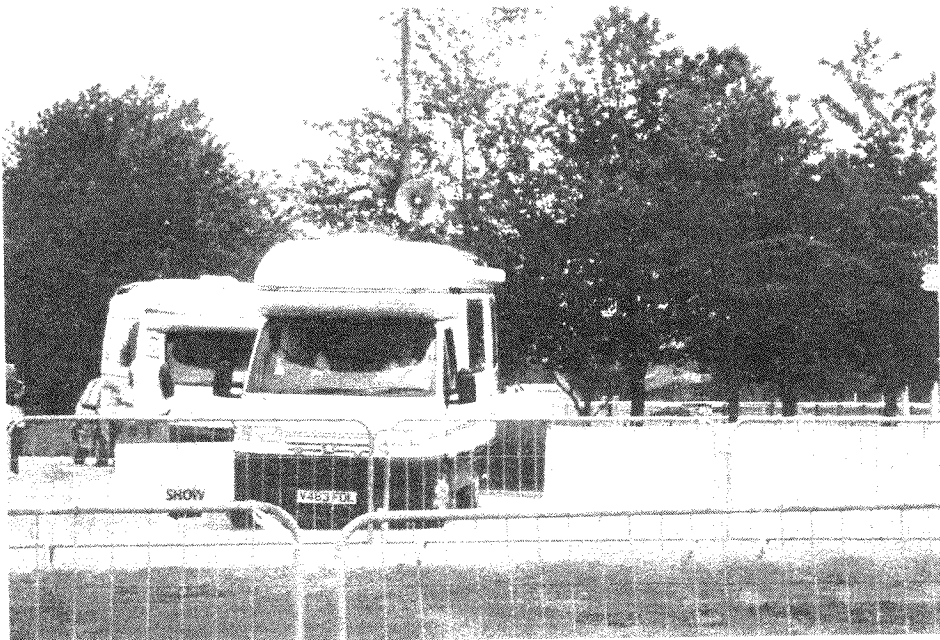




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AUTO-SLEEPER OWNERS' CLUB

A Company Limited by Guarantee
Registered Office: Orchard Works, Willersey, Nr. Broadway Worcs. WR12 7QF.
Registered No: 4616969



And they're off...

NEWSLETTER 225

June 2007

From the Editor (S)

Obviously we have lots of feed-back from the National this month, which was, as usual a successful and interesting event. I have to say it was eagerly awaited, as the picture on the front cover shows. As you will see from a later piece Nora will be handing over the baton soon, a hard act to follow we know, but don't be daunted we need volunteers.

We also need you to keep the articles coming in, there always seems to be only just enough for one issue, sets me panicking towards the 10th of every month I can tell you.

I'm still catching up with my reading of the old Newsletters. In the latest batch there is tale after tale of tyre failures (tread separation, steel re-enforcing breaking out, punctures, etc) and blowouts.

Now I've been driving and maintaining road vehicles of most types for 42 years (the first 4 of which were before I was allowed on the road) and for 10 years was responsible for the operation and maintenance of circa 1600 cars and vans used for maintenance around UK railways. I was therefore confident that my 2 year old Michelin tyres on our van were in excellent condition and inflated to the correct pressure for my use. After all I had taken advice from one of the most senior members of the club and after conducting my own experiments had arrived at the same pressures.

However after reading about so many failures and the consequences of them I began to question my own self confidence and decided to follow the advice I passed on recently in the Newsletter. I fully loaded and fuelled the van and visited a weighbridge where I obtained the front and rear axle weights. I then telephoned Michelin, gave them details of the tyres fitted and the axle weights. Within a minute I had their advice on pressures - exactly those I have been using.

The point of this piece is I hope to demonstrate how easy it is in practice to find out the correct pressures to use in your tyres and how seriously I consider the well being of the points of contact between my vehicle and the road.

Anyway we're sure lots of you will be heading off on holiday so we wish you fine weather, smooth passage and lots of fun.



National Rally 2007

Well the National Rally seems to have gone down a storm again, Nora and her team doing their usual excellent job. The weather may have been very cold, but that's not important; what is important was the warm welcome everyone received and the wonderful atmosphere the event generates.

As usual, Brownhills treated everyone to a cream tea, which thankfully, Peter and I managed to partake of *without* buying another van!! The craft stalls were their usual high standard and, together with the hobbies displayed and an internet demonstration, provided interesting browsing, and buying of course.



There were also some very good entries in both categories of the photographic competition which was run by Rita Tubb who "would like to thank all those who took part" and "..... hopes that everyone will be thinking of the competition for 2008..." whilst they are on their travels. There are loads of opportunities and Rita would like to see lots of entries.

whilst we're on the subject, the results of the competition are as follows:

General



First
P Stevens

Second
W Townsend

Third
T. Smith

Humorous

First
M Hall

Second
T Smith

Third
S Sturgeon

You should be able to view the photographs on the website in due course.



Peter attended the Technical Q & A on Friday afternoon and said it proved to be a lively, well attended session covering a number of topics.

The AGM on Saturday morning positively romped away and the Open Forum which followed produced some interesting comments and discussion points.

Following the success of last year, there was another SatNav session on Saturday afternoon which was particularly well attended and then most people changed into their 'finery' for the Dinner Dance on Saturday night. The raffle prizes I think were exceptional this year and what an excellent job Raffle Ticket Team did throughout the week-end.

The cake competition was won by Don Bland, who for his pains, will be running it next year apparently! All the cakes were auctioned for the charity; thanks to everyone who gave so generously.

Cedric again organised Boules on Sunday afternoon, which was a huge success and raised a substantial amount towards the Charity. Sunday evening gave everyone a chance to meet and chat and be entertained moving swiftly on!! Let's just say I don't think the entertainment will be invited back next year.

Ben and Evelyn Mansfield would like to thank all those who assisted them in marshalling the National Rally. The weather really was very cold but everyone remained cheerful and they all deserve a very big **Thank You**.



Pauline Rogers would also like to say a big **Thank You** to all the tea ladies who slaved over a hot urn in the Stewart Goodwin Hall and the boules tent during the week-end. Their hard work was much appreciated by all those members who had their thirst quenched and their caffeine levels raised by the efforts of these ladies. Pauline would also like to thank Ozzie for his part in keeping the urn filled, the bins emptied and the tablecloths freshly laundered! And a final thanks to those members who gave so generously to our Charity.



And from the lady who makes it all happen, **Nora Venables**.

I would like to thank the members who supported the National Rally making it a very enjoyable few days.

Many thanks also to the Committee and my Sub-Committee who have supported me throughout the year during the planning.

My thanks also to:

- Auto-Sleepers for funding the Sunday evening entertainment.
- Simon Vaughan, Emma Franklin and Charles Trevelyan for sharing the week-end with us and supporting the events taking place.

- The Auto-Sleeper staff for the Q & A session which is always so popular, and for showing members the Auto-Sleeper Motorhomes.
- Ben and Evelyn and their team of pitch markers and marshalls
- Elizabeth Morgan and her team of raffle ticket sellers
- John Ozland-Jones for organising the Stuart Goodwin Pavilion
- Cedric Jones for Auctioning the cakes and arranging to boules
- Jean Sellars for organising the Quiz
- Angie and Andy Cavell for printing all the signs.
- Sheila Henthorne who, yet again, has so efficiently handled all the bookings.
- Peter Brown for demonstrating the internet and sat-nav.
- Chris Mawdsley for being Club Photographer
- Brian Smith who will be doing a report for MMM
- All the members displaying their hobbies
- Pauline Rogers, Jean Sellers and their team for organising the tea and coffee
- Shelia, Jeanne, Heather and Joan for running the craft classes
- Sheila Barnett for organising the cake competition and Richard for judging
- Ian and Marion Wood for looking after the 'For Sale Board'
- Rita Tubb for organising the Photographic Competition
- Baz Wellard for organising the Question & Answer Session
- Jim Henwood for assisting Ben and marshalling (and offering to manage the Stuart Goodwin Hall next year).
- Mike Valentine for standing in for Andy Cavell
- All the members who offered their help in any way
- The Newark Showground Staff with whom I work very well,
- And my husband Ven, who is always a great support.

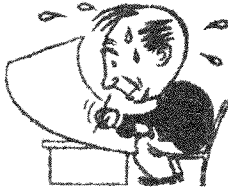
THE DATE OF THE 2008 NATIONAL RALLY IS THURSDAY MAY 1ST TO MONDAY MAY 5TH.

And finally from *James & Jill Bertlin*

Nora has done it again! We have just returned home from yet another great ASOC National Rally and felt we really must express our thanks to all concerned, but especially to Nora and 'the man behind the woman' - Ven. All the hours of hard work (and, no doubt, worry) were truly appreciated and made the whole weekend thoroughly enjoyable.

The only disappointment was the obvious embarrassment Nora felt on Sunday night when table after table of ralliers retreated to their vans, unable to cope with the volume of Mike James & Co. Jean Martyn is a joy—easy to listen to, great to dance to, and considerate enough to allow those who want to talk, to do so without straining their voices or resorting to having to lip read. More of Jean and perhaps the Houghton Weavers again next year?

Chairman's Chat



That's it then. Another National Rally is over and done. Nora and Ven have gone home for a well deserved rest and we can all look back on a really good weekend.

On behalf of all of us who were there, I want to say a big thank you to Nora, Ven and the team for organising the event. Thanks also to all the members who gave their time over the weekend in so many different ways to help the event run smoothly.

We also thank Auto-Sleepers for their support and all their staff who gave their time to be with us over the weekend. It was good to hear the new vans attracting so many favourable comments after the disappointment of previous years.

I hope that you took advantage of the opportunity to complete the company's questionnaire. Please don't forget that the Design Group is still meeting so do let me have your comments so that we can pass them on.

At this year's AGM we said goodbye to Janet Sutterby who has been our Secretary for several years after an earlier stint as Minutes Secretary. She has kept us on the straight and narrow over the rules and regulations for a CLG and generally kept us in order. Thank you Janet we will miss you. I am happy to report that John Osland-Jones, who was elected at the AGM, has agreed to take over the Secretary's role. We welcome Ozzie to the committee.

Finally, on a personal note, I am sorry that my time at the National was severely curtailed by the vagaries of the NHS, and Angie is very upset that she missed it completely. I have often heard people say how wonderfully supportive club members can be in times of trouble and now we have experienced it for ourselves. It really was quite over whelming and we thank all of you who were kind enough to enquire after her and send messages of concern and support.

Andy Cavell

Change of Secretary

You will have read in the June 2006 Newsletter that Janet Sutterby, who has been the secretary of the club for the last six years, would not be standing for re-election to the committee in 2007.

At the A.G.M. I was elected onto the Management Committee. Then at the subsequent committee meeting, I was elected to the post of secretary.

Before I tell you about my self I must pay tribute to Janet for the outstanding work she has done, with considerable support from Eileen, for the club as secretary and before that as minute secretary.

On a personal note, the way in which Janet has explained the function and responsibilities of the club secretary has been a pleasure and I only hope I can live up to her impeccable standards.

Some of you will have read this at the National, but for others, my name is John Osland-Jones, better known to all as Ozzie. I served as a police officer in the West Midlands Police Force until 2005, when I joined the ranks of the retired.

I have been a member of the club since 1991 and have over the years, contributed in a small way to the club; first by marshalling, then moving on to help set out the Seven Hall or the Wye Hall at Malvern with tables, chairs, etc., for the Club and Company Rally. Then I took on the responsibility of being Senior Steward to organise the setting out of the hall and clean up afterwards.

I have always helped with marshalling or anything else that needed doing at all the A.G.Ms and in 2005 I went on to the A.G.M sub-committee.

Ozzie



Thank you

Thank you all for your kind card, words and gifts, to make me feel better. I was so very sorry not to be with Charles and yourselves for the National weekend. I had to call the Doctor to our home for an injection which worked the magic and now I am on the path of recovery.

It really was so kind of you all for your thoughts and all the messages that Charles came home to tell me.

I do look forward to the next meeting, however and in the meantime God Bless you all.

With love

Angela Trevelyan

From the Committee (Just this once)

At the Committee meeting that followed the AGM at the National Rally the committee discussed an item raised during the Open Forum concerning communication from the committee to the club membership of significant matters considered by the committee. The committee agreed that the best way was to continue with the current practice ie the Chairman conducts that communication through the 'Chairman's Chat' piece in the next Newsletter so don't forget to read it and do remember that there are usually only four committee meetings each year.

The chair of the National Rally sub-committee, Nora Venables will continue her work up to and including the 2008 National Rally, she then intends to step down. The committee would like to hear from anyone who would be interested in taking over from Nora at that time and who would also be willing to stand for election to the committee at the 2008 AGM as it is imperative that the chair of this important sub-committee is a member of the club committee. It would be the intention that a willing volunteer would both join the National Rally sub-committee as soon as possible the assist Nora with organising the 2008 event and would also be invited to attend full committee meetings in a none voting capacity to familiarise themselves with the full requirements of the post. Anyone who is interested in knowing more about what is involved should contact Andy Cavell or any other member of the Committee.

Technical Group & Website

Baz Wellard
Chairman Technical Group & Webmaster



Vehicle re-calls:

Recently the question of re-calls was raised and I thought the following might be of help to members.

As I understand it there are 3 categories of re-calls:- safety; urgent and routine (*my terminology*); and there are 2 sources with regard to our motorhomes: - chassis manufacturers and Auto Sleepers.

Taking these in order:

- **Safety:**

If there is a Safety issue owners are notified direct by the chassis manufacturer or, if it is habitation/conversion, by Auto Sleeper Quality Department. The re-call is also notified to VOSA (*Vehicle & Operator Services Agency*) for their database (*available on the web – see below*).

- **Urgent:**

VOSA are not notified in the case of urgent re-calls but owners will be contacted direct by the chassis manufacturers or Auto Sleepers.

- **Routine:**

For routine re-calls owners are not usually notified direct. However the rectification is usually captured when the vehicle goes into an authorised dealer for routine servicing or any other reason.

- **Chassis manufacturers:**

On the Club website I have listed the following contact telephone numbers for queries on chassis re-calls should you have any:-

◇ Peugeot	0845 2001234	recall Helpline
◇ Ford	0845 841111	Relationship Centre
◇ VW	0800 7834909	Customer care

- ◇ **Auto Sleepers:** Auto Sleepers have had only 3 safety re-calls and these, along with build numbers, are detailed on the Club website, (contact me if you do not have access).
- ◇ **VOSA:** Details of all safety re-calls can be found on the VOSA website <http://www.vosa.gov.uk/vosa/apps/recalls/default.asp>

Postage:

Unfortunately, some of the SAE letters I am receiving from members do not have sufficient stamps, which requires me to go to the Post Office to get them weighed. Also, occasionally, I have to drive to the sorting office to collect letters that have insufficient stamps – having to pay the £1 surcharge and the difference in cost of the stamps due.

Members are very generous and do refund the balance but it would be much better for all if the correct postage could be put on the envelopes at the start, please.

The guide for Ideas Sheets/photocopies is:-

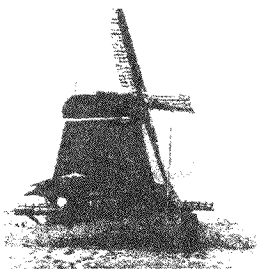
- Up to **8** pages - '**letter size**' (240 * 165mm) - 24 pence second class
- Up to **12** pages - '**large letter size**' (353 * 250mm) - 40 pence second class
- Up to **33** pages - '**large letter size**' (353 * 250mm) - 60 pence second class
- Up to **70** pages - '**large letter size**' (353 * 250mm) - 83 pence second class

National Rally Q&A session:

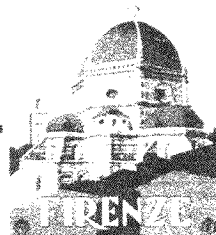
I write this in advance of the National Rally where, hopefully, the annual opportunity to raise technical and other queries with the management from Auto Sleepers has taken place. A précis of the questions and answers should be on the Club website 'stop press' page as soon as I can.

Website:

Latest update, No. 3/07, contains: - availability of a further Sandhurst review; two new rallies (*Burn gliding and Lancaster Heritage*); Burton-on-Trent rally report & photos and latest postal rates (*see previous paragraph*). Don't forget if you wish to be on the automatic list for updates (and any important 'flash' club news) simply send your e-mail address to baz.wellard@virgin.net



June 2007 Rally Supplement.



All rallies start at **12 noon** unless otherwise stated in this supplement.
Please remember to notify the marshals if you wish to take a car, trailer or tent to a rally.

All rallies, with the exception of the National Rally, are applied for by using the rally slips sent by post to the relevant marshals.

***** Change of dates. The Sedgemoor Carnival Rally at Burnham on Sea will now be held from 9th. – 13th. November.

***** Change of dates Ludlow Food & Drink Festival now 7th.-9th.September.

Possible rally 3rd -8th.October.Norfolk Showground,Norwich.This will be a rally at the ACCEO AGM,attendance of the AGM is not required.If interested please contact Ray Whiley on 01603 452 593.

Friday, 1st June to Saturday 9th June 2007.(8 nights) Camping Alkmaar, Alkmaar, Netherlands.

June 17th - 24th 2007(7 nights) Delftse Hout Caravan Site. Delft Netherlands

Rally starts at 12 noon June 17th and closes 12 noon on June 24th 200.

Rally Marshalls: Trish & Ted Pratt & Jan & Vic Hicklin.

Members must book for the full 7 nights. Rally fee: £15(non refundable)to be sent with rally slip and SAE envelope for reply.(A small envelope will do for first reply).

A 50% deposit will be required but I will send you directions.PLEASE SEND RALLY SLIPS and deposit to P.M.PRATT. 3 Grafton Road, Stapenhill, Burton on Trent, Staffs DE15 9DN (01283538818) or mobile (07713186508).

31st.May-4rd June. (4 nights).Springbok Estate,Alfold,Surrey.

Site Tel.No. 01403 752555 (Emergencies only).

Rally Marshalls: Sylvia & Norman Brice.

Site Fee:£5.50 per night. NO Electricity. Rally Fee:£2.50 couples,£1.50 singlers Incl VAT.

GREENFIELD SITE Toilet emptying & water points,toilet & shower.

Rally slips & cheques payable to Mrs.S.Brice,35 Halfpenny Close,Chilworth, Guildford, Surrey.GU4 8NH.Tel.No. 01483 562986.

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 ground of Springbok.Fishing lakes,bring your licence.Within easy reach of Cranleigh,Guildford, Godalming,Horsham & the south coast.

Skittles & buffet evening to be arranged for Friday. Please indicate on slip if interested. Model boat weekend on lake.

Dogs welcome on leads at all times. Levelling blocks maybe required.

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

June 14th - 18th (4 Nights) Hurley Riverside Park, Hurley, Maidenhead, Berkshire SL6 5NE
THIS RALLY IS NOW FULL.

15th-18th June 2007 (3 nights) Cartmel Park Race Course, Cartmel, Cumbria LA11 6QF

Rally Marshals: James & Jill Bertlin

Site Fee: £21.00 (3 nights). Electricity £8.25 (3 nights) - limited to 15 vans, long leads may be required. Rally Fee: £2.35 (all charges include VAT).

Booking slips and cheques to Jill Bertlin, The Rockeries, Lindale, Grange-over-Sands, Cumbria LA11 6LQ. Tel. No. 015395 34500 (mobile: 07710 200547).

Rally field slightly uneven in places. Toilets & showers on site. Dogs are welcome, but as with Ralliers, they are not permitted on the racecourse track. A simple BBQ and pudding has been arranged for Sunday evening (provide own salad if required). Please indicate if interested on rally slip.

Local Attractions: Cartmel village is a maze of streets, cobbled pavements and picturesque bridges, crossing the meandering streams that wind their way amongst the houses with a Priory, which was founded by the Augustine Monks back in 1190. It has an historic market square, surrounded by centuries old houses and Inns, the ancient fish slabs still survive and also the original Gatehouse. Nowadays Cartmel is full of interesting shops, selling most things including the famous sticky toffee pudding.

Close to the Edwardian resort of Grange-over-Sands and within a short drive of the renowned beauty of the Lake District National Park, offering some of the most spectacular scenery in the country with opportunities for walking, golfing, cruising or just sightseeing.

Directions: From M6 Junction 36 follow A590 towards Barrow in Furness for approx 10 miles.

Follow Cartmel signs (along narrow lanes) through village square. Do NOT continue into Car Park, but follow road to the right of the Cartmel Village shop (**sharp right hand bend**). Entrance to rally field along road on **left** through Race Course gate.

20th - 24th June. (4 nights) Lochside CP, Castle Douglas, Dumfries & Galloway.

Rally Marshals: Moira & Allan Blackstock.

Emergency Phone Nos. 07891740186 or 07969312703 (marshals' mobiles)

Site Fees: Pitch only £8.00pn. With electricity £10.00pn. Rally fee: Couple £3.50

Single £1.75 all inclusive of VAT.

Attractions: Site is on the loch side and a few minutes walk from the town.

Situated on the Dumfries-Stranraer and Ayr bus routes or an easy drive to the Solway Coast or the Galloway Hills. The area caters for Historical, Horticultural, Artistic and Outdoor Interests.

A hall has been booked for evening social gatherings and it is hoped a meal will be available on one evening.

Please send an SAE for confirmation and directions along with your rally booking slip and cheque to :A & M Blackstock, 39 Sumpter Croft, Penwortham, Preston, PR1 9UJ. Tel.No.01772749178.

29th June to 3rd July. (4 nights) Rocester, Staffordshire & JCB Factory.

Rally Marshalls are Peter Brown, Chris Mawdsley, Jeanne & Mike Hall.

Emergency mobiles (during the rally only please) Mike 07939 288586/ Peter 07771 827711.

Site fee £4 per van per night. Rally fee £1.20 per person.

Contact Number Chris 07919 538622.

The site is in the grounds of Rocester Football Club, a GREENFIELD site with no electricity.

Toilets and basic showers available when club house is open. A visit to the JCB factory has been arranged for Monday 2nd July commencing 10:00 followed by lunch.

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

Please book and pay for the tour and the lunch on your booking slip and please itemise what and how many you are booking for. JCB tour £5 per person for senior citizens; £7 per person all others. Lunch, served at 12:00, is £10 per head in the restaurant.

Local attractions include Croxden Abbey, Ashbourne, Dove Dale and the Peak District.

The tour covers approximately 3 miles and is on foot, casual dress is suggested and sensible shoes must be worn. **Open toed shoes will not be allowed on the factory floor.**

Directions: Rocester is North of Uttoxeter. From A50 turn North onto B5030. When you see the JCB factory on your left turn right towards Rocester. Over the bridge, follow the high street to a mini roundabout, turn **right** into Mill Street and wend you way to the outskirts. As you leave the town you will see Rocester FC ground on the **left**.

2nd -6th July (4 Nights) Ledbury Rugby Football Club, Herefordshire.

Emergency tel 077915882 Max, 07989153109 Joan.

Marshals: Joan & Max Cooke & Shelia & Ivor Barnett.

Site fees: £7-50 per night Rally Fee £2.35 (incVAT) NO ELECTRICITY.

Drinking water, waste water facilities, dog walking on site.

Use of club facilities--toilet & showers. We also have use of the bar.

Please include an **S.A.E.** for confirmation & directions. Please indicate if you require a meal.

Booking slip and cheques payable to:- J.E. COOKE The Magnolias, Canon Pyon Road, Hereford HR4 7RB Tel 01432 274906.

Directions . For the Rugby Club (**HR8 2LP**) leave the M50 at junction 2 take the A417 to Ledbury. The Rugby Club is off the roundabout on A449 to Much Marcle.

Limit of 35 vans.

6th -8th 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 per unit. NO ELECTRICITY. Rally fee:-£1.75 per unit. (Incl.VAT).

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.No. 01246 236157. **Any enquiries May 29th - June 27th. S.Atherton, 01246 208878.**

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

NO arrivals before 1.00p.m. Friday.

12th. -15th. July Midsummer Music & Leisure Show, Lincolnshire Showground, Lincoln.

Emergency Tel. No. 07711 271568 Marshal's mobile.

Rally Marshal: Liz Irvin & Alan Guest.

Please send SAE. with rally slip and rally fee of £2.00 couples, £1.50 singles per unit (Incl.VAT), **for the Warners booking form** to Mrs E Irvin, 43 School Lane, Kirk Ella, Hull, East Yorks. HU10 7NP.

Tel. No. 01482 658345. E-mail irvin@irvin.karoo.co.uk

Booking forms to be returned to Warners **before 25th June**. If booking on the Internet, or with another form, mark form ASOC, and send rally slip to marshal. Site fees: arrive Thursday £19 arrive Friday £16, arrive Saturday £14. **CONCERT TICKETS MUST BE BOUGHT TO CAMP.** Adults £17.00 Child £7.00 Rally starts 2pm Thursday and closes 12 noon Sunday, but you may stay on site until 12 noon Monday.

19th – 22nd July 2007 (3 nights) Beacon Park, Lichfield, Staffordshire.

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

Emergency tel no. Marshals' mobile 07713186508.

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

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**.

2nd -6th August (4 nights) West Somerset Steam Fayre, Bishop Lydeard,

Somerset.

Emergency Tel.No. 0789468286.

Rally Marshals: Mike Buttell & Paul Mollard.

Site Fees:£5.00 per night. NO ELECTRICITY. Rally Fee:£1.50 per person..

Booking slips & cheques to Mike Buttell, Parkley, Mill Lane, Station Road, Wiveliscombe, Somerset.TA4 2LY. Tel.No. 01984 623133.

The Steam Fayre is open on Saturday & Sunday. Price of entry is:-Adults £6.00, OAP £5.00 & Children £3.00, payable at the gate.

Taunton Flower Show is on Friday & Saturday with a bus service from the Station to town.

Steam trains are running a full daily service to Minehead throughout August starting at 9.35 a.m.

There will be a daily shop service to order for newspapers, milk, bread etc.. Calor Gas will be available on site within the camping area.

There will be a Bar on the showground from Friday evening.

Directions: The site is located in the Station Field behind the Station at Bishops Lydeard. The site is signposted from Taunton on the A358 to Minehead..

8th – 13th August (5 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 Mo & Mike Valentine.

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 GREENFIELD 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 the site.

The Croquet Club has again 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.

9th - 14th August (5 nights) Eskdale School, Whitby, North Yorks.

Emergency Tel.No. 07711271568 (Marshal's mobile).

Rally Marshals: Liz Irvin & Mike & Jeanne Hall.

Site Fee £ 4.70 per night. Rally Fee £3.40 (couples) £1.70 (singles)

Greenfield Site, No Toilets, No Electricity. All Hardstandings.

Booking slips to Mrs E Irvin, 43 School Lane, Kirk Ella, Hull, East Yorkshire.

HU10 7NP.Tel.NO. 01482 658345. Cheques payable to Mrs E Irvin.

Attractions: Whitby Regatta 11th 12th & 13th August. School off the Scarborough Road. Buses run hourly to Whitby. Come and explore Whitby's fascinating and historic streets and waterfront. The site is close to the Whitby end of the Moor to Sea Cycle Route linking Scarborough and Pickering. For walkers the Cleveland Way coastal path is nearby. Visit Goathland where Heartbeat is filmed, or travel on the North Yorkshire Moors Railway.

Directions: From Scarborough on A171, on entering Whitby, after Lay-by and 30 mph. sign turn left into Eskdale Road and the school is on the left. From Guisborough on A171 enter Whitby continue on the Scarborough Road, cross the new Esk Bridge and continue up the hill. Eskdale Road is on the right, before the industrial estate.

15th – 19th August (4 nights*) – Open Air Concert Rally. Malvern

Emergency telephone 07879 473434 (Marshal's mobile.)

Rally marshals: Dorothy & Baz Wellard; assisted by Marian & Jimmy Henwood

Fees: Site fees 4 nights £25 or £8.50 per night (**option to stay over Sunday night – free!*)

Rally fee: £2.50 for two or £ 1.75 single. Concert fee(s) Group pre-booked £18 per adult (£26 on the night) or 2 day ticket £33 per person. Ralliers will be expected to attend at least one of the concerts, please.

Rally slips and cheques for rally, and the concerts, payable to Mrs. D Wellard, 18 Greenwood Close, Fareham, Hants, PO16 7UF. If you only wish to go to 1 concert please indicate which one. Tickets will be issued at the rally. SAE please if you wish to receive confirmation.

Attractions: The Malvern Showground's open-air concert celebrates its tenth anniversary in 2007, and is extending it to 2 nights for the very first time. Also for the first time they have agreed to let us run a rally for members who wish to attend either or both great concerts. Malvern is also an ideal centre to visit the local countryside and attractions.

Friday 17th Bootleg Beatles: The world's first tribute band, the Bootleg Beatles will be the star attraction on Friday. A multi media spectacular, featuring all the classic Beatle hits.

Saturday 18th Tribute to Elgar: Compered by Angela Rippon, the English Symphony Orchestra and Fine Arts Brass will be performing an Elgar tribute, to celebrate the 150th anniversary of his

birth, with other popular classics, culminating in spectacular fireworks and cannon fire.
Site: We will be in the caravan field which has toilets and showers. We will not have exclusive use, but we should all be co-located. Dogs are not allowed in the main showground area.
Directions: The Three Counties Showground is well signposted from all approaches. Entry is by the yellow gate.

21st - 26th August (5 nights) Topsham Rugby Club,Nr.Exeter,Devon.
Full details next month.

23rd - 27th August (4 nights)Burn Gliding Club,Nr. Selby,North Yorks.

Club Tel.No.01757 270 296 (Emergencies only).

Rally Marshal:Alan Guest.

Site Fee:£5.00 per night. (incl.VAT). **No Electricity.** Rally Fee:Couples £2.35 Singles £1,75(incl.VAT).

Booking slips to Alan Guest,27 Chiltern Drive,Ackworth,Pontefract,West Yorks.

WF7 7DW.Tel.No. 01977 612 773.(after 6.30pm.) Cheques payable to A.Guest.

Attractions: Gliding trial flights/ lessons over weekend (subject to weather).

Directions: From M62 junct.34 take A19 towards Selby,Gliding Club signposted in Burn Village.

31st August - 3rd Sept. (3 nights) Wimpole Hall (National Trust)
Cambridgeshire

Emergency tel. 07905 898149

Rally Marshals Stella & Ian Ross

Site Fee £10.00 per night Rally Fee £2.35 (incl.VAT) GREENFIELD Site. No Electricity.

Group (Reduced) Rate entry to Hall - Home Farm & Gardens for ASOC (Non NT) members.

Cheese & Wine Supper Saturday evening £4.75 per person, non-alcoholic drink available - state preference.

Cream Tea Sunday afternoon £4.95 per person. If required please send payment with Rally & Site Fees.

Cheque payable to Mrs S Ross 33 Grosvenor Gardens Upminster Essex RM14 1DL. Tel. 01708 228075.

Attractions: Rally Site in grounds of :- Wimpole Estate:- Hall - Home Farm - Park - 60 Acres Gardens - Several walks within grounds.

Directions: From M11 Junction 12 take A603 direction Sandy. In 6 miles just after Orwell village, turn Right into Wimpole Estate. **20 Vans Max.**

*If you wish to run a rally in 2007 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. 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 Appieby Close,

Aldbrough St. John,

Richmond,

North Yorks,

DL11 7TT.

Tel./Fax. No. 01325 374 540

E-Mail. ncr@nasuwt.net

E & OE

Rally : Date:

Your name and address(Please PRINT)

.....

..... Post code:

Phone No.: Van Reg: Length:

Membership No: Day/Time of arrival:

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

Name Phone No.

Please complete both sides of the form!

.....

Rally : Date:

Your name and address(Please PRINT)

.....

..... Post code:

Phone No.: Van Reg: Length:

Membership No: Day/Time of arrival:

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

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Your name and address(Please PRINT)

.....

..... Post code:

Phone No.: Van Reg: Length:

Membership No: Day/Time of arrival:

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

Name Phone No.

Please complete both sides of the form

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

Names of Adults.....

Names of Children (including ages).....

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

Electricity: Yes No Evening meal: Yes No

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

Full payment MUST accompany this slip-cheques payable to the marshal.
POST FORM TO REACH MARSHAL 14 DAYS BEFORE EVENT,IF POSSIBLE PLEASE!

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

Names of Adults.....

Names of Children (including ages).....

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

Electricity: Yes No Evening meal: Yes No

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

Full payment MUST accompany this slip-cheques payable to the marshal.
POST FORM TO REACH MARSHAL 14 DAYS BEFORE EVENT,IF POSSIBLE PLEASE!

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

Names of Adults.....

Names of Children (including ages).....

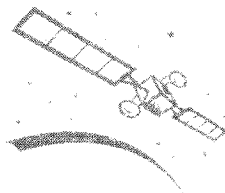
Extras: Please indicate which you would like, If available

Electricity: Yes No Evening meal if arranged: Yes No

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

Full payment MUST accompany this slip-cheques payable to the marshal.
POST FORM TO REACH MARSHAL 14 DAYS BEFORE EVENT,IF POSSIBLE PLEASE

Sat Nav - Burglar Nab



During the Sat Nav Forum at the National Rally one of our members described a potential scenario and a nice wheeze to defuse it.

Imagine you're obviously on holiday and enjoying yourself and a thief steals your Sat Nav, presses the 'Home' key and follows the directions to a house he knows has a fair chance of being empty...!

How about programming the address of your nearest manned police station as your home, you'll still have lost your Sat Nav, but at least that's all.

Use (abuse?) of Baby Oil in Motorhomes

I confess the above title was written to attract your attention; the piece below is actually about the storage and subsequent spillage of baby oil and the consequences of the same.

A few weeks ago I noticed an oily coating to the inside bottom of the bathroom cabinet of our van. It had been caused by a bottle of baby oil falling over and leaking. I cleaned it up and thought no more of it. On our way to the National there was an almighty crashing sound from behind us. I pulled over and we investigated. We found the mirror doors and all of the contents of the bathroom cabinet on the floor of the bathroom, fortunately all intact. Also on the floor was the bottom runner for the sliding doors. It turns out that the runner is fixed to the cabinet by double sided adhesive tape and that baby oil dissolves the adhesive!

We were lucky nothing was broken or otherwise damaged and very grateful to Brownhills of Newark who confirmed the cause of the problem (although they'd never seen it before) and very kindly gave us a suitable piece of tape with which to re-fix the runner – after I had removed all traces of the residue of oil/adhesive with some of *my* Scotch Whisky!!!

So be warned – be very careful what you do with baby oil in your Motorhome.

Peter Brown

Ken Bolton has sent us information of a forthcoming Roadshow which may be of interest to our disabled members. Run by HMG with around 200 exhibitors, you can get more information on www.mobilityroadshow.co.uk. Ken hopes to write a report following his visit.

The Mobility Roadshow 2007

Discover a whole new world....

**19-21 July, Kemble Airfield Cirencester, Gloucestershire
Open 10am daily, free admission and parking**

- Discover inspiration—see all the latest mobility ideas.
- Experience the difference—test drive hundreds of specialist vehicles, wheelchairs, powerchairs and scooters.
- Broaden your horizons—new travel, leisure, sport and fitness zones, plus the chance to fly!
- Join in—demonstrations and hands-on activities for all the family.

Group Tours Bob Thornton - GB Privilege

To improve the service we offer to your club, please note we have added a new section to our website, www.gbprivilege.com, specifically for the members of clubs for whom we organise tours.

If members visit this section they will find full details of the tours we are organising for you, including the complete itinerary, price and details of exactly what is included. If you wish to book, follow the links and book the tour on-line. Alternatively, they can telephone us for a booking form.

Dear Friends

After 19 years of owning Auto-Sleepers, we are now leaving you. We will miss you and we hope we will see some of you on our travels. We called for a battery for our clock and came out with a motorhome! But another make.

All the very best on your travels and thank you for all the friendship we have been shown.

Winifred & Frank Hopkinson

Sat Nav and more

Win and Ray Townsend

As we were intending touring Northern Spain last September, an area with which we were not familiar, I thought I would invest in a Sat Nav. We had booked for the Topsham Rally and decided to drive down from Lancashire, stop our first night in Somerset and after the rally, continue to the ferry for Spain. On our way south I played with the Sat Nav, learning how to set an address or postcode, view the chosen route, change it, find alternatives and generally familiarise myself with its 'workings'.

When we stopped for the night we removed it from the cab and packed it away (out of sight of potential thieves) in the under seat locker. Later that night Ray settled down and had been asleep about half an hour while I was reading. Suddenly, from under his bed, a woman's loud voice broke the silence. "After 50 metres turn right!" Ray leapt out of bed shouting "What's going on?"

We were both very startled, but realised that 'Thomasina', although disconnected had come to life for some unknown reason. She has never done it since and apart from a few minor differences of opinion with her along the way, we have been impressed. I especially like her ability to take us through towns, which I used to find quite stressful when using maps and signposts.

Warning. On reaching the port we produced our ferry vouchers only to be told that our vehicle was higher than that on their computer booking. They said the booking agency had stated our height was 2m 59cm (it is 2m 95cm). As the height did not appear on our voucher we could not really argue, although we know it was given correctly when making the booking. We were then asked to pay a further £18 or phone the agency to get them to confirm our actual height had been paid for.

With a queue forming behind us and sailing time looming, we grudgingly paid the £18 for which we got a receipt.

On our return we wrote to the agency enclosing a copy of our receipt and asking for reimbursement. Needless to say we have never had a reply! It would be wise to ask for all vehicle dimensions to be printed on your voucher.

Our New Executive *Philip Pymm*

In the last issue you asked for positive comments on servicing and although we haven't had our motorhome serviced yet, I think our experience is relevant.

Last September we took the plunge and bought a new Executive after 20 years of caravanning with the same caravan.

For us servicing started from day one, as a series of manufacturing faults emerged. As the faults were fixed one by one, it became gradually clear to me that the key to this motorhome lark is to try and maintain a good working relationship with the supplying dealer, despite any trials and tribulations which may occur.

To end on some positive notes; we were very fortunate in our choice of dealer—we have come to know Cheltenham and its lunchtime eateries very well, and we had a huge laugh when, after sitting with our heads in our hands after the water supply had failed again, we found that the rear door wouldn't open from the inside!!

Philip enclosed a full list of the faults he experienced and we passed everything on to Auto-Sleepers and received the following reply from Tony Holloway, Quality Manager.

Auto-Sleepers are committed to building quality, innovation and reliability into our product. With one as bespoke and individual as a motorhome, where due to low volumes, production is heavily reliant on labour, rather than programmed machines, issues of build such as those experienced by Mr Pymm can arise.

However, one area we at Auto-Sleepers refuse to compromise on is after sales support, service needs and the response time we offer. Whilst it is sad and concerning to hear of build issues we are encouraged by the positive feedback we constantly receive with regard to our aftercare.

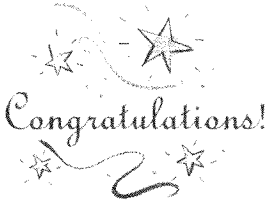
Although we don't know which is his vehicle or who is his dealer, we have been made aware of several of the problems that Mr Pymm has experienced and relevant action has been taken to rectify these in future production. We were not aware of three of the issues and we would ask Mr Pymm to contact Tony Holloway direct and elaborate on the detail so that he can receive the full aftercare service we aim and promise to deliver.

A note on the Rocester Rally

Whilst doing a site check and walk recce recently, we were informed by our contact at Rocester that the football club ground is soon to be sold. It appears it is intended to turn the adjoining mill into a Centre of Excellence for engineers and the new owners want the site for sports facilities. The football club will continue to use the premises, but it is doubtful they will be able to accommodate a rally in future, depending on what they build, change, whatever.

Anyway the point is there are places left on this rally and it may well be the last time we can run it. So if you are interested but thought to defer it to next time, you might want to re-think your diary.

Chris Mawdsley



We are delighted to pass on congratulations from many members to **Les and Janet Howells** who have become grandparents for the first time very recently.

Hope mother and baby are doing well, and Les... stop fussing!

Can anyone help Paul Mollard?

I have recently purchased a 1991 AS Trident on one of the last VW T25s and would like to fit a waste tank (optional when new). Can anyone help me source one?

Also a query regarding the lower double bed. Has anyone tried to 'improve' the operation from seat to bed position, perhaps with slides/runners at each side, or even used a Westfalia-type rock 'n roll mechanism? Any suggestion would be welcome, as the factory arrangement is fairly basic, causing inevitable wear to the fabric.

I would appreciate a call on 01984 639150 or 07939 251008.

From the Factory

Firstly may I apologise for not making it to the National last weekend, unfortunately I had transport troubles which meant I spent half the day on the M25 hard shoulder! I gather from my colleagues that the weekend was a great success and that you all were impressed by the new Warwick and the other new models. We will give a formal response to the questions that came up in the Open Forum in next month's newsletter and also a copy will be posted on the website – more details next month.

The new Symbol is close to being completed and fingers crossed we are still aiming to launch this at the Caravan Club Rally at Blenheim Palace. If this isn't the case we will have it on a dealer's stand at the June Stratford show.

We have recently been looking at new graphics and trims for the 2008 model range, this process has involved several companies, internal staff, plus Andy & Angie Cavell from the club. We hope you like the final choices and look forward to presenting them at the show in October at the NEC.

We have a new member of the Marketing team starting with us, Sarah Riggs will be replacing Adrian Clews and working alongside Emma Franklin to handle the Group's marketing activities. Sarah looks forward to meeting you at the next show.

An update on Ford deliveries - a meeting was held with Ford early May, as many of you know there has been an issue in receiving product from Ford. We've now been assured by their senior team that the manufacturing plant in Europe is up and running with an increased capacity, thus we hope to notify customers of a new delivery date. As we speak Ford product is arriving through our gates for conversion, so this is a positive sign. I would like to apologise on behalf of Ford and Auto-Sleepers for the delay in these products and for any inconvenience this has caused our customers.

Finally, thank you to all of you for the hospitality you extended to my colleagues at the recent National Rally.

Ian Capes

OK we own up Alan & Margaret Broome are owners of the AS LUXOR (Rare bird spotted at the Burton Rally – May issue)

3+ years old and we have a problem with our LPG onboard generator can anybody out there help, since starting this seasons outings the generator will not fire into action or if it does it will only run for a few seconds, there is definitely gaz getting as far as the carburettor. Was hoping to resolve the problem at the Peterborough Show but nobody wanted to know. Any suggestion will be most welcome.

E-Mail - alanbroome@btinternet.com

Thank you Alan Broome

ICE

-No its not winter again just yet....just a follow up on something mentioned by Trish Pratt at the National.

The ICE (In Case of Emergency) program was conceived by paramedic Bob Brotchie in May 2005. The idea behind the program is to enable first responders (paramedics, fire fighters, police officers) to identify people and contact their next of kin to obtain important medical information. People are encouraged to enter in their emergency contact person(s) in their mobile phone book in the following format 1ICE-mum, 2ICE-dad, 3ICE etc. The number in front of the word ICE keeps the ICE contacts at the top of the list. The popularity of the program has spread across Europe, and has started to grow into North America.

Of course if the phone is broken, battery flat, protected by PIN or just complicated to use this may be of no help but I can't see any harm in storing the number in this form. There is no truth in the rumour that doing this can attract a virus to your mobile and Vodafone have actively sponsored this idea in the past.

We've had a note from Geoff Williamson who has been researching new breakdown cover. He has found some firms that don't cover basic items such as changing wheels following a puncture. The message being please do read the T & Cs of any cover fully before signing up.

Stop Press

We've had an update from Nora about the monies raised at the National Rally.

	£
Raffle	890.96
Quiz	243.00
Cake Competition	116.00
Sales Board	5.35
Hobbies Donations	36.00
Boules	27.65
Tea/ Coffee	56.57
Collection for Salvation Army	274.00

Providing a total of **£1,649.53**

A big thank you to all who contributed and all who collected it.



A Sad Farewell

It is with deep regret that we have to sell our beloved Clubman, due to deterioration in Bob's health. We have made so many friends since joining in 1992 and will miss them and the freedom of travelling at home and abroad.

I sincerely hope you had a very enjoyable AGM, we were devastated to have to cancel.

Ivy & Bob Smith
(Blazer)

Very tricky arithmetic! MUST be done in your head. Take 1000 and add 40. Now add another 1000. Now add 30. Add another 1000. Add 20. Now add another 1000. Now add 10. What is the total? 5000?

WRONG it's actually 4100.



Obituary

We were notified at the National of the following deaths

Fred Cleal

*A long standing member of the club, who died on Saturday 21st
April 2007*

Brenda Canham

Wife of Ian, who also died recently.



Thank you to Jack & Enid Procter for their donation for advertising the sale of their Mezan

Dorema Highlander size 1 free-standing annex. To fit Motorhomes up to 2.5m in height. Floor size 3.2m x 1.95m. Green/Grey. Excellent condition. **£125**
Contact: Ricky Smith 01776 705628 (Stranraer)

Thanks for the donation

Silver Screen fold down Paragon model for AS Mezan. Fits Peugeot Partner or Berlingo. Nearly new **£59** (was £99) **Contact: Barbara Squire 01326 373570** (Cornwall)

Thanks for the donation

VW Clubman GL April 95 M ref. 2 speed, 2.4 diesel TB turbot fitted. Omnistor roll out awning, solar panel. Good running order (last used Easter 07) Habitation 04.07 (new pump fitted in toilet) MOT to 04.08. One owner, non-smokers, no pets or children. **£14,500** Many extras available—negotiable.
Contact: Bob & Ivy Smith 07710 262056 (London)

Thanks for the donation

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