

Good afternoon welcome everyone, Once again I am delighted to see you here today at the 2026 West Sussex Centre AGM.

I have been chair for 2 years now and still am in awe of the members of this centre who have once again produced an amazing year of events large and small.

The centre has enjoyed a varied event programme through 2026 with West Sussex Centre running 17 events, hosting over 300 units and also had various invites from other centres which enable the centre members to mingle with other centre members and share the dedication of our own and other centre officers.

Once again Carol's hard work in 2025 booking locations for 2026 has turned up lots of lovely sites both large and small and the addition of Beech Farm not far from here at the start of this year seems to have been popular from all who attended and thank you Carol for all your hard work and I know the next year will be just as good and I would once again like to thank Kim for producing the event book.

As is highlighted every year none of the events would be possible without the hard work of the Event Officers and as usual the mammoth task of finding people to commit to running events makes things difficult so I am asking that anyone who can will volunteer to run events to make the next year better than ever and I know that Carol is looking for people to cover events. If you are nervous about running an event then start by volunteering to co-run an event with an experienced event officer and see how easy it can be – Events don't have to be all singing and dancing I know members who do enjoy a good boogie and others who enjoy the quiet life (but seem to leap into life when the music gets going)

Once again this year I am giving the event officers a free weekend voucher for an event in 2027 as thanks from the centre for their hard work in running events and hope this may tease new event officers forward .

For the last year we have had a full house committee and this has proved to be a great thing – The monthly meetings have been informative and useful and all aspects of the centre have been discussed and actioned for the members & centres benefit.

I would like to thank Sam for her time on the committee but she is standing down completely and I would like to present her with this gift as thanks from the Committee and Centre. (Present Gift)

I would also like to thank the Liaison Officers who give up their time to be the interface between the Centre and Southern Centres or South East Division as they are the vital link and for the last year Sara Renton has filled the post of Representative to the South East Division and Sue Johnson as representative for Southern Centres.

Next year is Southern Centres and I hope that the CLOs that have previously represented the centre will do so again – I am also looking for a team to produce the breakfast for 1 day at Southern Centres in 2027 – More to come on that in the next few months.

For the last year we have been hosting events and while I know this is still hard for some people to say, even I slip sometimes, we are not the only ones who have changed to with South East Division now calling their meets events.

I won't take up anymore of your time and I look forward to working with the incoming committee and you, centre members, over the next year and push the West Sussex Centre further to the forefront of Centres within the South East Region.

So once again thank you all and I look forward to seeing you on the Event Field