

THE NEWSLETTER  
of the

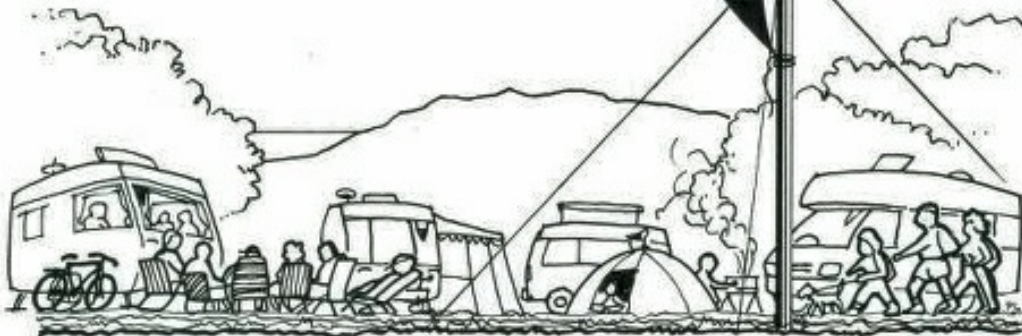
# SOMERSET

District Association

The Camping and  
Caravanning Club

*The friendly  
Club*

**APRIL 2023**



---

## **CAROL'S CANDID CONUNDRUMS**

Spring is here and the clocks have gone forward; days are getting longer and warmer. We held a very successful 50 th AGM at Camerton village hall. A committee was formed and we welcome 3 new members, Keith Warren, Mary Warren, Susie Curteis-Lateo, we hope they have an enjoyable and gratifying time with us.

Thank you to the retiring members Sue Hounsell, Robert Harrison, Bill Grant, Don Grant for all their support over many years. A big thank you to Dagmar for providing a superb meal after our AGM.

The new committee are looking forward to our 50th Birthday Celebrations and hope to see as many of you as possible at the meet 25 th to 30 th May Hollybush Farm, Culmhead, Taunton. Please let Ken have your SDA memories for the memory boards. Booking forms to Amanda Walker our new Bookings Officer.

The first meet on our SDA fixtures list at Kingsdown Tails has been a success thanks to Ken and Liz for stewarding more details and pictures in this Cyder press.

Arrangements for Tucker's Grave Easter meet are complete, a programme can be found in the Cyder Press come along and enjoy some live music and Easter fun .

Looking forward to another year with Somerset DA Camping and Caravanning club at new and old Sites .

Stay Safe. Keep well. Be kind

*Carol x*

---

## **WRONG WINDOW**

On a cold winter morning, wife texts husband; "Windows frozen, won't open."

Husband texts back: "Gently pour lukewarm water over it, then tap gently round edges with hammer."

10 minutes later, wife texts; "Computer really messed up now."

---

---

**EARLYBIRD MEET AT KINGSDOWN TAILS**

After a very wet journey through torrential rain we arrived at the site in Devon. We were warmly welcomed by Ken and Liz and given instructions for where our hard standing was. It was getting dark and still raining so visibility wasn't brilliant and we took a wrong turn! The problem with carrying bikes is it interferes with your reversing sensor so we realised too late that we had reversed into a wall, demolishing it! ( we did own up and paid for the damage!)

Once installed we did a quick walk round to familiarise ourselves with the loos etc. Next day, in the light we were able to see what a lovely site it was. The couple that own it were lovely and we had a long chat about how they had bought the site as a run down failing site and had over the last 10 years built it up to what you see today.

The weather over the weekend, whilst showery was mostly sunny and blustery. We ventured down into SIDMOUTH on cycleway 2, down a very long and sometimes very steep hill! We went in search of photos for Ken's photographic competition, photos with the word 'on' in the title, however you wanted to interpret that! What goes down had to go back up and boy did that hill nearly kill us! Only when we googled it later did we discover it's the 12th hardest hill in the UK!

Coffee mornings each day were good catch up times with friends old and new. The word search quiz on trees had us all scratching our heads! Some were better than others at it. I found 40 out of 47 so felt I'd given it a good stab!

We were given use of a hall for the usual daft games (their words not mine!) in the evenings along with voting on the photo competition.

Sunday morning coffee was my first duty as Vice Chair to give the 'chat' and a chance to thank Ken and Liz for stewarding the meet so beautifully and to thank some outgoing committee members for their help ~ over the years served.

I think I can say for everyone that it was a lovely meet and camping season is now officially under way!

*Mary Warren*

---

### **EASTER MEET**

A full programme is planned for the Easter Meet at Tucker's Grave and a printed copy of the itinerary will be presented to you on arrival. Meanwhile, to whet your appetite, here's a quick run down;

#### **Thursday**

7.30 Meet in Cafe for informal Social Evening

#### **Friday**

3.00 Hot Cross Buns, tea and coffee. Chairman's Chat in the cafe.

6 p.m. onward, Curry and Pizza in the cafe or to take out.

8 p.m. Live music in the barn; or informal meet in cafe.

#### **Saturday**

11 a.m. Committee Meeting

4.30 - 7.30, Skittles in cafe

6 p.m. onward, Pastie and Pizza in the cafe or to take out.

9 p.m. Live music in the barn;

#### **Sunday**

10.30 Walk led by Steve

2 p.m. Live music

7.30 Get together in the alley for Fun/Games (bring 20 pences) decorated Easter Hats - ladies and gents. (Prize for best hats) and Chairman's Charity Raffle (Please bring raffle prizes)

#### **Monday**

11.00 Coffee Morning followed by Boules Comp

7.30 Evening in Skittles Alley or cafe for Quiz. Comp results.

---

### **WEBSITE**

Having taken over the website, I am trying to make it load faster and, mainly, to be easy to update. Bill made a great job of it but I don't have the same software so have had to start from scratch.

Please take a look at it, give me your opinions, good or bad - especially the bad, 'cos that tells me what mistakes I've made. [www.somersetda.co.uk](http://www.somersetda.co.uk)

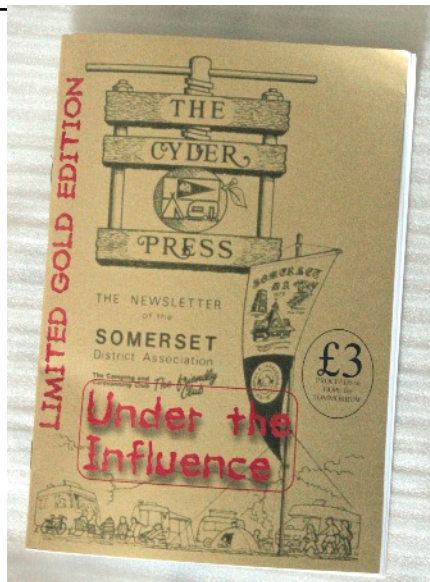
The next steps will be to make it mobile friendly and secure.

*Andy*

## **GAG BOOK**

I have, at considerable risk to my sanity, compiled a book of the 'best' gags from past CyderPress issues. Called 'Under the Influence' it is now available and will be on sale at Tuckers Grave and at the Birthday Meet for ONLY £3 per copy until the Limited Gold Edition runs out (about 75 copies). All proceeds to Hope for Tomorrow.

Who knows? In a couple of years, given sufficient encouragement, I might be persuaded to issue Volume 2 !!!



*Andy*

## **PLUCK OFF**

What do you get if you cross a hen with a guitar?  
A chicken that plucks itself.

## **WHY?**

Why are there so many feeble jokes in Cyder Press?

Because you haven't sent me any articles I can include so I have to fill the space with SOMETHING!

Let me have ANYTHING to do with camping so I can fill more pages with more interesting stuff.

newsletter@somersetda.co.uk

*Andy*

## **RALLIES**

I'm starting to look at rallies for 2024, if you've got any suggestions for 2024 that you would like considered, please let me know soonest!

*Steve Walker*

---

**STELLA**

There was a young lady named Stella  
Fell in love with a bow-legged fella.

The venturesome chap

Let her sit on his lap

And she plummeted down to the cellar.

---

**KINGSDOWN TAIL – MARCH 2023**

The Camping season has started. The weather forecast predicted rain, and it did - especially when most people were arriving and booking in!! Trying to balance a broolly to keep paperwork dry, writing details, checking cards and receiving payment was interesting, especially when the wind blew. Ken got very wet siting members as they arrived. Everyone settled in well, and by the time the last unit arrived on Saturday, we had 29 in total.

Friday everyone spent time exploring the area and taking photos to the theme of “ON” - some interesting interpretations were received. Early evening saw some people purchase Pizza from the site kitchen before going to the Games Room to socialise. A quick “Did you ever...” icebreaker was soon followed by a longer game of Left Right and Centre. Topsy was the eventual winner, so if you are in need of some 20 pence pieces, then he is the person to ask!

Saturday several enjoyed the cooked breakfast available in the Reception area before heading in various directions. In the evening the photos were judged, followed by a Beatrix Potter Bedtime Story with a twist - there was lots of laughter and Tena Lady worked overtime! Whilst the Committee’s away the kids will play!!!

With an hour’s less sleep, Sunday’s Coffee Morning was held at 11 am when the formalities of the weekend were carried out in the capable hands of the Vice Chairperson, Mary. After a few words, she made presentations to resigning Committee members.

The photo competition was won by Topsy (he had a successful weekend) winning a photo frame containing an image by an esteemed local photographer! Roger from Bristol was a very close second, and Devon Sue was a respectable third (sorry no prizes for you!) The Tree Quiz was a 3-way tie with the eventual winner being Helen & Mac. Embarrassingly, the Bonus Ball was Ken's number! With the Bonus Ball and other donations, £25.50 was added to the Chairman's Charity. There was another gathering in the evening with a few games of Irish Bingo.



We would like to thank all who joined us, especially the new members and visitors from far and wide, and partook of our tomfoolery! We trust you all had a good journey home by various means (Robert courtesy of Green Flag. Hope your car is sorted out soon. Some people will do anything to save fuel and get the most out of their Recovery subscription!) See you in a Muddy Field soon!

Ken & Liz

# **2023 SOMERSET DA OFFICERS & COMMITTEE**

## **PRESIDENT**

DAVID WHITE  
70 NEW BRISTOL ROAD, WESTON-SUPER-MARE BS22 6AL

## **VICE PRESIDENTS**

BETTY CHAPMAN  
8 PURN ROAD, BLEADON HILL, WESTON-SUPER-MARE BS24 9JQ  
TONY BAGG  
81 MANOR HOUSE ROAD, GLASTONBURY. BA6 9DQ  
PETER LINDSAY  
BADGERS GATE, BIRCH AVENUE, BLEADON, WESTON-SUPER-MARE. BS24 0PA

## **CHAIRPERSON**

CAROL HARPER  
KIRCAMBECK, HIGHBURY ST, COLFORD, RADSTOCK. BA3 5NS

## **VICE CHAIR,**

MARY WARREN  
4 NAISHES AVE, PEASEDOWN ST JOHN BQ2 8TN

## **REGALIA,**

BILL GRANT  
38 FARLEY DELL, COLEFORD, RADSTOCK. BA3 5PJ

## **SECRETARY**

LINDA DYER  
26 MENDIP VALE, COLEFORD, RADSTOCK BA3 5PP

## **TREASURER**

KEITH WARREN  
4 NAISHES AVE, PEASEDOWN ST JOHN BQ2 8TN

## **SITES SEC'Y**

STEVE WALKER sitesecretary@somersetda.co.uk  
41 BRIDGEWATER ROAD, TAUNTON, SOMERSET TA1 2DP

## **BOOKING OFFICER**

AMANDA WALKER bookings@somersetda.co.uk  
41 BRIDGEWATER ROAD, TAUNTON, SOMERSET TA1 2DP

## **P.R.O. & WEBMASTER**

ANDY CANNING  
13 KINGFISHER DRIVE, MIDSOMER NORTON. BA3 4PU

## **YOUTH LEADER AND YOUTH**

Not Appointed. Contact Secretary

## **REG REP**

KEITH DYER  
26 MENDIP VALE, COLEFORD, RADSTOCK BA3 5PP

## **DEPUTY REG REP**

CAROL HARPER  
KIRCAMBECK, HIGHBURY ST, COLFORD, RADSTOCK. BA3 5NS

## **AUDITOR**

SUZANNE DAVIS  
5 RUGOSA DRIVE, BERROW, BURNHAM ON SEA. TA8 2LJ

## **CYDERPRESS**

ANDY CANNING newsletter@somersetda.co.uk  
13 KINGFISHER DRIVE, MIDSOMER NORTON. BA3 4PU

## **COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

COLLEEN AUTON  
SUSIE CURTEIS-LATEO