



## Hello Volunteers

If I managed to get this newsletter out to everyone before Christmas, then let me wish everybody a

**VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR**

otherwise let me wish you just a

**HAPPY NEW YEAR**

And I hope you had a good Christmas.

May I remind everyone that there was a questionnaire at the end of my last newsletter asking for some juicy interesting facts about our volunteers – no seriously though it just was a request for willingly given information about yourselves that I can produce profiles publish in this newsletter over the next few issues so that we can get to know each other a bit better. I have had 2 returns and one of those was from the Eastern Volunteers – so come you people live dangerously and reveal those dark hidden facts....

### In this issue:

Marquee Erection, Feed the Birds, 3 B's on the plateau in Oak Wood, Bob's Fungi, Rover Bashing and Easy Crossword (no prizes)

## Marquee Erection



The marquee arrives in the back of the working land rover



Two marquees are required either side of the road in front of The Tree Tops outside seating and unfortunately the 'OK Coral' is in the way. These 2 sturdy strong rangers, John and Gary, think that isn't a problem and proceed to pull it out of the ground. Needless to say it was just a little beyond their ability and so we called for Matt to sort it out!



Having sorted through all the poles, labelled A, B and C the roof frame is assembled first. From the separated sides and roof, the roof sheet is unfolded and pulled over the roof frame and fixed with the small bungees.

(Editor's note: Democratic discussion prolongs the sorting and assembly initially until what goes where and the sequence is agreed!)



Once the roof is fixed, one side is lifted (needs 4 people - but they are still chatting like rangers do while the volunteer waits) and the poles are inserted. The other side is then lifted and poles fixed.



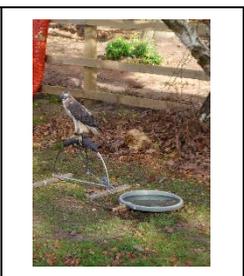
The back and sides are then hooked up using the bungees. Some sides are already zipped together, depends on who took them down last time, if not matching panels need to be sorted out and zipped up before hanging.



It's very useful to have someone tall when fixing the sides!

### **Feed the Birds at Rushmere on 29th October 2017**





## The 3 B's on the plateau at Oak Wood

The removal of the bramble, birch and bracken is an ongoing task in Oak Wood. We have had many sessions over the years. Bracken is mostly taken care with Bob's annual spraying, but we have to get down and dirty with the bramble and the birch regrowth along with the pine. One such session was undertaken by the volunteers on November 22nd this year. Here are some before and after photographs taken by Bob Hook

### Before (first 7) and After Photographs





**And after...**





**Bob Hook has also been on a fungi hunt (so step aside Tony!)**



**Shaggy inkcap**



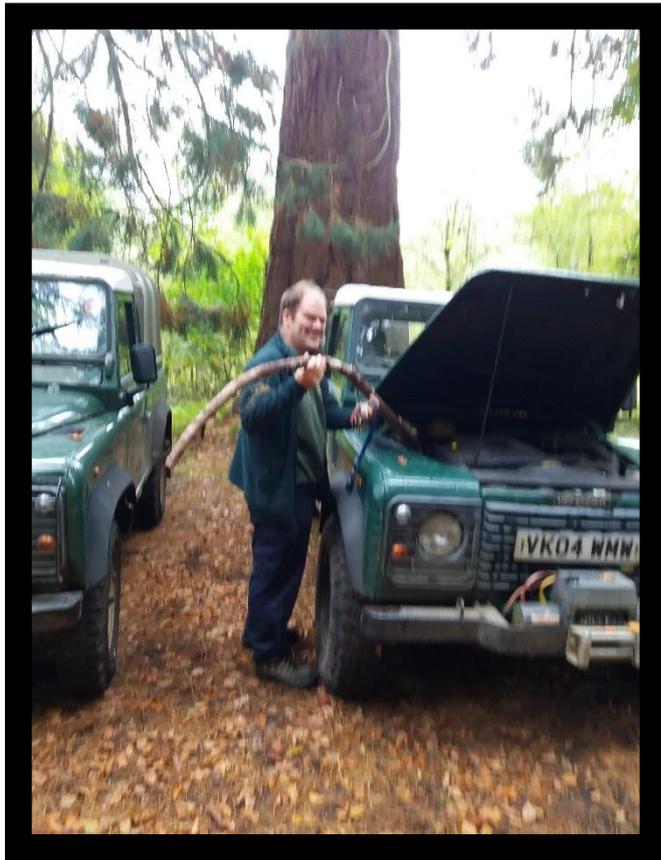
**Pleated inkcap**



**Parasol mushroom**



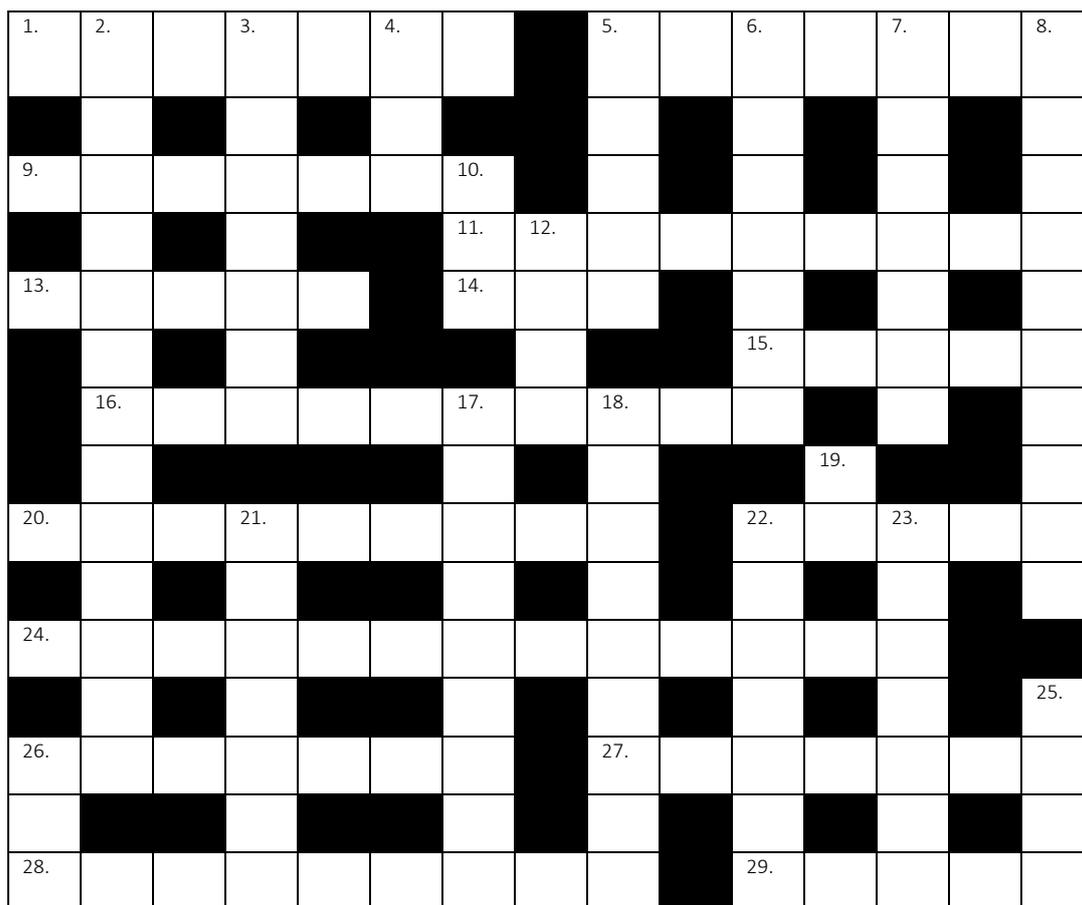
**Rubbish**



**Do we need  
to report  
Land Rover Abuse  
Or has Gary been  
watching too many  
SpecSaver Adverts**



Please, if you have any material, articles, pieces of information, photographs etc that I can use **please please** pass them on to me on Tuesday or Wednesday or email them to:- [mikesumpter@btinternet.com](mailto:mikesumpter@btinternet.com)



Across

- 1 One of these does not a summer make (7)
- 5 Cosmetic facial treatment (7)
- 9 Paint, engrave, or draw by means of dots or small touches (7)
- 11 The fourth Sunday in Lent (9)
- 13 Small, hard seed, of a food plant such as wheat, corn, rye, etc (5)
- 14 \_\_\_ Stubbs, English actress, television personality and former dancer (3)
- 15 A Brittonic tribe of eastern Britain during the Iron Age (5)
- 16 Dick Turpin was probably the most famous one of all (10)
- 20 Working or using a machine, apparatus, or the like (9)
- 22 A socially awkward or tactless act (5)
- 24 An ornamental shrubby climbing plant that is widely cultivated in the tropics (14)
- 26 Legal investigation to establish the circumstances surrounding a person's death (7)
- 27 A renewable fuel made from corn and other plant materials (7)
- 28 A gliding step in ballet, in which one foot slides forwards, sideways, or backwards (9)
- 29 Round plates on which data can be encoded (5)

Down

- 2 Fantasy adventure novel by Richard Adams (9,4)
- 3 The most widespread of our breeding waders (7)
- 4 A bird with a round head, rather flat or dished face, forward-facing eyes and a short, hooked bill (3)
- 5 Mediterranean island between Scilly and Libya (5)
- 6 Second-largest city in the South Island of New Zealand (7)
- 7 Respect and approve of someone or their behaviour (7)
- 8 A small, unmistakable bright blue and orange bird of slow moving or still water (10)
- 10 Aggressive stage and television companion of Rod Hull in the 70's and 80's (3)
- 12 \_\_\_ the lonely, A UK No.1 hit song in 1960 for Roy Orbison (4)
- 17 Made indifferent or hostile (9)
- 18 A state of warm humidity (9)
- 19 Symbol for the chemical element Sodium (2)
- 21 Highly seasoned stews of meat or fish, with or without vegetables (7)
- 22 A knight of King Arthur's Round Table (7)
- 23 Displays proudly; act ostentatiously or pretentiously (7)
- 25 A mountain system, in south-central Europe (4)
- 26 Pasture or meadow; generally, one lying low, near a river (3)