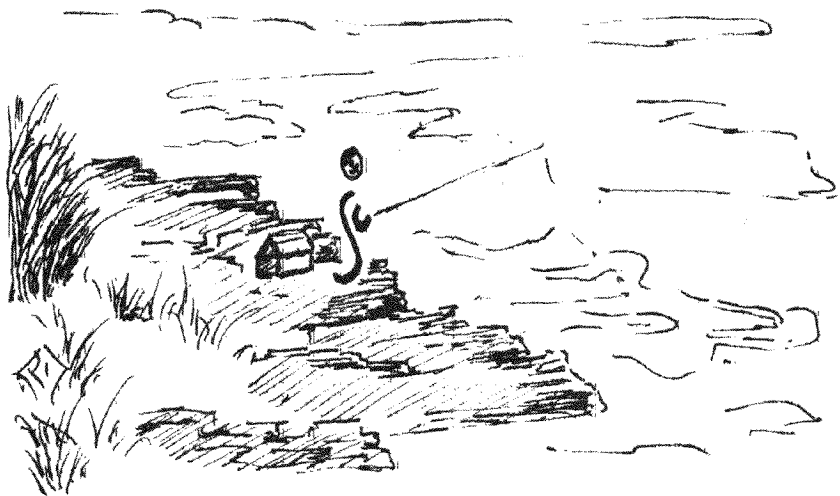


**TENTH ANNIVERSARY YEAR**

**AUTO-SLEEPER  
OWNERS' CLUB**

**1989 - 1999**



SEA FISHING - BRITTANY

**NEWSLETTER 132  
SEPTEMBER 1999**

Hello.

What a weekend we had for the Club and Company Rally. The weather was a little on the hot side but it stayed dry for the whole time. The entertainment provided was excellent, as was the food (and wine!) for the Cheese and Wine Party. It was a fitting celebration for the tenth anniversary of the Inauguration of the Club.

Very many letters about the rally and a lot must be held over till next month due to space limitations!

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### *Rear Window Wisdom*

On our way home from Malvern we saw the following notice in the back window of a car:

“Don’t Steal! The Government hates competition!”

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### **LUPUS UK**

When I heard from Head Office that we were the chosen charity of the Auto-Sleeper Owners’ Club during 1998/99 I was, as Vice-Chairman & Trustee, naturally, very pleased. When I discovered that the Club & Company Rally was to take place at the Three Counties Showground I was even more pleased as this is within the area covered by the West Midlands Lupus Group of which I am Chairman. Unfortunately, the date of the Rally was also the weekend that I had to be in London as part of my role within LUPUS UK so I would be unable to attend. However, I contacted a Group member who lives nearby and she was more than willing to man a Lupus information table and to attend the Sunday Service to receive the cheque.

I would like to assure all Club members that this marvellous donation will be channelled through the West Midlands Lupus Group to help continue funding the patient care and research projects that are currently in place in the name of LUPUS UK. A few examples of current projects are: the funding of a Lupus Research Specialist Nurse and Lupus Technician, both at the

Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham: a permanent LUPUS UK Consultant Rheumatologist and a short-term Consultant Rheumatologist, both at St. Thomas' Hospital, London (the funding of the latter having led to the hospital authorities agreeing to provide funding for this position also to become permanent): a Lupus Nurse at the Centre for Rheumatic Diseases, Bath: a Lupus Nurse at Leeds University Hospital: research programmes at Hammersmith, Kings, Imperial, Bloomsbury, St. George's - all London University Hospitals and many other projects in various centres throughout the UK. I do hope this list will help underline the commitment of LUPUS UK to caring for all Lupus patients and to working towards finding better treatments and, we hope, an eventual cure for Lupus.

The support given to LUPUS UK by the Auto-Sleeper Owners' Club through the receipt of the fantastic donation of £3,277.88 is greatly appreciated and will be acknowledged in the Winter edition of the national LUPUS UK magazine, News & Views, and the September issue of the West Midlands Lupus Group newsletter, Lupie News.

To all Club members I send my own personal thanks combined with those of my fellow Trustees and all members of LUPUS UK for choosing to support and help Lupus patients through your fund raising efforts of the past year. Thank you all very much indeed.

Yvonne Norton  
Vice-Chairman & Trustee  
---==ooo000ooo==---

## **Club & Company Rally**

We would like to thank everyone who helped make the raffle such a success. Whether by donating prizes, selling tickets or in their generosity when buying the tickets. We sold 1874 strips of tickets, the equivalent of almost 20 books. A total of £1,874.23 was collected (please don't ask where the odd 23p came from). A profit of £1,674.00 was made for the charity.

*Stella Ross and Dorothy Wellard*  
#####

Through your excellent Newsletter, might I thank all those who so wonderfully contributed to the very excellent running of the Club and Company Rally. As ever the administration and organisation carried out by so many Club members was faultless and certainly by all of us at Willersey, appreciated enormously. Perhaps the success of the Rally was underlined by the fact that so many came to thank us for a really wonderful weekend, and this has been reinforced by e-mail's, letters and telephone calls in profusion. It was indeed a wonderful experience, and so good to see so many owners having a really good weekend.

To all members might I ask for any ideas as to how the Rally may be improved yet further (a difficult task I suspect) and not least what other events they would like to see at forthcoming Club and Company Rallies. Both the Rally Sub Committee and ourselves at Willersey have set ourselves a pretty hard act to follow but we will certainly endeavour to have an even better rally in the year 2000. With kind regards, and to all members my thanks again for their participation and appreciation.

*Charles Trevelyan*  
#####

From the very many verbal discussions, letters and e-mails I have received the rally seemed to be an outstanding success. The credit for which must go to the whole team that worked so hard to make the three day event run so well. I cannot, in view of the space available, identify them all individually but they know who they are. They include:- all the stewards and marshals; charity and hobby stall attendants; rounders organiser and team; raffle organisers and team; the regalia shop attendants; the organisers and team who provided the cheese and wine for approximately 1,300 people; your sub-committee and the main committee. Our thanks must also go the Company whose efforts included a varied outside entertainment programme; the Friday evening quiz, new vehicle display, fireworks display and the ever popular company shop. Also our thanks to the traders, entertainers and those who kindly displayed their Classic vehicles.

Although I did not wish to identify individuals I feel that I must, on behalf of us all, thank particularly *Jackie and Arthur*

*Claxton* for all the work they have put in over the many years dealing with the applications and *Eileen Kellard* for her time on the sub-committee - the food for 1,300 being her 'swan song'! They are all now standing down from their roles and taking a very well earned rest. The aim of the weekend was firstly for everyone to have an enjoyable weekend whilst also supporting a worthwhile national charity, nominated by the members to the committee. This year we supported LUPUS to the sum of £3,277.88 which was collected on behalf of the charity by Claire - who is also a severe sufferer. We also donated £510 to the Salvation Army and £300 to the St. John Ambulance Service.

Planning has already started for next year's Millennium rally which will take place over the period 21st - 23rd July 2000. As you may appreciate much of the work goes on well in advance of the actual weekend. We do need more volunteers, please, to help run the rally. It is far better to have too many and have to stand some down rather than to be on the borderline. Can you please spare 1 or 2 hours next year (2%) of your time to help?

*Baz Wellard*

Chairman - C & C Sub-committee

#####

It started in early 1998, when I approached our Chairman about Lupus as the charity for 1999. Thanks to *Andrew* and all the Committee members Lupus was chosen as the charity for this year our 10th Anniversary. Our sincere thanks to the Committee, A-S and all those involved in the organisation and running of this event. You all did a magnificent job. Thank you.

Just as important are you, the members, who we would like to thank for your overwhelming generosity that was shown at this rally. *June and I* were on the bottle stall and the response for bottles was overwhelming. We set up on the Friday afternoon and within one hour we had 'sold out' and had collected a staggering £140.00. So that we could continue again on the Saturday an appeal was put out by the Committee for more bottles and you all responded magnificently. We were able to set up again and, to make it last longer, we decided to have one winning number instead of two as on Friday. *June, Barbara (Cox) and I* started at

10.00 am. We had an additional prize of a Bell's 10 year old Whisky Decanter to be drawn at the end of the day but within three hours we were 'cleared out'. Wonderful! This time the donations received had reached £318.00 making the total for Friday and Saturday £458.00. This helped to make the total sum donated to Lupus UK.

You were all so enthusiastic and generous and our heart felt thanks goes to each and everyone of you.

*June & Brian Metcalfe*

PS. The winner of the Whisky Decanter was *Brian Hooton*.

#####

We are writing to say how excellent was the Club & Company rally. It was our first and the organisation was superb. It was incredible how each aspect slotted into the incredibly full schedule and we consider that all those involved in the organisation deserve the highest praise. *Jeanne* was so impressed that whilst I was filling and emptying the van for the return trip she wrote the poem below.

Probably because we were so busy with everything we forgot to load up our Fiamma levelling blocks which we left on the Monday morning. We were between where the ambulances were parked and the toilet block. If anyone has picked them up, please would they telephone us on 0177 384 4565.

Reading *Pat & Terry Hammond's* letter in August echoed some of our questions. We wonder if we will ever be able to wash the roof and how paranoid we should be about tyre pressures and exploding seat belt bolts. But we have solved the way to keep the carpets clean. We bought some Magimats. They are cotton bonded to rubber and they seem to take every bit of dirt off your shoes. When dirty they can be washed in the washing machine. They are not cheap but they work superbly. They seem to have a stall at all the major shows.

*Jeanne & Mike Hall*

#####

## **A Superbly Organized Ocasion**

They say there's a first time for everything and this is the first  
time for me  
That we've been to a C & C Rally and had fun and such good  
company!  
We arrived early evening on Friday, after all, we didn't want to  
be first there,  
But on rounding the corner to Showground we found we had  
nothing to fear!  
Then met by some friendly stewards and politely told just where  
to go,  
We parked up and went off to enjoy ourselves and perhaps meet  
some folk that we know?  
The cheese and wine party was brilliant, My! What a wonderful  
spread,  
Then on with the quiz and lots of laughter. Happy, we made  
our way home to bed.  
At least that's what we thought that we would do as we strolled  
off quite tired and wan.  
We would, if we could, but we couldn't! We couldn't 'cos we  
can't find our van!!!  
Others we met with same problem, we paused, had a giggle and  
moved on  
'Til by process of elimination we eventually found the right one!  
Saturday, the sun shone upon us as off to Stores Shop we did  
walk.  
Aladdin's cave had nothing on this hall. Then off to the Tiggers  
to talk.  
"What time's lunch?" he did say. "We've no time for that,  
we've falconry display for to see,  
Then there's the band and the parachute drop, I'm afraid you'll  
have to wait until tea!"  
Tea was not served until rounders were played, then off to watch  
hot air balloons,  
Then dancing and raffles and fireworks display. Alas, the day  
ended too soon!!  
On Sunday, some last minute shopping, and doing the things  
we've not done,

Coffee and cheque presentation. The rally's then over and done.  
We've had so much fun here this weekend. So thank you to everyone  
Who worked so hard at this rally and made it all oh! so much fun!!!

*Jeanne Hall*  
#####

To the Marshals, Committee Members and everybody else who made last weekend so wonderful. It was our first ever rally and what a way to start! We met so many lovely people. Now looking forward to the next time. Thank you so much.

*Jean & Tony Armstrong*  
#####

Having thoroughly enjoyed the 10th Anniversary of the Club (and having also been at the inaugural meeting), we thought the following verse very typical of the members of the ASOC.

You never will be old, with a twinkle in your eye,  
With the Springtime in your heart as you watch the Winter fly.  
You never will be old while you have a smile to share,  
While you wonder at mankind - and you have the time to care.  
While there's magic in your world, and a special dream to hold,  
While you still can laugh at life  
YOU NEVER WILL BE OLD.

Many, many thanks to everyone involved for all the hard work that goes into the organisation of the 'Club & Company'.

*Pam & Terry Holtom*  
#####

As new members of the Club and 1st Time Ralliers at the 10th Anniversary Rally at Malvern, we would like to thank all those who were involved in making it such a tremendous weekend. The atmosphere was one of fun and friendship and the organisation superb. Special thanks go to *Jenny and Jeff* who within minutes of our arriving had asked us for coffee, *Enid and Geoff* who looked after us each evenings and the lady with the tortoise (whose name I can't remember) who gave me such encouragement on Saturday when, being complete novices at life in a Motorhome, I was finding

the confines of our Trident "Amy" and the unaccustomed heat had led to a rapid sense of humour failure!

So, if there are any other new members out there thinking about taking part in a Rally - Go for it! You will meet very friendly people who are only too glad to give you help and advice when needed.

*Chris and John Eatwell and "Cassie".*

PS A Technical Tip.

Problem. Wife either nearly suffocating under sleeping blanket on hot night, or seen fleeing into wild blue yonder in highly distraught state.

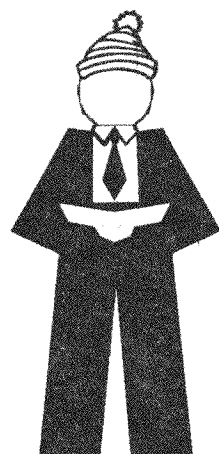
Cause. Tiny, elderly spaniel and lovely, newly retired husband with tendency to compete with one another in loud nasal nocturnal harmony.

Solution. Ear Plugs from Boots! Cheap, easy to store, will not exceed your weight limit, and will ensure a blissful night's sleep for wife so that she can drag husband round an endless number of Motorhome Accessory Shops with boundless energy the following morning!

====ooo000ooo=====

## *Chairman's Chat*

Those of us who braved the heat of the English summer will know what a great weekend we had at Malvern. I can't say 'by all of us' but more of that later. I want to thank all of you who helped us to organise, marshal, working groups, raffle ticket sellers, the Company helpers and their families. Because the work they carried out helped to create a happy relaxed atmosphere and raise the truly fabulous amount of £3277.88 for the Lupus Society.



I especially wish to thank *Baz Wellard*, Chairman of the Club & Company Rally sub-committee, and *Dorothy* his often-neglected wife. There are those from A-S who also worked hard and in their own time. Thanks to *Charles Trevelyan* who spent much of his time drumming up the support from suppliers and arranging for the outdoor entertainment. Neville Jelfs, Phil Bennett and their families, for the quiz and lots more.

What can I say about the musicians of the Royal Marines and the wonderful way they made the evening one to remember? They were brilliant; at one point in the evening there must have been at least 75% of the 1200 members on their feet dancing. There simply was no way to remain unaffected by these very enthusiastic and energetic entertainers; they raised the roof when entertaining us. I believe they expected us to be a quiet and restrained bunch of mainly 'elderly' campers! Who always behave themselves!(?)

This year's hiccup came about because of dogs being brought into the Severn Hall. True, to the best of my knowledge there were no problems caused by the dogs on the Friday evening. We have in past years had no problems over dogs entering the Avon Hall and so it never occurred to us that dogs would be brought in to the rather more 'elegant' surroundings of the Severn Hall. *Baz and I* discussed the matter and decided that we could not permit dogs being brought in to the hall on the grounds of safety. Remember there were to be some 1200 people in this building already congested with tables and chairs. Announcements were made during the day to remind all us dog owners of that prohibition. I was asked several times during the Saturday for the reasons and promised to look once more at the issue, which we did. For safety reasons we kept to our original decision. I am sorry we upset some dog owners; a few were very aggressive and vocal in their protest. I personally will not allow any of our members to be insulted or bullied by anyone no matter what the provocation. After all they are volunteers giving up their own time for the benefit of us all.

In closing I want to thank *Jackie and Arthur Claxton* who are stepping down this year from accepting the reservations, send out

1999

# September

## 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.

When completing a Rally Slip please complete BOTH sides.

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

Some people have contacted me concerning VAT and how it affects rallies. Do not worry about it. All that is required are VAT receipts for services or items used at rallies. You only have to ask for a VAT receipt when you purchase goods. *The important thing is that the receipt has the shop's VAT number on.* Also, when paying the rally site fees, ask the site owner for a VAT receipt. If meals or coach trips are arranged then either arrange for the ralliers to pay the supplier ie the landlord, or coach driver, direct or ask for a VAT receipt when paying the invoice. A full VAT receipt is only required if a purchase is over £50.00.

I hope that this helps to give some guidance to Marshals. Further information will follow as soon as the Customs & Excise (VAT) clarify the situation.

Some guidance to members concerning Green Field sites. A Green Field site is a site where there are drinking water and toilet emptying points and maybe rubbish disposal. Normally there are NO TOILETS or those there are maybe open for a limited time only. Do not expect any other facilities. Full site information appears in the rally information. If in doubt contact the marshal before the rally.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE CHATHAM DOCKYARD RALLY IS CANCELLED  
(Further details later in this supplement)

**1<sup>st</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> September. Shoreham Air Display, West Sussex, (Limit of 30 vans).**

Rally Marshals Yvonne & Barry Loveland. Emergency Tel.No. on site mobile 07801 692 518.  
Site Fee:£2.00 per night. Rally Fee:£2.00. Air Show tickets £10.00 per adult.£5.00 per child.  
These tickets are for Saturday & Sunday inclusive, payable in advance, money with slip.  
**GREEN FIELD** site with water and Loo emptying.

Cheques payable to A.N.Fowler. Booking slip to (**Please note new address!**):-  
**A.N.Fowler 20 Hawkins Close, Shoreham by Sea, West Sussex. BN43 6TL.**  
**Tel.No.01273 594 479.**

**Attractions:** 2 day air show with on ground entertainment, bike rides & dog walks from site.  
Saturday evening Buffet meal available @£2.50 per person.  
Thursday evening Airport tour available @ £2.00 per person.  
Thursday fixed wing flights available (groups of 3 in plane) @ £32.00 per person.  
Please state and pay in advance if requiring any of the above. S.A.E. for confirmation.  
Please state van model for organisational purposes.

**Directions:** On A27 between Brighton & Worthing leave A27 at traffic lights opposite Sussex Pad Hotel and turn into airport (this is the *only* entrance for vans).

**Please do not arrive before 2.00p.m. Wednesday**

**3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> September. (2 nights). Faversham Hop Festival, Abbey School  
London Rd., (A2), Faversham, Kent.**

Rally Marshals: Joyce & Gordon Matthews.  
Site Fee:£10.00 for the weekend. (Fixed payment, NO reductions for individual days).  
Rally Fee:£2.00. NO Electricity. Toilet facilities.  
Booking forms to Joyce Matthews, 35 Preston Park, Faversham, Kent. ME13 8LH.  
Tel.No. 01795 538 913. Cheques payable to G.Matthews.

**Attractions:** Visit the historic market town of Faversham and enjoy the Annual Hop Festival.  
A weekend of entertainment-music, dancing in the streets and pubs. Leave your van on site-  
only 10 min. walk into town. Plenty to do and see in this part of Kent, Canterbury-20 mins. drive,  
coastal areas only 30 mins.

**Directions:** Leave the Southbound M2 at Junction 6 bear **left** onto the A251 to "T" junction,  
¼ mile. Turn **left** onto A2, Abbey School 200yds on **left**.

**Arrival time AFTER 2.00p.m. Friday.**

**10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> September. Northern Motorcaravan Show, York Racecourse.**

Rally Marshals: Pauline & Neil Rogers & Evelyn & Ben Mansfield plus assistants.  
Rally Fee:£2.00. Emergency Tel.No. 0589 145 874 (Marshal's mobile available 8.00-10.00  
morning & evening).

The special Club rally fees are £22.00 for up to 4 nights.

If you have **NOT** sent an application form, with the site fees, to Warners, the organisers  
**before 20<sup>th</sup> August** then you **CANNOT** rally with the Club. If you have done this then do not

forget to send a rally slip & the rally fee to the marshals. ***Members sending slips after the 28<sup>th</sup>. August are not guaranteed a rally plaque.***

Please send a rally slip with a cheque (payable to N.C. & P. Rogers) to N.C. & P. Rogers, 3 Appleby Close, Aldbrough St. John, Richmond, North Yorks. DL11 7TT. Tel. No. 01325 374 540.

**17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>. September. Shepton Mallet Motorcaravan Show.**

Emergency Tel. No. Marshals mobile. 07775 693533

Rally Marshals: Stella & Ian Ross, Dorothy & Baz Wellard, assisted by Marian & Philip Longstaff  
Site Fees (Special Club prices). Thursday to Sunday £23.00: Friday to Sunday £18.00.

Saturday to Sunday £13.00. **Rally Fee: £2.00**

**Send Rally Fee £2.00 with Rally Slip and S.A.E.** to:- Mr. I. Ross, 33 Grosvenor Gardens, Upminster, Essex. RM14 1DL. Tel. No. 01708 228 075. Cheques payable to: I. Ross.

***By return you will get a special booking form which should be sent to the Organisers with the site fee to obtain tickets.***

There will be a "For Sale" board, bring along your motorcaravan related items for sale, and put up a postcard.

**100 VAN LIMIT**

**THE CLUB RALLY IS NOW FULL.**

**1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup>. (2 nights). October. Burford School, Burford, Oxon.**

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

Rally Marshals: Stella & Ian Ross, Dorothy & Baz Wellard.

Site Fee: £4.50 per night. NO Electricity. Rally Fee: £2.00.

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

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

**Attractions:** GREENFIELD SITE-hardstanding available, if weather bad, levelling blocks could be useful. Heated hall for evenings. 5 minute walk to pretty Cotswold village of Burford and Garden Centre. Simple meal available Saturday evening consisting of Jacket Potato, Baked Beans & Sausage with Apple Pies & Custard. Price £2.60 each. Vegetarian Quorn Sausages are available. State if required. Please send payment with booking form. Applicants for meal must have a lot of patience and a good sense of humour as the meal will be cooked and served by Stella & Dorothy and their team of volunteer ASOC Chefs!!!

**Directions:** On the A40 at Burford, turn South onto the A361 towards Swindon, within 100yds turn right into School rear access road. Then follow ASOC signs.

**Important: Definitely NO vans to arrive before 3.30p.m. Friday.**

**Limit of 35 vans.**

**THIS RALLY IS NOW FULL**

**8<sup>th</sup> -10<sup>th</sup> October. ( 2 nights) Meathop Fell Caravan Club Site,Nr.Grange over Sands, Cumbria.**

Site Tel No.(Emergencies only).015395 532 912.

Rally Marshals: Jill & James Bertlin.

Site Fee:£5.00 per night. Rally Fee:£2.00. Both of these fees are payable to the Rally Marshal with rally slip. Electricity:£2.20 per night. ***This is payable on arrival to the site office.***

Booking slips to:James & Jill Bertlin,"The Rockeries",Lindale, Grange-over-Sands, Cumbria.LA11 6LQ. Tel.No. 015395 34500.

Evening meal Saturday at Woodlands Hotel (5 minutes walk)Main Course,Sweet & Coffee £10.00 per person.

**Attractions:**A picturesque Caravan Club Site,hard standing,heated toilet block with privacy cubicles.An ideal base for visiting the many wonders of South Lakeland.18 hole Golf Course (very flat!)2 miles.

**Directions:** From M6 Junct.36 follow A590 s.p. Barrow for approx 10 miles.At Meathop Roundabout turn left onto B5277 s.p.Lindale & Grange and then immediately left s.p. Meathop— follow Caravan Club signs.

**Limit of 20 vans.**

**8<sup>th</sup> -10<sup>th</sup> October. ( 2 nights).Hidden Valley Touring & Caravan Park,Nr.West Down, Ilfracombe,North Devon.**

Site Tel.No. (Emergencies only). 01271 813837.

Rally Marshals: Sandra & Bernie Wisely.

Site Fee:£7.00 per night inclusive.Hardstandings,electric hook-up & T.V. connection.

Rally Fee:£2.00.

Booking slips & enquiries with SAE to Sandra Wisely,12 The Laurels,Roundswell Village, Barnstaple,North Devon.EX31 3QY. Tel.No. 01271 346 400.Cheques payable to Sandra Wisely.

**Attractions:**A meal will be available on the Saturday night with entertainment.The choice of meal will be Roast Dinner/Vegetarian-£3.50. Sweets.-£1.50. Tea/Coffe extra.

**Directions:**Take A361 signed Ilfracombe,West Down is about 5 miles before Ilfracombe.

**Limit of 25 vans.**

**THIS RALLY IS NOW FULL.**

**28<sup>th</sup> -31<sup>st</sup> October. ( 3 nights).Eastham Hall C.P.,Lytham,Lancs.**

Site Tel.No. Emergencies only.01253 737 907.

Rally Marshals: Kath & Norman Benyon-Barbara & Vic Kaye.

Site Fee:£9.50 per night.(includes electric hook -up). Rally Fee:£2.50.

Rally slips & cheques to Mrs.B.Kaye, 14 Firthwood Road,Coal Aston, Sheffield.S18 3BW. Tel.No.01246 412 679.

Attractions: A weekend at the sea-side, a few miles from Blackpool with its many attractions. Friday night. A coach trip to Todds, Motorhomes, Preston where refreshments will be provided. This will be followed by a trip round the Blackpool Illuminations. Cost about £3.50 each depending on the number of people wishing to go. Please indicate on booking slip if you wish to go, on this trip.

**Directions:** A 584 to Lytham. On entering Lytham at first mini roundabout turn right over railway bridge to next roundabout. Turn right again s.p. Kirkham. Site on right after ½ mile.

**5<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> November. Chatham Dockyard, Chatham, Kent.**

**THIS RALLY HAS BEEN CANCELLED BECAUSE THE SITE FEES HAVE BEEN INCREASED BY THE DOCKYARD BY SOME 100%.**

It was felt that the increase in the cost of camping, the less desirable siting of the vans and the limited facilities, left us with no choice but to cancel this rally.

**18<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup>. (3 nights). November. Oxon Touring Park (Caravan Club managed under contract site), Welshpool Road, Shrewsbury, Salop.**

Emergency Tel.No. 01743 340 868 (Site office).

Rally Marshals: Helen & John Greenwood.

This site is very level with ALL hardstandings & ALL electricity with centrally heated toilets & showers.

Site Fee: £ 4.50 per night + £2.75 per night electricity = £7.25 per van per night. **This is a special price and it is essential that we get 25 vans, or more, in order to qualify for this price. Less than 25 vans and the price rises.**

Rally Fees: £1.00 *per person*. Cheques payable to John Greenwood.

Booking slips to: John Greenwood, 5 Ellesmere Road, Mynydd Isa, Mold, Flint. CH7 6UJ.

Tel./Fax.No. 01352 754 794. E-mail [jdvw@jdvw.freemove.co.uk](mailto:jdvw@jdvw.freemove.co.uk)

**Attractions:** Park & Ride to Shrewsbury, next to the site, runs every 10-15 mins (except Sunday). Ideal for Christmas shopping. Local pubs with food (3) within very easy reach. The Shrewsbury Quest and the Welsh borders.

**Directions:** From A5 North, South, East & West take the signs for Oxon Park & Ride and follow the International camping sign.

**This rally starts and finishes at 12 noon.**

**31<sup>st</sup> December - 2<sup>nd</sup> January, "Millenium Rally", Hidden Valley, North Devon.**

**THIS RALLY IS NOW FULL**

**Survey into the number of A.S.O.C. members who rallied in 1998.**

Members may be interested in the results of this survey. Please remember that these figures are only approximate.

During 1998 some 710 member vans attended rallies. Of these some 220 member vans attended either the A.G.M./ or the Club & Company rallies, or both.

This leaves a figure of approx. 490 member vans attending other rallies during 1998. Based upon

membership numbers at the time of calculation this means that:  
50.4% of the membership rally at some time during the year.  
15.6% of these members only rally at the A.G.M. or Club & Company, or both.  
34.8% of the membership rally at other times in the year.

If the Club is to have a full rally programme then it is essential that we have volunteer marshals. Many of those who have been marshals this year have run rallies for a number of years and have run a number of rallies during any one year. Some have reached the point where they feel that the time has come to let others take on this job. Rather than a few run a lot each it is much better if a lot run a few each!

In the year 2000 we will need some teams of new marshals to cover some of the large shows as well as small rallies. If you feel that you would like to help a marshal in order to get an idea of what is involved in running a rally, then please let me know.

I hope that during next year we will have a number of foreign rallies as well as local ones.

We also have an increasing number of members in Scotland. Some of these members have approached me concerning the lack of rallies in Scotland. My answer is quite simple, if you want a rally in a particular area, wherever it is, then why not run one yourself?

**I am now taking rallies dates for next year, 2000. If you are thinking of running a rally please contact me. For year 2000 rallies to appear in the provisional rally list issued with the January Newsletter I must have dates before the end of November 1999. Rallies may still be arranged after this date, as usual.**

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.

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.

E. & O. E.

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!**

*f*

Rally : ..... Date: .....

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

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

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

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

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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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Names of Adults.....

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

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

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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!**

the tickets and much more. Thank you both for all your work on our behalf; use your van now to rest and enjoy your well earned 'retirement.'

A couple of years after my accident Betty asked me to buy some organic rice from 'the hippy shop' whilst I was out and about. Now my memory was not what it was and I was too proud to make a note. Surely I could remember this single item? Because of the brain damage my memory is not very good, to say the least. In I went but couldn't find the rice and so I asked for some. "Please could I have a pound of orgasmic rice?" I asked in the busy shop. "If we sold some of that" said an amused assistant "I would be buying a few pounds for myself!!" Every one had a good chuckle at my innocent mistake. I blame the bang on my head for these lapses of common sense, but *Betty* has other ideas. Enjoy your selves and smile as you go.

*Andrew Entwistle*

====oooOOOooo=====

## A Complaint

I have just returned from the Club and Company rally at Malvern and feel that I have to put pen to paper. The stark announcement that dogs were not welcome in the main hall on Saturday evening came out of the blue. I did not see any bad behaviour, at least not by the dogs. A protest was lodged with *Baz Wellard* on Saturday. He totally disregarded my own and several other owners requests for a reason for the ban. The weather was so hot it would have been an act of cruelty to leave any animal in a van. Although I had paid for raffle tickets I was not able to be there for the draw, and having paid full price for the weekend, was not able to join in with Saturdays entertainment.

I have never seen so many Auto Sleeper owners talking in such bad terms about one official. It is a shame to have to say it but I think this may be the beginning of the end for the Club. *Mr Wellard* was adamant that no dogs would be allowed into any hall at next years rally, so along with many other owners I shall not be

attending. His attitude was that it did not matter, there were more members without dogs than with.

*Malcolm Watts*

#####

I would like to thank the Editor for the opportunity to reply to *Mr. Watts'* letter. Although he sent it to some other members of the Committee, he did not unfortunately send a copy to me. I understand that the complaint is actually from his wife.

The decision to refuse entry of animals into Severn Hall was not made out of the blue. It was announced over the PA system three times during Saturday and two notices were placed at the entrance as a reminder! Although I am no longer a dog owner myself, I would have thought that the restriction on taking animals into a hot room with approximately 1,200 people who were eating, drinking and dancing to a first class band was explanation enough. Members were not prevented from coming into the hall, only their dogs.

I took the time and patience, on an extremely busy day, to explain the reason for the ban to the few dog owners who asked for clarification. Only on one occasion was an unnecessarily extended discussion entered into with a member who refused the courtesy of giving me his name and to listen to the reasoning from either myself or the Club Chairman. During that period, in the evening, he asked me separately to advise a lady member why the ban was imposed. He then continuously interrupted me, so much so that I had to give up. I apologised to the lady at the time for not being able to speak without interruption - if that was *Mrs. Watts* she will remember that occasion! I do not know *Mrs. Watts* but I can assure her that at no time, I repeat no time, did I discuss, infer or consider that "it did not matter, there were more members without dogs than with". I can only assume that the conversation was with someone else other than me!

I would specifically like to thank all the very many dog owners who accepted the need without further demur and those who accepted the need after they had sought clarification. From

the very many congratulations (many from dog owners), to the whole team for making the weekend a success, this is an isolated formal complaint.

At the meeting with the Three Counties Site management on Monday afternoon it was confirmed clearly and unequivocally that animals are NOT allowed into the Severn Hall. As the nominated Chairman of the Rally Sub-committee I do have to invoke/make decisions resulting from:- the Club Constitution; outside bodies; and as the need arose. These may not always be readily agreeable to everyone, but nevertheless I hope that they respect the facts.

*Baz Wellard*

====oooOOOooo=====

## **Thanks**

*Winifred and Arthur Irving* would like to thank everyone for the wonderful flowers from the Club & Company Rally and cards which *Winifred* received during her spell in hospital. They are pleased to say that she is now steadily progressing and hope that she will soon be home again.

#####

*Doreen and I* would like to express our sincerest thanks to all Club members who telephoned and sent cards with good wishes while I was in hospital. Thankfully, I appear to be on the mend but the wonderful bouquet of flowers from the C & C Rally did much to restore morale at a worrying time.

*Jock Hammond*

#####

Mum (*Flo*) and I would like to say a big 'Thank you' to the many people who helped us during the Club and Company Rally. Especially *Ben Mansfield* and *Jim* (I don't know his surname but he drives the yellow Executive). When we arrived on the Friday afternoon I was in great pain due to a slipped disc. *Ben & Jim* immediately helped Mum find a parking place close to the displays and the Severn Hall. *Jim* also sorted out the roll-out awning for us. Later that evening *Ben* pushed Mum in her wheelchair up the (what felt to my back!) steep slopes into the Severn Hall for the

Cheese and Wine Party saying "You only have to ask, that's what we're here for" - what a great attitude.

Even the traders were really helpful. Our old TV had expired on holiday a couple of weeks earlier so we bought a new one on Saturday from Crazy Bill's. As soon as I said I had back trouble the stallholder was happy to carry it over to our van. Without their help the weekend could have been a disaster. But instead it was really enjoyable **and** my back pain was noticeably better by Sunday afternoon. The help shown to us by everyone is gratefully acknowledged.

Slightly to misquote *John Cox's* remarks on Friday evening. "ASOC, the biggest, the **best!**"

*David Perry*

For information, the *Jim* referred to is *Jim Cresswell*. And as has been said on many occasions and for various reasons - "ASOC - A Society Of Carers".

====oooOoo====

## **Tyres**

As an update to my letter last autumn on the subject of Kleber tyres. On 31st March, after numerous telephone calls for prices and availability, we eventually visited (by appointment) Kenvad Discount Motoring Centre in Worthing. While telephoning around we had discovered a big 'push' to supply 8-ply tyres and we didn't favour these. Kenvad offered us four 6-ply steel reinforced Uniroyal tyres for an advantageous price. When I collected our VW about an hour later the manager volunteered to send all 4 tyres back to Kleber for a report and possible refund. He said we would hear direct in about 4 weeks.

From time to time we remembered the subject but it was far from our minds on the June morning when I received a letter from Kleber, Watford quoting an individual allowance for each tyre. One sentence in each letter pointed out 'that the allowance does not constitute any admission of liability on the part of the Company but is made in the interest of good customer relations'. In accordance with instructions, we returned to Worthing to claim the

money - quite a nice sum. The manager was very pleased for us - but not so pleased as we were! Well done, Kleber, and many thanks!

*Joan Joselyn*

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## Japan

There are several magazines which deal with outdoor activity but only one specialises in motor caravans. Its name is "Auto Camper" not Auto-Sleeper. In a recent issue I found an article about A-S. I enclose that copy and although it is written in Japanese the photographs are self explanatory. On page 122 you will see four gentlemen. On the left is Mr Tetsuo Akamatsu, (President of Tet's RV Centre) and on the right Mr Tsuneo Kaneko (Director of Tet's RV International) from whom I purchased my Clubman. In between are Anthony and Charles Trevelyan. I am not sure when this photo was taken as they all seem rather young.

Our summer vacation period will start soon and so many people will go to the cooler northern part of Japan using their camping cars. My wife and I are planning to stay at home to avoid the congestion on the roads as we have plenty of time. May you all enjoy your holidays.

*Masahisa Matsubara*

This letter from our only Japanese member (so far anyway) enclosed the magazine. As suggested, I have no idea what the Japanese characters mean but the photo mentioned and the one immediately below it were taken at the Club and Company Rally a few years ago. Other photographs show various stages of construction around the Orchard Works at Willersey. I shall try to

reproduce the introductory logo for the magazine story. One thing, I was able to understand several references on the pictures which were in English. And perhaps I should send the recipe pages on to *Nial Reynolds* for his interpretation!

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## **Fuel Cap Trouble**

I had the same experience as *Bernard Spurgin* when unable to turn the key to remove the cap on my Excelsior. Very embarrassing it was too as I was low on fuel and standing beside a pump in a very busy supermarket filling station in France. Mon Dieu! In my case WD40 released the lock barrel but it seized again in a very short time. I then used some thin oil and this has proved to be a lasting remedy. If stuck, use a few drops from the sump dip stick. A friend told me later that WD40 does dry out quickly in that sort of environment. Check the filler cap regularly!

*Brian Spackman*

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## **Electrolux**

Regarding my letter in last month's Newsletter, I was pleasantly astonished to receive a letter from Electrolux. They offered their apologies for "any inconvenience caused by this appliance" and a significant contribution towards a replacement fridge. As a result we bought a rather superior model complete with greater "tilt tolerance" and a thermostatic gas control. This was efficiently fitted by Taunton Caravans and the result is two satisfied customers who were astounded to discover that one company at least still know what "service" means. Congratulations, Electrolux, and thanks.

*Maurice Wright.*

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## **Suggestions / Opinions Wanted**

A small sub-committee has been set up to review the election and responsibilities of the main Club Committee and the two standing subcommittees (for the AGM and the Club & Company

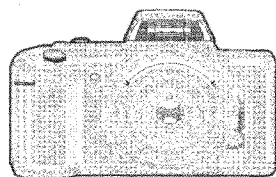
rallies). The first meeting will take place on 19th October 1999. If anyone has any suggestions or opinions for consideration will they please let me have them - **in writing** - preferably by early October. Many thanks. My address is 3 Bilsby Road, Alford, Lincolnshire, LN13 9EW.

*Janet Sutterby*

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## Photos

Calling all Happy Snappers! Where are your contributions for the Photographic Competition which closes at the end of September? Please send any relevant photograph with at least one Auto-Sleeper motorhome in it. It can be humorous, informative or just part of a scene. Judging will take place in October. The prizes are MONEY!



£30 for first prize, £20 for second and £10 for third. So please submit something. Who knows, you may win. Photographs are non-returnable and will be on display at next years AGM.

*Pam Davies*

Press Officer, 4 Southbrook Road; Havant, Hants P09 1RN

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Talbot Express Rambler GL, 1992 (J). 2 litre petrol, 28,000 miles. Radio/cassette, 3-way fridge, hob, grill, oven, sink, toilet, shower, gas heater, mains plus 12 volts, 2+2 berths, 2nd battery and stand-alone side-mounting Raleigh awning. One owner, non smokers, no pets. £10,500.00. Tel: Ken Sunderland on 0175 675 2830 or write to Belle Hill, Raines Lane, Grassington, Skipton, North Yorks. BD23 5NJ.

Thanks for the donation.

#####

Talbot Express Hi-Top Rambler GL. 2 litre petrol. 1992. 42,000 miles. Shower, toilet, cooker, sink, fridge, heater, 2 Propane gas bottles, TV and aerial. Taxed and MOT till January 2000. £11,000.00 ono or exchange for car. Phone Alan Wiggin on 0154 325 5456 or write to 114 Burton Old Road East, Lichfield, Staffs., WS14 9HU.



#####

Harrison high top de luxe free standing annex, 8' x 6". Grey/Burgundy. Canopy link to van removed. Front adapted by Harrisons to remove or use with a veranda pole. Side doors and roll up back. Little used and as new apart from a tiny tear on front corner. New price £449.00, bargain at £195.00. Tel: Jean or Brian Moody on 0178 973 1189 or write to 1 Woodward Court, Snitterfield, Nr. Stratford-upon-Avon, Warks., CV37 0RP.

Thanks for the donation.

#####

Silver Screens to fit VW Clubman. As new. £50.00. Sony car radio/cassette. Used 20 minutes. £50.00. Tel: Ron Mitchell on 0127 458 2806 or write to 78 Branksome Drive, Nab Wood, Shipley, West Yorkshire, BD18 4BE

#####

External padded Silver Screen for latest Boxer cabs. As new condition. £55.00. Fiamma folding tripod base with 20" long chrome leg. £20.00 the pair. Telephone John Lake on 0126 351 5315 or write to Inbetween, Top Common, East Runton, Norfolk, NR27 9PR.

Thanks for the donation.

#####

Ford Excelsior, Sept. 96, 'P' reg. 2.5 diesel automatic. 16,000 miles. ABS braking, heated front seats with lumbar supports, heated front screen (electric), head lamp washers plus over £5,000.00 extras. Incorporating 2-way kitchen fan, Fiamma 3.5m awning, twin cycle rack, motorcycle rack, Air-Ride

suspension, generator and rack, RV and video, rear view camera and other items too numerous to mention. Superb unmarked vehicle, garaged under cover and used solely by existing retired owners, non-smokers, no pets, no children. Genuine reason for sale. £27,500.00. Contact John Northcott on 0179 887 5326 or write to Lickfold Farm, Wigginholt, Pulborough, West Sussex, RH20 2EL.



Thanks for the donation.

#####

Mercedes Medallion, April 97. 2.9 diesel turbo. 8,000 miles. One owner. Bike rack, tele booster, awning, alarm. As new. £27,950.00 ono (New price £44,000). Contact David Moore on 0161 976 1187 (home) or 0161 748 6351 (works) or write to 83 Cecil Avenue, Sale, Cheshire, M33 5BG.

Thanks for the donation.

#####

Top box, Brutsaert 130. 134 x 94 x 43. Will fit the Clubman like a glove. Less than one year old. £150.00 Tel: Laurie Bartram on 0148 021 3058 or write to 15 Hampden Way, St. Neots, Cambs., PE19 2JQ.

Thanks for the donation.

#####

Rambler GL, 1993, 'L' reg. 2.0 litre petrol, PAS. 26,000 miles. 1 year MOT and taxed till February 2000. Converted by A-S to 2 berth. Full A-S specification including auxiliary battery, waste water tank and Fiamma awning. One owner, non-smokers. £13,500.00 ono. Tel: Ken Williams on 0144 425 8398 or write to 15 Beale Street, Burgess Hill, West Sussex, RH15 9UY.

Thanks for the donation

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

Your Editor  
 Harry Henthorne  
 144 Devonshire Hill Lane  
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 Tel: 0181 808 9112

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Any item appearing in this Newsletter may be freely used by other publications. Please acknowledge both Author and Source.

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All contributions from Members which appear in the Newsletter are published in good faith in the hope that they will prove useful or interesting. All reasonable care has been taken to ensure accuracy but none of the modifications has been tested by us therefore neither the Editor, the Club nor the Company will accept any responsibility for the consequences if you try them out.

\*\*\*\*\*

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Janet Sutterby	Minutes Secretary	0150 746 2449
John Tidbury	Treasurer	0123 553 8593
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Ray Whiley	Vice-Chairman & Secretary	0160 345 2593
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