



# **AUTO-SLEEPER OWNERS' CLUB**

*A Company Limited by Guarantee  
Registered Office: Orchard Works, Willersey, Nr. Broadway Worcs. WR12 7QF.*



## **NEWSLETTER 213**

### **June 2006**

# From the Editor (S)

For those of you who attended the National Rally you will recognise what has become our major Rally mascot over the years, on the front cover, for those who didn't attend-- you missed a good bash. But more of that later. As part of the rally included a free cream tea at Brownhills we duly walked over on Sunday to indulge. On the way in we happened to pass a lovely little Inca which seemed to beckon and we had a good look around. However, we had not planned on swapping our van so we returned to the rally and common sense prevailed. For a few hours anyway! The bottom line is that we said goodbye to our Duetto and collected our Inca on 8th May. Turned out to be quite an expensive cream tea!!

Talking of Rallies (which I was before I got sidetracked with Incas), we've had a suggestion from Sylvia and Norman Brice who feel that "Rally Marshalls who hold rallies for limited numbers [should] consider letting members who have not had the chance to attend before have a place first. You often hear members talking of attending [rallies] two or three times before, when others have not had the chance." Perhaps some of you would care to comment.

For those interested there was a useful article on motor home insurance in the April '*Which Motor Caravan*'.

## ***Committee – Future Members***

**Janet Sutterby (Club Secretary)**

This year at the AGM, Harry Henthorne and Brian Smith completed their terms of office and did not stand for re-election. Next year, when my term of office completes, I also shall not stand for re-election.

Such resignations are both inevitable and, in general, a good thing for the club because they bring new people into the management of it. But they lead me to ask if there are those within the membership who would, at a convenient time, give their energy and talents to benefit the club by serving on the Committee?

Will any such persons please make their interest known to a present committee member. Someone has already offered to become the Club Secretary if elected at the next AGM, but it is helpful to know of others who might serve both to cover planned resignations and for occasions of domestic crisis, such as Harry and Sheila's fire.

Work on the Committee requires the acceptance of responsibility and the need to give time to the allotted tasks, but in my experience, there is ample compensation to be had in terms of enjoyment, gaining new friendships and in using skills learnt from a previous life!

We attended our first ASOC rally at South Rowsley over the Easter Weekend and we feel that we just had to write to the newsletter to voice our experiences.

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We arrived to be greeted like old friends by Mike, Jeanne, Lionel and Hilary who, with great efficiency and consideration offered us a choice of pitches which were suitable for my wheelchair, our toilet tent, which we use as a garage for the wheelchair and the generator to charge it.

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There was a coffee evening at 6pm which was a very friendly affair with a raffle for complimentary tickets, which had been donated by local attractions (after gentle persuasion by Mike) and a great deal of information about the area and forthcoming events like a raffle and coffee morning 10am on the Sunday morning.

We got a 10% discount on the Peak Steam Railway which is literally just over the tracks from the site, which a lot of us took advantage of, and the rest of the weekend was ours to enjoy in any way we wished.

The main thing is that it was extremely well organised, supported and there was plenty of friendly advice on just about anything if you wanted or needed it and we would recommend this rally to everybody.

Lastly we would like to sincerely thank Mike, Jeanne, Lionel and Hilary for all their efforts and ask them to please do it again.

Dudley and Kathleen Woodhams

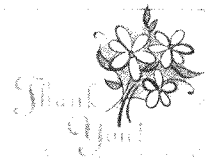
I would just like to say a very big **THANK YOU** to all the committee and helpers who made the AGM such a wonderful week-end, from start to finish.

We are lucky to belong to such a lovely Club, it's like one big happy family which was expressed so much on the Sunday evening when the Houghton Weavers sang Betty and Andrew's song;

there wasn't a dry eye among the ones who know them.

If you have a problem you can rely on your friends from ASOC.

Kath & Norman Benyon



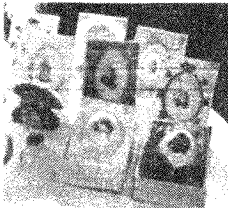
# National Rally

I've been asked to do a report on the National Rally but how to do it justice? It was a really good week-end and I'm sure I speak for everyone when I say a really big **Thank You** to Nora Venables and her sub-committee for all their hard work. I don't think I saw Nora stand still for the entire week-end!!

Hobbies were on display in the Stewart Goodwin Hall and included a huge steam powered lorry brought by John Kelly. The caption reads 'Recent import for Auto-Sleepers—this chassis requires a body, any design would be appreciated. Please write to Willersey'.



Eileen Kellard had a display of re-cycled cards and was on had for information and advice. Jeanne Hall and Angie Cavell were demonstrating their skills with beaded jewellery and Elizabeth Spensley displayed her embroidery work.



Valerie and Robin Gardner were making items out of stained glass and Sheila Hutchings had an impressive display of decorated eggs (competition for Fabergé?).

Bert Carr displayed his cast metal cars and Teresa Paine displayed and demonstrated her hobby of making dolls houses and items of furniture, not to mention *very tiny* teddies.

Rita Jones displayed an array of knitted items and Ray Whiley had a model railway layout on which he had a selection of some of his engines and rolling stock. And in addition to all of this ASOC regalia was available to purchase, there was a photograph competition, a cake competition, internet advice and tea and coffee available throughout.

Peter Brown gave an overview on SatNav on Saturday afternoon and Cedric Jones organised a Boules match on Sunday afternoon, which proved extremely popular.



Food and entertainment was available in the Cedric Ford Pavilion every evening, including music from Terry Elford on Thursday and a great quiz organised by Angie Cavell, ably assisted by Andy [Cavell] and Jeanne Hall on Friday. The Annual Dinner was held on Saturday evening and was attended by Charles and Angela Trevelyan and Anthony and Victoria Trevelyan, Anthony having been made an honorary life member of ASOC following his departure from Auto-Sleepers. This was followed by dancing to Jean Martyn for the rest of the evening, and there was a performance by The Houghton Weavers on Sunday. Phew!! It's small wonder a few of us were glad to get home for a rest.

Thanks to everyone who entered the competitions, please try again next year and let's have a few more—no need to be shy. Kathleen Woodhams told me she 'doesn't do baking' and she came in third! All the cakes were auctioned for charity on Friday evening, thanks to Cedric Jones for doing a splendid job.

The AGM and Open Forum went very well but they will be the subject of a separate report. I could go on, but we haven't room so I hope this gives you a flavour of the week-end, and let's hope we see you all again, and perhaps a few more, next year.

All the photographs will be posted on the Web Site and are well worth a browse.

*Chris Mawdsley*

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### **We've been together now for forty years ....**

Neil and Pauline Rogers took the opportunity to celebrate their recent **40th** Wedding Anniversary with rallying friends. Congratulations and very best wishes. That cake was splendid not to mention well travelled—I lost track of when it left home!



**The Winners of the Photographic Competition**  
(Organised by Brian Smith)

General

First : Tonie Smith for 'I told you it was worth a closer look'

Second: Faith Lee for 'The Perfect Pitch'

Third: Faith Lee for 'But it was lovely and warm inside'

Humourus

First: Brian & Linda Ellis for  
'Come and Visit', we said 'We didn't mean all at once!'

Second: John Crowther for  
Sarah "What do you think of the rally so far?" Poppy "Rubbish!"

Third: Ray Townsend for 'Who needs a hook up?'

**The Winners of the Cake Competition**  
(Organised by Sheila Barnett)

First : Joan Cooke

Second: Brenda Jarvis

Third: Kathleen Woodhams

**The Winners of the Boules Match**  
(Organised by Cedric Jones)

Team Legend

**And finally, from the Lady who made it all work.**

I hope everyone enjoyed the rally, the members who spoke to me certainly seemed to. I have passed on to the staff at the Cedric Ford Pavilion the great many appreciative comments about the good food and excellent service.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many people who have helped throughout the year planning this event and I hope I haven't missed anyone out:

The Committee and my Sub Committee  
Ben & Evelyn Mansfield and the team of Marshals  
Jan Hicklin and the team of raffle ticket sellers  
Andrew Entwistle and John Osland-Jones for organising the Hobbies  
Cedric Jones for the Cake Auction and the Boules  
Angie Cavell for the Quiz and printing the signs  
Sheila Henthorne for coping with the mammoth task of booking  
Peter Brown for the internet and sat-nav demonstrations  
Chris Mawdsley and Brian Smith for taking photos  
All members displaying Hobbies  
(The Committee feel this was a great success and greatly increased the amount for the Charity)  
Pauline Rogers & Jean Sellars for organising the Tea/Coffee  
Sheila Barnett for organising the Cake Competition  
Sheila, Jean and Heather for running the craft classes  
Ian & Marion Wood for looking after the For Sale board

Monies raised from	Hobbies	£126
	Cake Competition	£ 87
	For Sale Board	£ 5.60p
	Tea & Coffee	£ 83.89p
	Quiz	£261

**The cheque paid to The Arthritis Research was £1,399.89p**

**THE DATE OF THE NEXT NATIONAL RALLY IS  
THURSDAY MAY 3rd TO MONDAY MAY 7th 2007**

***Nora Venables  
AGM Sub Committee Chair***

# Technical Group & Website

**Baz Wellard**

**Chairman Technical Group & Webmaster**

## **Web update:**

The most recent update to the Club website, No. 3/06, includes changes to the following:

Articles of association – *following the AGM*

History page – *following the National Rally & AGM*

Technical - *Vehicle reviews – includes the Sherborne*

Technical – *Handbooks - Peugeot Boxer manual*

National Rally & AGM page – *following the National & AGM*

Stop press – *includes:-*

*A summary of the Questions and Answers at the Technical Session of the National Rally, and*

*The appointment of Anthony Trevelyan as Honorary Member.*

Rally programme – *Keswick added*

Committee - *Updated Committee following AGM*

Regalia – *Model of a Talisman now available*

Update page – *Lists all changes*

If you do not have access to the website and wish to see any particular page(s) please send me an SAE to 18 Greenwood Close, Fareham, Hants PO16 7UF, and I will print it (them) for you.

I note that 62% of our members now have e-mail addresses and presumably have access to the Club Website. This leaves 38% who may not have direct access, although some may have access via family, friends etc. To try to help all members I will produce a document that lists all the information that is available on the Club Website and advice on how to access the site, particularly when using the free facilities in the local library.

## **Technical library:**

Recently I received a donation from Ian Wood of a handbook on the Peugeot Boxer 1994. Like all the handbooks this is available to any

member by sending me an SAE – i.e. paying the postage both ways.

Newer members may not know that from 1984 to 2002 Auto-Sleepers produced a very informative and interesting annual brochure that not only covered all the vehicles available in that year, but also news from the factory and the ASOC. Up until now, unfortunately, I only had the years 1993 – 2002. However Albert Brown has kindly donated the missing brochures so we now have the full set. I will bring the full set to the next National rally for members to review.

My thanks go to both members for their donations.

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### **Help Received**

Derek and Margaret Pope

I put an appeal in the newsletter a while back for some crockery for our Symbol to replace that which we (*my wife!*) broke recently.

I was very grateful to all the members who wrote, e-mailed and phoned with offers of help or suggestions, we were overwhelmed.

In the event, most people had spare items of Crocus pattern crockery, whereas ours is best described as 'Pale blue grey with multi coloured dots'. One of the callers suggested we try Auto-Sleepers spares department and after we gave them a call we were able to replenish our set with items they still had in stock.

Many thanks to everyone who got in touch.

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### **What does SEA stand for?**

This question was asked at the AGM and Mary Wilson has provided the answer.

**Societa Europea Autocaravan.** Some members are Mobilvetta Design, McLouis, Elnagh and Joint.

## *Thank you*

We would like to thank everyone on the Well Rally [Walk on the Woids] for the card and beautiful flowers sent to us on the death of Joan's mum.

We have been overwhelmed by the kindness and care shown by all.

Joan and Peter Booth.

## **A Note on Ross Park**

A dozen or more Auto-Sleeper owners go to Ross Park Caravan Park near Totnes in Devon for Christmas and New Year. During the National Rally a rumour was circulating that Ross Park had been sold. I can now confirm that the rumour has no credence and Ross Park is still up and running and will be for many years to come according to the owners

Cedric Jones

## *Update from Norma Caley*

I have been 'taken to task' by an owner of a Mezan as they did not appear in the list in the April Newsletter. I am happy to say we have 6 Mezan owners in the club.

## **Beware**

If you receive a card through your door from a company called PDS (Parcel Delivery Service) saying they have a parcel awaiting delivery instructions and you can contact them on 0906 6611911 **DO NOT** call the number as this is a mail scam originating from Belize. If you do call you hear a recorded message and you will already have been billed £15 for the phone call.

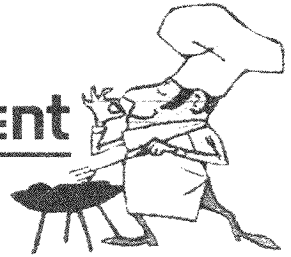
If you do receive such a card contact Royal Mail Fraud on 0207 239 6655 or ICTIS at [www.icstis.org.uk](http://www.icstis.org.uk) or your local Trading Standards Office.

[original e-mail from Chamber of Commerce]



# June 2006

## Rally Supplement



Please use a rally slip, completing both sides, to book a rally by post.

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

Change of dates:- Eastham Hall, Lytham now 12<sup>th</sup>.-15<sup>th</sup>.October.

Rally in the West of Ireland 24<sup>th</sup>.May – 8<sup>th</sup>.June 2006.

This rally is now FULL.

1<sup>st</sup>.-5<sup>th</sup>.June.( 4 nights) Springbok Estate,Alfold,Surrey.

Site Tel. No. 01403 752 555 (Emergencies only).

Rally Marshals: Sylvia & Norman Brice.

Site Fee:£5.50 per night.

**NO** Electricity.

Rally Fee:£2.50(couples)

£1.50( singles).Incl VAT.

**GREENFIELD SITE.** Toilet emptying & water points,toilets.

Rally Slips & cheques payable to Mrs. S. Brice, 35 Halfpenny Close, Chilworth, Guildford,Surrey.GU4 8NH. Tel.No. 01483 562 986.

**Attractions:** Large country house(home to merchant seaman) with social club.Close to Alfold village,20 min walk for papers bread etc.Lots of gentle walks around the grounds of Springbok.Fishing lakes,bring your licence.Within easy reach of Cranleigh,Guildford, Godalming,Horsham & South Coast. Skittles & buffet evening to be arranged for Friday.Please indicate on rally slip if interested.Marquee on site for our use also model boat weekend on lake.

Dogs welcome on leads at all times.

**Directions:**Take A281 Guildford to Horsham road, at Alfold crossways turn off s.p. Alfold.Immediately turn **right** (caravan sign) s.p.Dunsfold.Site approx. 1 ½ miles.

12<sup>th</sup>.-16<sup>th</sup>.June ( 4 nights) Lochside Park C.P.,Castle Douglas,

Kirkcudbrightshire.

Emergency Tel.No.0781704186 or 07969312703 (Marshals' mobiles).

Rally Marshals: Moira & Allan Blackstock.

Site Fee:£8.00 per night. Electricity:£2.50 per night. Rally Fee:£2.00 PER PERSON.

Cheques with SAE for confirmation & directions to:- A & M. Blackstock,39 Sumpter Croft, Penwortham,Preston.PR1 9UJ. Tel.No. 01772 749178.

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**Attractions:** Situated beside Carlingwark Loch, a few minutes walk from the shops and within walking distance of Threave Gardens (NT) and easy driving distance to the Solway Coast or the Galloway Hills; the site is popular with tourists. A hall has been booked for evenings and we hope to arrange an evening meal.

**16<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> June 2006 (3 nights) Cartmel Park Race Course, Cartmel, Cumbria LA11 6QF.**

Emergency Tel.No.07710 200547 ( marshals' mobile).

Rally Marshals: James & Jill Bertlin.

**Directions:** From M6 Junction 36 follow A590 towards Barrow in Furness for approx 10 miles. Follow Cartmel signs (along narrow lanes) through village square, past Cartmel Village shop on **left** (sharp right hand bend). Entrance to rally field along road on **left** through Race Course gate. **Limited to 20 vans.**

**THIS RALLY IS NOW FULL.**

**22<sup>nd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> June ( 4 nights). Riverside T.P. Stratford upon Avon,Warks.**

Emergency Tel No: 07799660641 Marshals' Mobile.

Rally Marshals: Sandra and Bernie Wisely.

Site fees: £7.00pn Inc VAT      **No** electricity Rally Fee: £2.50 per couple or £1.50 single Inc VAT.

Rally field on commercial site full facilities available a short distance from the rally field. Café, Shop, Adjacent Club House, Free Fishing and River Taxi into Stratford Town Centre.

Cheques and rally slips to: Sandra Wisely, 2 Mount Pleasant, Bishops Itchington, SOUTHAM, Warks, CV47 2QE. Tel 01926 – 614194

**Note: No arrival before 1430 hrs.**

Subject to the weather a Communal Barbeque may be organised so please bring portable off the ground Barbeques with a view to sharing. Another evening we hope to arrange a bring your own meal and we could all sit together during the evening and catch up.

**Directions:** Take the B4086 Tiddington Road from the bridge in Stratford. As you enter the village of Tiddington the Park entrance is on the **left** hand side opposite the new NFU building, pull into the parks and follow signs.

**30<sup>th</sup> June.- 2<sup>nd</sup> July. ( 2 nights) Prestwood Steam Fair,Great Missenden Bucks.**

Emergency Tel.No. 07775570182 or 07749378587.

Rally Marshals: Jan & Vic Hicklin & Margaret & Bob Cleaver.

Fee for weekend: £17.00 per unit. **NO** Electricity. Rally Fee: £1.75 per unit. (Incl.VAT).

( ii.)

The fee includes unlimited entrance to the Steam Rally.

This is a **GREEN FIELD SITE** – own toilets are essential.

Rally slips & cheques to Mrs.J.Hicklin,381 Manor Road,Brimington,  
Chesterfield,Derbyshire.S43 1PP. Tel N.o 01246 236 157.

**Directions:** From A413 Great Missenden take A4128 to Prestwood and follow  
Steam Rally signs.

**NO ARRIVALS BEFORE 1.00p.m. FRIDAY.**

**6<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> July. (4 nights) JCB visit and Rocester Football Club,  
Staffordshire.**

Emergency phone nos. Marshals' mobiles: Mike 07939 288586, Peter 07771  
827711 (Please only use over rally weekend).

Rally marshals: Peter Brown, Chris Mawdsley, Jeanne & Mike Hall.

Site fee £4 per van per night. Rally fee £1.20 per person. (Both incl. VAT).

Booking slips and cheques to Chris Mawdsley, 5, Kenilworth Walk, Cheadle,  
Staffs, ST10 1WA. Telephone: 07919 538622.

A **green field** site but water and toilet emptying. No electricity. Toilets and  
basic showers available when club house is open.

**Attractions:** Tour of JCB factory on Friday morning (max. 50 people) plus an  
option of lunch. The tour is £5.00 per person or free to senior citizens and the  
lunch is £8.50. Please book and pay with the rally slip stating "JCB tour" and/or  
"JCB lunch" followed by the no. of persons. Please note that the tour is on foot  
and is 3 miles and stout footwear must be worn.

We will have the use of the club house and bar for most of the weekend.

Many walks in the area.

**Directions:** North of Uttoxeter. From A50 Stoke-on-Trent to Burton-on-Trent  
road, turn north onto B5030 and, when you see JCB factory on your left, turn  
**right** towards Rocester. Go over the bridge and follow the High Street to a  
mini roundabout. Turn **right** into Mill Street and wend your way through until  
you are leaving the town. You will see Rocester FC ground on the **left**.

**10th -13th July (3nights) Hereford Racecourse Hereford**

Emergency Tel no 07791 582881 Marshals' Mobile.

Rally Marshals Joan & Max Cooke, Sheila & Ivor Barnett.

Site fees including electric hook up £10-50 per night.

Rally fees £2.35 (inc VAT) Toilet block, drinking & waste water near by.

**Sloping site chocks required.**

Rally slips & cheques to Mrs J.E.Cooke, The Magnolias,Canon Pyon Rd.,  
Hereford. HR4 7RB Tel no 01432 274906.

The Race Course is on the northern outskirts of the city and on a bus route to the city.

Places of interest include Hereford Cathedral & The Mappa Mundi, Black & White Village Trail & Wye Valley.

**Directions:** Hereford Racecourse is on the A4103 1/2 mile west of the junction with the A49. **Limit of 40 vans**

**14<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> July ( 2 nights). Severn Gorge C.P. Bridgenorth Road, Tweedale, Telford, Shropshire.**

Emergency Tel.No.07960627094 ( Marshals' mobile).

Rally Marshals: Rita Jone & Keith Taylor assisted by Mavis & Steve Heath.

**THIS RALLY IS NOW FULL.**

**20th - 23rd July (3 nights) Beacon Park, Lichfield, Staffs.**

Emergency tel no. Marshals' mobile 07713186508.

Rally Marshals Ted & Trish Pratt & Vic & Jan Hicklin.

Site Fee £4.50 per night. NO Electricity. Rally Fee £2.35 all inc.VAT.

Booking slips and cheques payable to P.M.Pratt, 3 Grafton Rd Stapenhill Burton on Trent. Staffs DE15 9DN PHONE 01283538818.

You may arrive on Thurs AFTER 12 noon NOT BEFORE PLEASE ( this is virtually a green field site although there are toilets in Beacon Park).

Sat evening get together includes Jacket potato, dessert and drink - £4.50

Per person. Pay with booking slip.

**Attractions** Beacon Park is adjacent to Lichfield City centre.

**Directions:** Beacon Park is situated in Lichfield, just off the A51 Tamworth to Rugeley Road. Go round the island with the Bowling Green Pub in the middle. Then take A 51 Rugeley/Stafford Road; turn immediately **right** down Walsall Road, then immediately **left** into Lower Sandford Street. Follow signs for Car Park, the site is through the car park keeping to the **right**.

**27<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> July Motorhome & US RV Show,,The Showground,Great Driffield,East Yorkshire.**

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

Rally Marshals: Jan & Vic Hicklin.

Site Fee: Special Club prices. Arrive Wednesday £33.00, Thursday £28.00 Friday £23.00. Rally Fee: £2.35 ( Incl.VAT).

Send **rally fees** with **rally slip & SAE** for **Show application form** by **12<sup>th</sup> July** to:- Mrs. J. Hicklin, 381 Manor Road, Brimington, Chesterfield, Derbyshire. S43 1PP. Tel.No. 01246 236 157.

Return the application forms to the organisers ,Stone Leisure,address on form, by the closing date **18th July**.

**10<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> August (4 nights or less if you wish!)**

**Abingdon Vale Cricket Club, Abingdon, Oxfordshire**

Emergency Tel. No. 07880 532057 (Marshal's mobile)

Rally Marshals: Angie & Andy Cavell and Jeanne & Mike Hall

Site fee: £5.00 per night: Rally Fee £2.50 couple, £1.50 single (inc VAT)

Rally slips & cheques to A. Cavell, 24 The Close, Hampstead Norreys, Thatcham, Berks. RG18 0RY

**Attractions:** This is a green field site adjacent to the River Thames and only a short walk from the town centre, which has a variety of specialist shops and several pubs. There are many local attractions including bus and boat services to Oxford. We will have the use of the pavilion for a get-together on Friday evening if the weather is bad!

Dogs welcome, subject to usual rules: there are walks straight from site.

The Croquet Club has offered tuition and a mini tournament on Friday morning at a cost of £5.00 per head. Numbers are limited, so this will be on a first come first served basis. Please indicate on rally slip if interested but **DO NOT SEND MONEY**. Payment will be direct to the Croquet Club on the day.

**Directions:** The Cricket Club is on the A415 Abingdon to Dorchester road. If you approach from Abingdon, it is on the **right** after you go over the river bridge. Don't turn in to the car park! About 100 yards after the car park there are two gateways side by side. The Cricket Club is the **right** hand gateway. Coming the other way it is the second of the two gateways on the **left** just after the 30 mph sign.

Limited to 50 vans

**22<sup>nd</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> August ( 5 nights) Topsham Rugby Club, Nr. Exeter, Devon.**  
**Full details next month.**

**24<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> August ( 5 nights) Wonderful Wensleydale, Wensleydale School, Leyburn, North Yorks.**  
**Full details next month.**

**Early Notice.**

**13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> September ( 5nights) Shoreham Airdisplay,Shoreham by Sea,**

**West Sussex.**

Emergency Tel.No. 07999571461.

Rally marshals: Shirley & Chris Sturgeon & Theresa & Dave Smith.

Site Fee: £2.00 per night. NO Electricity. Rally Fee: £2.35 (incl.VAT).

Airshow tickets: £20.00 per adult,£8.00 per child.(Covers Saturday & Sunday).

Saturday evening buffet meal £4.12 each (Incl.VAT).Please state interest and pay in advance.Send SAE for confirmation if required.Possible airport tour please state if interested.This is a GREENFIELD site with water & elsan emptying. **NO DOGS.**

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

**Attractions:** 2 day Airshow with on ground entertainment,Cycle rides from site.

**Directions:** On A27 between Brighton & Worthing leave A27 at traffic lights opposite Sussex Pad Hotel.Turn into airport (This is the only entrance for motor vans).

**Please do not arrive before 12 noon Wednesday.**

*If you wish to run a rally in 2006 please contact me to check dates **before** booking with a site. This prevents any clash of dates.*

*.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.*

*Committee members are also available to assist if required.*

*I have some sites that have offered a rally site,they are not vetted as to the suitability for rallies.*

*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](mailto:ncr@nasuwt.net)**

Local assistant: Jerry Haxton (01354 740931) March,Cambs.

**E & OE**

## Garmin 2610

Rita Daley



Recently I sent for the V8 map update for the Garmin (£50+) and I also had the Caravan Club site disk given to me for Christmas so I loaded the two new disks and obtained the 'unlock codes' fairly easily. To send the new map to the Garmin I had to 'select' the map and click on 'send to' in the file menu. Well there wasn't a 'send to' in the file it was elsewhere so no problem, but, how to select the map when I had large portions of it in front of me. 'Control A' didn't work. I didn't think reducing the whole of Europe to screen size and then selecting was the right way to go, but it worked! I transferred part of the new map (the British Isles) to the Garmin over a cup of coffee (just over 20 minutes). Feeling a bit gung-ho I put on the CC site details—and wiped off the first map!!

I was very lucky in having a telephone number for the supplier of the CC disk *and* got through immediately. His advice:

Reduce the size of the map (as I had done)  
Select it (follow instructions and it goes pink)  
Put the CC site map on top of it and 'pink' that  
Then 'send to' the device and they both go through as one map

Now who would have thought of doing it that way? Certainly not the writers of the hand books.

I do hope this helps others and can only assume that similar methods might apply to different makes of 'device', but take care, they might not! The trouble is most of us are not experts in technology and feel a bit out of our depth and afraid of trying something in case it all goes wrong. I do hope more advice will appear in the Newsletter from time to time from people who have fought **and won** in the technological age!

## **ARE YOU ADEQUATELY INSURED FOR UNFORESEEN MEDICAL EVENTS AND HAVE YOU READ AND UNDERSTOOD THE INSURANCE DOCUMENTATION?**

Rita A Jones

Keith and I have travelled in Europe on very many occasions in the last 17 years. We have always taken out what we thought was adequate medical cover and, fortunately, never had to use it.

During our recent five weeks on the Costa del Sol, like of lot of folk in the hotel, we developed chest problems, saw the hotel doctor, who examined Keith and gave him a prescription for some pills. My condition was apparently, worse than Keith's and I needed a chest X-ray, antibiotics and other medication. The total bill came to £119.12p. This included about £30 for medication, which would have been free at home.

On leaving the hotel to go to hospital, the doctor suggested I should stay in overnight, as I had medical insurance to cover the cost. However, the hospital doctor did not think it was necessary.

On our return home we sent all the necessary documents and receipts to the insurance company and were very surprised to learn that all we were allowed was £19.20p because of the £50 excess. A point of great importance to the company seemed to be that we did not get a receipt from the taxi driver as, apparently, we would have been reimbursed the 5 euros we paid him.

I tried explaining that the last thing one thinks about on entering the Emergency Department of a hospital is obtaining a receipt for the taxi fare!

We will certainly scrutinize insurance documents in the future.

## Locking—or rather non-locking back doors

Kevin Hawins

We have a Ford Transit 'Frisky' [*is this the make or the temperament Ed.*] and the rear doors do not lock from the inside. Thus when the beds have been made up prior to going out in the evening, when we return we cannot get in the back doors and lock them again from the inside, hence we have to go through the side door. Now, imagine the scene, two grandparents trying to climb over the previously made-up bed, one or both having had a little drink, in fits of laughter when putting your hand in the wrong place and falling over, with the van rocking about, waking up a large proportion of the campsite. All think makes it very embarrassing for us the following morning when people notice our age!

Any help on how the back doors can be locked from the inside would be of great assistance. Surely other AS owners have overcome this problems, or do they all practice yoga?

\*\*\*\*\*

### 'Model' Comments

I was interested to read the table of AS models that Norma produced. It reflects quite admirably the preference of ASOC members for monocoque or van conversions, the original mainstay of AS, the Nuevo being the exception as it was innovative from the outset, producing a swb coachbuilt of compact proportions with little penalty in dimensions for parking etc. As the monocoques are phased out and the choice is styro coachbuilts there is an awful lot of competition and AS will be straying away from their core market and perhaps this is why they have been forced to merge with other companies with subsequent loss of identity. Certainly the quality side of AS is matched if not bettered by a load of their competitors. I would like to see them re-evaluate their mission plans and revert to luxury/quality and not try to compete on price. After all the bought-in components will be the same, it's how you present the finished article—fancy bits and pieces (proper wood) can only add another £1,000 or so. I also think there are a number of base vehicles that are ripe for the AS treatment as van conversions.

The new designs were interesting and I particularly liked the Windsor—loads of space for a sub 20 foot motorhome. Maybe they could do a monocoque version when the new transit is out later this year.

David Mayne

# From the Factory

Dear All

Firstly may I apologise for not being able to attend this year's ASOC meeting at Newark, I was very much looking forward to this year's meeting, as we at Auto-Sleepers have a lot of good news to relay as well as advising you all of a number of changes I have made within the factory. Therefore to bring everyone up to date, I have prepared this article to your Newsletter.

The major news for us at present is the launch of our new Ford and Volkswagen Styrofoam coachbuilt range. We have successfully designed and launched a stable of 5 new Ford vehicles, 3 of which have already been displayed. A good order book has been taken and a sizeable batch are underway in production with the first vehicles being delivered to our dealer network within weeks.

To compliment our Styrofoam range, we have added a very luxurious Volkswagen vehicle. Whilst this is just one model it has been amazingly well received and is enjoying a high demand. Again, this vehicle is under production and is due out to our dealers within days. The creation and launch of these vehicles also signifies one of the major changes I have made.

Our process of creation through to launch has had additional quality and safety steps added. Firstly, as normal we build and create our prototype. This vehicle is then put through vigorous road endurance checks in a test ground at Chobham in Surrey. The vehicles are subjected to high speeds, high winds, severe cobbled roads, intense cornering and braking. During

these tests we record any internal noises, look for any door catch failures as well as monitor the performance of all the interior items. Once these tests are complete the vehicle is disassembled to view any effects, and if changes are required to improve performance and reliability, they are made.

Following on from this, vehicles are then taken away by our Design and Production Team over weekends and evenings so that the bed make up and comfort is checked, together with the practicality and user-friendly aspects of the vehicle. All the information is fed back into our system to enable changes and improvements to be made at that stage. An additional vehicle is then built to create our blue print for production. From this second prototype/build 1, we ensure accurate instructions are created for the production workforce, this ensures we build in quality at the outset as well as enabling Auto-Sleepers to work towards Whole Vehicle Type Approval, years ahead of the legislation requirements.

Moving forward our biggest challenge will be the new Auto-Sleeper Peugeot range. Currently we are working on potential designs of appearance, layouts, door finishes, fabrics and usability.

On a final note, I trust you are all well. I look forward to seeing many of you over the coming months and enjoy your motorhomes this year to the full.

Kind regards. **Ian Capes**

Many of you who attended the National Rally at Newark, were concerned with regard to 3 new vehicles on display.

Upon returning to the factory I had a meeting with Ian Capes, our Managing Director and Simon Vaughan, our newly arrived Operations Director. They were both aghast at what I had to report and have already implemented systems both to prevent any recurrence and not least to ensure that new models hereafter will be both of the design and quality that you, as users and Club members, would expect.

Through the Newsletter over the coming months, we will be keeping you abreast of positive improvements in build quality and design, which will be echoed by significantly improved and high class models, both in design and build, at the NEC this autumn. There will also be regular articles explaining why certain vehicles cannot meet such parameters (e.g. limited payloads) and efforts being made to overcome this. This should keep yourselves abreast of information that perhaps has hitherto not been forthcoming.

As I stated at the Open Forum, I too was concerned with the product on display and would like to assure you, on behalf of the Company, that hereafter all new models will meet your needs to the full, have immediate attraction, reflect current market research trends and incorporate the valuable input that we now receive formally through Andy and Angie Cavell as part of the design team.

In ending I would like to thank those concerned for a superb week-end.

**Charles Trevelyan**

### **Motor caravanning - the joy of driving with no one in front of you!**

My first experience of Motor caravanning took place in the Brecon Beacons during the Easter weekend. I reported in the May edition that my initial vehicle would be an Auto-sleeper Midas, but alas it turned out to be a Mobilvetta Top Driver! My family and I enjoyed the venture thoroughly and on a personal front it made all of us slowdown and enjoy quality time together. We had no mishaps and seemed to adjust to the lifestyle well. My partner Amanda had issues with the high level grill –being too high and underpowered, resulting in me receiving a fried breakfast instead of the healthier grilled version! My son Samuel aged 9 loved the Luton bed and in fact for the first time in his life went to bed with no negotiation.

Although, we do appreciate the need to evaluate the range of Auto-sleeper models along with an assessment of competitor vehicles to understand the benefits of different layouts and the designers useful and not so useful gadgets! My next vehicle is a VW Trident.

Finally I hope you all enjoyed the Easter break.

Regards  
**Simon Vaughan**

April 30<sup>th</sup> 2006

Dear Andy

How I can ever begin to thank you and all the members enough for such a happy time on Saturday evening and for making me an Honorary member of the Club, I just do not know.

It really was most touching that you should have chosen to make me an Honorary Member and, as I said on the evening, it provides me with a lifetime link with Auto-Sleepers which, as we all know, I left after forty five years of enjoyable service earlier this year. This 'link' means a lot to me and I am so very grateful to you and the members of the club for bestowing this honour upon me. Thank you all.

I have always enjoyed attending the Club's various functions and last weekend reminded me of how special the Club is and how much I miss the Club and Company Rally; always an enjoyable weekend during which I was able to catch up with many friends and make new ones. Now that I can attend future AGM's, which I shall, I again have the opportunity of renewing many long standing acquaintances and making new ones. I am already looking forward to next years AGM.

I was also so very grateful for the National Garden tokens. You could not have given me a better present, not that there was a need to give me one, as I want to plant a magnolia and shall be using the tokens to buy one. You are all so kind and thoughtful,

Thank you also for the beautiful basket of flowers you gave Victoria. They are absolutely gorgeous and she has asked me to thank you all for your kindness. They really do look splendid and have already been much admired

Again, both Victoria's and my sincere thanks to you and all of the Clubs Members.

With best wishes,

Yours

Since sending the above letter Anthony has further communicated firstly that he has now purchased the Magnolia which is planted in the middle of their lawn and looks magnificent and secondly that despite all the talk of retirement his new job at Brownhills is keeping him very busy but he is enjoying it enormously. Chris and I can verify that he certainly looked happy enjoying a snack in the Brownhills cafeteria the day we collected our Inca,

## Chairman's Chat



As I sit down to write this article, I am reminded of the days after Christmas when I was a boy. It was time to write the thank you letters! After the National Rally there seem to be so many people to thank, so here goes.

First of all, a big thank you to Nora Venables, husband Ven and all the team who helped make the first National Rally an enormous success. Thanks to the marshals, the raffle ticket sellers, the tea makers and thanks also to the people who demonstrated their hobbies and everybody else who did their bit. The only complaint I have heard is that there was too much going on!

Secondly, thanks to the committee members who retired at the AGM. Harry Henthorne, supported by Sheila, has served on the committee for many years, latterly as Chairman and Newsletter Editor. Likewise, Brian Smith, supported by Sylvia, has been involved for a long time, as Press Officer and with the Technical Group. I hope they will all enjoy the extra spare time they now have, and that we will see them regularly at Club events in future.

Next, thanks to all those who serve on the committee for giving their time and effort to run the Club. Without them we would be in a sorry state. My personal thanks also to them, for electing me as Chairman for the next twelve months.

Finally, thanks to you, the members, who make this Club so special. Thank you for attending our first National Rally in such numbers and for supporting all the events that were organised for us. The only problem now is how to make next year bigger and better!

### Andy Cavell

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### HELP

I have a 1997 Duetto which has had the modesty panels removed, which has left a plain shower door with filled holes on the inside surface. Can anybody provide me with drawings and associated measurements (photos?) of the stages and fittings used and any other information as I don't know in detail what is actually supposed to be there. Kathleen and I would really appreciate a call

Dudley Woodhams 01325 307526 or [Dudley@snowgoose1.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:Dudley@snowgoose1.fsnet.co.uk).

## WANTED

We have recently purchased an Auto-Sleeper Pollensa and one of the mugs is missing. The crockery is Staffordshire Tableware and the design is Calypso. If anyone has any spare crockery in this design we would be interested in purchasing it from you.

**Contact: Robert or Lesley Cutts 0121 353 2197**(Streetly, West Midlands) e-mail: [lj.cutts@tesco.net](mailto:lj.cutts@tesco.net).

**Auto-Sleeper wanted. Preferably one or two owners from new 1993-1997. Van type**

Contact: Adam & Dawn Popplewell 01277 657854 (Billericay)

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Harrison motor porch awning burgundy & sand. As new cost £260 will accept £100 ono. Silver Screen for Peugeot Boxer as new cost £80 will accept £30.  
**Contact: Angela Rose or Mike Johnson 01707 655706 or 07768 743119** (Herts)

Auto-Sleeper Harmon (1993 L) 1.9 diesel 57,800 miles. Tax to September 2006, MOT to March 2007, service history, new cam belts, engine mountings, uprated rear springs and tyres. Fiamma windout side awning & bike

rack. Status aerial, Pioneer CD radio and all the usual AS refinements.

Excellent condition. Throughout £9,250.00 (West Midlands)

**Contact: Barry Williams 01922 452735 or 07808 904740**

Fiamma Ultra Top Box 108 cm long 75cm wide 42cm high. Never used. Cost £235. £95.

**Contact: Norman Stocks 01472 697310** (NE Lincs)

Thanks for the donation

Free standing drive away awning suitable for side or rear door £100

Insulated windscreen covers (external) and 2 x internal panels for rear doors.

Suitable for Transit (Duetto) £50

4 x locking wheel nuts and socket for Transit £15

**Contact: Dave Crabbe 01744 884437 or 07763 773877**

E-mail: [davidccrabbe@lineone.net](mailto:davidccrabbe@lineone.net) (Nr. Skelmersdale W.Lancs)

Thanks for the donation

Mezan Peugeot Partner genuine 'Silver Screen'. Original cost over £100 will accept £65. Brand new mains cable (orange with connectors £10).

**Contact: George Smithson 01462 816004 or 07759 399525**

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Auto-Sleeper (March 02 reg) 1 yr MOT Ford Transit 330 DURASHIFT. Diesel, alarm, ABS, FSH. One lady owner. Diesel fuelled heating, new battery, shower, hob, grill, oven, full fridge, towing hitch (never used) Extra strong bumper rear and front. 3 metre awning. Has never failed me. Sale due to bereavement.

£26,000 ,

Also Silver Screen for Duetto. All in one front and side, rarely used. £40.

**Contact: Pat Wilmerson 01242 262118** (Cheltenham)

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A-S Peugeot 2.8 HDi Talisman GX. 4 berth July 2001 (Y reg) Only 10,000 miles. In pristine condition. Taxed and MOT. One owner from new. Extras include Omnistor awning & Safari room. Air rides, tow bar, solar panel, cycle rack. Grade 1 Thatcham Alarm, top box. Full service history. £26,000 ono  
**Contact: Yvonne or Freddie Cannon 01252 673403 or 07909 787866**  
(Surrey)

Thanks for the donation

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Autosleeper Inca EK 2005. Peugeot Boxer 2.2 HDi 1800 miles only. Immaculate condition. 4 berth full AS spec. plus cab a/c, alarm, x 14 kg gas bottles included. Non-smoker, no pets. £30,500 ono

**Contact: Graham Bull 01992 461233 or 07732 279553**

**E-Mail: grahambull@tesco.net** (Hoddesdon, Herts.)

Thanks for the donation

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A-S 2005 Inca EK, Peugeot 2.8 HDi 4 berth, 7,000 miles, 3 year extended warranty on vehicle and van. Twin cycle rack, swivel drivers seat, additional mains sockets. Full AS spec. as new, excellent condition. Non-smokers, no pets. House move forces sale £31,995 ono. (Kent)

**Contact: Steve Tolson 01304 832666 e-mail: steve@cadeas.fsnet.co.uk**

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A-S Peugeot Boxer Nuevo 2L July 2004 HDi. 2 berth, central locking, 8,500 miles. Non-smokers, no pets. CD player, Altraheat/ store, hot & cold water, duel swivel seats, patterned green upholstery. Single/double beds. Solar panel, Fiamma door lock, over, 3 gas 1 electric hob, fridge, blow air heating. Gas/electric fire, TV aerial & booster. Shower and cassette toilet. £26,500 ono

**Contact: Dennis Carter 01590 689319 or 07775 676604** (Lymington Hants)

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Fold up push bike with 3 speed. 20 in. wheels. Blue. Bought from Halford. OK for adult up to 5ft 6in. Shrinks down to about 3ft 6in child. £37.50 ono

**Contact Geoff Williamson 01684 310431** (Malvern)

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