

# The Apple Tree

News from St Michaels Caravan Park • July 2022 • Issue 6

## St Michaels in bloom



This year we asked Liz to plant up the hanging baskets outside Brian's office and we think she did a wonderful job – the best we have ever had at St Michaels. It's Brian's job to keep them watered, and woe betide him if Liz doesn't think he's doing it well or often enough!

## Life goes on – time for an upgrade?



Despite rampant inflation, war in Europe, Tory party squabbles and searingly hot temperatures, life at St Michaels carries on nearly as normal – perhaps a bit quieter now we have no holiday hire visitors.

Giving up holiday hire has freed up some good modern caravans for sale. Two of the

four are now sold and there are just two more plus one new holiday home for sale.

Available are:

**New Atlas Debonair** 38 x12, 2 bedroom, on pitch 17 – £57,000 (pictured)

**2019 Willerby Shrewsbury** 35 x12, 2 bedroom, on pitch 18 – £32,895

**2020 Willerby Avonmore** 32 x12, 2 bedroom, on pitch 31 – £28,950

If you are interested in upgrading to any of these units we can offer generous part exchange values.

If you are considering an upgrade to a new unit in the next two years please come and discuss options. If we understand your needs we can do our best to plan ahead to match them. (As a footnote to illustrate the supply problems in the industry, a new caravan for Wigley Orchard which was ordered in June 2021 will now be available, we are told, in November this year.)

## Welcome to the park

We're happy to welcome Surriya from Switzerland and John and Jenny from Hartlebury as new owners on the park. We hope you enjoy your caravan and have many happy times at St Michaels.

## Wedding bells for Liz



Liz married Andy in September and became Mrs Cattani.

She has settled into her routine at St Michaels on Mondays and Tuesdays, keeping our hedges and edges tidy and also jet washing and oiling timber decks. If she has not given your deck the treatment we can still arrange this for the special rate of £210.

At the moment she and Andy are enjoying a holiday in Greece but she'll be back by the end of July.

## Looking after the grass

Henry, Annabel and Megan continue to cut our grass. In the hot dry spell of weather the grass has stopped growing so we have reduced their hours by half. They now start at 8 o'clock and park up at 4 o'clock.

Our American grandchildren, Henry, Annabel and Megan, will be visiting for a few days in August. Please don't confuse them with the robot mowers! They're looking forward to visiting us and to meeting their namesakes.

## Have your say

If you have any stories or photographs for the next issue of The Apple Tree, please send them to [ronsmum@btconnect.com](mailto:ronsmum@btconnect.com) or telephone Sandra at St Michaels on 01568 750665. We look forward to hearing from you!

## Eating in Tenbury ...



You've probably all sampled Mr Thom's delicious chocolates, bread and cakes.

Now you can eat in or take away breakfast, brunch, lunch, afternoon tea or dinner at **Mr Thom's Café and Grill**. It's open from 8am to 10pm and has been receiving rave reviews, so give it a try!

If you fancy something a bit more exotic, try **Unwined Bar and Bistro** in Market Street – comfy sofas, delicious food and a friendly ambience. Unwined serves brunch, tapas and paella – perfect for a lazy morning, a laid back lunch or a candlelit dinner.

## ... or Kimbolton

We were sad when the **Stockton Cross** at Kimbolton, just down the road on the way to Leominster, closed. We had enjoyed many lovely evenings there with family and friends.

Now this beautiful old pub, a 16th century former drovers' inn, is open for lunch and dinner again and is getting good reviews. Telephone 01568 612509 to reserve a table.



If you decide to try any of these restaurants and would like to let us know what you think, drop us a line at [ronsmum@btconnect.com](mailto:ronsmum@btconnect.com) and we'll pass on your experience in the next issue of The Apple Tree.

And if you have a favourite venue you would like to share with others, let us have the details and we'll include it.

## Bins

Please read and take note of the notice near our bins setting out what may be left in which bin – clear bags and black bags etc. We are not being bullied by the authorities just yet but any time soon they will start marking us down (or charging us more) if the wrong waste is left in the wrong bin.

## TV licences

We continue to receive letters from TV Licensing addressed to random caravans and threatening to send their van to check that the owners have a licence.

As you know, if you have a licence for your television at home and no-one is watching it while you are away, you are entitled to watch television in your caravan without a separate licence.

If we had saved all the letters we've received from TV Licensing at both parks we would have enough to build another house, but so far no van has appeared!

## Drones

As a courtesy to other caravan owners and to protect their privacy we would ask you not to fly drones over the park without prior permission.

## Energy costs

We have benefited from a three-year fix on the prices we pay for energy. These expire for both gas and electricity before the start of the 2023 season. We anticipate a very big increase in rates, but we will do our best to find a competitive supplier.

## Ready for winter!

If you would like a Floe automatic drain down kit before winter, please let Brian know.

## Sewage – remember P, P and P

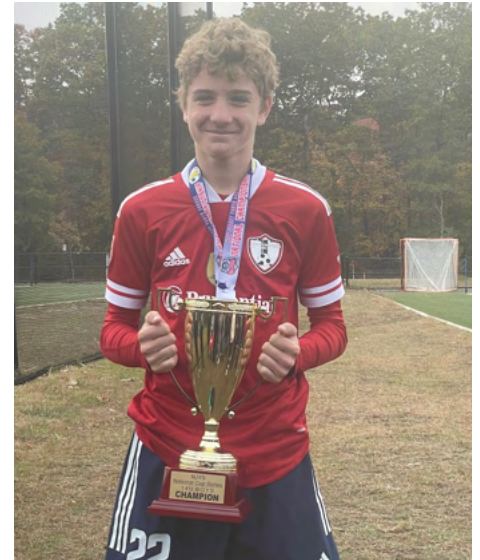
What goes down your drain is only **poo, pee and paper**

Anything else should be separated and included in the waste disposal system. Our new sewage treatment plant is working well but it does not like material that will not decompose. We spent £25,000 on the new plant in last year and hope it will continue to work properly for many years to come. You can help!

## Family news

Brian had a new hip in October and is now fully recovered, although he has a slight limp sometimes. Sandra earned full marks for nursing him through his recovery period which included not being able to drive for a month and not being able to fly for three months.

So when we visited our American family in February, it was the first time we had seen them since October 2019. We were amazed to find that Henry had grown nearly as tall as his dad! Now 14 he is officially 6ft 1in! He plays soccer for a very prestigious club in New Jersey and in November they won the State Cup.



The girls are just 12 and have recently been on Summer Camp for two weeks, where they learnt to water ski.



Meanwhile Brian and Sandra had their first summer holiday since they started holiday lettings in 1994 – a trip to San Sebastian in northern Spain with Brian's brother Richard and his wife Caroline. They stayed with Richard and Caroline's daughter Rosalind, who lives there with her husband Simon and children Amaia and Alex. Caroline was a wonderful tour guide and they had a fabulous time and some delicious food!

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## St Michaels Caravan Park

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