. We then had to climb back out of the gorge to meet the coach to take us back to site.

9th Aug. Moved to Ales on the eastern edge of the Cevennes. This was a more gentle landscape with hills rather than mountains and so we had a comparatively relaxed time here. We visited Uzès where bulls were being run through the streets. I don't really know what the object was but to me it was seeing how close I dared let the bulls get to me whilst taking photos and before leaping over the barriers.

15th Aug. Moved to Le Rozier in the Tarn Gorges. This is superb walking country, some of which we had to accomplish on hands and knees around mountain edges. We also went canoeing down the river which was great fun. We spent all day just going about 10k down river and stopping for picnic and swims/ cool downs in the river.

21st Aug. Moved to St Cere in the Dordogne. This was the first site of the holiday that had a lot of British on as it is very popular with Camping Club members.

26th Aug. Moved to Eguzon which is about 40miles north of Limoges and close to the motorway. This is a very handy area as a night stop or for longer periods as it is a lakeside site with beaches and watersports and footpaths around the lake. We walked half way round the lake and then caught a free boat back across the lake.

28th Aug. Moved to Blois in the Loire. Since we were last here many years ago the cycle routes have been extended and very well marked, linking châteaux with river and villages, and all easy flat cycling.

30th Aug. Moved to Neufchatel-en-Bray north of Rouen. This is also a good cycling area with a fully tarmac covered disused rail track which we took for the 33kms to Dieppe.

1st Sept. Home, nothing to say except perhaps we should go for 4 months next time.

Robert

Xmas party at Burtle Village Hall - 5th Dec



Supper of jacket potato (various fillings) followed by sweet.

I would like to book ____ of the above at a cost of £2.50 each.

I enclose cheque payable to “CCC Somerset DA”

For £_____

Please send to Liz Cann by November 22nd.

Name _____

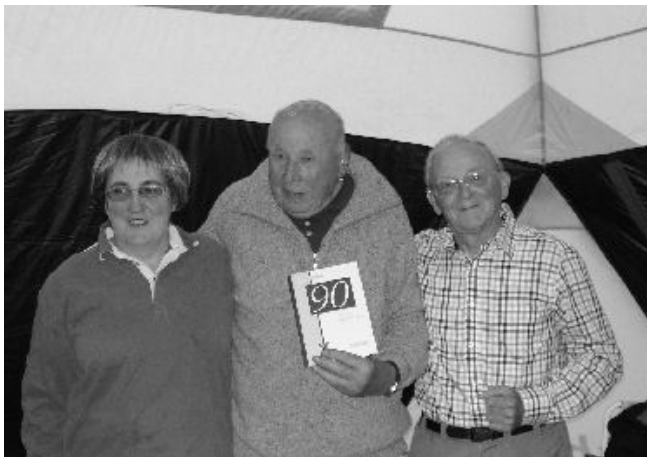
Ted's 90th Birthday Party

August 27th - September 1st 2009

A good time was had by all that could make the celebrations.

Creina's cake was the best yet, and Ted and I would like to say a big thank you to the committee.

To Stella and David must go special thanks for all their help. The two gazebos stood up to a very heavy shower and were decorated appropriately for the occasion. Ken and Liz's tent was a sensation and a lovely addition for the last two nights.



Ted's presents of the solar panel and BBQ were presented by the chairman. Ted would like to say thank you to all of those who contributed.

A final thanks go to Peter for reading the poem written by Ted's sister and for the phone call to Normandy.

Marianne

It was good to be able to wish you a happy birthday party from our holidays in Europe Ted and we will try and be home when it is your 100th – Jeannine & Robert

Congratulations to Betty and Derek on the addition of a new granddaughter, Sophie, on 8th July. Mum Sheila used to be a youth member of the Somerset DA and, no doubt, many of us will see her and Sophie at the FOL weekend

Doreen and all the family would like to take this opportunity to convey their most grateful thanks to everyone who sent cards, messages of sympathy and for all kindness and support throughout Mike's illness.

Heartfull thanks to all of you who attended the funeral service to pay their last farewell to our dear Mike, to Robin who helped carry Mike on his final journey, also for the very generous donations received for St Margaret's Hospice in memory of Mike.

It was good to see Doreen back on the committee as we know that the club and the DA is very important to her.

Somerset DA New Year Meet

At 31 Furzebrook Road, Wareham, Dorset, BH20 5AU

B.S.B. 195/261

Tuesday 29th December 2009 to Saturday 2nd January 2010

Site opens Tuesday 29th December at 10:00 am

The Programme in the village hall will include:

Tuesday 29th December 2009

Fish & Chip run (orders taken on arrival)

Wednesday 30th December 2009

Sherry Reception & Dinner (numbers limited to 80 meals)

A traditional Roast Beef meal will be served.

Music quiz and panto

Thursday 31st December 2009

Breakfast (orders taken on arrival).

New Years Eve Party – Homemade fun, dancing and games.

Fancy Dress optional – based on Red, Green and Sparkly!

Friday 1st January 2010

A Night at the Movies



All combined with the usual good walking, cycling and especially the good company.

Full details on arrival, but please BOOK EARLY.

Cheques payable to C&CC Somerset DA

Please send your booking to: The Booking Officer, 39 Holway Road, Taunton, Somerset, TA1 2EZ, enclosing a SAE

Somerset DA New Year Booking Slip

Name:

Address:

.....

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..... Post Code:

Tel.No:

e-mail address:

Member No: Unit Type:

(Bookings close 28th November 2009)

Wednesday 30th December (over 12 years)

No. of 3-course meals @ £12 each

Inc. meet (1-4 nights) Tues/Wed/Thur/Fri
Age 18+ @ £23 per person