



RAMS HEAD



**Huddersfield District Association
Autumn 2015
Newsletter No. 333**



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ROMAN'S FORUM

I always split my camping year up in “thirds” – January to Easter, Easter to August Bank Holiday & what we are now entering – “the back end!” Most of us will have recent memories of our holidays to fall back on as the days become shorter and the nights longer, what a difference a few weeks make!

Although we haven't been blessed with the greatest of summers in this country, we did run our holiday meets at Weymouth & Kettlewell regardless and I would like to thank Anne & Tony Nelson, Eileen & Victor, Phil & Karen and Dot & John for making this possible by offering their time up to steward. I hope you all made the best of it wherever you went.

As we move towards the end of the year, we have started to plan for the Dinner Dance, New Year & the bonfire meet, which this year falls on the Halloween weekend. It is hoped to theme this meet accordingly!

We are to restructure our New Year Meet to make it more attractive to those who cannot get the best value out of paying a fixed fee and also try to create a fun atmosphere EVERY night with activities such as quizzes, bingo and of course the themed night and the “big one” itself! We are even planning an under tens Christmas treat for our younger members!

Before that though we shall be holding our Dinner Dance at Durker Roods Hotel, and of course this can be well discounted if you get the required meets in beforehand to qualify – so if you've not quite made the 12 meet attendance there is up until the York Shopping meet to get camping and fill your card!!

Finally, that prompts me to remind you to book early for York as last year there was a rather large waiting list as we were fully booked by mid October.

Cheers!
Roman

Nelson's Column

We've recently returned from stewarding the four week THS at Weymouth along with Eileen & Victor and received a lovely card from one of the members who camped with us for the first time. I know it sounds a little bit like blowing my own trumpet but there were four of us involved and it's nice to see what other people think of our DA for putting on these meets. Following is the letter.

We should like to thank you very much for the enjoyable time we spent here. The organisation was brilliant, especially Tourist info and bus timetables.

The Wednesday evening was great fun and a chance to meet other people.

It must have taken a long time and hard work to peg out the pitches etc. and I am sure that everyone appreciated it.

Being able to choose a paper and have it brought to the site was such a big advantage.

The overall impression was that the wardens took a real interest in the running of the site and that they weren't afraid of hard work and assistance.

We had a lovely stay which was very relaxing.

A big "thank you" from Joan & Brian Leahy.

We're just carrying on a tradition which has gone on for a long time with our DA trying to continue to make our holiday meets successful and enjoyable.

Anne Nelson

The following e-mails were received from members camping at the Spring Bank Holiday THS Meet at Ilkley.

We just wanted to let you know what a cracking weekend we have just had at the above holiday meet and how brilliant the stewards were, Sam and Pauline Wilson. Never met them before and how friendly and helpful they were from arrival to setting off home this morning. We were only on the rally three nights (not retired yet) and they organised entertainment each of the three nights and what a laugh.

The location is excellent on its own as its an easy walk into lovely Ilkley, but the added bonus of loos and the rugby club function room was great.

We have been on quite a few overseas rallies with ccc and I have to say, I reckon Sam and Pauline would make excellent stewards for one of these.

Yours

Norman and Alison Allan.

Myself and my husband have just spent 2 nights at the THS at Ilkley RUFC in our motorhome and just wanted to send thanks to the Stewards/DA for the facilities provided i.e. info given re the site and local areas to see, outdoor activities on site Saturday afternoon and the 2 nights in the hall where bingo, quiz etc. took place. Unfortunately we have had to leave today (25/05/2015) due to other commitments. We have thoroughly enjoyed our weekend and look forward to further weekends with your DA. Many thanks for the hard work put in to plan these events.

Christina & Michael Branford

Steward's Report - Ripon

Lockside is a lovely site within walking distance of Ripon and it's beautiful Cathedral, but bookings from members are always very slow to come in, last year it followed a late Easter and I don't think people realised how close the May Day weekend was. This year the weather hadn't been good prior to the meet and the forecast for the actual weekend was not promising.

Therefore on the Tuesday prior to the meet we found ourselves with only 26 confirmed bookings. We hoped the weather would improve and encourage a few more members to just turn up on site, however the phone started ringing and never stopped, We were still taking calls as we were leaving the house on Thursday, another 18 units added to our list, and we did indeed get some unbooked on the Friday making a grand total of 53 units, a good turn out after all.

As usual the vans starting arriving bright and early Friday morning and we were kept very busy, Carolyn and I saw to the bookings while Geoff and Ken were up and down the field all day pitching units, they were worn out, so a little drink later helped to revitalise them.

On Saturday campers were out and about doing their own thing, many deciding to walk into Ripon for the day with a few seasoned walkers going further afield, one or two told us on leaving the site that the local pub by the river was far enough for them.

On Saturday evening we had a social in the barn, the usual bingo, a quiz or two and a little background music provided by Vince, the evening went well, especially for a certain group from Birmingham who won at the bingo and the quizzes, are they really coming again next year!!

Thanks to Clive for doing the bingo and Lesley for the quizzes

During the evening Steve Coley presented Caroline & Nick, who have retired from committee after many years service, with gifts from the HDA

as a thank you for their contribution and hard work during their term of office.

Sunday we held the coffee morning and raffle where everyone gathered to have a chinwag and hopefully win a raffle prize.

A lovely meet enjoyed by all, many new visitors saying how much they had enjoyed it and they would be coming back next year.

Thanks to Nick & Carolyn, assistant stewards, for all their help and to Ken for his help, here, there and everywhere.

Geoff & Doreen

Our thanks to HDA for the gifts received by Doreen who has retired from committee as Booking Officer and from Geoff who has retired as HDA President after 18 years, they are much appreciated.

Doreen & Geoff



Celebrations

September Birthdays

4th Archie Knapper
7th Ken Gledhill
9th Helena Boryslawskyj
12th Nola Baldwin
17th Kath Vale
19th Elsie Netherwood
21st Vince O'Neill
23rd Leanne Fuller
23rd Fearn El-Zebedi
26th Christine Wood
28th Stephen Coley
28th Stephen Baldwin
28th Sam Patterson

September Anniversaries

23rd Andrea & Clifford Smith

October Birthdays

8th Ruby-Ann Moodie
10th Yvonne Ward
12th Danielle Baldwin
20th Elizabeth Womersley
26th Andrew Ward
29th Hollie Cobb
30th Bernie Boryslawskyj

October Anniversaries

2nd Maureen & John Short
6th Anne & Tony Nelson
22nd Lesley & Peter Cobb
31st Joanne & Gary Wood



**PLEASE LET ME KNOW OF ANY CELEBRATIONS BY
E-MAIL anne.nelson3@ntlworld.com**

[HDA WEB SITE](http://www.huddersfield-da.co.uk/)

**Don't forget that up to date information about our DA is
Available on the web site**

<http://www.huddersfield-da.co.uk/>

**FORUM section now ready for members to chat and
pass on information.
Why not take a look**

Can I first of all thank the Huddersfield and District Association of the Camping and Caravanning Club of Great Britain for considering us as the charity that you would like to support this year.

At the moment the Kirklees branch of the Alzheimer's Society provides 6 Singing for the Brain sessions every month; four in Huddersfield town centre and two at Dewsbury Minster. At these sessions people with dementia and carers get an opportunity to socialise, reminisce, sing in a safe, understanding and welcoming environment. Alzheimer's Society staff and volunteers lead and support the singing and talking to encourage interaction especially from people with dementia or Alzheimer's disease to, hopefully, make them feel included with the activity and as members of a larger group.

As part of Dementia Awareness Week in May we organised a Singing on a Train session and with a lot of volunteer, staff and Northern Rail support, we sang on the 1:50 to Halifax; there were 66 people with dementia and their carers who sang all the way from Huddersfield to Halifax, we even got onto Calendar news. We will be doing something similar next year as people with dementia and their carers need to be encouraged and supported to take part in social and public activities.

The Kirklees branch is also piloting a sing in care homes project to encourage staff in care homes and visitors and residents to sing as much as possible to mitigate the effects of dementia and Alzheimer's disease. We lead six one-hour singing sessions by the end of which we aim to have motivated and encouraged staff and visitors and residents to sing more.

We share a locality with the Calderdale branch in Halifax and they provide Living with dementia support groups, telephone support, Carers' support groups, Dementia cafes, Dementia Support workers, a Dementia Advice Service, dementia awareness raising talks and singing for the brain groups around Calderdale.

If someone from your association wanted to come along to one of our singing sessions we could arrange something and they would be more than welcome.

David Cox Alzheimer's Society

Stewards's Report Thurlmoor

Well it is quite a long time since Clive and I stewarded a rally, as since retiring we have been really busy travelling all over and never seemed to hit an HDA weekend that needed a steward, until Vince and Lesley realised they were going to a wedding and could not steward Thurlmoor, so we gladly stepped in. We arrived about eleven after signing it and found the site with a view to die for. We eventually had 9 units on and so off to collect the fees in the evening.

Saturday was a lovely day but very windy, well what do you expect parked on the top of a hill! People went out and about, Mike, Bernie and Roman caught the bus into Holmfirth. This bus ran about every two hours and they said it was a bit of a white knuckle ride and then when they went to catch it back the driver decided the bus had a fault and was taking it into the garage. Fortunately someone they knew saw them and very kindly brought them back to the site. We had a leisurely day having got Harrison and Morgan. They played out quite happily. Clive and I had a little walk into the village which is like a little hamlet. We found the church which was open as a family were due to view it for a future wedding. A lovely church and then the garden is shared with the old hall and some cottages. None of this is seen from the road so it was quite a pleasant surprise. In the evening we asked if everyone would like to come sit round our van with their drinks, I provided some nibbles and we played the dice game, three dice, fifty pence each and the dice say, left, right, keep or centre. It was enjoyed by all especially Harrison who won the first game and Diane who won the second one. We were really grateful that everyone came and joined in despite the cold. A lot had blankets wrapped round them but we stuck it out in fact it was so cold I fully expected Carol singers to appear! This is June in Yorkshire!

Sunday we had coffee morning and raffle and after another natter people started to drift off home. The end of a good rally. Thank you for supporting us.

Janice and Clive

WEB SITE

In order to improve attendance by visitors and members alike, we would like to add photos of the sites at which we camp and their surrounding areas and local places of interest.

If you have any such photos, please send them to Chris Wood with details of the photographs , at:

chris.4.wood@gmail.com

May we please remind parents of young children that, when camping with HDA, they are responsible for their children's behaviour, and must supervise them at all times. If we are in a room which is part of a larger building , children must not wander around, but stay in our booked room.

Dogs must be tied up at all times.

*Thank you for your cooperation
The Committee*

Steward's Report Weymouth

Friday morning Richard the farmer brought all the gear down so we could put up the marquee and peg out the field. The marquee had some damage to the roof so we had to try to fasten it all together with staples. They held quite well for the meet, but will need a better repair for next year. Tony & Victor finished off by putting all the signs out and by the end of the day we were ready for the first units on Saturday morning.

The weather, although mainly sunny was a lot cooler this year due to a lot of wind which we only lost for about three days, but everyone got out & about and seemed to enjoy themselves. Eileen & Victor drew the short straw and their days off always seemed to be the dullest and the few days when we had rain. It became a standing joke as people were planning their outings based upon whose day off it was.

Once again we had Saturday & Wednesday evenings entertainment in the marquee and it was very difficult to fit everyone in, but somehow we managed and everyone enjoyed themselves. We even had a volunteer guitarist/vocalist for two nights, which went down very well.

The biggest concern this year was the planned building of houses on the field in the coming year. Everyone kept asking us if we would be there again next year, but even the farmer wasn't quite sure. As they left everyone was crossing their fingers and saying see you again next year. By the end of the meet the farmer found out that it was 95% certain that we would be there to everyone's delight.

We had to leave on the Friday due to a family wedding, so Eileen & Victor said they would close the site. It was just typical that it had to be pouring with rain all day for them and the road out was very boggy, but they managed to get everyone off ok.

Altogether a very successful meet with 179 units camped and a total of £182.61 for our charity.

Anne & Tony Eileen & Victor

**Carbon Monoxide Kills!
NEVER put a BBQ in your
Tent or Awning!**



Carbon monoxide fumes from BBQs are invisible, odourless, and lethal. Even if you think it's safe, and the flames have died down, don't do it. The smouldering coals may be warm, but they may kill you. Even with the tent doors open. Even just in the porch. Please don't do it!

GUIDANCE NOTES FOR WEEKEND MEET STEWARDS

Huddersfield DA weekend meets will commence at noon, 12.00h.

Stewards are not expected to arrive at 12.00h as they may have work or other commitments.

The first person to arrive at the meet must act as temporary steward until an Officer of the DA or appointed Steward for the meet arrives.

It is the responsibility of the appointed Stewards to ensure the site is signed.

Appointed Stewards may ask someone who will arrive at the site before them to sign the meet, giving thought to members who may never have been to the site.

Members arriving at 12.00h must recognise that signs may not yet be in place.

Members arriving on the site before the Appointed Steward must be prepared to move their units if requested as areas for Youth, Catering Teams and Marquees may be required.

A space for the Appointed Steward must be left vacant near the entrance to the meet, although the Steward may choose not to camp there.

Members on site (Each Unit) may reserve only **ONE** space for friends/family.

Basic Camping & Caravan Club Rules

1. The steward is a volunteer. Help the steward to help you by observing the rules.
2. All vehicles to be restricted to 5mph on the meet field. Learner drivers are not allowed.
3. Try to restrict movement of vehicles when wet to prevent damage to the field.
4. Please do not allow your children to play ball games, fly kites etc. close to camping units, as damage is easily caused and expensive to repair.
5. It is strongly recommended that all units carry a suitable BSI and/or F.O.C. approved fire extinguisher. Fire buckets should be placed outside the front of the unit at all times.
6. Chemical toilets must not be taken/washed or primed at drinking water points and only emptied at designated elsan disposal points.
7. Motorhome owners should not open waste water tanks until they have left the camping field. Waste water containers should be emptied around the perimeter of the camping field, unless there is a designated waste water point. (DO NOT USE THE ELSAN POINT).
8. All animals should be kept under control and must not be allowed to run loose on the field.
Recommended: length of lead when tethered is a maximum of 2 metres. Animals must be exercised away from the units.
9. Generators are permitted and must be used reasonably. It is expected that generators should not be used for more than 4 hours each day, unless for medical reasons. Generators should not be used between the hours 9pm to 10am.
10. There should be no noise between 11pm and 7am.
11. Each pitch should be left clear of litter at the end of the meet and a careful check made before leaving the field that nothing has been left behind.

