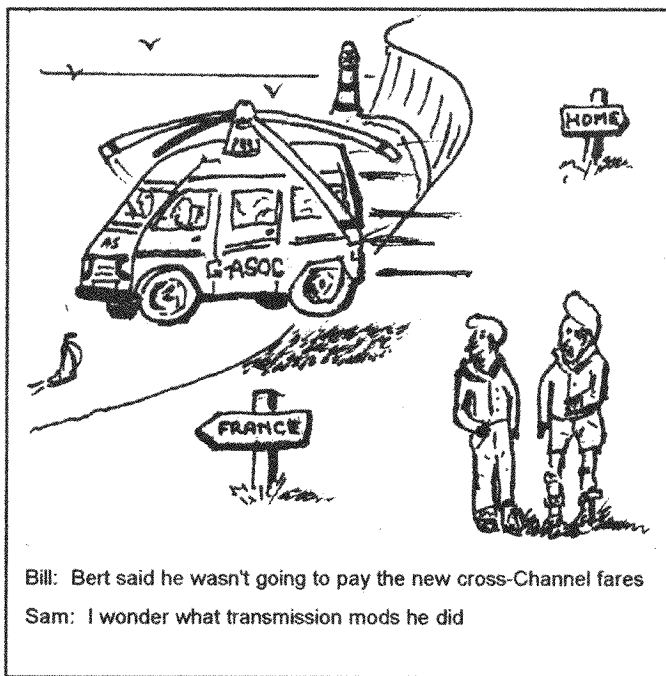




AUTO-SLEEPER
OWNERS' CLUB

Newsletter



Bill: Bert said he wasn't going to pay the new cross-Channel fares

Sam: I wonder what transmission mods he did

No. 142

July 2000

From the new Editor

Different - but the same

HARRY HENTHORNE edited the vast majority of the 142 issues of ASOC *Newsletter* dropped through letterboxes since the Club was formed. In this issue Charles Trevelyan pays tribute to him and to Sheila for their dedication, persistence and flair. Our President also says 'hail and farewell' to new and other recently-retired Committee members, and Baz Wellard previews the delights in store at the Club and Company Rally.

As Harry's successor I am grateful for the generous quantities of advice, information, and time he has given to ensure a smooth transition. If you have reason to complain in the future, it will be my, not Harry's fault.



YOU WILL HAVE NOTICED CHANGES in the 'look' of ASOC *Newsletter* which are partly because Harry and I have different computer software, but for other reasons, too. I thought it would be good to have the Club logo on the front page with the heading and sketch, and to gather all the editorial information together on the back page with the Committee details and contents list. You will see the tenth of each month is still the latest date for items to be received if the printers' deadline is to be met. Sorry, there can be *no* exceptions.

Altering the style and typeface means more words can be crammed into the pages, giving extra room for your contributions and other items. Don't hesitate to write in. That's what this newsletter is all about - members sharing news, experiences and opinions with each other. And because you write it, that's why it will stay substantially the same. Your contribution may give someone a holiday idea, or explain something that's been niggling them for years. I'll publish as much as space allows and also try to find room for other items members have suggested. With your input and careful editing to get a good balance, I hope ASOC *Newsletter* will long continue to be your favourite monthly reading.

And when you've read all the serious stuff, you might enjoy 'Sitting on the Step' (page 19) while Enoch tells one of his light-hearted tales of motorcaravanning, which you can believe or not.

Ian Day

The President writes

Harry Henthorne - our thanks!

AS YOU WILL, of course, now be aware, Harry has handed over editorship of the Club Newsletter to Ian, and I, with all of us, wish Ian all the best in this challenging job.

Perhaps our more recent members are not aware of the length of time Harry has been editing the Newsletter, so a little explanation may be enlightening.

Harry and Sheila joined the Club very shortly after it was formed in 1988. At this time Phil and Rita Daley were the stalwart Newsletter editors. They successfully held the reins until 1990 when Phil let it be known that he and Rita would like to be able to get away for a little over three weeks - this being the span between Newsletters' production. Phil and Rita were founder members of the Club. On visiting their house for the first time, I found that one downstairs room was fully occupied with a rather large printing press - noisy as you would expect, and with a nice smell of oil, too. How they put up with it I do not know.

With Issue No. 23 in August 1990 Harry stepped in and nobly edited each one from then up to No. 141 - 118 in all. During that time, Harry and Sheila wore out two computer printers and, whilst Harry put the Newsletter together, Sheila was the ever-loyal proof reader. A little arithmetic will show that, since every Newsletter contains approximately 18 pages, over the total number of issues produced by Harry, between three-quarters and a million words will have been typed. I think you will agree that was a wonderful achievement, because each issue has been enormously readable and, more importantly, reflects the spirit of the Club exactly as we would wish. I think we all owe Harry and, of course, Sheila, a very great debt of thanks.



Farewells and welcomes

MAY I ECHO the views of so many of our members in thanking Andrew Entwistle who has been such an excellent Chairman of the Club for the past three years. Andrew took over the reins from Arthur Irving and, I

think you will agree that with the aid of Betty he has done a really sterling job. We have all greatly appreciated Andrew's very caring and diligent approach to his role. He has been a ready listener and has always represented the wishes and views of Club members to the full. Following his re-election to the Committee he will largely be assisting in the organisation of the AGM Rally. In his place I welcome most warmly Ray Whiley as our new Chairman. We all know Ray well and I firmly believe that his meticulous attention to detail and his wisdom will be of great advantage to all of us in the Club.

At the AGM we said farewell also to Janet Sutterby who relinquished her rôle as Minutes Secretary. Janet is a real unsung heroine because minute-taking is certainly not easy, yet her's were always comprehensive, extremely accurate and most readable. Indeed, her's was the job I would have liked least and we give credit to Janet for taking it on with such good humour and with never an angry word. We will certainly miss the endless changing of cassettes in her tape recorder at Committee meetings, and thank her for her hard work whilst she was on the Committee. We warmly welcome to the Committee Barbara Potter, the new Minutes Secretary, and Stella Ross who takes on the task of Press Secretary. I am sure both will do a splendid job for us.

Charles Trevelyan

From the Rally Co-ordinator

Don't forget the rally slip

PLEASE REMEMBER that if you are attending *any* rally apart from the AGM and Club and Company, it is essential that you complete a rally slip and send it to the Marshal of that rally. This applies to the large shows (like York) where application forms are returned to the organisers, not the Club Rally Marshal. If you don't also complete and send a rally slip to the Club Marshal you cannot rally with the Club at those events.

Neil Rogers

Chairman's Warning

DURING THE ANNUAL DINNER at Banham Zoo on 6 May, two members verbally abused one of the catering staff. One of our volunteer

members selling raffle tickets was also abused.

This behaviour will not be tolerated. I must remind members of Clause 4 of the Constitution:

'The Committee shall have the right to refuse any application for membership or terminate membership if, in the opinion of the Committee, such action is justified to maintain the reputation of the Club.'

The Committee will not hesitate to use this right.

Ray Whiley

And I thought only the animals at Banham needed cages - Ed.

Chairman's Chat



Rambling Roses

BARBARA AND I bought our first caravan some 45 years ago - and lived in it for two years. Fold-up bed, full oven, a coke stove which glowed red after dark, gas mantles: things have changed since. We then bought a bungalow and settled more permanently.

After many years of holidays with our two sons in hired caravans, they left home and we bought a tent. They then decided they wanted to come with us! However, after the tent 'walked away' in a Derbyshire gale, we went out one day to buy some plant pots and came back with a tourer caravan.

Eight years later, soon after retirement, we changed to our first Auto-Sleeper, a Rambler GL: 'Wayside Rose 2.' In it we found a leaflet publicising the Owners' Club. We thought we might as well find out more, so sent off an enquiry. We liked the newsletter and signed up, although we knew we would never take part in rallies. The welcome we got at the 1994 AGM Rally at Uttoxeter and at our first 'small' rally at Normanton-on-Trent soon changed that.

Five years passed, and many rallies. The Rambler seemed to be shrinking so we changed to a Clubman - 'Wayside Rose 3.' Please remember that name. If you see our van on a rally field or anywhere else, for that matter, come and say 'Hello'. If you can see us, you are welcome.

What about the first 'Wayside Rose'? She belonged to Barbara's mother in the early fifties and continuing the name seemed very appropriate for a Rambler!

Ray Whiley

We call our Amethyst 'Hercules' after a well-known and equally put-upon TV horse. Have you named your A-S? What and why? Answers on a postcard, please - Ed.

From the AGM Sub-Committee Chairman

Next year's AGM dinner

THIS YEAR'S AGM Dinner caterer has suggested two possible menus for next year's event. The first would be a two-course roast beef and turkey carvery with seasonal vegetables, potatoes and complements [*presumably sauces, etc. - Ed.*] served in two sittings, with various home-made gateaux for dessert, and with one vegetarian meal (without peppers or nuts) available as an alternative, and with tea or coffee to finish. The second would be a cold buffet with a very varied menu.

I am not sure that members would like two sittings and think a second carving station and earlier start might be better.

Since this year's Dinner I have contacted another caterer, highly recommended by the Women's Institute, who offers an excellent cold buffet but would not entertain serving a hot meal to such numbers as attend our Dinner.

At the Club and Company rally you will receive a questionnaire asking you to state your preference. Please complete and place it in the box provided.

Nora Venables

Notes from the Factory

New faces

MANY EXCITING THINGS are taking place at Orchard Works with the drive to make the Company even more professional.

On 18 February we recruited Tony Campbell as Manufacturing Manager and this is already bearing fruit with changes which make production slicker. Many of you will already have met him at the AGM at Banham Zoo.

On 1 June, Graham Pritchard joined us as Quality Manager and Health and Safety Manager. Graham has many attributes, including being a qualified ISO9000 assessor. He has NEBOSH Certification in Occupational Health and Safety and ROSPA's Safety Inspector's Certification.

We are also close to appointing a Materials Manager to assist in the procurement of materials. All this is part of our continual drive to increase the quality of our products yet further. I am sure this is a common goal shared by ASOC members and the Company.

I take this opportunity to wish you many hours of happy use of your Auto-Sleeper during the coming summer period.

Bill Cook, Company Chairman

Club and Company Millenium Rally 21 to 23 July 2000

BOOKINGS for the prestigious Club and Company Millenium Rally close on 7 July and no bookings can be accepted after that. The only alternative will be to go to the Showground and pay the £10 supplement on arrival. Payment there will be accepted only by cheque and you will have to show your current membership card for insurance and control reasons.

Entry to the rally is by the Yellow gate, but please do not come early, wild camp, or park inconsiderately while waiting. There will be plenty of room for everyone. *Please be patient.* Booked ralliers will be able to enter from 10 am, but non-booked ralliers will not be admitted before 12 noon. *Ralliers must display entry passes (and the Sunday pass if appropriate) clearly at all times.* Because there will be around 600 vans to be sited, spaces cannot be reserved. Please arrange to meet away from the showground and arrive together if you wish to park next to friends.

Day visitors can enter by the Brown gate on the Saturday from 10 am, at a charge of £5. Please note that the Yellow gate will be locked at 10 pm each night, and the Brown gate will be locked at 6.45 pm.

This year's extensive entertainments programme is now being finalised and should include the Caribbean Silver Band, Eureka Roving Jazz Band, a silk flower/millinery display, archery, falconry, the Bendix Silver Band, morris dancing, a parachute drop, hot-air balloons and the ever-popular Company shop. If any more members would like to show, demonstrate or sell their hobbies, please phone me (103 2923 1259) as soon as possible. We will also have the usual Club v. Company rounders match, and the Club Regalia shop. New Auto-Sleepers will be on display and will include the Gatcombe and the Sherbourne. On Friday evening there will be a quiz, followed by Dave Dean at the keyboard. For Saturday night, by popular request, we have been fortunate to engage the Band of HM Royal Marines from the Commando Training Centre, Royal Marines. The weekend will end with the Sunday morning service conducted by the Salvation Army.

Promising interest has been shown in evening meals on Friday and Saturday and breakfast on Saturday, and the site caterers have agreed to serve 'hot counter meals' with vegetarian options.

The main Club charity this year is the National Association for Colitis and Crohn's Disease (NACC). Proceeds from the raffle, quiz, charity stalls and other sources will go towards this worthwhile cause. Please support it by buying raffle tickets. The charity stalls would welcome your books, bottles, bric-a-brac and cakes - please buy them back again! Help on these stalls may be welcome on the day. There will also be a notice board to advertise surplus motor-home items for sale. If you sell something, perhaps a small donation to the charity would be in order?

Two reminders: Pets are not allowed in the Severn or Avon Halls, and elsewhere must be kept on leads at all times. Drinking water taps must be used only for that purpose.

Dorothy Wellard is looking for an understudy now to take on the raffle duties for next year's Club and Company rally. Please speak to her.

Join the Rally! Meet old friends, make new friends and let's all have an enjoyable weekend.

Baz Wellard

Fan-tastic

MY SINCERE THANKS to the gentleman who telephoned to explain how to get the fan motor off the water matrix without removing the dash assembly and the complete heater unit on my 'C' reg. Talbot Express. My thanks also to Mr Maddison-Roberts who kindly sent photocopies of the service manual.

The demister fan now runs as if new.

Tony Armstrong

So that's what 'de-mist-ified' means - Ed.

Automated turn-off?

OK, I KNOW the rules ... the *final act* before driving off, *always*, is to walk round the van to see that everything is ready for travel. I have one very flat kettle as testimony that I don't always follow this rule.

What troubles me is that I sometimes connect my Duetto to the mains at home and as this connection is not easily visible, an idle person like me can so easily set off without remembering to unplug the connection and that could be very expensive!

As I see no reason to have the van engine running at the same time as I have the mains on, I would like to fit a solenoid into the van electrics so that it prevents the ignition from starting if the mains are still on.

Is this a good idea? If so, what is the simplest way of doing it? Clearly it needs an accessible place where the 12 and 240 volt electrics are close together.

John M. Taylor

Another step towards automatic undocking, like spaceships - but would it be safe? Electricity is an unforgiving animal - Ed.

If you are wearing a personal name badge you help other people recognise you, especially at large rallies like the Club and Company. Available (at a price) by asking Ian Ross, the Regalia Officer.

Re-starting the loo pump

AFTER WINTERISATION our flushing toilet pump failed to operate. On inspection the fuse was okay. Power to the pump was easily checked by depressing the flush knob in the evening gloom and noticing the slight flicker of the toilet compartment's fluorescent light. That saved dismantling everything to check the wiring.

A quick phone call to Thetfords' works supplied a very simple solution from a very helpful and well-informed lady. I was told to remove the pump (access is gained by removing the toilet-roll holder), invert the pump to reveal the impeller and carefully turn it anti-clockwise two or three times. To use a phrase from the conversation: 'this should fire up the pump again' - presumably because the bearings become sticky.

No doubt other members have experienced this problem and possibly replaced their pump because it was deemed faulty. Here, for a change, is an easy, no-cost, solution.

Jim Hazel

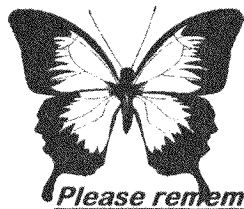
Bonny Barnoldswick

WHAT A PITY that so few members attended the Barnoldswick rally run by Ivy and Ken Farley. This location proved to be an excellent venue, thoroughly enjoyed by the six couples who attended. Walks along the canal towpath were followed by delicious meals at the Anchor pub, and a bus could be caught into Skipton. The weather was mixed and rather cold, but this didn't stop boules games being played (ladies v gentlemen) and the consumption of a welcome cup of hot soup provided by Ivy to warm everyone up before retiring.

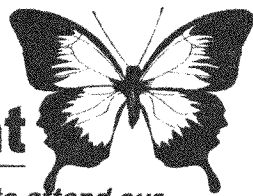
Harry and Doris Bowker

Jean and I enjoyed this very friendly rally on a pretty site. The weather was a lot better than most of the rest of the country was enduring, too. My only complaint was that I suffered big-end damage riding my bike along the canal towpath, but the medicine prescribed at the Anchor and taken by mouth, resulted in a rapid recovery - Ed.

Those who would travel happily must travel light - Saint-Euxepérey



JULY 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.

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 ELECTRICTY 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 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*.

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

NEWOLD,BARLOW for 2 ½ miles.At crossroads turn **left** into Cutthorpe B6050 signposted BASLOW,site 1 mile on **left**.

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

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

Rally Marshals:Hazel & Eric Wilton.

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

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

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

Booking slips & cheques 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. 0589 145 874 (Marshal's mobile 8-10 morning & night, messages 24hrs).

Rally Marshals: Pauline & Neil Rogers.

Site Fee: £3.50 per night. No Electricity. Rally Fee: £2.50 (couples) £2.00 (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, 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.

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 @ £3.00 each.

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.

1st.-3rd September. (2 nights). Kingston Maurward College, Dorchester, Dorset.

Rally Marshals: Linda & Trevor Hargreaves.

Site Fee: £6.00 per night. NO ELECTRICITY. Rally Fee: £1.50.

GREENFIELD site with very limited toilet facilities only.

Booking slips to: Mr. & Mrs. T. Hargreaves, 13 Churchmoor Road, Colehill, Wimborne, Dorset. BH21 2LN. Tel. No. 01202 886 855. Cheques payable to: Mr. T.D. Hargreaves.

Attractions: Site fee includes unlimited access to Kingston Maurward Gardens for the weekend.

Dorchester County Agricultural Show nearby on Saturday & Sunday.

Thomas Hardy's cottage is also very close.

Directions: East of Dorchester at the junction of A35 & B3150- follow brown tourist signs.
Limited to 25 vans maximum.

7th-10th September (3 nights). Northern Motorcaravan Show, York Racecourse.

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

Rally Fee: £1.50 (couples), £1.00 (singles) Emergency Tel. No. 0771 409 1349 (Marshal's mobile available 8.00-10.00 morning & evening).

The special Club rally fees are: arrive Thursday £24.00, arrive Friday £22.00, arrive Saturday £20.00. The rally ends at 12 noon Sunday but you may remain on site until 12 noon Monday 11th September. You may either use the form enclosed in this Newsletter or fill in an application form from MMM or Which M'Van using the special fees and mark the form **A.S.O.C** in large letters. Send this form back to the organisers, Warners, **before 16th August**. Applications after this date cannot rally with the Club.

Please remember to send a rally slip with a cheque (payable to N.C. & P. Rogers) to:

N.C. & P. Rogers, 3 Appleby Close, Aldbrough St. John, Richmond, North Yorks. DL11 7TT.
Tel. No. 01325 374 540.

8th-15th September (7 nights). Brynich C.P. Brecon Holiday Rally, Powys.

Site Tel. No. 01874 623 325 (Emergency only).

Rally Marshals: Helen & Geoff Gray.

Site Fees: £8.00 per night with electricity. £6.50 without electricity. Rally Fee: £2.00.

Booking slips to: G. Gray, 73 Woodstock Gardens, Pencoed, Bridgend, CF35 6ST.

Tel. No. 01656 862 423. On site 07714170958. Cheques payable to: G. Gray.

Attractions: "Best of British" site situated in Brecon National Park. Good area for hill walking and cycling as well as level strolls or rides along canal towpath. Brecon town in 1 mile along towpath. We hope to organise trips to the nearby leisure centre for swimming, bowls etc. also a gentle ramble and an evening meal, mid week. ***Please note on slip if interested in meal.*** You can visit Brynich website on <http://members.aol.com/brynich/>

Directions: The site is located 1 mile east of Brecon on the junction of A40 & A470.

There is a limit of 30 vans.

15th-17th September. (2 nights). Shepton Mallet Motorcaravan & R.V. Show.

Site tel. No. 07775 693533 (Marshals' mobile).

Rally Marshals: Stella & Ian Ross; Dorothy & Baz Wellard; assisted by Marian & Phillip Longstaff.

Site Fee: Special Club prices. Thursday to Sunday £23.00. Friday to Sunday: £18.00. Saturday to Sunday £13.00. Rally Fee: £2.00.

Send Rally Fee £2.00 with rally slip & SAE to Mrs. S. Ross, 33 Grosvenor Gardens, Upminster, Essex. RM14 1DL. Tel. No. 01708 228 075. Cheques payable to: Mrs. S. Ross.

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

There will be a "For Sale" board so bring along your motorcaravan related items for sale and put up a postcard. The rally ends on Sunday but you may stay on site until 12 noon Monday.

Follow -on Rally. Approx 45 minutes drive from Shepton. Members may attend one or both of these rallies.

18th-21st September. (3 nights). Unity Farm, Brean Sands, Nr. Burnham on Sea, Somerset.

Site Tel. No. 07775 693 533 (Marshals' mobile).

Rally Marshals: Stella & Ian Ross.

Site Fee:£15.00 for 3 nights includes electricity,showers,toilets,swimming pool (1session per day).

Rally Fee:£2.00.

Booking slips and cheques payable to: Mrs.S.Ross,33 Grosvenor Gardens,Upminster, Essex.RM14 1DL. Tel.No. 01708 228 075.

Attractions: Rally at popular Holiday Resort near sandy beaches.Fishing(free but NRA licence required).Tuesday Free Cream Tea.Dinner to be arranged for Wednesday evening.Choice of:- Chicken Butterfly Breast with Bacon & Cheese Topping,Peas & Chips £5.75 or Fillet of Plaice with Peas,Salad Garnish & Chips £5.25.**STATE choice and send payment with rally slip.**

Directions: Exit M5 J.22 Follow signs for Brean Leisure Park.

20th.-25th.September. (5 nights),Kings Lynn C.C.P.,North Runcton,King's Lynn,Norfolk.

Site Tel.No. 01553 562 755(Emergencies only). Marshals'mobile (emergencies) 07899 853 988. 8.0 to 10.00 am & pm.

Rally Marshals: Barbara & Ray Whiley.

Site Fee:£4.00 per unit per night. Rally Fee:£2.00 (2 persons),£1.50 (singles) plus 50p for any additional adult.

Booking slips to:Mrs.B. Whiley, 21 Elcar Rise,Eaton,Norwich,NR4 6HR.Tel.No. 01603 452 593. Cheques payable to R.E. & B. Whiley.

Level rally field adjacent to C.L.;a few electric hookups available at £2.00 per night,allocated in booking order,please pay on arrival.SAE if confirmation of hookup important.

Attractions: 3 miles from historic Hanseatic port of King's Lynn(Ebus service):Museums,Caithness Crystal.Close to Sandringham (House & Visitor Centre),Sandringham Craft Fair 22nd.24th. Sept. NW Norfolk Coast (Hunstanton,Norfolk Lavender,Holkham Hall,Snettisham Park Farm),African Violet Centre,Butterfly & Falconry Park etc.

Directions: From A17/A149/A47/A10 junction (roundabout) take the A47 towards Norwich.In about 1 mile,take first turning on **right** (New Road),site entrance is through C.L. almost immediately on **left**.

This is a GREEN FIELD Site and the small toilet block is for the use of visitors to the C.L.To comply with the terms of our Exemption Certificate,NO ONE will be admitted to the rally field before 12.00 noon on Wednesday 20th.September and ALL MUST LEAVE by 12.00 noon on Monday 25th.September.

If you are thinking of running a 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!



Rally Date:.....

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

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

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

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

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

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

Please complete both sides of the form!



Rally Date:.....

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

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

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

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

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

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

Please complete both sides of the form!

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

Names of Adults

Names of Children (including ages)

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

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

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

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

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)

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

Medallion warm-up

IN THE MAY ISSUE I wrote about our Medallion's draughts and can now report a successful solution.

We had previously used our Medallion only once out of the summer-time and on that occasion found it difficult to keep the rear passenger warm and draught-free. Lessons learned, we have now completed our ten day visit to Holland, and all the occupants have been warm and draught-free. This was achieved by not only closing all the roof lights, but also making sure the roof light blinds were closed. Auto-Sleepers provide a finished 'insulation' board for the roof light over the cab bed and this we put in place, but found it was not essential when the blind was closed as that seemed to remove that draught problem.

The other difficulty we experienced was in getting the main motorhome body warmed from the cab heater. This seems to be dependent on the setting of the dashboard air outlet deflectors. The setting we found to work was to close both side vents (by the cab doors) and to use only the twin central vents. It was then necessary to position the central deflectors fully up. At this setting more than enough hot air reached the whole vehicle without the cab occupants being roasted alive. At nights we fitted internal 'Silver Screen' material to the cab, which significantly added to our night-time comfort regarding insulation and internal temperature.

When the vehicle is static, there is a tendency for draughts to occur from over the refrigerator and from the rear seat-belt aperture in the body trim. As work has been done on the vehicle in the area of the refrigerator ventilation grill, there is a possibility that some of the sealer tape there has been disturbed or removed - which highlights the importance of ensuring that whoever works on a motorhome body, they remove or disturb nothing without replacing it 100 per cent.

Eric Ferbrache

Miss Piggy to the rescue

REGARDING WALLY KING'S PROBLEM (June issue) of driving off with the gas still on, we solved our problem by buying a thin fridge magnet of

Miss Piggy and put a great lump of 'Blutack' on the back of it.

When the gas is on in the van she sits neatly up on the dashboard to remind us to stick her back on the gas bottle and turn the gas off before driving away.

Another reminder we have is to lay the steadies jack across the clutch and brake pedals so that we can't drive off with the rear steadies still down.

Doreen and David Palmer

Got it covered?

WE HAVE TRAVELLED abroad many times in our current and previous Auto-Sleepers - in fact the majority of our mileage is on the 'wrong' side of the road. All was going well on this May's trip to Italy until we were almost within touching distance of the border at the top of the Brenner Pass. After the shock of the engine exploding and consequent loss of power we were relieved to struggle into the fortuitously-located truck stop. Using the European Breakdown Cover bought with our motorhome policy, we called for help and were soon transported back to Innsbruck and the main dealer, which was our first disappointment - we had been told by RAC Emergency Control we could be taken into Italy, for which we had cash and some chance of understanding the language.

Several tedious hours of waiting later, the Austrian garage could still not fix the problem. Indeed they seemed to have no idea what had happened. In the heat of the city evening we struggled on foot to find a hotel, at ten times the price of most campsites. Next day, after several calls to the RAC in Lyon, we were told our three-year-old Auto-Sleeper needed a new engine costing well in excess of £3,000. When the RAC offered the option of a replacement vehicle, we looked in our policy document and saw:

'RAC will use its best endeavours to find a vehicle of similar, but not exact, specification as your own vehicle to ensure you can carry the same number of passengers and amount of luggage.'

However they insisted there was absolutely no chance of getting a motorhome of any shape or size. In fact, when we arrived at the RAC-arranged car hire office we were offered a Fiat 600. As this didn't seem

to meet many of the criteria, we contacted the RAC yet again and they agreed that, as we had decided to drive home - with the van repatriated as part of the emergency cover - we could have a larger vehicle. The only one available in Innsbruck just then was the nine-seater VW bus in which we set off for home.

By then we'd become accustomed to 'however' clauses. This time we found 'the hire vehicle could only be taken as far as Calais'. At Calais we had to cross as foot passengers, then get another RAC-arranged hire car from Dover to drive home. Because of this unhelpful restriction we could not retrieve more than we could physically carry from our Auto-Sleeper. Like most motorhome holiday-makers we had only a couple of smallish 'real' bags - no suitcases. Laden with our valuables and a small selection of clothes in Tesco plastic shopping bags, we left our A-S, along with our bikes and 1001 other treasured belongings, at the Innsbruck garage.

We drove the 800 miles home as quickly as possible. Crossing as foot passengers on the ferry was a culture shock and quite a strain on the arms and backs.

Almost three weeks on and the RAC still cannot tell us the whereabouts of our beloved A-S, nor when we will see it at our local garage. The struggle will then begin to persuade the manufacturer to explain why a fully-maintained engine should explode so expensively after only 21,000 miles. Perhaps that will be another story, especially as TB Turbo have modified the engine.

The moral of this sorry tale is: *check your cover*. If you are planning a trip to Europe and have a similar breakdown replacement clause, contact your insurance company or broker and ask what it actually means - preferably in writing. At least you might then be aware of how those promising words are likely to be interpreted in reality.

Terry and Judy Langhorn

Insurance policies always say exactly what they mean, neither more nor less., but unfortunately that isn't always what we hope they mean. There's little chance of avoiding the need to change 'horses' at the Channel until the UK is fully integrated with the EU and hiring agreements can cross the 'importation' hurdle - Ed.

Definition? A motorhome is a fleeing bedstead.

Fridge and run-in repairs

I NOTE FROM THE JUNE NEWSLETTER that there is again comment about fridge problems and I write to explain the difficulty we encountered when we bought a new Talisman last year, in the hope that it may be of some assistance to other members.

We noticed there was a smell of gas outside the van when the fridge was on gas and that the outside of the vent was becoming discoloured. Although we were initially advised that such discolouration was not unusual, we later decided to investigate further, bearing in mind that I know very little about such matters.

The local Electrolux dealer sent a service rep. to our home to inspect the fridge. He immediately noticed the flame was not burning correctly. Removing the external vent to get at the back of the appliance, he found the baffle plate suspended in the chimney above the flame had become dislodged and was on the flame itself. He cleaned everything up and hooked the baffle plate back on to the top of the chimney. All this took half an hour or so and (fingers crossed) we have had no problem since.

Let me also mention one other matter. Last week we visited Cheltenham Laminates to have minor damage to the van repaired. (A wall jumped out and hit me!) They did a fantastic job. By prior arrangement we were there when they opened in the morning and had a look around Cheltenham while they did the work. We picked up the van late that afternoon.

Dave Thomas

Cheap weekends in France

I HAD TO WRITE to let other members know that we booked a day trip to France in early June and paid only £54 return for the motorhome and four adults.

Green Flag, who made the booking for us, told us that the fare applied only to sailings before 9 am, and that the return had to be within twelve hours. However, by paying £29 more the trip could be turned into a weekend visit. We were satisfied with the price. Although this applied to June, if you shop around you may find a bargain at other times.

Theresa Smith

Subs and Newsletter

THE SKIT, 'Membership Subs', in June's *ASOC Newsletter*, arising from a brief discussion in the open forum at this year's AGM, provoked a response from Bill Barry, the member who raised the issue. Unfortunately the item is unsuitable for full reproduction in the form submitted, but in the interests of fairness the main arguments are set out below.

After pointing out that as printing and postage absorb 64 per cent of the Club's total income - which comes mainly from members' subscriptions - *ASOC Newsletter* cannot be considered 'free', Bill goes on:

'All I did at the open forum was to ask: "As the Club has matured into one of the more successful of this type of club, certainly the biggest, with arguably the best-made units in the country and we are also about to experience a change of editorship, is this not therefore the time to consider changing the format of the newsletter, thereby improving the quality? Should we not also consider the inclusion of advertisements?"

'As an example I quoted the Swift Owners' Club Newsletter which is a top class production. It is still edited by one of the members (a lady, incidentally), the content is just the same as in ours and it costs them *nothing* - the advertisement fees cover the cost. The club membership stands at 500 and the newsletter comes out every quarter. Imagine how much more attractive we would be to advertisers with three times the publication rate and three-and-a-half time the circulation (1640 copies).

'No-one suggested that the subscription level is too high. I simply pointed out that at the 1997 AGM a 50 per cent increase was recommended by the Committee and approved by the meeting, on a 12 month trial basis with a Committee report at the AGM immediately following the trial period. I know that is correct because I proposed the amendment in recognition of the objections to the massive increase and the claims of unfair treatment made by the single persons in membership. The increase took effect on 1 January 1998 and the report should have been given at the 1999 AGM. I was not able to attend that meeting, but I notice there was no reference to [subs] in the AGM's minutes so I suppose it was forgotten. However, there has been no visible or tangible improvement to anything as a result of this massive injection of cash.

Bill Barry'

The 'massive injection' was to keep the Club solvent - inflation steadily

erodes the value of money, so it's necessary to keep running to stay in the same place. While 'paid for' advertising from companies sounds attractive, considerable effort is needed to get and keep it. The more 'professional' a newsletter looks, the longer it takes to produce, which means we would lose the immediacy of the present method. - Ed.

'I'd like to see ...'

EVEN BEFORE I'd been elected to the Committee and given the Editor's job, members button-holed me (always very nicely) to say what they liked, or didn't about *ASOC Newsletter*, and how to improve it. All suggestions are welcome, but some would have meant your Editor abandoning home and duties, and engaging staff to do nothing but prepare the paper for the press. At the other end of the scale a few small alterations have proved possible. Some of you have asked for a 'lighter' tone. I hope 'Enoch's' improbable tales (which he swears are true) will help when there is room for them, but the tone is really set by how and what you write. Making people smile is a gift and I will use relevant original good stuff, but reprinting from other publications is not on - copyright law won't let us publish material you haven't written yourselves.

There have been requests for details of good sites. While the motorhome press carry regular features, usually about larger ones, we haven't space for anything but the briefest accounts, but as an experiment 'Sites seen' will appear when possible with perhaps a couple of small sites mentioned each time. We start with a pair Jean and I have discovered - just to give the flavour.

Ian Day

Sites seen

Off the A19 between Selby and York in North Yorkshire, the Gowthorpes at **Approach Farm, Hollicarrs, Escrick, York**, keep a lawned CL with electric hook-ups open all year. Its attraction for us was the nearby track made from the bed of the old line down which Scottish expresses once thundered, now enabling cyclists to speed safely south to Selby (5 mls) or, if more energetic, yomp up to York (10 mls) to see Yorvik.

Handily placed near A25 Dunkirk-Lille, is a good, unfussy, site, **L'Image**

at **Houplines**, found by leaving A25 at junction 8 (Armentieres) and taking the Houplines turning. The site is signposted. Open all year it tends to be busy both summer and winter. Hook-ups are 10 amps.

For Sale



FREESTANDING TRIO AWNING bought for Duetto. Used once (changed to Excelsior). Matching curtains, tablecloth and lampshade included. Cost £350, will accept £200. Phone Ken and Ann Kelly 012 4544 1315 (Chelmsford).*

I.B. TOP BOX CLASSIC 110 (approx. 110 x 85 x 40mm). Used on Clubman. Cost £214, will accept £100. Phone Ron Snowden 013 2255 1169 (Kent).

TRIDENT VW HIGHTOP, 10K miles, PAS, immobiliser, radio/cassette, front seat armrests, 2 x 2-berth, fridge, blown-air heating, aux. battery, portable toilet, blinds/screens, Fiamma awning. Non-smokers, one owner. FSH. £20,495 ono. Phone A.Thomson, 017 2783 2073 (Herts).*

FORD DUETTO 2.5 DIESEL 'V' reg. September 1999, 2,800 miles, wheel shields, taxed until Spetember. One owner from new, non-smokers, no pets. Used 4 outings (16 days). Severe illness has unhappily curtailed plans for years of happy association with ASOC. £23,000. Phone or write Roy Henderson (019 2367 5954) 60 Gaddesden Crescent, Watford, Herts, WD2 6QX.*

SUN FLAIR FREE-STANDING AWNING, side fitting, green/grey. Suitable for a high-top. As new. £150 ono. Phone Dave and Sandra Heath, 012 7945 0045 (evenings).*

RAMBLER GL 1992 'J' REG, 2-litre petrol, 17,000 miles, new tyres. One owner, non-smokers, no pets. Excellent condition. £10,000. Phone or write Fred Bowen (015 4327 6430) 76 Sevens Road, Prospect Village, Cannock, Staffs, WS12 5QA*

SILVER SCREENS for Talbot Express (pre-Boxer), in very good condition. £25. Phone or write Doug Vaughan (014 9522 3325) 8 Parklands, Blackwood, Gwent, NP12 1HU.

PESCARA 1999 2.5TD PEUGEOT. Fuschia interior, blown air heating, alarm, extra plugs, mudflaps, Fantastic fan and other extras. Only 3,000 miles, still under warranty. £29,000 ono. Sale due to health. Phone Alan Stevenson (017 8266 0633) Fairview, 34 Berne Avenue, Newcastle, Staffs, ST5 2QJ.

OMNISTOR SAFARI ROOM 4000 to fit 1990-1996 Ford Legend or Talisman. £125 ono. Phone or write Ivor and Sheila Barnett (015 8489 0428) 'Highlevel', Farden, Bitterley, Ludlow, Salop, SY8 3HU.

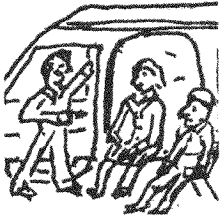
RENAULT RCX 2-BERTH HITOP (displayed at 1999 C&C Rally) 'C' reg. (Aug. 1985) 1600cc, 5-speed man. Radio/cassette, electric windows, Piranha alarm, leisure batt./split charging, toilet/shwer, Porta-Potti, Electrolux 3-way fridge, electronic ignit., h & c water, fresh water tank, 2-burn. hob/grill, Propex heater, mains hook-up, gas cylinder/reg., reupholstered /curtained, front seats now with headrests, Silver Screens, taxed/full MOT, rust-protected from new. Superb condition, road-ready, recorded mileage under 45K. Owned 7 yrs; any inspection incl. AA or RAC invited. Original 4-berth, reupholstered as 2, easily reconvert. £4,995. (Now bought larger A-S). Phone John Chennells on 017 5352 0417 (Slough)*

OMNISTOR SAFARI ROOM AND TOP BOX. Safari Room 3.5 metres, grey horizontal, little used. £250. Top box 130 litre. £40. Phone or write A.G Stephens (018 2261 6536) 63 Oak Road, Bishopsmead, Tavistock, Devon, PL19 9LT. Will attend Club and Company Rally.*

Sell or Exchange

TALBOT RAMBLER 1988 £6,500. V.g. condition. Shower, 3-way fridge, blown air heating, portaloo and tent, oven cooker, 240 volts, 30 gal. waler tank, tv booster. No pets, non-smoker. Or will exchange for a Citroen Romahome, 2-berth, lift-uproof, diesel 1.9cc, or will consider other. Phone or write K. Leigh (017 4534 3418) 18 Plas Foryd, Kimnal Bay, Conwy, LL18 5BQ.

*NOTE: An advertisement with a * after it means the advertiser has made a contribution to Club funds. To each we say, 'Thanks for the donation' - Ed.*



Dressing up and down

YOUNG CECIL was good-hearted and a bit of a go-getter, but he tickled us tiddly at times. He was something not-very-important in the City and at weekends often came on rallies if they were handy. One Friday his wife, Hortense, brought the van to a

rally on a field handy to a main line station, as she often did to save the time it would have taken him to go home, then bring her.

The first we saw of him was when he walked in through the gate. It was typical summer - pouring with rain - and a right nightmare for us marshals. We'd put old sacks down in the gateway, but the mud was churned that deep they'd sunk without trace. We were doing our best with straw and had just thrown more down when along he came, walking what some folk call 'purposefully' but puts me more in mind of a turkey trot. Anyone else would've wondered why the straw was there. Not him. Right in over his boot tops. His feet slid from under and down he went - umbrella, briefcase, smart striped suit and all - full length.

'You should've been wearing pumps,' Silas the other marshal chortled as we got him right side up and scraped down. He took it in good part, grinned and five minutes later was out under his awning, changed into his usual rally gear of patched jeans and an old rugby jersey, calmly supping a G and T while Hortense was inside trying to clean the suit. We all knew what she thought about it. Even my Martha, who's stone deaf if she wants, could hear the racket from our van at other end of the field.

But it didn't end there. What with the rain bucketing down and wind getting up in the small hours, I thought I'd best have a look round. I pulled a cagoule and wellies on, grabbed a lamp and went out. At the top of field, who should my light pick up trying to tighten guy-ropes while his awning flapped and cracked like a stockman's whip, but Cecil. Starkers.

'Didn't think anyone would be about,' he shouted over the racket as I lent a hand. 'Anyhow, skin dries quicker than clothes.' Reckon he had summat there. But it was just as well the local League of Decency were all safely tucked up.

'Enoch'

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Committee Members

President	Charles Trevelyan	013 8685 3338
Chairman	Ray Whiley	016 0345 2593
Vice Chairman & Rally Co-ordinator	Neil Rogers	013 2537 4540
Secretary	Pam Davies	017 0548 4972
Treasurer	John Tidbury	012 3553 8593
Membership Secretary & Regalia Officer	Ian Ross	017 0822 8075
Minutes Secretary	Barbara Potter	018 4427 4021
Chief Rally Marshal	Ben Mansfield	017 2336 9769
Press Officer	Stella Ross	017 0822 8075
Chairman, AGM Sub-Committee	Nora Venables	019 0233 2105
Committee member	Andrew Entwistle	014 2284 3057
Chairman, Club & Company Rally Sub-Committee	Baz Wellard	013 2923 1259
Newsletter Editor	Ian Day	014 2388 0233

Contributions for publication in *ASOC Newsletter* are welcomed and need to reach the Editor: **Ian J. Day, 10a Kingsley Road, Harrogate, HG1 4RB, North Yorks** (or by e-mail to: james@smooth.demon.co.uk) no later than the tenth of the month. Telephoned contributions cannot be received. While every effort will be made to publish acceptable material in the following issue, no guarantee can be given. Contributions or notices may be shortened or otherwise edited.

Notices of items wanted or for sale are printed free, but small donations towards Club expenses are appreciated and will be acknowledged on publication. Please make cheques payable to 'Auto-Sleeper Owners' Club' not 'ASOC'.

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