Welcome to the Christmas edition of the Cover4Caravans newsletter

Make your own Christmas decorations
Want to save money as well as keep smaller members of the household entertained on a cold winter’s afternoon? Then why not make your own Christmas decorations? You may be surprised how easy it can be.

Finally, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from all of us!
On behalf of all of us at Cover4Caravans, I’d like to thank you for being a Cover4Caravan customer. May we wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a healthy and wealthy 2017!

Richard
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Welcome to Birmingham
With more trees than Paris and more miles of canal than Venice, Birmingham is so much more than a major international commercial centre and is well worth a visit. It has over a dozen caravan and campsites to choose from, so you’ll be spoilt for choice as where to stay, too.

Win a £100 Amazon Voucher
Enter our ever-popular Caption Competition to be in with a chance of winning a £100 Amazon Voucher. Good luck!
Get away to...

**WELCOME TO**

**BIRMINGHAM**

With more trees than Paris, and more miles of canal than Venice, Birmingham is so much more than a major international commercial centre. It has over a dozen caravan and campsites to choose from, so you’ll be spoilt for choice as where to stay.

**Why visit Birmingham?**

Birmingham is a diverse and dynamic city, vibrant by day and by night. With its fascinating history and world-class cultural scene, combined with superb shopping, major international events and exhibitions, great nightlife and award-winning restaurants, Birmingham has a unique quality that brings with it an exciting and dynamic spirit. Read on for some ideas of things you can do, courtesy of tourist website VisitBritain.com.

**Cadbury World**

There’s never been a better time to visit Cadbury World in Bournville, Birmingham. Come and experience the magic, making and history of Cadbury chocolate. In the new Essence, discover the secret of Cadbury Dairy Milk and create your own unique product combining liquid chocolate with different taste sensations from popcorn to jelly babies. www.cadburyworld.co.uk

Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery

A spectacular Victorian building housing the world’s finest collection of pre-Raphaelite art. The museum’s collection includes work by Burne-Jones, William Morris and masters by French, Dutch and Italian artists from the 14thC to the present day. Discover the displays of costumes and ceramics, and fascinating archaeological exhibits including those from prehistoric and Roman times. www.bmag.org.uk

**Shopping**

Birmingham is a shopper’s paradise. Whether you seek head-turning chic or eye-catching value it’s all here. Shopping centres like the glamorous Bullring, sophisticated Mailbox and cosmopolitan Pavilions all have their own atmosphere and mix of shops and are only a short distance apart. Linking the centres are Birmingham’s bustling shopping streets, packed with major brands and independent boutiques. And that’s not all, check out Grand Central, a brand new shopping centre with a £100million John Lewis store, the largest outside of London. www.visitbirmingham.com/what-to-do/shopping

**Sport**

Birmingham is renowned across the world as a venue for competitive sport. If you enjoy the thrill of live sporting action then a visit to Birmingham is a must. From international athletics to test cricket, tennis to Ryder Cup golf and speedway to Premiership and Championship football, Birmingham hosts the very best in both amateur and professional sport. www.visitbirmingham.com/sport

**Birmingham Hippodrome**

Home to the Birmingham Royal Ballet and DanceXchange, Birmingham Hippodrome Theatre is one of the city’s most exciting and vibrant theatres, with a dramatic tradition that spans over one hundred years. With a reputation for staging some of the country’s best musicals, ballets, operas and pantomimes, Birmingham Hippodrome is an events venue with a difference, offering facilities that are second to none. www.birminghamhippodrome.com
Did you know...

You can get cheaper caravan insurance if your ‘van is stored on a CaSSOA-approved site?

Here are 6 things you may not know relating to your touring caravan or static home insurance. Did you know you can...

1. get cheaper caravan insurance with us if you use an approved CaSSOA-registered site? We offer discounts from 5%-15%.

2. check if you have awnings insurance by looking at your policy schedule? It should be listed separately. If it isn’t, you probably haven’t got your awnings insured.

3. buy your static home insurance from a provider of your choice? In most cases you are not obliged to take the site owner’s insurance, meaning you can shop around for the most competitive deal for you.

4. get destination ideas, caravan tips, and lots of other useful information simply by visiting our website at Cover4Caravans.co.uk?

5. get discounted cover if you are a member of the caravan club or another major recognised owners’ association? Or if you add a Phantom Tracker security device?

6. Enjoy up to £40,000 cover for your ‘van and awnings?

Got a question for the Team? Then please feel free to contact us on 0800 9707 172 or email us on cover4caravans@alanblunden.co.uk. We will be delighted to help you.
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.

“I’m sorry, but just don’t think I can handle a long distance relationship right now... xxx”

“Good service. Prompt and to the point, giving me just what I needed.”

“Can’t do enough to help. Quick response to initial web page contact. Great customer relations and really helpful! Would definitely recommend them and use again!”

“Excellent service by Cover4Caravans. I was very happy.”

“Got caravan cover at the right price. Telephone answered quickly and quotation and cover done there and then.”

“Excellent service by Cover4Caravans. Easy to work with and competitive prices made my life easy.”

“The lady I spoke to was very polite and gave me all the information I required.”
7 quick ways to DIY Christmas decorations

Whether you plan to enjoy Christmas at home or in your caravan, here are 7 great ideas on how to make your own Christmas decorations. For some of these, you can gather some of the basics you need in your local woods, so get out there with your children or grandchildren and have fun foraging.

Best of all, these ideas don’t require lots of extra equipment, so you can really make these on the cheap - as well as keep the smaller members of the household busy crafting these on a cold Sunday afternoon.

1. Collect conkers, make a hole through the centre of them (top to bottom) and thread several on to a pretty coloured ribbon to hang on the tree. This is dual purpose, as the smell of the conkers is said to repel spiders.

2. Spray paint pine cones in the colour of your choice - you can attach them to the tree by gluing twine to the base of each one.

3. Ladies - do you have any pretty bracelets or earrings where you are missing one of a pair - then hang them on the tree to add some glitz and glamour.

4. Get some festive ribbon and tie them in to pretty bows on the branches of your tree.

5. Recycle your toilet rolls (yes, really!) and make stars to hang on the tree - see directions here.

6. Dried orange slices make lovely tree decorations. Simply thinly slice an orange (or a lemon or lime) and place the segments on a baking tray. Bake on a very low heat in the oven until they have dried out. Thread a ribbon through to hang.

7. If there are any knitters in the family, get them to make several tiny pairs of coloured mittens that you can hang on your tree.
Thank you to everyone who entered our caption competition in the last edition! Congratulations to Paul Watts from Northampton who won a £100 Amazon voucher.

1DryWash Winners:

Carol Hodgetts from Rotherham with entry: ‘Our caravan is in need of a 1drywash cleaner. It should be white but is looking greener. It's not green in an eco-friendly way. And cold water washing would take a full day. I would much rather clean it the 1drywash way.’

Julie Norman from Carlisle with entry: ‘I think the reason I should have one is it would help me immensely to help keep our caravan clean and tidy. My partner Ian is disabled so I have to do all the towing and setting up and cleaning. This would save me a lot of time and spend more time with Ian relaxing. He gets so frustrated when the caravan is dirty on sites and some sites, you are not able to clean them.’

Derek Graham from Wiltshire with entry: ‘I love the idea of one day wash because I really like the idea of a water-repellent finish which provides added protection against bird droppings, tree sap and airborne grime. As a water conservation environmentalist, it also means I conserve water usage and water wastage. Plus, my 8 and 10 year old boys might help me keep their new caravan sparkly clean.’

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 17th February 2017.

Good luck!
What's on?

Here are some events coming up in the next few months 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!

19 – 22 January 2017
The Caravan & Motorhome Show
Manchester’s Event City, M17 8AS

2 – 5 February 2017
Scottish Caravan, Motorhome and Holiday Home Show 2017
SECC, Glasgow, G3 8YW

21 – 26 February 2017
The Caravan, Camping & Motorhome Show 2017
The NEC, Birmingham, B40 1NT