

# Harold steals show at Trolleybus rally

**PETROLHEADS** were in for a treat last Sunday when scores of interesting vehicles rolled into town.

The Hastings Trolleybus Restoration Group's Bus Rally, held at The Oval, attracted 30 buses and more than 100 restored cars.

As always, Happy Harold stole the show, defying his 82 years to treat visitors to rides around the site.

Organiser Jon Castro said: "It was an amazing day because at one stage we had four different buses taking people around the town.

"The owners like playing bus driver and many of them are big boys' toys. Happy Harold didn't go off site because people who came while he was out might have been disappointed, but also the one-way system on Falaise Road is hard for him.

There's a very steep hill to get back to The Oval and at 82 he is not keen on hills.

He is in remarkably good form though and sounds better than he has for years." Other highlights included two Bristol

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VR buses with consecutive number plates parked next to each other and a Panther which came down from Northampton, bringing the memories flooding back for Mr Castro who used to be a conductor on it when the

bus served Silverhill in the 1960s.

Despite a rival show taking place in Sevenoaks that day, Mr Castro was thrilled at the turnout and pleased to be able to confirm the event would run next year.

"It was a brilliant turnout and the whole day had a really nice feel. There is a very knowledgeable community here and they put me right on a few things."

For more information about the group visit [www.1666.net/trolley](http://www.1666.net/trolley).



Clockwise from above: Happy Harold; Bond Bug and Reliant display; Dad and Stuart Searie man the pumps at their 1960s old style forecourt; Hastings Tramways Club conductor Derek Masters with Kayleigh Turton from Eastbourne at the tram raffle game. Pictures by: TONY COOMBS PHOTOGRAPHY