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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*



*Jill Bertlin reminds us of seasons past
Thanks Jill we needed that*

NEWSLETTER 262

JULY 2010

From the Editor (S)

Well !! Here I am again in the dungeons that is the editing suite, the slim on the walls is a bit dryer but it is still cold, even after all that lovely weather.

'Mention of the 'little man' at the AGM has inspired Rita, our main 'man' but watch out Rita, Jill is now in competition and is actually featured on the front cover. Normally I am struggling for the front cover and I am very grateful to Rita and Jill and all those that have contributed this month.

You may notice that most of your newsletter is very easy to read. This due to two things: Firstly I was so very short of copy to put into YOUR newsletter and Secondly I have cataracts that aren't getting fixed until the end of July, so I can't see the damn print on the screen. We really do need your input in order to fill the mag so be typical members and when someone is in trouble get stuck in.

The past year has been quite interesting for Autosleepers with ups and downs ending in what is obviously a successful management buy out. (see article on page 15) As for Kathleen and myself our year was also very up and, I won't bore you with the details, but suffice it to say that we are starting on the up and hope it will continue. We have actually got four rallies booked so far, which is more times than we have been able to use the van in the last eighteen months.

As usual I am setting you a challenge. A lot to ask but know that some of you lovely people write the occasional short story, maximum 4 A5 pages at 12pt. On a camping theme however loose. I promise that I will put at least one in the newsletter and will pass the rest on to Peter and lean on him to do the same.

So get writing and enjoy the rest of the newsletter - Dudley

Why is there still this worry about staying on Aire's in France?

We have been using Aire de Services (DEFINITELY NOT PICNIC/REST AIRES ON MOTORWAYS OR HIGHWAYS but the proper set up Aire with Borne for water, emptying and sometimes electric hook-up just for topping up battery, phone, etc), in France for many years for our holidays, only using a camp site when (a) we need laundry services, or (b) there is no Aire near the place we are wanting to visit. We use a couple of the many Aire de Service books available for France, our favourite being the coastal one. We just love meandering along the beautiful pink granite coast of Britany from St. Malo to Roscoff, or as last year starting on the West Coast from where we left off the previous year, and gradually, over three or four weeks, moving a few hundred miles further down - last year we followed the coast from around La Rochelle to the Gironde - Beautiful!. We have also meandered along the Northern coast of Normandy around the Landing Beaches - the Aromanche Aire is right in the middle of the town of Aromanche itself! We have never felt threatened (if we do not feel happy with the environment when we arrive - which is very rare indeed - then we consult the book again and move on to the next one, which will usually be just a few miles further along the coast). We have many favourites - on arrival in St. Malo from Weymouth,

we always drive out to Concale for our first night or two. This Aire is above the town and get the right spot on it and you can see Mont St. Michael in the distance. Walk across the main road and there is a lovely path through the woods down to the port and town.

The cost of Aires has risen in the last couple of years, but there are still some free ones, many at around five Euros, and like Concale the most expensive will be around eight Euros. Sometimes there is a ticket machine, sometimes a barrier (as in Concale where you take a ticket on entry and pay for the number of nights you stay on exit), at the Port office if you are staying at a Port, often a very nice French person will collect the money either in the morning or evening. If you are not at the van at the time of collection, then no need to worry; you either pay the next time they call, or just leave when you intended and you have a free night!! We have sometimes stayed for several nights in places where no-one has bothered to collect the money at all!

Many of the coastal Aires are situated just behind or across the road from beautiful beaches or beside the sea. St. Pol de Leon, nr Roscoff, is such a one. We have stayed there several times. This has always been free, but you do have to arrive fairly early in the afternoon and be prepared by nightfall to be cheek-by-jowell to other vans. By early

morning though most will have left - (the touring French always go to bed early and leave very early in the morning to get to the next Aire early for the day and a good parking position!). Erquy is another favourite beautifully positioned Aire. Just behind a gorgeous big sandy beach - walking distance from town (which almost every Aire is as the French obviously want you to spend money in their local shops, markets and restaurants). I could tell you of so many - but just go and find them for yourself!!!

The whole idea of meandering from Aire to Aire for a holiday may not suit everyone - thank goodness!!! You have to be prepared to:- (1) do without all those luxury showers, toilets, electric hook-up, etc., of a camp site (although luxury for some of these facilities in France may not be quite the word!!!), (2) park VERY CLOSE as in car parks (none of the 'so many feet away' rule here!!! It's first come first served (we always try to arrive in the daytime - not early evening - to hopefully find an end of row spot for our nearside). - remember the French caravan door will open directly next to yours!!!) or give ourselves a few feet either side (but not enough for a Frenchman to squeeze his van in between yours and the next!!!!. (3) use ALL your onboard facilities.

So, go on, give it a go!! You may meet some lovely English 'friends', as we have, or even us!!!!

Pearl England.

Booking rallies

Following on from the June issue and Roy Anderston's comments regarding taking rally slips for forthcoming rallies, I was one of those this year.

My rally was announced in the May newsletter and its quite likely that many ralliers at the National would not have got there's in time as they were at Peterborough the week before and stayed out. Hence Peter's heads up in the April edition. Also many were off to Dartmouth the week after! So those attending the AGM could be at a disadvantage and these are the regular ralliers! It happens every year and keen ralliers carry slips and cheque books at most rallies (forward planning!).

The rule is that you cannot accept slips until it is announced in the Supplement.(Usually 2 months before the rally date, but sometimes early when the rally officer is away from home at the usual time for receiving slips or when ferries are involved)

I collected a few slips at the Rally but I advised that those in the post in my absence had priority to be fair to all, and I think most Rally Marshalls would use that principle. It's a common sense approach that is trying to be fair to all members. I don't think this disadvantages those not attending the AGM rally. I think Roy was just unlucky on this occasion, and that happens to all of us!

Well, I'm just off on a Baltic cruise for two weeks and when I get back I shall be taking any slips found in the post in date order as I only have a few places left (but this is 1 month later!).

Hopefully I wont be oversubscribed, as I would hate to turn people away.

Regards David Mayne 2818

Can someone Help Anne

We have an Exec. van 2002 year and would like to know if anyone who has such a van/year an recommend an awning that they have found to tick all the boxes?

I had thought of a privacy room for the Fiamma awning but also thought a porch type awning would be useful.

Tel: 0151 348 4410

Many thanks Anne Rose

Tips for the Staff

Browsing through the Club Magazine after a leisurely meal, I read Nora Venables' comments re Tips to staff after the Saturday dinner at the National Rally. I read it repeatedly, in order to ensure I had not made an error in interpretation.

Withholding tips for services rendered, until the end of the year is nothing short of STEALING, by those in authority. It is not their money and on a par with the nefarious practices carried out by Banks, initiating the financial crisis we are in. This can only be justified by agreement with the staff, but no mention is made on this point. I would suggest further scrutiny is required. Presumably any staff who leave employment in the meantime, are paid their share of Tips, plus any interest held on deposit (if you can get any these days) to cover inflation.

Nora Venables is to be commended for bringing this matter to our attention.

J R Flynn

Dep Ed I have experience in industries of this type and it is my experience that in most cases the procedures with tips are in the conditions of work or at the very least agreed with those concerned. This arrangement is popular with those concerned because they have a financial boost at Christmas time. I know I was always ready for it.

MALE OR FEMALE

Found by Bellis

Male or Female ? You may not know this but a lot of inanimate objects are actually considered male or female. Here are some examples. See how many you get right.

Freezer bags. . . . Photocopiers. . . . Tyres.

Hot Air Balloons. . . . Sponges.

Web Pages. . . . Trains. . . . Egg Timers.

Hammers. . . . The Remote Control.

Freezer bags.

They are male, because they hold everything in but you can see right through them.

Photocopiers.

These are female, because once turned off. It takes a while to warm them up again. They are an efficient reproduction device, if the right buttons are pushed but can also wreak havoc if you push the wrong buttons.

Tyres.

Tyres are male. They go bald easily and are often over inflated.

Hot Air Balloons.

Also a male object because to get them to go anywhere you

have to light a fire under their backside.

Sponges

These are female. Because they are soft, squeezable and retain water.

Web Pages.

Female, because they are constantly being looked at, and frequently being hit on.

Trains.

Definitely male, because they always use the same old lines for picking up people.

Egg Timers

Egg timers are female because over time all their weight shifts to the bottom.

Hammers.

Male because in the last 5000 years they have hardly changed at all but are often handy to have around.

The Remote control Female Ha! you probably thought it would be male, but consider this. . . it easily gives man pleasure, he'd be lost without it . . . and while he doesn't always know which buttons to push . . . he just keeps trying.

From .The Beachcomber Inn, Warren Road, Brean
Near Burnham - On - Sea, Somerset England

Advance Notice for Rallies

Has this taken on a new meaning? I was under the impression that it was only a short notification that you were holding a new rally in the future, but it appears that you can now send in the full details for your rally and they will be published **four months in advance** of your rally.

Have we changed the rules for publication? It appears that in May magazine two rallies gave advance notice, and had all details published, and members applied for the said rallies.

When it appeared in June magazine one of these rallies was fully booked.

So applying at the correct time was no use as the rally was already full.

I look forward to other members comments.

John Tubb

Dep. Ed. I can see what you are saying John but the man we need to ask is unavailable, no doubt in his Autosleeper somewhere but i am sure he will answer your queries in the next newsletter.

I am afraid that I make no apologies for putting two such advance notices in this month, which i think is justified by folks finding it useful to plan which rallies they would like to attend and which ones to apply for when the appropriate announcement is made.



July 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.

NEW RALLY. 20th to 25th September 2010 (5 Nights) Autumn in Dartmouth at Little Cotton Caravan Park Dartmouth. Details later in this Supplement.

2nd - 4th 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.

4th - 8th 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.

6th - 9th July 2010 (3 nights) Cartmel Park Race Course, Cartmel, Cumbria LA11 6QF

This rally is now fully booked.

12th to 16th 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 through 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

15th - 19th July Northern Motorcaravan Show, Cheshire Showground, Tabley, Knutsford, WA16 0HJ.

Emergency Tel. No. Marshalls Mobile 0786 8000 705.

Rally Marshalls: Liz & Roger Spensley, & Wyn & Dave Crabbe..

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.

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

Emergency Tel.No. 07879716576 marshals' mobile.

Rally Marshalls: 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 Paul 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 submerium in the world, a successful Millenium 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.

22nd - 26th 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 60TH 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.

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

Emergency Tel.No. 07716724910.

This rally is now fully booked.

18th - 23rd 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.

20th - 25th 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 21st, 22nd, & 23rd. August. Whitby Folk Week 21st to 27th 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.**

Tues 24th - Sun 29th August (5 nights) Topsham Rugby Club, Topsham Nr. Exeter

Devon

Emergency Tel No. 07890876859 (marshal's mobile)

Rally marshals Elizabeth & Bryn Morgan 44 Mersey Road Stockport SK4 3DJ. Home Tel. 0161 432 4869 and Nora & Ven Venables Home tel. 01902 332 105

Site fees: £7.50 per night. Rally fee: £4.70 for couple=£42.20. £2.40 for singles = £39.90 incl. Vat.

This is a **GREEN FIELD SITE** (no electricity). We will be able to use the club's toilet facilities during the day. We plan to devise a roster so we can use the club's communal shower room (very basic).

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

NB Please say on rally slip if you are bringing a dog.

The rugby club may have functions on whilst we are there. There may also be a cricket match played on the far wicket. We hope to organise an al fresco "Bring your own meal" one evening.

Attractions: Topsham is a delightful small town situated on the River Exe. Topsham Town Fair Week coincides with our rally. The town has an historic quay; ferries across the river and an excellent bus and train service to Exmouth, Exeter City and beyond so if you have an English concessionary bus pass bring it with you. The town has a good range of shops, eating-places, pubs and an open air heated swimming pool. Within walking distance is the River Clyst that has a nature reserve that is popular with bird watchers. Dartmoor National Park is a short drive away. The rugby club is 250 yards from the town.

Please send cheques to the address above payable to B Morgan together with a rally slip and self-addressed envelope (we will put the stamp on).

Directions and confirmation of booking will then be sent to you. Limit 35 vans.

2nd. Thursday - 6th. Monday September (4 nights) Faversham Hop Festival, Painters Farm, Painters Forstal, Ospringe, Faversham, Kent. ME13 OEG.

Emergency Tel.No.07818006733.

This rally is now fully booked.

9th - 12th. September Motorhome & RV Show,Shepton Mallet,Somerset.

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

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

Site Fee: Special Club prices. Arrive Thursday £33.00 Friday onwards £28.00

(iv.).

Rally Fee:£2.35(Incl.VAT).Send rally fee with rally slip & SAE for Show application form to Mrs. J. Hicklin,381 Manor Road, Brimington,Chesterfield,Derbyshire.S43 1PP.Tel.No. 01246 236 157 **by 25th August**. Show application forms to be returned to the organisers,Stone Leisure,by **2nd September**.

13th - 17th September (4 nights) Whitemead C.P.Wool,Dorset

Emergency Tel.No. 077114550731 Marshal's mobile.

Site fee: £7.45 per night. Plus electricity £2.00 per night. Rally fee: £2.35 per couple, £1.75 single. All include VAT.

Booking slips & cheques to Barbara Potter. Westbrook, Mill Lane, Monks Risborough, Bucks. HP27 9LG.

Local attractions: Monkey World, Bovington Tank Museum, Lulworth Cove, Durdle Door, Corfe Castle, Wareham, Swanage, Studland Bay. Bus stops and railway station within in a few minutes walk to Dorchester, Poole and Weymouth, plus village pubs. Campsite also has shop and games room with a pool table and darts. Good cycling and walking area.

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

NEW RALLY.

20th to 25th September 2010 (5 Nights) Autumn in Dartmouth at Little Cotton

Caravan Park Dartmouth.Come and join us now all the holiday makers have gone home, and enjoy all that this area has to offer.

Site Telephone: No. 01803 832558 . Web site- www.littlecotton.co.uk

Rally Marshals:- Rita & John Tubb, assisted by Jill & Richard McAllister.

Site fees £12 per night inclusive of VAT. Rally Fee £3 inclusive of VAT. Send your application slips and a cheque for £63 payable to Rita Tubb together with SAE for reply to 70 Charmwood Crescent, Chandlers Ford, Hampshire, SO53 5QL. Telephone No. 023 8026 7294 or Mobile 07754 761423. The site has all the usual facilities, inc. disabled. Dogs are welcome but **must be** kept on a lead and use the doggy walk on site. The area has a good bus service, down into Dartmouth or further afield to Kingbridge, Totnes, Torquay.You can cross the ferry to Kingswear and catch the steam train to Paignton, or the bus to Brixham.You can enjoy a boat trip up the River Dart to Totnes or out to sea. There are NT properties in the area to visit. Remember to bring your Bus Pass.If you wish to extend your stay either before or after the rally please contact the site on the above number.**Please do not arrive before noon on the day of the rally.**

22nd - 27th September (5 nights) Uttoxeter Racecourse, Staffordshire

This will be a rally at the ACCEO National Rally, Uttoxeter Racecourse, Wood Lane, Uttoxeter, ST14 8DB. Organisers (on behalf of ACCEO) the Lunar Owners Club. ASOC Rally Marshals Peter Brown, Chris Mawdsley and Liz Irvin. This is a Greenfield site with no electricity ½ mile from Uttoxeter town centre, large Tesco, Cinebowl, etc. ASOC Marshal site emergency phone 07771 827711. Cost per unit, Friday & Saturday £18.00, additional nights Wednesday/Thursday/Sunday @ £7.50 per night. Pitched Awning £0.50 per night. Friday and Saturday entertainment pass £10 each adult. **Attractions:** Hall for Friday night meet and greet with music, Saturday night variety show "Kate's Party" and Sunday morning grand raffle. Cannock Chase, Stafford, Stoke on Trent, Derby and the Peak District all within 20 miles. Please note that all ASOC bookings must be made by the ASOC Rally Marshal on one ACCEO booking form therefore: applications on ASOC rally slip (indicate if awning and/or entertainment pass required) with cheque **By 1st September 2010** to Chris Mawdsley 5 Kenilworth Walk, Cheadle, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire ST10 1WA. For further information contact Peter Brown pcb7ty@btinternet.com or 07771 827711.

23rd. - 26th. September. The Motorhome Show,Season Finale,Lincoln Showground.

Emergency Tel.No. 07922049714

Rally Marshals:Pauline & Neil Rogers, & Yvonne & Stuart Wood.

Please use the booking form enclosed in the July Newsletter if possible.If you use a form from other magazines please mark the form ASOC and note the *special Club site fees*:

Arrive Thursday:£39,arrive Friday £36, arrive Saturday £33.All bookings for the Saturday evening entertainment must be made with Warners when returning the application form to the organisers, by Friday 3rd.September if you wish to rally with the Club.

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

inclusive of VAT) to: N.C. & P. Rogers,3 Appleby Close,Aldbrough St.John,Richmond, North Yorks.DL11 7TT.Tel.No. 01325 374 540. Cheques payable to N.C.& P.Rogers.

Please collect the Club rally information pack from the ASOC marshal before parking.

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

30th September to 3rd October (3 nights) Little Stoke CC Stone Staffordshire

Planned to coincide with the Stone Food and Drink Festival (1st -3rd October) which includes a Manger à trios where restaurateurs offer a choice of fine food with each course in a different restaurant. There's a Real Ale Trail, a farmer's market and a gourmet food marquee – open for late night shopping on Friday evening, cookery demonstrations and lots more. For full information go to www.stonefooddrink.org.uk. Rally Marshalls, Chris Mawdsley, Peter Brown and Liz Irvin.

Emergency Tel.No. 07919 538622. Site address: Uttoxeter Road, Stone, ST15 8RA. Site Fee: £5 per night. Rally Fee: £2 per couple £1 single. NO ELECTRICITY. Maximum 23 vans.

Booking Slips with cheques to Chris Mawdsley 5 Kenilworth Walk, Cheadle, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire ST10 1WA.

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.

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E & OE.

Rally News

Whitemead (Forest of Dean) Rally 2011

Mary and I have decided to take a temporary break from motor-caravanning after this summer, and plan to sell our van in the autumn. Although our intention is to get another Autosleeper in a couple of years, it does mean that we will no longer be able to run the Whitemead Rally.

This rally has been held very successfully for six or seven years, the last two being marshalled by us. Alan and Celia Waugh were the assistant marshals this year and, although unable to take on the running of the rally due to other commitments, they may be able to assist again next year.

Whitemead has been well supported, partly due to the fact that it is held at the end of February when there are few other rallies and also because there are excellent indoor facilities at the CSMA owned site, as well as electric hook ups and hardstandings which are essential at this time of year. We feel that it would be a pity to lose this rally if there are people prepared to take over from us.

The purpose of this note therefore, is to ask whether there is anyone who would like to take on

the organisation of the rally. Neil Rogers, the Rally Co-ordinator, is aware of the position and anyone who is interested should contact him directly.

Running this rally is not a daunting task and should anyone require more information before deciding, we would be happy to offer any help or advice, regarding the booking arrangements etc.

Mike and Mary Bardsley

Tel: Home 01922 451964 Mobile 07900677269

Dartmouth – 13th Musical Festival Rally at Little Cotton CP 2010

The first advert for this rally appeared in the March Newsletter received as usual at the end of the preceding month – on the 27 Feb in fact. We had 35 pitches available and were fully booked by the 3rd March. By the 27th March 26 applicants were hopefully awaiting any cancellations. Come the start date of 6th May that number had been reduced to 19 which included 4 First Time ralliers in addition to the 5 First Timers that did join us. Had they all been successful would a total of nine have been a club record we wonder?

The weather over the rally period was mostly dry with one or two occasional light showers, plus a persistent chill East wind but none of this stopped our resilient members going out and about in Dartmouth and district finding much to see and do.

HMS Kent – a modern frigate visited the town during the Festival and was anchored in the river. The public were able to go aboard for free on the Saturday and were ferried out from the quayside. In the afternoon that day HM Royal Marines Band were to be seen 'Beating Retreat' on the parade ground of Britannia RN College at 4.15pm. The College was open free from 11.30am until 5pm on the 8th May and put on a number of displays and musical events. Teas, beers and burgers were also made available.

The Festival got underway with a Jazz Jam session at the Royal Castle Hotel on Thursday evening, Friday, Saturday and Sunday were days packed with a wide choice of musical events including classical, blues, rock, organ, choirs, folk, guitar, saxophones – all sorts to choose from. Feedback from members was that the Festival was an event that offered much to be enjoyed.

Steve Earnshaw helped position arriving vans on day one, and also entertained us with some of his magical manipulations one evening when he was ably assisted by his wife Pam in the famous sparkling 'one size fits all' bikini! On several mornings during the rally Steve taught a number of members the basics of fun Tai-Chi amid much amusement as various bones were heard 'cracking' when exercised; it will get easier we were assured!

All in all there were no big problems or mishaps, thankfully, and everyone seemed very pleased with the site, the town, the Festival events and all there was to do in the surrounding area.

Report Courtesy of Jill & Richard McAllister

Welcome to New Members

It is so nice to see so many new members who may attend rallies and become new friends



Brian & Pat Murphy	Port Erin	Lancashire
Ian & Louise Dufour	Chichester	Gloucester
Caroline Leahy & Ed Watts	Sheringham	Trident
Malcolm & Stevie Lewis	Milford Haven	Topaz
Ronald & Frances Archer	Birmingham	Lancashire
Allan & Mary Hayes	Henlow	Duetto
Ken & Mavis Addis	Westerham	Northants
Ivor & Patricia Holliday	Beaworthy	Harmony
Richard Green	Hailsham	Broadway
Bob & Carol Pember	Huntley	Suffolk
David Potter & Bridget Hathaway	Wallington	Clubman
Barry & Gill Daymond	Bala	Broadway
Stephen Moulton & Rachel Wright	Burgess Hill	Clubman
David & Eileen Turner	St Leonards-on-Sea	Symphony
Tony & Sandra Crates	Southampton	Topaz
Richard & Lois Buttle	Nr Chelmsford	Duetto
Alan & Jean Neeve	Devizes	Nuevo
Kenneth Gover	Malton	CXL
Gordon & Anne Beckett	Grimsby	Devon
Peter Watson	Forest Row	Mezan

John Smyth & Jonathan Smyth	Carrickfergus	Stratford
Bill & Tricia Oliver	Selborne	Sussex
James & Valerie Sparks	Bedford	Broadway
Ann Smith	Sway	Lancashire
Janice Hurne & Steve Lorrinan	Bournemouth	Trooper
Mike & Beryl Farrell	Biebury on Sea	Northants
Brian & Margaret Ollier	Macclesfield	Amethyst
Bob & Sue Bissell	London	Symbol
Clive & Rachel McGavin	Yelverton	Talisman
Mike Lang & Pat Dannahy	Cheltenham	Trident
Steve & Diane Carroll	Wallington	Pollensa
David & Pearl Wright	Tenbury Wells	Nuevo
Mick & Viv Foulger	Chalfont St Peter	Trident
Alan & Mavis Durrant	Cullompton	Broadway

Auto-Sleepers steal the show at the Caravan Club Design & Drive awards!

The company are delighted to announce that they have been awarded 1st place winner titles as well as overall winner for the following vehicles in their respective classes:

Sussex Duo - Van Conversions over £40,000

Broadway EK TB LP - Coachbuilts from £43,000 - £54,000

Cotswold EB - Coachbuilts over £54,000

Cotswold EB - Overall winner

It is a rare occasion for a single manufacturer to dominate one of the Motorhome Industry's leading vehicle competitions as heavily as Auto-Sleepers has done recently, and the entire Auto-Sleepers team are extremely proud of the recognition that has been awarded to them by a panel of judges made up of some of the industry's leading experts.

Booking Rallies a Marshalls View

Following on from the June issue and Roy Anderton's comments regarding taking rally slips for forthcoming rallies, I was one of those this year. My rally was announced in the May newsletter and it's quite likely that many ralliers at the National would not have got theirs in time as they were at Peterborough the week before and stayed out. Hence Peter's heads up in the April edition. Also many were off to Dartmouth the week after! So those attending the AGM could be at a disadvantage and these are the regular ralliers! It happens every year and keen ralliers carry slips and cheque books at most rallies (forward planning!).

The rule is that you cannot accept slips until it is announced in the Supplement. (Usually 2 months before the rally date, but sometimes early when the rally officer is away from home at the usual time for receiving slips or when ferries are involved)

I collected a few slips at the Rally but I advised that those in the post in my absence had priority to be fair to all, and I think most Rally Marshalls would use that principle. It's a common sense approach that is trying to be fair to all members. I don't think this disadvantages those not attending the AGM rally. I think Roy was just unlucky on this occasion, and that happens to all of us!

Well, I'm just off on a Baltic cruise for two weeks and when I get back I shall be taking any slips found in the post in date order as I only have a few places left (but this is 1 month later!).

Hopefully I won't be oversubscribed, as I would hate to turn people away.

Regards David Mayne 2818

Baz Wellard
Chairman, Technical Group & Webmaster



Mea Culpa: I apologise for being tardy in saying thank you to Geoff Scott; David Clarkson, Alan Curry and Mark Burdett in accepting the invitation to attend the Q&A session at the National Rally and giving up their time to answer all the members' questions. All the Q&As are available on the Club website – Stop Press page.

I'd also like to thank Brian Smith and Albert Brown for giving so much their time in assisting at the Technical Desk in the Stuart Goodwin Pavilion over the weekend.

Instruction Manuals: Ricky Smith has kindly donated 5 instruction manuals to the Club library. If any other members have manuals, or any other such literature, that is no longer needed - perhaps you could do likewise and send them to me, please? Postage costs will be refunded.

Diesel - Branded or Supermarket? It has long been my personal view that it is better to use 'branded' diesel rather than 'Supermarket' diesel. You may have read the article on that subject in the June MMM article written by a reader, who has

spent his career in fuel distribution. In it, he clearly describes the distribution and additive processes, and it certainly gave me confidence in my unscientific views. If you have not read the article I can send you a copy as an e-mail attachment. You can then make your judgment and decision.

Ideas Sheets: Latest available Ideas Sheet No. 199 – Fitting Mercedes-Benz Front Mudflaps; for County Class Models. Does anyone have Idea No. 200?

Website Updates:

- **08/10:-**
 - Rallies - Dartmouth rally report and photographs
 - Technical -
 - Service Centre page and hyperlinks - updated
 - 5 further instruction manuals available
 - ◆ Stop Press - Q&A session feedback added

- **08a/10 (Supplementary):-**
 - ◆ Stop Press - Auto~Sleepers win 4 top awards at the Caravan Club Design & Drive competition 2010.

Amazing News - Autosleeper Owners Club Donated Timeless Raffle Prize For National Rally

In 2006 at the AGM I picked a raffle prize for a week's holiday at Don Amotts Leisure Kingdom, at North Somercoates in between Mablethorpe and Grimsby. We had a family bereavement then Norman had his quadruple bypass so with various hospital appointments the voucher remained in the drawer.

February this year I wrote to Don Amotts Leisure Kingdom to see if they would still honour the prize. A confirmation of the date I booked for was returned with booking invoice for £151 less discount £151 but fee for electrics £21. So we set off from Guildford (home) on 20th April to St Neots, then Peterborough for rally at Motorshow. Off to Boston before AGM at Newark, next off to Lakeside North Summercoates. We had a great time here. The site was made up mostly of static vans, but the occupants were so friendly. It was a coach service that took you to Louth and Grimsby all round the houses. One couple were so impressed with our Clubman he said he would rather have that to their static. The week soon came to an end and we moved on to CL's. Next was the new Camping and Caravanning site at Gullivers, Milton Keynes. If you like walking it's a lovely place, paths right into town by many ways. Not a site for school holidays though. Before heading home a week at Hurley on a rally with our CSMA group, returning home 23rd May, 33 nights out.

Thank you Don Amott for giving Auto Sleeper this prize, also to Nora and her committee for all the work done at the AGM.

Norman and Sylvia Brice 0864

This month we have now had two stories of exceptional consideration and service, could this be an overdue trend in the service industry? Whether or not this is the case it is so nice to be able to print such articles in the newsletter.

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