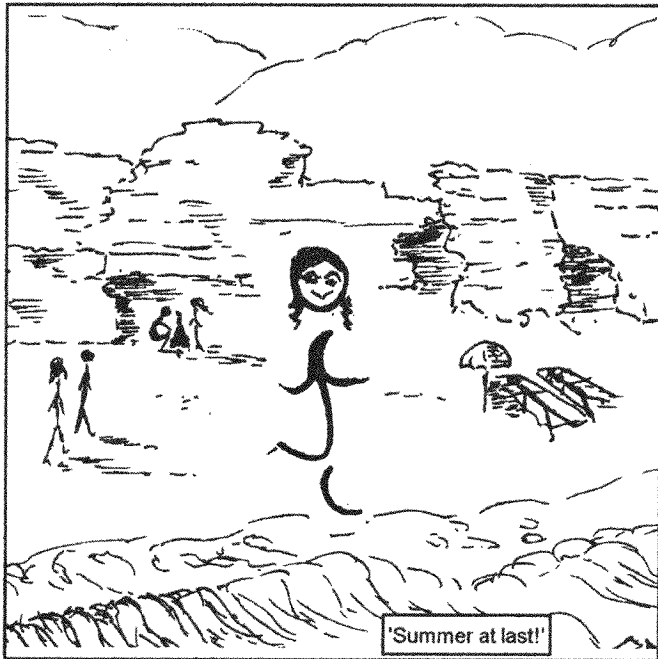




AUTO-SLEEPER

OWNERS' CLUB

Newsletter



No. 143

August 2000

Glad you like it

WE LEFT THE COUNTRY after delivering the July issue of *ASOC Newsletter* to the printer - not from cowardice, you understand, but for a holiday in France and some sunshine. We have returned just in time to get this issue ready. From my postbag and answerphone it seems most of you are happy with the altered look of your newsletter. Inevitably, one or two gremlins crept in, but I hope none caused problems to any of you. Thank you to those who sent so many encouraging notes, letters and calls, who have made constructive suggestions and who have contributed the items which are the life-blood of any newsletter.



IF YOU WANT TO FIND OUT MORE about something published in *ASOC Newsletter* by talking to the member who wrote it but whose phone number is not included in the item, I will be pleased either to send letters on if a stamped envelope is enclosed in your letter to me, or to provide the member's phone number if you ring me, provided the member has not indicated that no calls are wanted. That means, of course, that I will have to rely on contributors to let me know if they object to their telephone numbers being released, which they have a perfect right to do. In the absence of a specific embargo I will assume there is no objection and pass the number on if asked.



A MEMBER HAS ASKED me what desk-top publishing programme I use to enable contributions to be sent in on disk. Firstly, let me say that what I need is a clear, legible, script whether it is handwritten or mechanically produced. Printed items are usually clearer and disks can save me time in setting up copy, but I don't think it reasonable to expect disks for the length of articles a publication this size can carry, nor to ask you to incur the expense of sending them. I tend to be a 'visual' Editor who likes to see what items look like on paper first, rather than work straight to screen. However, my pc's dtp programme can cope with disks in any of the commonly-used word-processing programmes and ASCII. If you do send a disk, please also include a good hard copy.

Ian Day

Chairman's Chat

Make your views known



HOW CAN THE COMMITTEE find out what you, the members, want from your Club?

Each year there is the opportunity to ask questions at the Annual General Meeting, and to make comments and suggestions at the Open Forum which follows. This year's AGM rally envelope also included a questionnaire asking what members thought of the venue at Banham Zoo and its facilities. A pleasing 80 per cent of those who attended completed this questionnaire.

Many of the replies were naturally influenced by the problems experienced during the dinner. Nevertheless, 74 per cent said they would return to Banham for a future AGM - many with reservations about the choice of caterer and the type of meal offered.

A second questionnaire for all members and again focussing on the AGM, was included with the June newsletter. Replies to this are being carefully considered, especially suggestions for alternative venues for the AGM in 2002 and later. Further suggestions would be welcomed, but they must be of actual sites which could meet our needs for at least 130 pitches, a hall suitable for the AGM and the dinner, catering facilities, with good security, and within a reasonable travelling distance for the majority of members.

How else can you have a say in the running of the Club? You will find at least one Committee member, and often more, at almost every one of the forty or more rallies during the year. Talk to us! Write to *ASOC Newsletter!* All your ideas will be carefully considered.

Ray Whiley

Banham Questionnaire Results

MANY THANKS to everyone who completed this questionnaire. You and others will be interested to know the results.

The forms were issued one to a van, and of the 102 questionnaires returned, 58 said they would return to Banham, fifteen would return if another caterer were hired and only 29 would not return.

There were nine first ralliers and 25 who were attending their first AGM, the average length of membership being six years.

From home you travelled a total of 14,085 miles to get to Banham, an average of 138 miles per van. Only eight lived within 50 miles, whilst three members lived more than 300 miles away. Both the rally at Clare Priory and the follow-on rally were well-attended, but only nine were influenced to attend the AGM by the opportunity to go to those rallies.

The ratings for the dinner on Saturday varied widely. Those on the early tables (27) rated it good or excellent, but when all were counted, it became average (3.1). Choice had an average rating; quantity and price, good; quality, less than average. As expected, service could only be rated poor - many of you awarded a score of 'nil' or a minus rating, although this was not an option.

Your comments were both interesting and helpful. They were passed on to the Committee and considered at their meeting on 1 July.

Barbara Whiley

In Committee

YOUR COMMITTEE held a very active and creative meeting at Moreton-in-Marsh on 1 July. Here are some points from a long agenda:

- Particular attention was paid to this year's AGM and the results of the questionnaire, and the plans for AGMs next year and in 2002. Research into possible venues and their ability to provide suitable evening meals continues.
- Final preparations for this year's Club and Company rally were discussed - by the time you read this, those attending will know how successful they were.
- Four Committee members are to carry out the two-yearly review of the Constitution to that see it still meets the Club's ideals and

conforms with current legislation.

- The investigation into Club activities to reduce the chance of successful claims being made against us, is on-going. In the meantime the Technical Information Group is in abeyance.
- Abuse of officials and members at this year's AGM and at last year's Club and Company rallies caused the Committee considerable concern. Close attention will be paid and strong action taken if there are future incidents.

From the Chairman, C & C Sub-Committee

Working Rally at Malvern - 11 to 16 June 2001

FOLLOWING THE REQUEST from the Three Counties Management in May's ASOC *Newsletter*, a small team representing ASOC helped at the Champion Dog Show (9,000 dogs) and the County Show (35,000 people a day). The days were long but enjoyed by all those attending and we went home healthily tired.

As a direct result of this year's success, the Three Counties Management have again asked if we could mount the same type of support, but this time with up to 48 people, between 11 and 16 June 2001. Are you interested? Then read on.

Ideally, working couples are desirable but not essential. All must be under 75 years of age, however, for insurance purposes. An area would be set aside for our 'working rally' and no charges would be made. Also a room could be made available if we required it for evening use. We would be paid for the work and it is likely to be from three to six days starting at 7am and finishing at 7pm.

It would be to the Club's credit if we could respond to the trust that the Three Counties have in our Club. If you are interested at this stage, perhaps you can drop me a line, as soon as possible, to 18 Greenwood Close, Farnham, Hants, PO16 7UF.

Baz Wellard

The longest journey begins with one short stop - at a petrol pump
- *Confucius (up-dated)*

Lining up rally plaques

A CLUB MEMBER is needed to take on the job of managing the supply of plaques to rally marshals before rallies take place. This is an easy, but essential, job and doesn't take up a great deal of time. If you are interested and would like more details, please phone me at this number: 017 0822 8075.

Stella Ross

'I name this motorhome ...'

There were some entertaining answers to the question of whether, what and why you had named your A-S, after Ray, our Chairman, told us last month how the Whiley's vehicle came by its name.

Ivy and Ken Farley christened their pride and joy 'Essex Girl' because Ivy comes from that county and they spent their first seventeen years of married life there. Although they later moved to Lancashire, it is still 'Essex Girl' who takes them back to Essex and to Ken's birthplace in Wiltshire. Sounds like another 'Rambling Rose' to me.

Keith and Dorothy Wilkinson's three-year old grandson named their Renault Rapport after his favourite television programme 'Pingu' and the co-incidence of the van's registration G 427 P(i) N(g) U.

Keith and Diana Rhodes found inspiration in that cartoon bird, the Roadrunner, 'Beep! Beep!' A pun on their surname means their Clubman bears the title 'The Rhodesrunner.'

For Sue and Mike Bates, the 'Bates Motel' set at Universal Studios in Florida, was a gift of a name for their van, and they adopted it in memory of Uncle Norman.

One member (who, for obvious reasons, perhaps, wants his/her anonymity preserved) has a van named 'Michelle' and explains it with the story of the chap going to a fancy dress party in casual clothes with a girl on his back. When asked by the host what he had gone as, he replied, 'A snail.' 'Really?' said the host, 'A snail. But why the girl on your back?' Came the answer, 'She is Michelle (My shell).'

Oh well, it takes all sorts.

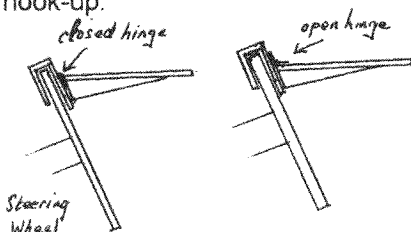
Keep the postcards coming. We all wonder how names came about when we spot them on the road or rally field, and the replies so far show the reasons are as various as our members.

Ian Day

Memory board

LIKE JOHN TAYLOR in July's *ASOC Newsletter*, I, too, have driven my Rambler out of the garage whilst still connected up to mains electricity. Fortunately this has only pulled the wires out of the plug. I have prevented a repeat of the problem by making an appropriate warning sign which I fit over the steering wheel when plugged into the mains.

A similar clip-on attachment over the steering-wheel which I find very convenient is a small folding shelf. Used mainly for a 5½ inch colour TV, it is also useful for other items and acts as a similar warning when connected to a hook-up.



The diagrams illustrate the shelf's construction and alternative positions for whichever hinge fitting is preferred. Dimensions are adaptable to fit the steering-wheel, and I have an adjustment to level the shelf if needed.

Syd Chaundy

Good value at Sixpenny Handley

RIGHT FROM THE START it was obvious that this was a well-organised rally. As our 35 vans drove on, the first thing we saw was an immaculately pegged-out field, leaving no doubt as to where we should park.

The weather started off on the Thursday by being quite cold and miser-

able, but improved so that by Sunday it was fine and sunny.

On Friday we all had a fish and chip supper around the marshal's van. The more energetic went on an organised walk on Saturday, and in the evening those who wished were able to have a very good meal down at the local pub. (Perhaps the walk should have been after the meal.) In the usual ASOC fashion the rally finished on Sunday morning with a raffle and tea and biscuits.

Our thanks to the rally marshals, Edna and Dennis, Jan and Vic. for a very enjoyable weekend.

Stella Ross

Getting stuck into Boxer problems

WARM-UP RELAY CHATTER referred to in my contribution in January's ASOC *Newsletter* is now acknowledged as a problem by Peugeot. Thanks to Charles Trevelyan who contacted the makers on my behalf, I subsequently received a letter from Derek Booker, Peugeot's Customer Service Manager, explaining that their technical department was aware of the phenomenon on Boxer 1.9TDs and had identified the noise as the 'post heat control thermal switch' associated with the glow-plug system. Derek also put me into touch with Bristol Street Motors, Northampton, who did the necessary modifications at Peugeot's expense. That seems to have cured the problem. Prior to the work being carried out my vehicle was inspected to see which of the two possible systems was fitted. Peugeot dealers can access details of the solution through their computer links to head office.

A Boxer 1.9TD owner I met on holiday recently, showed me the sound-proofing panel he had fitted to his bonnet. I have now bought and fitted one (£29) but found the proper plastic clips were expensive - sixteen needed at £1.03 each. Because of confusion about the quantity needed, I ordered one initially to see what arrived and ended up with a pack of four. I used them and dabs of Evostick for what seems a satisfactory result. The part numbers are: panel, P0000797976; clips - P0000797954.

On another matter, has anyone found really good cleaners to get rid of

insect stains from the bonnet and Luton front, and the black stains on the white rubber strips on the sides of my Ravenna?

David Folwell

Peugeot strongly advise against fixing the sound-proofing panel without the full complement of clips. They say that the heat variations and vibration to which the bonnet is subjected in use affect the qualities of any adhesive and could result in the panel falling into the engine - Ed.

Rapid recovery from abroad

BREAKDOWN EXPERIENCES VARY. When I read Terry and Judy Langhorn's experiences dealing with the RAC in July's ASOC Newsletter, I thought my own would be of interest to members.

I have been a member of the RAC for over 30 years and about seven years ago joined the Camping and Caravanning Club, which runs a scheme with the RAC called 'Arrival'. After some considerable thought I joined that scheme and opted for their European coverage. I pay £130 a year and have exactly the same cover for rescue as in the UK.

On holiday recently in France and about six miles from Calais, I was unfortunate enough to have my clutch give up the ghost (after only 120,000 miles of wear and tear). I rang the emergency number and at 12.30 lunchtime on a Saturday help arrived. After the A-S was loaded on the flatbed rescue vehicle, I was taken into Calais and whisked through Customs on to the ferry, and duly arrived in Dover where a vehicle picked us up at 5.30pm. At 11.15pm we were deposited at home in Yorkshire, safe and sound. I cannot praise too highly the efficient way our rescue was performed.

This service from the RAC is only done through the Camping and Caravanning Club. If I had joined directly through the RAC, the service would not have been available even under their 'Reflex' system. I would advise any of our members who are also members of both RAC and C&CC to take a good look at what is being offered.

Incidentally, the clutch was repaired the following Monday and I was back on the road by Tuesday morning.

John Cox, Founder Vice-President

From the Rally Co-ordinator

Starting times for Rallies

IT HAS COME TO MY ATTENTION that a number of members are arriving at rallies before 12 noon or the stated starting time. If a rally is using the Club's Exemption Certificate, particularly for a five-night rally, those members are putting the Certificate at risk.

If we are found to be abusing the regulations, then the Exemption Certificate will be cancelled by the DoETR, which will mean we will no longer be able to run rallies on green field sites. This will leave us with no alternative but to use the much more expensive commercial sites.

The Club insurance only covers members within the stated duration of the rally.

I am asking all marshals to inform me if any members persist in arriving at rallies before the official start time.

Please remember that all rallies start at 12 noon unless otherwise stated in the Rally Supplement.

Neil C. Rogers

Thanks

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK our many friends in the Club for flowers and phone calls, and for the many Get Well cards that Jeff has received.

He is now on dialysis three times a week and is awaiting his cataract operation, which we hope will improve his eyesight.

We wish you all a good season, with lovely weather and lots of fun.

Thank you for your support and prayers.

Barbara Worley

It is a long road that has no turning - *Anon.*



August 2000

Rally Supplement



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

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

NEW RALLY.6th-8th.October.(2 nights).Hidden Valley North Devon. Details later in supplement

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.

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 & 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; 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.

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**. **THIS RALLY IS NOW FULL**

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.

Site 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. Please 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 1/2 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.

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

THIS RALLY IS NOW FULL

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.

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 Sat & Sun. Thomas Hardy's cottage is also 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).

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. This rally starts on Thursday and finishes on Sunday 12 noon but you may

remain on site until Monday 12 noon. **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.

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 (1 session 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 Ellcar 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.

NEW RALLY. 6th.-8th October. (2 nights). Hidden Valley Touring & Caravan Park, Nr. West Down, Ilfracombe, North Devon.

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

Rally Marshals: Sandra & Bernie Wisely.

Site Fee: £5.00 per night inclusive, electric hook-up. Rally Fee: £2.00.

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

Attractions: A meal will be available on the Saturday night with entertainment. The choice of meal will be Turkey/Vegetarian includes Sweet. -£5.95

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

10th - 13th October. (3 nights) Park Cliffe, Nr. Windermere, Cumbria.

Site Tel.No. 015395 31344 (Emergency only). E-mail: parkcliffe@btinternet.com

Rally Marshals: Jill & James Bertlin.

Site Fee: £8.00 per night. Electricity: £3.00 per night. Rally Fee: £2.00 per van.

Booking slips to Mr. & Mrs. J. Bertlin, "The Rockeries", LINDALE, Cumbria, JA11 6LQ.

Tel.No. 015395 34500. Cheques payable to: Mrs. J.E.Bertlin.

Jill & James invite you to a new venue this year, **limited to 25 vans**, for a 3 day mid week rally for the "retired" led by the retired! (Workers of course welcome!)

This site overlooking Lake Windermere, is situated in 25 secluded acres of fell land and has been thoughtfully designed to blend in with the country and appeal to the visitor who has travelled to enjoy the tranquillity and breathtaking beauty of the Lake District. There is a fully equipped launderette, heated ladies & gents shower/toilet blocks, small licensed restaurant and bar with take-away service and well stocked licensed mini-market. Hopefully hard standings for all.

Attractions: The Lake District National Park. Activities: walking, Golf & Sightseeing. A gathering including a 3 course Dinner (Menu with choice) has been arranged in "Squirrels" for the Thursday evening, 7.30 p.m. @ £10.00 per person (gratuities incl). On Tues & Weds evening a 2 course meal will be available @ £7.00pp.

Directions: Leave the M6 at junct. 36, follow A590 to Newby Bridge, then turn **right** at roundabout onto A592. After 3.3 miles, turn **right**, site signposted. 1/3 mile on right. **Warning Approach from Bowness-on-Windermere is not recommended turn left to Park Cliffe is difficult to negotiate off busy main road. Extra nights must be arranged with Mr. John Tattersall on site Tel.No.above.**

13th - 15th October. (2 nights). Eden Camp, Nr. Malton, North Yorks.

Award winning Modern History Theme Museum

Rally Marshals: Enid & Geoffrey Mackey. Mobile Tel.No. 07712 271 872

Site Fees: £8.00 per unit per night, (includes admission to museum). Rally Fee: £2.00.

NO ELECTRICITY. All Hardstandings on car park. Elsan disposal & water available.

Booking slips to: G.B. & E. Mackey, 17 Beechers Grove, Woodham, Newton Aycliffe,

Co. Durham. DL5 4TE. Tel.No. 01325 313087. Cheques payable to: G.B. & E. Mackey.

Attractions: Eden Camp has been named the Country's Top Visitor attraction. Set in a 6 acre former P.O.W. Camp it is living history and the only one of its type in the world. The site fee covers unlimited access to the museum and exhibits during the weekend. Malton is a leisurely 20 minutes walk away. We have the use of HUT 12 for the weekend. There will be a social get together on Friday evening. Saturday evening "Stage Door Canteen" bring your offerings for an American Supper and dance to the big bands, Dress of the period (40s).

Directions: Junction A64 York to Scarborough Road & A169 Malton to Pickering Road.

Rally opens 12 noon. Friday & Closes 12 noon. Sunday. **Any vans arriving after 2030hrs (8.30p.m.) will have to park outside the gates as these are locked between 2030 & 0800 hrs.**

LIMITED TO 35 VANS.

20th - 22nd | October. (2 nights). Quorn & Woodhouse Railway Station, Nr. Loughborough, Leics.

Station Tel.No. (Weekends only & when station open) 01509 416 704

Rally Marshals: Elizabeth & Bill Grimsley.

Site Fee: £2.50 per unit per night. NO ELECTRICITY Rally fee: £1.00 per person.

This a GREEN FIELD SITE using the station car park. Toilets available only when station open.

Booking slips to: Mr. & Mrs. E.W. Grimsley, 24 Paul Drive, Leicester. LE4 9FY. Tel.No. 01162692220.

Cheques payable to: E.W. & Mrs. E. Grimsley.

Attractions: Enjoy a nostalgic trip on Britain's only Main Line Steam Railway, between Loughborough Central and Leicester North. A £1.50 money off voucher will be available for each unit to use on the train during the weekend.

Loughborough - Good shopping and Britain's first Carillon. Leicester City centre can be reached by bus from the station. Mountsorrel - Family Farm & Museum with animals, old cars and farm machinery

Saturday Evening 21st. October. We have booked the Skittle Alley at "The Manor" a Pub/Restaurant opposite the station. Hot food available will be sausages in onion gravy, mashed potatoes & peas @£5.00 per head. If interested please state numbers requiring the food on booking slip, but pay on the night. DO NOT send money for the Skittles in advance, but we must know how many require food so that it can be ordered.

Directions: Quorn is situated south of Loughborough close to the main A6 road, it is easily found by following the brown signs, but make sure you end up at Quorn and not one of the other stations as they are all marked with brown signs. The station is on **left** of Woodhouse Road opposite the Manor Pub before railway bridge. Please **DO NOT** arrive before 12 noon.—Give us time to get there!

26th-29th. October (3 nights). Eastham Hall C.P., Lytham, Lancs.

Site Tel.No. 01253 737 907. (Emergency only).

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

Site Fee: £10.00 per night, *includes electricity* and use of the centrally heated hall.

Rally Fee: £2.50 (couples), £1.50 (singles).

Booking slips to: Mrs. B. Kaye, 14 Firthwood Road, Coal Aston, Dronfield, S18 3BW.

Tel.No. 01246 412 679. Cheques payable to B. & V. Kaye.

Attractions: All the fun of the sea-side at Lytham, St. Annes, Fairhaven & Blackpool. Thursday. Coffee evening.

Friday evening. A coach trip to Todds Motor Caravans for a Social Evening including refreshments. Cost between £2-£3 per person for coach. DO NOT send money for coach.

Saturday evening. Fish & Chip supper in hall. We also exchange Christmas cards with friends (Saves postage later). Bring any spare camping equipment and we will have a Bargain Table.

Please indicate on rally slip if you wish to go on the coach trip - also if you want fish & chips.

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

26th-29th. October. (3 nights). "Beautiful Burford", Burford School, Burford, Oxon.

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

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

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

Booking slips to: Mrs. S. Ross, 33 Grosvenor Gardens, Uxminster, Essex. RM14 1DL

Tel.No. 01708 228 075. Cheques payable to: Mrs. S. Ross.

Attractions: GREEN FIELD site - hard standing, slightly sloping. Heated hall for evenings. 5 minutes walk to pretty Cotswold village of Burford & Garden Centre. *Friday evening* American Supper.

Saturday Cheese & Wine Evening £3.50 per person. Soft drink option at £2.75 per person. Please state if Red/White wine or Soft drink required and send money with rally slip.

Directions: On the A40 at Burford turn South onto A361 towards Swindon, within 100yds turn **right** into School rear access road. Then follow ASOC signs. Can arrive from 10.00 a.m. Thursday.

LIMIT of 35 VANS,

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:-

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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!

Water heater burps

WHILST ON HOLIDAY this year we suddenly discovered that the water pump would 'burp' occasionally when no taps were turned on. At first we thought it was just a small air lock in the pipe, probably caused by travelling. But when in York it started to do it a little more frequently. We then suspected a leak, and on examination discovered water coming from the Cascade.

Investigation showed that the plastic piece with the non-return valve in it, where cold water enters the Cascade, had fractured. In attempting to put a bit of tape around it as a temporary effort, I only made it worse. Typical! I therefore disconnected the cold water feed and put an AA battery into the pipe with the jubilee clip around it to prevent water from going everywhere. That worked.

We went to Ebor Countrywide Caravans in York whose fitter took just under an hour to remove the broken item, insert a new one and re-connect everything. In talking to their service manager I learned that this is not an uncommon problem with these heaters. Apparently the plastic of which the valve is made is liable to become brittle in the cold weather of winter - and last winter was cold. He told me a number of trailer vans had come in with the same problem, as well as other motorhomes.

If your water pump starts to operate when you are not taking any water, this may just be the cause. Look around under the van near the Cascade to see if water is dripping. Do not be confused if it appears to be warm water, because if the valve goes it allows the heated water to come out as well.

Harry Henthorne

More thanks

AS NEW MEMBERS we would like to thank Pam and Terry Holton, the marshals, and all the Club members who made us so welcome on our maiden rally at Dartmouth. We enjoyed the rally very much and now look forward to many more.

Irene and John Joplin

Cross-Channel costs

Charges for taking motorhomes over the Channel remains a hot topic. In these two items David Pocknee gives news of his continuing battle with Eurotunnel, in which he hopes to enrol MMM as an expert witness, and David Clayfield reminds us of savings for those with money to invest - Ed.

A lengthy argument

IN A LETTER to me, Eurotunnel justify higher fares for motorhomes than for mini-buses using the tunnel by asserting that on average motorhomes are two-and-a-half times, but mini-buses only one-and-a-half times, the length of a car.

I have to admit that I have no hard data regarding the respective average sizes of vehicles, but my feeling is that motorhomes are not longer on average than mini-buses, nor are they two-and-a-half times the size of a car. It may be that the editor of *MMM* (to whom I have written) or his colleagues, and who are acknowledged experts on motorhomes, have facts and figures to either support or contradict Eurotunnel.

If it turns out Eurotunnel are correct, I would be happy to let the matter drop, but if they are not, perhaps *MMM* would let me use them as an expert witness to be quoted back at Eurotunnel and even join me in seeking a better deal for motorhomes.

As you can see, I haven't given up and will let you know the outcome.

David Pocknee



Floating assets

THE HIGH COST of taking a motorhome across the Channel, mentioned in June's *ASOC Newsletter*, prompts me to write about the P&O Concessionary Fare Scheme for shareholders. The full discount is 50 per cent off the standard fare, excluding day returns etc., but including the motorhome fare for up to four passengers, Dover-Calais, 40 per cent off Portsmouth-Cherbourg/Le Havre and 40 per cent off Hull-Zeebrugge. Discounts are given on P&O sailings to Northern Ireland and to Orkney.

For the discounts you need to hold 600 shares in P&O Concessionary Stock (5.5%), which must be registered in your name at 31 December in the year before you travel. Friends who bought these shares at the end of the year found it took three months after purchase for them to be registered, and that demand at the year-end can push prices up - so purchase well in advance. The trading price of the shares is usually quoted in the *Telegraph*, *Guardian* and *Times*.

My crossing in an Auto-Sleeper Executive cost £137.50 for a peak-hour period return in June.

I am not a financial adviser and, as the advertisements say 'the value of shares may rise or fall', but if you are a regular traveller the savings can be great and a small annual dividend is paid.

David Clayfield

Don't buy shares without first getting independent financial advice - they are not for everyone - Ed.

Why winterise flushing toilets?

MEMBERS WITH OLDER VANS may have the same manual Thetford toilet as me. In the Thetford's handbook they suggest winterising these with a propylen glycol type of anti-freeze. But try to find some! After spending an arm and a leg on phone calls and petrol, I gave up and wrote to Thetford, explaining that emptying the system wasn't possible because I use the loo daily.

They wrote back to say they no longer manufacture anti-freeze but now suggest that brands containing the following properties may be used: ethylene glycol, mono-ethylene glycol, propane-diol, glycerol, ethane-diol, glycol. In other words, most of the commercial anti-freezes. However they say that alcohol-based anti-freezes like methanol, ethanol and iso-propanol must *never* be used.

The right anti-freeze can only be used in models with their own fresh water tanks - C2, C4, C200CW Cassette. It must not be added to units drawing water directly from the on-board system - C3 or C200CS - because the same supply feeds sinks, showers and other water outlets.

A two-litre can of one of the recommended products cost me about £4.50 and lasted through the winter, so for that amount, why winterise?

Thetford used to market their own anti-freeze many years ago before restrictions on transporting glycols came in, and I honestly believe they forgot to alter their handbooks - or else they're on to a good thing renewing frozen pumps.

Jack Byers

Taking the plunge

HAVE YOU EVER thought about the words 'les Bains' whilst driving through the many spa towns of France and wondered what lies within the often impressive buildings? Do you think 'that must be one of those places for sick people and invalids'? While it's certainly true that many people attend those establishments by arrangement with their doctors for on-going treatment after operations etc., don't get the idea there's nothing of benefit for the rest of us. Think again. Think *fun*.

We were persuaded to do just that by a French friend on a recent visit to Chateauneuf-les-Bains in the northern Auvergne. After translating the list of activities and prices from the brochure, we opted for a general 'feel good' regime.

The water comes through the volcanic rock via a local *source* at 37°C and that temperature was reflected everywhere we moved. Once within the central pool area there was a chemical-laden humidity and an inherent bouyancy in the brown-tinged water. It was wonderfully relaxing. Everyone was encouraged by the staff to take part in a series of gentle exercises.

With luxury towelling gowns over our swimsuits we continued to a series of individual cubicles. In the first a number of invigorating, pulverising jets found muscles we didn't know we had - even in hands and feet. A skilled operator aimed a stream of water from a hose, with the jet regulated to suit the client's wishes or weaknesses. Then it was immersion up to the chin in a bath with streams of aerated water giving superb hydro-massage in regular patterns over the body, culminating in a seething finale, just like a jacuzzi.

After we'd dressed, we walked out feeling pounds lighter and *extremely* clean. Next time you're near a spa and feel stiff when you climb out of the driving seat, find out what they offer and give yourself a treat.

Joan Joselyn

Scotch mist

WE HAD A FEW SPARE DAYS before the Portavadie rally and went as far as Castle Douglas, where the caravan site is on the edge of the public park, but has all the facilities needed and is within easy walking distance of the shops. Two nights at Culzean Castle gave us an interesting whole day 'doing' the castle, gardens and park, including a good meal in the restaurant, with magnificent views across to Arran.

Then to the Dunoon ferry and the drive around the Kyles of Bute to Portavadie, but without seeing the promised views because of raging storms and wet weather. We were amongst the last to arrive on the rally field. It was immediately evident that George and Helen Gilchrist, the marshals, had done a lot of preparation. There were cut pieces of wood to help level vans on the uneven, lumpy, surface and to use as duckboards over any wet, muddy patches. There were not one, but two quizzes, a tea towel for each unit and much literature relevant to the area.

Every evening we were drawn together as a group for some activity - a coffee evening, a cheese-tasting with wine, a treasure hunt which had us scrambling across the site looking for questions which were not easy to answer when we found them, the traditional raffle with wonderful prizes donated by friends of the marshals, and an evening when we found what the answers to the quiz questions were.

Although the weather was not very kind, being cold and wet at times with van heaters needed every night, we were able to do our own thing during the day, go on organised walks, or spend an interesting few hours by taking the bus to Tighnabruach.

Thanks are due to George and Helen for a very good, well-organised rally with many extras laid on.

Before going on to the Oban rally, we took the ferry across to Tarbert to drive down the length of Kintyre and spend two nights at Machrihanish

inear Campbeltown. There was a distinct shortage of cars and people, so that at times all we could hear was the sea and the birds - all so peaceful compared with our usual lives.

It was a long drive north along the west coast past views of Cara, Ghiga, Islay and Jura, to Oban. After lunch at Crinan harbour and a wood-lined walk to the start of the 200-year old Crinan Canal, for an hour or so we watched boats moored or passing through the lock from the sea.

This time we were the last to arrive at the rally. Sally and Jerry Haxton, the marshals met us with information, and their son Craig sited us.

The weather was unkind and got worse. We walked into Oban the first day to look around, and the next joined other ralliers on a boat trip to Mull with a coach ride with commentary across the island to join a smaller boat to Staffa. The rough sea made it seem we would not be able to land at the small jetty, but we did and climbed the stairs to the marked route to see the fascinating rock formations around the island's coast and in Fingal's Cave - like enormous, very dark, almost black, stacked logs and poles - before a quick dash to Iona's atmospheric isle.

A bright and sunny Saturday heralded our organised coach trip to the nearby Highland Games, but by lunchtime the weather was changing and rain reached us in mid-afternoon. The BBC were filming for the Blue Peter programme and had largely taken over, but it was interesting to watch the antics of children's and adult races going on amidst hammer throwing and caber tossing, to hear kilted pipe bands and watch highland dancing all day. Nothing stopped even in teeming rain, but we tried to keep dry in the marquees until our coach returned.

Low cloud, mist and drizzle marred another organised day out to Inverary, hiding the beautiful scenery, but we enjoyed a good meal in the hotel our coach driver recommended.

Monday night was really rough and gave us a sleepless night when a gale-driven storm blew with such ferocity we thought our windows would be blown in.

All too soon the rally ended, with some units leaving early in search of better weather. Thanks to Sally and Jerry and, of course, Craig, for keeping our spirits up with hot coffee or tea every afternoon. It really was worth doing the distance to see such beautiful scenery and we hope

other rallies are planned together again.

Elizabeth and Bill Grimsley

Thanks again

THANKS have already been given, but we thought we would like to put into print how much of the success of the Portavadie rally was due to the planning and hard work done by Helen and George Gilchrist. Nothing was too much trouble for them to make our stay pleasant and entertaining. It was all very much appreciated.

Pat and Noel Bonner

All our marshals work very hard to make their rallies a success. When the weather doesn't help, everything can become more difficult. Congratulations to both sets of Scottish rally marshals - Ed.

Look back in pleasure

I DO HOPE David Bunyan who wrote about battling with squeaking Boxer springs in June's *ASOC Newsletter* won't blow a gasket reading this. I learned to drive before the War in my father's 1935 British Salmson 12/50 saloon. As standard, it was fitted with leather spring gaiters complete with grease nipples. It had twin overhead camshafts driven by a gear-train, which twenty years later showed no more than acceptable wear. Now we have cambelts. Progress can be a mixed blessing.

Michael Mawer

Non-slip tablecloths?

CAN ANYONE HELP? I am looking for a supplier of non-slip material suitable for tablecloths which I need to buy from the roll, with a minimum width of 60/61cms (24 inches). It needs to be flexible enough to hang down the sides of the table. Brownhills used to stock it, but like all other dealers they now have only set sizes. There is a suitable item in the Fiamma catalogue, but the importers do not and will not import it. If you know of a stockist, please ring, or write to me at 8 Saxons Drive, Foley Park Estate, Maidstone, Kent ME14 5HS (016 2275 8043).

Sean Hollands



For Sale

BOXER TALISMAN 2-LITRE PETROL, March 1997, 15,000 miles. One owner. 4 3-point seatbelts. Extras including overcab bed and air springs. Immaculate condition; non-smokers, no pets. £22,500. Phone or write David and Jackie Hines (013 2364 6192) 13 Denton Rd, Eastbourne, E. Sussex, BN20 7SS.*

CHAIRS AND SLEEPING BAG. Two directors chairs: £5 each. Thick weight sleeping bag which can be zipped together to make a double: £40. Phone or write Mr and Mrs J. Ridgway (016 3065 5851) 61 Dalelands Estate, Market Drayton, Salop, TF9 1AZ.

BOXER TALISMAN GL 2-LITRE PETROL 'T' reg, April 1999. Only 4,500 miles. New condition - shower, oven, overcab bed and other items never used. No pets, non-smokers. Owners want to downsize to hi-top. £29,000 ono. Phone Peter Ashmore, 012 4627 5073 (Chesterfield).*

OMNISTOR 'S' CLASS TOPBOX, size 135 x 89 x 38 cms. Excellent condition. Cost £340, will accept £130 ono. Phone Doug Fulluck, 020 8300 3083 (Kent).

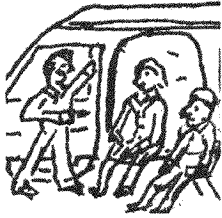
CB RADIO, HUB CAPS, BRAKE SHOES. 80-channel, completely legal, CB radio. Hardly used, boxed with instructions: £65. Set of chrome hub caps for Bedford CV base vehicle, 1982, as new: £25. Set front brake shoes, new and boxed, for 1982 Bedford CV 2.3 petrol: £10. Phone Kelvin Brown 019 0263 4444 (Willenhall, W. Midlands).

AWNING FOR CLUBMAN. Eurovent Coachman free-standing awning complete with all fittings incl. ground sheet: £175 ovno. Phone, write or e-mail Derek Simpson (012 7879 4934) 6 Abbots Close, The Fieldings, Burnham-on-Sea, Somerset, TA8 1RB (simmmo@ntlworld.com).*

*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.*

The great question about abroad is, is it worth getting there? *Macaulay*

Sitting on the Step



Goosed

Tele-mad some folk - like Herbert who wouldn't shift without his set, even for a weekend. We watched him setting up on one of our favourite farm sites. There were no electric, but his portable generator purred away while he got his aerial turned right way round. That were some aerial - a great collection of pointy bits on a high pole, set in a stand. He spent best part of a hour getting it up and tuned, with Begonia, his better half, shouting instructions out of van window.

Meanwhile, farmer's pet gander, Musso, waddled round to look at us. We knew him of old and were properly respectful - funny cattle, geese. Musso soon gobbled up the crusts my Martha'd cut off the cucumber sandwiches she was making for tea (that's another tale), then set off to see what might be on offer at Herbert's van.

I haven't fathomed whether it was sight of the lad's abundant back end or the purple and yellow burmuda shorts wrapping it up, but summat got the gander's dander up. Hissing like a pressure cooker and with long neck stretched out ahead, he half-waddled, half-flew at the target and delivered a rear-end thrust fit to put Herbert into orbit if he hadn't hit van side first. Either way he saw stars.

Begonia's screech when she saw her love's light dimmed scared Musso off and brought farmer's wife running, by which time lad was on his feet wondering if it was teatime or Tuesday and clutching his head and rear. Farmer took him off to be patched up at hospital, but when he got back with butterfly clips holding his head together he were walking very stiff, what with the peck and the anti-tetanus jab they'd delivered straight to the seat of the problem. Even though farmer promised to keep Musso penned up, Begonia'd decided they'd be safer at home.

Funny how quick that aerial came down when I did it for him. Funny, too, that next time we were on same field with them, he didn't bring tele and told us he'd taken up bird-watching. Showed us binoculars, too. Reckon he wanted to see the geese before they saw him.

'Enoch'

Contents

Glad you like it	2	Boxer problems	8	Why winterise toilets?	13
Make your views known	3	Rapid recovery	9	Taking the plunge	14
Banham questionnaire	3	Rally starting times	10	Scotch mist	15
In Committee	4	Thanks	10	Thanks again	17
Malvern working rally	5	Rally information Centre		Look back in pleasure	17
Lining up rally plaques	6	Water heater burps	11	Non-slip tablecloths	17
'I name this motorhome ...'	7	More thanks	11	For sale	18
Memory board	7	A lengthy argument	12	'Enoch'	19
Sixpenny Handley	7	Floating assets	12		

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Minutes Secretary	Barbara Potter	018 4427 4021
Chief Rally Marshal	Ben Mansfield	017 2336 9769
Press Officer	Stella Ross	017 0822 8075
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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.

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