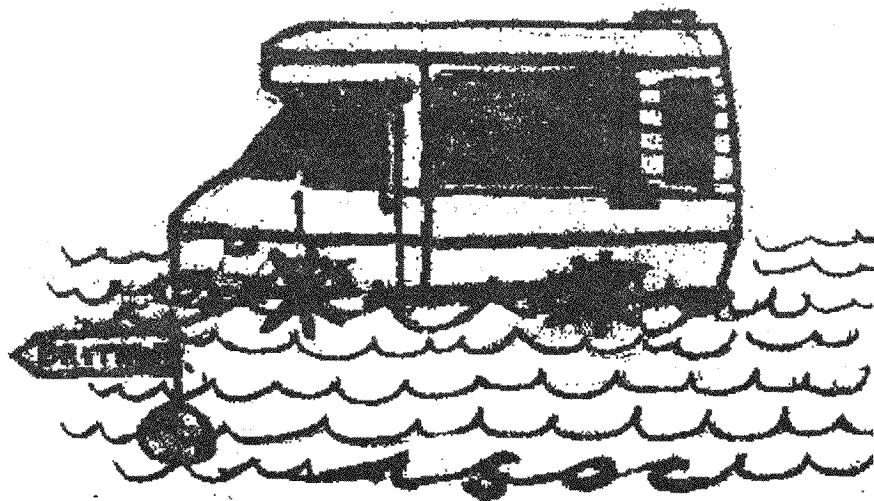


TENTH ANNIVERSARY YEAR

**AUTO-SLEEPER
OWNERS' CLUB**

1989 - 1999



TIGGERS' MOD FOR FRENCH RALLY

**NEWSLETTER 126
MARCH 1999**

Hello.

On on page 14 of the January Newsletter reference was made to a manual for the VW T4 which was apparently available from Peter Russek. One of our members (whose name I carefully wrote down and then lost) has telephoned to advise that she sent a cheque for the required amount to the address given and it was returned by the Post Office marked "Gone Away!" So it might be as well not to write to them.

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Errata

A couple of corrections to *Harry Roberts'* article last month. It should have referred to the Peugeot Boxer Executive, not the Talbot. And the pressures stated in paragraph 3 should read "59f" not "50f".

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A.G.M.

We need at least 120 members to form a quorum for our Annual General Meeting. This is the minimum required by our constitution for the meeting to proceed. At the time of writing (early February) it seems we have rather less than that number booked in. I think I can promise that the meeting will not be as last year. We have passed on from that upset thanks to the good and fair minded people who are our members. The outlook for the future is good. The Club has to hold an AGM each year and we do try to make this annual meeting enjoyable and interesting. We hold our Annual Dinner and Dance during the weekend. The Club funds help to subsidise the weekend because we want as many members as possible to join us. You may tailor the weekend to suit yourself. Because we have to have an AGM let's make it an all together enjoyable informative and satisfying time. No one will make you stand up, make a speech or entertain us but your presence is needed, even vital. Please come along to Wicksteed Park, have a great week-end and incidentally help the routine work of the Club to carry on. It may be a bit boring but nevertheless it is essential!

If, heaven forbid; we could not form a quorum and thus we could not proceed with the meeting, the cost to the Club would be substantial. We would still have to pay for the room hire, entertainer and the like for the whole weekend, whether we use them or not. And we would then be obliged to arrange for a further meeting. Where and at what cost I don't know.

Please come along, if only for the meeting on the Saturday.
Your Club Needs You!!

Andrew Entwistle

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AGM - Elections

As more nominations have been received for election to the Committee than there are vacancies, a ballot will be necessary at this year's Annual General Meeting. Members are reminded of Clause 15 of the Club's Constitution "**Members must show their membership cards at the issue of ballot papers.**"

This should cause no problems as Clause 26 requires membership cards to be carried at **ALL** Club events. However, if there is any difficulty in meeting this requirement, members should let me know as soon as possible and **NOT** on the day of the meeting when I shall not be able to deal with membership questions.

Ray Whiley

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Holiday Plans

Many members are probably mulling over holiday plans, possibly a visit to France and to the Auvergne. The splendours of this region are well publicised with leaflets and information widely available. However, during our journey there last year we discovered a comparatively unknown area - Sioule et Combrailles. It comes within the Puy-de-Dome canton (east of the A71) between Montmarault and Clermont-Ferrand. It extends to Bourg-Lastic, Giat, Chateau-sur-Cher and Marcillat-en-Combraille. (Have YOU ever heard of them?) Most people zoom south on the A71 to Clermont Ferrand heading for the mountain ranges of the massif, completely oblivious of the charm and delights this corner offers.

The Sioule river flows diagonally through the countryside providing water activities. The many minor roads give access to mills, waterfalls, churches, castles, walks and attractive villages with fine views. This is quite important if, like us, you can't quite manage several long hikes every day to see a feature on the tourist map. In the centre is the village St Gervais d'Auvergne with a camp site within the local sports complex on the edge of L'etang Phillipe. We spent a very interesting 7 days there in July and the total cost for 2 adults, including electricity, was FF330. Obviously it is a modest site but suited us well as we don't enjoy the larger "family" sites. If anyone would like further details about the area and site (including the convivial randonnee and soiree arranged annually by the local Chamber of Commerce) I would be pleased to provide them if an SAE is sent to me at 106 The Promenade., Peacehaven, East Sussex, BN10 8LH.

Joan Joselyn

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ECLIPSE RALLY - VIABLE AND/OR VISIBLE?

Dorothy and I are willing to run a summer rally in the hope of seeing the eclipse. But before we can confirm with the Forestry Commission, we do need to know if it would be supported. The venue is the rally field attached to the Roundhill camp site in the New Forest near Brockenhurst. The nights are 9th to 12th August (inclusive) and it is likely to be around £8.50 - £9.00 per night. Postcards, please, or a short note if interested could help us judge the viability of the rally. The address is 18 Greenwood Close, Fareham, Hants., PO16 7UF.

Baz Wellard

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Chantal Roof Vents

I have previously written in the Newsletter about repairing these vents. My one vent needed a new wire mesh screen. The original was considerably discoloured by what looked like rust. As a recent trip to France took me almost past the door of the factory (but that door *did* take a bit of finding!) I called in to try to obtain a screen and a few of those notorious plastic straps. I learned from the manager of that section of the factory that they considered the

vent to be "at the cheap end of the range". It had never been their intention to make large numbers of spares available. In the event of failure complete replacement was more the plan! In a recent 'rationalisation' of the company's extremely wide range of plastic products it had been decided to discontinue manufacture of the vents completely. (Perhaps the move was coincidental, but I also discovered that the large Chantal factory had just been bought by a Scottish firm which happens to be based not a dozen miles from where I live.)

In the event, they did not have a single wire mesh screen in the factory. Fortunately, I knew that a very large motor caravan accessory shop near Paris was a stockist of their products and my route would take me close to there too. Equally fortunately, they had a pile of the screens in stock so I bought two, knowing that sooner or later I would come across someone else who needed one and could not find a source. So this is really just to say that if you are keen to obtain a wire mesh screen (360 x 325 mm) for a Chantal roof vent I can provide one to the first enquirer to phone me on 0124 185 2396. The cost will be £8.80 (the price I paid) plus any carriage.

Barry Crawshaw

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TIGGER NEWS.

To all those members who sent us information & some very nice letters, during 1998, MANY THANKS! Please keep them coming throughout 1999. Here are some tips that were sent in by members during the year.



(1) Early Clubmans did not have a protective L shaped plate over the fridge vent (under wheel arch). This prevents mud/water splash from the road entering the ventilation space and reduces draughts. Ask your dealer to fit one.

(2) If your Carver Fanmaster refuses to work it could be that yours is an early model fitted with a fusible plug which has melted. Take your van to a Caravan dealer who will remove the plug and

fit a later resettable trip.

(3) VW T4. If you have difficulty getting in and out of the front doors you can get an extra grab handle fitted to the dash board above the glove box at an approximate cost of £15. The part No. for the handle is 25185760701c.

(4) VW T4. If your van is stored during the winter months it may be worthwhile protecting the charging relay located on the bulkhead under the bonnet as the contacts have been known to corrode. This can lead to an uncharged (leisure) battery.

(5) If your van has the fluorescent lights fitted with the light brown ends you may find that they do not always light fully straight away. This, we are advised, is because the units are temperature sensitive and will not function properly when they are cold! The only solution is to use the spotlights until the van has warmed up, or gradually replace them with later units.

(6) Early Coachbuilts were fitted with rather fragile roof vents that could disappear on the motorway if not properly secured! These can now be replaced with M.P.K. vents which will fit the same hole (Clubman) at a cost of £40.00 + VAT.

(7) If you need to replace the taps on your Kitchen Sink you will need to modify an open ended spanner by reducing its length by almost a half to be able to get to the fittings (after removing the top panel beneath the unit at the back.) It is also necessary to fasten string to the pipework so that it does not drop down out of reach. This operation will take your dealer 2 Hours at a labour cost of about £32.00. (Cost of new taps will be extra.)

Ideas sheet No 44 - Under Sink Utensil Drawer - is now available. This is the one members were asking for at the Club and Company Rally at Malvern, having seen the photos pinned up.

More Tigger news next month.

Maurice Payne

From experience tip 4 above applies even if your van is used throughout the winter! Our replacement relay is now protected by a small plastic pudding basin which we were able to fit over it.

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More Tigger News

We have now received the A-S Newsletter No 11 in which the main topic is Base Vehicle Keys. This looks worthy of an Ideas Sheet in due course. The other subjects are Peugeot dash faults; help for TV aerial fitters; water tanks; Ford Styrofoam vehicles; payload of Clubman 2.5 TDi; winterising the electrical systems; coachbuilt models 4-berth retrofit; Styrofoam models-Luton headlining; Seitz blinds-torsion bar springs & Styrofoam opaque shower windows.

A-S Repair Shop Capacity. Customers requesting warranty/repair work are more likely to be referred to their dealer in future because of the limited capacity in this workshop.

If Members wish T.I.G. to respond to their calls for help in the ASOC Newsletter would they please include their phone number in the request.

Maurice Payne

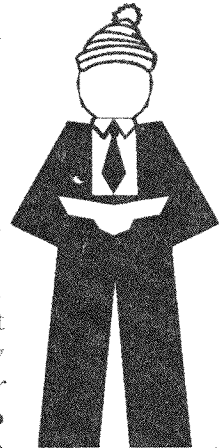
Telephone number for *Maurice* is 0131 336 3385

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Chairman's Chat.

What a change in weather we found when we returned to these fair shores from the 'winter sun' of Egypt. Most days there were about the comfortable level of a warm English summer's day. Without the rain! Ah! well; back to the grindstone.

Don't forget to send off those reservations for the Spring Weekend at Wicksteed Park, Kettering (Thursday 8th to Sunday 11th April) in this fair year of 1999. I nearly forgot to add that of course there is also the Club AGM on Saturday morning, 10th April. (*See my earlier plea!*) *Ray Young* and his sub-committee have listened to requests from members. Therefore this year the event will open on Thursday 8th April. In the afternoon there is a Tea Dance for the agile ones. My wife, *Betty*, thinks the cream tea



is excellent and good value so please support us in this trial event. Also on Thursday and Friday evening there will be food available at the ballroom bar, a fair selection and at a reasonable price. Remember that we either use these extras or we lose them. Please, PLEASE come and have a relaxing weekend at a fair price. You may think when you send the cheque that it is a lot of cash. Look at this way! Four days with some form of entertainment, food, good company and interesting topics. Work the price out and over the four days you can see, by today's standards, it is good value. So come along and enjoy it all.

The advice I gave regarding the drink driving issue appears to have caused some comments about pub car parks and the like! Those of you who know me are aware that I am a serving magistrate, and have been for twenty years now, but I am not a lawyer. I did check first before I passed on those words of caution about "In charge whilst over the prescribed limit". And a public place. I was reminded that there is a defence to this charge. Quite correct, there is. The obvious one is of not intending to drive may be indicated by the fact that you were in bed asleep in night attire. This is becoming an issue for the LGV drivers using sleeper cabs and parking virtually where they please. The advice given by the industry lawyers is plain and clear. Do not drink if you are in charge of a vehicle, wherever you park. This is a very live issue in that industry. The only difference in the penalties between driving while over the limit or being in charge while over the limit is that the disqualification is optional for the 'In charge' offence. But the endorsement of 10 penalty points on the licence is mandatory and this endorsement is valid for 10 years. At present endorsements are left on the licence for one further year after the expiry of that endorsement.

The Club & Company Rally planning is well under way with many new ideas for this our 10th anniversary rally and some fabulous entertainment over the weekend. Don't miss the show, come along and enjoy yourselves. The charity we are supporting this year is the Lupus society, which supports many good people who are afflicted by this terrible complaint. We can both enjoy a good weekend and help others at the same time.

One quick point on the weight issue. Some information that has been given which advises that overloading a vehicle by as little as 5% significantly changes the handling characteristics of the vehicle. Food for thought! Enough of the doom and gloom. I shall finish now and smile as I go.

Andrew Entwistle

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DRINK (alcoholic) - DRIVING or BEING IN CHARGE of a MOTOR VEHICLE on a ROAD or PUBLIC PLACE

Authors of legal books and the legal profession have made a fortune out of the licensing laws as they affect motorists. The above heading succinctly sums up the offences that can be committed and I hope the following may serve to simplify things a bit. "Driving" and "motor vehicle" do not need much explanation, but remember there are laws to cater for drunken acts with non motorised vehicles (carriages and cycles for example). Being "in charge" means just that. The driver does not have to even be in or near the vehicle to be deemed to be in charge. He/she remains in charge whilst awake or asleep in the vehicle, in a public house, or even inside their own house. If found to be over the legal limit in these circumstances they can be prosecuted. They may, however, attempt to avail themselves of the legal defence that there was no likelihood of driving whilst still over the limit. Magistrates decide every case on the evidence presented. Thus a driver I found sound asleep in his car, having left his keys with a friend who had gone home, but who still had a spare key under his driving mat, was still convicted.

"Road" covers the obvious and the more obscure. There is a public house on the corner of a Gravesend traffic light controlled cross roads, with a car park having entrances in both roads. As it was proved motorists regularly used the car park to bypass red lights, it was held to be a road, and a drunk (in the days before the breathalyser) driver was convicted. "Public place" covers any place to which the public has, for the time being, access. Thus any normally private place becomes a public place once the public are either implicitly allowed access or actually can gain access, whether

or not desired by the landowner. A pub car park will always be a public place whilst the pub is open as it is expressly provided by the landlord for his customers (members of the public). It will also continue to be so whilst customers are allowed to park there outside the hours of business. It can also be a road as explained earlier.

For all practical purposes, the only legally fool proof answer to this drink and drive problem is, if intending to drink, leave the car at home. If drinking at home ensure the car is not on a road or public place. But if it is, make sure you either do not get over the limit, or entrust all the car keys to someone who is going to be sober and not let you get at the keys until you are again sober. If drinking in your motorhome on a site, provided access to the site is controlled in some way, you will not be in a public place, as only people having legitimate access to the site are allowed entry. However, when the owners stage an 'open day' for the public, the whole site becomes a public place and the roads become 'roads' for legislative purposes. so beware... ..

Sean Hollands

There seems to be a slight contradiction in terms regarding the site. Even if it is controlled it does not necessarily prevent others gaining access. So it seems that it might still be considered "public" in certain circumstances.

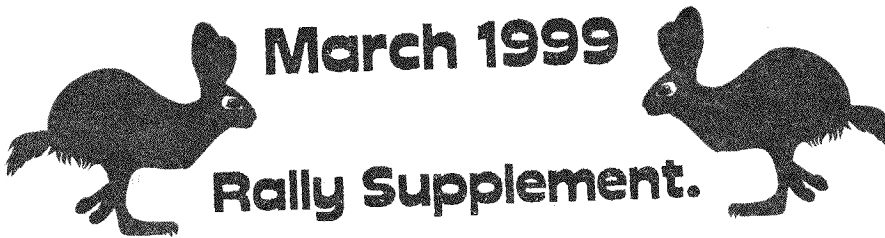
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DUETTO GEARBOX NOISE

Many thanks to all who phoned with helpful advice and support re. the noisy gearbox of our Duetto. After being checked by our local main Ford van centre, the gearbox was diagnosed as needing a complete overhaul (mileage 10,000 miles). Essex Motor Caravans eventually agreed to this and repairs were put in hand. We have now another 7,000 miles on the clock. We have a vast improvement both in the gearchange and the reduction on noise under load. Many thanks again

Rosanna & Alistair Gray

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March 1999

Rally Supplement.

Ralliers please note that rallies start & finish at 12 noon, unless otherwise stated. Early arrivals and late leavers can invalidate our Exemption Certificate.

N.B. Green Field rallies are those where there are No facilities, except for Elsan emptying and drinking water. There may be limited toilet access, see rally details.

May I remind all ralliers of the importance of **NEVER** using drinking water taps to wash out chemical toilets. If there is only one tap then please take a container already filled with water to rinse out the toilet. Refill the container carefully later!
Failure to follow this section of the Club Code of Conduct will lead to action being taken by the Committee.

Please remember that only Club members are allowed to attend our rallies.

N.B. New rallies. (not on original list).

6th -9th. May. River Laver C.P., Ripon, North Yorks. Details later in supplement.

19th -22nd. August. Countryways Experience, Alford, Nr. Guildford, Surrey.

8th -10th. October. Hidden Valley, North Devon.

STOP PRESS--A chance for those ralliers unable to get a place on the French rally in Brittany.

23rd June-3rd July. Le Logis du Breuil, Royan, France. (This site was used by the club in 1993)

10 nights-Arrive Wednesday 23rd. June, depart Saturday 3rd. July.

Site Fees: 90FF per night including 6A electrics. These site fees are payable to the site owner at the rally.

The site is situated in farmland next to a forest, set back from the coast. The toilet block is adjacent to the rally area, it is up a small slope and includes disabled facilities. There is a swimming pool, tennis court & shop on site. Good for walking and cycling. Possible excursions-coach trip to Cognac, guided walk through forest for breakfast on the beach and possibly a "Gastronomic meal".

To book please send a SAE and £10.00 rally fee (non-returnable once booking accepted) to: Mrs. C. Bowler, "Aplegrove", Whatcote Road, Oxhill, Warwickshire. CV35 0RA.

Ralliers must make their own ferry/travel arrangements. Please do not forget adequate insurance cover for your trip abroad whatever the rally.

6th.-20th.June 1999 Camping Le Bohat,Brittany,France.

This rally is now **FULLY BOOKED.**

8th.-11th.April.(3 nights) A.G.M.,Kettering. Use the special booking sheet enclosed in the January Newsletter for this rally, note the closing date. Please support this rally as decisions concerning the future of the club are made at this meeting.

15th.-18th.April.(3 nights)Square & Compass Public House,Normanton-on-Trent,Notts.

Emergency Tel.No.01636 821 439 (Pub.) Marshal's mobile 07775 911 906.

Rally Marshals: Joan & Ray Young.

Site Fee: £2.00 per night. NO Electricity. Rally Fee: £1.50.

This is a Green Field Site. Toilets are only available during pub hours,not all day.

Booking slips to: Mr.R.J.Young,Sharnbrook Cottage,Main Road,Langton,Horncastle, Lincs.LN9 5JL.Tel.No. 01507 523 467. Cheques payable to R.J.Young.

Attractions: Drinking water & Elsan point. ***Good food and Ale.***

Friday.Trip to Brownhills with free lunch.Please note on booking slip if interested.

Cost approx.£2.00 per head for coach.

Directions:From the North on A1, exit approx 1 mile South of Markham Moor roundabout, SP Sutton-on-Trent/Normanton-on-Trent and fork immediately ***right***.In 1 ½ miles turn ***left*** by farm and small red post box.Cross level crossing and proceed to village.Site on ***left*** in about 200 yds.through pub car park.

From South on A1,exit at Tuxford,SP Lincoln & Ollerton.At road junction turn ***right*** under A1 then immediately ***right*** for Sutton/Normanton-on-Trent,then as above.

22nd.-25th.April.(3 nights)The National Motorhome & Tourer Show,Peterborough.

Emergency Tel.No.0589 145 874 (Marshal's mobile available 8.00-10.00 morning & night).

Rally Marshals:Pauline & Neil Rogers & Ben & Evelyn Mansfield plus helpers.

Complete a booking form from either M.M.M. or Which M/Van magazines.

Mark the form **ASOC** and **return with payment to the organisers (address on form) by 31st.March if you wish to rally with the club.**After this date you will be sited with the public.

The special rate for ASOC members is £24.00 for up to 4 night.This includes two adults & three children.Extra adults £5.00 each.

Then complete one of our rally slips and send,with £1.50 Rally Fee to N.C. & P. Rogers, 3 Appleby Close,Aldbrough St.John,Richmond,North Yorks.DL11 7TT. Tel.No. 01325 374 540.

Cheques payable to:N.C.& P.Rogers. ***Please send the rally slips to the marshals by Tuesday 13th.April.After this date they cannot be accepted.***

No arrivals before 2.00pm.Thursday.

29th.April-3rd.May.(4 nights) Burn Gliding Club,Burn Village,Nr.Selby,North Yorks.

Club Tel.No.01757 270 296 (Emergency only).

Rally Marshal:Alan Guest.

Site Fee: £3.00 per night. No Electricity. Rally Fee:£2.00

Booking slips to Alan Guest, 27 Chilern Drive, Ackworth, Pontefract, West Yorks. WF7 7DW

Tel.No.(after 6.30p.m.) 01977 612 773 Cheques payable to:A.Guest.

Attractions: Meal to be arranged on Saturday evening.Please indicate on slip if interested.Gliding lessons or trial flights over weekend (subject to weather conditions).

Directions: From M62 junction 34 take A19 towards Selby,Gliding Club signposted in Burn Village.

30th.April-2nd.May(3 nights). Calshot Activities Centre,Calshot Spit,Southampton.

Site Tel.No. 01703 892 077(Emergency only).

Rally Marshals: Christine & Jim Hazel.

Site Fee:£7.50 per night. No Electricity. Rally Fee:£2.00.

3Booking slips toR.J.Hazel, Squirrels Leap,12 Wild Rose Crescent,Locksheath,

Southampton.SO31 6TG.

Tel.No. 01489 576 520. Cheques payable to: R.J.Hazel.

Attractions:Calshot Spit overlooks the Solent and is adjacent to Hampshire Council Activities Centre and Calshot Castle. There are 33 toilet and shower facilities. In addition to outside aquatic activities, the main hanger has a ski slope and climbing wall. Bar and light refreshments available and there is a restaurant on site. The Beaulieu Motor museum, Palace House and Gardens, Exbury Gardens (azaleas, camellias and rhododendrons) Lepe Country Park and Hythe (ferry to Southampton) are all within a 7 mile radius. Bucklers Hard Maritime Museum (10 miles), Lympington-Saturday market (15 miles). Good walking area.

Saturday evening meal. 2 courses and coffee (choice of four main meals plus vegetarian) £8.50. Please send money with booking form.

Directions: Leave M27 at junction 2, take A326 south past oil refinery. Bear left on B3053 and follow the brown tourist signs to Calshot. Through main gate-site approx. 200 metres on right.

Rally commences after 2.00 p.m. on Friday

Limit of 25 vans.

6th-9th. May.(3nights) River Laver Holiday Park,Ripon, North Yorks.

Site Tel. No.01765 690 508.(Emergency only)

Marshals:Betty Scholey assisted by Ben Mansfield.

Site Fee:£3.50 per night. **Plus £1.50** for Electricity *if required*. There are only a limited number of electrical points on the rally field. First come first served.

Rally Fee:£ 4.00. includes £2.00 per van for the use of a barn on Friday & Saturday evenings.

Booking slips to: Mrs.B. Scholey, 1 Ambleside Walk, Wetherby, West Yorks.LS22 6DP.
Tel.No. 01937 586 094. Cheques payable to Mrs.E.Scholey.

This is a Green Field site. You are not allowed to use the facilities on the caravan site.

Attractions: Thursday market in Ripon, Fountains Abbey, the beautiful Cathedral and the Town Crier in Ripon itself, Lightwater Valley and the Nidderdale Walk. Then further afield Knaresborough, Harrogate, Pateley Bridge, York, Grassington, Castle Howard etc.

On Saturday evening we shall be running a Tombola and would like each van to give a prize, if possible. All who buy tickets will win a prize.

Directions: Take the B6265 road from Ripon to Pateley Bridge and the site is about one mile on the right.

13th-17th. May (4 nights). Severn Gorge C.P., Nr. Ironbridge, Salop.

Site Tel.No. 01952 684 789. (Emergency only).

Rally Marshals: Barbara & Alan Potter.

Site Fee: £7.00 per night. Electricity: £2.00 per night. Rally Fee: £2.00.

Booking slips to Mr. & Mrs. A. Potter, "Westbrook", Mill Lane, Monks Risborough, Bucks. HP27 9LG.

Tel.No. 01844 274 021. Cheques payable to: B.A. Potter.

Attractions: Ironbridge (World Heritage Site) several museums—Coalport, Blists Hill Victorian Town, Antique Centre, Hawkstone Park & Follies, Severn Valley Railway.

Friday evening "Games evening". Saturday evening supply your own food and we will cook your bar-B-que?

Directions: East of A442 at Madeley. Please enclose SAE for map and confirmation of booking.

Maximum 30 vans. Please report to reception on arrival.

13th-16th. May. (4 nights) Little Cotton C.P., Dartmouth, Devon.

Site Tel.No. 01803 833 675 (Emergency only).

Rally Marshals: Pam & Terry Holtom.

Site Fee: £5.00 per night. Electricity: £1.80 per night. Rally fee: £2.00 (singles £1.00).

Additional nights must be arranged with the site owner, Paul White, (01803 833 675).

Booking slips to: Terry Holtom, 8 Courtland Road, Torquay, Devon. TQ2 6JR.

Tel.No. 01803 612 669. Cheques payable to: Terry Holtom.

Attractions: Dartmouth—a naval port/harbour, popular holiday resort. Boat trips up the River Dart to Totnes an old market town (market Fridays) with castle and rampart walks. Steam railway trips to Paignton. Special attraction Dartmouth weekend Music Festival (2nd year). "Park & Ride" into Dartmouth adjacent to site.

Proposed Saturday evening meal in nearby licensed Football Club premises.

(Subject to sufficient numbers). Dogs permitted but to **kept on lead at all times.**

S.A.E. for location and travel instructions.

Limited numbers.

21st-23rd. (2 nights). Wellington Country Park.

Site Tel.No.07775 693 533.(Marshal's mobile).

Marshals:Stella & Ian Ross.

Site Fee:£4.00 per night. No Electricity. Rally fee:£2.00.

OWN SANITATION ESSENTIAL. GREEN FIELD SITE.

Booking slips to: Mr.I.Ross, 33 Grosvenor Gardens, Upminster,Essex.RM14 1DL.

Tel.No. 01708 228 075. Cheques payable to I.Ross.

Attractions: Quiet green field 8 acre rally site in grounds of 350 acre Duke of Wellington estate.

Admission to Park included in site fee.35 acre lake with rowing boats for hire plus fishing

(extra cost).Minature railway,crazy golf & nature trails.National Dairy Museum and Deer park .

Approx 3 miles from Stratfield Saye House,home of Duke of Wellington.

American Supper(outside) Saturday evening,weather permitting.

Directions: From A33(about 4 miles South of M4 Junction 11) turn East signed Riseley onto B3349 and follow signs to Country Park.

21st.-23rd.May.(4 nights).Motor Caravan Jamboree,County Showground,

Detling,Maidstone,Kent.

Rally Marshals: Ena & Roy Coleman.

Fee for Jamboree £22.00.(send to organisers)No Electricity (charging facilities for the disabled).

Rally Fee:£ 1.50,singles £1.00. **SEND RALLY FEE ONLY**,after end of March please,

to Mr. & Mrs.R.Coleman,30 Kent Avenue,Minster on Sea,Sheerness,,Kent.ME12 2DZ

Cheques payable to E.Coleman.

Application forms available from Rally Co-ordinator (address at end of Supplement).Please enclose a **SAE**.Return these forms to the Jamboree organisers at address on form by 17th.May.

28th.-31st. May. (3 nights). Van Bitz

Site Tel.No. 01823 321 992 (Emergency only).

Rally Marshals: Betty & Andrew Entwistle.

Site Fee:£3.00 per night. NO electricity. Rally Fee:£2.00.

Booking slips to:Mr. & Mrs. M.A.Entwistle,8 The Dell,Mytholm,Hebden Bridge,West Riding

of Yorkshire,HX7 6DP. Tel.No. 01422 843 057.Cheques payable to: M.A. Entwistle.

Attractions:Taunton the county town of Somerset with castle and many historic buildings.

Nearby is Wilton House,there are many small villages worthy of a visit.Possible "Ram Roast".

Directions:From M5 junction 25 follow signs for Taunton.At first set of traffic lights at Creech Castle turn left s.p. Corfe B3170.Take 3rd. left into Ilminster Road again follow signs for Corfe.Bear right at roundabout onto Blackbrook Way.Bear left at next roundabout and follow road to the end "T" junction which is the B 3170.Turn right and then take the next left into Killams Drive.Take 2nd. left into Killams Avenue and follow the road passing housing estate and finally over motorway bridge.Cornish Farm is immediately after the bridge on the left hand side. IGNORE the first entrance to the main house-proceed to the second entrance(with C.L.sign) which is a little further along the road into the orchard.

Limit of 30 vans.

Advance Notice.

3rd.-5th. June. (3 nights). Stokes Bay, Gosport, Hants. **Please note the new dates.**

4th.-6th. June, Stratford Motorcaravan Fair, Stratford Racecourse.

We will be holding an official rally at the show this year. Further information and details of how to obtain special booking forms in April Rally Supplement.

25th.-27th. June. Clare Priory, Suffolk.

Before booking rallies on rally fields attached to caravan sites please contact me for some important information about such sites.

As usual rallies can still be arranged during the year. If you are interested in running a rally then please think ahead. Good advance publicity is essential for a successful rally. Please remember to check the availability of dates with me **BEFORE** booking with a site.

New or possible rally marshals should contact me, or the area assistants, for further information or advice on running rallies. It can be fun and a very fulfilling experience.

Bookings are now being made for the year **2000**. If you wish to run a rally on a specific date please think about booking early.

My thanks go to Bob Brindle who has recently left the Club. His help as local assistant has been much appreciated.

Please note that **ALL** information concerning rallies, dates, booking of sites and rally details for the Newsletter should be sent to the Rally Co-ordinator:

*Neil C. Rogers,
3 Appleby Close,
Aldbrough St. John,
Richmond,
North Yorks,
DL11 7TT.
Tel./Fax. No. 01325 374 540
E-Mail. ncr@thisisthenortheast.co.uk*

Local assistants: Jerry Haxton (01 483 223 476) Woking, Surrey.
Jeff Worley (01 935 424 049) Yeovil, Somerset.

Rally : Date:

Your name and address(Please PRINT).....

..... Post code:.....

Phone No.: Van Reg:.....

Membership No: Day/Time of arrival:.....

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

Name..... Phone No.....

Please complete both sides of the form!

✂

Rally : Date:

Your name and address(Please PRINT).....

..... Post code:.....

Phone No.: Van Reg:.....

Membership No: Day/Time of arrival:.....

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

Name..... Phone No.....

Please complete both sides of the form!

✂

Rally : Date:

Your name and address(Please PRINT).....

..... Post code:.....

Phone No.: Van Reg:.....

Membership No: Day/Time of arrival:.....

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

Name..... Phone No.....

Please complete both sides of the form!

Is this your first ASOC rally? Please tick box. Yes No
Number of people in your van: Adults..... Children.....

Names of Adults.....

Names of Children (including ages).....

Extras: Please indicate which you would like, if available:

Electricity: Yes No Saturday night meal if any: Yes No

Have you any special needs? Yes No If Yes please specify:-

Full payment MUST accompany this slip-cheques payable to the marshal.
POST FORM TO REACH MARSHAL 10 DAYS BEFORE EVENT,IF POSSIBLE PLEASE!

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Full payment MUST accompany this slip-cheques payable to the marshal.
POST FORM TO REACH MARSHAL 10 DAYS BEFORE EVENT,IF POSSIBLE PLEASE!

BOXER GEAR CHANGE

I refer to the article by *John Coates* in the January edition. I took delivery of my Petrol Boxer Executive on 1st August 98 and a few weeks later began having problems with the gear change. Like *John* I suffered the same embarrassment of trying to pitch in my brand new motorhome - S Reg - and not being able to get it into gear and with the whole of the world watching. I too went through the same procedures eventually having to switch off the engine, engage reverse and restart. When I got back home I contacted my nearest Peugeot dealer and arranged to have it inspected by one of their service engineers. I went on a road test with him but, as is always the case, nothing happened although the engineer said the gears were too stiff and that they needed adjustment. On returning to the garage he did some adjustment to the clutch and also told me that I must ensure that I fully depress the clutch pedal when engaging or changing gear.

It is now about 3 months since the adjustment was made and although the gears are still a little stiff I have not had the same troubles. My van is due its 6 months free service in February so I intend to have the engineer have a further examination of the problem. If there is any further information forthcoming I will let you know. Incidentally, the dealer concerned was Birtwhistles of Norwich and I can honestly say that I was impressed with their positive and friendly attitude to me, a new customer.

Peter Studd

#####

We own a Boxer Harmony, new in March 1998, and have experienced similar problems to those *John Coates* described in January. During the initial 'settling in' period gear changes were somewhat 'notchy' but thinking that this would improve I didn't worry too much. However, after some 2,000 miles it was not much better and, like *John's*, it was particularly difficult after a run to engage reverse in order to get the van into its car (van) port. I felt fairly sure that the symptoms indicated that the clutch was not dis-engaging sufficiently. Not wishing, at that stage, to get involved with the Peugeot dealer, some distance away, I consulted my local friendly garage man. He confirmed that the clutch was

cable operated and identified the adjusting nut and associated lock-nut. Not being familiar with the Boxer himself, he could not give precise instructions for the adjustment procedure. He stated that as a general rule of thumb the clutch pedal should be at roughly the same height above the cab floor as the brake pedal. He suggested that I try an adjustment to bring them more nearly level which would give the clutch pedal greater travel and therefore greater dis-engagement. But to take care to ensure that there was still sufficient free movement left in the pedal. Doing this has resulted in much improved gear changing and now with no problem in engaging reverse after a run. I shall try to obtain the approved adjustment procedure when I next visit my Peugeot dealer. In the meantime the situation appears satisfactory. I hope this may help with *John's* problem.

George Mitchell

#####

I have a 1995 diesel Boxer. In April '98 I had my first problem with reverse gear change. Manoeuvring on a country lane it jammed. Slight chaos! Other drivers tried to help but I had to phone the RAC. The patrol man freed the gear in two minutes flat. He was familiar with the gear box and advised me to change gear into reverse carefully. I had the gearbox checked at my home Peugeot garage. No problem was found. The reverse jammed again in November '98 but I managed to free it. Checking my vehicle manual it details how to change into reverse. It seems that it has to be a careful manoeuvre not easily achieved if hurried. Probably not much good to *John Coates* but it is another angle on the problem.

Fred Reynolds

#####

Last year I became the proud owner of a 1996 'Symphony' based on the Boxer, 2.5L Diesel with only 12,000 miles on the clock. I joined ASOC and have found the various articles in the Newsletters offering hints, tips and problem solving very helpful. Since the purchase I have experienced minor 'hitches' such as a light fitting self igniting and the runner mechanism on the forward facing rear passenger seat jamming. Both have been dealt with satisfactorily. A further problem developed recently and I wonder if

any other owners have had a similar experience. On a recent journey through very heavy rain (what's new this winter?) I noticed my brake warning light had come on. I called emergency assistance and no fault was found. Needless to say the engineer went through the checks in the handbook and then waggled the handbrake lever around managing to get the light to go out! I have to say that, before calling for assistance, I had gone through that routine myself as I had already noted that the lever is quite loose compared to other vehicles I have owned. I continued on my journey only to find the light flickering on again. Later in the day, and in drier conditions, all was normal, as was the case the following day. Could the problem somehow have been caused by the unusually heavy rain? And, if so, how and why? That is all I can think of as this appears to have been a one off. Any suggestions from more mechanically minded members would be appreciated.

Rhona Foster

====oooOOOooo=====

HUGS

It's wondrous what a hug can do.
A hug can cheer you when you're blue.
A hug can say "I love you so."
Or, "Gee! I hate to see you go".

A hug is, "Welcome back again!"
"Great to see you!" or "Where've you been?"
A hug can soothe a small child's pain,
And bring a rainbow after rain.

The hug! There's just no doubt about it,
We scarcely could survive without it.
A hug delights and warms and charms;
It must be why God gave us arms.

Hugs are great for fathers and mothers:
Sweet for sisters; swell for brothers:
And, chances are, some favourite aunts,
Love them more than potted plants.

Kittens crave them. Puppies love them.
Heads of State are not above them.
A hug can break the language barrier
And make the dullest day seem merrier.

No need to fret about the store of 'em
The more you give, the more there are of 'em.
So stretch those arms without delay
And give someone a hug today.

(Author Unknown)
Sent in by *Chris Jago*

who tells me that the hip replacement she had last August
has proved a success!

---===ooo000ooo===---

BREAKDOWN AND RESCUE SERVICES

We thought other members might like to know of our findings when we recently tried to get rescue cover after trading in our Symphony (5.2m long) for an eighteen month old Executive (5.7m long). The Symphony was covered by the RAC but they declined to cover the Executive because its length exceeded their 5.5m limit. However they advised that if we joined the Caravan and Camping Club we would be eligible for membership of the RAC's Arrival service and then, as if by magic, they could deal with vehicles irrespective of length or weight! As we are already members of the Caravan Club we resisted being pressured to join another organisation. Enquiries to other rescue services produced the following results:

AA. 5.5m is max. length of vehicle which can be transported on a rescue vehicle. Vans up to 7.6m long would be towed if it is considered safe to do so.

Britannia Rescue. Limits 5.2m long, 1.9m wide, 2.4m high, 3 tons

Europ Assistance. Limits 7m long, 2.25m wide, 3m high, 3500Kg

Mondial. 5.2m restriction on length only.

Green Flag/Mayday (For Caravan Club members). No restrictions on size or weight.

After considering what was on offer we settled for the Green Flag/Mayday service. Sorry we cannot report on the quality of the service, fortunately we haven't needed it yet! Ironically, not long after signing up with Green Flag, we received a quote for motor caravan insurance from Comfort Insurance and guess what - their Elite Cover includes breakdown rescue services provided by the RAC with no restriction on vehicle size, weight or age.

Alan and Rosemary Jones

---==ooo000ooo==---

CB Radio

Having recently purchased a Symphony and owning a CB radio from a previous van I am encountering some problems. Where and how should I fit the aerial, due to the glass fibre roof and a thing called a ground plane. Fitting the aerial to the wing seems to be a non-starter due to inaccessibility. I wonder if any member has been able to come up with a solution. If so I would be most grateful for the information.

Dennis Kent

On an earlier (before I owned an A-S) glass fibre van I fitted two strips of metal, a couple of inches wide and as long as I could make them, in a cross fashion between the roof and the lining. I then drilled through the roof and fitted the aerial, making sure of the waterproofing of the hole! The result was very good indeed.

---==ooo000ooo==---

Seating

Last year we had the seats in our Talisman fitted with arms by Tek Seating at quite a reasonable price. But unfortunately they didn't give us the comfort that we hoped for. We approached this firm who were so helpful. They even made us two complete new cab seats, upholstered them in a contrast material as the original was no longer available and really made us happy and comfortable. All with a smile and the sort of attention we all used to enjoy but which is so hard to find these days.

All I can say is a big thank you to Tek Seating and hope they have every success.

Dorothy Huntingdon

====ooo000ooo=====

Thanks

Barbara Worley would like to thank all her friends for the many telephone calls and cards she has received since her fall when she cracked her vertebra. She has been told now that "in about six weeks or so she should be showing more signs of recovery!"

====ooo000ooo=====

Obituary

We have just been advised that Raymond Bower, of St. Ives in Cambridgeshire, died in June 1998. So if you sent a Christmas card to him there will not be a reply. The cards were the reason that his daughter telephoned the news in January.

====ooo000ooo=====

FOR SALE

Bickerton folding bicycle.
£150.00 ono. Tel Ann Bowes on 0117
973 5844 or write to St. Albans
Vicarage, 21 Canowie Road, Bristol,
BS6 7HR.

#####

VW Clubman GL, 'M' reg (9/94).
2.37 diesel. 17,510 miles. 2 berth,
singles or double. Extras include
Fiamma awning, Cruise Control, safety
alarm, reversible extractor roof fan, second battery, waste tank
built in, toilet, shower and WHB, H & C water, central heating,
also Carver. One owner from new, immaculate, garaged, no
winter running. £24,000.00 or reasonable offer. Margaret & Alf
Campbell on 0130 967 4898 or write to Happy Return, Nelson
Road, Forres, Grampian, IV36 0DR.

Thanks for the donation.

#####

Used 3 times and then changed van to Executive, I am left with Harrison screens complete with doors, windows etc. to fit Fiamma 3.5m sun blind, drop 2.25m, including skirt from side of Bessacar Autocruise. Accept £100.00 ovno to clear it from my garage. Phone Keith Hopkins on 0159 064 3335 or write to "Oakwood", 4 The Grange, Everton, Lymington, Hants., SO41 0ZR.

Thanks for the donation.

#####



Dahon folding bicycle. £100.00. Omnistor S-class top box. Size 105 cms x 85 cms x 37 cms. With mounting straps. New 1998. £175.00. Cabanon storage tent, green. 180 cms x 210 cms x 185 cms high. £35.00. Tel: John Barret on 0122 586 6846 or write to 18 Broomground, Winsley, Bradford-on-Avon, Wiltshire, BA15 2JT.

#####

Sale of this Millenium! Mercedes Medallion 2.9 ltr 5 cylinder Intercooled Turbo Diesel with Automatic Transmission. 'R' reg., only 4,500 miles. In outstanding as new condition - non smokers and no pets. Factory fitted extras: 4 berth option with ladder and safety net, 3.5 metre Omnistor 5000 colour matched deluxe awning, Battery Mate, Zig CPX7 batteries condition meter, 2 extra mains sockets, extra 12 volt supply socket and TV socket, TV signal amplifier, much improved interior to drinks cabinet and upgraded upholstery foam and pocket springs. Purpose designed to fit Mercedes and approved by Autosleeper, Hope T Bar and tow ball complete with Mercedes electrical loom. To be sold with or without 'N' registered Peugeot 106 Diesel car (only 18,000 driven miles) complete with Car-A-Tow towing frame fittings and Braked Car-A-Tow Frame. Mercedes Medallion: £38,995.00. (A saving on new price of £9,500.00.) Medallion + Peugeot 106 + Car-A-Tow: £43,995.00. Please phone Reg Rogers anytime 0178 445 4400 or write to 11 Broomfield, Octavia Way, Staines, Middlesex, TW18 2QD.

#####



Talbot Express Symphony, 1994, 'L' reg. P.A.S. Genuine 10,200 miles. MOT September 1999. Foxguard H2M alarm, Freedom battery. All standard facilities. Non-smokers. Excellent condition. Sensible offers to John Rogers on 0120 259 0900 or write to 1 Downlands Close, Ensbury Park, Bournemouth, Dorset, BH10 5LH.

#####

Silver Screens H/D exterior type, little used. £50.00. Silver Screens Duetto side door fitting. £7.50. Haynes workshop manual for Transit to 'N' reg. £6.00. Electrolux winter fridge vent covers, cream, unopened box. £7.00. 500/1000 watt fan heater with thermostat. Used twice. £15.00. Phone Rosanna and Alistair Gray on 0181 521 3461 or write to 81 Essex Close, Walthamstow, London, E17 6JS.

#####

1990 (H) VW Trident. 1900cc petrol. 57,000 miles. 4 berth, standard equipment including original crockery plus stereo radio/cassette, free standing 4 berth awning, new TV aerial, waste tank, security alarms, immobiliser. Tax & MOT. £11,750.00 ono. Tel: Joyce & Geoff Walker on 0170 384 9145 or write to 23 The Vale, Hythe, Southampton, Hampshire, SO45 5ET.

Thanks for the donation.

#####

Clubman GL on VW chassis. 2 litre petrol engine. 'K' reg, only 19,500 miles. Two owners, FSH, PAS, alarm, Fiamma awning, Silver Screens, Top-box etc. MOT. Excellent condition. £19,500.00. Also Safari screens by Harrison, unused, to fit Fiamma F45 2.5m sun blind (VW Clubman GL), surplus kit. £160.00. Rambler front seat bench. £10.00. Square table top. £10.00. Wire clothes horse. £6.00. Tel Roger Yeatman on 0120 248 5063 or write to 173 River Way, West Christchurch, Dorset, BH23 2QN.

Thanks for the donation.

#####

JAWA 49cc. Moped. 'J' Reg. (Dec.'91.) Single speed auto

gearbox. Metallic - blue. MOT. Mint condition. Recorded mileage only 125! £295.00 ono. Trailer for moped. Less than two years old. Lighting, spare wheel, securing straps, bike cover etc. £250.00. Omnistor "Top Box". Approx. 42" x 33" x 14". Gas strut assisted top. Undrilled and in mint condition. Complete with securing straps. £100.00. Tel: Alan Chennells on 0162 866 4132 or 0175 352 0417 or write to "Copper Beech", 9 Huntercombe Lane South, Taplow, Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 0PQ.



#####

'N' reg Ford Duetto, 2.5 turbo diesel, automatic, ABS brakes, 3rd bed. 15,000 miles. PAS, awning, 2 gas bottles. Many extras including TV and vacuum cleaner. £23,000.00. Tel: Eric Broad on 0126 371 1538 or write to 24c Meadow Close, Holt, Norfolk, NR25 6JP.

Thanks for the donation.

#####

Peugeot Boxer Talisman, 2.5 diesel. reg. Sept.1997. 7,000 miles. Excellent condition. 4 bike rack. Contact Ross Provan on 0045 98 231 413 (Denmark). Or write to him at Mutherskamp 12 A, 33335 Gutersloh, Germany. Delivery arranged.

#####

Ford Excelsior (same body as Amethyst). 2.5D, automatic. Sept. 96, 'P' reg. 12,000 miles. 2-3 berth. Non-smokers, no pets. Heated under cover storage. Fiamma 5000 3.5 metre awning and two bike rack. Extras too numerous to mention including Top Box, m/cycle and generator racks, Air-Ride, free standing awning. Superb vehicle. £28,500.00 to be adjusted with extras retained. Phone John Northcott on 0179 887 5326 (Mon/evenings please) or write to Lickfold Farm, Wiggonholt, Pulborough, West Sussex, RH20 2EL.

#####

Fiamma Top Box size 1. £100.00. Tel: Jack Bamber on 0199 242 4380 (mobile 07050 095 447) or write to 26 Fieldway, Hoddesdon, Herts., EN11 0QN.

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The **TENTH** of the month is the last day for items to reach

Your Editor
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