

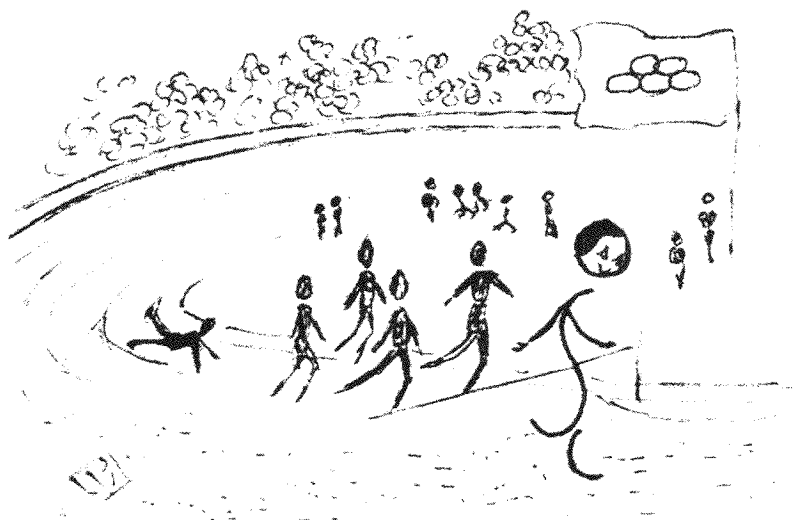


[www.asoc.fsnet.co.uk](http://www.asoc.fsnet.co.uk)

# **AUTO-SLEEPER OWNERS' CLUB**

A Company Limited by Guarantee.

Registered Office: Orchard Works, Willersey, Nr. Broadway,  
Worcs., WR12 7QF. Registered No: 4616969



**NEWSLETTER 191**  
**AUGUST 2004**

Hello.

A couple of points have recently arisen regarding the Newsletter. First of all, although it is clearly stated on the back page that the closing date is the tenth of each month, I have to reserve the right to close down earlier if I have sufficient material to complete any issue. Also, rather surprisingly perhaps, we do like to take a holiday from time to time, say once a year. And it happens that this year, as more or less usual for us, we took it in June. That was before the holiday rush really started. As a result, the June issue was sent off to the printer very early in the month and one or two items therefore "missed the bus". Some comments have been received which seem to suggest that I have nothing else to do apart from preparing this Newsletter. It was also suggested that if I had sent an item to the printer later there would have been time to include it in the Newsletter. And perhaps suggesting that their time was more valuable than mine. Perhaps it is, but at the moment I'm doing this job and doing it my way, which seems to please most people. But if you can do it better, please note the advertisement which was put into the June issue regarding the additional committee members for whom we are looking. It rather shows that many people just do not understand how the Newsletter is got ready, printed and sent out so that you can all get it around the first day of each month, a record that we have managed to maintain for many years.

Another was an item for inclusion in the For Sale and Wanted area of the Newsletter. This was addressed to the Press Officer! For your information, our Press Officer is hard worked getting items ready for the commercial (professional!) publications, some of which actually get printed. Anything for the Newsletter should be sent to your Editor.

I would like to re-iterate the plea for some people to come forward to join the committee. Particularly some of our newer members. We don't really want to try to keep going with only the old stagers running the Club. So please give it a thought, and come and join us.

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## **BELT SQUEAL**

Regarding *Kath Hook's* drive belt squeal problem. I am a retired AA patrolman and if one of my customers had given me that problem I would have done all the mechanical checks first, which I assume have been done on *Kath's* VW already. The next check is a volts test across the battery when running to make sure that the alternator is not overcharging. The meter should give a reading of between 12.5v and 13.5v. Above this the alternator regulator could be faulty and cause the alternator to work hard all the time.

The symptoms usually associated with a faulty regulator is that the battery will get very hot and there will be a strong smell of acid. I would also recommend that the battery is tested for an open circuit and an Amps draw test to make sure that there is no very heavy load being put on the alternator when travelling. As I do not know the full history of the vehicle, these checks may already have been carried out. If I can be of any further help, please let me know via the Editor.

*Paul Leighton*

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## ***Farewell 1***

We have recently purchased a new vehicle, the specification of which met our requirements, unfortunately it is not an Auto-Sleeper so we must now resign from the Owners Club. Having been members for many years we shall miss all the good friends we have made in the Club and of course the social occasions of the rallies. We would like to thank the members for the many hours of happiness they have given us both over the years.

We shall at least attend the the main commercial rallies such as Peterborough and will attempt to look up the many friends we have made at those times. With Best Wishes to everyone,

*Eileen & Gerry Woolley (Member No. 47)*

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## ***Farewell 2***

Just over a year ago my wife and I purchased an A-S Palermo and took some time out to visit various parts of the UK. My wife had been suffering ill health and this prompted us to take the time now rather than wait some ten to fifteen years before retirement. We have had a fantastic time and the Palermo has performed beautifully. Sadly we must now part with our pride and joy and return to work in September, oh well nothing lasts forever. We are confident that this will not be our last motorhome and with nothing but praise for A-S there is a good chance that we will remain "in the fold". Our thanks to you for an excellent Newsletter, we enjoy reading the adventures of fellow A-S owners and have gained valuable information from the technical tips.

*Carol and George Perkins*

We are, as always, sorry to lose our friends and will look forward with great hope to their return to the Club. I am pleased that *Carl* and

*George* have enjoyed the Newsletter; it just goes to show how many interesting things YOU members have done!

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## **Avoiding Holidays from Hell**

I read *Geoff Williamson's* contribution in the July Newsletter with some surprise as gassing of sleeping (motor)caravanners is so common on some parts of the continent that one is warned never to "wild-camp" nor even stop overnight on motorway parking areas and lay-bys.

The gas is something like nitrous oxide, or "laughing gas" and is pumped in through keyholes, refrigerator vents or similar openings. It can be easily made from ingredients readily available at chemists and/or hardware stores (there is probably a recipe on the internet if any member wishes to try it!)

Coincidentally, the June number of the Motorcaravanners' Club magazine has a story of just such an attack (Letters, page6) - you might be able to obtain a copy by e-mailing editor@motorcaravanners.org.uk The writer and his wife woke up at 5.00 am on an "Aire de Repose", still surrounded by lorries that had seemed to guarantee safety the night before, to find that they had been robbed of his wallet and her handbag. There the only problem with the police was finding the right ones - it seems one must go to the motorway police rather than the local gendarmerie - they proved very helpful. What did cause trouble was finding somewhere that would cash the travellers checks that the thieves had not found, in order to fill up their empty fuel tank.

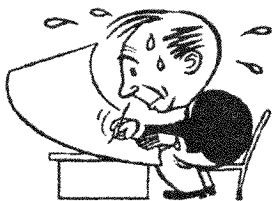
Since the normal way of entry is through the cab doors, the writer's recommended solution is "a length of plaited tape and two toggles" costing "just over £2.50" to tie the two doors together. But I am not sure if one can do this in a Duetto with the cab seats moved forward to make the beds up (I haven't tried it yet with ours).

*Petronella Clark*

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## **Chairman's Chat**

First of all, may I thank everybody who played any part in the very successful Club and Company Rally at Malvern this year. It was a great weekend, even though the weather was not quite as good as last year, and I think that almost everybody enjoyed themselves. I say almost, because I was made aware of a couple of people who seemed to think



that they alone had the right to do something different from what everyone else had accepted willingly. So a very big thank you, every effort helped no matter how small you may think it was.

We were able to give a large donation to our chosen charity for the year which was the Prostate Cancer people. They provided a stall where members could get information about the disease and, hopefully, how to seek assistance before it was too late. I was told that they had a very good response with enquiries pouring in to them. Of course, one or two people "ran away" from the stall because the subject was too nasty.

Our friends from the Salvation Army provided us with a very nice service on Sunday morning and, as I said at the time, it was pleasant to hear laughter and clapping during a religious service. Unlike what many of us had to endure when we were children. The St. John Ambulance people also received a cheque and I'm pleased to say that they had no work to do for the entire weekend.

On Sunday afternoon, as usual, we held a committee meeting which first heard from the Club and Company Rally sub-committee with their stories and reports of the weekend. All seemed to be well and we thanked them for their efforts. Then the main committee discussed matters which have arisen. One of the most important is the future of the Club and Company Rally itself. There are whispers about suggesting that we should not give so much money away to charity but keep it for ourselves. Perhaps if we did we would not have to rely on contributions from other sources but it would lessen the spirit of the occasion. Some comments have been heard about the presence of the sales side of the Company together with some of their dealers and asking whether this is gradually becoming a Company show where sales are the important feature and everything else is secondary. The view of the committee is basically that if we did not have the presence of the traders and the Company lessened its presence then there might be a need to increase the cost of the weekend to members. How many of you would be prepared to pay perhaps twice the amount we presently have to ask?

I would welcome any comments about the rally, whether for or against changing it in any way. This year we had just over 500 vans present and of those, 110 were first time ralliers. This is quite an increase in new people and seems to suggest that some of the older hands have decided not to come along. Is this true? We need your input so that we can sort out the future of the event.

Talking of which, just as nobody has come forward with a view to taking over the Editorship of the Newsletter, so nobody appears to want to become the Vice-Chairman of the Club and Company Rally sub-committee. *Andy Cavell* will be relinquishing the post after the 2005 event and if there is no replacement available for him that almost automatically means the end of the rally. Is that what you want? Don't forget also that we are looking for yet another volunteer to join the committee. At the A.G.M. it was agreed that we should increase our number to 15 but to do that we need the volunteers. How about you? Please let me, or any member of the committee, know your feelings. And if you need any further information about committee work we shall be only too pleased to offer it.

*Harry Henthorne*

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## Number One

I received a letter from *Barbara and John Cox* who advised me that they were having to give up their motorhome due to ill-health. As many members will know, *John* has been suffering for quite some time with a variety of complaints and *Barbara* has arthritis problems. They have now sold their van "Tuxedo Junction" and were writing to advise that they would no longer be able to be members of the Club.

I have told them, and the committee agrees with me, that there is no way that they will be able to get away from us as easily as that! They have both put so much into starting the Club of which we are now all so proud and also in the running of it from 1988 to the present day. They will, of course, remain members for the duration of the current year.

Your committee will be proposing that they be made honorary members at the next A.G.M. It is a pity that we cannot easily do this before then but they will continue to receive their Newsletter until those who attend the A.G.M. approve the committee proposal. They had better!! I'm sure that I speak for all members when I express our thanks to *Barbara and John* for all the work they have done. Somehow "Thank You" does not seem quite enough!

*Harry Henthorne*

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## Insurance

Further to my letter last month, I have been advised that my insurers are now able to waive the increase of £20.00 for which they had been asking due to my change of address. A very satisfactory conclusion.

*Bryan Jones*

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## ASOC Christmas Markets Tour

AACHEN & VALKENBURG



I know that most of you will still be thinking about your summer holidays, and Christmas is a long way ahead, but this year the Club has got together with GB Privilege to offer members a different way to do the shopping. The tour is planned to be suitable for those who are nervous about travelling abroad alone, and for those who are happy to make their own way. The full itinerary is set out below, and if you would like to join the tour please contact GB Privilege for a booking form.

### December 5th 2004: Sunday

If you want to, you can meet up with the tour directors on Saturday evening, 4th December 2004, at a campsite near Dover. On Sunday we will catch a morning ferry from Dover to Calais. After disembarking, we have a drive of about 220 miles, nearly all on motorway, to arrive at our campsite in the town of Valkenburg. Inexperienced drivers will be given the opportunity to "follow the leader", while those with more confidence can make their own way to the campsite. The campsite has its own snack bar, and a choice of restaurants is within 5 minutes walk.

### December 6th 2004: Monday

The town of Valkenburg has its own, unique Christmas market, held annually in two caves, within 10 minutes walk of the campsite. There is a huge variety of stalls selling Christmas items which may be familiar to

you – along with some others which you may not recognize. The caves are open all day, so you can visit this wonderful spectacle whenever you wish throughout the day. This evening we will stroll into town and have good quality dinner in a typical Dutch restaurant.

#### **December 7th 2004: Tuesday**

This morning has been left free, but in the afternoon we will be collected by bus and taken on the short drive (about 20 miles) to the world-famous Aachen Christmas market. You will be able to spend the late afternoon and all evening tasting the various local specialities (including their wonderful mulled wine called Glühwein) and comparing the German Christmas items with the Dutch. The bus will collect the group at about 21.00 and return to the campsite.

#### **December 8th 2004: Wednesday**

A completely free day so that you can relax and explore the town of Valkenburg at your leisure – or re-visit the Christmas Market!

#### **December 9th 2004: Thursday**

This morning we head back to Calais and spend the night in the municipal campsite near the beach. An optional end-of-tour dinner will be arranged in a good quality local restaurant if you want to give the chef a rest.

#### **December 10th 2004: Friday**

This morning we go to Cité Europe to stock up on the other Christmas essentials, wine, beer, whisky, cognac etc. etc. The savings you make could easily pay for the whole trip. Don't forget to fill up with cheap diesel before boarding the ferry.

**PRICE £295.00 PER MOTORHOME WITH 2 PEOPLE. SURCHARGE OF £40.00 FOR EACH EXTRA PERSON IN A MOTORHOME.**

#### **Included in the price**

Return ticket on the Dover-Calais ferry for a motorhome up to 6.0 metres long + 2 people (Extra charge of £25.00 per metre or part metre for vehicles over 6 metres length).

4 nights at Valkenburg campsite, with 220-volt hook-up and 1 night at Calais campsite with 220 volt hook-up.

Dinner with wine in typical Dutch restaurant.

Bus to and from Aachen Christmas Market

Services of GB Privilege tour directors (1 per 20 motorhomes) for the duration of the tour.

Further details and a booking form can be obtained from GB Privilege Ltd., 3 The Fields, Tacolneston, Norfolk, NR16 1DG. Phone: 019 5378 9661. Fax: 019 5378 9519. Email: gbprivilege@yahoo.com

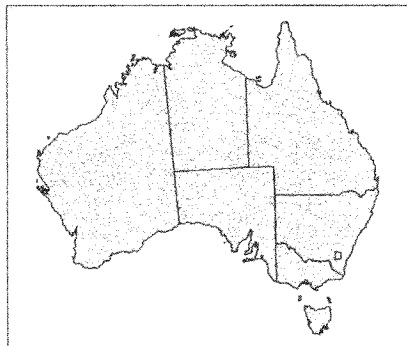
*Andy Cavell*

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## Help Wanted

From Down Under

On our recent meander in Europe, we were joined on an Aires at Tongeren by "The Jolly Swagman", an Australian couple, Barbara and Tremain Permewan, who had spent the last 4 years full-time travelling in Europe, the Med, and GB. They had bought their van new in Germany when they started their extended holiday and had conversions done for their full time use. They were now coming to the end of their travels and were feeling a bit down and the prospect of selling up and returning home. They joined us in our van for drinks and were very impressed with the Auto-Sleeper quality and were particularly taken with the fibreglass body. We discussed with them the feasibility of buying a second hand Talisman or Executive and shipping it back to Australia.



They specified that if it were 10 years old they would save considerably on import duty. They would not take their present Y reg. vehicle as it was L.H. drive turbo diesel and they would need a R.H. Drive petrol engine vehicle. Next morning Barbara used a roll of film photographing every detail of our van, including the security measures and *Geoff's* own alterations so they could send them to legal friends to find out if such a van could be insured etc.

They requested the help of the members of the A.S.O.C. to answer the following questions:

1. Are there any A-S. members already in Australia? If so could they contact them as soon as possible.
2. Does anyone have any knowledge of shipping a motor home from England to Australia

3. Any other help and advice would be appreciated and if they are able to achieve this they would join the club and promote A.-S. down under.

They are coming to stay with friends in Esher, Surrey, at the end of August and will be in England until the end of October when they fly home. We recommended they attend either the Bath and West or York motor caravan shows. They can be contacted via email any time: permewan@hotmail.com If anyone has any useful information and are not on the web they can ring *Geoff or me* and we will pass it on.

They left us next day, full of excitement at the possibility of taking a van back to Australia and continuing their meanderings in their own country and New Zealand.

*Enid and Geoff Mackey.*

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## MIRROR FIXINGS

About 12 months ago I suffered the loss of wing mirrors from my VW Clubman. Whoever decided to fit mirrors with Philips headed screws needs his own head testing. Anyway, I found a nice man, Mr Brian Fidler of Powerplus Fixings in Warrington who provided me with security fasteners. These have a special key to fit them. Problem solved, apart from the new mirrors which came from Todds at a cost of £188.00!

*Bryan Piper*

*Bryan* kindly sent me a sample of the security screw which looks like a normal bolt with the head requiring a six pointed driver to fit. But there is also a pin in the centre of the driver area to prevent an ordinary screwdriver from straddling between two points.

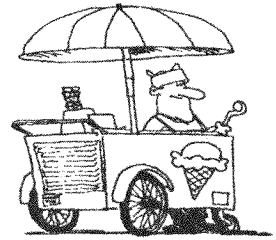
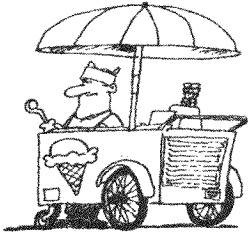
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## Holidays from Hell

I wonder if this really is an Urban Myth, like the old "Elephant and Bubble Car" story. I think it was the MMM magazine last year that tried to find first hand evidence from victims and/or police that such a thing had happened, and failed. I also seem to remember a letter from an anaesthetist expressing a professional opinion that successfully to introduce a gas into a motorhome space in the appropriate quantity to achieve the desired effect would be well nigh impossible. Until there really is authoritative evidence that such a thing has happened - and perhaps more than once - we should be wary of causing alarm, and at the same time increasing the profits of the providers of alarms.

*Ian Watt*

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## AUGUST 2004 Rally Supplement

**Applications for all rallies, unless otherwise stated in this supplement, are to be made using a rally slip by post.**

**If you intend to take a car/trailer or tent to a rally please inform the marshal.**

\*\*\*\*\*Please note the changed dates \*\*\*\*\*

### 22<sup>nd</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> August. ( 5 nights) Topsham Rugby Club, Exeter, Devon.

Emergency Tel.No.07890876859 ( marshals' mobile).

Rally Marshals: Elizabeth & Bryn Morgan & Nga & Ven Venables.(01902 332 105).

Site Fees: £5.00 per night. Rally Fee: £2.00 per person.(Both incl. VAT).

This is a GREENFIELD site with fresh water & Elsan emptying point.NO electricity.

Please send an *SAE* with rally slips & cheques payable to B.Morgan,44 Mersey Road,Stockport,SK4

3DJ.Tel.No. 0161 432 4869

We will be able to use the club's facilities during the day.We plan to devise a roster so we can use the one communal shower room.

Dogs are allowed but they must be on a lead at all times and exercised off site.

*N.B. Please say on rally slip if you are bringing a dog*

We will have some access to the clubhouse in the evenings but the rugby club may be having some functions while we are there.We hope to organise a "Bring your own supper" one evening.

**Attractions:** Topsham is a delightful small town situated on the River Exe.It has an historic quay,ferries across the river and an excellent bus & train service to Exeter. The town has a good range of shops,eating places,pubs and a heated open air swimming pool.The nearby River Clyst has a nature reserve,Dartmoor National Park is a short drive away.The rugby club is 300 yds from the town.

**Directions & confirmation of booking will be sent to you.**

LIMIT 35 vans.

### 25<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> August. ( 5 nights) Shoreham Airshow,Shoreham on Sea,West Sussex.

**THIS RALLY HAS BEEN CANCELLED DUE TO A LACK OF SUPPORT.**

**27<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup>. August ( 4 nights). Gryphon School, Sherborne, Dorset.**

Emergency Tel.No. 07749713274 ( Marshal's mobile).

Rally Marshals: Eirwen & Ben Cox & Brian Thomas.

Site Fee: £5.00 per night. Rally Fee: £2.50 (Both incl. VAT).

This is a GREENFIELD site with NO electricity. Toilets & showers available in adjacent Leisure Centre, during opening hours. Water & emptying point on field. All pitches are hardstanding but blocks are required. Use of school dining hall in evenings or inclement weather.

Send completed rally slip & cheque payable to Mrs. E. Cox, Tan y Graig, 8 Quarr lane Park, Sherborne, Dorset. DT9 4JB. Tel.No. 01935 815 960.

**Attractions:** Sherborne is a very architecturally attractive town, only a few minute walk from the site. Other attractions are Sherborne Castles(2)& grounds, Sherborne Abbey, a small market Thursday & Saturday. Lovely Dorset villages with pubs serving good food in immediate area, and a beautiful beach at West Bay ( 45 minutes drive) with ample parking for vans. A vintage car rally will be held in Sherborne Boys School on Sunday afternoon.

Please indicate if interested in fish & chip supper (Saturday night). Possibility of a pub buffet on Monday evening. Again indicate if interested. DOGS welcome but must be kept on lead AT ALL TIMES & exercised OFF site.

**Directions:** From East Salisbury, A30 to Sherborne. From West M5, A30 to Sherborne. At traffic lights in Sherborne take B3145 to Wincanton. In about ¼ mile Gryphon School is on right.

**Maximum number 25 units.**

**27<sup>th</sup>. August - 1<sup>st</sup>. September. Lavenham, Suffolk.**

**THIS RALLY HAS HAD TO BE CANCELLED**

**9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>. September. Motorhome & US RV Show, Royal Bath & West Showground, Shepton Mallet, Somerset.**

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

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

Site Fee: Special Club prices. Arrive Thursday £28.00 Friday onwards £23.00.

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 by

21<sup>st</sup>. August.

**Show application forms to be returned to the organisers, Stone Leisure, by 29th..August.**

**10<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup>. 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: £6.50 per night. (Incl. VAT). Rally Fee: £2.35 (Incl. VAT).

Total fees £15.35. **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 Ludlow's 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

Limit of 35 vans. Rally closes at 4.00p.m. Sunday.

**DO NOT ARRIVE BEFORE 4.30 p.m. FRIDAY.**

### **13<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>. September (4 nights). Whitmead Caravan Park, Wool, Dorset.**

Emergency Tel.No.07714550731 Marshals mobile.

Rally Marshals: Barbara & Alan Potter.

Site Fees:£4.95 per night without electricity,£6.95 per night with electricity. Rally Fee:£2.35 per van. All include VAT.

Booking slips & cheques to Barbara Potter, Westbrook Mill Lane, Monks Risborough, Bucks HP27 9LG. Tel.No. 01844 271921.

**Local attractions:** include Monkey World, Bovington Tank Museum, Lulworth Cove, Durdle Door, Corfe Castle, Wareham, Swanage, Studland Bay. Railway station & bus stops within a few minutes walk to Dorchester, Poole & Weymouth, & village pubs. Campsite also has shop & games room with a pool table & darts. Also a takeaway offering breakfast & evening meals.

**Directions:** From Dorchester follow A352 to Wool. Turn first **left** after railway crossing and site is 200yds on **right**. From Southampton follow A31 to Bere Regis then follow signs to Wool. Turn **right** just before level crossing, site 200yds on **right**.

### **\*\*\*\* Note date change \*\*\*\* 16<sup>th</sup>. -19<sup>th</sup>. September (3 nights). Northern**

#### **Motorcaravan Show, York Racecourse.**

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.

**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.

The special Club rally fees:- arrive Thursday £28.00, arrive Friday £25.00, arrive Saturday £22.00.

You may either use the form enclosed in the last 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 with the site fees, **before 27<sup>th</sup>. August.**

Applicants after this date **cannot rally with the Club.**

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

### **27<sup>th</sup>. September—1<sup>st</sup>. October (4 nights) Carsington Fields Caravan Park, Mayfields Lane, Ashbourne, Derbyshire.**

Emergency Tel.No. (mobile) 07968167443.

Rally Marshals: Gill & John Blake & Pat & Henry Twyman.

Site Fees:£5.00 per night. There are now 20 hook ups available at £2.00 extra per night, first come basis. Rally fee:£2.35 couples, £1.35 singles. All include VAT.

Facilities available:- toilets, water & Elsan disposal.

Rally slips & cheques payable to G. Blake, 24 Hillside Road, Spondon, Derby. DE21 7RA Tel.No. 01332602012. Please indicate if you wish electric hook up & a last night fish & chip supper.

**Attractions:** The site is 400 yds. from Carsington Reservoir foot path on dam

wall. There is walking, cycling, bird watching and it is close to the towns of Matlock & Ashbourne.  
**Directions:** Turn right off A517 Belper to Ashbourne, within ¼ mile past Hulland Ward turn into Dog Lane. About ¼ mile turn right (signposted Carsington Water). Site on right within ¼ mile.  
OS 119-251493. **LIMIT 25 vans.**

### 1<sup>st</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup>. October (2 nights) Great Central Railway, Quorn, Leicestershire

Station Tel. No 01509 416704. (Weekends & when station open).

Marshal's mobile 07810 455318.

Rally Marshals: Elizabeth & Bill Grimsley.

Site Fee: £4.00 per unit per night (Incl. VAT) No electricity. Rally Fee: £1.50 per person. (Incl. VAT). This is a GREENFIELD site using part of the station car park. Toilets available when station open.

Booking 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 one of 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 train for unlimited rides during weekend.

**Loughborough** - good shopping & Britain's first Carillon. There is much to see at the station.

**Leicester** - The National Space Centre is in walking distance from Leicester North Station.

The city centre can be reached by bus from near the station.

**Charnwood Forest** - good for walking & cycling is 2 miles away.

**Saturday evening 2<sup>nd</sup>. October.** We have booked the skittle alley at the Manor a pub opposite the station. Hot food is available at £5/6 per head. If interested please state numbers requiring food, also whether vegetarian, on the booking slip, but pay on 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 easily be 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 situated on the left side of Woodhouse Road opposite the Manor pub. before the railway bridge when approaching from Quorn

Please **DO NOT** arrive before 12 noon. **LIMIT 30 Vans.**

### 7<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup>. October (3 nights) Whitchurch Cricket Club, Whitchurch, Shropshire.

#### Further information next month

### 12<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup>. October (3 nights) The Camping & Caravanning Club

#### Site, Ashes Lane, Staveley, Kendal, Cumbria. LA8 9JS

Site Tel. No. 01539 821119 (No calls after 8.00pm.)

Map ref. 097/479964.

Marshals: Jill & James Bertlin with Sue & Peter Coward.

Site Fees: (Club Service Pitch includes electricity) £9.40 per night. (No further

discount to C & C C members). Rally Fee: £2.80. (Both include VAT).

Completed slips & cheques to Mrs. J. Bertlin, The Rockeries, Lindale, Grange-over-Sands, Cumbria. LA11 6LQ. Tel. No. 015395 34500.

**Attractions:** This site, refurbished after the Club's acquisition in 2003 has many attractions of the Lake District right on its doorstep with the very interesting town of

Kendal just a short drive away. There is a bus & train service to Windermere & Kendal from Staveley - approx. 30 min walk from site. Talking of walks and being in the Lake District, James with Peter's assistance will arrange a gentle amble

On Thursday evening it is hoped to arrange a two course evening meal in the Whistling Pig.

**Directions:** Leave M6 at Junction 36, follow A590 (SP Barrow & the Lakes), and join A691 SP Kendal & Windermere. Turn left at International Camping Sign just north of Kendal. Those of you travelling from Windermere ignore Int. Sign. -continue for 1 mile to big roundabout then return northwards.

Please DO NOT ARRIVE before 12noon. Limit 25 vans.

### 22<sup>nd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup>. October ( 2 nights) Eden Camp, Nr. Malton, North Yorks.

Emergency Tel.No. 0777 557 0182.

Rally Marshals: Jan & Vic Hicklin.

Site Fees: £9.00 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.

*which of these...*

### 22<sup>nd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup>. October (2 nights). Shire Hall, Mold, Flintshire for Houghton Weavers

#### Concert.

Rally Marshals: Betty & Andrew Entwistle.

Site Fee: £5.00 per van per night (£3.50 single occupant).

Booking slips & cheques, payable to B. & M.A. Entwistle, 8 The Dell, Mytholm, Hebden Bridge, West Yorkshire. HX7 6DP. Tel. No. 01422 847 550.

Levelling blocks will be required on hardstanding site.

General enquiries to John Greenwood 01352 754794.

*Please indicate on slip the number of tickets that you will require for the concert. Cost of these and cost of coach to concert will be arranged on arrival.*

**Directions:** From North M6—M56—A5117—A494 signed Mold—A541 turn right to Theatre Clwyd. Follow ASOC signs.

From South, leave Wrexham bypass on A541 signed Mold, follow brown tourist signs for Theatre Clwyd, then follow ASOC signs.

**DO NOT ARRIVE BEFORE 6.00p.m. FRIDAY.**

### Advance Notice. 5<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup>. November (4 nights) Sedgemoor Carnival Rally 2004, Burnham on Sea Holiday Village.

**FULL details in September supplement.**

*214...*

**28<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup>. Eastham Hall C.P., Lytham, Lancs.**

Site Tel.No. 01253 737907(Emergencies only).

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

Site Fee:£10.50 per night,includes electricity and use of centrally heated hall for 3 nights.

Rally Fee:£3.00 per van & £1.00 per person, (.Both include VAT).The price of the hall has increased hence higher rally fee.

Booking slips & cheques payable to B & V Kaye to Mrs.B.Kaye,14 Firthwood Rd.,Coal Aston,Dronfield.S18 3BW. Tel.No. 01246 412 679.

**Attractions:**All the fun of the sea-side at Lytham St.Annes,Fairhaven,Blackpool;go shopping at the Freeport.

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup>.** Tea/coffee & biscuits in the hall.Welcome to friends old & new.Bring your spare camping equipment to our Bargain Table.

**Friday 29<sup>th</sup>.**Hot Pot & Sweet in the hall £2.75 a head.Tea/coffee will be provided.IF we can persuade him there will be a CEDRIC quiz!!

**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup>.**Fish & Chip supper in the hall £3.25 a head.Tea/coffee will be provided.Competition HOME MADE HALLOWEEN MASK will be judged.Hopefully Tom will give us another monologue which will be followed by the raffle.

DO NOT SEND MONEY for this meal.

We exchange CHRISTMAS CARDS with friends which saves a lot of postage.

**Sunday 31<sup>st</sup>.** Tea/Coffee/ biscuits. Rally ends.

**Directions:**A584 to Lytham on entering Lytham at first mini roundabout turn **RIGHT** over railway bridge to next roundabout.Turn **RIGHT** again at S.P. Kirkham.Site on **RIGHT** after ½ mile.

*If you wish to run a rally in 2004 please contact me to check dates before booking with a site.A "Guide to New/Possible Marshals" is available. If you would like one please contact me,details below.*

*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 & 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.

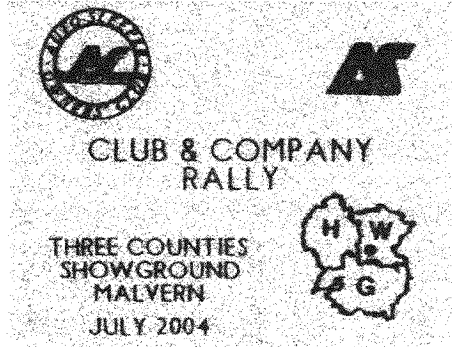
**E & OE**

## Loo Seals

Re *Rita Daley's* tip about "frilly" loo seals. It doesn't always work. We needed a replacement and tried the tip - soaked the seal for a week to no avail. So had to go to the dealer for a replacement at £10.00.

*Enid & Geoff Mackey*

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## FROM THE TECHNICAL GROUP

At this year's Club & Company Rally the ASOC Technical Group were very encouraged in the enormous the interest shown. My thanks go to *Brian Smith, Albert Brown and Ken Bolton* for volunteering to help and give up their time on Friday PM and Saturday all day. Hopefully by the time that *Harry* has published this month's Newsletter I will have answered all the queries that could not be answered immediately and I had to take away for further research. However there is one outstanding item. A member left photographs of an idea he/she had used to fit a slim-line LCD television in a cabinet door. I would appreciate if the 'inventor' would get in touch with me please, in order that this very interesting and novel idea can be shared by other members, .

In the July Newsletter (page 6) *Geoff Williamson* referred to his use of straps to secure his driving doors, you may not be aware that there exists a simple solution in 'Ideas Sheet No. 68'.

*Charles Trevelyan* has kindly advised me that on certain models there is a radio isolation switch fitted adjacent to the bed head. This switch allows the radio to be switched on and off from the

accommodation/bed area. However, if this switch is left in the 'on' position, and the radio switched off, on the Peugeot Boxer models in particular, there will be a small but constant drain on the base vehicle battery that could, over a course of time, result in it being fully discharged.

Two further Ideas sheets are now available by contacting me with an SAE as usual:-

Ideas sheet No. 81 Removable working surface - suitable for a rear entry panel model

Ideas Sheet no. 82 'Fiddle rail' for the bathroom cabinet

*Baz Wellard*

The item about the radio isolation switch arose as a result of a letter sent to your editor which was referred to both *Charles Trevelyan* and the Technical Group for clarification. The original complaint suggested that the problem caused the battery to become discharged in four days. For a battery of the size that we all tend to use, that must have been a bigger drain than has been discovered by either the factory, the Service Centre or the Technical Group.

#####

## **THANK YOU**

A very big thank you to everybody who helped to make this year's Club & Company Rally a success. Thanks to the sub-committee for their efforts throughout the year leading up to the event, and to all those who came along on the day to do their bit. And finally, thank you to the members for attending and making it all worthwhile.

And the weather? Well it wasn't as hot as last year!

*Andy Cavell*

#####

## **CLUB & COMPANY RAFFLE**

I would like to thank everybody who helped in any way with the raffle, and to all who supported it by buying tickets. We collected £2315.75 in ticket sales, paid £250.00 for prizes leaving £2065.75 as a contribution to the Clubs Charity donation. This is over £100.00 more than last year so many thanks again. Hopefully next year's raffle will be even more successful.

*Stella Ross*

#####

## *Hidden Valley Photographs.*

Following the Club and Company Rally last week, I have only two photographs left relating to the Hidden Valley Rally. If *Fred Smith* and *Peter*

*Coward* wish to contact me on 019 5229 3532, I will arrange to mail their photographs. I have spoken to *Rosemary Bond* ("The photographer") who was sorry to have missed the Club and Company Rally last week.

On behalf of everyone I would like to thank *Rosemary* for the photographs, some of which were entered in the Competition at Malvern.

*Rita A Jones*

#####

## Cake Stall

Many thanks for all the cakes donated. And to all the helpers who served to make my first attempt at running the Cake Stall so successful.

*Pat Wanklin*

#####

## Book Stall

My very grateful thanks, first to *Arthur Irving* for standing in for me in the running of the stall, perhaps I can give him the job full time next year, and then to all the helpers who gave their time so freely and thus made it so successful. As usual, very many books were brought in, so many that unfortunately there was still a good quantity left at the end of the Rally.

Thanks also to everyone who came along and bought the books. As a result of your efforts we raised a larger amount than last year.

*Harry Henthorne*

-----oooOOOooo-----

## BRITTANY RALLY 2005

*Dorothy and I*, with the help of our assistant marshals, have now completed our second rally at Sarzeau, Brittany. Several members have since asked if we would be willing, and able, to run another rally in 2005. The answer is YES - if we can confirm that we have interest from a minimum of 20 vans and a maximum of 25. Dates are planned to be June 15th to 29th. Unfortunately we do not know the site



fees for 2005! Details of the rally, site and local area can be read in June's Newsletter rally supplement, page 1 (if you do not have a copy please ring us). The format will be very much the same as this year which included optional; - bike rides; cheese and wine meal, American supper, pizza evening; paella evening, knock-out boules and horse shoe throwing, coach trip, joint BBQ and quiz sheets. If you wish any further details please ring.

We know that it is a long time away but we need to make a booking if we are to reserve space and therefore we need to assess the interest very soon. Accordingly, we would appreciate if you are interested if you would complete a rally slip and send it to us, with the rally fee - which will be returned should there be insufficient interest - and an SAE. Our thanks in anticipation.

*Dorothy and Baz Wellard*

-----oooOOOooo=====

## Hints

Here are a couple of things that we have done to "Mu" (our nickname for our Topaz). They may be of help to other members.

Reference water ingress through the slit windows. Our Topaz lives outside and both sides are well blasted with both sun and rain. We keep all doors and window seals (whatever materials - the soft black) well and regularly coated with sprayed Silicon. Our "Mu" is just over 5 years old and for the first 2 years we had soft toilet-paper rolled into strips placed into the V-gutter inside the window to collect the rain. After experimenting with the Silicon spray the problem has been solved - although obviously we continue to check on a regular basis.



Reference Nasty Smells in water tanks. For the fresh water tank. Quarter fill with water, put in a charge of Milton and go for a run to slop the liquids about. Pass the water through cold water taps only and drain out. Drinking water is kept in a 2 litre bottle which is regularly sterilised. For the grey (dirty) water tank. Always use a small filter/waste trap in the sink outlet and regularly clean the filter. We keep an old small squeeze-bottle with a small hole in the top which is half filled with old fashioned disinfectant liquid. Every 3 or 4 days put a small squirt of this down the water outlet holes in the sink, drainer, tip-up wash-basin and shower outlet and

flush down with half a cup of clean water. Up to now we have had no problems.

However, a short word of warning. Always remember - how is this chemical etc., going to work on modern materials whether they are plastic or metal. If you have to use them, then flush out as soon as possible.

*Rod Longney*

#####

Further to *Jean Shattoe's* letter in the July Newsletter. I have a Pollensa, purchased new in April 2002, and have been troubled with smelly water from both hot and cold taps since the early days of ownership. The smell is similar to creosote wood preservative and is present immediately the taps are turned on after a relatively short interval of standing. However if we let the taps run for 10 - 15 seconds the smell disappears. So does an awful amount of valuable water! We cannot rinse our hands or any dishes with the first delivery as it leaves a pungent tar-like smell on skin and crockery.



As the smell is present in both hot and cold taps I originally thought that the source of the trouble would be the storage tank. However, having drained it many times and taken samples from the escaping water I have not detected "The Smell". My first reaction was to contact the dealer who sold the van to me. I received the expected reply of "give the system a good flush through". Over the past two years I have flushed through literally dozens of times using water, Milton, Aqua-Sol - the lot. All to no avail.

My next port of call was to the C.A.K. Stand at the N.E.C. Show. Here I was advised to replace the red and blue hoses, as fitted by Auto-Sleepers, with black ones supplied by C.A.K. I thought this was rather drastic at the time as I have previously owned A-S vans with the same red and blue hoses which did not produce smells. (Or are the hoses the same?)

I eventually phoned the A-S Service Centre where I was told that the hoses might be running near a heat source which was causing some decomposition leading to the smell. They volunteered to change the hoses if the van was under 2 years old. Of course, by the time I had got round to phoning A-S in May, the van was 2 years and 1 month old and out of warranty. Typical, isn't it?

On following the hoses back from the taps under the dinette seats I found tha the red and blue hoses servicing the shower room ran alongside the hot air ducting from the space heater. However, the two hoses servicing the kitchen were well clear of the ducting. So much for that theory. But wait a minute, Mr. Auto-Sleeper. Aren't water pipes carrying hot water supposed to get hot? Perhaps it's my illogical thinking!

Has any member got any answers to my problem? Do I need a complete refit of tank and hoses?

*Clive Bailey*

This sounds very much like a problem which our Technical Group friends could investigate and, hopefully, solve.

-----oooOOOooo-----

## MORE DEFT (OR DAFT) DEFINITIONS

It seems that many people enjoyed these last month, so here are the rest from that tea towel.

Liable	Able to tell lies
Mandate	A girl agreeing to meet a man
Manicured	The doctor's ex-patient
Minimum	A very small mother
Palliasse	A friendly donkey
Pantry	A tree on which pans grow
Scintillate	After eight you should stop sinning
Selfish	What a fishmonger does
Shoesmith	Tell Mr Smith to go away
Superficial	Like a whale
Syrup	Stop slouching in your chair
Tandem	What the sun did to sunbathers
Winsome	And lose some - that's life!

Hacienda - well hacienda that lot!! (Hands up whoever said "Thank Goodness!") Have you any other items which might come into this sort of thing? If so, let me know and I'll see if I can find room for them in a later issue. I think that we have a wonderful language when you can make such amusing descriptions from what are really ordinary words. Perhaps that is why we all like to read and write such things as this.

-----oooOOOooo-----

# Wanted

Last year I started making Bobbin Lace and my husband made the bobbins for me. But I have to spangle them with beads to hold them down. I was wondering if anybody had any odd glass beads or broken necklaces which I could have. I am willing to refund the postage if any are available.

Please telephone Pat Diment on 013 7967 4228.  
Thanks for the donation.

#####

ASOC Enamel Grill Badge. Also any spare parts for early Junkers water heater for CB22. Please telephone Brian Collins on 012 0247 5747 or e-mail collins@christchurch63.freeseve.co.uk

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# For Sale



Peugeot Boxer Symbol, 2.0 HDI, 2/4 berth. 2,000 miles (sale due to illness). Non-smokers, no pets. Extras. £22,000.00 ono. Phone Barry Butler on 016 3386 7078 (Cwmbran, South Wales).  
Thanks for the donation.

#####

Peugeot Executive, 2/4 berth, 2.8HDI, 'Y' regd. 2001. Near mint condition. 7,700 miles only. All facilities, inc. Status TV aerial. One owner, non smokers, no children or pets. Reluctant sale due to age and health problems. £26,000.00 o.n.o. E-mail Les & Joan Heap jheap10@tesco.net or phone on 012 5438 1392 or 07 815 876 017 (Blackburn, area).

Thanks for the donation.

#####

Executive 2.5 Diesel. August 1995, 57400 miles. 2 berth. FSH. Exceptional condition. Non-smokers, no children or pets. Alarm Immobiliser. Awning. Air Ride. Silver Screens. Tow bar, ball and

electric's plus many extras. £17995.00.  
Contact John Clarey on 017 5930 3602.  
(Pocklington, York).

#####

Peugeot Boxer Symbol, 1.9 petrol, March  
2000 "W". 23,000 miles. 2 berth. 9 months  
MOT, 12 months road tax. Full service history.  
Fitted flamma awning, cycle rack. Silver  
Screens. Non-smokers, no children, no pets.  
Fitted extra back cushion - makes 2 settees -  
optional use. Immaculate condition. £19,000.00 ono. Phone Margaret  
or Bob Still on 013 2238 9116 p.m. only please. (Swanscombe, Kent).  
Thanks for the donation.

#####

Palermo, 2.8 TDI, LWB, Registered Jan. 2002. 10,000 miles. FSH, Absolute  
Mint Condition, Lovingly owned by non-smokers with no dogs and no  
children. Many extras, including: 4 metre Awning & Safari Room, Dual  
Bike Rack, Full Alarm/Immobiliser, Blown Air Central Heating, Stainless  
Steel Roof Rack & Ladder. Original Crockery, TV & VCR. £31,000.00 o.n.o.  
Call Carol and George Perkins on 077 9216 5109 anytime (Chelmsford,  
Essex)

Thanks for the donation

#####

Dahon folding bicycle in travel bag, blue, little used. In excellent  
condition. £95.00. Contact Tom Beaman on 016 9472 2082 (All Stretton,  
Shropshire).

#####

Fully fitted carpet to fit a Talisman. This was originally made to fit a  
Talisman purchased new in 2000 with the green upholstery. It is in two  
parts, one for the cab area, with a driver's heel pad, and the other for the  
living area. It is fully whipped. Original cost over £120.00. Will accept  
£50.00 but because of the bulk it would have to be collected from  
Tavistock in Devon or delivered to some convenient point. Also Silver  
Screens to fit VW T4. £35.00 including postage. Phone Tony Smith on  
018 2261 3234 (Tavistock)

Thanks for the donation.

#####



Ford Pollensa 2.4 TD. Reg June 2002. One owner. Under 19,000 miles. Excellent condition. Ultra heat, swivel seat, bike rack, Van Bitz alarm. Full service history. Non-smokers, no pets. £28,250.00 ono. Tel: Peter Hatton on 017 0684 2785 or 07 985 710 802 (Oldham, Lancs).  
Thanks for the donation.

#####



Peugeot Talisman GX, 'X' reg (2000), 2.5 Turbo diesel. 14,000 miles. F.S.H. 2 berth, electric windows/mirrors, central locking, Metz alarmed, 2 bike rack, Fiamma awning plus free standing awning, Silver Screens, Status TV aerial, blown air heating including bathroom. All A-S crockery, extras incl. Excellent condition. £23,500.00 ovno. Tel: Bob Rush on 017 0258 7833 (Shoeburyness, Essex).

#####

Externally fitted padded Silver-Screens for Peugeot Boxer cab. Three-piece, Velcro sided allow screen panel fold down. Used twice. £45.00. Phone: Garry or Jo Jackson 012 7186 5386 (North Devon)

#####

Symbol, 1.9td. Reg 2000. 2 berth. 25,000 miles. All usual A-S refinements plus wind-out awning, twin cycle rack, back box and undersealed by Brownhills. New condition. £18,700.00 ono. Tel: Ken Long on 016 3389 7814 or 016 3389 6140 (Bassaleg, Gwent)

#####

VW T4 Clubman, Dec. '96. 2.0 ltr petrol. 27,000 miles. FSH. Superb condition. Grade 1 alarm, two bar, Silver Screens, TB aerial, 2 bike rack and many extra items. £17,500.00. Tel: Derek Bigglestone on 020 8657 6982 (Sanderstead, Surrey)  
Thanks for the donation.

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\*\*\*\*\*

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