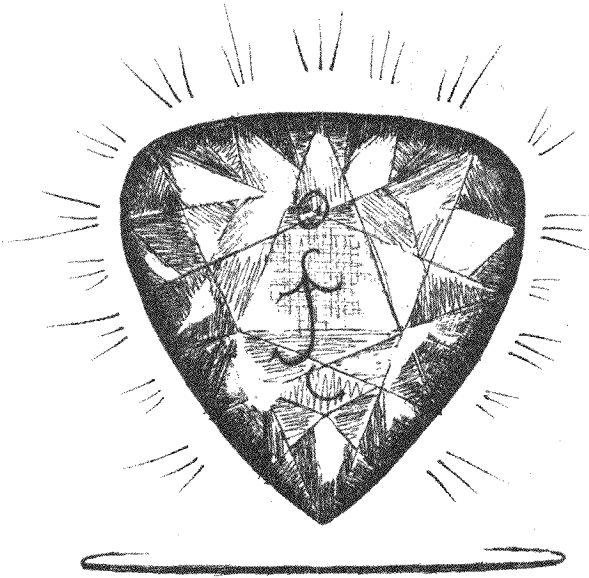


***AUTO-SLEEPER
OWNERS' CLUB***



***NEWSLETTER 60
SEPTEMBER 1993***

Hello.

Two causes for celebration this month. First, have you noticed the number of this issue of **YOUR** Newsletter? It is number 60! 60 issues at one per month means (where's my calculator?) 5 years, already! Our great Club continues to gain members all the time although we do, of course, lose some for a variety of reasons. And those members keep sending items in to continue the Newsletter. Long may it continue!

Second. Whew! What a rally we had at Malvern! Something like 440 vans turned up in the end and the weather, which looked very, very dodgy on Saturday morning, turned out well for us. Friday was a nice day, although too many of our members don't seem to be able to read. The details for the rally, and the mentions in the Newsletter, clearly said (a) don't get there before 12.00 noon and (b) if you want to park beside your friends you **MUST** arrive together. So what happened? Yes, you've guessed. People started arriving on Thursday and seemed to be a bit put out when they were told they could not come into the rally field until Friday. By mid-day Friday there must have been about 100 vans already on site and they didn't all arrive at 11.45 am either! And to crown it all one member had the cheek to leap from his van when he was directed where to park and put some reserved notices in the pitches next to his own. Quite a few members wanted to move to a pitch different from that to which they were directed.

It seems that many people believe that the Rally Sub-Committee don't have to do anything. They just say to a site "Yes, we'll come there" and **BINGO!** everything is ready for the rally. Not so, my friends, definitely not so! Let me tell you that the dates for the 1994 Club and Company Rally have already been booked and for 1995 we have a pencilled reservation too! Yes, we really do have to think that far ahead. As the rally gets nearer you would notice that the members of the sub-committee are dashing backwards and forwards to the site to finalise the arrangements. Then, on the couple of days before the rally opens, the members of the full Committee, together with other necessary helpers, start arriving to get everything else ready. Who do you think arranged the varied entertainment; marked out the field into pitches; organised the marshalling? Who set out the Club Office and Shop, the Raffle Tables, the Bric-a-brac stall, the Cake stall, the Book stall and all the others for your enjoyment? It certainly wasn't the fairies, the pixies or the elves or even the Three Counties Showground! The morning of the rally, or possibly the night before, we welcome the marshals to the field because they too have work to do before you can all come in. They have to know in which order to use the field, where

any bad patches are, where the "Privileged Parking Area" is and a number of other things.

So to the few who don't think about these things may I say please spare a thought for the many people who are working hard so that YOU can enjoy yourselves. Don't make their task any more difficult by not bothering to comply with the requirements of the Club.

Sheila [Henthorne] enrolled 11 new members during the weekend to bring our total membership up to very close on 1,000 vans (all right, 966 members as at 26th July!). And thanks to the magnificent efforts of everyone present, the healthy sum of £1,750 was raised for the Multiple Sclerosis Society which was handed over on the Sunday morning after the Salvation Army had led the service. The local Secretary for the M.S. Society was quite overwhelmed by the large sum donated by our Club. [See her letter later on.]

My personal thanks to the many people who took time out to tell me that they enjoy reading what they insisted on calling "Your Newsletter". I had to keep reminding them that it isn't mine; all I do is put it together from what YOU, the Members, send to me. But in any event, I'm glad that you enjoy it because that makes it worth while for me to carry on (for this month anyway!)

Still on the subject of the Club & Company rally; the people from A-S who were on the sub-committee laid on a number of items for your entertainment. The roving jazz band, the stilt walker, the sky divers, the dog display, the wing walker, the falconry, etc. Please read the letter from our President, *Charles Trevelyan* which follows shortly.

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MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY of Great Britain & Northern Ireland
Worcester & District Branch

To the Members of the Auto-Sleepers Club.

We, the members of the above society, wish to tell you how we all feel about your wonderful effort to raise such a magnificent sum of money. £1,750-00. What a spectacular amount.

We are very touched by your caring and kindness and wish you every success in your future efforts. We send you our love and our prayers.

Pauline M. Lewin-Poole
Hon. Sec. & Welfare Officer.

[There's nothing more to say, is there? Ed.]

Chairman's Chat

The Club and Company Rally 1993 at the Three Counties Showground, Malvern, was most successful and arrangements are already being made for 1994. Thanks to the many people involved in this year's Rally who all made a contribution towards its success; those who sold Beer Mats for the sky-divers' competition; the Marshals both on the Red Gate and directing the parking; the helpers on the four stalls; the raffle ticket sellers; those who manned the Club Office and Shop; the hobby demonstrators, including the Punch & Judy Show and the Drop Scones (who may have given you some ideas for your next hobby!); *Neville [Jelfs] and Phil [Bennett]* for their organisation of a most interesting Quiz; the staff of Auto-Sleepers Ltd and their wives who gave up their weekend and helped in so many ways; my colleagues on the Rally Organising Sub-Committee who were fully supported by the main Committee and, of course, to the Members who attended the Rally. My thanks also to Auto-Sleepers Ltd for their display of new vehicles and their ever-popular Stores Shop; to the Accessories Traders; to all the sponsors for their support and to the Showground Manager, the Catering Manager and their staffs for their kind help.

On Sunday morning after our Service led by the Salvation Army from Malvern, the cheque was presented as you have read. Later a donation of £175.00 was given to St. John Ambulance and they have asked me to thank everyone for their generosity.

It was a good weekend, very tiring, but very enjoyable and I have received various letters thanking the Committee for all their hard work and making differing comments about the actual programme of events. Almost 440 vans were present, just over 45% of the total membership and including many members who were attending their first Club Rally. I hope they enjoyed this rally and will consider attending some of the other rallies held regularly in different parts of the country. Each month a list of forthcoming rallies is included with your Newsletter and I know that every Rally Marshal, who has already been heavily involved, will welcome you to his/her rally.

For next year the Three Counties Showground and the Severn Hall have been booked from NOON on Friday 22nd July until noon on Sunday 24th July 1994 together with The Salvation Army and St. John Ambulance and other bookings are in the pipeline. You can put this date in your diary now! *Heather Tidbury*, who was the

Booking Officer, has decided to stand down and I thank her, on your behalf, for all the hard work involved in the last two Club and Company rallies and the last two AGM rallies. I have been delighted to accept *Jackie Claxton's* kind offer to take over and welcome her assistance in this onerous task. A new Organising Sub-Committee will begin work on next year's rally and will welcome your ideas; the Editor will be arranging this through your Newsletter.

I hope you enjoy the rest of the year in your van; please do try to attend one of the regular rallies.

Arthur Irving

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From our President

Dear Harry,

Through your excellent Newsletter, might I say a few words on our recent Club and Company rally.

Firstly, we were overwhelmed by the enormous number of Members who so kindly expressed their thanks for the weekend's entertainment. The fact that we all enjoyed the weekend so greatly was perhaps significant too; it is always nice to be amongst friends, old and new.

Might I also thank the enormous number of Club Members who gave up so much of their valuable time to ensure that the weekend ran smoothly. Even after long spells on the main gate, the Marshalls were always tremendously cheerful and in good humour. I might add it was at this stage I realised that I had forgotten my membership card! The displays of Members' skills and hobbies in the Severn Hall were quite magnificent and to each and every one of you who had so kindly made such enormous efforts to put on such an interesting display - our thanks. The stalls were also outstanding, one even selling some motoring magazines that I had been looking for for some time! The raffle ticket sellers, staff in the Club Shop, beer mat sellers; indeed, all those we were so heavily involved in the weekend deserve our heartfelt thanks.

Through your columns might I also encourage Club Members to let us know of any events they would like to have included in next year's Rally. All ideas, suggestions and proposals would be gratefully received to enable us to have an even larger and more varied Rally than the one this year.

Lastly, my thanks to you all for joining us at the Rally; spread

the good word around so that, hopefully, next year we can break the 500 van barrier. With kind regards, Yours sincerely,

(Sgd) Charles
A.C. Trevelyan,
Director.

Charles also passed a letter of thanks from the Malvern Corps of the Salvation Army thanking us for the collection on Sunday morning which amounted to £244.18.

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Auto-Sleeper curtains to suit Bedford SB 45 or similar van. Colour: Brown fleck. £30.00 ono. Alan Cook, 25 Somervell Road, South Harrow, Middlesex, HA2 8TY or telephone him on 081 864 1552.

#####

Clubman GL, August 1992 "K" Reg. 2 litre petrol. 2,300 miles only and still under warranty. Garage stored. Unused since last October. Unmarked and as new. Fitted with every extra. Total cost was over £29,000 - selling for £20,000. Genuine reason for sale. Finance can be arranged if required. Please telephone Margaret or Bob Carroll on 0438 314 086 or write to them at 30 Granby Road, Old Stevenage, Herts., SG1 4AS.

#####

Silver Screen bought to fit 1990 Harmony or similar Talbot cab. Never been used. £50.00. Telephone George Johnston on 0458 42 501 or write to him at 19 Bramley Road, Street, Somerset, BA16 0QE.

#####

2 Cab Seats with head rests. Condition as new (from 'K' reg Executive). Colour: Anthony 22 Blue/Grey. Offers invited by John Kennedy on 0704 821 405 or write to him at 4 Prescott Avenue, Rufford, Lancashire, L40 1TT.

#####

Have you a Datsun Stanza five-door car? We have a rear window wiper motor and the two metal bits that go under the lighting arrays (and get rather rusty) available free if you would like to collect them or pay the postage. Just ring your Editor's number (see back page) if these are of any interest to you.

#####

Rambler GL, K' reg. Only 2,100 miles. Cassette Toilet, Shower, H & C Water, Waste Tank, Second Battery, Gas Bottle. Electrolux Fridge. Fly Screens. All as brand new - still under warranty. £16,500.00 or exchange towards Talisman GL or Executive. Telephone Norman Burnitt on 0405 763 107 (daytime) or 0405 768 263 (evenings) or write to 30 Lansdown Road, Goole, North Humberside, DN14 6UR.

Wanted!

Trident, "B" or "C" reg if possible and with a diesel engine. Price in the region of £5,000. If you have something like this for sale please telephone Shafik Ladha on 0533 830 152 or write to him at 24 Vernon Road, Leicester, LE2 8GA. When he manages to get hold of one he wants to join the Club.

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Found

At the Malvern Rally. A gentleman's cap, light brown in colour. Size 7 1/4. Maker: Christys, London. Description: Radnor 100% wool. Found near the showground entrance to the Severn Hall. If anyone wishes to claim this item, please telephone *Melvin Crapp* on 0908 563 795 (Milton Keynes).

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Thanks

I would like to say a big "Thank You" to everyone who brought cakes, jams etc. and to all who bought them. My special thanks to my helpers, *Carol, Barbara, Kay, Sally and Don*.

Barbara Worley:

John Cox would like to say thanks to all those marvellous people, ladies and gentlemen alike, who marshalled for him at the Club and Company Rally both on Friday and Saturday. Also to those who spent time handing out the rally envelopes which saved a lot of time and hassle for the outside marshals. And *Barbara Cox* wants to thank those who brought bric-a-brac to, and helped on, her stall.

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Childrens' Corner

I enjoyed the Steam Train rally at Ripley. On Saturday morning I went on the train and also on Saturday afternoon. I also looked

around the Farmyard. On Sunday I looked at the Classic Vehicles display and somebody from an army vehicle showed me two rifles.

I also went to the Ashbourne Rally and went into the swimming pool three times. Thank you for two lovely rallies.

Colin Gaskin (age 8)

I'm delighted that *Colin* has enjoyed himself and has contributed this item. We have a very happy memory of a flying young figure hurdling great baulks of timber to get to the train on time. Closely pursued, I must add, by his parents!

#####

The Club & Company Rally.

From the end of April until the rally our postman thought it was a continuous birthday for Mummy. We did not get a single day, except Sundays, without receiving booking forms.

The telephone rang at all sorts of hours with bookings ("Send a blue form in" said Mummy). Sometimes she came off the phone laughing, sometimes she was hopping mad. We had phone calls like "What time did I say I was arriving on my booking form?"! We even had calls while we were packing the rally welcome envelopes with the help of *Barbara and Tony Jones*. The phone kept ringing with more questions and more bookings until Mummy threatened to pull the plug out. Four weeks before the rally Mummy's booking folder had overflowed and she had to put some of the forms into a second folder. Some of the cheques were wrong, usually in the adding up rather than in the name.

We finally left for Malvern Showground when Mummy and Daddy got home from work. *Robert & I* had finished school on the Wednesday. When we got to Malvern it looked like all the vans were there already but only just over half had arrived by then. The gate marshal threatened not to let us in but Mummy said that he would get no supper on Saturday night if he didn't because she had to see the Catering Manager. It was surprising how quickly he changed his mind! We parked our van between *Rita & Phil (Daley)* and *Sheila & Harry (Henthorne)* then put our tent up. Then we disappeared to explore the site.

Nicola Tidbury (age 9)

Another of our younger members who really enjoys herself at rallies. *Robert* is her brother, a couple of years older, for those

who don't know them. Doesn't it shine through what a job it must have been for "Mummy" (otherwise known as *Heather Tidbury*) to act as the booking officer for the rally. We know that both the children and dad too were involved in the necessary work - but it does seem that they managed to enjoy it (most of the time!).

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Rally News.



Oxford Rally. 1st - 3rd October

Due to altered work commitments we will not be able to get to the rally site until 3.45 - 4.00 pm. Is there any kind soul who plans to arrive "early" who would be prepared to act as marshal until we arrive, please? We will supply a list of ralliers, etc.

Heather & John Tidbury

[The telephone number can be found on the back of the Newsletter - Ed.]

An Additional Rally

17th-19th September. Square and Compass, Normanton-on-Trent, Notts.

Fuller details will be found in the supplement. This item was handed to me at the Club & Company Rally - far too late for inclusion in the August edition.

Ireland

John Cox is looking at the possibility of a Club Holiday Rally to southern Ireland in 1994. The idea is in its infancy at the moment but he would like to learn how much interest there is. So please get in touch with him if you would like to go there - but send him a S.A.E. for a reply!

The general idea is a rally of about three weeks in June 1994, possibly in and around Wexford or Waterford, whichever is the more popular choice. If there is enough interest he will start more detailed investigation. Members would, of course, make their own ferry bookings, perhaps through the Club arrangements. If enough interest is shown, perhaps there could be a get-together of the parties at next years Dinner Dance (and AGM) rally.

Also, if anyone has been over to that area recently and can offer any advice to *John* it would be most welcome.

His address is 73 Westmead Road, Barton-under-Needwood, Staffs, DE12 8JR and his telephone number is shown on the back of the Newsletter.

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The Club & Company Rally.

We would like to thank *Daisy, Barbara and Fizz* (and their husbands of course) for helping to make our first rally such a very pleasant occasion. The sight of over 400 vans was a trifle disconcerting but the friendliness shown soon dispelled that feeling. Thank you once again.

Marie & John Skinner

#####

Colin & I attended our first rally with the Club at Malvern and would like to say "thank you" for a most enjoyable weekend. The venue, entertainment and even the weather was perfect. The camaraderie we experienced at the rally was excellent and we will look forward to next year.

Myrtle Houlding

Both these letters show just how friendly the Club is - but why did they write to me as "Mr"? I'm (reasonably) well known and answer to *Harry!*

#####

We are now back home after spending a great time at the Club and Company rally and would like to give a very big "Thank You" to our neighbours at the rally, *Nora and Ven Venables*. After we had left our van for the meal in the Severn Hall our canopy took off in a sudden gust of wind. *Ven* held on for dear life whilst *Nora* came to find us - how she managed to, amongst all those people, was remarkable to say the least. Many, many thanks once again.

This was our first C & C rally - congratulations to all Committee Members for all their hard work. We would also like to mention *Mr & Mrs Trevelyan* on their friendliness to all, in fact they appeared to be everywhere and doing everything from early morning to being the last to leave in the evenings.

Beryl & Jack De Sadeleer

AUTO - SLEEPER OWNERS' CLUB RALLY SUPPLEMENT

September - October 1993

Please make your cheque payable to the Marshal BY NAME and send it with booking slip AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE. Preferably at least 14 days in advance. Late deciders, please telephone the marshal FIRST.

3rd-10th September. MORETON GLADE, Crossways, Nr. Dorchester, Dorset. Fees: £4 per unit per night. Rally fee £1.50.

Bookings to: Mrs. B. Worley, 26 Houndstone Park, Gunners Lane, Brympton, Yeovil, Somerset, BA22 8SQ. Tel: 0935 24 049. Directions: On B.3390 next to Frampton Arms P.H., by Moreton Station. Holiday rally with many nearby attractions. Electric hook-ups available at extra charge.

3rd-5th September. Hall Farm, TRUNCH, North Walsham, Norfolk. (Near Mundesley). Fees: £2 per unit per night. Rally fee £1.50.

Bookings to: Mr. H. Henthorne, 144 Devonshire Hill Lane, London, N17 7NH. Tel: 081 808 9112. Directions: Turn left off B.1145 (North Walsham - Mundesley) about 1.5 miles past Swaffield at Knapton Green (by bus shelter) s.p. Trunch. In about 0.5 miles turn right (no signpost). Site on right in 160 yards. GREEN FIELD SITE, Water, toilet emptying pit and dustbins available. NO electrics.

10th-12th September. Park Foot Caravan & Camping Park, Pooley Bridge, by Lake Ullswater, Cumbria. Fees: £4.50 per unit per night. Rally fee: £1.50.

Bookings to: Mr. J. Henwood, 1 Fairfield Avenue, Linthorpe, Middlesborough, Cleveland, TS5 5HB. Tel: 0642 821 983. Directions: Site on Howtown Road 1 mile south of Pooley Bridge. Electric hook-ups available at extra charge.

17th-19th September. Motor Caravan Show, SHEPTON MALLET. Book direct with organizers on form to be included in magazines marking your form A.S.O.C. Fees as shown on form.

Please advise our own marshal (Mr. R. Osborne, Windrush, Chapter Rise, Tilshead, Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP3 4SD. Tel: 0235 525 730) and send the Rally Fee (£1.50) to him. This is important so that sufficient space can be reserved for the Club.

17th-19th September. Square & Compass, Normanton-on-Trent, Notts. Fees: £3.50 for the weekend. Rally Fee: £1.50.

Bookings to: Mr R.Brindle, 43 Welham Grove, Retford, Notts. DN22 6TZ. Tel: 0777 711 588. Directions: From South turn off A.1 at Tuxford to T junction. Turn right - under bridge and right again, (s.p. Sutton & Normanton-on-Trent.) In approx 1.5 miles turn left by farm and small post box. Site is 200 yards past church in village. From North, fork right immediately after leaving A.1 then as above. GREEN FIELD SITE with water & Elsan point. Good pub grub. Coach trip to Lincoln on Saturday if sufficient interest - please indicate when booking. MAXIMUM 20 VANS.

24th-26th September. Worcester Lodge, FOREST OF DEAN, Glos. Fees: £2.30 per unit per night. Rally fee £1.50.

Bookings to: Mr. A. Jones, 49 Wessex Way, Highworth, Swindon, SN6 7NT. Tel: 0793 763 032. Directions: Off B.4226 Coleford-Cinderford road, on Left side of road at top of hill just after leaving Coleford. OWN TOILETS ESSENTIAL. NO ELECTRICS.

1st-3rd October. Camping International Site, OXFORD. LIMIT 40 VANS Fees: £4.90 per night INCLUDING Electrics. Rally Fee £1.50.

Bookings to: Mr. J. Tidbury, 26 Ferny Close, Radley, Abingdon, OX14 3AN. Tel: 0235 525 730. Directions: From Ring Road on SOUTH side of Oxford take A4144 towards City Centre. Site about 0.25 mile on left at rear of Texaco filling station, opposite Park & Ride.

1st-3rd October. Chester Southerley Caravan Park, Balderton Lane, Marliston-cum-Lacae, Nr. Chester. Fees: £5.00 per unit per night. Electrics: £1.20 per night. Rally fee £1.50.

Bookings to: Mr. D. Ellis, 6 Tudor Close, Shotton, Deeside, Clwyd, CH5 1NY. Directions: Turn off A.55 Chester By-pass onto A.483 s.p. Wrexham. In about 300 yards turn right into Balderton Lane. Site on right in 0.25 mile. Hard standing will be available to all if the weather is inclement. Please bring a wedding or teenage photo with your name on reverse and hand to Duncan or Jean Ellis on arrival!

8th-10th October. Bashley Park, NEW MILTON, Hampshire. Fees: £5.60 per unit per night INCLUDING electrics. Rally fee £1.50. **LIMIT of 30 Vans.**

Bookings to: Mr. A. Jones, 49 Wessex Way, Highworth, Swindon, SN6 7NT. Tel: 0793 763 032. Directions: Off B.3055 north of New Milton.

15th-17th October. Pendle Valley C.P., Roughlee, Nr. Nelson, Lancs. Fees: £7.00 per unit per night including electrics. Rally fee: £1.50.

Bookings to: Mr. A. Entwistle, 8 The Dell, Mytholm, Hebden Bridge, West Yorkshire, HX7 6DP. Tel: 0422 843 057. Directions: Leave M.65 at Jnc.13. Follow A.682 signposted Kendal. After one mile turn left s.p. Roughlee; follow road over hill and turn left after crossing river. Take next turn right.

22nd-24th October. Newbridge Caravan Park, Bath. Fees: £21.50 per couple for the weekend; includes electrics, rally fee and buffet on Friday evening.

Bookings to: Mr. A.J. Claxton, 13 Albany Mansions, Upper Maze Hill, St. Leonards-on-Sea, East Sussex, TN38 0YD. Tel: 0424 714 915 Directions: Site is in Brassmill Lane opposite Park & Ride on West side of city. All pitches are on hard standing. Buses nearby into city.

28th-31st October. Tredegar House, Newport, Gwent. Fees: £4.00 per night. Electricity: £2.00 per night.

Bookings to: Mr. M. Edwards, 31 Pine Grove, Lighthouse Road, Newport, Gwent, NP12 9TA. Tel: 0633 817 328. Directions: From junction 28 of M.4 Newport West follow sign to Tredegar House. Entrance to site off car park into driveway leading into grounds on left of Craft Workshops. **MAXIMUM 30 pitches** all with electrics. This rally runs from Thursday to Sunday.

AUTO-SLEEPER OWNERS' CLUB

Send one of these slips to the Marshal named at least 14 days before the event. You can arrive at the site without booking and you will be welcomed but if the rally is limited you may be disappointed.

ALL CHEQUES PAYABLE TO THE MARSHAL BY NAME, PLEASE

A.S.O.C. R A L L Y S L I P

Site..... Date.....

Your full Name and address.....

.....

.....

Membership No.....Telephone Number.....

Day/Time of arrival..... Van No.....

Is this your first ASOC rally? Please tick box: Yes No

No.of people in your van? Adults Children

PLEASE COMPLETE BOTH SIDES OF FORM!

A.S.O.C. R A L L Y S L I P

Site..... Date.....

Your full Name and address.....

.....

.....

Membership No.....Telephone Number.....

Day/Time of arrival..... Van No.....

Is this your first ASOC rally? Please tick box: Yes No

No.of people in your van? Adults Children

PLEASE COMPLETE BOTH SIDES OF FORM!

BLOCK CAPITALS, PLEASE

Requirements - Please note that these may NOT be available at all rallies. Your request for them will NOT necessarily mean that you will be provided with them

Electricity: Yes No Saturday night meal: Yes No

Have you any special needs? Yes _____ No _____ If 'Yes' please detail what they are:.....

In the event of an emergency at a rally whom should we contact?

Name _____ Tel. No. _____

Payment MUST accompany this slip - cheques payable to the Marshal by Name, please.

BLOCK CAPITALS, PLEASE

Requirements - Please note that these may NOT be available at all rallies. Your request for them will NOT necessarily mean that you will be provided with them

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Name _____ Tel. No. _____

Payment MUST accompany this slip - cheques payable to the Marshal by Name, please.

P.S. A TALE FROM THE TOILERS:-

In Worcester some ralliers did park
but omitted the street name to mark
their shopping completed
the A-S is needed
but alas, it cannot be found.



Their confidence now really shaken
by Panda our members were taken
with Bobbies as friends
all's well in the end -
but oh, to have seen their red faces!



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Cruise Controls



Dear Chums!

Glad to see that *Nial Reynolds* has discovered the delights of a cruise control and it is perhaps remiss of me not to have reminded members that we have the benefit of a 20% discount for Zemco Cruise Controls. Zemco (a USA. company) pulled out of the UK market earlier this year but I have spoken with the company that continues that line of cruise controls in addition to their own and the 20% discount will continue. Messrs. PALADAN Ltd have agreed to accept orders from bona-fide members on a special order form available on request from me. (Please enclose a large S.A.E. and quote your membership number!) I will be receiving new brochures and the price list shortly. Perhaps this can be added to the list of discounts available to us.

No one can expect to fit a cruise control and then be absolved from actually driving their vehicle thereafter! All that the control will do is ease the physical and mental effort involved in maintaining a steady speed, typically on motorways but, as *Nial* has found, on other roads as well. But the mental input of driving/anticipating remains. But what bliss to tap a button to decelerate on the over-run, then tap a button to accelerate back up to your preset cruising speed - and to hold that speed for mile after mile with no effort on your part until you decide to tap it off.

Sorry, I'm becoming a bore! As you've gathered, I'm always ready to chat about cruise controls and I invite anyone to approach us when we find ourselves at a meeting of a "Chums" of A-S owners!

On another tack, we owe *Carol and Steve Bowler* our heartfelt thanks for the work that they've put in to organising the ferry discounts and tickets. Our tickets have now arrived most efficiently in plenty of time for our holiday (no last minute panic) and with the best discount that I have ever benefited from. Many thanks.

Looking forward to meeting you all again soon.

Your chums!
Sue and Barry Brown

If you want to write to our Cruise Control Converts, they live at 8 Heathdene, Burgh Heath, Surrey, KT20 6AW.

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WASTE WATER TANKS

Whilst at the Club & Company Rally *John Greenwood* showed me his collapsible waste water tank. This is a large plastic bag with a suitable hose connection. A small piece of plastic pipe (not supplied) is inserted into your waste water outlet and then the pipe from the bag slides onto this. For disposal, the pipe to the bag is disconnected from the outlet and the plug attached to the carrying handle is inserted (to save your feet from getting wet as you walk to the disposal point!).

The cost is about £38 - £40 and it is made by Trelleborg. I gather that it is available from the MURVI people who also trade as Nomadic Wheels.

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Toilet Emptying!

Talking of disposal points reminds me - I was very surprised to learn that at Malvern a number of people were using the drinking water taps to rinse their toilets. You should all be fully aware that this MUST NOT BE DONE for any reason whatsoever. I can only think that the people who were noticed must be very new to caravanning not to have heard of this rule.

If there is no tap specifically for rinsing your toilet you should take a bucket or other water container with you and use that to collect the water for rinsing the toilet. **DON'T** take the toilet near a drinking water tap at any time. It is only a small chore to carry the water - and the extra container to collect it - but it does maintain the hygiene needed for drinking water. We have all heard the stories of tummy upsets and worse arising from less than pure water when abroad so please don't let any outbreak start in this

country because of this abhorrent practice. Particularly don't let our Club be seen to do anything like this!

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HELP WANTED, PLEASE

Has anyone managed to fit D.I.Y. flyscreens to a Renault Rimini? I'm not having much luck. I've tried curtain runners and a framework and I'm now working with Velcro. But I'm worried about the long term effect of sticky tape on the paintwork.

On another subject; if anyone is trying to replace a lost wheel trim forget the "Halford's Universal". They seem to hop off at the very first corner! As usual, A-S were most helpful and supplied a replacement by return of post.

Treasure Harvey.

Unfortunately through a chapter of incidents *Treasure* was unable to attend either the AGM or the Club & Company rallies this year. She believes that by getting ready to come to such a meet she forewarns the "Gallopig Lurgi" and it strikes hard. Perhaps in future she won't bother to arrange the trip - just turn up and hope!

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REGALIA

Our Regalia Officers have asked me to make a plea to anyone who wants to order anything, particularly the Woollies and other garments, to put their orders through fairly soon. Prices are liable to rise in the not too distant future and *Fru and Richard* are already thinking of the Christmas postal rush. You wouldn't want **Your** order lost in that lot, would you?

I only hope that *P & R* don't have the same sort of problems that I have in the office. People scribble on the forms and I can't read them! When you fill in our order forms, I hope you all use CAPITALS - and **QUOTE YOUR MEMBERSHIP NUMBER TOO!**

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Rally Marshalls.

I've had a note with which I thoroughly agree and know that many people will understand. Let me put it before you in full.

"We have a problem and I believe in sharing it with you, hoping that you can come up with a solution. Before I begin, this has nothing to do with *Jeff* or the Committee.

Unless we get people to help run rallies, in two years time or less we shall have no rallies down South. Now with the tax on petrol and the possible tolls on Motorways, I personally won't be able or even want to travel North all the time. I've heard all the usual reasons why members can't help at rallies, e.g. husband is not well; I'm too old to do anything, etc.

Let me take the first one. *Jeff* is on an Invalidity Pension from the Army and has other problems as well that I won't go into but these don't stop him. [*Jeff* didn't want this mentioned. Ed.]

The second one is age. We are all getting older but I don't honestly see the sense of giving in to it. If one can travel to a rally and enjoy it what is the difference between that and helping to run one?

I've had to have a rest on doctor's orders. As you may know, I had a bad skin complaint. Fortunately it has cleared up but surely because we didn't run any rallies someone could have stepped in to help. *Jeff* had a phone call some weeks ago from a member who asked "What has happened to the Rally Programme?" What indeed!!

I'm worried about the future. I love our Club and all the many friends I have made and I should hate anything to happen to jeopardize our rallies down South. So please, PLEASE help.

Ours is a beautiful country so let us enjoy it with our friends. If you are at work and would like to help but can't arrive on site until late on the Friday it is always possible to get a retired member to "stand in" for you until you get there."

Barbara Worley.

As I said, I thoroughly agree with every word which *Barbara* has said. If you look back over the rally lists since this Club of ours started you will notice the same names appearing as marshals time after time after time. Many people have been approached and have found excuses as to why they can't run a rally. Lack of experience is one answer given. But if you don't try to run one, how can you get the experience? We are lacking in rallies in the southern and south-western counties of Great Britain, also in Wales and Scotland. The Scottish ones I can more easily understand because there are greater distances for people to travel. But for the other areas there is really no excuse.

You don't even have to find a site, although if you can so much the better. We have had rallies at various sites before now which we cannot at present run because of the lack of marshals. So if

you want to try your hand you will be assured of the backing of the Committee, the Rally Co-ordinators and ALL the members who attend. You'll find a form enclosed with this issue which we all hope you'll fill in (fill out?) and send in. Go on, give it a try. It's YOUR Club and it needs YOUR help.

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Photographs



In your article on the coming Photograph Competition you made a point that one should not write with ballpen or ink on the back of a photo. In addition to smudging, a pen will make a nasty indentation which will show through. Writing with a soft pencil is one way to identify the photo but why write on it at all? Write on a self-adhesive label and attach to the print when the ink is dry. It will dry much more quickly on the paper than it would on the photographic material.

This brings me to the labelling of photos in general. I suspect that many of us have a pile of old photos which we have inherited from parents or even grandparents. I also suspect that many cannot be identified - there are vaguely familiar faces and places, but whose and where?

While you can still remember some of them, get them labelled. Ask around the family, for relatives might remember who the 'others' are. Then, when you pass on the pile to your younger ones, they too will know which one is Great Grandmother in that group. Even if you do not have time to research your Family History it will be simple to create a pictorial record.

Joy Say

If proof of what *Joy* is saying is really needed, may I refer to you my question in last month's Newsletter about what I now know to be the Great Globe at Durlston. My friends are absolutely delighted, and rather dumbfounded too, with the response to the question of their unmarked photo. My thanks to everyone who took the trouble to write or telephone me and also to those who sent picture postcards of the Globe. But if *Joy's* advice had been taken originally there would have been no need for the question! My only other comment is that the method of storage still needs to be carefully managed because even dry ink can be smudged onto the next photo if they are pressed together too tightly and the atmosphere is a little humid.

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PEUGEOT/TALBOT SECURITY

Following the devastating discovery that our Talisman had been

broken into whilst we were enjoying a meal in a French restaurant (only some 50 metres away) I was at first puzzled by the fact that the van was still locked and no forcible entry apparent. It was only after a detailed examination that I found the passenger door lock cover had been broken immediately behind the door handle which was not readily seen when opening the door. The hole punched in the concave black plastic was only some half an inch in diameter located exactly half way down the handle. This exposed the actuating lever for the lock and only finger pressure was required to flip the lock off. On exit it was just as simple to re-lock the door - the operation requiring only a second or two before making off. It was obvious that the thief was well conversant with Peugeot/Talbot locks!

I visited the nearest large P/T dealer and purchased a new lock/handle panel for approx. £23.00 (it costs the same in Britain). This panel does NOT include the barrel lock which is situated in the centre of the push-button release. It could not be fitted immediately because no staff was available so I stuck black sticky tape over the hole and hoped for the best. During the rest of our holiday I gave serious thought to making the locks more secure and on our return home I removed the door lining, handle/armrests and window winder exposing the lock mechanism and window winding mechanism. After careful scrutiny I decided to protect the locking mechanism by fitting a stainless steel plate behind the plastic panel between it and the locking lever (see sketch). If anyone tries to pierce the plastic from the outside they will come up against the stainless steel plate. The two inbuilt bolts to fix the panel top and bottom are exactly in the right position and if the plate is bent to conform to the curve of the plastic they will easily hold it. However I found that the plate fouled the mechanism in the top rear corner so I had to cut about 1" x 1" from the corner to get a good fit. I must add that even if the plastic cover was pierced at this point the lock cannot be actuated.

I was so satisfied with the result that I have modified the driver's side lock so now both front doors are protected from outside interference.

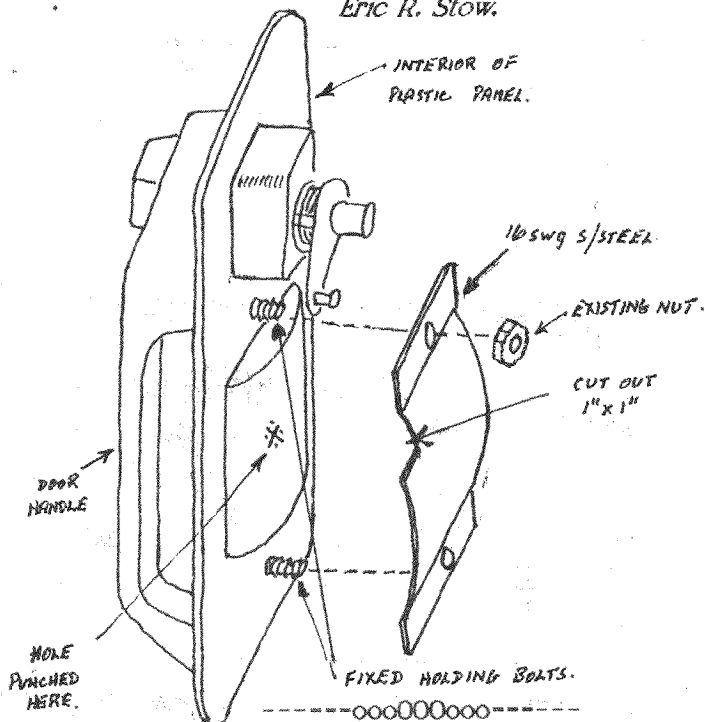
I must mention that in removing the door lining you will break several of the plastic studs which engage in rectangular holes in the back of the lining and round holes in the door - so make sure that you obtain a few spares before removing the lining. You will also find that the window channel which is fitted vertically within the door has to be removed before you can get at the locking mechanism but it is not difficult. Just remember your exact sequence of dismantling. The same applies to the rod connecting

the opening lever to the lock.

Of course, now that I am completely paranoid about security I have been looking for an alarm that would transmit a warning to me by a bleeper in my pocket - and have found one and fitted it! Should anyone decide to have a go at modifying their door locks and want any further information please don't hesitate to ring me on 0548 830 676 and I will do my best to help.

In conclusion I might add that this experience only cost me a £1,400.00 video camera - what a price to pay!

Eric R. Stow.

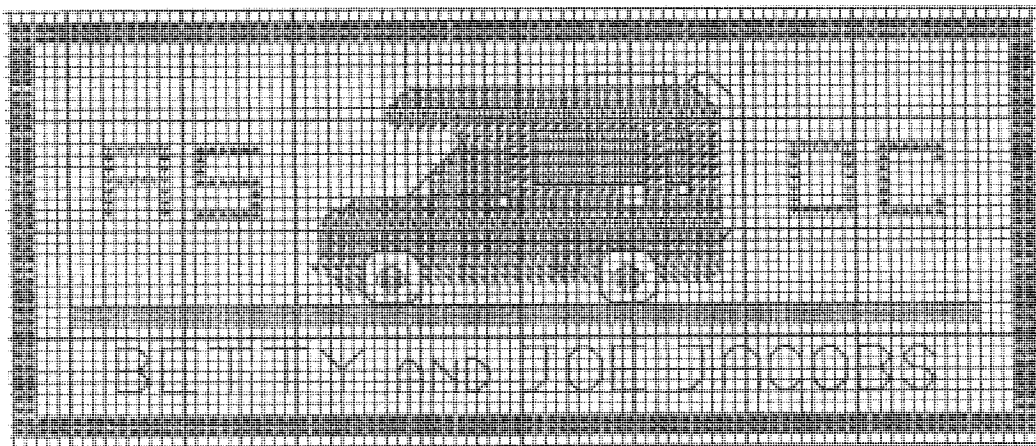


Embroidery

At the Club & Company Rally *Joe Jacobs* showed me a very nice piece of work which *Betty* and he had jointly produced. This was a cross-stitch picture of an A-S van with the initials ASOC around it and *Betty and Joe Jacobs* written underneath. Apparently they use a computer programme to produce the pattern and then do the cross stitch from that onto suitable material. The result

which I saw was framed and would grace any A-S coachbuilt van - I say "coachbuilt" because that is what they had done. Joe told me that he intended to photograph every type of van which was present at Malvern square on to the side so that he could convert the pictures into patterns and they are willing to provide the pattern to anyone who wants one. The pattern for the picture I was shown is printed here although I doubt if it will be very clear by the time you see it - printing difficulties etc. at this size. But it may give you some idea. The various parts are marked with different symbols so that the correct colours can be used.

If you are interested, why don't you telephone *Betty and Joe* on 0902 373 975 or write to them at 17 Cotswold Drive, Albrighton, Wolverhampton, WV7 3DQ. If you are writing, don't forget the s.a.e. and if you want a pattern I suggest that the envelope should be large enough to take an A4 sheet of paper unfolded. Maybe we'll take them up on the offer when the winter time comes round, they've got a pattern for the Clubman GL and we've got time on our hands!!!



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⌘ ⌘ SUPERGAS ⌘ ⌘

This company has written to say that some letters sent out in response to enquiries for their 6kg propane bottles contained a

"fundamental error". They quoted the wrong size for the cylinders - those mentioned are for the 11kg version.

The correct details are that the 6kg cylinder is just under 10 inches in diameter and just under 20 inches in height. They hope that anyone who may have been put off by thinking that the cylinders, as quoted, were too big for their lockers will now reconsider the 6kg size.

[I must write to them and tell them of my new address - they wrote to me at my old address!]

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More Rally News



As you know we are running a rally in Bath in October. The site details are: Newsbridge Caravan Park, Brassmill Lane, Bath, BA1 3JT. Situated on the A4 Bath to Bristol road about a mile and a half from the City Centre. Brassmill Lane is on the left just before a Murco petrol station and the site entrance is 100 yards down this road on the right. The Park has loads to offer. An excellent toilet block (first requirement!), hard standing with electrics, a Park and Ride virtually outside the gate, fishing adjacent, a cycle track along the old railway nearby and a superb pub/restaurant just 200 yards along the towpath. It was in February that we found it and somehow in all the euphoria we decided to run a rally there for the weekend of 22nd-24th October. So what? You may well ask. Nothing - except that we live 170 miles away in Hastings!! Never mind, it's bound to be fun, especially as we have arranged a buffet meal in the pub on the Friday evening. So put a note in your diaries, your rods in the van, strap on your bikes and we'll see you in Bath! Eureka! The Rallybug is alive and well!

Jackie & Arthur Claxton

So there is one answer to the plea for more southern rallies. *Sheila and I* have got one arranged for East Sussex in May 1994. Any more offers? Talk to our Rally Co-ordinators, *Tony Jones and John Edden*.

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Early warning of another rally, from 5th - 7th November to be held at the Pennine View Caravan Park, Kirkby Stephen, Cumbria. Fees will be £6.25 per night including electrics. Rally fee £1.50. Fireworks and hot dogs have been arranged for Friday evening and rallygoers are asked to bring a couple of show fireworks each to add to the fun. A Saturday evening meal has been arranged. Full

details and the booking arrangements will be shown in the October Newsletter. The rally is limited to 50 vans.

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That's that, yet again. See you next month. I've got quite a lot still on the spike but keep it coming!

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