

BAYVIEW CARAVAN OWNERS' ASSOCIATION
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Newsletter 82 - February 2018

Next Association meeting

2018 GM - ~~Saturday 31st March~~ 5-7pm (UPDATE: changed to April 7th)

Committee news

An up to date list of committee members appears at the end of this newsletter.

Future meeting dates

2018 AGM – Saturday 29th September 5-7pm

Welcome

Welcome to our winter newsletter. It has been a very quiet time on the Association for the autumn and winter period which is good news! There have only been few members contacting the Association and things at the park seem to have been running smoothly as per the terms of our licences. We have been contacted by some new owners on the site who have arrived to find that they are paying over £1,500 more in pitch fees per year than other owners who have been on the site longer. Clearly they are very unhappy with this situation, which was not pointed out to them during the sales process. In addition pitch fees for owners on the newer licences appear to have risen by £200 this year while those on the NACO/Darwin 2013 licence rose by less than £100. Unfortunately the park has complied with the terms of the new licences and there is little that new owners can do once they have signed their licence.

Grounds issues

This was the biggest source of members complaints last year by far. Grass cutting, hedge trimming and tree cutting was very poor for a large part of the season with some owners seeing their sea views disappear as the season wore on. The most recent newsletter promises that "Grounds have worked really hard this close down season, cutting back foliage on the park". Feedback from owners that have visited the park report that a large amount of vegetation has been removed during the winter period. We therefore look forward to returning to the park in March to see our sea views returned and our grass/bushes/hedges neatly trimmed. Hopefully this will be maintained during the season

Electricity bills

Electricity bills now appear to be being sent out on a more regular basis following our complaint to Darwin last year

Security barrier

Please make sure you make a note of the new barrier code that was sent out by the park manager with the most recent newsletter. You will need it on your first visit to the park this year.

Restaurant

Several owners have said that they are not aware of the current menu offering in the restaurant following the information provided by the park that it would be offering "light bites" from December. What constitutes a "light bite" was not made clear. Also it was not clear what the restaurant would discontinue to offer (do they still do a Sunday roast for example?). It would have been useful if an up to date menu had been provided with the most recent newsletter so owners could plan their restaurant visits. Once again the park have failed to communicate with owners and ask them what type of menu offer they would like. As a result it

is worrying that the decline in customers to the restaurant, seen last year, will continue this year if the offer does not meet owners needs.

Advance notice of entertainment events

A limited number of entertainment events at the Vista Centre have been publicised in the most recent newsletter. Once again it appears that owners have not been consulted about the type of events they would like to see put on at the park by the entertainment team.

Owners Party 2017 and 2018

The owners party on Saturday November 4th 2017 once again received a great “thumbs up” from those that attended. Many thanks to all the park staff who worked so hard to make this event a great success.

Details of the 2018 party are given in the most recent park newsletter – make sure you book your place asap if you wish to attend. It is a pity that there is only one event of this type during the year. A £10 deposit is needed again when booking this year, which will be refunded as a £10 drinks voucher at the bar on the evening

Caravan insurance

We have received some very worrying emails concerning the price of caravan insurance from a range of companies. It appears that they are penalising loyal customers who book with the same company each year compared with new applicants. In some cases new applicants appear to get the same insurance at over £100 less than “loyal” customers.

One owner obtained a considerable reduction with NACO for their caravan insurance after comparing with NACO quotes given to other owners.

Another owner was quoted £350 from Arthur Gallagher (via SBV) but going through a local broker got it down to £230 through Towergate insurance (Leisure Home). That saved a third. Her caravan neighbour went on line and she has managed to get insured for £210!

Clearly you need to be aware of the terms of the insurance you are buying and make sure you are comparing similar products but as can be seen here it is possible to make considerable savings by shopping around or by going to your current provider and doing some bargaining.

Caravan for sale

A 28 x 10ft Willerby Vacation on an unlimited licence with 2 bedrooms, new 2014, immaculate condition only used by owners. Offered at £29,995. Secluded plot on edge of site with uninterrupted sea views. Contact number: 07826 329108.

New members

It is vital that the Association has as many members as possible if we wish to be effective and represent the views of the majority of owners at SBV. Our target for this year will be to get 90% of owners at the park signed up as members. You can help enormously in this task by promoting the Association with your immediate neighbours, especially any new owners you see moving into your area. Attached to this email is a new member leaflet that you can print or email to a new owner. All they have to do is complete the form and pay their £4 (see notes at the bottom of the proforma of how to do this) for the next year (March 2018 to February 2019), and we will do all the rest

Committee members

Richard Swan – (189) – Chair
Rosemary Burbridge – (311) – Vice Chair
Marjorie and Richard Edwards – (66) – Secretary
Rhoda and Damian Goodwin – Treasurer (19)
Michael Hardiman – (62)
Val and Roy Gill – (244)
Ian and Philippa Hills (90e)
Vacancy
Harry Horton (210)
Derek Keller (70)

(Poppy rep)
(Bluebell rep)
(Sunflower rep)
(Tulip rep)
(Sunflower rep)
(Honeysuckle rep)
(Daisy rep)
(Sweetpea rep)
(Buttercup rep)
(Rose rep)