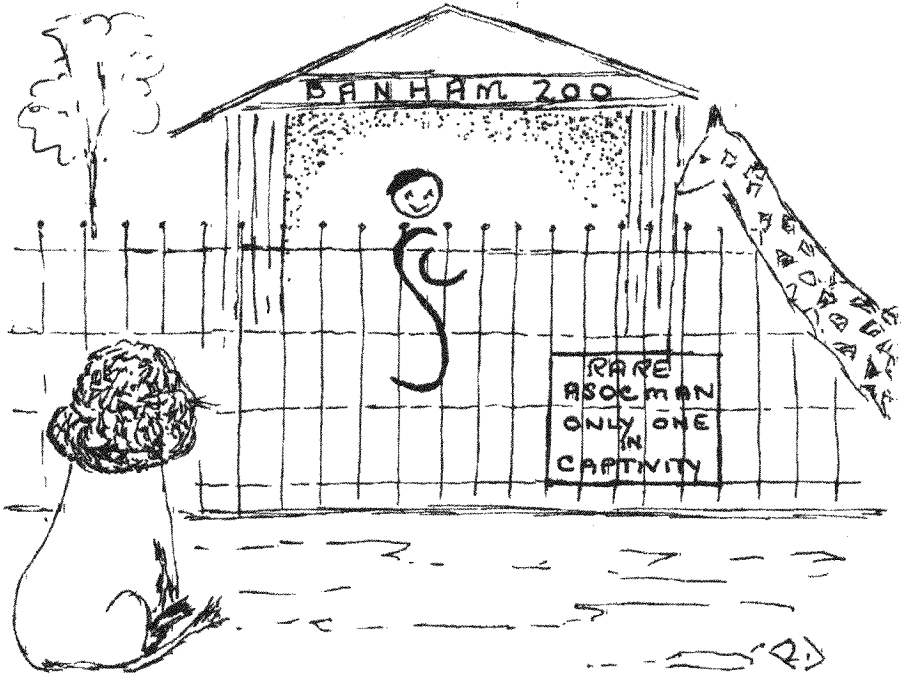


AUTO-SLEEPER OWNERS' CLUB



**NEWSLETTER 140
MAY 2000**

Hello.

Nearly there! Only one more issue for me to prepare and then it is "Over to you!" - your new Editor. I hope that I shall be able to discover the names and posts of the new committee immediately after the AGM so that the back page can be re-arranged as required. But if you find that a large part of that page is blank you will know that I was unsuccessful!

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CORRECTION

Members who wish to book into the camp site at Banham Zoo for the Thursday night should telephone 019 5388 8370 and not the number which was published last month.

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THREE COUNTIES SHOW - MALVERN

In view of the reputation that our Club has earned over the years and the relationship we have with the Three Counties Showground management, they have asked if we could kindly provide some assistance with the running of their main County show this year. They are looking for 7 couples (working together) and one single person to work various periods over the week of 12th - 17th June. The duties are mainly 'security' and the days (up to 4) will be rather long, typically 0700 - 1900. Free pitches will be made available and there will be a fee paid for the work involved. For insurance reasons volunteers must be under 75 years of age.

If you are interested, perhaps you could contact me **by letter** marking the top left hand corner of the envelope 'Three Counties Show'. My address is 18 Greenwood Close, Fareham, Hants., PO16 7UF.

Baz Wellard

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Uses for A-S motorhomes

I have been commissioned to write a feature article for possible inclusion in the Company magazine. It is envisaged that

the focus will be on a selection of owners for whom their motorhome is an essential tool when pursuing their hobby, exploring an interest or 'aiding and abetting' their job.

So, if your Legend is a hospitality unit for a group of vintage bicycle enthusiasts, if you have been star-gazing in your Flair or even taken the Trooper to all four corners of the globe in order to discharge your duties as a trainee 'elasticity tester' at the Empire Garter Company, do tell me about it. Please write a short description of how your 'activity' and your motorhome compliment each other. Alternatively I hope to attend the Club and Company Rally and we can have a chat there. Any relevant photographs sent will be much appreciated. I will do my utmost to return them if they are accompanied by a stamped and addressed envelope.

Please send your items to me c/o Auto-Sleepers Limited,
Orchard Works, Willersey, Nr. Broadway, Worcs., WR12 7QF.
Jonathan Lloyd.

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"Millennium" Club and Company Rally

You will find with this month's Newsletter your application for this year's rally at Malvern over the weekend of 21st - 23rd July. We have identified a few restrictions which are applicable to us (see page 2) in order to save any possible embarrassment. Your sub-committee is looking for volunteers and would prefer to have more than are actually required. Please see page 3 of the application form for opportunities to help. I hope to be able to give you more details of what has been planned by the July Newsletter. You can rest assured that a full programme is in development. Please book early. The closing date is 7th July 2000. **NO** applications can be accepted after that date.

There were four submissions for our chosen charity this year. All were considered worthwhile causes but a choice had to be made. Your Committee has selected the National Association for Colitis and Crohn's Disease (NACC). It was nominated by *Irene Brittain* who has been a sufferer from Colitis for some 15 years.

Your sub-committee is still looking for a volunteer/some volunteers to run the bottle stall. Can you help, please? If so, please let us know on your booking form.

Baz Wellard

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Thanks

We should like to thank all the many members who telephoned us from all over the country with information about suitable second locks to the rear door of our Executive. Our special thanks to *Bernard Abbott* of *Leamington Spa* who sent detailed plans to us and whose advice was successfully put into operation. Anyone wishing to do likewise should contact *Safeways (Security Products) Ltd.* 10 Grange Mount, Birkenhead, L43 4XW. Tel: 0151 653 3414.

Prim & Barry Glover

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Chairman's Chat

This is it! The very last Chairman's Chat from me. As deposed ministers of state claim when returning to obscurity I to wish to spend more time with my family and catching up with an awful lot of the routine work about the house that has been missed, but not forgotten by she who must be obeyed.



Returning to Club matters and to *Ray Whiley* who, as the current Vice-Chairman, may succeed me, subject of course to the wishes of the newly elected Committee. I wish him well and know him as a very capable, committed and energetic man who will work hard on behalf of the Club and its members.

Even at this late date if you so desire it is possible to join the AGM rally. Unfortunately it is now too late to book for the Annual Dinner on the Saturday evening as numbers have had to be passed to the caterers for the food order. Dozens of arrangements that need to be finalised in good time. After the meal you can then gladly join in the evening's entertainment. There is plenty of room

on the rally field for late bookings so if the urge comes over you then please join us, you will be very welcome.

One more important point please remember the rally opens at **NOON** on the Friday. Please remember that we shall have plenty of work to keep us busy, so please help by not arriving before mid-day. Also remember that all the work is undertaken by volunteers.

Well before the AGM begins, the planning for the Club & Company Rally is already approaching its final stage. Application forms will soon be heading your way. Once again this promises to be a wonderful event. The Morris Dancers will not be with us this year as they are alleged to be a rain making ritual! Superstition or not, we have opted for a change as our climate usually needs no encouragement when it comes to rain. Therefore we shall have a larger Caribbean Steel band to encourage the sun. The Plymouth Royal Marine Dance Band will be with us this year so look forward to a fabulous evening on the Saturday.

I noticed in last months newsletter that *Barbara and Jeff Worley* have decided finally they must end their motorhome days due to illness. They are some of the earlier club stalwarts who worked hard to make the Club the success it has become. *Jeff* served on the Committee for some time and he and *Barbara* ran many rallies for us all. Thank you both for all your efforts on our behalf, you are a good example to us all.

Harry Henthorne 'retires' as our Newsletter Editor with his final publication being the June issue, when he will have produced some 118 editions with none late or missed. A proud record indeed. I know *Harry* will tell us that it is the Members Newsletter, all that he claims he does for us is to put it all together. I suspect that there is much much more to producing the finished article that we receive than he will admit to. A simple thank you appears small thanks for all his time and commitment but *Harry* it is a genuine and heartfelt thanks from us all. I do know that he will not have much spare time as he is already Membership Secretary for another association. So he'll not be 'under t'feet' for *Sheila*, as we say in this part of Yorkshire.

One last little quip from our daughter, Christine. One afternoon on return from school aged about six. "Great Grandma Copping is a widow. That means she as killed her husband off, isn't that right dad?" There are many humorous tales to relate, some not suited to printing, many others which are particular to firemen. There is the old favourite of attempting to resuscitate an old lady's budgie which had been overcome by smoke. The bird was placed on the polished table of the neighbour and a whiff of oxygen from a high pressure cylinder sent the poor bird flying across the table into the open coal fire never to recover. The road to hell is paved with good intentions!

Keep smiling and goodbye from *Betty*, myself and Poppy the dog and Sarah the cat.

Andrew Entwistle

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A Fond Farewell

Some of you may not be aware that *Barbara & Jeff Worley* have had to sell their motorhome so will not be rallying any more. *Jeff's* health deteriorated over the winter and he is no longer able to drive. They will both be missed very much. Part of the Club from the early days they helped in no small way to make it what it is today. A former Vice-Chairman, *Jeff* worked hard to promote the spirit of friendship in the Club. This was borne out by the many rallies they ran and the welcome given to new members, as I for one can testify.

On behalf of all their many friends I should like to say a big 'thank you' for all they have done and send them our love and best wishes for the future.

Pam Davies

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Committee News

This is the last News that I personally shall write because I am not standing for re-election at the AGM. This seems to be an appropriate time, therefore, to ask if you want this slot in the Newsletter to continue. It was instigated as an experiment to keep

members informed about the work of the Committee but there is no point in carrying on with it if nothing much is being achieved. Please let the Secretary, *Ray Whiley*, or me know what you think. Our telephone numbers are on the back page. That said, back to business.

Your Committee met at Moreton-in-Marsh on 25th March 2000. *Ian Day* attended as a co-opted member to fill the vacancy which occurred when *Brian Smith* retired. If successful in the election at the AGM, *Ian* has volunteered to edit the Newsletter as *Harry Henthorne* is also standing down. [There's one born every minute - Ed!] Our Treasure, *John Tidbury*, is short of VAT receipts from those of us who buy things on behalf of the Club - such as the rally marshals. He wants not just any old receipts, you understand, but the Proper Ones which bear the suppliers' VAT number so that he can claim back some of our money from Mr Brown. I never knew that such receipts existed before the Club became involved in this particular minefield. But now, four sets of minutes later, I can sound quite an expert on the subject! Just ask the shop where you are buying the stuff for a "VAT receipt, please!"

Litigation often rears its head these days, doesn't it? Some people blame the Americans. It can certainly be a very expensive game which the Club does not want to get into and, to this end, your Committee is doing some precautionary check of our various activities. The Committee also looked at possible new venues for the AGM, Committee expenses and the final draft copies of two "working practices" booklets intended to aid the smooth running of the Club. All of these topics will be up for discussion at the Open Forum after the AGM in May.

Best wishes to you all. I hope to meet some of you at Banham.

Janet Sutterby

We used to print Committee News some years ago - I know, I had to prepare it. But it fell by the wayside and nobody seemed to be concerned!

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Batteries

I too have suffered a flat battery in our Trophy after some weeks when it sat idle during the winter. With all the internal units which use electricity switched off, an ammeter in the main battery circuit showed a steady current of 46.1 milliamps. Due, I think, to the clock which can't be switched off. I calculate that this current will discharge a fully charged 74 amp/hour battery in about 9 weeks.

Replacing the previously removed front control panel of the radio, incidentally, increased the current by 0.2 milliamps without switching the radio on! I have no idea why. Family policy is now to drive the Trophy at least once a week throughout the winter.

Geoff Stonehouse

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MUGHAS GRAGIAS.

We set off for a ten week holiday in Spain and Portugal on February 1st and were back home on February 22nd, so grateful still to be together. Our journey from Cherbourg was very pleasant and the stops, at Montreuil, Bellay and at Sanguinet just south of Bordeaux were delightful. It was when we moved into Spain that all the problems began. *Barry* had severe abdominal pains during the day and by early evening we went to the hospital at Vitoria. *Barry* was taken into his own cubicle, linked to a saline and an analgesic drip and given many tests. The prompt attention he received was astounding and everyone was so kind. No one could speak English and seemed reluctant to use French.

An hour and a half later we were on our way towards the patch of ground outside a closed campsite where we had been given permission to stay. We had been given the details of all the tests, the diagnosis which they thought was gastro-enteritis and a list of recommendations for diet. We bought the prescription the next morning and then decided to continue to Camping Ruta De La Plata, Salamanca, which we had used before. We hoped the pills and the rest over the weekend would help but the nightmare became worse. Sickness was now violent and *Barry* seemed to

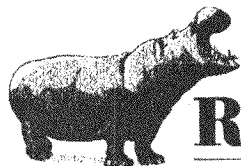
keep nothing down. He had eaten nothing since Thursday and as the liquid inside him built up so did the pain only to feel relieved after sickness.

Senor Gonzalez-Perez, the camp site proprietor, took us on Monday morning to one of three hospitals in Salamanca. It was a teaching hospital and had a splendid staff with all the modern facilities and it was crowded. There would have been no place to park a big motorcaravan, cars were double parked in places. The senor stayed with us during the day, translating the doctors' comments and generally showing as much concern as if we were members of his family. It was fortunate we had French as a common language but even so only two other people in the hospital could speak French and only one doctor had some knowledge of English. It was very difficult for *Barry* because he could not ask questions or qualify his answers. Sign language became very sophisticated and looking back was quite funny at times. By 6.00 p.m. that same day the team of doctors decided to operate. They indicated an appendectomy first and if that was healthy they would then open him right up. This is what they did. I was sent to the cafe which was full of visitors and staff. I can't tell you how I felt during the following hour and a half. Then, suddenly, Senor Gonzalez touched me on the shoulder and told me *Barry* was safely through the operation. He then bought me a croissant and coffee. I was in a daze. *Barry* doesn't remember me leaning over him in the corridor even though his eyes were wide open. I wasn't allowed to see him until the next morning but I knew he had come through and that was all that mattered. Later we were told that he would be in hospital for at least a week, if all went well. Five days he suffered with a heavy "lamp post" supporting tubes, pumps etc. which he had to keep with him at all times. It had six supermarket trolley wheels, each with a mind of its own. The ward contained three beds and had a wall telephone and television. On Sunday the phone rang for us. The bush telegraph had worked quickly bringing a friend's niece who had lived in Salamanca for some years to *Barry's* bedside. We had an English speaking visitor and it was a lovely surprise. It was a relatively quiet ward but that was not the case in other rooms. The Spanish are naturally effusive and express themselves without inhibitions. It was normal for

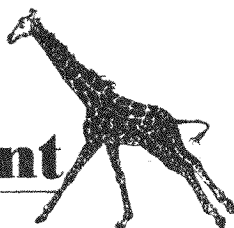
families to spend all day at their loved one's bedside helping with the nursing and care. As many as seven or eight could be seen around a bed and occasionally a relative stayed all night but there was no provision made for their comfort other than the standard armchair. When the local team played football and it was televised, the hospital seemed like a stadium. All the ward doors were wide open and every TV set on full volume. That in turn was drowned by the loud cheers of encouragement to the players on screen from an elated audience. This all started about 9.00 p.m. and it was not until around midnight when the hospital eventually settled down to some restless sleep and a modicum of order.

The treatment *Barry* had received had been first class. The doctors made their rounds about 10.00 a.m. and then went to the Emergency Department. They were efficient, conscientious and went about their tasks with care and concern. They were obviously pleased with *Barry's* progress. The nurses also had a smile and a joke but they didn't understand *Barry* when he pointed to his big square dressing and said 'Telly-tubby'. We nicknamed him the 'Nike Kid' because of his scars and that did raise a smile. I saw very few nurses in skirts, most wore white trousers and jackets. No doctor's name appeared above the bed and there was no temperature chart at the foot. I didn't see a single card anywhere in the hospital and only a few flowers graced the nurse's desk.

In retrospect, *Barry* had the best possible attention, is now gaining strength, and is almost back to normal. He is alive and well and I am so grateful. We now have a bigger Spanish dictionary and will be learning more of the language. We used form E111 and didn't have to pay any hospital bills. We lost six/seven weeks insurance for *Barry*, even though we made no claim, because we had returned home to England. The taxi bill and 'phone calls were not covered by the insurance and there was a basic £35.00 which is unclaimable anyway. We took ourselves home without any assistance and we now feel very positive about the whole situation. Our holiday was non-existent but now we are retired every day is a holiday and we can go again another time. The most important fact of all is we still have each other.



May 2000



Rally Supplement

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

Please note that ALL rallies start and finish at 12.noon unless otherwise stated in the rally information.

ALL RALLIES, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE AGM & THE CLUB & Co., REQUIRE A RALLY SLIP TO BE COMPLETED, ON BOTH SIDES, AND RETURNED TO THE MARSHAL OF THAT RALLY WITH A CHEQUE FOR THE RALLY/SITE FEE.

27th.-2nd.May.(4 nights).Burn Gliding Club,Burn Village,Nr.Selby, North Yorks.

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

Rally Marshal:Alan Guest.

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

Booking slips to Alan Guest,27 Chiltern Drive,Ackworth,Pontefract,West Yorks.

WF7 7DW.Tel.No. 01977 612 773.(after 6.30pm.) Cheques payable to A.Guest.

Attractions: Gliding trial flights/ lessons over weekend (subject to weather).

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

28th.-1st May.(3 nights).A.C.C.E.O. Millennium National Rally, Lincoln Racecourse.

This rally has been cancelled as there were too few applicants from A.C.C.E.O. affiliated clubs.

Pre A.G.M. Rally

2nd.-4th.May.(2 nights Tues.-Thurs.) Clare Priory,Suffolk.

Rally Marshals:Stella & Ian Ross.

Directions: 10 miles west of Sudbury.A1092 Clare/Haverhill Road.Turn *Left*

¼ mile from Clare S.P. Priory,Site on *left* in 300yds.Ignore Brown Signs in centre of Clare - pedestrian access only.

THIS RALLY IS NOW FULL.

**Please note that the A.G.M. will be held at Banham Zoo, near
Norwich, Norfolk, 5th.-7th. May.**

**8th.-12th. May. (4 nights Monday to Friday). Applewood Caravan &
Camping Park, Banham Zoo, Norfolk A.G.M. Follow - on Rally.**

Site Tel.No. 01953 888370.

Rally Marshals: Barbara & Ray Whiley.

Emergencies: 07899 853 988 (Marshals' mobile 8.00-10.00 am & pm).

Pitch fee: £ 3.50 per night plus electric hook up £1.50 per night.

Rally Fee: £1.00 per van plus 50p per adult.

Booking slips to: Mr. & Mrs. R Whiley, 21 Elcar Rise, Eaton, Norwich,
Norfolk. NR4 6HR. Tel.No. 01603 452 593.

Cheques payable to: R.E. & B. Whiley.

Attractions and directions as for A.G.M.

This rally is offered to enable members to enjoy a longer stay in Norfolk. Those taking part will remain on the A.G.M. rally field for the Sunday night and move to the five acre rally field, which has 50 marked pitches on grass with electric hook-ups before 12 noon on the Monday.

Please state the number of nights on rally slip.

Early booking would be appreciated.

11th.-14th. May (3 nights). Ripon, North Yorks.

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

Rally Marshals: Marion & Jim Henwood.

Site Fee: £3.50 per night. Electricity: £1.50 per night, *limited* numbers. (First come first served). Rally Fee: £4.00. Includes £2.00 per van for the use of barn for Friday & Saturday nights.

Booking slips to: J. Henwood, 1 Fairfield Ave., Linthorpe, Middlesbrough. TS5 5HB.

Tel.No. 01642 805 237. Cheques payable to J. Henwood.

This is a GREEN FIELD site you are NOT ALLOWED to use the Caravan Site Facilities.

Attractions: Ripon, Fountains Abbey etc.

Friday. Weather permitting, a walk will be organised and a pool supper in the evening.

Saturday. Proposed coach trip to Lightwater Valley (Factory Outlet shops)

£2.00 per person. Price could vary depending on number of persons going. Money with slip please, if interested.

Saturday Evening. Fish & chips in barn. Please indicate on slip if required.

Directions: Take the B6265 from Ripon to Pateley Bridge. Site in 1 mile on *right*.

11th.-15th. May (4 nights). Little Cotton Farm C.P., Dartmouth, Devon.

Site Tel.No. 01803 833675. Extra nights must be arranged with the Site Owner, Paul White.

Rally Marshals: Pam & Terry Holtom. Tel.No. 01803 612 669.

THIS RALLY IS NOW FULL.

18th.-22nd. May(4 nights). Motorcaravan Jamboree,Detling,Kent.

Emergency Tel.No.07879 473434 (Marshal's mobile).

Rally Marshals: Dorothy & Baz Wellard. Rally Fee:£2.00 **GREEN FIELD SITE**
Site Fee:£23.00 to be sent, with **application form** available from marshals,
direct to the organisers.

Booking slips,rally fee and S.A.E. to Mr. & Mrs. Baz Wellard,18 Geenwood Close,
Fareham,Hants.PO16 7UF. Tel.No. 01329 231 259.

Cheques payable to Mrs. D.Wellard.(DO NOT include site fees).

Attractions: The Motor Caravan Jamboree & Leisure Show is reputed as being "Europe's
greatest indoor & outdoor exhibition of Motorhomes & Caravans". The show is held at the
Kent Showground on the North Downs-with easy access to the Garden of England.Why not
also have a day trip to France and pick up liquid supplies.

Directions:From M2 leave at Junct.5 and go South on the A249 and follow signs.FromM20
leave at Junct. 7 and go North on A249 and again follow signs.

Closing date:Closing date for rally slips to reach marshals is **28th.April at the latest.**

Springtime in the Snowdonia National Park

18th.-22nd. May.(4 nights).Penybont T & C.P.,Bala,Gwynedd,Wales.

This rally runs from Thursday night to Sunday night closing 12 noon Monday.

Site Tel.No.01678 520 549.

Rally Marshals:Helen & John Greenwood..Tel.No. 0701 0702 919 (Mobile).

Site Fee:£8.95 including electricity per night. Rally fee:£1.00 per person.

Booking forms & cheques to: John Greenwood,5 Ellesmere Road, Mynydd Isa,
Mold,Flints. CH7 6UJ. Tel./Fax. 01352 754 794.E-mail jdvw@jdvw.freeserve.co.uk

The site has hardstanding ,camp office & shop,heated toilet block.Very close to
the town and Bala lake.A site that we have used before now upgraded to
4* status.Full site facilities.

Directions:From A5 take the A494T to Bala.,On entering Bala from N.E. follow
B4391 and site is on **right round sharp bend.**

26th.- 30th.May. (4 nights). Lower Greenhill Farm, Salterforth,

Barnoldswick,West Yorks.

Site Tel. No. 01282 813 067 **Emergencies only.**

Rally Marshals: Ivy & Ken Farley.

Site Fee: £3.00 per night. **No Electricity.**Rally Fee:£1.50 couples. £1.00 singles.

This is a **GREEN FIELD** site;---**No toilets**

Booking slips to: K.D. Farley, 45 Kelsall Ave.,Blackburn,Lancs.BB1 5RU.

Tel.No. 01254 721 459. Cheques payable to I.M.Farley.

Attractions:Skipton & Blackburn markets on Saturday,Skipton Castle.

Directions:From A59 Skipton/Clitheroe turn South on B6251 through
Barnoldswick to B6383.Site 0.5 miles South of Salterforth on **right.**

26th.-30th. May.(4 nights). Caravan Club National Rally,Cornbury

Park,Oxon.

*Details of this rally have already been published in the Newsletter. Bookings had
to be made through Ray Whiley.**It is too late to book now.***

1st.-5th.June.(4 nights Thurs.-Mon).Severn Gorge C.P.,Nr.Telford,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 Mrs. B.A.Potter.

Attractions:Ironbridge Museums(World Heritage Site),Telford,Severn Gorge
Railway,Hawstone Historic Park-follies.Games evening on on Friday.Fish/Chicken supper
available on Saturday evening—Please indicate if interested.

Please enclose a S.A.E. for confirmation of booking and map directions.

Limit 30 Vans.

1st.-6th.June.(5 nights) Portavadie Village,Loch Fyne,Scotland.

Emergency Tel.No.0797 9836 749 (Marshal's mobile).0170 081 1729 Answerphone on site.

Booking slips to:George Gilchrist,2 Gadgirth Court,Coylton,Ayr.KA6 6NU.

Tel. No. 01292 570 478. Cheques payable to George Gilchrist.

TOILETS are now available on site.

There will be NO Clay pigeon shooting—sorry.

***N.B. Special deal on ferry fares from Portavadie to Tarbert,Van & Driver £4.80 Passenger
£1.30,Total fare £6.10. A saving of ££££ on normal fares.If you want to book these tickets
then enclose an extra cheque for £6.10 & S.A.E. with your rally slip and site fee.***

Directions:On reaching Tighnabraich turn **right** S.P. Kames/Millhouse.Then look for the
Portavadie Ferry signs,continue following ferry signs until about 100 yds. before terminal.You
will see double metal gates on your **left,WATCH the bump** on entering .

We will be looking for you. **NOTE** This rally must finish at 12 noon Tuesday 6th.June.

THIS RALLY IS NOW FULL.

7th.14th.June.(7 nights). Divers C.P.,Oban,Scotland.

Site Tel.No. 01631 562 755.

Rally Marshals: Sally & Jerry Haxton.

Tel.No. 01483 223 476.

Directions:From North:A85 through town to traffic island follow camp/car & ferry signs.

Past Police Station on **left**, then first **left**,first **right** and first **left** again follow signs to
Glenshellach Caravan Park.

THIS RALLY IS NOW FULL

9th.-11th.June. Stratford Motorcaravan Fair,Stratford upon Avon,

Racecourse.

Rally Marshals: Ivy & Ken Farley.

Bookings for the rally to be held at the show must be made **DIRECTLY** with the
organisers,Stone Leisure,forms available in various motorhome magazines.Mark the form

A.S.O.C.The special Club site fees are:

Arrive Thursday £23.00, Arrive Friday £18.00, Arrive Saturday £13.00

You may stay on till Monday at no further charge.

*Rally Fee:£1.50 couples,£1.00 singles.**Please send a rally slip to:**K.D.Farley,45 Kelsall Ave., Blackburn,Lancs.BB1 5RU. Tel.No. 01254 721 459. Cheques payable to I.M. Farley.

22nd -25th June. (3 nights).Church Farm,Sixpenny Handley,Dorset.

Emergency Tel.No. 0850 198 537 (Marshal's mobile).

Rally marshals: Edna & Dennis Lucas.

Site Fees: £ 3.25 per night. NO ELECTRICITY. Rally fee: £2.00 (couples), £1.00 (singles).

This is a **GREEN FIELD SITE**.

Booking slips to:Mr. & Mrs. D.E.Lucas,Hollinghurst Court,**256** Sedlescombe Road North, St.Leonards on Sea,East Sussex.TN37 7JL. Please note change of number in address. Tel.No. 01424 753631.Cheques payable to:D.E. Lucas.

Church Farm is situated at the top of an interesting Dorset village which has a variety of shops.This is in the beautiful Cranborne Chase area with lovely views,interesting walks,villages and towns nearby.There is a daily bus service to Dorchester, Blandford & Salisbury from village.A meal can be arranged for Saturday evening at the local inn with a maximum of 40. Please indicate on slip if interested.

Directions:From Salisbury on A354 turn **right** at Handley Hill roundabout onto B3081 S.P. Shaftesbury & Sixpenny Handley.Proceed through the village to top of hill.Site is on **right** just before the Church.

30th June -3rd July. (3 nights).Prestwood Steam Fair,Prestwood,Great Missenden,Bucks.

Rally Marshals: Ann & Norman Ailward.

Site Fee:£13.00 for 3 nights weekend including unlimited entrance to Show. Rally Fee:£2.00.

This is a **GREEN FIELD** Site.

Cheques payable to: Mrs.C.A.Ailward,15 Earl Howe Road,Holmer Green,High Wycombe, Bucks.HP15 6PU. Tel.No. 01494 713 071.

Directions:Off A413 at Gt. Missenden take A4128 to Prestwood and follow Steam Rally signs. Please **DO NOT** arrive before 1.00 p.m. Friday.

13th -16th July. (3 nights).Himley Park,Himley,Dudley,West Midlands.

Emergency Tel.No. 0403638109 (Marshal's mobile).

Rally Marshals: Nora & Ven Venables/ Sheila & Ivor Barnett.

Site Fee: £4.00 per night. NO ELECTRICTY Rally fee: £1.00 per person.

Booking slips to:..Nora Venables,15 Langley Gardens,Merry Hill,Wolverhampton.WV3 7JN.

Cheques payable to Nora Venables..Tel.No. 01902 332 105.

Attractions: Merry Hill Shopping Centre approx 4 miles,Black Country Museum & Dudley Zoo approx 6 mile,Cosford Air Museum approx 20 miles.Ample parking at all venues.

Outdoor Theatrical Co. Thursday/Friday/Saturday Agatha Christie Murder at the Vicarage. State on booking slip if you require Day Membership to the Golf Club.

Directions: From Wolverhampton A 449 to Himley,**turn left** at traffic lights onto B 4176 s.p. Dudley. Entrance on **left** in approx 600yds.

From Kidderminster A 449 to Himley traffic lights,**turn right** onto B 4176, then as above.

Please book before June 5th.

21st.-23rd. July. Annual Club & Company Rally, Three Counties Showground, Malvern.

Full details and booking form in the May Newsletter. Please note the closing date for bookings.

27th.-30th. July. (3 nights). Abbeygate College, Nr. Chester, Cheshire.

Emergency Tel.No. 01244 332 077.

Rally Marshals: Jean & Duncan Ellis.

Site Fee: £4.50 per night. NO ELECTRICITY Rally Fee: £2.50.

Booking slips to: Mr. & Mrs. D. Ellis, 6 Tudor Close, Shotton, Deeside, Flint. CH15 1NY.

Tel.No. 01244 812 761. Cheques payable to: D. Ellis.

Saturday evening buffet & dessert £4.50 per person. Send money with booking slip.

Directions: From North M6, M56, M53 take A41 s.p. Whitchurch. In approx 2 ½ miles after entering Waverton **turn right** for Saighton. Beware humpback bridge, carry on through village then left hand bends down hill - college gates on **left**.

From South A41 Whitchurch to Chester. After entering Waverton **turn left** at Black Dog. At T junction **left** over bridge then as above.

Will Rally Marshals please send me the information for their rallies for insertion in the Newsletter as soon as possible please. I require this at least three months before their rally.

If you are thinking of running a rally please contact me or the area assistant. 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.

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@nasuwt.net**

Local assistant: Jerry Haxton (01 483 223 476) Woking, Surrey.

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!

J

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?

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Please complete both sides of the form!

J

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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Number of people in your van: Adults..... Children.....

Names of Adults

Names of Children (including ages)

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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!

We were overwhelmed by all the kindness which was shown to us. The Senor, his wife and daughter were very supportive, taking me to the hospital each day and collecting me in the evening. The first night they invited me into their home and treated me like a member of the family, offering tea and biscuits. This kindness was not just confined to us, other campers received help of a practical kind as well. In fact the goodwill generated by this lovely family had a knock on effect with all who came to the site. We certainly hope to return to Ruta De La Plata for a reunion with the family and we shall highly recommend as many people as possible to go and spend time on this pretty site. Hundreds of sparrows like it as well.

Our special thanks go to all the Salamancan hospital staff, and others who so kindly helped us. How lucky we were!!!!

“Muchas Gracias...Hasta La Vista”

Prim Glover

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Flushed with Success

Our Flair has a Thetford cassette toilet fitted with electric flush supplied from the main water tank and pump system - standard fitment on many vans. This is fine for holidays but not so convenient for day trips when there is no need to carry the unnecessary weight of water, let alone the chore of filling and emptying the main tank each time you use the van!

My answer was to install a separate reservoir and pump. Space for the reservoir is limited so I opted for a flexible water carrier of the type used by hikers. I chose one made by Ortlieb which are available from Cotswold leisure shops. They are made from strong reinforced cotton backed material and have a large screw cap and tape loops sewn into both ends. I also used a small Whale submersible pump (Model GP 8815) which could easily pass through the wide neck of the water bag. The reservoir bag was mounted at the top right hand side of the rear wall of the toilet compartment using two cup hooks mounted on a short wooden batten that was screwed and glued to the plywood wall. But **CHECK** that there are no cables or pipes running behind the

panel! The position was checked before fixing by holding the reservoir in position through the rear cassette emptying door then sliding the toilet back into the cupboard and checking the clearance.

The delivery tube and cable from the Whale pump conveniently passed through the central hole in the cap after the drinking spout had been unscrewed and discarded. The existing water supply tube was cut close to its entry point at the bottom right of the cupboard. This prevents the chance of any subsequent snagging when the toilet is slid in or out. A short length of round metal bar (I used part of an old sliding barrel lock) was used to blank off the old supply and a straight tube connector was used to join the new pump to the toilet. Jubilee clips were used to secure all joints. The cable from the pump followed the same route as the existing electrical supply into the back of the unit. The push button switch on the top of the unit operates a small solenoid valve under the toilet bowl. I decided to leave this valve in place so that I could revert easily to conventional operation if required. The switch has a dual set of electrical connections that allow independent operation of two functions although only one side is used in the standard mode. A live connection was taken from the existing fused supply and wired to the pump through the unused switch connections. The other lead from the pump was linked to the earth connection in the strip connector located inside the right hand side of the toilet. Thus when the switch is operated, the pump and existing solenoid valve are activated allowing water to flow to the bowl.

It is a simple matter to unhook the reservoir, unscrew the cap and take the bag to any suitable tap for refilling. Typically I get about 20 flushes per fill. This modification has the added bonus of being able to add Aqua Rinse to the flush to give more effective wetting and thus cleaning of the bowl.

Peter Glaysher

May I suggest that if you are not sure what you are doing with either the plumbing or the electricians you do not try to copy this good idea. You could so very easily do much more harm than good!

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THE BELLS!

Regarding *John Pearce* asking, in his article *France Passion* in April, to know why the church bells ring twice. When we first heard them and made enquiries, we were told it was for the farm workers many years ago. They would be working away out in the fields and perhaps not hear the chimes properly. So they had an opportunity to listen to them again so they knew if it was tea time or going home time etc. Hope this is helpful.

Joy & Nigel Wilkins

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VW Problem

I have a petrol Clubman GL, 'L' reg. Over two years I had the same symptoms of the engine suddenly cutting out. It may take several hundred miles before the fault occurred but all I had to do was to turn the engine off and immediately on again for it to run for another hundred miles or so.

This became more regular and I decided to contact the local VW main dealer. He asked me if I had turned the engine on and off more than three times since the fault occurred and if not, bring it in to the garage and leave the engine running and they would connect it to their electronic computer diagnostic machine. This they did and found it was a small coil in the engine which controls the amount of fuel to the engine. Cost of repair was £58.00. No trouble since and I believe I am getting more mpg. The secret is not to turn the engine on and off more than three times after the fault occurs. It then gives the garage an opportunity to diagnose the fault with their machine. I hope this helps with *Pamela's* problem.

Tony Hutley

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DRAUGHTS

Is it any consolation that draught problems are not confined to the Talisman? But *Alwyn & Ray Pope* hit the nail on the head saying they feel such problems should not exist. We are summer motorhomers and so do not usually suffer in this way. What can

be an uncomfortable temperature and chill in winter can be welcomed coolness in summer heat! Our previous vehicle, a 1991 Legend, was delightful. Within the Ford chassis and outlet from the vehicle heater was placed in a small step between the cab and rear, feeding welcome air to the rear from the cab ventilation system. Cold in summer and heated when travelling in cold weather, much to the comfort of rear seat passengers. Why is it not possible for this degree of design to be applied by all chassis manufacturers, or agreement reached whereby converters could modify the base vehicle?

Our first trip in our new VW Medallion resulted in an obligatory blanket wrap for rear passengers to keep warm. The A-S suggestion is to ensure that roof vents are covered with the designed board when travelling. Also a sever draught hole at the rear seat-belt slot has been improved by introducing additional sealing by the fridge exterior vent. More to the point is the almost total lack of cab heating which passes to the rear of the vehicle to warm passengers. We set out not knowing if we have successfully removed the causes of draughts but will ensure that we are prepared with blankets, plastic sheet and tape, so that we can address any remaining problems. Perhaps we may "report back" on our return. Watch this space.

Muriel & Eric Ferbrache

In partial defence, may I point out that any motor vehicle must have various holes to allow pedals and things to get through the floor. In addition, if we must have interior gas heaters, fridges, water heaters and the like, together with sinks and showers, there must be more holes for hoses and for essential ventilation. I can recall an item in the newspapers, when that lighthouse was being shifted back from the edge of the cliff, about the death of a caravanner from asphyxiation. Apparently most, if not all, of the ventilation had been covered, presumably to retain warmth and avoid draughts. Unfortunately, the individual went to sleep in the van and did not wake up again! So please, PLEASE, be very careful when you "seal" things!

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SCOTLAND

Should you be coming up to Scotland this year? Try to make time to visit the South West coast. Threave Gardens and Castle Kennedy should not be missed. In late May and early June the rhododendrons are in full bloom. There are various sites in the area, many of them in or near town centres such as Castle Douglas, Dalbeattie and Kirkcudbright. Gatehouse of Fleet is a gem, again in the town and last June cost just £6.00 per night including electricity. (From Castle Douglas into Gatehouse, over river and then second right.)

Perhaps on to Newton Stewart and up towards Girvan with a stop over at Glen Trool Forest Park might suit? (Midges July and August!) Girvan town centre (commercial site) or the Caravan Club sites at Culzean Castle, the Ranch at Maybole and don't miss Ayr (pre-booking probably required here).

Hope this whets your appetite!! Of course, it could be said that I am biased.

George Gilchrist

The site at Ayr is very pleasant, but oh! those midges! Each equipped with the largest natural pneumatic drills you could wish for!

====ooo000ooo====

Door Pockets

I recently fitted a passenger door pocket to my 1998 Peugeot Boxer based Ravenna. The job takes about 10 minutes. The parts required are: 1 door pocket - part no. P0000939Q8; 4 screws - part no 6925P4 (not on my invoice so may be included with pocket); 4 clips (plugs) - part no. P00006991P2. The total cost, including VAT, was £13.52 from my local Peugeot dealer.

To fit, simply feel over the door panel lining to find the 4 indentations in corresponding positions to the driver's door pocket fixing screws. Push a screwdriver through the door lining at these positions. Then push the 4 clips (similar to fat rawlplugs) into the holes in the doorpanel. Finally fit the pocket by screwing into the

4 plugs.

I'm not sure if this only applies to later Boxer models, so check the door panel for the four holes **before** buying the parts!

Dave Folwell

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Aires de Service

Over the past year mention has been made in the Newsletter of a useful publication for travellers in France. This is the "Guide Officiel des Aires de Service". Last year copies were withdrawn because errors had caused problems. The publication is now available from the Camping and Caravanning Club as shown in their Carefree Travel Service Brochure 2000, page 118. The price is to be arranged. Perhaps the Caravan Club and others may offer the same guide.

Lilian and John Coates

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PHOTO COMP.

At the risk of being boring may I remind you again that the closing date for the competition this year is **30th June 2000**. **Please** send entries in and help to make this the best competition ever. You must all have a masterpiece tucked away somewhere! Make sure you put your name, address, membership number and a title for your photo on a label on the back. As entries cannot be returned don't forget that any of the commercial developers and printers can easily make a copy even if you have lost the negative.

Think of the possible reward of a prize of **£10.00**, **£20.00** or even **£30.00!** Send your entries to me at 4 Southbrook Road, Havant, Hants., PO9 1RN.

Pam Davies

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FOR SALE



Bulldog wheel clamp, model 210/DF, suitable for 13" to 15" wheel size and 175/185 or 195/200 tyre width. Previously used on my Clubman. Buyer collects or arrange mutual transfer. £30.00. Bryan Phillips, 012 5254 3938 or write to 15 Priory Street, Farnborough, Hants., GU14 7HX.

#####

Ford Legend, 1991 'J' reg, 2.5 diesel. 2/4 berth. 42,000 miles. 3 owners. Extras include Omnistor 5000 awning, Omnistor foldaway step, bulkhead partition (supplied by A-S) to form large storage space in Luton. All original fixtures, crockery etc. £15,000.00. Phone Roy Lockwood on 014 2561 4897 or write to 27 Keyworth Avenue, Barton on Sea, New Milton, Hampshire, BH25 7HX.

#####

VW T4 Trident, High-top. 1994 'L' reg, 2 litre petrol. 22,000 miles. Power steering, radio/cassette, Propex heater, fly screens, Omnistor 5000 awning, Strike Back immobiliser/alarm, Eurovent (drive away) awning, rear rack to carry awning etc. New MOT. Non-smokers, no pets. Excellent condition. £15,000.00 ovno. Will meet at local mainland ferry port Lymington / Southampton / Portsmouth for viewing. Genuine reason for sale. Phone Gerry Underhill on 019 8386 5682 or write to 42A Forest Road, Winford, Sandown, Isle of Wight, PO36 0JY.

Thanks for the donation.

#####

Silver Screens, external, bagged. For Peugeot Boxer (Harmony). Only used one weekend. £40.00. Tripod feet plus 60 cm chrome leg, unused. £25.00. Tel: Roy Lefley on 015 3027 1073 or write to 4 Greenfield Road, Measham, Leicester, DE12 7LB.

Thanks for the donation.

#####

Hope Safe T Bar fitted with bike rack, to fit VW T4 or similar, together with bike rack. £210.00. Large Back Box (Back Packer) top opening. Cost £375.00 - £200.00. (The Back Box, T Bar and bike rack all interconnect together. Will split.) Free standing awning, used for two days. Cost £350.00 - £175.00. Telephone Chris or Ivan Simpson on 012 7087



3191 after 6.30 pm (but not between 13th and 29th May) or write to 22 Woodland Road, Rode Heath, Stoke on Trent, ST7 3TJ.

Thanks for the donation.

#####

Two full 6 kg propane LPG cylinders with regulators. £18.00 each. One full 4.5 kg Calor gas cylinder with regulator. £10.00. Tel: Baz Wellard on 013 2923 1259 or write to 18 Greenwood Close, Fareham, Hants., PO16 7UF.

#####

VW Trident, 2.0 petrol, April '94. 26,000 miles. One owner, excellent condition, alarm, immobiliser, new tyres, blown air heating, hot water, cab seats, Fiamma roll out awning. Taxed 6 months, MOT 12 months. Nearest £15,500.00. Please ring Gary or Pat Wanklin on 018 8683 2364 or write to 18 Beverley Way, Malvern, Worcs., WR14 1LA.

Thanks for the donation.

#####

Two folding bikes, small cheaper variety, in good condition. Surplus to requirements. Free, yes FREE! Phone Roy Worsley on 012 0465 1743 or write to 18 Beaumont Drive, Bolton, Lancs., BL3 4RZ.

#####

Talbot Express Executive, 2 litre petrol. Aug. 93 'L' reg. 19,500 miles. All usual A-S features. Extras include power steering, Fiamma awning, alarm and immobiliser, Status TV aerial. Non-smokers. Two previous owners. VGC. Taxed and ready for new season. £17,500.00 ono. Tel: Ruby & Frank



Stubbs on 013 0034 1510 or write to Park Lodge, Sydling Road, Cerne Abbas, Dorchester, Dorset, DT2 7JT. Stubbs on 013 0034 1510 or write to Park Lodge, Sydling Road, Cerne Abbas, Dorchester, Dorset, DT2 7JT.

#####

Fritiders Auto-Chalet annexe, to fit rear doors of hatchback car or camper van. Used four times (bought an A-S afterwards!) Cost £239.00, accept £80.00. Contact John Taylor on 016 2982 2028 or write to 5 Yokecliffe Drive, Wirksworth, Derbyshire, DE4 4EX.

#####

N reg Duetto, 2.5 diesel. 13,000 miles. Alarm Status TV aerial and booster. Full service history. Non-smokers, no pets. Wind out Omnistor 5000 awning. Every conceivable extra including alloy wheels and tow bar. 6 months tax and 12 months MOT. Excellent condition. Phone Pat or Geoff Scarrat on 0138 0830 982 or write to Algoma, 2A The Butts, Bratton, Nr Westbury, Wiltshire, BA13 4SW.

Thanks for the donation.

#####

Peugeot Boxer Symphony, September 1997, 'R' reg. 2.0 petrol, MWB. 9,000 miles, two berth, full service history. Power steering, toilet, shower, fridge, oven, water heater, blown air heating. Fiamma awning, Thatcham cat. alarm/immobiliser. One owner, excellent condition, non-smoker. £19,500.00. Please ring Barbara Rawlings on 013 9527 4129 or write to 51 Hawthorn Grove, Exmouth, Devon, EX8 4HD.

Thanks for the donation.

#####

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

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

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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