



PICKETS POST NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2018

## **SEPTEMBER WEEKEND RALLIES**

7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> Highbench, Oakford Fitzpaine, Blandford, Dorset. DT11 0RR, MR 194/801109. Leave A357 at New Cross SP Oakford Fitzpaine. In approx. 1 mile turn R at Royal Oak PH. Site on L in 0.5m. Turn at sign marked Highbench. Sturminster Newton Cheese Festival Weekend.

Site opens 10.00      Fees £7.20 pun      Stewards Jill & Rodger Smith

21<sup>st</sup> -23<sup>rd</sup> Bagwell Farm. Bagwell Farm is off the B3157 West of Weymouth, between Chickerell and Portesham. Approach via the A354 from Dorchester to Weymouth. From the outskirts of Weymouth follow signs for Abbotsbury, Weymouth and the B3157. Bagwell is a mile past Chickerell on the left at the top of the hill after "The Victoria Inn".

Site Opens 10.00      Fees £ 14.50 Inc. H/UP      Stewards Mike & Marilyn Gower

28<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> Warren Park Farm ,Ringwood Rd, Alderholt SP6 3DE      MR 195/121114

From A338 Take B3078 Alderholt and at s bend Turn left into Hillbury Road, 1.5 mile turn right at signpost Charing Cross, plenty of walking

Site Opens 10.00 Fees £8.40 pun Stewards Sue & Kevin Tye

**The Editor is Dean Mueller-Davies, 127 Craigmoor Avenue, Bournemouth. BH8 9LT**

**07754455276 or e-mail [davdee46@gmail.com](mailto:davdee46@gmail.com)**

**Articles for the October issue must be with me by 10am, 21<sup>st</sup>September.**

**Next Committee meeting is on 19<sup>th</sup> September.**

**New Forest DA website is at**

**[www.newforestda.com](http://www.newforestda.com)**

**Weekend stewards mobile number**

**is now**

**07514 555790**

## THS

Parley Glade – until 5<sup>th</sup> September

Breamore House, Near Fordingbridge until 28<sup>th</sup> September

Birchwood Tourist Park, Wareham 10<sup>th</sup> September/3<sup>rd</sup> Oct. BOOKING ESSENTIAL

### **BAGWELL FARM 21<sup>ST</sup> – 23<sup>RD</sup> SEPTEMBER**

**(Chickerell, Nr. Weymouth)**

This site is set in a natural valley and has spectacular views over the Jurassic Coast which takes in Chesil Bank and Fleet Lagoon. There is also access to the SW Coastal Path.

On site there are excellent facilities, which include toilets/shower block, children's play area, a shop (off licence) and the Red Barn bar and grill. The Red Barn has a wide range of food and drink at affordable prices and you have the choice to eat in or take away (seasonal opening hours apply).

Whilst the carnival season may be over in Weymouth, there is still a great variety of things to see and do: from the award-winning beach to the quaint harbour and a good range of shops.

Why not visit Lodmoor Country Park for the Sea Life Centre or take the challenge of the Pirates Crazy Golf? – “Aargh, Jim lad! Let's bury the treasure here and come back for it later” – is just one of the motion-activated sequences you trigger whilst performing your best putting skills!

For a gentle stroll, the Preston beach path is flat and not too demanding or you could try the old railway track cycle ride/walk from Weymouth to Portland. There are great views over the waters where the Olympic sailing events took place.

Join us for a great weekend: £11.50 pun (non ehu); £14.00 pun with ehu.

**See you on site! Mike & Marilyn Gower.**

## **Chairman's Welcome**

I hope you all have made good use of the lovely weather and have had some enjoyable camping experiences. They say every picture tells a story. Do you have a picture and write up of a site that you really enjoyed visiting. If so, please send to Dean our editor for the next edition.

Our next rally is 7<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> September at Highbench, Okeford Fitzpaine. To encourage people to camp at weekends we are going to try and advertise the meets better.

The first weekend of October is our Feast of Lanterns weekend. This year instead of a theme we decided to just make a lantern for your window display or LANTERNS for your awning display. They can be made out of anything but NO NAKED FLAME CANDLES INSIDE. There will be prizes for the best window, awning, youth, junior, pre junior lanterns. So get your thinking caps on and let's see more participation this year. Perhaps you might be able to get bits from a charity shop or upcycle egg boxes etc. If you cannot make a lantern, please put up some lights outside your unit. We will also have the food van on site Saturday. There will be crepes in the marquee Friday & entertainment on Saturday with two of our youth involved. Firstly there will be Rian's band & Connor with his star gazing. We will have a 50/50 bonus ball sheet & raffle for my Chairman's charity PRAMACARE.

We will also be discussing the 2019 sites list. A copy of this is in this edition. We are publishing early so people can forward plan for next year. There are some new sites & some we have used previously.

I know it is only September & you might groan about Christmas but again functions have to be planned well in advance. This year we are having a Christmas Carvery at the Bridge House, Longham. There will be entertainment and a raffle. A booking form is in this edition. Please indicate if you wish to sit with friends. Maximum numbers are 70. The CLOSING DATE IS 28<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER & NO BOOKINGS WILL BE ALLOWED AFTER THIS DATE. This is to allow time to get money & menu choices to the venue.

Hope to see you at one of our THS or at a weekend meet.

Heather Brown. Chairman New Forest DA

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### **Editors correction:**

In the photo of the awards that were presented to Marion and Alan and Carole and Jeff in the August Pickets Post was by the South West Region Chairman, Chris Porter, and not the Club Chairman, Mel Hill.

## **INFORMATION ON OUR SEPTEMBER RALLIES**

### **7<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> September. Highbench Okeford Fitzpaine.**

Okeford Fitzpaine is a small village in the Blackmore Vale. There are two children's playgrounds, a pub & a village shop. There is a network of footpaths. There is also a nearby Trailway – This occupies (mostly) the right of way of the now sadly defunct Somerset & Dorset Joint railway that ran from Bristol to Poole. This tramway now forms a mostly level route for walkers, cyclists and riders from Sturminster Newton to Blandford Forum. Access is at Shillingstone or along the road to Hammoon.

Over the weekend for 2 days is the annual Sturminster Newton Cheese Festival. There are over 80 food producers & 60 crafters, food demos, children's entertainment, live music, ale & cider tents. The event costs £6 each entry and is open 10am until 5pm. There will be a charity cake & tea tent for Sero charity who support Julia's House & the Dorset Children's hospice.

### **21<sup>st</sup>/23<sup>rd</sup> September. Bagwell Farm Touring Park.**

Magnificent views of the Chesil Bank, Fleet Lagoon & Lyme Bay. In a tranquil rural location, it is a good base to explore many of Dorset's local attractions. Visit Abbotsbury Gardens/swannery, Bennetts Water Gardens, Monkey World, Bovington Tank Museum. The rally field has hook ups and water & campers may use the facilities of the main site which includes toilets/showers, play area, Red Barn Bar & Grill, shop. There is access to the SW coast path.

### **28<sup>th</sup>/30<sup>th</sup> September. Warren Park Farm, Alderholt.**

The site is a 200acre dairy farm located between Ringwood & Fordingbridge. This lovely quiet site is set on the edge of the New Forest with lovely views and abundant wildlife including deer and buzzards. Ideal for walking, dog walking, bike riding. Shops & pub 20 minute walk. Visit Wolvercroft World of Plants & the Sticky Bun tearoom or go into Fordingbridge with its lovely river & children's playpark.

### **Sturminster Newton Cheese Festival 2018**

Come and visit our meet at Highbench, Okeford Fitzpaine (7th to 9th September) and whilst there, why not visit the **Sturminster Newton Cheese Festival!!** (only 3.5. miles away). It is open 8th & 9th September and is run by Sturminster Newton Rotary Club. It is £6 for an adult and children 14 and under are free.

It has Food Demonstrations, Children's Activities, Arts & Crafts, Music & Entertainment, the parking is FREE and there's LOTS OF CHEESE!!!! So ENJOY!!!!

(Marg Miller)

THE BRIDGE HOUSE

## Christmas Celebration Menu

SATURDAY 8 DECEMBER 2018  
6.30 PM FOR 7.00 PM

### Starters

**PLUM TOMATO AND BASIL SOUP**

Served with Bloomer Bread

**CRAB CAKES**

Served with Tartan: Sauce and Salad Gamish

**CHICKEN LIVER PATE**

Served with Toast and Salad Gamish

**FRESH FAN OF CANTALOUPE MELON**

Served with Strawberry Compote and Orange Twist

### Main Courses

TRADITIONAL BRIDGE HOUSE CARVERY  
WITH A CHOICE OF:

HONEY GLAZED ROAST GAMMON

TRADITIONAL ROAST TURKEY

TOPSIDE OF ANGUS BEEF

GRILLED FILLET OF PLAICE

Served with Fresh Lemon Butter Sauce  
and Seasonal Vegetables

VEGGIE LASAGNE

Served with Fresh Garlic Bread

### Desserts

**TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS PUDDING**

Served with Homemade Brandy Sauce

**LEMON MERINGUE PIE SERVED**

Strawberry Sauce and Ice Cream

**CRUNCHY GINGERBREAD SUNDAE**

Served with Creamy Toffee Sauce and Flake

**SELECTION OF DORSET CHEESE**

Served with Celery, Grapes & Chutney

£1.50 supplement

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Stewards Phone 07514 555790

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Updated 15/8/2018

Dinner Dance Saturday 2nd March  
December - Christmas Carvery

# FEAST OF LANTERNS



The New Forest DA welcomes you to join us for a fun packed weekend at our Feast of Lanterns celebrations held at Birchwood Touring Park, Wareham.

The weekend's entertainment program will consist of the following activities.

THURSDAY 4 <sup>th</sup> OCTOBER	
10am	<i>Site opens.</i>
Thur & Fri	Collect the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>)- 50/50 Bonus Ball and Raffle Tickets - for Chairman 's Charity Pramcare.</li> <li>)- Fish &amp; Chip voucher.</li> <li>)- Lantern Display Number and voting slips.</li> </ul>
FRIDAY 5 <sup>th</sup> OCTOBER	
Daytime	<i>Free Day. Enjoy the local sites of Wareham and the Purbeck Hills.</i>
7.30pm onwards	)- Crepes In The Marquee (bring your chairs). Join us for _____
SATURDAY 6 <sup>th</sup> OCTOBER	
Daytime	● <i>Free Day or get creative by making a Lantern to display in your Window or Lanterns to display in your Awning.</i> Categories: Adult Window, Adult Awning, Youth, Junior and Pre Junior .
6.00pm	)- Food Van serving Fish and Chips etc.
7.00pm	• Lighting up of Lanterns.
8.30pm	Welcoming back to the Marquee - Live music by Rian Tester.
10.00pm	FANCYDRESS OPTIONAL - THEME IS SPACE Bring your telescopes for Stargazing on Birchwood Hill with Connor Hansford.
SUNDAY 7 <sup>th</sup> OCTOBER	
10.30am	<i>Final Day</i> Tea round the ●, Lantern Prize Giving, Raffle Draw, Bonus Ball and Sites 2019 information.
4.00 pm	Site Closes. Travel Home Safely.
<b>FOR YOUR SAFETY AND THE SAFETY OF OTHERS - PLEASE DO NOT USE LIVE FIRE/TEALIGHTS IN YOUR LANTERNS</b>	



## EMERGENCY WARD 10- SEPTEMBER 2018

Hello everyone,

Well they say the British moan about the weather ... but I cannot imagine anyone moaning about this summer (except perhaps to say that it's been just a 'tad' too hot!!), ha! never satisfied are we!!! If you have been away, either near or far, I hope you have all enjoyed your holiday and had a happy, carefree, relaxing time.

Sadly some members have been "confined to barracks/" because of appointments and trips into hospital, but we wish them all well. Don't forget, if you know or hear of one of our members who is poorly, in hospital or just feeling under the weather, please let me know and I can send them a Get Well card straight away. When you can't get out camping because you don't feel well, it is always comforting to get a card from the D.A. to wish you well and to let you know that you are being missed "out in the field/".

Since the last Pickets Post I have sent out **3** cards to:-

**Brian Setchell** following a fall

&

**Jean & Mike Buck** who are celebrating their Golden Wedding Anniversary

Plus!!

their daughter **Leanne** is to be married to **Keith** on the same day!!

This year our own **D.A. Feast of Lanterns** is being held at Birchwood (4<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> October) and this year it doesn't actually have a "theme"/, instead it is all about **LANTERNS!!!** .. that means ones that you have made yourselves and entered into the display competition either in your window or awning. So now is the time to start thinking about how you're going to make one (or many!!!) to display on the Saturday evening when it gets dark and they all light up (hopefully!!). They can be made of anything and be of any size ... but the **IMPORTANT** thing is for you, the members, to make an effort and **TAKE PART!!!** that's what a Feast of Lanterns is all about!!



**PLEASE!!!** Don' t sit back and wait for everyone else to m ake lantern s ... because everyone else just might be sitt ing back waiting for you to make some, and we could all end up crawling round in the pit ch black because NO-ONE! ! ! ! made an effort ! ! So come on everyone!! why not join in and have some fun! ! !

During our Feast of Lanterns weekend, I believe Heather , our Cha irm an, will be handing out a questionnaire with some t hings for you to think about, and answer! (anonym ously if you wish). It w ill give you an opportunity to, not only, give your views and ideas to the Committee but also let us know if you have a " query, compliment or a complaint!!"

**Now t here' s an opportunity not to be missed!!!!**

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Just a note for your diaries ... if t here ' s time ...

The **Great Dorset Steam Fair** at  
South Down Farm, Tarrant Hint on, DT118HX  
is on from **23<sup>rd</sup> to 2i h August 2018**  
This year it is the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Fair  
with 500 full size steam engines!!!!

The **Free Bournemouth International Air Show**  
staged near Bournemouth Pier  
is on from **30<sup>th</sup> August to 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2018**  
It' s the U.K.' s biggest Air Fest ival  
with plenty of action both in the air and on land.

**(Pictures on the next page!)**

**Just a thought ...**

I never make the same mistake twice ...

I make it 5 or 6 times just to be sure!!!

Margaret Miller

01202 241605 - [ray.miller7@ntlworld.com](mailto:ray.miller7@ntlworld.com)



**EXERCISE BIKE**

DOES ANYONE HAVE AN EXERCISE BIKE FOR SALE??

IF IT'S A FOLDING ONE ... ALL THE BETTER!!

IF YOU CAN HELP ... JUST GIVE ME A RING OR E-MAIL!

MARGARET MILLER – 01202 241605 – [ray.miller7@ntlworld.com](mailto:ray.miller7@ntlworld.com)

MANY THANKS!!

## **National Feast of Lanterns in (year) ??????**

An old newspaper cutting has come into my possession and I thought it would make an interesting reading .... But can **YOU** identify the year????

*"Ten thousand people today descended on the Dorset village of Sixpenny Handley (pop 685) and built a town there which will last for three days. The "invaders" - campers and caravanners - have come from all over Britain for the annual "Feast of Lanterns" meet, organised by the Camping Club of Great Britain and Ireland.*

*With such vast numbers converging on one spot, local residents might be expecting the campers to leave a trail of debris, flattened fences and churned up grass, but the Club take pride in leaving their sites exactly as they find them. "Every camper is required to take his rubbish away with him, and must sweep the plot he has used", said Mr Jack Marks, a member of the organising Committee from the South West Region, hosts for this year's event.*

*The Club are using a 220 acre site on Oakley Farm, owned by Mr Sam Hunt. It's a registered camping site, so he's used to seeing caravans and tents on his land, but this is the largest number he has ever had to accommodate. They've always left it as they found it in the past", he said, "I'm pleased to have them".*

*The organising Committee, who have been preparing for the event for over four years, reckon it has cost between £10,000 and £12,000 to stage. Said Mr Marks, "The water supply alone, which has been piped from nearly a mile away, has cost "£2,500!"*

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WOW! 10,000 people, that must have been some meet !!!

So maybe this is a good time, yet again, to remind you all that **NEXT** year, **2019**,

the **NATIONAL FEAST OF LANTERNS** is to be held at  
the Turnpike Showground at Motcombe, near Shaftesbury

from **19<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2019**

and once again it is to be hosted by

**SOUTH WEST REGION!!!!**

**So make a date in your diary and we look forward to seeing you there!!!!**

(Margaret Miller)

01202 241605

ray.miller7@ntlw or ld.com