



Rural Coffee Caravan Information Project early season update!

Here is just a selection of a few of our villages and events visited in May. There were many more but sadly there is not room to include them all.

Enjoy



A leaflet rack/display had to be made quickly before the launch date of the new Campervan, initially made from bits of wood lying around it has now been sprayed 'Coffee Caravan standard issue green'! Suitable tables, chairs and other shiny new things had to be especially bought so everything could fit inside the 'Van.



As the Caravan was just coming out of hibernation and wanted a lie in, the good people of Finningham decided to have the coffee and chat in the Church thanks to the generosity of the Church wardens. The recent flower festival meant that the smell was divine.



Kentford gets a taste of home delivered hot meals thanks to Caroline from Community Meals who brought along a huge selection including some delicious puddings. Ann Osborn (Project Manager) serves up some samples that can be tailored to any diet, gluten free, diabetic etc. Not a scrap was left

The Campervan joined the fun too having bright colourful logos added whilst on the village green!



Great Livermere receives its first visit, initially by the Campervan; the Caravan will soon be coming regularly.

One of the village's prettiest residents gets to know us early on before the hoards arrive, knowing that when we are gone there will be some very tasty homemade crumbs left behind.



During the middle of the month, the launch of the new Campervan was well attended by villagers and over a dozen agencies at Bruisyard Village Hall. The weather was gorgeous and Ann introduced the newly appointed Project Officer for the new vehicle Garry Simmonds. She explained how the grant for the new vehicle came about and how the Care Health and Independence (CHAI) delivery board works.

Two is better than one! The Campervan is not replacing the Caravan, and we are now able to be in two places at once. The Caravan will of course still be going out as much as ever thanks to a small team of very dedicated volunteers. It carries the same amount of vital information and can seat many people providing a social setting where there is none.



Many of our supporting organisations were in place to provide advice to all, and the media coverage was much more than we could have hoped for.

BBC and ITV, provided evening news coverage. and the East Anglian Daily Times provided a half page spread photo and story We are very grateful for all our media coverage and to those who helped to organise it.



Just before the cutting of the green ribbon by County Councillor Colin Noble, Rev Canon Sally Fogden told everybody how the Project came about. She realised the need for information and social contact in remote rural communities and started the Project herself with a small rather ancient caravan. The Rural Coffee Caravan Information Project was born in 2003 and from little acorns, mighty oak trees grow.





A 'Community Conversation' event lead by the Police and Safer Neighbourhood Team was held at Leiston Community Centre in Haverhill. This involved the public airing concerns and interacting with local police. The police were advising on new policing matters, the event was very successful with the Coffee Campervan used as a base and resulted in a very generous £100 donation to our Project, Many thanks to Sue Burstall and her team.



A visit to a Community Wellbeing Centre to explain what we do turned into an impromptu visit, awning out, cakes and tea aplenty... well it was a nice day and everybody wanted to get stuck in and find out more about us.

Look out for the June Update very soon