

# The Eagle



The Newsletter of the Highland Centre Scottish Caravan Club

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Welcome folks, this year the rally season is in full swing, so far so good! The dreaded Foot and Mouth has seemingly disappeared and we can look forward to the national next month. So just stop enjoying yourself long enough to read this and then you can get back to having fun.

Since my last words, a great deal has happened to centre members and club members I am sure everyone will join together and send out best wishes to all those that have had trouble in their life over the last few months.

## **2<sup>nd</sup> February, Dinner Dance, Drumossie Hotel**

The big event of the year, normally, this year saw us move from the “traditional” Loch Ness House venue to this larger “out of town” venue. Apart from a mix up over bookings, the hotel / Shearings fault, everything seemed to go well. Talking of the room booking mix up, I think everyone got a bed in the end, at least I did not see anyone left sleeping on the dance floor.

An excellent four-course meal was served followed by the usual formalities and a few jokes. Those of us who were present on Friday night had already heard them as Christine practiced them on us! Ask her about the one Ian could not tell on the night. Something about a dog getting shot!

Avril was presented with the Murray Quaich and we have to thank Neil & Liz aided by Alex & Ena for organising this excellent event.

## **15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> March, Mad Hats Rally, Nairn**

March saw a return to the Spindrift Caravan Site in Nairn. The opening rally of the season saw good weather, if a bit chilly, for the weekend. A good turn out for the first rally with visitors from the North Centre as well. On arrival, we were able to view the centres new erection, the tent. A traditional rally format was followed except for the opening that was held before we got our soup! With the opening on Friday, a lie in was the order of the day on Saturday. Except for yours truly who needed to pop into town for a new battery. I don't know the old one only lasted 7 years. Saturday night the mad hats were out in force at the Cawdor Village hall. Frankie was there to make the party go with a swing. Sunday saw the first outing of the new gazebo, the centres other new erection construction went smoothly once the instructions had been translated! Alex Collins paid a quick visit to the rally whilst on duty but I do not think that

was the kind of hat the marshals had in mind for the theme. Our thanks go to Mary & Dod with Alex and Moira for a great opening rally for 2002.

### **29<sup>th</sup> March – 1<sup>st</sup> April, Biggles Rally, Castletown**

With a change of chief Marshals and a change of venue, a number of members eventually found the Rally field at the West Murkle CL. With Jim in hospital, Alex & Ena stepped in at the last minute to ensure that the rally went ahead. The traditional Easter Rally weather did not get the message about the venue change and was kind to us for the rally. The new tent attended again and as it was not windy did not get a real Caithness test. Ian was called away early and Hamish stepped into the breach to complete the changes for the rally. After soup on Friday, the Youth Committee held a cake sale to raise funds for their Charity.

The venue for the social was unchanged and was held in Castletown Drill Hall. What a great venue, a large hall was available and a smaller hall with dance floor. This was the Hall used and DJ “Al” used the night to demonstrate his skill (?) as both DJ and dance leader. He kept things buzzing along with fun for the young and younger people on the rally, as well as the kids. Talking of age Kevin celebrated his birthday over the weekend. Happy Birthday again, Kevin!

Sunday saw the flag at half-mast due to the death of the Queen Mother. Sunday night is quiz night. Neil managed to crowd everyone into the marshals awning for a “pub quiz”. Due to a technical difficulty and the scorer ignoring all prompts Alan and his team managed the narrowest of wins. A cuppa was welcome as the sun had gone down and the Youth Committee kept us warm by starting a game of Charades. Our thanks go to Doug, Shona, Michelle & Stephen and reserve Chief Marshals for the weekend Alex & Ena.

### **Youth View**

It was agreed at the full Committee meeting in February that the Youth Committee is allowed to fund raise at rallies. These Charity events will be held at the following rallies:

Rally	Date	Event	Notes
National	3-7 May	Lucky Dip	During Centre Sales on Sunday
Inchberry	31 May – 3 June	Bottle Stall / Tombola	Saturday
Strathpeffer	30 Aug – 1 Sep	Bric-a-brac	Sunday after church service
Fortrose	18 – 20 Oct	Treasure Hunt Water Fetching	Saturday All Rally

So, come on folks support your Youth Committee raise money for their Charity. The Youth Committee have asked me to appeal for bric-a-brac Now where is that shed key ..... It all looks like bric-a-brac to me!

## Rally Changes

Due to the Queens Jubilee, the Inchberry has been extended and is now a three-day rally ending on the Monday.

Dumfries and Galloway Centre have venue changes for two rallies:

June 27<sup>th</sup> July 1<sup>st</sup>, Invite to Cumbria  
New Venue – Kirkcarswell Farm, Dundrennan  
28 miles west of Dumfries on A711 (Dalbeattie-Kirkcudbright)

Sept 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>, Nomination  
New Venue – Halleaths Caravan Park, Lochmaben

## Thank-You

Jim and Avril would like to thank everyone for their kind thoughts, cards, and good wishes, help etc. during Jim's recent illness and stay in hospital.

In addition, I am sure that everyone will join me in wishing all centre members who are suffering illness or other family problems all our very best.

## And Finally

We are nearly finished now folks. Nobody has come forward with sales for this issue so if you have something to sell let me know. I will advertise it in here and on the website.

Free to Good Home.

Volunteer required to house a small Blue and Silver badge. Uniquely marked specimen bears initials P.R.O. It will be available from September this year. Fairly easy to look after but can cause some headaches.

Dave  
P. R. O.

See you on the field.