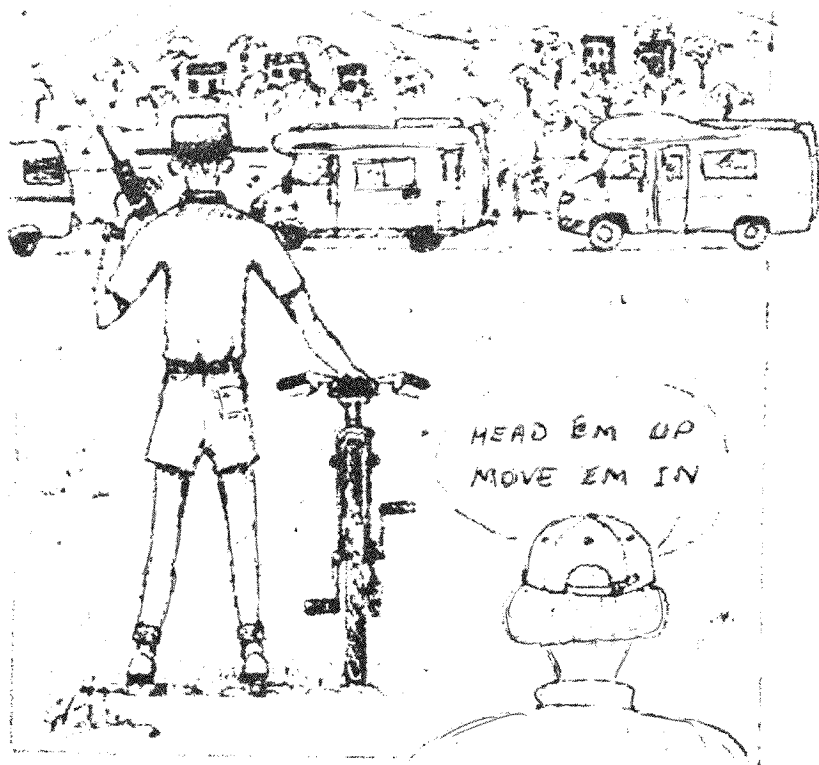




AUTO-SLEEPER OWNERS' CLUB

www.asoc.fsnet.co.uk



NEWSLETTER 168
SEPTEMBER 2002

Hello.

Did you notice the cover picture on the August Newsletter? The drawing was in response to the note from *Charles Trevelyan* who wanted to know some of the unusual things which members do with their Auto-Sleepers. As usual, *Rita Daley* came up with these cartoons. There are more to follow - we shall have to see when I can fit them in. The September cover was prepared by *Geoff Mackey* as a result of various Club & Company Rallies. You may even recognise the back view of *Baz!* The latter sent it to me via e-mail which made sure I received it in good time.

Which reminds me, someone mentioned to me that they had difficulty in getting an e-mail through to me although others have sent stuff quite easily. All I can think is that the address has not been typed as absolutely accurately, as it needs to be on the internet. My address, as shown on the back page, is "harry_henthorne@lineone.net" You don't, obviously, include the inverted commas which are just there to highlight it at the moment. But you **DO** need to put in the underline character between "harry" and "henthorne". Without it, or with a dot instead, the address fails. Over to you.

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STOLEN VEHICLE !

Zena Cumberpatch, whom some may recall from the Gliding Club rally or even last year's Club & Company, has had her Renault Traffic Rapport **STOLEN** from her home address near Sheffield. It was taken on 24th July 2002, just before she was about to set off on holiday with her son. The registration number is **K 271 AGY**. If by any chance you should see this van, please advise the Sheffield Police on 0114 220 2020 quoting Crime Reference EE 06032/2002. Keep your eyes open, please.

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PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

First of all, many thanks to everyone who entered the competition this year. Some 68 pictures made an impressive display on the board at the Club & Company Rally and caused much interest and amusement.

Unfortunately there could only be six prize winners and they were as follow:

General	1st	'How to keep the Chairman in Tow'	<i>Jeanne Hall</i>
	2nd	'Bloomin Lovely'	<i>Colin Brooker</i>
	3rd	'Out of the Swirling Mist'	<i>Barbara Potter</i>

Humourous

	1st	'Tiger, Tiger Shining Bright'	<i>Margaret Newton</i>
	2nd	'You're not going in my van with boots like that'	<i>Eirwen Cox</i>
	3rd	'Beauty and the Beasts'	<i>Pauline Hignett</i>

All have now received their cash prizes and have no doubt rushed out to buy a new Leica, Canon or even a Supersnap Disposable! All the winning pictures have gone to *Baz Wellard* for inclusion on the website so if you missed them at Malvern try www.asoc.fsnet.co.uk

Please keep taking pictures, for it will not be long before I am asking you for entries for next year. Remember too that Auto-Sleepers Ltd are always looking for good publicity shots, so look for good backgrounds to snap your 'van. Harbours, ancient buildings, old bridges, aircraft, mountains, lakes, etc., etc.

Brian Smith

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Club & Company Rally

Two letters have been received from the British Retinitis Pigmentosa Society, the Club's chosen charity for this year. The first, from Lynda Cantor who is their Hon. Secretary, thanked the Club for "your most generous donation" and advised that the money will be paid into their medical research fund which helps to support medical workers in their efforts to find a treatment for the problems.

The second, from Lord Birwood who is a Trustee and who was present to receive the cheque at Malvern says:

"I must add to what I said last Sunday [when he received the cheque] by putting down on paper my most heartfelt appreciation of the extraordinary, selfless generosity of your organisation in raising a truly astonishing amount for the BRPS Charity. Judy and I really enjoyed ourselves that beautiful morning. There was, about the whole event, a spirit of optimism and good humour which will stay with us for a long time to come.

We went on during the afternoon to look at various models of Auto-Sleeper and were much impressed by the practicality and thoughtfulness that has gone into their design.

Thank you again, you have done great good."

Lord Birwood's letter has been put in exactly as received.

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One little oddity occurred at this year's rally. You may recall that on the booking form the question was put as to whether this was your first rally. The idea of the committee was so that any new members who were coming along to any of our rallies for the very first time could be welcomed into the fold. On the normal, small rallies, this is usually done over coffee on the Friday evening. As you will appreciate, there were many more first-timers at the big rally.

However, one or two people seemed to have the impression that it was for them just because they had not been to the big rally before. Never mind that their first rally had been somewhere else with this Club. It did raise a few eyebrows when it was noticed that "Thingy" was in the gathering although "we" had met them at the "Wotsit" rally! So for future reference, please remember that "First Time Ralliers" is intended to mean anyone who has **NEVER** attended **ANY ASOC Rally** before.

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German Rally - 2002

We would like to thank the rally marshals, *Jean & Ian Day, Alwyn & Ray Pope and Nora & Ven Venables* for all their hard work in organizing and running a very enjoyable holiday in the Black Forest and Bavaria.

Betty & Keith Andrews.

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Rallies

I do hope you will be able to find room to print this very sincere thank you to some very hardworking people (amongst many others in ASOC). I don't think anyone has written before about Abbey Gate and can't remember anything about Lichfield either, so perhaps this will make amends.

Many thanks to both you and *Sheila* and to all the other hard working committee members. Sorry, can't e-mail or anything like that, so please excuse any typing errors.

Sally Gale

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What a wonderful band these rally organisers/marshals are! First, another superb weekend at Malvern, thanks to the tremendous organisation and hard work of *Baz* and his large team of helpers. It was, as always, a weekend to be anticipated, enjoyed and savoured, with something for everyone some time during the two days. Many congratulations and thanks to *Baz* and all.

On then to the next weekend at Abbey Gate College, Chester - an event looked forward to each year by the *Ellis's* regulars. *Jean*, always smiling; *Duncan* quietly getting on with things and always a very warm welcome from them both. Everything laid on, showers, toilet facilities, a bus service from the college gate and a super meal by the college catering staff on Saturday evening. Very many thanks for this and past rallies - please carry on the good work.

The following weekend was another firm favourite - Beacon Park, Lichfield. What a way to spend a 10th wedding anniversary, *Trish and Ted*, gluttons for punishment! Friday evening saw an extra celebration to mark this anniversary and also the Golden Wedding of *Barbara & John Cox* (Membership No.1) also two 80th birthdays, *Daisy Wane & Lee Mather*. Congratulations to them all and best wishes for many happy years to come. Thank you and your hard working helpers for yet another thoroughly enjoyable and memorable rally.

Sally & Don Gale

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Once again a wonderful few days were spent at Lichfield Beacon Park Rally where we received such a warm welcome back to ASOC from *Tricia & Ted* and the other members there. Thank you all.

Irene & Peter Wilson

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We would like to say a big thank you to *Baz, Dorothy* and all those who worked so hard before and during the weekend of the Club & Company Rally to make it once again such a success.

We joined in as volunteers for an hour on both Saturday and Sunday. In doing so we met numerous members with whom we had had no previous contact. This only added to our weekend enjoyment.

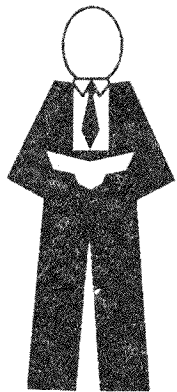
There was a great shortage of helpers. **WHY?** The very future of the rally weekend lies with more volunteers offering to help, if **ONLY** for one hour during the weekend.

Come on, Members, do **YOUR** bit. **GET INVOLVED!**

Mo & Mike Valentine.

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Chairman's Chat



Although it is now September, this is the first opportunity I have had to thank the many volunteers who gave willingly of their time to make this year's Club and Company Rally such an outstanding success. To mention them all by name would be impossible, but a special mention must, however, be made of *Baz and Dorothy Wellard*, who worked long hours for many weeks to ensure that all went well over the weekend. *Baz* will soon retire from his role as Chairman of the 2002 Club and Company Rally Sub-committee: thank you, *Baz*, from all of us for all you have done for the Club, and *Dorothy*, for your support and help during the past four years.

It has often been said that everything the Club organises depends on the work of willing volunteers, and it was disappointing that fewer this year offered to help during the Rally. Please be one of the helpers next year:

an hour or two marshalling or selling raffle tickets, for example, still leaves plenty of time for seeing and doing everything on offer.

I was both surprised and delighted that my appeal in July for a member to offer to join the Committee as Minutes Secretary was answered by no fewer than three volunteers. All had the experience to fill this rôle most capably, and the Committee found it hard to make a decision after hearing anonymous descriptions of what each "candidate" had to offer. After careful consideration, it was agreed that we should co-opt *Mike Hall* to the Committee to keep the records of our meetings. *Mike's* experience in preparing the annual returns for a company limited by guarantee will be invaluable as we get to grips with the Club's changed status in the new year. To the other two volunteers, *Bill Barry and Mike Buttel*, I would like to repeat what I said to them personally at Malvern and in my letter of thanks after returning home: thank you for offering: I am sure that your willingness to help will be of service to the Club in the future.

The summary in the August Newsletter of the answers to the questionnaire distributed at Malvern made interesting reading: more feedback from this useful exercise can be found on the Club's web site (www.asoc.fsnet.co.uk). Remember that even if you, your family or your friends do not have Internet access, most public libraries can now offer this service. (Our new £65,000,000 Millennium library in Norwich has its catalogue on the Internet. After I had used one of the many terminals for ten minutes to find a particular book, the screen froze. So I walked along the shelves and found it. Isn't progress wonderful?)

Ray Whiley

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What's in a Name?

I was amused by the Editor's L-car comment. Here's the true story - although I can't imagine it being of world-shattering interest! When we moved into our new house in 1966 we wondered about the name of our little road. It was spelt variously Ellcar or Elcar with the definitive version coming only when they eventually laid the road surface and put up the name board. Was it because of the driving schools using the area? Was it an anagram of "Claire"? Was it because of the shape of the road - although this is really a 'T'?

Over thirty years later we were selling an item of camping equipment. The purchaser spent some time chatting, as one does, and happened to mention that although he knew the name of the road, he had never been here. It seemed of particular interest to him so we talked on. The answer to our problem proved to be simple. His wife's father had worked at City Hall and was responsible for naming new roads. His name was Elliot - his wife's maiden name was Carter - so he just put the two together!

Ray Whiley

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Cruise Control

Right at the top of my interest at the moment is the possibility of having a cruise control fitted. What a good idea of *Ken Milward's* to suggest a discussion at the Club & Company Rally. But we were unable to attend.

Is there any chance of publishing an article on the subject, listing pros, cons and costs? It would be appreciated by at least one member.

Harry Mackley

You should know me by now. If someone with suitable knowledge will put pen to paper, fingers to keyboard, crayon to cardboard or whatever and let me have a suitable article, I'll do my best to include it in a future issue of the Newsletter. But it is YOUR Newsletter. YOU write it, I only put it together.

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Rally Plaques

What do other members do with their Rally Plaques? I've put self-adhesive Velcro on the back of mine (only 3 so far) and then stick them to the wall covering in the van. What else can one do? Could we have a list of ideas some time, especially for those members who don't "see" them at the Club and Company Rally. I have obtained an embroidery pattern of my van.

Marjorie Thompson

It is surprising just what happens to those plaques. In our own case, we stick them onto a cork board of the type you can buy for your odd notes in the kitchen and elsewhere. This started before the Club was formed because *Sheila and I* used to go to Steam Rallies with some veteran (or ancient!) motor cycles. The type of plaque we then received were usually made of brass. Seeing others had stuck them on to boards of various sorts, shapes, sizes and material, we took the easy way out and bought the cork boards. At the moment we have about four or five boards with the steam rally plaques and three with Caravan Club Site plaques and Club Rally plaques stuck on them. We have seen other vans with the plaques stuck in various places using Velcro, Blue-Tack and other adhesives.

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Los Odours & Blockages

I have a solution to the odours from the toilet we have so often hear or read about. In our homes we have a simple way of overcoming this problem. Traps are fitted to hold water and prevent odours back tracking and coming out into the open air. We can make a similar barrier in our motorhomes.

After using the toilet and flushing, close the vent and flush again. Approx. 1" of water will collect in the bottom of the toilet basin which will act as a barrier. If the water remains, the seal is good; if not, check that the vent is "home" properly or it may be faulty. I have done this for years, including the Porta-Potti and have had no odours at all.

Time and time again I have had to deal with blocked sink outlet pipes. The bathroom washbasin outlet is another which causes problems. I finally decided enough was enough when I had to strip the pipework down to release deposits trapped at a 'Y' junction. Looking at the sink unit waste outlet, in 6.4 seconds an idea started to "filter" into my head. I immediately headed for our kitchen and *Alwyn's* bakery cupboard! Into my hand came her metal gauze flour sifter. Given her my best sales patter I promised to replace her "old, well used sifter" (I have it in mind to buy her one as part of her surprise Christmas presents).

Now, armed with the sifter, I started construction. I took the gauze out of its frame, flattened it, placed the rubber sink plug (from the

motorhome) onto the gauze and bent the gauze over the bottom of the plug. I took the plug away, cut the gauze with a quarter-inch upstand and bent this down onto the base, flattening it with a hammer and a piece of wood. I now had a round piece of flat gauze which fitted perfectly and lay well below the waste rim. If you use your sink to wash up, put your plug on top of the gauze filter.

The washbasin outlet can be covered with the same gauze, this time 2" long x 1" wide. You will be surprised on checking after a few days how much deposit has been caught. The filters can be cleaned easily and returned to position quickly.

Ray Pope

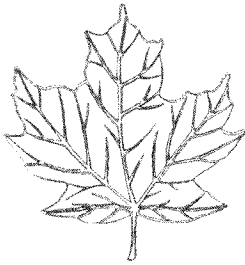
There are plastic filters available for the sink unit which we have been using with great success for a long time. The only problem is that when you remove the plug from the outlet, you have to be very quick in putting the filter back in and then often have to hold it there while an air bubble pops back up from down below. Also, to help clear some of the deposits, as I have said before, we use good old fashioned soda crystals. They do work!

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Remains of the

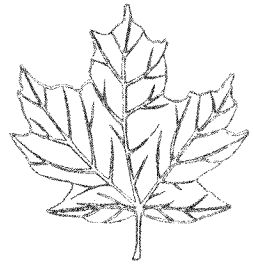
I thought that this story might amuse members. After emptying the cassette of my Thetford toilet recently I heard the sound of something metallic rolling around inside. After removing the seal to get a better look inside I saw what looked like two small pieces of metal. I was able to remove these for closer inspection (not the most pleasant of tasks) and they seemed to be approximately 1 to 2 mm diameter ball-bearings. Fearing the worst, I sent an e-mail to Thetford describing the objects and asking them if they could suggest their origin and whether a repair/replacement was required. They replied (very promptly) to say that they were mystified as to their possible origin so could not help.

My wife saw the reply and asked what it was all about as I had not told her of my original discovery. When I told her and showed her the evidence she said "You should have asked me. You remember, just before



September 2002

Rally Supplement



Please remember that all rally bookings, unless otherwise stated in this Supplement, are made by post by sending a rally slip to the relevant marshal.

All rallies start at 12 noon unless otherwise stated in this Supplement.

If you have a mobile telephone please write the number on the rally slip in order to assist rally marshals in case of last minute cancellation.

Please note. Auto-Sleepers Ltd., has cancelled the Open Weekend planned for 28th.-29th. September. Therefore the rally planned for 27th.-30th at "The Ranch", Honeybourne is also cancelled.

*****THREE NEW RALLIES. Full details later in Supplement.*****

31st. December 2002 - 2nd. January 2003. 10th. Hidden Valley New Year Rally. All those who are interested in attending this popular rally please send a SAE to: Sandra Wisely, 2 Mount Pleasant, Bishops Itchington, Southam, Warks. CV47 2QE.
Tel.No. 01926 614 194.

We will require new marshals for this rally from next year. If you are at all interested please contact the Rally Co-ordinator.

13th - 15th September (2 nights). Ludlow Food & Drink Festival, Ludlow Secondary School, Ludlow, Shropshire.

Emergency Tel.No. 0780 231 7613 (Marshals' mobile).

Rally Marshals: Sheila & Ivor Barnett, Nora & Ven Venables & team.

Site Fee:£6.00 per night.(Incl.VAT). Rally Fee:£2.35(Incl.VAT).

Total fees £14.35. **NO ELECTRICITY.**

Rally slips to Mr.I.C. Barnett,Highlevel,Farden Bitterley,Nr. Ludlow, Shropshire.SY8 3HU. Tel.No. 01584 890 428.Cheque payable to I.C. Barnett.

Please enclose a SAE(C6 9X6) for directions etc. GREENFIELD site with all level hardstandings,heated hall for evenings.

Saturday evening American Supper.

Dogs strictly on lead at **ALL** times and exercised off site.

Attractions: This weekend is Ludlows Food & Drink Festival which is held on the Saturday & Sunday.

There is a Sausage Trail,a Bread Trail,an Ale Trail plus cheese tasting

Directions:On A49 from South follow South Shropshire Leisure Centre signs.At 2nd roundabout turn **left**,following signs go under railway bridge and turn **right** at the sign and **left** into Leisure Centre Car Park. On A49 from North follow South Shropshire Leisure Centre signs on B4361 turn **right** into Leisure Centre Car Park.Follow ASOC signs. Rally closes at 4.00p.m. Sunday.

DO NOT ARRIVE BEFORE 4.30 p.m.FRIDAY.

Limit of 35 vans.

12th - 15th September.(3 nights).Motorcaravan & RV Show,Shepton Mallet,Somerset.

Emergency Tel.No. 0777 557 0182 Marshals' mobile.

Rally Marshals: Jan & Vic Hicklin,Eirwen & Ben Cox & Eva & Colin Whetham.

Site Fee: Special Club prices. Arrive Thursday £23.00 Friday onwards £18.00.

Rally Fee:£2.35(Incl.VAT).Send rally fees,£2.35 with rally slip & SAE for Show application form to Mrs. J. Hicklin,381 Manor Road, Brimington,Chesterfield, Derbyshire.S43 1PP.Tel.No. 01246 236 157.

Rally slips & rally fee cheques for this rally should have been sent to Mrs. J. Hicklin by August 10th at the latest.

19th - 22nd. September. (3 nights). Northern Motorcaravan Show, York

Emergency Tel.No. 0771 409 1349 (Marshals' mobile). 8.00 - 10.00 am & pm.

Rally Marshals: Pauline & Neil Rogers, Evelyn & Ben Mansfield & Jean & Ian Sellers.

Rally Fee: £1.75 (couples), £1.20 (singles) Both incl. VAT Do not forget to send a rally slip & rally fee to the marshals.

If you did not send an application form & a cheque for the site fees to Warners, the organisers, by 27th. August you **cannot rally with the Club.**

The rally ends at 12 noon Sunday but you may remain on site until 12 noon Monday.

Please remember to send a rally slip and cheque for the Rally Fee (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.

No rally slips can be accepted after Tuesday 11th. September.

27th - 30th. September Open Weekend Rally at The Ranch. CANCELLED

1st - 3rd. October. (3 nights) Hartsholme Country Park, Skellingthorpe Road, Lincoln.

Emergency Tel., 077 68 16 45 22. (Marshal's mobile).

Rally Marshals: Janet Sutterby & Eileen Kellard.

Site Fees: £ 10.10 per night including Electricity & VAT. *Payable to the site warden on arrival.*

Rally Fee: £2.00 (Incl. VAT). Send rally slips & cheques payable to Janet Sutterby, 3 Bilsby Road, Alford, Lincs. LN13 9EW. Tel.No. 01507 461 449.

Attractions: This is a small local authority site with toilets & showers. Part of an extensive park & nature reserve with lakes & footpaths. Visitors centre & cafeteria, local shops. Good bus service into city centre. A room is available for social gatherings in the evening.

Directions: Take A46 Lincoln by-pass. At Skellingthorpe Roundabout turn onto the B1378 signed Birchwood and to the site. In 1 miles watch for the Country Park sign on the right (easily missed). Keep left inside gates.

Arrival time 12 noon on the first day.

4th - 6th. October. (2 nights). Quorn & Woodhouse Station, Nr. Loughborough, Leics.

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

Rally Marshals: Elizabeth & Bill Grimsley.

Site Fee: £3.00 per unit per night (Incl. VAT). **NO ELECTRICITY.** Rally Fee: £1.25 per person (Incl. VAT). This is a GREENFIELD SITE using prt of the station car park. Toilets available on the platform, only when the station is open.

Rally slips to: Mr. & Mrs. E. W. Grimsley, 24 Paul Drive, Leicester, LE4 9FY.

Tel.No. 0116 269 2220. Cheques payable to E.W. & Mrs. E Grimsley.

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

Loughborough- good shopping and Britain's first Carillon.There is much to see at the station.Leicester City Centre can be reached by bus from the station.The National Space Centre is in walking distance from Leicester North station.

Mountsorrel family farm & museum,with animals,old cars & farm machinery.

Saturday evening.We have booked the Skittle Alley at "The Manor",a pub/restaurant opposite the station.Hot food is available at £5.00 per head.If interested please state numbers on rally 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 A6 and can be easily found by following the brown signs,but make sure that you end up at QUORN and not one of the other stations,as they are all marked with brown signs. The station is situated on the **left** side of Woodhouse Road opposite the"Manor" Pub,before the railway bridge. Please **do not** arrive before 12 noon -give us time to get there! Limit of 30 vans.

4th-6th.October (3 nights).Bracklesham,Nr. Chichester,West Sussex.

There is Life South of the Watford Gap.

Emergency Tel.No. 07785 55 1229.Marshals' mobile.8.00 - 10.00 am & pm.

Rally Marshals:Mo & Mike Valentine.

Site Fee:£7.00 including Electric per night. Rally Fee:£2.35 per unit (Incl.VAT).

OWN TOILETS ESSENTIAL.Fresh water,Elsan disposal point & rubbish bins on site.

Rally slips to:M.Valentine,11 Hamilton Close,Langstone,Havant,Hants.PO9 1RP.

Tel.No. 02392 482818.

Dogs accepted on leads at all times.

Attractions:Sea Bird Watch Site close by,City of Chichester 4.5 miles,City of Portsmouth,Goodwood Racecourse,Petworth House,Aundel Castle,West Wittering Beach. Shops 700m.,Fuel 500m. & Good Pub Food 200m.

Directions:A27 Chichester by-pass,roundabout turn onto A286 Birdham/West Wittering 4 ½ miles roundabout 1st. exit A2198 - Earnley/Bracklesham/West Wittering.Site 500 M on **left**. Tawney Nursery.

MAXIMUM 30 Vans. No arrivals before 1300hrs. please.

11th - 13th. October.(2 nights).Leighton Buzzard Scouts Rally.Leighton Buzzard,Bedfordshire.

Emergency Tel.No. 07719 886 429. (Marshal's mobile).

Rally Marshals: Pat & David Mayne.Marion & Ian Wood.

Site Fee:£10 per van. NO ELECTRICITY. Rally Fee:£2.35 per van.(Incl.VAT).

Rally slips to: David Mayne,27 Mentmore Rd.,Linslade,Leighton Buzzard,Beds.LU7 2NY. Cheques payable to D.H.Mayne.Tel.No. 01525 634 824.Please send a SAE for directions etc.

We have the use of toilets, showers, hall & kitchen throughout the weekend until 3.00pm Sunday. American Supper could be arranged for Saturday night if sufficient interest plus Fri/Sat- bring games /cards drinks etc. to the hall. Scout field may require wheel mats/boards in case of inclement weather. Please come prepared.

Attractions: Saturday Market, Living History Heritage Day in High Street with re-enactments, exhibits and "Glenn Miller" Band. Various town, country & canal walks from site. Canal boat trips plus a small local steam railway available. Many good restaurants, & snack bars in town within walking distance(10 mins) Newsagent/local shop 100yds. Safeway S' market 250 yds. You can stay from 12 noon Friday until 5.00pm. Sunday.

LIMIT of 20 vans.

10th - 13th October.(3 nights). Ackworth Cricket Club., Nr. Pontefract, West Yorks.

Emergency Tel.No.01977 612 773. Rally marshal's home No. will check for messages.
Rally Marshal: Alan Guest.

Site Fee:£3.00 per night. NO ELECTRICITY. Rally Fee:£1.75 couples,£1.20 singles.
(Incl.VAT).Cheques & Rally slips to Alan Guest,27 Chiltern Drive,
Ackworth,Pontefract, West Yorks. WF7 7DW. Tel.No. 01977 612 773.

Attractions:Pontefract 2 miles, Nostell Priory 2 miles.

Directions:A638 side of Boot & Shoe,Ackworth Cricket Club. ½ mile roundabout A638 to Wakefield.

24th -27th October(3 nights). Eastham Hall,Lytham,Lancs.

Site Tel.No.01253 737 907 Emergency only.

Rally Marshals:Kath & Norman Benyon,Barbara & Vic Kaye & Evelyn & Ben Mansfield.

Site Fee:(As last year)£10.00 per night(incl.VAT)Includes electricity & use of centrally heated hall. Rally Fee:£1.50 per van +75p per person.(Incl.VAT).

Rally slips to Mrs.B.Kaye, 14 Firthwood Rd., 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 illuminations.**Thursday.** Welcome coffee evening.,**Friday** 5.30 pm a coach to Dobbies Garden centre for a meal £5.00 a head - followed by a demonstration(to be announced later) then plenty of time to browse round two floors of books,pictures.glass,candles, outdoor clothing,gifts etc.Coach will be approx £2.50/75 per head.PLEASE SEND MONEY FOR MEAL but NOT the coach. **Saturday** Fish & Chip supper in the hall.Why not wear a Jubilee hat,prize for the best effort. We also exchange Christmas cards with friends.Bring any spare camping equipment for a Bargain Table.Raffle draw & Quiz.Please indicate on Rally Slip if you wish to go on the coach& also if you want Fish & Chips.
Sunday Coffee & biscuits in the hall--Rally ends.

Directions:A584 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.

1st.-3rd. November.(2 nights). Eden Camp,Nr. Malton,North Yorks.

Emergency Tel.No. 0777 557 0182.

Rally Marshals: Jan & Vic Hicklin & Evelyn & Ben Mansfield.

Site Fees:£8.50 per unit per night (includes VAT & unlimited admission to museum & use of Hut 12 for weekend). **No Electricity.** All hardstanding on car park.Elsan disposal & water available . Rally Fee:£1.35 + 50p per person (incl.VAT).

Rally 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: Eden Camp is a modern history theme museum set in a P.O.W. camp. Malton is within walking distance of the camp.

Friday evening get together & Saturday evening an American supper in Hut 12.1940's dress optional.Meals served in the Naafi.

Directions: Junction A64 York to Scarborough road & A169 Malton to Pickering road. Rally opens 12 noon Friday & closes 12 noon Sunday.

Late arrivals will have to park outside gates which are locked between 2030hrs. & 0800hrs. *Limited to 40 Vans.*

8th - 12th. November((5 nights). Sedgemoor Carnival.Burnham on Sea,Somerset.

Rally Marshals:Linda & Brian Ellis & Sheila & Ivor Barnett.

Full details for this rally will be published in the October Rally Supplement.

The provisional Rally List for 2003 will be distributed with the January 2003 Newsletter please inform me of the dates and locations of rallies for 2003 before mid November 2002.

We depend on volunteers within the Club to act as rally marshals.If you know of a suitable site why not think about running a rally.It is not difficult and help is available It is important that all potential rally dates and venues are checked with me first as,unless they are approved by the Club,there will be no Public Liability Insurance.

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 (01483 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 Evening meal: 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 14 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 Evening meal: 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 Evening meal if arranged: 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 14 DAYS BEFORE EVENT,IF POSSIBLE PLEASE!

we went away, that we had that pheasant which seemed to have an excessive amount of lead shot in it.....!"

Brian Ramsden

I'm still a bit puzzled. Did *Carole* put the shot into the cassette or.....!

-----oooOOOooo-----

Sound-proofing

I own an A-S Legend (2000 model) that is built on the Ford Transit chassis. It is quite well known that the noise output from the engine is high; one has to turn up the radio when the engine is started. I would like to reduce this noise if I could and will welcome any comments from members. I have a quote from NoiseKiller Acoustics (UK) Ltd for a DIY sound proof kit for £156.00. Has any member used this kit and would they recommend it as a good sound proofing for the vehicle?

Robin Gardner

-----oooOOOooo-----

Fitted Drawers!

Clive and I have a Talisman, before which we had a hightop and caravans and we have never stored clothing other than shoes in underbed drawers or lockers. We use this space as our food store, tins, jars, packets, bottles and boxes, all of which can be pretty heavy. On the return journey from France it is wonderful for carrying wine. It does make sense to carry heavy items at the lowest level possible.

We each use one of the overhead lockers on the nearside of the van for undergarments, socks, T shirts, jumpers etc., and it is quite surprising how much can be packed onto the shelves. Then, of course, if we have had a bumpy ride, the worst that can happen when we open a locker is getting a sock in the eye.

I wonder if anyone has solved the problem of the lockers above the end kitchen. They really are quite stupid in that the rear wall of the van starts to lean forward at this point. Anything taller than a few inches,

such as a sauce bottle, will fall out and give one a clout when the door is opened.

Audrey Goldsmith

-----oooOOOooo-----

Thank You

I should like to thank publicly all of the disappointingly small number of volunteers who helped me in the Wye Hall. They contributed so much to making the Club and Company Rally such a success.

Come on, fellow members, surely you too can give one hour of your valuable time during future rallies to help ensure their smooth running. You will have the chance to meet and chat to so many people. I do not believe that we will ever run the risk of having too many volunteers - now prove me wrong!

Jim Henwood

Senior Steward - Wye Hall

Having watched what was happening while I was at work on the Book Stall, I can vouch for the fact that *Jim* was working very hard. In fact, if he had not been reminded to close the hall for an hour he would have forgotten to have lunch. So come on, people, prove him totally wrong and offer your services in a flood.

-----oooOOOooo-----

Rallies

The debate on rallies will go on for ever. You cannot please all of the people all of the time. We rally where we want to visit. Sometimes we can't, for example the ASOC rally at Chester was full when we tried to book. This is accepted as there must sometimes be limits on how many vans may attend.

We don't go to a rally just for the sake of it. So I think that it is a choice of location if a rally is not supported. I know there is the opportunity to organise rallies so I am not complaining, just putting my thoughts over.

Roger Spensley

As a slight aside, I know that our Rally Co-ordinator, *Neil Rogers*, sat at his table at the Club and Company Rally but not one person asked about running a rally. He has a pack available for anyone who is not sure how to do it and is always very ready and willing to give advice.

---ooOoo---

Vehicle Insurance

We are obliged to carry adequate vehicle insurance but when the annual demand is received the amount of increase over the previous year often comes as a shock. After many years with the same broker, and querying the increase, I decided to look elsewhere for a better quote. A friend had studied several brokers' quotes and suggested that I tried his lowest. Maybe other members would find this information helpful.

The quote was an annual premium of £215.80 including I.P.Tax and a £10.00 fee. This gives comprehensive cover subject to a £200.00 accident damage excess and £100.00 malicious fire and theft excess. This insures a Talisman registered in April 1988 for driver and spouse. Due to the value of the vehicle a requirement is imposed to have a Thatcham Category 1 alarm fitted. There are optional extras for legal cover at £14.00 and a breakdown cover and recovery service in the UK and Europe at £60.00. For a recent trip to Europe a Green Card was issued to cover the period away.

I cannot say how efficient this cover would be should the crunch come. It transpired that the alarm fitted at delivery did not meet the terms of the insurance and an update, with a certificate, is costly but worthwhile. The brokers are Campton Insurance Brokers (UK) Ltd, 126 High Street, Godstone, Surrey, RH9 8DX.

Lilian and John Coates

The Club cannot and will not recommend any specific insurer or broker. You obviously have to shop around. But be very careful. Some policies, as I know from my own experience, seem to cover a motor car with a value such as our vans and are quite surprised to find that we carry gas around. And some don't give as good a cover as those which are specifically designed for motorhomes, although the latter may cost a little more. Also be very wary of changing when you are getting a little older -

some companies do not appear to like "Re-cycled Teenagers" starting with them.

-----oooOOOooo-----

Hoddom Rally

Having just returned from our first rally as marshals, *Allan and I* would like to say a big 'Thank You' to *Pat and Noel* and to all who attended for all the encouragement and kind words both during the rally and since we returned. I enclose an ode written by *Una Barnard* and given to me after most of the ralliers had gone. She did say I could send it to the Newsletter for inclusion, space permitting.

Moira Blackstock

#####

Ode to Hoddom Rally

(Written in the style of Maithri's Wedding)
(With a bit of tongue twisting, it can be made to fit the tune!)

Drive we gaily - not too slow
Up to Hoddom we must go
Auto-Sleepers in a row
For the ASOC Scottish Rally.

Moira, Allan, Noel, Pat,
First time marshals? Fancy that!
They really rolled out the welcome mat
At the ASOC Scottish Rally.

How they did it no one knew
But the sun shone brightly and the clouds were few
Made us such a happy crew
At the ASOC Scottish Rally

Some drove out and some stayed put
Some on cycles, some on foot

We could be active or just take root
At the ASOC Scottish Rally.

In the family room each night
Beetle or Bingo or a quiz to get right
It was such a merry sight
The ASOC Scottish Rally.

The last night came, we sat down to dine
Conversation flowed - so did the wine
Great were they days of Auld Lang Syne
But they can't beat an ASOC Rally.

Thanks to one and thanks to all
Una and Ben have had a ball
See you next year - if we get the call
To Hoddom for a Scottish Rally.

Thanks for a super rally. *Una and Ben* (who apologises for disturbing the peace! *Ben* is a lovely little dog!)

-----oooOOOoo-----

Hatton Country World Craft Centre Rally

We feel we owe a little more explanation to the members who were disappointed at the cancellation of this rally due to be held 2nd - 5th July.

We volunteered to marshal when the original marshals were obliged to leave the Club as they had changed their make of van. Not having been to the location, we visited the site to investigate the facilities and also to see the surrounding places of interest. While we were looking in the shops in the craft centre our van was broken into. It seems we had left a toilet bag on the fridge and this was mistaken for a handbag. Access was gained by smashing the driver's side window although we later found marks at the rear of the van where an attempt had been made to force open the Seitz window. Fortunately the intruder did not stay to rummage the lockers, no doubt thanks to the frightful noise from our Van Bits 'Devil's Wail' alarm. A car was also robbed the same afternoon.

After contacting the police we decided this was not a suitable place to stay, nor was it a safe environment for up to 20 tempting vans. There was no security other than the gates being closed at 9.00 pm. We hope that everyone who had paid received their cheques back and we apologise for the inconvenience.

Helen & Geoff Gray

Geoff also tells me that members who insure with the Camping and Caravanning Club should contact Silver Shield Windscreens (0800 880 800) and NOT Autoglass in the event of breakage. The latter charge £100.00 excess on C & CC policies.

-----oooOOOooo-----

Answering Machines

Why is it when we make a phone call to someone and get their answer machine which says that the person is not available to take the call, we get flustered, speak un-naturally and cannot get our own number correct? Do we all have senior moments? Do you listen to yourself and laugh at your feeble attempt to be clear and precise? I have spoken to numerous friends and it would appear that we are all guilty but do not know why.

Would Gerry Warley/Whaughly/Warleighly of ASOC please get in touch again with *me* re booking for the Bracklesham rally in October, as the number left is not obtainable.

Mo Valentine

Just as a point of idle interest, I believe the people *Mo* is looking for answer to the name "Woolley". I tried to phone *Mo* but the telephone service advised me that the number I used was not recognised!

-----oooOOOooo-----

WANTED

What I am after is a further supply of the binders for the Newsletters, please. If you have any available I will either pay you for them or make a donation to a charity. Please telephone Baz Wellard on 013 2923 1259. (As a point of interest, your Editor asked about a supply of these binders when I spoke to our Regalia Officer, Andrew Entwistle. He told me that he is looking into a further supply so here's hoping!)

#####

Early purchase required of an Amethyst or Talisman. Registration around 'P', 'R' or 'S' (Optimistically). Non-smokers and no pets with previous owners. Van will go to a good home. Please telephone Rosemary & Terry Legg (Perranporth) on 018 7257 2544 or mobile 07 812 453 780.

[This is a repeat of an advert from last month which was reasonably successful although Terry tells me that he was unable to get the van he really wanted before it was no longer available. So here's another try!]

====oooOOOoo====

FOR SALE



External Silver Screen for Clubman (T4). Very good condition. £45.00. Also VW genuine bulb set and fuses for T4 in original box. £4.00. Phone Craig Edwards on 015 4660 2556 (Argyll).

Thanks for the donation.

#####

Hope Safe-T-Bar rear protection bumper and towbar for Talbot Express/Peugeot J5 Talisman GL or Executive. Towing capacity 1500 kg. Complete with all fittings and instructions. Cost new over £500.00. Will accept £250.00 but must be collected by purchaser. Peugeot J5 manufacturers workshop manual. £20.00 plus postage if not possible to collect. Phone Bridget and David Evans on 012 4881 0519 (Anglesey).

Thanks for the donation.

#####

Clubman, 'X' reg, only 4,000 miles. Sale due to ill health. FSH on both van and motor. Stored under cover. Includes Fiamma awning, reversing

aid and top level alarms. As new. £26,500.00. Telephone Ann & Robert Roe on 017 5234 6879.

#####

Clubman GL. 'P' reg. 2.4 ltr diesel. Usual A-S equipment plus Status aerial, Fiamma awning. Taxed to Feb. 2003. £18,950.00. Further information from George Evans on 016 0071 9343 (Monmouth)

#####

Bradcot Motent. Free-standing. Suitable for side or rear entrance motorhomes. Very light inside. £150.00. Tel: Arthur Shergold on 024 7645 5740 (Coventry)

#####

To fit Ford Transit (previous model). Set of Silver Screens. (a) External insulated. £40.00. (b) Internal insulated. £50.00. (c) External Solar (see out). £30.00. (d) External single skin. £15.00. Complete set. £120.00. Telephone Brian Betterton on 012 3482 2364 (North Beds).

#####

Rare Leisure Executive on Sherpa 2 litre (around 30 built). Petrol, 23mpg touring. 46,000 miles. Loads of extras, awning, 3 bike rack, ladder, top box, Silver Screens. Unfortunately layout not conducive for disabled wife. Parting for £5,750.00 ono. Phone Ken Bolton on 019 8340 2059 (Isle of Wight).

Thanks for the donation.

#####

Ford Legend 2.5 TD 97/R. 19,000 miles. 2 berth. Excellent condition inside and out. Non-smokers, no pets. Extras include awning, safe, Van Bitz alarm, solar panel for battery boost, Silver Screens. One owner. Full service history. MOT. £25,995.00. Tel: Brian Hooton on 012 3552 9294 (Oxfordshire) or e-mail bwhooton@hotmail.com.

Thanks for the donation.

#####

Executive on Talbot 2.5 T/Diesel, 1993. 2 berth. 52,000 miles. History. Excellent condition. Extras include Fiamma roll out blind, Fiamma bike rack, towbar, stereo, mudflaps, recent tyres. Must be seen. £15,995 ono. Tel: Duncan Thompson on 012 6028 1905 (Congleton) or 07 779 680 963.

Thanks for the donation.

#####

Two motorized pedal cycles, one ladies, one gents. Both Raleigh, each with a 35cc "Buzz" petrol engine fitted. Both with puncture proof tyres and in

top class condition. Great fun and no effort to ride. £275.00 each. Tel: Les Wright on 017 0850 9673 (Rainham, Essex)

#####

Calling all Duetto owners. Opportunity to acquire unique number D11ETO. On retention all fees paid, ready for immediate transfer. Offers in the region of £1,200.00. Please telephone Carol Barnes on 013 2227 7504 or write to her at 35 King Edward Avenue, Dartford, Kent, DA1 2HZ. Thanks for the donation.

#####

6 Amethyst dinette cushions - Freesia - excellent condition. £10.00 each. Inside Silver Screens. £30.00. Oil filter, fuel filter, fan belt, P.S. Belt. £20.00. Rear light cluster. £10.00. All for Ford Transit. Mains cable, 25m. £12.00. Tel: Gary Baxter on 013 9445 9170 (Suffolk). Thanks for the donation.

#####

'G' reg Talisman diesel. Under 20,000 miles. Exceptional condition, interior as new. New tyres & battery. Taxed 6 months, MOT 1 year. Phone John Tremlett on 0121 743 3511 (Solihull). Thanks for the donation.

#####

Peugeot Harmony 1998. 2 litre petrol. 17,000 miles. One owner. Tax & MOT to April 2003. Non smokers, no pets. 2 berth, toilet, shower, heating, hot water etc. Excellent throughout. Radio, C.D. 10" TV, aerial, hook-up cable, gas plus extras. £16,750.00. Sale due to health. Phone Ted Whitfield on 012 0267 5591 (Dorset). Thanks for the donation.

#####

1999 'S' reg Talisman. 2 litre petrol. 6,500 miles. Undersealed. Fitted 3 mtr Fiamma Pro F50 awning, Status aerial, extra electric points. Owned from new. Non-smokers, no pets. £26,500.00. Ring Alan Whittaker on 011 6270 8318 (Leicester). Thanks for the donation.

#####

VW Clubman GL, 'J' reg, 1992. 1781cc petrol, 2 berth. 25,600 miles. 1 owner, non-smoker, no children, no pets. ATaxed & Insured to June 2003. £15,000.00 ono. Phone Douglas McCliskie on 0121 308 0083 (Sutton Coldfield). Thanks for the donation.

#####

Contents	Sound-proofing.....	11
STOLEN VEHICLE!.....	Fitted Drawers!.....	11
Photographic Competition.....	Thank You.....	12
Club & Company Rally.....	Rallies.....	12
German Rally - 2002.....	Vehicle Insurance.....	13
Rallies.....	Hoddom Rally.....	14
Chairman's Chat.....	Ode to Hoddom Rally.....	14
What's in a Name?.....	Hatton Country World Craft Centre Rally.....	15
Cruise Control.....	Answering Machines.....	16
Rally Plaques.....	WANTED.....	17
Los Odours & Blockages.....	FOR SALE.....	17
Remains of the.....		10

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