

Halloween 2016 edition

Cover4Caravans



My wife Jayne and our sons George and Toby looking at the tree sculpture at the National Motor Museum, Beaulieu

## Welcome to the Autumn edition of the Cover4Caravans newsletter

Welcome to our special Halloween-themed edition of the Cover4Caravans quarterly newsletter – don't worry, it isn't all ghosts, ghouls and things that go bump in the night!

### Places to go

This edition we are getting away to South East Wales. Whether you are visiting it for a romantic weekend break or a family holiday, there are ample opportunities to discover what the Wye Valley and the rest of Wales have to offer from food to culture to unusual activities!

### Win a £100 Amazon Voucher!

This edition you have the chance of winning a £100 Amazon Voucher when you enter our Caption Competition. Good luck – and no rude entries please!

### Spook-tacular weekends and pumpkins!

We've got two special articles this month on ways to join in the Halloween fun at the end of the month. Check out Al's ideas ... 5 great uses for a pumpkin and our Spook-tacular weekends article further down the newsletter.

That's about it for now – we hope you enjoy this newsletter. And don't forget, we'd love to hear from you, so do keep sending us your holiday photos and reviews to richardb@alanblunden.co.uk. Or share them on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/Cover4Caravans.

Finally, don't forget to keep checking out our website for regularly updated, useful articles, ideas and guides. You can take a sneak peek at our free guides here: <http://www.cover4caravans.co.uk/articles/quick-guides>.

### Richard

Richard Burgess, MCIM, ACIEH, CII  
Director, Cover4Caravans

Follow me on Twitter @cover4caravans

WIN  
£100 Amazon Voucher  
Find out how inside!





# Get away to...

WELCOME TO

**SOUTH EAST WALES**



Whether you're visiting South East Wales for a romantic weekend break or a family holiday, there are ample opportunities to discover what the Wye Valley and the rest of Wales have to offer.

### Foodie forays

Amid the green valleys and craggy coastlines of South and West Wales, you'll find plenty to please your inner foodie – everything from chic contemporary restaurants to welcoming country inns. Abergavenny may be a small town, but is also the gastronomic capital of Wales.

You'll find delicious high-end fare and local seasonal produce at The Crown at Whitebrook, The Hardwick, The Walnut Tree, The Bell at Skenfrith and Restaurant 1861.

Wine buffs can enjoy sumptuous tours and tastings at some Welsh vineyards including Monmouth's Anchor Hill Estate, White Castle vineyard at Llanvetherine in Abergavenny or Parva Farm Vineyard in nearby Chepstow.

### Culture vultures

Wales has 641 castles the last time we counted - more per square mile than anywhere on earth and there are certainly no shortage of historic spots in Newport and the Vale of Usk. You'll discover a delightful peppering of castles in the surrounding area including Usk, Chepstow, Raglan and Caldicot.

Just half an hour away, Tintern Abbey is the best-preserved medieval abbey in Wales, founded for Cistercian monks in 1131. It encompasses grand design and architectural detail of great finesse, a real beauty for keen photographers.

Nearer still, Tredegar House is an imposing 17th century mansion set in 90 acres of parkland and gardens. The house and gardens are rife with rambling trails and nooks and crannies for kids (and the young at heart) to explore.

### Activities

While you can enjoy all sports of crazy golf and high wire capers at the summit venue itself, there are ample opportunities for caving, climbing and abseiling throughout South Wales.

For ramblers, the surrounding Black Mountains are ideal for Sunday strolls and serious hikes, while Offa's Dyke path is a mammoth 177mile National Trail... perhaps best walked in stages!

Like a challenge? Then Bike Park Wales should feature on everyone's activity bucket list. From novice bikers to the serious experts, there's a trail to suit all abilities, whether you're after an extreme or serene experience.

### Antiques and boutiques

Perhaps the Vale of Glamorgan's most glamorous address, Cowbridge is a great place to browse for a (designer) bargain. Even for all the boutiques, galleries and

cafés, Cowbridge remains the heart of the Vale's farming community, and a great place to people watch.

Be sure to stop for a pint at The Bear, a 12th century coaching inn – still doing a roaring trade. Closer still, Monmouth and Chepstow are both home to plenty of small independent stores and Antique shops.

### And for something a bit different ...

Hire a traditional canal boat and chug along the peaceful Brecon and Monmouthshire Canal. An ideal way to unwind and watch the world go by.

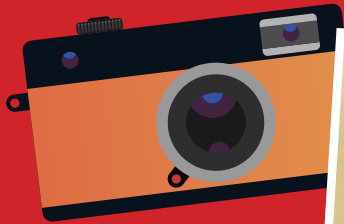
Get a bird's eye view of the green, rolling Wye Valley hills and surrounding peaks, with a balloon flight.

Lord it up and be king of the castle, with a night's stay at Craig-Y-Nos Castle between Swansea and Brecon, previously home to Opera singer Adelina Patti.

Enjoy a pimms and get dressed up at Chepstow Racecourse.

For more information, visit: [www.visitwales.com](http://www.visitwales.com)





*Lisa Byott - Senior Account Handler*



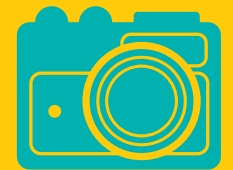
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*Staff photos*



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*Michael Vecic*



*Ben Evans*



*Harry Hierons*



*Sarah Clarke - Senior Account Handler*



*Sarah Reid*



*Catherine Wright*

### *Meet The Team*

*Now you can put a face to the name!*



# Did you know...

...you don't always have to buy your static caravan insurance from your site.

**Unless it is part of your contract with your site provider that you take their static caravan insurance, then in most cases, you are free to source your own cover.**

This means you may find a policy that is more appropriate for your needs, and which better suits your budget.

## What does static caravan insurance cover?

Static caravan insurance typically covers the structure of the 'van, the fixtures and fittings (such as a fitted kitchen or built in wardrobe), the contents and personal possessions, as well as third party liability claims (such as

if you let your static caravan to guests for holidays).

**I've heard that the site owner may charge me if I buy my own cover – is that right?**

The site owner is well within their rights to charge you a small admin fee – amounts of £35 are not uncommon – to check that you have the correct levels of static caravan cover.

Even so, however, in the long run, you could still save money overall on the cost of your static caravan insurance.

In a nutshell, don't feel pressured in to taking the site owner's own insurance. In most cases it isn't obligatory.

So, shop around and compare the cover against what is available from the site owner – if even just to satisfy yourself that you are getting the most suitable for cover and at a cost-effective price.



## Cover4Caravans



# AL the Snail

**What our customers are saying!**

*At Cover4Caravans, our aim is not only to find you the most suitable and cost-effective cover for your 'van, but to provide a first class service.*

*Here is some genuine feedback via Feefo from some of our customers. To read more reviews, follow the link on our home page.*

**That's it, i'm moving out!**

**“Very happy with quote from a friendly operative, all sorted out with very little hassle. Would definitely recommend. Thanks.”**

**“Very easy to set up my insurance Catherine was really helpful from start to finish. Would recommend to anyone, good value for money.”**

**“They are very good. My second year with them. Always willing to get a good price for you.”**

**“Excellent service ... insured my caravan in minutes. Sarah emailed me immediately with the cover as she said she would. The price was great too! Very impressed.”**

FOLLOW AL THE SNAIL ON FACEBOOK





# A Day in the Life of Ben Evans

Cover4Caravans Account Handler



Monday 7th September

**6:15am** Alarm call, let the dogs out in the garden, make a tea.

**6:30am** Brush my teeth, have a shower and get dressed for work.

**6:45am** Make porridge for breakfast and have a nice, cold, orange juice.

**6:55am** Head out to the car and get ready to drive to work.

**7:40am** Get to the car park and walk to the office.

**7:50am** Sign in at work and turn my computer on ready for the day to begin. Catch up with some of the guys before starting work for the day.

**8:00am** Start calling out leads on the board, trying to make some sales.

**9:45am** The rest of the team are in for the late shift by now, say "hello" and then everyone begins cracking on with their job for the day.

**10:45am** In between the phones ringing, we all talk about things we did the night before, plans we have coming up, any TV shows or films we've seen. I think we have some of the best people in our office and everyone gets on so well.

Everyone is really friendly and we all get involved in the conversation.

**12:00pm** Megan sorts out the different lunch breaks and works out who's going at one of the 3 lunch shifts just so we have enough people in the office on both renewals and new business to answer phones and maintain our level of customer service.

**1:00pm** Walk into town on lunch, listen to my ipod and have a look around HMV. Always looking for new CD's to buy!

**3:00pm** The last of us will be coming back from lunch and then we all start working again calling out diaries.

**4:15pm** Finish my shift and get ready to walk back to my car and prepare for the drive home.

**5:00pm** Get home from work, calm down my dogs as they go mental as soon as they hear me walking up the drive, and then say "hi" to the family.

**5:45pm** Make myself dinner which usually results with something meat related and either rice or salad.

**6:20pm** Settle down after eating and usually work on my video editing for my YouTube channel, depending on what mood the laptop is in!

**7:30pm** Finished my editing and then have a gaming session on my PS4 with a friend.

**9:30pm** Turn the PS4 off and start settling down watching on of my boxsets to wind down, usually something superherorelated i.e. The Flash with a hot chocolate and chill for the remainder of the evening.

**10:45pm** Start getting ready for bed, brush my teeth, do my workout routine and crawl in to bed.

**11:00pm** Listen to my ipod and slowly drift off to sleep ready for the next working day.



*Al's ideas ...*

# 5 great uses for a pumpkin

Halloween isn't Halloween without a pumpkin or two! But there is so much more you can do with a pumpkin than carve a scary face out of it.

Here are Al's top 5 alternative uses for pumpkins ...

## 1. Make pumpkin pie or soup

Pumpkins are naturally good for you, low in fat and calories and a powerhouse of many anti-oxidant vitamins such as vitamin-A, vitamin-C and vitamin-E. So why not make yourself a delicious pumpkin soup, pie or something else?

Visit the BBC food website and Countryliving for some ideas.

## 2. Make a face mask

As mentioned above, pumpkins are full of goodness – so why not treat your skin and make yourself a pumpkin face mask? All you need in addition to your pumpkin is an egg, then either honey or juice, depending on your skin type. It couldn't be easier!

## 3. Feed the birds

If you are using the rest of the pumpkin for something else, all bits you scrape out can be left out for the birds to feast on – especially the seeds.

## 4. Use as a pretty air freshener

Why waste money on shop-bought air fresheners when you can make your own? Check out this pumpkin air freshener idea here.

## 5. Make a vase

Put a can or mug inside the hollowed out pumpkin and use it as a pretty, seasonal vase.



# CAPTION COMPETITION

Thank you to everyone who entered our caption competition in the last edition! Congratulations to **David Turnbull** from **Weymouth** who won a £100 Amazon voucher



Here is this edition's competition

So for your chance to win this fabulous prize, have a look at the picture above.

Please send us your caption via email to **michaels@alanblunden.co.uk** or post it to us as our usual address. If yours is the winning caption, you will receive a fantastic £100 Amazon Gift Voucher



Closing date for entries is **Friday 2nd December 2016**

Good luck!





# Spook-tacular weekends!

## Spooky events

“From ghoulies and ghosties, and long-leggedy beasties, and things that go bump in the night, Good Lord, deliver us!” - so runs the refrain from the traditional Scottish rhyme. If you are out and about in your caravan this Halloween, the prayer might be more fitting than ever.

With Halloween approaching, you might want to put in your diary some of the goings on at campsites around the country - or set up your own listening post for those creepy bumps in the night:

## Spooky caravan sites

If you can bear all the ghosts, ghouls and things that go bump in the night on the very doorstep of your caravan, you might want to try one of these Halloween-themed caravan sites:

**Halloween at Wolverley Camping and Caravanning Club** – the weekend of fancy dress, fun and games in this Caravanning and Camping Club's site at Brown Westhead Park, near Kidderminster in Worcestershire kicks off on Friday 28 October. Don your terrifying masks right now;

**Halloween at Clent Hills** – have pumpkin, will travel – to this Caravanning and Camping Club site just 15 miles from the centre of Birmingham, yet set in its own peacefully sleepy valley on the edge of the Client Hills. The perfect place to set about carving your pumpkin before the spooky shades of night fall.

## Nearby events and sites

If you'd rather put a little safe distance between all the Halloween-themed goings on and where you actually pitch your caravan, some of these events and nearby sites might attract you:

**Halloween Spooktacular at Park Hall Farm** – Park Hall Farm Countryside Experience, near Oswestry in Shropshire, has its own spookily created haunted house, certain to give you the ghostly chills, before or after you try your hand at pumpkin carving or enjoy the year-round attractions of this working farm. There are also prizes for the spookiest fancy dress you can fashion. Pitch up your caravan on one of the 65 pitches at the nearby Cranberry Hills site in Oswestry;

**Halloween Crafts at Killhope (lead mines)** – if you are in the vicinity of Upper Weardale in County Durham, the old lead mines at Killhope offer some of the scariest experiences deep underground in these ancient, disused mine workings. If you make it out in one piece, there are plenty of Halloween crafts to explore – and the campsite at St John's Chapel near Wearhead is only a short distance away;

**Nosferatu at Shire Hall, Market Square Stafford** – one more for the grown-ups, perhaps, is this re-enactment of the classic Nosferatu horror, shown by the Creaky Cinema in the historic Shire Hall on Saturday 29th of October. Nearby caravan sites are at Dunsten Heath Farm, The Green Man Stafford Hixon at Rugeley, and several other caravan sites in this the heart of the historic and scenic Black Country.

Happy Halloween!



# Clean your caravan the waterless way



*You know what it's like.*

*You pull up on site after a long drive... you step out to stretch your legs and check in at reception... then you take a quick glance at your spick-and-span caravan. Only it's no longer the pristine outfit you left home with. It's now spattered with squashed insects and smeared with road grime. But you can't wash it because the dirty run-off might get your name in the site warden's black book. And you wouldn't want that!*

So what do you do? Do you hang your head in shame as neighbouring caravanners tut-tut at your tatty tourer? Or do you resort to a soapy sponge under cover of darkness? Well, the good news is there's a rather remarkable cleaning product that can get your caravan spotlessly clean again without using a single drop of water. And best of all, it's incredibly easy to use.

## 1drywash – you have to use it to believe it

Use 1drywash to clean your caravan and you'll be amazed how easily it removes even the toughest marks. That's because this aviation-grade compound works by encapsulating dirt particles in a polymer film which is lifted from your caravan's bodywork as you wipe it with a cloth.

1drywash was originally developed for cleaning aircraft in desert environments, and because it requires no water, there's no contaminated run-off - which means you can wash your caravan anywhere you like. No water. No mess. No fuss.

## Designed for cleaning aircraft. Perfect for caravans

1drywash works brilliantly on GRP (fibreglass), perspex and glass, plus it's ideal for acrylic windows because it cleans without scratching. It's also safe to use on alloys and paintwork, so if you want your towing vehicle to look as good as your van, wash your car with it too.

Waterless cleaners have been around for a few years now, and 1drywash is catching on with some high-profile customers. It's recently been endorsed by the Morgan Motor Company, and is used by one of the UK's largest supermarket chains to keep their fleet of delivery vans clean and shiny. Plus its eco credentials have led to 1drywash being backed by Water Wise and Southeast Water.

## Long-lasting protection

1drywash leaves a long-lasting, water-repellent finish which provides added protection against bird droppings, tree sap and airborne grime. So whether your van is on site, in outside storage, or you're heading out on the road, a "dry wash" beforehand will help to keep it in pristine condition.

To get your hands on a bottle of 1drywash, you can order online at [www.1drywash.com](http://www.1drywash.com). The 1drywash Caravan Starter Pack comes complete with one 500ml bottle of 1drywash cleaning fluid, a reusable spray nozzle and two microfibre cloths.

It's everything you need to get your van in sparkling condition. Then you can tut-tut your neighbour's caravan in complete confidence.

## 3 Packs TO GIVEAWAY FOR FREE

Simply email us **'Why you should have one?'** You will be selected at random. Please send us your response to [michaels@alanblunden.co.uk](mailto:michaels@alanblunden.co.uk) The subject line must be **1Drywash**.

Closing date for entries is

**Friday 2nd Dec 2016**



Calendar  
of  
events  
.....  
**2016**

## What's on?

Here are a couple of events coming up in October that you may be interested in. All details are correct at time of going to press, but do check that an event is still running before you leave!

### 1 - 9 October - Shropshire SY5 6QS

West Midlands Caravan and Motorhome Show. The perfect event to discover your dream touring caravan, motorhome, luxury lodge or caravan holiday home from leading manufacturers.

### 11 - 16 October - Birmingham NEC

The Motorhome & Caravan Show. Take a look at the up-and-coming 2017 makes and models of caravan, motorhome, trailer tents and more.

This newsletter was produced by 'iamyourdesigner'

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Cover4Caravans is the trading name of Alan Blunden & Co. Ltd. Alan Blunden & Co. Ltd are regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and our registration number is 309694

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