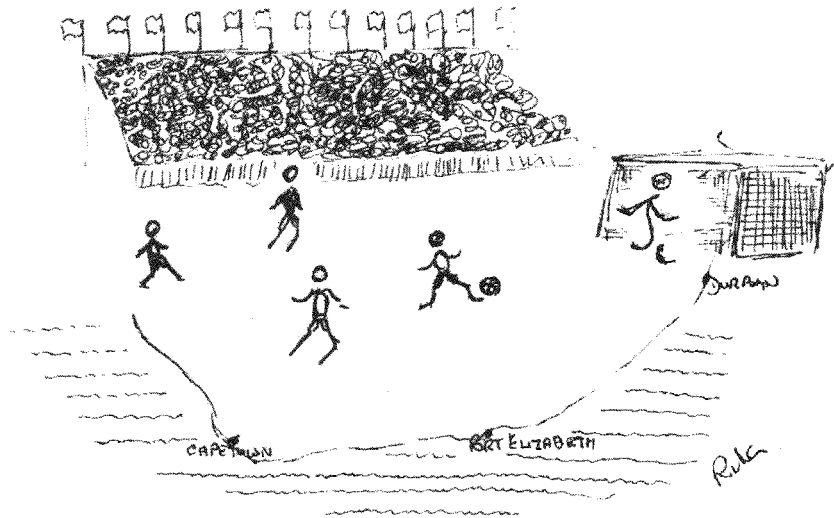




[www.asoc.fsnet.co.uk](http://www.asoc.fsnet.co.uk)

# **AUTO-SLEEPER OWNERS' CLUB**

A Company Limited by Guarantee  
Registered Office: Orchard Works, Willersey, Nr. Broadway Worcs. WR12 7QF.  
Registered No: 4618969



*We tracked down ASOC Man - he's been practicing for the World Cup!!!!*

## **NEWSLETTER 261**

### **June 2010**

# From the Editor <sup>(S)</sup>

**DON'T FORGET** to send contributions for **July and August to Dudley Woodhams** - contact details on back page.

Not surprisingly, there's quite a bit on the National in this edition of the Newsletter but the piece below from the AGM is most important and hopefully it's in the most convenient place. I know some of you keep your Newsletters but we felt it better that you lose the front page rather than part of any article, which you may wish to refer to at a later date.

## **Amendment to Articles of Association**

At the recent AGM, clause 35 of the Club's articles of association was amended to read as below. Please delete the existing clause 35 in your Members Handbook and add a note to say that the clause is now on the inside of the front cover. Please cut out the clause printed below and fix it to the inside of the front cover of your members handbook.

35. On a show of hands, every member who is present in person or by proxy shall have one vote. On a poll every member present in person or by proxy shall have one vote. Postal votes shall not be permitted

35(a) The appointment of a proxy shall be in writing in any form which the Committee may from time to time approve.

35(b) A proxy attending a General Meeting can only accept appointments from a maximum of two members.

35(c) A notice stating how a proxy may be appointed, and the date by which this appointment is to be received by the Secretary, shall be sent to members with the notice calling the General Meeting. Any appointment of a proxy not received by the due date shall be invalid.

35(d) If, after appointing a proxy, a member wishes to withdraw that appointment, he must notify the Secretary in writing before the commencement of the meeting.

# The National Rally

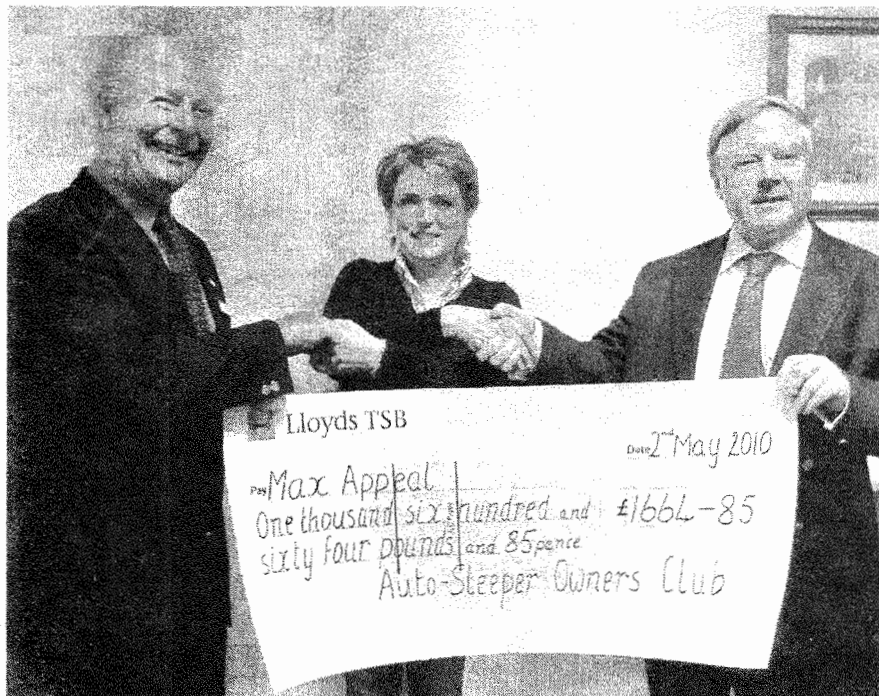
Once again we had an excellent National Rally, despite adverse weather conditions - howling gales, torrential rain, narrowly being missed by a tornado. Bill & Shirley Bromilow woke up Saturday morning surrounded by water. Still they were very philosophical about it all, in fact Bill said it wouldn't have been a problem at all if he'd thought to bring some oars! but you don't do you.....

As novice National Rally Marshalls Peter and I found the week-end quite tiring, but we had tremendous support from Vic & Jan Hickling as Assistant Rally Marshalls and we'd like to say a big thank you to them. We'd also like to thank all of you, who were obviously there to enjoy yourselves and be as helpful as possible.

*Chris & Peter*

£1795. 83p. was collected for the Charity, the Max Appeal, and was made up as follows.

Quiz	£208.00
Cake Auction	£186.00
M. Caravan Auction	£40.00
Raffle	£1070 00
A.S.O.C. Donation	£250 00
Jigsaw Sale	£34 50
Name the Bear	£ 60 85
Stuart Goodwin	
Coffee,	
For Sale Board	
Donations	<u>£221.48</u>
	£2070.83.
Less Prizes	<u>£275.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>£1795. 83.</u></b>



***The cheque being presented to Julie Wooton  
by the Chairman Mike Valentine  
and President Charles Trevelyan***

Next, I would like to thank Auto-sleepers for their generous donation to the National Rally and to Geoff Scott and Mike Crouch for their support and generosity on Friday and Saturday. I understand the Auto-sleeper session on Friday was well received and enjoyed by members.

I must also thank Peter Brown and Chris Mawdsley for organising the Marshaling and Vic and Jan Hicklin for supervising the Marshals. My thanks too to the marshals themselves, who did a splendid job in sometimes very nasty weather conditions.

Thank you to Sheila and Harry Henthorne for dealing with booking the meals printing the tickets and the programme; to Sheila Barnet for organising the Cake competition; Rita Tubb for the Photo competition

and Cedric Jones for the Auctions. To James Bertlin for the Quiz; to the members who were Stewards in both the Cedric Ford and Stuart Goodwin Pavilions; Liz Morgan and her team of raffle ticket sellers; John & Gloria Jones for organising the Charity and the ladies who helped at the Service putting out and collecting Hymn sheets and counting the collection.

A big thank you to Stuart Wood who with the help of John Gutsell worked very hard in the Stuart Goodwin Pavilion and to all those of you who displayed your art, crafts and hobbies. And a very special thank you to Angela Trevelyan for her talk and display of Barbara Cartland hats.

I apologise if I have missed any one out, I do appreciate all of the help offered. I must thank the Committee and definitely the Sub Committee for their support and hard work in making the National Rally a success.

On another topic, I have heard that several ladies were unhappy at the state of the toilets in the Cedric Ford. When I was told in the first instance I contacted the Management and it was rectified. It was unfortunate that on the Friday the members of staff responsible did not turn up for work. I was given a mobile number of lady who would have come if notified of a problem. Please in future let me know I will deal with any problems arising.

I also understand that members at the Saturday Dinner were concerned about where the tips they contributed went. I have checked again with the management and was told all tips are saved up through the year and given out usually in December.

***Nora Venables***

Could I say a big Thank You to Jean, Sylvia, Joan, Dorothy, Barbara & Gill who gave up some of their free time at the National to help serve refreshments in the Stuart Goodwin Hall. Their help was very much appreciated. I would also like to thank Stuart and John for their help during the rally.

***Pauline Rogers***

I would like to thank all the members who demonstrated their hobbies at this years National Rally.

The general opinion of other members was that they had enjoyed the display of hobbies and would welcome more of the same next year.

Also I would like to thank the artists who displayed pictures , which again recieved good comments from other members.

**Stuart Wood.**

Whilst congratulations are due to all for the magnificent effort to raise money for our charity, it is also important to remember the generosity of the companies and individuals who donate the prizes. I would like to thank everybody who did donate a prize and especially, Premier Furnishings, Norfolk Line, Brittany Ferries, Leisure Kingdom, A-S Service Centre and Robsons of Wolsingham.

**Andy Cavell**

I want to thank all those members who volunteered to either sell raffle tickets or to fold the counterfoils at the AGM. Through your efforts the raffle made a contribution of £1070.00 towards the Max Appeal. This is the fourth year that I have organised the raffle and next year Yvonne Wood is taking on the task. I do hope that you will support her by volunteering again or maybe for the first time. Thanks also to members who kindly donated prizes they help to make the raffle the success that it is.

**Liz Morgan**

And now for some comments from some of those who attended.

*"Our first rally was the National Rally and AGM at Newark. So we set off at 6.30am on Friday and drove in convoy with Maggie's brother as this was out first one and we didn't know what to expect. But when we arrived we were greeted with a warm welcome and shown where to park.*

*Once set up we visited the crafts and art staying a long time. In the evening we went to the bar and lots of members started chatting to us and the weekend just got better; everyone we met was friendly and welcoming and we found the AGM very interesting. So we would just like to thank the Chairman and everyone we met for making us feel so welcome. We are now looking forward to our next rally and meeting all the new friends we have made.*

*And a special thank you to the lady who found my flags and returned them dry."*

**Jeff & Maggie Cook**

*"Keith and I would like to thank Nora and everyone for the tremendous effort put into organizing such an enjoyable AGM and National Rally at Newark last week."*

**Rita Jones & Keith Taylor**

*"A big thank you to all involved in another successful national rally. It all goes so smoothly because of the work that goes on behind the scenes. Our personal thanks to Peter and Chris Brown for their help over a difficult weekend."*

**Irene and Mervyn Kitchin**

*"Once again we really enjoyed this year's AGM and National Rally at Newark. We are constantly amazed at the amount of work that Nora and her valiant team put in to make the event so successful. The food, the entertainment, especially the Barn Dance, and the friendship made the weekend so memorable.*

*Thank you, Nora and team, you really are appreciated."*

**Jill and Tony Showell**

And finally, from a founder member.

I realised last week-end, at the AGM, that I am now the only active founder vice president in the club, and as such I have the right to bore the socks off you!

I will start with "Rita's Little Man" which adorned the front cover for some time. Those newer members who will now say "What?" I will explain. The letters A.S.O.C. make up the figure of the little man. The S is his/her body, the C is sometimes a leg or an arm, the O is the head and the A can be a pair of arms, or a skirt, or a backpack, etc. During the Club Forum after the AGM, Pam Robertson complained that she was missing the Little Man and why was he no longer on the front cover. Sorry, I thought everyone would be tired of him by now, but I will get to work provide Peter with more front covers.

The other item I have kept to myself for 21+ years. When John Cox wrote to MMM suggesting a club for Auto-Sleeper owners, I quickly wrote back and offered my services as secretary. Most people would have thought I had an overwhelming desire to see loads of Auto-Sleeper owners. Not a bit of it. I had just learned to do Mail Merge and couldn't think of a use for it.

I quickly learned that John had received 67 letters from prospective members and I took these home to answer. Each letter required an individual answer, and so did the replies I received. I do enjoy writing letters, but I did find it a bit overwhelming at times. It put a strain on my Tandy 4 computer and the Daisy Wheel printer. (If you need an explanation about these, you are much younger than I am).

As had been mentioned in our history, my husband took me to Willersey as my driver and left as the Newsletter Editor. As a result he had to buy his own computer and printer and so we started as we were to go on, updating our equipment and enjoying every minute of it. But that would be a longer story and really would be boring.

*Rita Daley*

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## **Rally Slips**

I noted in your article on page 2 of the May Newsletter the paragraph on getting said Newsletter early to enable members to hand in rally slips to marshals during the National Rally.

I made the point a year or so ago how unfair to members not attending the National, it does appear to put them at a disadvantage. The experience I had was when I failed with a postal application to get on the Whitby Rally because of said practice.

However, I note on page 1 of the Rally Supplement (third line down) that all rally slips should be sent by post.

I would appreciate clarification.

*Roy Anderton*

I do sympathise with Roy (who is one of nature's true gentlemen) and most of us have suffered the disappointment of not getting on a desired rally (the only certain way is to run the rally yourself). Roy is right that it does say in the rally supplement that slips should be sent by post, however in the Members Handbook (that is the authoritative document) it does not specify how slips should be passed to the Rally Marshal.

It is common practice for rally slips to be handed to the Marshal rather than incur the cost of postage and doing so at the National has become one of the regular activities at the event.

*Peter Brown*



## **Chairman's Chat**

The National Rally/AGM weekend was well attended, during which time I was able to meet many of you as well as our new members attending for the first time, I trust everyone enjoyed the event at Newark. My thanks go to everyone who assisted in helping to make this weekend so successful, I do know how much hard work goes into these events.

At the AGM, Proxy Voting was explained by the Secretary and the Board accepted the first votes in this manner, it did lengthen the AGM somewhat and we hope that next year should be easier.

The three members who were up for re-election, together with the three recently co-opted members were indeed duly elected to serve on the Board for the next three years. Your committee is now at full strength with twelve members, their names can be found on the back of this bulletin. Andy Cavell was elected to serve as Vice Chairman for the next year.

The photographic competition showed many different aspects of A~S vans out and about, the hobbies section was very well supported with a number of new faces. There were many good looking cakes in the competition and it was won by Ozzie, our Secretary. The auction for the cakes was an enjoyable event, with Cedric acting as Auctioneer, raising quite a sum of money, Geoff Scott the CEO of Auto-Sleepers bought the winning cake. Cedric also auctioned a scale Matchstick Model of a Motorhome, donated by one of the members; this has now gone to the factory with the possibility of them using the design for a new model!!!!

The charity appeal for this year raised just under £2000 and a cheque was presented to Julie Wootton, on behalf of the Max Appeal, DiGeorge Syndrome VCFS/22q11.2 Deletion Syndrome, a complex and little known genetic condition affecting the hearts and immune systems of babies and young children.

This year we were treated to a wide selection of the latest A~S vans and were also informed of the 'worst kept secret', that in October of this year at the NEC, Auto-Sleepers will be introducing an up market Caravan, to be marketed by Marquis from four of their dealerships.

On this note I will end my Chat!!

*Mike Valentine*

## Valuable Lessons

Last September, while on a two centre trip to Salisbury C&CC Site and the New Forest Centenary CC Site I learned two valuable lessons:

- A standard pitch with the C&CC does not include electricity.
- Eberspacher diesel heaters need to be used regular to prevent them from seizing.

We always used mains electric on our old van as we were paying for it anyway. Finding the site full at Salisbury and our reserved pitch a non electric pitch, we thought it was a simple matter of using the diesel heater. It is worth noting at this point that the motorhome was a three year old Autocruise Starlet 2 and we had owned it from new. We had never used the diesel heater, but I presumed that it would have been checked during habitation checks. When it refused to work we moved on earlier than planned as Eberspacher are based at Ringwood which is a few miles away from the CC New Forest Centenary site. Eberspacher gave us the contact details of their local service engineers who are based at New Milton which is only 5 miles from the site.

We arranged an appointment with the agent for the following morning and an electronic check showed that the heater had seized. The fitter stripped it down and managed to free it so a new unit was not necessary, thus saving us over £200. We were charged £34 for an hours' work which I thought was excellent value. He advised me to use the heater on diesel for at least 5 minutes each month which would then prevent it from seizing. He also told me that a number of his customers combined a holiday with getting their units serviced by their company. As the Owner's manual states that 6 month/annual services should be carried out by an approved Eberspacher Agent then perhaps it is worth thinking about combining the service with a holiday.

Our new AS Dorset also has an Eberspacher diesel/electric heater and I shall make sure I follow the fitter's advice.

I can thoroughly recommend this company and their details are Matt Allum, Krueger Limited, Kruegar House, Queensway, New Milton, Hants BH25 5NN. Telephone 01425 619869,

*Lynn Thomas*



## June 2010 Rally Supplement.

Please carry your ASOC membership cards when attending rallies.

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

Applications for rallies must be made on ASOC rally slips by post. The only exception is the National & AGM Rally.

10<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> June ( 10 nights) 2010 Turckheim, Alsace, France.

Emergency Tel. No. 00 44 (0)7880 53205

*This rally is now fully booked.*

6<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> June ( 7 nights).Old Barn C.P.,Nr.Sandown, Isle of Wight.

Emergency Tel.No. 07730212750 -07

*This rally is now fully booked.*

\*\*\*\*7<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> June ( 5 nights) Tattershall,Lincolnshire.\*\*\*\*

This rally has had to be cancelled for reasons beyond our control.

17<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> June ( 3 nights) Riverside C.P.,Stratford upon Avon.

Emergency Tel.No.- 07799660641 ( Marshals' mobile).

Rally field on commercial site,some electric hook ups available.

Site Fee:£9.00 per night,Electric Hook up;£2.50 per night. Rally Fee:£2.50.All include VAT. *Rally Slips and cheques payable to: Sandra Wisely,2 Mount Pleasant,Bishops Itchington,SOUTHAM,Warwickshire.CV47 2QE.Home Tel.No.01926 614194.*

Attractions:Riverside Café,club house,free fishing,river taxi to and from Stratford,riverside walks.Bus stop just outside the entrance to the site.

Please note Tents,gazebos,windbreaks,generators and disposable BBQs are not allowed on the site.

Please note Strictly no arrivals before 1400 hrs.

2<sup>nd</sup> - 4<sup>th</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 the weekend £18.00 per unit.Rally Fee: £1.75 per unit.(Incl.VAT).

**NO Electricity.**

The weekend fee includes unlimited entrance to the Steam Rally.

This is a GREEN FIELD site- own toilets essential.

Rally slips & cheques to Mrs.J.Hicklin, 381 Manor Road,Brimington,Chesterfield, Derbyshire.S43 1PP.Tel.No. 01246 236157.

If unavailable please ring Margaret on 01442 851080.

**Directions:**From A413 Great Missenden take the A4128 to Prestwood and follow steam rally signs.

**NO arrivals before 1.00p.m. Friday please.**

#### **4<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> July ( 4 nights) Ledbury Rugby Football Club,Herefordshire.**

Emergenct Tel.No.07791582881 (Max) , 07989153109 (Joan).

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

Site Fees: £9.50 per night. Rally Fee: £2.35. NO ELECTRICITY.

Drinking water,waste water facilities.Dog walking on site.Use of club facilities – toilets & showers.Bar open each night.

Bus stop outside gate to Ledbury,Ross & Hereford.

Booking slip & cheque payable to J.E.Cooke.,The Magnolias,Canon Pyon Road, Hereford.HR4 7RB.Tel.No.01432 274906.

Please include S.A.E. for confirmation & directions.

**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 25 vans.**

#### **6<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> July 2010 (3 nights) Cartmel Park Race Course, Cartmel, Cumbria LA11 6QF**

Rally Marshals: James & Jill Bertlin.

Rally Fee: £2.35 Site Fee: £25.50 Electric Hookup: £8.25 (15 available).

All charges include VAT and are for 3 nights.

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

Toilets & showers on site. Rally field slightly uneven in places. Dogs are welcome, but neither they nor Ralliers are permitted on the racecourse track. Long electric leads may be required.

**Tables at the Royal Oak in Cartmel Village Square have been reserved for a meal on Thursday evening. Please indicate on Rally Slip if interested.**

**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, including the home of 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. Once past the Meathop roundabout follow the brown attraction signs for Cartmel Priory. Continue through the village to the market square, at the village shop take the **right hand road** (sharp bend) and continue along to entrance of Racecourse on left.

**Limit of 25 vans.**

**12<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> July 2010 (4 nights) Emberton Country Park Nr Olney, Bucks.**

**MK46 5DB**

Emergency Number: 07964532936 (Rally Marshall).

Rally Marshalls: Pat and David Mayne.

Site Fees £9.50 per night (inc VAT) Rally fee £3.20 per couple £2.20 Single (both inc VAT).

Rally Slips & cheque with SAE, please, for confirmation to Mr D Mayne, 27 Mentmore Rd, Linslade, Leighton Buzzard, Beds LU7 2NY. Tel. No 01525 634824..

**Attractions:** Emberton Park is situated approx. 1 ¼ miles south of the market town of Olney on the A509. The Park is about 200 acres and the fee includes access to the park and its facilities. Fishing is permitted (free) on the lakes and the River Great Ouse with appropriate rod licences. There is also a boating club. The Milton Keynes Redway system for cycles runs though the site to Milton Keynes, including cycling around the Park. From Olney, there are buses to Northampton, Bedford and Milton Keynes. Train services from Milton Keynes run to Euston in London for the adventurers.

Olney has a Market on Thursdays and there is an excellent Museum and Gardens (inc tea rooms) celebrating the lives of William Cowper and John Newton. There are a number of shops, pubs, cafes and a supermarket (approx 1 ¼ miles).

We shall be using the small Rally field adjacent to the Great Ouse which has a toilet emptying point as well as Fresh Water and Waste Water disposal. There is a Public toilet in the Park with hand washing facilities (cold) about 200yds from this field.

I intend to run a "Van" raffle only, due to security etc and it is intended that you will decide on your own daily activities as there is a wide choice of interests nearby. If the weather is good we may hold a communal BBQ.

**Directions:** From South take the A509 northwards from Jctn 14 on M1 until you arrive at Emberton and look for signpost for Emberton Country Park on the left. Report in at Gatehouse then follow signs to Rally fields. From North take the A509 from Wellingborough and 1.5 miles south of Olney, turn right into Park (signed) and do as above.

Rally starts at 12 noon. Limit of 15 vans

**15<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> July Northern Motorcaravan Show, Cheshire Showground,**

**Tabley, Knutsford, WA16 0HJ.**

Emergency Tel. No. Marshalls Mobile 0786 8000 705.

Rally Marshalls: Liz & Roger Spensley, & Eunice & Brian Lockett.

Please use the booking form enclosed in the May Newsletter if possible. If using a form from other magazines mark the form **ASOC** and note the **special club site fees**.

Arrive Thursday **£38**, Arrive Friday **£35**, Arrive Saturday **£32**. All bookings for the Saturday evening entertainment must be made with Warners when returning the application form to the organisers by 24th June, if you wish to rally with the club.

**\*\*\*\*Then you must also complete a Club rally slip, (this also applies to internet bookings).**

Return it with the Rally fee of £2.00 couples, £1.50 singles (inc.VAT) to: R. & E.

Spensley, 30 Kilsyth Close, Cinnamon Brow, Warrington, WA2 0SQ. Tel. No. 01925 813558. Cheques payable to R. & E. Spensley.

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

( iii.)

**19<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> July (3 nights) Fort Paull, Nr. Hull, East Yorkshire. HU12 8FP.**

Emergency Tel.No. 07879716576 marshals' mobile.

Rally Marshals: Jean & Dave Hollingsworth & Liz Irvin.

Site Fee: £6.50 per night. Rally Fee: £2.50 couples, £1.50 singles. (Incl. VAT).

Toilet, waste disposal, NO ELECTRICITY, Greenfield site is in an enclosed secure museum grounds near the River Humber.

Booking slips & cheques to J. Hollingsworth, 24 Norton Grove, Hull. HU4 6HL.

Tel.No. 01482 572682 or 07879716576. Please enclose S.A.E for confirmation, directions & mapping. The site is situated approx. 6 miles east of Hull city centre.

Fort Paull café/bar available for meals, admission to visitor attraction during rally is free where among other items on display is the only remaining Beverley aircraft.

**Attractions:** The end of the 2009/2010 Clipper Round the World yacht race ends in Hull Marina in the middle of July. Walks along the river, the Deep in Hull the only sub-marium in the world, a successful Millennium project, the old town museums quarter ( which includes a deep water trawler) most of which are free. Wilberforce House, home of William Wilberforce and the Humber Bridge. There will be celebrations commemorating the life of Phillip Larkin and other events around the town and marina where the clipper boats will be berthed. Nearest small town is Hedon, approx. 2 miles away. There is a regular bus service 10 minutes walk away. The coastal towns of Hornsea & Bridlington are 20-30 miles and Beverley about 15 miles away. Spurn Head is the place for bird watching.

**Rally closes at 11.a.m. Thursday.**

**Please do not arrive before 1.00p.m. on Monday as there will be other ralliers leaving the site that day.**

**22<sup>nd</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> July 2010 (4 nights) Beacon Park, Lichfield, Staffordshire.**

Emergency tel no. Marshals mobile 07713186508.

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

Site Fee £5.50 per night inc. Vat Rally Fee £2.35 inc. Vat.

PLEASE NOTE THIS RALLY IS NOW 4 NIGHTS LONG (WE MUST BE MAD) COME AND HELP TRISH CELEBRATE HER 60<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY.

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 - £5.00 per person.

Pay with booking slip.

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

**Directions:** Beacon Park is situated on outskirts of Lichfield, just off the A51 Tamworth to Rugeley/Stafford Road leaving Lichfield. Follow brown Beacon Park tourist signs. Turn into Walsall Road, then immediately left into Lower Sandford Street. (POSTCODE FOR LOWER SANDFORD STREET NEAREST ROAD TO CAR PARK TO BEACON PARK IS WS13 6RA ) Follow signs for Car Park, site is through the car park keeping to the right.

**29<sup>th</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> August ( 5 nights) Leon's Field, St.Ives, Huntingdon, Cambs. PE27 5ER.**

Emergency Tel.No. 07716724910.

Rally Marshals: Sylvia & Brian Smith, Julia Briars-Filby & Shirley & Chris Sturgeon.

**GREEN FIELD site NO Electricity & NO toilets.**

***This rally is now fully booked.***

Site Fee:-£5.88 per night.Rally Fee:£2.35 (Total for 5 nights £31.75) Incl.VAT.

Rally slips and cheques payable to B.G.Smith,9 St.Mary's Road,Bluntisham, Huntingdon.PE28 3XA. Tel.No. 01487 841786.

The site is by the Great Ouse river,200 yds. from the town centre.Buses every 20 minutes to Huntingdon and Cambridge.Friday and Monday are market days in St.Ives and there are plenty of pubs,restaurants,cafes and charity shops.Beautiful riverside walks and Leon allows us to wander over his meadows .

Please send an **SAE** for confirmation of booking and directions.

Please do not arrive before 12.30p.m. on Thursday . Rally closes 11.00 a.m. Tuesday.

**Rally limited to 40 vans. Do not enter St.Ives Town Centre.**

**18<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> August ( 5 nights ) Shoreham AirShow,Shoreham by Sea,West Sussex.**

Emergency Tel.No. 07999571461.

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

Site Fee: £2.00 per night. Rally Fee:£ 2.35 (incl.VAT).

AIRSHOW tickets( covers both days) £28.00 adults,£12.00 children.

NO Electricity,GREENFIELD site with water tap & toilet emptying..

SORRY NO DOGS allowed.

Saturday evening buffet meal @ £4.70 per person(Incl.VAT) payable in advance.

Rally slips & cheques made payable to A.N. Fowler,20 Hawkins Close,Shoreham by Sea,West Sussex.BN43 6TL. Tel.No. 01273 594479.

**SAE** if confirmation of booking required.

**Attractions:** 2 day airshow with on ground entertainment,cycle rides from site.

**Directions:** On A27 between Brighton & Worthing,leave A27 at traffic lights opposite the Sussex Pad Hotel and turn into Airport.(This is the only entrance for motorvans).

Please **DO NOT** arrive before 12 Noon Wednesday.

**Sussex Pad Hotel post code BN15 0RH.**

**20<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> August (5 nights) Eskdale School, Whitby, North Yorks.**

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

Rally Marshal: Liz Irvin.

Site Fees £4.70 per night. Rally Fees £3.00 couples £1.50 singles (both include VAT)

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

Booking slips & cheques to Mrs E. Irvin, 43 School Lane, Kirk Ella, HULL, East Yorkshire.HU10 7NP.Tel. No. 01482 658345. E-mail:- irvin@irvin.karoo.co.uk

**Attractions:** Whitby will be busy because the Regatta dates coincide with the Folk Festival. Whitby Regatta 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, & 23<sup>rd</sup>. August. Whitby Folk Week 21<sup>st</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> August.

School situated off the Scarborough Road, buses at the school gates 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 with links to 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 30mph. sign, turn left into Eskdale Road and the school is on the left. From Guisborough or Pickering on A171, enter Whitby and continue on the Scarborough road, cross the new Esk Bridge and continue up the hill to the top, Stainsacre Lane. Eskdale Road is on the right, before the industrial estate. **Post code YO22 4HS. Limit of 25 vans.**

( v. )

**Advance notice.**

**24<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> August ( nights) Topsham Cricket Club.Topsham,Nr.Exeter, Devon.**

Full booking details next month.

**2<sup>nd</sup>. Thursday - 6<sup>th</sup>. Monday September (4 nights) Faversham Hop Festival, Painters Farm, Painters Forstal, Ospringe, Faversham, Kent. ME13 0EG.**

Emergency Tel.No.07818006733.Marshals' mobile.

Rally Marshals Barbara & Al Buckett ,Mo & Mike Valentine.

Site Fees £14.50 for all 4 nights inclusive.Rally Fee £ 2.35 per couple or £1.35 single.

Rally slips and cheques in SAE for confirmation and directions. Send to **This rally is now fully booked** Palmer ,Deal ,Kent CT14 7UJ

Telephone number

This is a greenfield site surrounded by orchards and countryside. A pub within 5 minutes walk serves good food. There is a nature reserve within 5 minutes walk. The Faversham Hop Festival is on the Saturday and Sunday. It includes lots of music eg: Jazz Bands Folk Dancers Morris Dancers Pearly Kings and Queens etc. There are stalls and eateries all along the streets of the town. Parking for motorhomes nearby.

Canterbury is about 20 minutes away and has a park and ride for motorhomes to get into the City.

This rally could be a good tag onto either end of a holiday in France.

*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.*

*A "Guide to New/Possible Marshals" is available. If you would like one please contact me,details below.*

*I have some sites that have offered a rally site,they have not been vetted as to suitability for rallies,please ask if interested.*

*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@mypostoffice.co.uk](mailto:ncr@mypostoffice.co.uk)**

**E & OE.**

Rally..... Date.....

Your name and address (Please PRINT) .....

..... Post Code.....

Phone No. .... Mobile No.....

e-mail..... Membership No.....

Van Reg..... Length..... Arrival Day/Time.....

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

Name..... Phone No.....

**Please complete both sides of this form.**

-----

Rally ..... Date.....

Your name and address (Please PRINT) .....

..... Post Code.....

Phone No. .... Mobile No.....

e-mail..... Membership No.....

Van Reg..... Length..... Arrival Day/Time.....

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

Name..... Phone No.....

**Please complete both sides of this form.**

Is this your first ASOC rally? Please tick box. Yes  No

Number of people in your van: Adults..... Children.....

Adults' names (Incl. forenames).....

Childrens' names (incl. ages).....

Cheque enclosed for £..... for..... nights incl. rally fee.

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.  
Enclose a SAE if confirmation is required.**

Is this your first ASOC rally? Please tick box. Yes  No

Number of people in your van: Adults..... Children.....

Adults' names (Incl. forenames).....

Childrens' names (incl. ages).....

Cheque enclosed for £..... for..... nights incl. rally fee.

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.  
Enclose a SAE if confirmation is required..**

A friend brought back from a recent exhibition the 2010 Autosleeper catalogue. As we still had the 2007 catalogue from when we purchased our Nuevo ES, we made comparisons between the same model two years on, first impressions were that there were few changes, until we started to look at the dimensions quoted between the two catalogues, which show:-

- (1) the already low maximum user payload has been reduced by 78kg
- (2) the nearside single bed is now 2" longer, but a staggering 5" narrower at only 1' 10"
- (3) the offside single bed is 6" longer but 3" narrower at only 2'0"

This shows the new Nuevo ES does not meet our needs and that it pays to be vigilant and not assume that same means precisely that.

*Peter & Beryl Gregory*

\*\*\*\*\*

## **Be wary when requested to stop by unmarked Police Vehicles**

This story has been circulated for many years and is probably an urban myth, however it does bring up some safety issues that I thought you might want to be reminded about.

It was the Saturday before New Year and it was about 1pm in the afternoon and 19 year old Lauren was driving to visit a friend, when an UNMARKED police car pulled up behind her and put its lights on.

Lauren's parents have 4 children (of various ages) and have always told them never to pull over for an unmarked car on the side of the road, but rather wait until they get to a service station, etc.

So Lauren remembered her parents' advice and telephoned 112 from her mobile phone. This connected her to the police dispatcher. She told the dispatcher that there was an unmarked police car with a flashing blue light on his rooftop behind her and that she would not pull over right away but wait until she was in a service station or busy area.

The dispatcher checked to see if there was a police car where she was; there wasn't and he told her to keep driving, remain calm and that he had back-up already on the way. Ten minutes later 4 police cars

surrounded her and the unmarked car behind her. One policeman went to her side and the others surrounded the car behind. They pulled the guy from the car and tackled him to the ground.....the man was a convicted rapist also wanted for other crimes.

This was covered in a newsletter several years ago but just to go over some facts as there some myths out there. An unmarked police car can stop vehicles but it must contain a constable who **MUST** be in uniform in order to carry out the stop. If a car flashing for you to pull over or stop is unmarked, unless you are 100% certain it is the police, do not stop. Drive steadily to the nearest public place (*for example a petrol station where they are open till late, a police station or somewhere there are a lot of people*) and then stop. Try and signal that you have acknowledged the request to stop and indicate the action you are taking (put your flashers on or signal by pointing from the driver's window etc.). Don't drive off at great speed making the police think you are trying to get away.

Keep the doors locked until you are happy it is the police. Have your mobile at hand just in case. You can ask to see a warrant card, which should carry a name and photograph, through the closed window. Incidentally, if you are suspected of drink/drugs driving none of these actions would invalidate an officer giving you a preliminary screening test as you have only temporarily interrupted your journey and are still driving for the purposes of that law.

Regarding the 112 telephone number this is a European wide number for the emergency services and also works here in the UK. **It will not work** when there is no signal for a 999 call, but it will, like the 999 number still connect even if there are no funds available on the phone.

**Dave Robinson**

The advice given in the later part of this piece is consistent with that given on The Police National Legal Database.

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### **RALLY NEWS - ADVANCE NOTICE**

There will be a new rally in the autumn 'Autumn in Dartmouth' which will run from 20th—25th September. Watch the Rally Supplement for details.

**Richard McAllister**

## Motorhome Handbooks

I haven't touched on this subject for a long while so I think its time again!!

Firstly I would like to apologise to Mike Crouch, MD of Autosleeper. I hoped to speak to Mike at the National Rally, after being properly introduced, about some concerns that had been addressed by a Club member to the Newsletter. Unfortunately circumstances didn't allow that to happen but I did bump into him at the bar, briefly introduced myself and then thrust some correspondence (part of which concerned handbook quality) into his hand. Thanks to Mike for obviously reading the correspondence and then writing most expeditiously to our member.

The handbooks I have had for the Inca and the Wilton were well presented but a lot of the content incorrect/irrelevant, for instance the Truma gas/electric heater fitted to our Wilton is not mentioned in the handbook but the Eberspacher option is.

The manuals are divided into three areas; general introductions, appliance user instructions and vehicle technical description/advice. The first two areas tend to of better quality than the last. There are two reasons why this is so. There is a 'grey' area as to where the chassis infrastructure ends and the conversion infrastructure starts. This is particularly true for the electrical installation. Secondly, AS produce such a wide variety of models (some in very small quantities) that, from my own experience of both commissioning and authoring technical manuals, I know it is impracticable and uneconomic to document thoroughly each one.

Having said that, it is obvious that a lot of material for current AS handbooks is copied from earlier handbooks and from suppliers information and that the attempts to integrate that information into one document could be improved. There is also a need to do a 'sense check' of the manual against each model with which it is to be issued and to at least supply an 'errata' sheet.

There are also just simple mistakes in the handbooks. I've found them with electrical circuit diagrams. In one case I found an error whilst on a rally and advised it to the design engineer. Before I left the rally the drawing had been amended and a correct version e-mailed to me. I suggest therefore that if you do find significant mistakes that you help AS by letting them know.

During the meeting with AS management at the National Rally I questioned the quality of handbooks. The AS team acknowledged that not everything was covered in each handbook but they assured the meeting that if problems were encountered, advice was freely available from the factory Service Centre.

Finally there is a view among members that handbooks should be of the same quality as those for cars costing an equivalent amount. Well that would be nice but the handbook for a BMW or Jaguar will cost hundreds of thousands of pounds to produce and with a motorhome production run of tens of vehicles, that level of investment is not possible.

*Peter Brown*

\*\*\*\*\*

**GOODBYE!**

After 22years of Autosleepers and 18years in the Autosleeper Owners Club it is with some regret that we have decided to move on to another make of van and thus leave the ASOC.

We take with us many happy memories of the friends we have made and the good times we have had with the club.

We wish all members the best for the future and hope to bump into you again on our future travels.

*Ian and Jean Sellers*

PS: Ian wrote the above as he writes betterer than what I do but I couldn't go without looking back on our time in the club (new members can skip the next bit) :-

Men in tights in a Little Chef - soup under the awnings on a very cold January evening - more soup , this time with home made bread at Chester - rounders at Southwell - Adults shooting bows and arrows at curious children at Worksop - washing tables and chairs in the cattle sheds at Malvern - the Pudsey Plonkers at Selby - WW11 at Eden camp - back to school at Whitby - The JCB factory -

Dickensian Weekend at Ulverston - Men in kilts at Castle Douglas - Little Egypt at Bridge of Allen - Rusty Nail at Portavadie - being mistaken for gypsies at Mold - also at Mold having our evening meal at a pub interrupted by the Police helicopter as the Pub was being burgled at the same time - Treasure hunt at Ripon .

Going down the mine at Beamish - the illuminations at Blackpool - The Lyons club at Lytham St Annes - a ride in a Bugatti at Prestwood - Town criers at Topsham - getting deafened at Shoreham - the first Irish Rally where things went awry but a great time was had by all - a very late jaunty cart at Killarney - a bbq at Oberammagau - cycling in the rain at Sarzeau - the heat in the Dordogne - washing up mops at Delft and the flower market.

I could go on and on (some might say I already have!!) but for now anyway no goodbyes - just we'll sithee.

*Jean*

**Barney and Pam Howlett** also have to say goodbye and send all their best wishes to the Club.



## **MOTORHOMES & POTTERY - DERBY**

Tim Lemon, Sales Director for Motor Plus Motor Homes, the Auto Sleepers main dealer for Derbyshire have contacted us to say they have organised an event at the world famous Denby Pottery on the week end of 29th and 30th May 2010 (this month). They will be displaying a large selection of new and used motor homes at the visitor centre and the pottery will be offering special discounts in the visitor centre, factory shop special offers, cookery demonstrations including tips and recipes for motor home cooking and family pottery tours.

The address (for the event) is Denby Pottery Visitor Centre, Derby Road, Denby, Derbyshire, DE5 8NX and opening times are 29th - 9.30am to 5.30pm and 30th - 10.00am to 5.00pm.

It may well be your Newsletter arrives too late for you to attend, at any rate it's going to be very short notice, but if anyone does attend perhaps you could let us know how it went.

We have asked him to give us a little more notice if they run it next year.

# Technical Group & Website

**Baz Wellard**  
**Chairman, Technical Group & Webmaster**



## **Hints & Tips:**

In last month's Newsletter Alan Greenwood commented that it would be useful for new members, and reminders to the older hands, for gems from the past editions of the Newsletter to be available. A consolidated list of 'gems' over the past 6 years - entitled 'Hints & Tips - is available and was issued to all members with the January Newsletter. New ralliers are advised of its existence by Jill Bertin, Membership Secretary, on joining. The list is updated each month and can be supplied by e-mail or by post. See back page for address details.

## **Useful suppliers:**

The following two suppliers may be of interest. I have used the battery supplier and the mirror supplier before and received a good price & next day delivery – but unfortunately cannot negotiate a 'Members Deal' on either.

- Leisure & vehicle batteries - <http://www.thebatteryguys.co.uk/>  
Replacement wing mirrors - <http://www.wingmirrorman.co.uk/>

## **Ideas Sheets:**

- No. 196 - Prevention of grey water smells
- No. 197 – Replacing chassis cab door speakers
- No. 198 – Alternative door catch for a Nuevo

## **Website Updates:**

- 05a/10 - Addition of Emberton Country Park rally – Nr. Olney Bucks 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> Jul
- 06/10 –
- VOSA Re-call for some:-Nuevo; Nuevo TB; Nuevo ES; Nuevo EL; Nuevo Classic; Broadway EK; Broadway EL; Sigma EK; Sigma EL; Berkshire; Executive; Warwick; Warwick

EL; Warwick DUO; Symbol; Symbol ES; Symbol ST & Zeta.  
Build numbers are on the website or contact the Auto-Sleeper  
Service centre on 01386-853511 – Or failing both contact me.

- o Model review of the Devon 2010 available by e-mail or by post.
- 07/10 –
- o Feedback from the AGM & National Rally
- o Q&A technical session notes from the National Rally
- o New rally – ‘Autumn in Dartmouth’, Little Cotton Caravan Park.  
20<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> September.

## Welcome to New Members



Bill & Pat Edmonds	Bridgnorth	Northants
Bernard & Eva Batchelor	Southampton	Symbol
Ian & Diane Warburton	Keswick	Nuevo
Sylvia Sharples	Bradford	Clubman
David & June Everton	Llandrindod Wells	Executive
Ashley & Pauline Elliott	Belmont	Topaz
Brian & Margaret Christopher	Penrith	Executive
Garry & Margaret Stanford	Stanmore	Rienza
John & Maree Shades	Ayr	Trident
David & Pauline Holmes	Derby	Sussex
Ian & Margaret Lenham	North Marston	Lancashire
John & Linda O'Brien	Liverpool	Duetto
John & Patricia Hyde	Cheltenham	Devon
Richard & Linaire Readings	Poole	Trooper
Alan & Pat Winton	Hailsham	Mezan
David & Val Brindley	Bearsted	Symbol
Ann Finch	Ringwood	Rienza
Chris & Lyn Lodge	Halstead	Cotswold
Ken & Sue Evans	Minehead	Devon
Mike & Pauline Rippon	Lincoln	Northants
Sheila Mellor	Kingsthorpe	Mezan
Peter & Elizabeth Gregory	Rainford	Broadway

Joe & Jean Herrington	Bury St Edmunds	Clubman
John & Sandra Nix	Rippon	Sigma
Eric Weeden	Ashford	Devon
David & Carole Price	Brecon	Gloucester
Brian Buckfield	Dorcheester	Rapport
Rob & Deb Dormer	Daventry	Devon
Mike & Jo Eastman	Walsall	Warwick
Ivan & Thelma Butcher	Ipswich	Symphony
Eddie & Mary Manders-Trett	Nr Cheltenham	Sigma
John & Janet Dicker	Great Bookham	Dorset
Laurence & Stevie Barber	Ottery St Mary	Executive
Stanley McFarland	Saintfield	Nuevo
David & Alison Hayward	Stratford upon Avon	Nuevo
Pat Clarke & John Burley	Heanor	Symphony
Thomas Linton	Rossendale	Excelsior
Ron & Angela Evans	Newquay	Symphony
John & Alison Hughes	Birmingham	
Roger & Fliss Siggery	Bexhill on Sea	Executive
Brian & Barbara King	Totternhoe	Sussex
John & Sonia Archer	Worcester	Broadway
Ian & Maureen Howe	Liverpool	Duetto
Dennis & Pauline Bloomfird	Oxford	Trident
Geoff & Anita Mason	Penrith	Windsor
David & Val Miller	Falmouth	Symbol
Mike & Paula Harpin	Gloucester	Duetto
Brenda Dael & Mick Rogers	Brentwood	Executive
Malachy & Mary Houlihan	Swansea	Broadway
Rodric & Verna Randle	Huntingdon	Inca
Diana Wardle	Birmingham	Duetto
Keith & Margaret Landrebe	Brandon	Warwick
David & Linda Groom	Wollaston	Suffolk
Peter & Carol Jones	Redditch	Trident
Jonathan Oakes	Watlington	Trident
David & Eleanor McKittrick	Belfast	Talisman
Andy Norman	Benfleet	Rapport
Gerad & Lynne Hughes	Brecoh	Nuevo
Andy & Helen Appleby	Bolton	Executive

## Obituary

*Ex-member Terry Plant passed away recently after a long series of medical conditions. I'm sure a lot of long standing members will remember him.*



*Thanks for all the donations*

### **Ford Rienza**

2 berth 2.4 td  
2002 9,000  
miles. Excellent

condition. Extras include cruise control, Van Bitz alarm, Fiamma awning, Silver Screen. **£21,000 contact A Russell 01268 417143 (Essex)**

**Movelite XL awning**, driveaway kit and inner tent £65; Tailormade external insulation (silver) screen £35; Thermal interior blind £15; Fly Screen door (unused) £5; Royal motorhome cover 6.1m (18-20ft) £55. All to fit AS Talisman 2007 Peugeot Boxer.

**Contact Kevin Procter**  
email: [kevinprocter@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:kevinprocter@tiscali.co.uk)  
Tel: 020 84625555

35 unused 8" Screw Pegs Awning Set for hard standing,

([www.screwpegs.com](http://www.screwpegs.com)) as advertised in the Caravan Club Magazine. No drill adaptor or socket driver. Cost £43.45 in May 2006. Offers for all or part? Aberystwyth area. **Contact David Matthews Email; [david.celia@btinternet.com](mailto:david.celia@btinternet.com) or phone: 01970 871372**

**SYMBOL PEUGEOT 2.8HDI**  
2002. 26,000 miles. One owner from new. FSH. Van Bitz alarm, split charger, status aerial, awning. Non-smokers. MOT Dec 2010. Excellent condition. **£18,950 o.n.o..**

**Contact Bill Smith Tel. 02893366761 or [william278@btinternet.com](mailto:william278@btinternet.com)**

**AS Duetto Nov 96**, 2.5 turbo diesel, manual, good condition, 58,600 miles, tax & tested 6 months, alloys, bike rack, towing bar, awning, omni direct TV Aerial, micro wave cooker **£15500 Contact Colin Harris 01494716463 (Chilterns, Bucks)**

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## Committee Members

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