

Chairman's Chat - 10th October 2008

Hi Everyone, After a tremendous response to the Chairman's Charity Rally over the weekend of the 3rd to the 5th of October, I was totally overwhelmed by the superb support from the Officer's and Committee of the Lincolnshire Centre, all members of the Centre, and our many sponsors who kindly donated raffle prizes – gifts – and cash in aid of the nominated Charity – The Lincolnshire & Nottinghamshire Air Ambulance.

It turned out to be a very successful rally, with a total amount raised over the weekend of £616.52p.

The Grand Raffle was drawn, and many members benefited from the many and varied prizes on offer. A Charity Auction followed the main raffle and realized £176.00.

This brings the total raised for the Charity this year an amazing £1650.52p.

I will personally be thanking every sponsor and donator who kindly gave their gifts and time to raise this amount of money. I will also contact all prize winners who were not in attendance at the rally, and make arrangements for them to receive their prizes.

Nominations for Lincolnshire Centre Committee came flooding in, with a vote for committee places being a possibility for the first time for four or five years. It is gratifying to see so many people commit their time and effort to keep the Centre running smoothly and effectively.

The AGM Rally at Wellingore Village Hall will now commence at 1400 hrs on Friday, and not 12 noon as stated in the rally book. This is mainly because we would not get caravans onto the field, this early. as the car park will be full from a prior function in the hall, which does not finish till 1300 hrs.

Fireworks have been purchased for the Bonfire Rally at Oakhill, and a special price offered by our suppliers, was taken by me, so they are ready for the event. We would still like a few more members to run stalls at the Bonfire Rally, to keep the firework fund "topped up" so please contact the Vice Chairman Ivan Cottingham, if you would like to do this, he will gladly give you the details. A games stall, or some sort of food stall will give you some idea of what we are looking for.

Liaise forms should be in to the Rally Secretary by now, so if you haven't already done so, please get them to him as soon as possible, as the book is currently being collated ready for the printers.

A letter will be going out to all members of the Centre, with information on all next year's rallies, and the date and time of the 2009 AGM. Also on the letter will be a request for you to contact the Membership Secretary or myself or John, if you would like a rally book. All you have to do is contact us, and a 2009 rally book will be sent to you free of charge. If you do not contact us, we will assume you do not require a book. This is in keeping with our quest to keep rally book production sales costs down to a minimum.

After a lot of discussion at the September Committee meeting it was unanimously decided to drop the £2.00 deposit system with effect from 1st Jan 2009. this decision was forced upon us by the astronomical new bank charges introduced by Lloyds/TSB our bankers. As most of the deposits were paid by cheque, this is where the majority of charges arose from. The bank is now charging us 28p for every banked cheque. So to cut down our expenditure, the deposit system will be suspended for 2009. this may not be a permanent decision, more a trial, to see how we go on. Normal booking charge rules – as per rally book will still apply. With some deposits still payable. The prepaid system will stay in force. All existing vouchers can be used against a rally fee, and all will be honoured.

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As there were a large amount of requests for a Rally Marshals Meeting Rally, I have done just that. There will be a rally marshal's rally at Dunham on Trent village hall on January 9th/11th 2009.

As this will probably be my last Chairman's Chat before the 2008 AGM, I would like to take this opportunity, to thank firstly my wife Georgina, for putting up with me through "thick and thin", and her continual effort helping run rallies with me. Also I would like to thank all the members who have shown their support to me during 2008 and for all your kind words of encouragement during my chairmanship. My sincere thanks also to all the Officers & Committee members who have given their time and effort to help run the Centre – for you - the members. Not forgetting the Youth Committee who have helped put on rallies for your enjoyment.

Kind Regards,

Geoff

CHAIRMAN'S CHARITY.

Amount raised : £1650.52p

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