

AUTO-SLEEPER OWNERS' CLUB



**NEWSLETTER 141
JUNE 2000**

Cheerio!!.

This is IT! After this issue I shall hand over to your new Editor for further issues of **YOUR** Newsletter. I know that many of you have thought of it as my Newsletter but, as I have often said, without your contributions there would be no Newsletter at all.

So in future, please make sure that you do not send stuff in to me but to the new fella! Here is his name, address and telephone number:

Ian Day
10a Kingsley Road
Harrogate
North Yorkshire, HG1 4RB

Telephone No: 014 2388 0233

This information will, for this month anyway, be repeated on the back page of the Newsletter but I thought it would do no harm to mention it now. After all, some people may fall asleep after the first page of (hard work type) reading!

So there it is. My grateful thanks to all the contributors over the years and for the many letters of encouragement (and one or two complaints) that I have received. It has made the job interesting and enjoyable.

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Club & Company Rally

The AGM rally has been and gone and I'm sure that the place should be renamed "Tan 'Em" because of the sunshine we had. Now we must hope for much the same at Malvern. The rain dance - sorry - Morris dance has been called off for this year so here's hoping. And here's hoping too that lots of people volunteer to help with the running of the rally. Helping isn't difficult, often you just have to be there. So if you haven't filled your booking form in yet, don't forget to send the white sheet, properly completed please, with it. And if you have any sort of hobby that

you could bring along to show the rest of us, please do it. We don't ask you to bring your garden if you are a keen gardener but perhaps you could bring some photos of it and discuss it with others. Or any other hobby which you may enjoy and in which people could easily take an interest. Everything adds to the enjoyment of the weekend.

So don't be shy! Give a little of your time and see just what you will get out of it. There speaks the voice of experience! And I really mean that. I have found that the more you put in to anything, the less work you seem to do and the more enjoyment you get. Go on, try it and see!

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BOXER SPRINGS

I was interested in the comments in the April Newsletter. Our 1991 Talbot Express Harmony developed awful squeaking from the rear suspension a couple of years ago. The advice for remedial work ranged from spraying the springs with water to replacing the bushes. I have to say that I am not very well acquainted with vehicle parts but did realise that spraying with water in the South of France in the summer was not going to be a great help. I did spray the springs and adjacent parts with various greases and this worked for short periods. We spent many weeks in France and it seemed that every other evening I would be under the vehicle spraying grease or oil. I was not impressed. My wife even less so. It was she who tried to get my clothes clean!

On our return to the UK, Peugeot suggested that the bushes needed replacing and this was confirmed by a Peugeot Dealer. The work was done and the squeaking returned soon after - when it had stopped raining! I felt, in my ignorance (what is a 'spring end pivot mounting'?), that the answer lay with lubrication and so the body of the vehicle was lifted yet again. The rear wheels were removed and grease pumped into every possible crevice, between the leaves of the springs, above and below the springs and in and around all the parts to which the springs are attached. After a few days of continued silence, the springs and their connecting parts

were bound in the greased tape used for repairing roofing, guttering etc., and obtained from a local DIY store. (I think that it is called, or made by, Sylglass.) The body was again lifted so that the suspensions was expanded and about three rolls of 2" wide tape were used. To ensure that no moisture could get at the springs, an electric paint stripper was used slightly to soften the surfaces which were then smoothed down. The final act was to apply two coats of underseal to the tape and to any parts not covered by the tape.

All this was done eight months ago - and Oh! What bliss! I can't guarantee the work, or how long it will last. But it has worked on our vehicle and, for those who don't know, we do have long periods without rain in Wales. The cost has been negligible. One final point. Our Harmony is often used as an everyday vehicle. It gets taken into the mountains on fishing expeditions, sometimes on uneven tracks. At other times it is on normal roads so it is getting a fair test.

David Bunyan

I recall being told in Wales that it must be summer because the rain was warm!

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PETERBOROUGH RALLY

Much has been said about Rally Marshals. In fact one wonders just what else there is to say. But we would like to put in our two pennyworth. We are sure that we speak on behalf of all ASOC members who attended in saying a big thank you "for service beyond the call of duty".

It was cold, it was wet and where they deterred? Not a bit of it! Always present, always cheerful; an example to us all. Well done, all the marshals, and many, many thanks.

Diana & Keith Rhodes

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Chairman's Chat



As those of you who came to the AGM at Banham Zoo will know, there have been a number of changes to your Committee - one of which explains why these notes are written this month by a different hand. [And why the "Chairman" to the left has now lost his hat! - Ed.] I know that all members would wish to thank *Andrew Entwistle* for his work for the Club during his three years as Chairman. During that time, we registered under the Data Protection Act, we registered for VAT (both of these as required by law) and we amended the Constitution to comply with the more strict interpretation of Exemption Certificate rules being applied by the DETR (Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions - in case you wanted to know). Fortunately, *Andrew* remains on the Committee, and although he now holds no specific office, he will continue to help in the search for alternative venues for the AGM.

Harry Henthorne retired from the Committee, of which he had been a member from the earliest days of the Club, and again we must thank him for editing so many issues of the Newsletter. Harry took over at number 23, and since then has typed in at least a million words on our behalf. *Janet Sutterby* stood down after over six years as Minutes Secretary. I don't know how many words she wrote during that time, but she certainly recorded - and listened to - many miles of tape. Thank you, *Harry and Janet*, for all you have done.

To the new Committee members elected at the AGM - Welcome! You will enjoy it! The names of Committee members for 2000 - 2001, and their roles within the Club, are given on a list enclosed with this newsletter. Please keep it and make sure that you contact the right person if you have any query or comment. Any general correspondence should, of course, be sent to the Secretary.

I hope in future months to use this column to comment on matters of interest to the Club. However, perhaps next time I may be allowed a few personal remarks.

Ray Whiley

[That depends on how personal the remarks are - and about whom!]

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Photo Competition

This is the last reminder for the competition. To date (it is late April as I write) I have only received five entries. I shall be very disappointed if the competition has to be cancelled due to lack of support. So come on, folks, get snapping! You still have the rest of this month to do something about it. Last year there were thirty one entries. With a Club the size of ours we really ought to be able to better that. So, my friends, please don't let me down. Send your entries in to me at 4 Southbrook Road, Havant, Hants., PO9 1RN. Thank you.

Pam Davies (Mrs)

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CAMPER VANS

I am writing to you regarding a recent booking I tried to make to take my camper van on a day trip to France. I was informed that to take a camper van for a day would cost me **£413.00** (after allowing for a **10%** discount as I am a point-plus member) which was based on a **5** day minibreak ticket. It appears that you do not offer a promotional fare to camper vans but that they are available for vans and mini-buses. In fact, I was quoted **£248.00** as a promotional fare for a day return for a mini-bus. Many campers are smaller than people carriers which enjoy the benefit of being regarded as the same as a car in your charging structure, but have to use the single deck carriages because of their height. It is bad enough to be discriminated against compared with drivers of people carriers, but it really adds insult to injury when we cannot be treated the same as a mini-bus that can carry up to **17** people.

Could you kindly explain the following: Why are campers not regarded the same as people carriers? Why promotional fares are not available to camper vans? As I believe there are many camper drivers who feel the same as I do, I have copied this letter to other interested parties. I look forward to your reply.

David Pocknee

This is a copy of a letter sent to the Euro Tunnel people and is self explanatory. We have been promised that details of any reply will be sent to us.

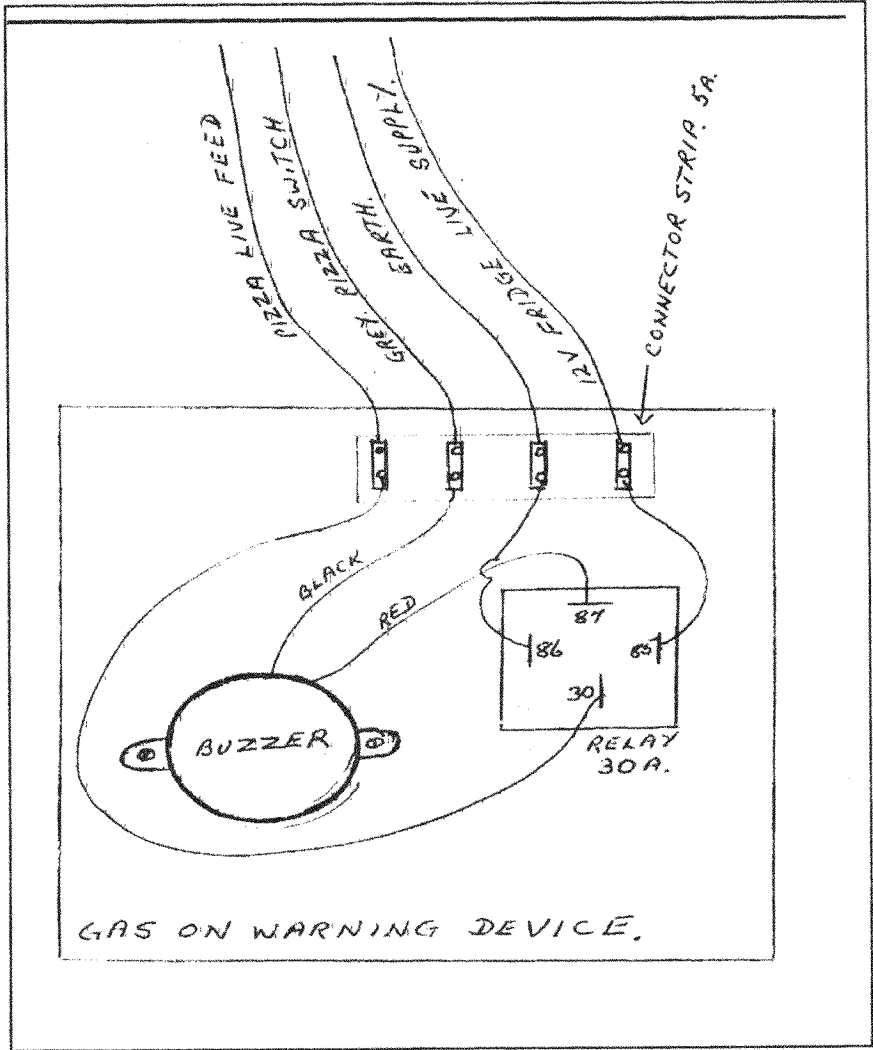
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FRIDGE PROBLEMS

I seem to recall that someone wrote regarding campers under way with refrigerators operating on gas as the owners had forgotten to change over to 12v. Well, I was not at all keen on having lights to warn me as you cannot see them in the day time and they can be a nuisance at night. Several times I have had fridge trouble as I expect many others have, believing that the trouble was the van not being level. Many will have moved and in fact improved the performance of the fridge. Now I have a theory that seems to work for me. The only time I had fridge problems was after I had driven some distance before realising I was still on gas. Yes, I have improved performance by levelling up. After taking my fridge right out of the van I set it up on the workshop bench, coupled up a gas pipe and battery and set it going. Firstly I had a small flame and secondly it was offset to the chimney pipe. Now this tells me that if I tilt the fridge more of the flame will go up the chimney and the fridge will work better. Hence the belief that the levelling matters. Next I used a blow lamp pricker in the gas jet. The flame was nearly three times as big. No matter how much I tilted the fridge there was plenty of flame going up the chimney. In this case levelling didn't make any difference. How often when travelling do we park in a car park, put the fridge on gas and walk away. No problem with it and we don't even bother to level up, we take the first space we can find.

This is my theory. When you travel with the gas on, small

bits of dirt are jumping up and down in the gas pipes with the vibration and the flow of gas towards the gas jet carries them along to block the jet. Hence the need to make sure you are perfectly level to get the most efficient position to suit the small flame from the partly blocked jet.



So I had the problem devising a warning system to stop me driving off when the fridge was on gas without any indicating lights. This is the simple system I came up with. It is made with a piece of 4 ply wood about 4' square, a relay of 30 amps (Halfords), a strip of four 5 amp electrical connectors and a small 12 volt buzzer (Any radio spares shop about £1.50) plus 4 spade terminals and one scotch lock.

The four connectors when assembled connect to the live side of the 12v. supply to the fridge, another to the dead side of the Pizza lighter switch. This connection is to the grey wire as this switch switches the negative side, not the positive side. Another one goes to the live side of the Pizza feed and the final one to an earth. All these are found on top of the fridge and there are no wires travelling any distance or under the dash. When your fridge is on gas and you turn the ignition switch the buzzer will warn you. The unit, wires and all are hidden on top of the fridge. I must point out here that my fridge is a standard 3 way Electrolux. You may have to modify if you have another make. I hope this may be of use to members.

Wally King

This item has been sitting on the spike for a long time now and has just surfaced. But better late than never! By the way, I think that it should be the Piezo lighter!

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Thanks

Thanks to *Dave Folwell* for his tip on passenger door pockets. Mine cost me a penny more than his but was well worth the £13.53 and ten minutes DIY. "Er Indoors" is very happy now she has somewhere extra for her bits a pieces.

Just an idea. I recently bought a computer mouse holder from Pound Stretcher for 99p. I stuck it up in the shower room of my Symphony and it has made a perfect soap holder.

Incidentally, I recently priced a return ferry journey from

Dover and was shocked by the quotation from P & O. so I shopped around and was pleased to find that I could save over £100.00 by going with Hoverspeed for £215.00 return from Dover to Ostend. Does anyone know of any better deals, please?

Peter Kelly

Well - recently some people rowed across the channel and sometimes people swim but...

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Club & Company Rally

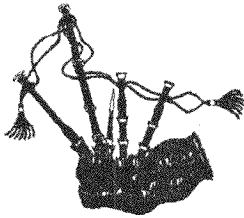
Planning for this years C & C "Millennium" Rally is progressing to schedule. By the July Newsletter *Charles Trevelyan* and I should be able to give you more detail of what the weekend can offer by way of entertainment.

In the meantime, may I ask you to support the "Charity Stall" organisers by thinking about what you can bring along. Items will be wanted for the Bric-a-Brac stall (*Margo Lumb*); the Book stall (*Sheila Henthorne*) - **NO** magazines please; the Cakes and Cookies stall (*Carol Hooper*); and the Bottle stall (*Barbara Cox*) - FULL bottles please but not necessarily of booze. Sauce, milk, soft drinks etc. are all acceptable. Your offers should be passed direct to the respective "stall holders" or to the Avon Hall steward (*Jim Henwood*) just after your arrival at the show ground. If you could help on any of the stalls for a short time please contact me and I will pass your offer on.

It is not too late for more volunteers to bring along and exhibit your hobbies. This always shows just what a wide range of skills there is in the Club. Again, please contact me if you have not already indicated your offer on the "white" part of your booking form.

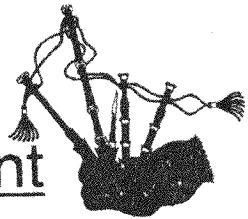
Finally, please don't forget that for administrative purposes the bookings for the rally **MUST** close on 7th July 2000. Unfortunately, **NO** further bookings can be accepted after that date. The only alternative is to pay the extra £10.00 fee at the gate when you arrive if you have not previously booked.

Baz Wellard



June 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. Please complete BOTH sides of the Rally Slip.

31st.December 2000 - 2nd.January 2001.Hidden Valley T.P.,Nr. Barnstaple, North Devon.

If you are interested in this rally please contact Sandra & Bernie Wisely on 01271 346 400 or send a SAE to 12 The Laurels, Roundswell Village, Barnstaple, North Devon. EX31 3QY. This is an extremely popular rally please apply early.

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,Hawkstone 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.

Rally Marshals:Helen & George Gilchrist.

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

TOILETS are now available on site.

N.B. Special deal on ferry fares with Western Ferries from Gourock to Dunoon, Van & Driver £4.80 Passenger £1.30, Total fare £6.10. 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 Tighnabruaich 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 FULL 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.**SORRY THE SITE DOES NOT ALLOW DOGS**
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.Further information is available on Stones Leisure website stoneleisure.com 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.

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 ELECTRICITY 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 & desert £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 Saughton. 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.

3rd -6th. August. (3 nights). Beacon Park, Lichfield, Staffs.

Rally Marshals: Tricia & Ted Pratt 01283 538818.

assisted by Barbara & John Cox. 01262 671 762.

Site Fee: £4.00 per night. NO ELECTRICITY. Rally Fee: £2.00.

This is virtually a GREEN FIELD site, public & disabled toilets are available in Beacon Park.

You may arrive on Thursday evening.

Booking slips & cheques payable to: Mrs. P.M. Pratt, 3 Grafton Rd., Stapenhill, Burton-on-Trent, Staffs, DE15 9DN. Tel.No. 01283 538818.

Attractions: Saturday evening Jacket Potato meal, dessert and drinks £ 3.50 per head, pay with booking slip.

Beacon Park is adjacent to Lichfield City Centre and Cathedral. Park attractions include small golf course, pitch & putt, tennis courts & bowls.

Directions: Beacon Park is situated in Lichfield just off the A51 Tamworth to Rugeley road. Go around the Island with the Bowling Green pub in the middle, take the A51 Rugeley/Stafford road, *turn immediately right* down Walsall Rd. then *left* into Lower Sandford Street, follow signs for Car Park Beacon Park, through the car park keeping to the *right*.

6th-11th. August. (5nights). Roundhill Camp,Nr.Lyndhurst,New Forest.

You may stay earlier or later on the main camp site through the normal site wardens.

Site Tel. No. (Marshal's mobile 07879 473 434 *Emergencies only*).

Rally Marshals: Dorothy & Baz Wellard.

Site Fee: £8.00 per night. NO ELECTRICITY. Rally Fee:£2.50 (Singles £1.50).

Booking slips to: Mr. & Mrs. B. Wellard,18 Greenwood Close, Fareham,Hants.PO16 7UF.

Tel.No. 01329 231 259. Cheques payable to Mrs.D.A.Wellard.

Attractions:GREEN FIELD rally site (toilets in 200yds) attached to the main camp site at Roundhill,New Forest,Nr. Brockenhurst.Site is in the middle of the New Forest with many attractions including:- walks,cycle rides;plenty of good taverns : Exbury Gardens.Beaulieu Abbey/House and motor museum,wagon rides, Bucklers Hard period exhibition plus interesting villages.Southampton and Lymington can be reached by train from Brockenhurst. Possible joint lunch/B-B-Q's pic-nics;or whatever.

Directions:Leave M27 junction 1(Cadnam) and go South on A337 through Lyndhurst.Three miles after leaving Lyndhurst **turn left** off A337 onto B3055(immediately after Balmer Lawn Hotel)following the signs to Roundhill Camp Site in approx 1½ miles on the **right**.Please bring membership card for entry. Maximum 40 vans.

10th-13th.August. (3 nights).Peacock Inn,Cutthorpe,Nr.Chesterfield,Derbyshire.

Site Tel.No. 01246 232 834 (*Emergencies only, Landlord*).

Rally Marshals: Pam & Ted Hancock and Jan & Vic Hicklin.

Site Fee: £3.00 per night. NO ELECTRICITY. Rally Fee:£1.00 + 50p per person.

Blocks will be essential on the field.Use of toilets in daytime otherwise GREEN FIELD site.

Booking slips to:Mrs.J.Hicklin,381 Manor Road,Brimington,Chesterfield,Derbyshire.S43 1PP
Tel.No. 01246 236 157. Cheques payable to Mrs.J.Hicklin.

Attractions:Bar meals available the site is on a bus route to Chesterfield with its famous crooked spire.Open air markets Friday & Saturday.The site is on the edge of the Peak Park, 6 miles from Chatsworth House & Park and close to Bakewell & Matlock.The site is a good starting point for walks around Linacre Reservoir.

Directions: 3 ½ miles West of Chesterfield.Take the **B6051** out of Chesterfield-signposted NEWBOLD,BARLOW for 2 ½ miles.At crossroads **turn left** into Cutthorpe B6050 signposted BASLOW,site 1 mile on **left**.

18th-20th.August(2 nights).Penrchar,Upper Minety,Nr.Malmesbury,Wilts.

Site Tel.No. 017713283030 Emergencies only(Owner's mobile).

Rally Marshals:Hazel & Eric Wilton.

Site Fee:£3.50 per night. Rally Fee:£2.00 (singles £1.00).There are a limited number of electrics (primarily for disabled members) available.Payment at the rally please.

Entertainment:£1.00 per person.Please pay when booking.

ONE toilet & ONE shower on site.There are few provisions available locally so come prepared.

Booking slips to:Mrs.H.Wilton,17 Rock Rd.,Keynsham,Bristol.BS31 1BP.Tel.No 0117 986 0942.

Attractions: A quiet Motor Caravan Club site on the Wiltshire/Gloucestershire border. The Cotswold Water Park is nearby.Cirencester and Bath are both well worth a visit.A skittle competition will be held during the weekend.The site owner has kindly offered to organise a barbecue on the Saturday evening - cost unknown at present.Please indicate on slip if interested. This will be followed by musical entertainment.

Directions:Turn North off B4040(Malmesbury to Cricklade road) for Minety.Through village to Upper Minety.Site on **left** leaving village.

21st.-25th.August,(4 nights).Countryways,Alfold,Nr.Guildford,Surrey.

Emergency Tel.No. 01403 753 589.

Rally Marshals:Sally & Jerry Haxton.

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

GREEN FIELD SITE.Toilet,emptying point & water on rally field.

Booking slips to:Mr. & Mrs.D.Haxton,"Almond Tree House"Send Hill,

Send,Woking,Surrey.GU23 7HR. Tel.No. 01483 223 476. Cheques payable to:S.Haxton.

Attractions:Rally field in"Country Park" with well stocked farm shop,coffee shop,Victorian walled garden,farm museum,animals etc.Large social club in main house with snooker and pool tables,darts.Fishing lake available for use,bring licence.Meal & skittles one evening.

Directions:Take A281 Guildford to Horsham road,at Alfold Crossways turn off s.p. Alfold.Immediately turn **right** s.p.Dunsfold and follow Brown Farm Cart signs to site,approx 1 ½ miles. **Limit 25 vans.**

24th.-29th.August (5 nights). Van Bitz,Cornish Farm,Shoreditch,Taunton,

Somerset.

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

Rally marshals: Betty & Andrew Entwistle.

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

Booking slips to:Mr. & Mrs. M.A.Entwistle,8 The Dell,Mytholm,Hebden Bridge,West Riding of Yorkshire,HX7 6DP. Tel.No. 01422 843 057.Cheques payable to: M.A. Entwistle.

Attractions:Taunton the county town of Somerset with castle and many historic buildings. Nearby is Wilton House,there are many small villages worthy of a visit.

Directions:From M5 junction 25 follow signs for Taunton.At first set of traffic lights at Creech Castle **turn left** s.p. Corfe B3170.Take 3rd. **left** into Ilminster Road again follow signs for Corfe.Bear **right** at roundabout onto Blackbrook Way.Bear **left** at next roundabout and follow road to the end "T" junction which is the B 3170.**Turn right** and then take the next **left** into Killams Drive.Take 2nd. **left** into Killams Avenue and follow the road passing housing estate and finally over motorway bridge.Cornish Farm is immediately after the bridge on the **left** hand side.

IGNORE the first entrance to the main house-proceed to the second entrance(with C.L.sign) which is a little further along the road into the orchard. **LIMIT of 30 vans.**

25th.-29th.August.(4 nights). "Wonderful Wensleydale",The Wensleydale School,Richmond Road,Leyburn,North Yorks.

Emergency Tel. No. 0771 409 1349 (Marshal's mobile 8-10 a.m. & p.m.,voice messages 24hrs).

Rally Marshals: Pauline & Neil Rogers.

Site Fee:£3.50 per night. No Electricity. Rally Fee:£2.50(couples)£1.50(singles).

THIS IS A GREENFIELD site, NO TOILETS.

Booking slips to N.C. & P. Rogers,3 Appleby Close, Aldbrough-St.-John,Richmond, North Yorks.DL11 7TT. Tel.No. 01325 374 540. Cheques payable to: N.C. & P. Rogers.

Attractions: Hardstandings(tarmac tennis courts) blocks required,access to room in the evenings. Wensleydale Show during weekend.Market day Friday.Cheese making at Hawes,violins at Leyburn,Aysgarth Falls,Middleham and Bolton Castles,Jervaulx Abbey,Racehorses on the gallops.The Black Sheep Brewery,the Teddy Bear Workshop,Tea Pottery and Dairy Ice

Cream at Brymor.

Directions: From A1 North/South take the A 684 at Leeming Bar.s.p.Leyburn/Hawes.Go into town centre at Leyburn and take A6108 S.P.Richmond. School on **right** in approx. 300 metres

30th.August -4th.September.(5 nights).Shoreham Air Show.

On site mobile 0411 021 498.(Emergencies only).

Rally Marshals:Yvonne & Barry Loveland.

Site Fee:£2.00 per night Rally Fee:£2.00. Airshow tickets £14.00 per adult,£8.00 per child. (Saturday & Sunday inclusive).**Payable in advance.**

This is a **GREEN FIELD** site with **NO ELECTRICITY**.There is a water tap and loo emptying.A generator is available for battery charging.

Booking slips & cheques payable to:Mr.A.N.Fowler,20 Hawkins Close,Shoreham by Sea, West Sussex.BN43 6TL. Tel.No. 01273 594 479.

Attractions:Two day Airshow with on ground entertainment.Cycle rides & dog walks from site.

Saturday evening buffet meal @ £3.00 each.

Thursday evening Airport tour @ £3.00each.

Please state and pay in advance, send SAE for confirmation of booking.

Please state van model for organisational purposes.

Directions:On A27 between Brighton and Worthing.Leave A27 at traffic lights opposite Sussex Pad Hotel and turn into Airport(**This is the only entrance for motorvans**).

Please do not arrive before 10.00 a.m. on Wednesday. Restricted to first 30 vans.

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!

f

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.....

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!

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.
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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!

AGM - Banham Zoo

Just to say a big "Thank You" for giving me your vote on Saturday 6th May. As I have been appointed Press Officer here is my first attempt.

For weather the AGM at Banham Zoo could not be faulted. Wall to wall blue sky and sunshine for all three days. The site too was ideal, flat clear rally field, constant piping hot water in the toilet blocks (open 24 hours) and the function room used on both nights was made to measure. And what a lovely change being able to talk. The taped background music and the band both allowed plenty of talk and comments.

And comments there were! In spite of all the hard work put in by *Nora Venables* and her sub-committee there was, unfortunately, a serious blip regarding the meal on Saturday evening. This resulted in some members having to wait for two and a half hours for their food. Apparently this was caused by several of the catering staff being away from work due to sickness. Unfortunately, the information was not given to *Nora* or the sub-committee until the following Sunday morning. *Nora* and *Ray Whiley* have already discussed the problem with the site manager and chef and it seems that alternative catering arrangements will be possible in the future.

Barbara Potter

If Only.... we had been told right up to the start of the meal I'm sure that we could have found willing helpers among our members. We could have helped with the "waitering" or even the carving and there would have been a lot of laughter and joking instead of complaints. When will people learn that a trouble shared is a trouble halved?

====oooOOOooo=====

Membership Subs

Mention was made of this matter during the Open Forum after the ACM and it has prompted the famous poet A Nonny Mouse to pen the following:

The members of A S O C
Consider their Membership fee
A small price to pay
When they think of the way
That their Newsletter's thrown in for free!

Also, as a result of a comment about the actual present day value of £15.00 he (or she) added the following:

A spin doctor's mate in Whitehall
Was lost to mathematical thrall
When he found that his weight
Times nought over eight
Was half the square root of damn all!

It was pointed out that the latter limerick was "not the original - but the original is not exactly fit for printing".

#####

Also during the Open Forum *Barbara Cox* made an impassioned plea for items to be brought, particularly for the bottle stall. As she said, you don't have to spend a lot of money on a bottle of gin or whisky. But if you and two or three of your friends chipped in with, say, 50p each, you could perhaps provide a bottle of wine. And anything in a bottle, mustard, spices, sauces or whatever all adds to the fun. So think about it, please, and make a small contribution. The same goes for the cake stall - if you don't provide something there will be nothing for others (or you!) to buy. And then where would our chosen charity be?

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A PUZZLE

Memories of last year at Malvern prompts me to put in a copy of one of the puzzles which our friends from Comfort Insurance offered. Answers on page 19.

Find the hidden saying

1 GSEG EGSG SSGE	3 YYY MEN <i>Swissman</i>	5 LE VEL	4 1D 5U 2R 6L 3A 7A 4C	6 EVER EVER EVER EVER EVER	8 ALE CIDER WHISKEY COKE TONIC HOUSE
7 GIVE GET GIVE GET GIVE GET GIVE GET <i>As good as go</i>	9 SYMPHO	10 HO-ROB-OD	12 123456 7 SAFETY 8 123456	11 DIAL	13 R K CLOCK O C <i>Redwood</i>
14 FEW FEW MENTION MENTION	15 R O ROADS D S <i>Road</i>	16 TONE TONE	17 ABCDEFGHIJ KLMNOPQR STUVWXYZ	18 T R O M S S H O R T S H O R T	19 ECNALG
20 BAN ANA	21 CYCLE CYCLE CYCLE	22 B A E DUMR	23 VAD ERS	24 LINE READING LINE	25 ONE T S
26 BBBBB BBBBB BBBBB BBBBB BBBBB BBBBB	27 <i>Redwood</i> FA RED CE	28 O O	29 MOON THE	30 A CHANCE N	31 WAY PUBLIC
32 LUNCH LUNCH LUNCH	33 12 00 PLACE	34 MAIL MALE	35 DAY THE	36 SKATING I I I I I <i>SAINT</i>	37 FRESHEN UP
38 Dr. DORIS	39 NOVEL R U T	40 B K	41 WEAR LONG	42 COAST COAST COAST	43 ALL NIGHT
44 i i BAG BAG	45 20 SETTLE SETTLE	46 NOOS	47 ENDER FARM	48 JUST 144 ICE	49 P M A D

SPLIT CHARGE RELAYS

We once had a problem with charging the leisure battery when travelling with the fridge on 12v. The fuse in the feed from the relay to the leisure battery had got mangled in the bonnet stay (as reported in the Newsletter some 3 years or so ago). Subsequently I fitted a voltmeter to monitor either the main or the leisure battery. On a 200 mile run home a week or two ago I noticed, just before we stopped for lunch, that the leisure battery was down to 11 volts. This time the fuses checked out OK so on starting up after lunch, with no pick-up in volts at the leisure battery I tapped the relay, thinking that it might have stuck. At the second attempt charging started so we went home and I began to think of getting a new relay. Just in time the May issue of MMM came along with a letter about earthing for the split charge relay. I dismantled my relay (very rusty self-tapper holding it on), cleaned the terminals, fixed it back with the next larger size of self tapping screw and vaselined all parts. Now it is all back working again. Cost - virtually nil - I can't remember how much I paid for a dozen self tappers years ago. Vaseline was left over for a longer period. Half an hour's work - some of it bent over the bonnet.

Jim Cresswell

---==ooO00Ooo==---

Harmony Matters

I collected my "W" reg Harmony on 4th April and would be pleased to exchange thoughts with someone who has had this model longer. Especially I would like to compare notes about what can be stored where inside it. I camp regularly with the local section of the Camping and Caravanning Club. There are plenty of A-S owners but nobody with a Harmony so far.

My address is 96 Beaumont Street, Milehouse, Plymouth, PL2 3AQ if anyone would care to write.

Ann Chiswell

A list of likes and dislikes was enclosed and I shall send a copy to The Orchard for their attention. Many of the dislikes are items which, to many of us, are fairly obvious and have been easily

overcome. But any Harmony owners are invited to write and compare notes.

====ooo000ooo====

Flushed with Success - 2

I refer to the article in the May Newsletter - surely this should have been meant for the April 1st copy. Some people who worry about weight may take the article seriously and go to the expense that *Peter Claysher* suggests and attempt to carry out a totally un-necessary job as well as devaluing the toilet system in their vehicles.

I make the following suggestions. 1. Carry an empty five litre water container and put in water on arrival on site. 2. 'Aqua Rinse' can be added directly to the flush tank. 3. There is no need to drain off what little water will be left in the flush tank unless there is the possibility of it freezing. Result: no cost- no worry about weight - little or no work or risky alteration.

John Johnson

====ooo000ooo====

Thoughts on being SOGed

Since first getting a motor caravan fitted with a cassette loo (one of the deciding factors when we chose it) we have always used 'AquaChem Green' as the digestant/disinfectant. However we have also become increasingly disenchanted with the chemical smell pervading the washroom and spreading to the van if the door was left open. Hearing about the chemical free SOG system we decided to get it fitted. This was accomplished at last year's Club and Company Rally.

Since then no chemical smells and no loo smells either if the procedure is correctly followed. Lift lid first. Open valve next to get the air flowing outwards. Then use. (Gentlemen sit down at all times). Other advantages. No expenditure on chemicals, no altitude spit back since the holding chamber is open to the

atmosphere. Emptying and rinsing can be done as often as you like without feeling that you are being wasteful of chemicals. Recommended.

Jim Cresswell

I feel sure that this will bring forth comments regarding the need to sit down at all times and the idea of the holding chamber being "open to the atmosphere". But that will be seen by the new Editor!

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

Help!

In June 1996 I bought my VW T4 Trident diesel, first registered in August 1994. I suspected that the Carver water heater tank could be leaking. As I was about to go abroad the local listed Carver dealer, instead of checking it, by-passed the heater water supply direct to the tap and so it is now.

Later I called, with the van, to the dealer where I bought it and was sold a new a 5.5^l Carver replacement - still boxed. After returning home I went to a second listed Carver dealer who said I did need a replacement but, after checking, disconnecting and removing the heater, found that I had been sold the wrong one. It should have been 11.5^l. They taped up the electrical connections and I paid for the work done.

I phoned the dealer from whom I bought the van and they said, eventually, that they could not get the smaller size and that the larger one should fit. I do not know what to do next to put the matter right and shall be glad of advice. My telephone number is 012 9231 7686.

Also I need a new plastic cover unit for my outside electric plug socket as the flap cover has broken off and disappeared. Where can I get this?

On another matter, I am concerned about my car insurance. I have a private car insurance and a long no claims record, until this year, when I had a windscreen and glass replacements

(damaged by vandals). The premium has shot up to £429.86 for comprehensive, any driver.

I simply have no idea what motorhome rates are like and wonder if the increase was largely due to the recent claim.

I telephoned the RAC about cover and was told that I would require to have wheel clamps fitted before they would insure. Presumably these would need to be fitted every time I parked. I assume they do mean outside wheel clamps as I do have a steering lock device. On studying my present policy I find there is no personal injury cover as I am "over 70 years" (just!). Also there is no cover for personal effects in a motorhome, or motor caravan as stated.

So I am really asking how my premium compares with other similar ones, or with single driver only, or even husband and wife driving. I have been driving for about 50 years and have not made any claim regarding my own driving.

Moirá Houldcroft

So far as the socket cover is concerned, perhaps a telephone call to The Orchard would help. After all, they fit the things! In relation to the insurance question, the answer is simply to "shop around". Comfort Insurance and Safeguard have specific policies for motorhomes and cover all sorts of things, including contents, gas explosions etc. Of course, there may be a difficulty with the age if you need to transfer to a new broker or company but you can do no harm by asking.

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Wanted

4 Blackberry Pattern Mugs. Contact Cosette & Ken Richards on 013 2389 1842 or write to the address shown under the "For Sale" items.

====ooo000ooo=====

FOR SALE

Talisman GL, 2.5 diesel, 'E' reg. 30,000 miles. Taxed and tested. Excellent condition. Non-smokers, no pets. £11,000.00. Tel: Ronald Wiggins on 014 5388 3762 or write to 33 Besbury Park, Minchinhampton, Stroud, Glos., GL6 9EN.



Thanks for the donation.

#####

Cabanon Motor Chalet free standing awning with open weave ground sheet. Bought new 1999, immaculate. Bargain. £285.00 ono. Lounger chair, green tubular frame, floral padded cushion. As new condition. £25.00 (cost £50.00). Folding table, white top/green legs, vgc. £12.00. Tel: Roy Lefley on 015 3027 1073 or write to 4 Greenfield Road, Measham, Leics., DE12 7LB.

#####

Spring Bouquet pattern crockery. 19 cups and saucers - 45p per set. 13 tea plates - 25p each. 3 cereal bowls - 30p each. 2 milk jugs - 25p each. 4 dinner plates - 50p each. Also three 3.9kg propane gas cylinders - £7.00 each. Contact Cosette & Ken Richards on 013 2389 1842 or mobile 07 970 154 638 or write to 15 Vale Road, Seaford, East Sussex, BN25 3EY.

#####

Hope Safe T Bar with towing attachment, plus fitting brackets, to fit VW Trident/Topaz. As new. £125.00. Large Back Box (Back Paka), top opening. Also as new. £125.00. Tel: Chris & Ivan Simpson on 012 7087 3191 after 6.30 pm or write to 22 Woodland Road, Rode Heath, Stoke-on-Trent, ST7 3TJ.

#####

Plaggo 50cc Zip SP scooter, red, alarm, 2 seater, storage box. FSH. 'P' reg. 80mpg. Cost £1600.00 - will accept £750.00. Scooter trailer with security locks, ramp, spare wheel, electric. Cost £390.00 - will accept £200.00. Contact Michelle & David Sessions on 011 3274 6187 or write to 4 Monkbridge Mount, Meanwood, Leeds, LS6 4HT.

====ooo000ooo====

ANSWERS TO PUZZLE

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. SCRAMBLED EGGS | 28. OVER THE MOON / |
| 2. THREE WISE MEN | ON THE MOON |
| 3. SPLIT LEVEL | 29. AN OUTSIDE CHANCE |
| 4. COUNT DRACULA | 30. PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY |
| 5. FOR EVER AND EVER | 31. GONE TO LUNCH / |
| 6. DRINKS ON THE HOUSE | OUT TO LUNCH |
| 7. FORGIVE AND FORGET | 32. TIME AND A PLACE FOR |
| 8. UNFINISHED SYMPHONY | EVERYTHING |
| 9. ROBIN HOOD | 33. POSTMAN |
| 10. SAFETY IN NUMBERS | 34. THE DAY BEFORE |
| 11. LAID BACK | 35. SKATING ON THIN ICE |
| 12. ROCK AROUND THE | 36. REPEAT FIRE / FIRING LINE |
| CLOCK | 37. DOC AND DORIS |
| 13. TOO FEW TO MENTION | 38. TURN UP FOR THE |
| 14. CROSSROADS | BOOK |
| 15. TWO TONE | 39. BOOK ENDS |
| 16. NOEL | 40. LONG UNDERWEAR |
| 17. SHORT BACK AND SIDES | 41. COAST TO COAST |
| 18. BACKWARD GLANCE | 42. ALL RIGHT ON THE NIGHT |
| 19. BANANA SPLIT | 43. BAGS UNDER THE EYES |
| 20. TRICYCLE | 44. SCORE TO SETTLE |
| 21. BERMUDA TRIANGLE | 45. BACK SOON |
| 22. SPACE INVADERS | 46. DOWN ON THE FARM |
| 23. READING BETWEEN THE | 47. GROSS INJUSTICE |
| LINES | 48. RISING DAMP |
| 24. CORNERSTONE | |
| 25. SWARM OF BEES | |
| 26. RED IN THE FACE | |
| 27. AU PAIR | |

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

Your Editor

Ian Day

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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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