

THE CARAVAN CLUB

DEVON AND CORNWALL CENTRE

MINUTES OF THE FIFTY EIGHTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD AT STOWFORD FARM MEADOWS, BERRY DOWN, NORTH DEVON

SATURDAY 5TH OCTOBER 2013

CENTRE OFFICERS PRESENT

Mr Martin King	Chairman
Mr Keith Kingston-Ford	Vice-Chairman
Mrs Euphine Bromell	Hon. Secretary
Mrs Denise Henderson	Hon. Treasurer
Mr Paul Kingston-Ford	Hon. Rally Secretary

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr Jason Avery, Mrs Michelle Stuttaford, Mr Terry Glanfield, Mr John Matthews, Mr Alan Parkinson

CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS

Chairman Martin King welcomed members to the 58th AGM. He informed the Centre that several members had passed away throughout the year, and asked members to stand for a one minute silence to remember them. The Secretary Mrs. Euphine Bromell was asked to read the Notice of meeting and requested members to turn off their mobile phones and pages.

With some humour the Chairman announced that he is at this meeting, and has not had to ask anyone to stand in for him! He explained it had been a difficult year personally for both himself and his wife Catherine. Circumstances changed when his granddaughter Isla was born in April, and because of her health problems involving several operations, she has spent five months in the Birmingham Children's hospital. They now looked forward to her having a normal life. He thanked the many members who have helped him and who he has been able to call upon for assistance. He welcomed all members and new members attending their first AGM, and also welcomed Andrew Noall of Stowford to the meeting if he was able to attend. He therefore officially declared the 58th AGM meeting opened.

The Chairman asked that speakers on any subject should first give their name clearly and state their home town before speaking.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mr & Mrs T Blackler	Plymouth	Mr & Mrs A Lean	Truro
Mr & Mrs J Prowse	Plymouth	Mr & Mrs J Atkins	Plymouth
Mr & Mrs A Knapman	Plymouth	Mr & Mrs A Skinner,	Chudleigh
Mr & Mrs M Fanshawe	Truro	Mr & Mrs N Teague	St Breward
Mr & Mrs D Pidgen	Torpoint	Mr & Mrs T Clemes	St. Austell
Mr & Mrs B Johnson	Plymouth	Mr & Mrs K Russell	St Austell
Mrs V Jeal	Plymouth	Clare Ann Foster	Plymouth
Mr & Mrs A Beck	Plymouth	Mr & Mrs S Beare	Callington
Mr & Mrs T James	Plymouth	Mrs M Wall	Plymouth

MINUTES

The Minutes of the 57th A.G.M. were circulated to all members present. The Minutes were approved by a proposal from Mrs M Kingston-Ford and seconded by Mrs M. Stuttaford. The Minutes were then signed by the Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2012/2013

The Secretary reported that there were **2095** full members, **1810** joint members and **88** family members. The Chairman read out the following report:

Dear Centre Members,

It is hard to believe that my year as Chairman is in its last few weeks, before I hand over.

The year has gone exceptionally quick and although we haven't been able to support the many rallies we intended, we have enjoyed many a night away on a D&C Rally.

We started the year at the Christmas Party in Paignton and followed this up with a first for us, being away in the caravan for New Year! We had a great time and the stewards worked tirelessly for the enjoyment of all.

The dinner dance at the Redcliffe Hotel was a great family run venue where we enjoyed a traditional service and a relaxing weekend in the spa facilities.

The Chairman's Rally was held at Hillhead, the Caravan Club site and although we were unable to be there, the weekend went well with Michelle and Dave Stuttaford taking over and Derek Philp kindly standing in for the Open Forum. Thank you to everyone who attended and I do hope you enjoyed Lesley Presley on the Friday night.

The National Rally was our next planned outing but again we were unable to attend so our thanks must go to Euphine and Alan Bromell for agreeing to stand in and represent me and fulfil my duties. I would also like to thank those of you who made the long trip and to the many who undertook roles on behalf of the centre.

The Ladies Charity Rally was a great weekend. The venue at Powderham Castle was fantastic with views across the estate and out in to the estuary. We were even treated to bi-plane fly by's and with a change of format we saw the competitive side of the ralliers as they teamed up to compete against each other in some good old fashioned sports games. The afternoon continued with cream teas and then left a relaxing slot before the auction evening. There were also many people that worked to make this a successful weekend and a massive £1500+ was raised for Macmillan, therefore I would like to thank you all.

I would like to thank my family, friends, Committee and fellow centre members who have helped and supported Catherine and myself throughout this year and especially those of you who have gone the extra mile. I couldn't have done this without you.... Enjoy what remains of this season and I hope you continue to support the centre in whatever way you can, remember this is your centre and you should be proud of it. Martin King

The Chairman asked for the report to be adopted.

Proposed by Mr A. Parkinson and Seconded by Mr J. Heath

EIGHT COMMITTEE MEETINGS have been held during the year

The 394 th	on 6 th October 2012
The 395 th	on 19 th November 2012
The 396 th	on 14 th January 2013
The 397 th	on 4 th March 2013
The 398 th	on 15 th April 2013
The 399 th	on 10 th June 2013
The 400 th	on 22 nd July 2013
The 401 st	on 16 th September 2013

COMMITTEE ATTENDANCES THROUGHOUT 2012-2013

Chairman	Mr Martin King	Seven
Vice-Chairman	Mr Keith Kingston-Ford	Eight
Hon. Secretary	Mrs Euphine Bromell	Eight
Hon. Treasurer	Mrs Denise Henderson	Eight
Hon. Rally Secretary	Mr Paul Kingston-Ford	Eight
	Mr Jason Avery	Seven
	Mr Matt Fanshawe	Eight
	Mr Terry Glanfield	Eight
	Mr John Matthews	Eight
	Mr Alan Parkinson	Eight
	Mr Andy Skinner	Six
	Mrs Michelle Stuttaford	Seven

TREASURER'S REPORT

AGM 2013 – Treasurer's Report

Opening Remarks

I am now at the end of my first year as Treasurer.

Notes for Rally Stewards

Again, I would like to thank all the stewards who ran rallies this year.

Cheques have been a slight concern this year and will continue to be in future. Firstly, we have received a small number of bounced cheques from members during the year. Obviously in some cases there may be a good reason for this but each one does cost the Centre money.

PLEASE SEND CHEQUES IN FOR BANKING MONTHLY. I am still receiving cheques that are either already out of date or within days of their expiry date. Apart from the inconvenience of having to change paperwork and chase stewards and members it means the Centre does not have this money in the bank which could prevent me from issuing cheques up front for site deposits or even full payments!

Cancellations and Non-Arrivals

Once again a reminder that cancellations and non-arrivals continue to be a major source of disappointment to rally stewards, so, if you are unable to attend a rally that you have booked, please remember to contact the rally steward as soon as possible, because given enough notice they may be able to fill the place with someone from a waiting list.

Even if you can't give advance notice that you are unable to attend, please have the courtesy to contact the stewards so that they are not waiting for someone who does not turn up.

In the year ended 31st December 2012 the total number of outfits attending rallies was 1676, against a total of 1910 in the previous year. This equated to a total of 6425 nights on site against a total of 6563 in the previous year, producing an average return of £1.55 per van per night.

In 2012 cancellations were 133 or 7.93% of total units, against 2011 when cancellations were 130 or 6.8% of total units. This means that cancellations have increased slightly on the previous year.

In 2012 non-arrivals were 23 or 1.37% of total units, this compared with 2011 when non-arrivals were 18 or 0.9% of total units. This means that non-arrivals have increased slightly on the previous year.

Moving on to the Accounts

As we look at these accounts please remember that they relate to the financial year ending 31st December 2012, and are therefore almost 10 months old.

On the Income and Expenditure Account (Third Page) all of the centre income for the year is reported at the top of the account, with the expenditure and overheads itemised below. This shows a very small surplus for the year of £14 compared with the previous year of £156. Although this appears to be a rather startling decrease, the main reason for the sharp drop in profit is due to the bad and doubtful debt Janice said about at last year's AGM, also that we are down on nights out. Postage charges are a big expense with sending out welcome packs to many members that may not have been '**new**' members. A change in procedure by Club meant that if a member did not renew their Centre membership immediately they flagged up as new members and a list was sent to the Centre secretary for her to send out welcome packs. Obviously our secretary did her best to vet these lists but it was always going to be inevitable that a few would slip through. I believe Club are addressing this problem now. Please remember that we are still in this fortunate position because of the generosity of our sponsor Stowford Farm Meadows – thank you to Andrew, for having made my job easier!

The Junior Account (Fourth Page) – The Junior Account is showing **a small loss** for the year of £19 against a profit in the previous year of £112. Tom and his committee once again worked very hard raising money for their charity and were able last year to donate a massive £5780

Balance Sheet (First Page) – This is where all of the information from the other pages is brought together and shows the overall value of the centre assets and the current financial position of the centre. You will note that the cash on deposit with the Caravan Club has remained at £6,000.

Comments on the Accounts

There are two ways to make the books balance, one is to increase income and the other is to reduce expenditure! I have had a look at the expenditure of the Centre and will shortly recommend reducing further some of the Committee expenditure

Rally returns can be a little confusing but are not difficult and there are always many people that will be more than happy to help you complete them and answer any of your questions or concerns. If you are not sure you can phone me with any questions.

Recommendations

Admin Fee:

Having carefully monitored the admin fee for another year, the fee will still be required on EVERY SINGLE rally, without exception (including foreign holidays and business rallies): £1.45 per night for each night. This admin fee is the required return to the centre and must not be used for social or other events. I have had to put up the admin fee by 45p as the rally attendance is down.

Dinner Dance:

As the forthcoming Dinner Dance has already been arranged and finances sorted, my proposals relate to the Dinner Dance commencing 2015 and that is that it should be self-funding and **will** include a social charge. **NO** costs will be put on non-attendees. As this was recommended last year, but not accepted, I am putting this recommendation forward for this year

Free Site Fees:

Only honorary positions should receive free site fees when rallying as the cost of this is covered by the Club Grant, up **to a total of 24 nights, 12 weekends a year**. All other Committee persons shall pay for their own site fees, with the exception of the person taking Flag; again this is covered by the Club Grant or a free pitch with the site.

Rally Fee:

Although it is still to be at the discretion of the stewards **with a minimum charge of 50p per rally** they are still able to charge a one-off rally fee of up to £1 with rallies of less than 25 vans. The £1.00 rally fee will apply on EVERY SINGLE RALLY without exception (inc foreign & business rallies). This fee is designed to cover all the costs of the rally expenses such as printing, postage, sweets for children. Larger amounts must be included and charged in a social fee.

Deposits:

The deposit for all weekend rallies is to remain at £5. The deposit for special or holiday rallies is to remain at £10. Full payment may be requested on special/holiday rallies at least 10 days prior to the rally commencing.

Vouchers:

At present a book of 5 vouchers costs £22 with the face value of each stating £5. These will remain the same.

Raffle Proceeds:

After much long debate among both Committee and many Centre members, it is proposed that we retain all raffle proceeds until the last committee meeting prior to the AGM at which point the Committee shall decide how much should be allocated to the Chairman's chosen charity and how much to the Centre, dependent upon the production of interim accounts by the Treasurer at that meeting.

Plaques:

As the plaques are making a large loss we, the committee are asking for your thoughts on changing to a business card looking plaque. Also the silver plaques will be costing £13.50 per rally.

Paperwork returns:

With lots of teething problems with this year's returns I am recommending we go back to the old style of returns, plus VAT.

All returns must be completed and sent to the Treasurer within 30 days of the end of the rally. Action will be taken if not received by then.

Committee meetings:

We are to continue with Monday evenings and to bring the allowance down on the fuel from 35p to 30p a mile.

Marquee/Trailer Movement:

Each time the marquee/trailers are used a £1.00 plus VAT per unit for each rally is to be charged, with the fuel claimed back from the Treasurer with a VAT receipt.

Closing Remarks:

I would like to thank Janice Featherstone for all the help and being there in the background after the handover of the accounts in the last year, hopefully I have mastered it now. Also a special thank you to my husband Ian for the support over the last year, and to thank you all for your time and patience this afternoon.

The report was Proposed by Mrs Michelle Stuttaford and Seconded by Mr Andrew Harris

The Chairman invited questions and comments from the floor to the Treasurer and pointed out that we are dealing with matters in the year ending 31st December 2012.

1. **Mr John Matthews, Newquay** - He couldn't understand the accounts as they were presented to us regarding the monies given to the Charities. The amount given to the charity was nearly £9,000 of which the Youth Section raised £5,768.50. This implies that the Seniors gave approximately £3300, but this was not shown on either the income or expenditure accounts. The Treasurer acknowledged this point, and agreed to take the issue back to the Accountants to see whether they could have shown it as a better figure on the accounts.

2. **Mrs Mary Kingston-Ford, Bideford** - Asked who pays for the 60p postage to send in the rally cheques each month. The Treasurer replied that she is out on the rally field two or three times a month, but if they can't be given to her personally, they could be given to the Flag Officer or a Committee Member who will pass them on to her.

3. **Alan Hoskin, Plymouth** - He was aware that these are not the present Treasurer's accounts, but pointed out the increase in the Social Event Expenses to £10,208 in 2012 from £8,841 in 2011, and felt this was a staggering increase. He also pointed out the rise in expenditure for the prizes, trophies, souvenirs and presentations. The Treasurer replied she would take the social expenses query back to the committee. The extra expenditure for trophies etc. incurred because several of the

committee came off the top table and they are given a presentation gift for their time on the committee.

4. **Janice Featherstone, Lostwithiel** - The previous Treasurer explained the above queries. Honorariums receive a certain amount per year whilst in office, and because several honorarium members came off the committee, they were presented with honorariums. Presentation items etc. had to be bought in as previously they had been in stock. The recommendation last year was that the dinner/dance should be self-funding. There was more expenditure on the business rallies than usual. She mentioned the fuel costs for members to committee meetings, and movement of the marquee and trailers which is also one of Denise Henderson's recommendations to try and cut costs to the centre.

5. **Malcolm Wall, Plymouth** - Asked how much the honorariums receive when coming off the committee. He mentioned he had served on the committee for nine years and had only received £15. The Treasurer reported this was £35 per year. He wanted to know when this was agreed as he felt we cannot afford to give money away.

6. **Chris Coles, Budleigh Salterton** - He had served on the committee for 11 years, and had not heard of any such payments for honorarium positions.

7. **Ann Parkinson, Kelly Bray** - Replied to Malcolm Wall that he never held an honorarium position. These positions are for the Treasurer, Secretary and Rally Secretary.

8. **Chairman Martin King** - Offered to take the comments on board, and to try and trace when the honorariums were given the £35 by checking previous minutes.

9. **Yvonne Jacquett, Bude** - asked if voting members on the committee receive honorariums. The Secretary pointed out that honorarium positions do not receive annual honorariums, and are only given when they retire on leaving office.

10. **Plaques** were discussed, but the committee have been unable to get examples. However, they will look like membership cards. **Andy Harris, Torquay** asked if the plaques need to be as big as this. If they are half the size, it would also cut the cost down. The Chairman said enquiries would be made to see if the size can be reduced.

11. **Alan Hoskin, Plymouth** - commented on the admin fee. As we pay vat on the service, can we call it something else like a donation to the centre administration, and this wouldn't attract vat. The Treasurer offered to take this query back to the committee.

12. **Malcolm Wall, Plymouth** - felt that every Steward deserved to receive a silver plaque. He suggested that we go back to the small triangular plaques which would save money. The Treasurer offered to take this query back to the committee. She explained that the minimum charge to the centre is for 17 plaques, and if only two or three are purchased, the centre makes a loss.

13. **Jean Hoskin, Plymouth** - asked the Treasurer to explain in more detail the self-funding for the dinner/dance. She felt aggrieved that the stewards who put in a lot of effort in organising this event will only be able to claim for the one night. The Stewards do a lot behind the scenes and do not always claim for everything such as fuel costs. The Treasurer offered to look at the cost of things, and will take this back to the committee. Ann Parkinson felt that the dinner/dance only needs to be for one night. This would mean Stewards would only have to be available on the Saturday. This was explained further by the Treasurer.

14. **Linda Heal, Newton Abbot** – commented on the charity raffle monies. No one this weekend has asked her where the raffle money is going. Her New Year rally raises somewhere in the region of £300, and she wished to know how much of this amount would be going to the charity, and how much to the centre. The Chairman offered to take this query back to the committee.

15. **Derek Philp, St. Austell** - referred to Jean Hoskin's comments, and as a past Chairman said that we gain respect when saying we are the Caravan Club, Devon and Cornwall Centre, and people like to know what is happening. He also commented on the raising of the admin fee, and the cost of attending a rally. He felt we need to look at where we can save money, but not necessarily to raise the admin fee. The Chairman said the committee have looked at the figures, and are trying to save the centre money. He is aware that attendance has fallen, but the Centre has to look at costs, insurance, assets and to try and control the amount of expenditure we have. We are a large centre, and the movement of items around the area does not come cheap.

16. **Alan Parkinson, Kelly Bray** - commented on the centre raffle. If we want to keep the cost down for rallies, we have to get the money from somewhere. The Treasurer should be able to say how much we have to take from the centre raffle, and that this was agreed upon some three to four years ago. Raffle monies collected from the Ladies and Youth Section rallies goes completely to the chosen charity. **Alan Hoskin** commented that the Treasurer has always had the right to do this. This is on an annual basis, but the Treasurer will require to know week by week how much to siphon off to balance the books which would still leave a good amount to give to the charity at the AGM.

17. **Martin King, Brixham** – talked about the raffle, and felt that not everyone chooses to buy raffle tickets, and those members who do not buy raffle tickets are being subsidised. This needs to be discussed at a later date, and that clarification of the raffle is necessary.

18. **Chris Coles, Exmouth** - mentioned the rising costs on his yearly rally at Exmouth. The site fee has now gone up from £7 - £9 plus vat and with the admin fee now going up feels this is pushing things to the limit.

19. **Alan Bromell, Holsworthy** – commented on the recommendation to bring the fuel allowance down from 35p to 30p a mile. He felt this needed to be looked at again as committee members do a lot of running around for the Centre. Some firms give 48p a mile, and felt the fuel allowance should stay at 35p a mile. The Treasurer explained this recommendation, and pointed out that for year 2013/14 we now have a full committee, and costs will increase. **Jean Hoskin** mentioned the claiming of fuel for movement of the marquee. **Martin King** pointed out that newly resigned committee member Matt Fanshawe often towed the marquee to rallies. **Alan Parkinson** also pointed out that stewards don't always have the type of car to tow the marquee, and that both Dave Tucker and Matt Fanshawe have towed the marquee to rallies that they have not been attending.

20. **Malcolm Wall, Plymouth** - suggested we go back to the old days where a meeting would be held on a rally attended by the committee members. This could cut down the number of meetings per year and save costs.

Treasurer's recommendations Proposed by Mrs J. Featherstone Seconded by Mr A.Stroud

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS

The Treasurer informed the meeting that the Centre Committee had approved Phillips Frith & Co. of St. Austell as Centre Auditors. Approved by members.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

In accordance with the Rules Governing Centres the following were duly elected.

ELECTION FOR CENTRE CHAIRMAN

There being only one nomination for Chairman so Mr Keith Kingston-Ford was duly elected, and gave a brief acceptance speech.

ELECTION FOR VICE-CHAIRMAN

There being only one nomination for Vice-Chairman so Mr Jason Avery was duly elected.

ELECTION FOR HON. SECRETARY

There being only one nomination for Hon. Secretary so Mr John Matthews was duly elected.

ELECTION FOR HON. TREASURER

There being only one nomination for Hon. Secretary so Mrs Denise Henderson was duly elected.

ELECTION OF HON. RALLY SECRETARY

There being only one nomination for Hon. Rally Secretary so Mr Paul Kingston-Ford was duly elected.

COMMITTEE

The following Members were duly elected for Committee, and were asked to come forward to be presented with their badges.

Mr Martin King
Mr Terry Glanfield
Mrs Lynda Matthews
Mr Rob Branton

Mrs Euphine Bromell
Mr Richard Cadd
Mr Robert Gordon

Mrs Michelle Stuttaford
Mr Andrew Harris
Mr John Andrews

Mrs Janet Tait was nominated to continue as Minute Secretary.

HON. RALLY SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Chairman asked the Hon. Rally Secretary to speak about next year's proposed rally programme, and his report was as follows:

We are almost at the end of another rallying season and my first as your Honorary Rally Secretary. I have enjoyed my term in the position and I am very much looking forward to another season working with the committee.

I would firstly like to wish Keith and Mary (a.k.a Mother and Father) all the very best for their year in the chair, for the second time around and say a big thank you to all the Committee members, Stewards, Assistant Stewards for their help over this year and the upcoming one.

Michele and I have attended many fantastic rallies this year including some that are established and some new to us. We have been made to feel very welcome at them all, and we have enjoyed ourselves so much that will be doing it all again next year.

Thank you to all those that have made this possible. Without you none of us would be sat here and our hobby would be worst for it.

Some popular rallies have been declared full sometime prior to the start date. However, it has been necessary to cancel only 2 rallies this year, due to lack of support. It is not only disappointing for members who have booked, but it is very demoralising for the Stewards who have worked hard to organise events for us to attend. I would urge you to consider booking rallies as early as possible, so as to prevent them being cancelled and to give your Steward the time to order plaques, which as I am sure Denise will explain the costs involved in the production of these and allow the stewards to plan events etc.

If you need to cancel a rally, please try to give the Stewards as much notice as possible, they may have a waiting list, and can then make someone's weekend, if you find that you cannot attend last minute please try to contact the Stewards. Most have mobile numbers or if they are using a commercial site it may be possible to leave a message with the reception area that can be passed on.

At this point I would like to thank all Stewards, Assistant Stewards, Landowners and any member who has helped in anyway and would ask that you continue supporting us in any way that you can.

A very warm and heartfelt thank you must go to our Centre Sponsor – Andrew Noall from Stowford Farm Meadows for his continuing commitment to our Centre in the past and very much so this weekend. Both he and his graphics team have given us the support required to put our fantastic Rally Book, and for covering the cost of the postage to send it to each and every D & C member (and there are lots of those). We as a Centre are very privileged to have this support and I know it has been said on previous occasions, it makes us quite unique with the Centres and hopefully we as a centre will continue to support the Stowford team. He has agreed once again to sponsor the upcoming Rally Book. Thank you to John Matthews who took the photograph which will appear on next year's Rally book.

Dates are still available for the upcoming year and we will endeavour to help anyone who would like to take on the running of a rally.

A big thank you to my darling wife who has put up with me and helped out (that should probably read reminded me to do things),

To conclude if I can be of help to anyone please just ask, I am here to help each one of you to try and enjoy your hobby.

YOUTH SECTION

Danielle Westlake, the Youth Section Chairperson, was asked to come forward and announce her committee to the meeting. They have chosen to support two charities for the coming year namely: Devon and Cornwall Autism Society, and Birmingham Children's Hospital. The Chairman wished Danielle and her committee good luck with their fund-raising efforts.

THE PRESENTATION TO CHARITIES

Ms Angie Lowe of the Macmillan Charity was presented with a cheque by Chairman Martin King and Catherine King. The Treasurer announced that the amount of £4,000 had been raised by the Centre. Ms Lowe was very moved to receive this amount, and explained that she is the Fund Manager for Macmillan and they try to raise 1.5 million pounds each year for the Charity. She pointed out that around 27 people every day are told they have cancer, and the Macmillan Charity also look after patients when they have finished their course of chemotherapy.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

a. **Ann Parkinson, Kelly Bray** - commented that Stowford is a wonderful site, but a lot of members find the distance too far to travel, and wondered if the committee would consider holding the AGM on centre lines. Not necessarily to run a rally, but hire a venue to hold just the AGM.

b. **Michelle Stuttaford, Stratton** - suggested that the Centre cheque is given to the charity representative after the Chairman's remarks so that the person does not have to sit through most of the AGM proceedings.

c. **Pam Bennett, Barnstaple** - commented that she was very happy to be at Stowford, North Devon and that they do a wonderful job.

d. **Mary Kingston-Ford, Bideford** - pointed out that negotiations with Stowford had enabled the Centre to have a free night on the Thursday, and also allowing members to bring their own drinks into the Old Barn Bar. She felt this helped to compensate with members' fuel costs.

e. **Jean Hoskin, Plymouth** - agreed with Ann Parkinson's suggestion that Stowford have done a good job, but felt the AGM should be held in different areas each year to enable everyone to attend the AGM.

f. **John Heal, Newton Abbot** – commented that as Stewards it is difficult to get a venue for the number of members we have. It may be difficult to achieve, but thought it would be a good idea to spread it around.

The Chairman offered to take all comments on board. There was much laughter when a voice from the floor suggested we hold the AGM in Spain and are given a free gin and tonic all round!

CENTRE PRESENTATIONS

Chairman's Plaque Board – The incoming Chairman Mr Keith Kingston-Ford was presented with a Plaque Board on which are inscribed the names of the successive Chairman of the Centre since its inauguration in 1956. They hold this for their year of office.

Chairman's Shield – The outgoing Chairman was presented with an engraved memento from the Centre in appreciation of his year in Office and service to the Centre.

Committee Presentations - A presentation of a gift was given to Alan Parkinson, and at a later date will be given to Matt Fanshawe and Andy Skinner who were not seeking re-election in appreciation of their services to the Centre, and that these members have served the committee well.

The Chairman then thanked Mrs Janet Tait for her efforts as Minute Secretary and she was presented with a gift of an orchid.

COMPETITION AWARDS

The Williams Trophy - Presented by the late Mr A. Williams and awarded to the most successful Male Competitor in the Novice Competition. The competition is only open to drivers who have not won a previous competition towing with a caravan. It is not open to any driver who has competed in the Club Road Rally.
..... **Grant Costain**

The Jay Cup - Presented by the late Stanley Jay with the object of providing a Trophy for the annual competition in the skill of reversing a car and caravan on a course exactly similar to that used in the

Harris Cup Competition at the Club National Rally.

..... **Roland Tooze**

The Hambly Shield - Presented by Mr & Mrs G Hambly to be awarded to the winner of the Rally Book Cover Photo. The entries must be from a Centre Member attending the Chairman's Rally when it will be judged.

..... **John Matthews**

The Ron Walker Memorial Cup – Presented by Mrs B Walker to be awarded to the best Overall Handicraft entry by a Devon and Cornwall Member who must attend the official judging at The Chairman's Rally with his/her caravan. (This is to replace the wine and beer competition.)

..... **Jo Dorman**

The Parkinson Shield – Presented by Mr & Mrs A Parkinson to the winner of the Junior Handicraft Competition

..... **Jenna Henderson**

The Centre Trophy for Gentleman – Presented by the Centre to the male competition (whether he has won a previous competition or not) who produces the best combined performance in the Jay Cup and Williams Trophy Competitions.

..... **Nick Teague**

VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CHAIRMAN

The Secretary called upon Dave Bowden to give vote of thanks to the retiring Chairman. He gave a vote of thanks to the Team, and wished the Chairman well despite a personal hectic year, and added he would like him to come back in the future as Chairman to fulfil his dream.

CHAIRMAN'S CLOSING REMARKS

Martin King thanked everyone for arranging the AGM and especially Stewards John and Linda Heal and Richard and Mo Harvey. He also thanked those members who organised the tea and coffee refreshments, Mary Dearing for supplying the rose bowl and Jean Hoskin for the flowers. It was agreed that both his wife and himself would do the Stewards presentation at the AGM.

Collarets were then exchanged when the Chairman handed his collaret to Keith Kingston-Ford, and Catherine King passed her collaret to Mary consort to Keith Kingston-Ford. The new Chairman then presented the outgoing Chairman with the past Chairman's badge and window plaque. He then asked all the newly elected committee to stay behind for their first committee meeting.

There was no exchange of gifts between the incoming and outgoing Chairman this year as they both decided they will give a donation to the Birmingham Children's Hospital. Martin King then thanked everyone for their time and effort in coming to the AGM.

John Heal, Steward also thanked everyone for coming to the AGM and especially to those members who had travelled a long way. He also thanked the refreshment team and offered tea/coffee to members before they started their journey home. The 58th AGM of the Devon and Cornwall Centre closed at 4.02 p.m.

Signed by Chairman