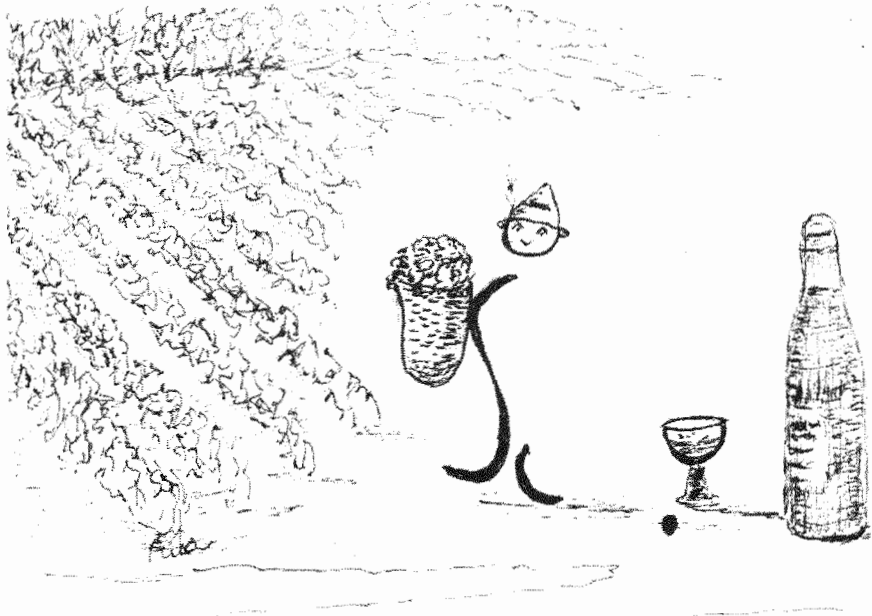




www.asoc.fsnet.co.uk

AUTO-SLEEPER OWNERS' CLUB

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



*The wine's ok but you can forget about
the women and song*

NEWSLETTER 264

September 2010

From the Editor (S)

Well, we're back after our meanderings through France, Germany and the UK and it was very nice not to have to think of deadlines and things, so thanks very much to Dudley and Kathleen for taking over once again. A sterling job and very much appreciated. And thank you for all the contributions—we've had to hold some over for next month.

Thank You: When I was very small, my paternal grandmother kept a jar of sweets for really special treats - Black Bullets. I haven't had any for 50 years and was surprised to see a jar as a raffle prize at Ledbury. I was fortunate to win them and find they are every bit as good as I remember. Then the Lichfield rally raffle - Black Bullets, and again I was fortunate to win them. So to the Black Bullet donor - thanks for the memories (and of course the taste).

The recent event at Lichfield was our 51st ASOC Rally (excluding Nationals). It slipped my attention that our previous rally at Fort Paul was our 50th but that's probably just as well as I expect our fellow ralliers would have wanted to celebrate!

We have enjoyed every rally and no two (even at the same location) have been the same.

We have shared rally fields with 408 different club members, some of them many times. The record for spending the most rallies with us is held by Cedric & Mo Jones - what a surprise, closely followed by our Rally Co-ordinator Neil (and Pauline) Rogers who does keep a good eye on his portfolio.

We currently have five wiltons in the Club. One is owned by Peter (me) and the other four by John's!!!!

Some club members have fitted plastic tyre valve extenders to ease the task of checking tyre pressures. A recent examination of those fitted to a friend's van showed that two had been damaged by 'kerbing'. One could not be used and the other was the cause of a valve leak facilitating slow deflation of the tyre. I would suggest it would be safest to only fit these valve extenders when checking tyre pressures and to fit standard valve caps when operating the vehicle. Indeed if an insurance company investigating a claim following an accident found these devices fitted without their prior approval of the 'modification' they could declare the insurance void!

Uttoxeter Rally - There is still time to apply for this rally and we would welcome more attendees. Please note closing date for applications is extended to 6 September.

A none member, David Lewin, has sold his AS Gatcombe, T4 VW 2.5 I but the dealer who bought it did not want the cover or silverscreen and he wondered if any of our members would be interested to buy these at a fraction of the new price?

As these items may be of interest to Club members I am giving the details below. David understands that we do not take adverts from none members and will donate a portion of the price to charity. I suggest that any interested member agrees how much they send to David and how much they send direct to John Tidbury for the Clubs nominated charity. These items may fit other similar AutoSleepers models.

The cover is a tailored, "Protec", breathable type in a dark green colour with all the webbing securing straps and velcroed habitation door opening. The silver screen is a genuine, external "Silver Screen" make for the VW T4. Both items are in almost new condition.

David lives in Leamington Spa and can possibly deliver the items if not too far and can be contacted on T 01926 - 313534 or davidlewin@talktalk.net

Where NOT to park your motorhome!!



When visiting the friendly market town of Olney on the Emberton Country Park Rally we came across this sign on the wall next to the Aston Martin garage - we found it rather humorous and thought we'd like to share it with other ASOC members.

On speaking to a member of staff at the garage we were invited to look at these very special cars, which we found interesting and informative, but a bit out of our price range!! Then we came to the last car and this was very special - **JB007**.

Our thanks to David and Pat Mayne for an enjoyable rally.

David & Sheila Stewart

Rallies in 2011

I hope that many of you have been able to enjoy attending rallies this year in the varied locations at home and abroad. Rally dates for 2011 are starting to be sent to me for inclusion in the "Provisional Rally List" which is sent out with the January Newsletter. Some members may not be aware of the fact that all rally marshals are volunteers and as such, give of their time freely. If you would like to get involved in either assisting or running a Club rally then please contact me.

I have a file of sites that have offered themselves for rallies and sites that members have thought suitable for rallies. If you let me know the area of your interest then I will see if I have any sites that may suit you.

Rallies may be held on Greenfield or Commercial sites. Greenfield sites are usually cricket/rugby/football clubs or school/ farmers' fields and use our Exemption Certificate issued to us by Natural England, which allows the Club to run rallies of up to 5 nights on such sites. If you wish to find out more about running a rally then I have a "*Guide to New/Possible Marshals*", which is available on the Club website and from me.

If you feel that you have not attended enough rallies to be able to run one then I will try to find a suitable rally for you to assist at. Remember that help is available as Committee members will readily assist if required.

For a rally to appear in the "Provisional Rally List" I need the dates of the rally before the end of November 2010. Any rallies that are arranged after this date will be previewed in the Rally Supplement as they are arranged. It is important that all potential rally dates and venues are checked with me first, before any arrangements are made, to avoid any clash of dates. Unless a rally is approved by the Club, there will be no Public Liability Insurance for that rally and it could not go ahead.

I look forward to hearing from any Club members who are willing to give it a go in 2011.

Neil Rogers. (Rally Co-ordinator).



Chairman's Chat

As we head though this holiday season, it is great to hear from members of their exploits, that special site they found and suggestions for future outings. If you have an idea for a rally venue but not the experience to organise it, pick up the phone, speak with the Rally Co-ordinator Neil asking if he knows of a member who would help. Bookings for next year are being written into the diary now, so do not hesitate, ring and check if your date is available. *Do not book the site without Neil's agreement first.*

I have just received the latest list of new members and would like to say a Big Welcome to you all. Mo and I will look forward to meeting you, somewhere, sometime in the not too distant future.

Many members will have heard that Brian Smith has decided to retire from the club, Brian and Sylvia joined the club in 1995, he joined the committee in 1999, was chairman of the AGM organizing committee, a member of the Technical group and from memory still is the press officer. No doubt many of you will have read his musing in the motorcaravanning press. He stood down in 2005 saying the committee 'needed new younger blood'. His swansong was the recent rally at St Ives, by all accounts an excellent one and well attended. On the club's behalf I would like to say a Big Thank You to both Brian and Sylvia for their work and wish them well in the future.

One of the worst kept secrets recently was that A~S were building and marketing a caravan, to be launched at the NEC show this October, has caused many comments and concerns for you. May I say to all that the Articles of Association, item 4 page 3 states "Membership of the Club shall be open to individuals who are current owners of Auto-Sleeper motorhomes"..... Discussion within the committee has already taken place and there is no intention of changing it to cater for caravans.

We attended the new rally at Emberton Country Park during July and would rate it to be a very good venue, in lovely park surroundings and within easy walking distance of Olney. I would recommend it to all should David run it again. My thanks go to Pat & David Mayne for a very successful week.

Mike Valentine

*'Goodbye- ee, Goodbye- ee, we wish you all good luck
Goodbye-ee'*

So said the old song.

But the time has come for us to say 'Goodbye'. After sixteen years of membership Anno Domini is catching up and bits and bobs - like hips and knees - don't work like they used to. By the time you read this 'Zeta' will have gone and we would have written that letter to the membership secretary to explain that we can no longer belong.

This little piece is to thank you all for those sixteen years. So many friends, some sadly no longer with us, and so much love, laughter, and sometimes sadness. So many rallies in delightful places, so many shared meals and drinks, so many memories. Who could forget those Club & Company Extravaganzas at Malvern or Nora's National Rally. Thanks to all the marshals who made those such happy days. We will have our photographs of course, and the diaries we have kept for all five Auto-Sleepers that we have owned, but it won't be the same as being with you.

I am proud to have been a founder member, with Maurice Payne, of the Technical Information Group which has gone from strength to strength under the stewardship of Baz, - long may it continue.

My time on the Committee with Chairmen Andrew Entwhistle, Ray Whiley, Harry Henthorne, and Andy Cavell, and of course our President Charles Trevelyan, was both fun and rewarding.

Hopefully we may be visiting rallies and knocking on doors to see if the kettle is on, in the meantime I have to polish my Zimmer Frame.

With best wishes to all,

Brian & Sylvia Smith

Rally News

Northern Motorcaravan Show

Thanks to Liz and Roger for organising an enjoyable rally at the Northern Motorcaravan Show. On arrival with our welcome pack we were given a raffle ticket for a surprise gift. Robin and I were the lucky owners of the winning ticket and on opening our gold wrapped box later in the day we were very pleased to find a multi-purpose food and drink thermos flask. This will be extremely useful for our winter bird watching trips on the wind-swept Solway Firth when a flask of hot soup is more than welcome.

We also learnt a valuable lesson on the rally – always carry your fridge covers with you. Due to the strength of the wind on the show field our gas fridge kept blowing out but when Dave and his faithful companion, Skip the dog, heard of our difficulty they let us borrow their covers and, hey presto, problem solved.

Our covers are now stored in the van for future use instead of in a cupboard at home!

Pauline and Robin Keeley

It was a great rally at the Lancashire Show Ground with Liz, Roger, Wyn and Dave coping well with the showery conditions. It was good to catch up with everyone again - even though there was no 'sitting out'. Our guess is that Warners will use that venue again - watch this space.

With so much space at their disposal I understand that Liz and Roger went through 3 divorces and 3 reconciliations trying to mark out the parking pitches!!

There were quite a few comments about the trade stands, which could have been arranged better, but

despite this a good weekend.

Della Chapman

Sheila & Dave Stewart came across the Bembridge Weather Stone on the Isle of Wight Rally in June. Unfortunately the photo doesn't reproduce well but basically the condition of the stone gives a forecast. For instance:

<i>Stone is wet</i>	<i>Raining</i>
<i>Stone is dry</i>	<i>Not raining</i>
<i>Shadow on ground</i>	<i>Sunny</i>
<i>Can't see stone</i>	<i>Foggy</i>
<i>Stone jumping</i>	<i>Earthquake</i>

Seems more reliable than other forecasts!!

And then there was Fort Paull where we had our photo taken with 'Beverley'.



Now I'll be honest, Hull or rather, Kingston-upon-Hull would not be my first thought for a rally, but thankfully the locals knew things that the rest of us were completely unaware of. It has an attractive marina, good shopping areas, The Deep - an award winning aquarium, and numerous museums - all of which are free; its rich in architectural gems and is the birth place of William Wilberforce. It's also the place the clipper ships sailed into after their 'Round the World' odyssey.

The rally itself was held at Fort Paull just along the estuary on the outskirts of the village of Paull. An ancient site, Henry VIII had the first one built although the

current pentagonal fort is much more recent, being built between 1861-4.

I suppose I can best sum up the rally by saying it was too short!! We just had time to explore the fort itself (run by very helpful volunteers and containing numerous exhibitions), a quick tour of the city and marina, a visit to the Wilberforce Museum and the Arctic Corsair, an deep sea trawler - the last of her kind, also manned by volunteers whose knowledge and enthusiasm (as you'd expect from ex trawlermen) makes for an extremely interesting visit.

We also fitted in a boules

competition run by John Fletcher (assisted by Dave) and a cheese and wine evening held within the Fort in the 'Berliner' railway carriage, organised and catered for by the marshals Jean & Dave Hollingsworth, assisted by Liz Irvin.

really wasn't it's just there is so much more to see and do. So on behalf of all of us I'd like to say a big thank you to Jean, Dave & Liz not only for organising the rally but for introducing quite a few of us to an area we knew little, if anything about.

It may sound exhausting, but it

Chris Mawdsley

The St Ives Rally was good, but sad

By kind permission of Avril & Leon - 40 motorhomes arrived at their farm for a return visit on Thursday July 29th. Julia, Sylvia & Brian and Shirley & Chris had everything ready for a 5 day rally. The field was just over the ancient bridge that leads to the small attractive town of St Ives. But would the rally live up to last year's rally?

Weather was good and remained so, with one small exception, for the whole of the rally. The normal rally envelopes contained a warm welcome along with details of events being held in the locale – including The Caledonian Pipe Band on Sunday and the local market on Monday. Also the envelopes contained details of the bus services to outlying towns and particularly to Cambridge. Along with details of a joint BBQ on Saturday and the walk arranged for Sunday morning. Also, similar, to last year there was a quiz. But one very new surprise was a 'round-the-farm' Treasure Hunt.

Avril must have spent some considerable time designing a hunt that took everyone around the farm following preset clues in 18 locations and also further observations to be answered on the way round. The tour took about 21/2 miles (more if you went wrong). One surprise, in case of fatigue or hot weather, was provision of the makings for tea and coffee in an old caboose that was formally the rear end of an American freight railway train - now set overlooking a lovely, peaceful pond. Without doubt the pleasure of strolling around the farm fields was, perhaps, one of the highlights of the rally and enjoyed by all.

One other surprise was not quite so welcome. Brian explained that Sylvia and he had decided that the time had come to hang up their motorhome keys and, unfortunately, take leave of the ASOC and so many friends.

And another surprise, this time for Sylvia and Brian - Julia, Shirley, and Chris had organised a small collection from each van, and from this contribution they quietly and efficiently arranged for a 'cheese & wine function' on the last evening – Monday 2nd. Andy, on behalf of the ralliers, and the Club in general, thanked Sylvia and Brian for all their support to the Club over the years and presented them with a signed card and a rose bush to remember their time with the Club. The rose was aptly named "Thank You".



Did the rally live up to the question in the first para? A resounding YES. Thanks to the efforts of Julia; Sylvia & Brian and Shirley & Chris and our hosts Avril & Leon. It's on again next year; so watch out for the rally supplement.

Baz Wellard



September 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.

2nd. Thursday – 6th. Monday September (4 nights) Faversham Hop Festival, Painters Farm, Painters Forstal, Ospringe, Faversham, Kent. ME13 0EG.

Emergency Tel.No.0781800673

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

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
NB note change of number.Emergency Tel.No. 07714550731 Marshal's mobile.

This rally is now fully booked.

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

Site Telephone: No. 01803 832558 . Web site- www.littlecotton.co.uk
Tel. No.023 8026 7294 or Mobile 07754 761423.

This rally is now fully booked.

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 pcb7y@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.

(ii.)

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). Return it, with the Rally Fee of £2.35 couples, £1.50 singles (both 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.

Emergency Tel. No. 07919 538622.

This rally is now fully booked.

1st - 3rd October (2 nights) Eden Camp, Nr. Malton, North Yorks.

Emergency Tel. No. 07775570182

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

Site Fees: £10.50 per unit per night. (Includes VAT & unlimited admission to museum & use of Hut 12 for weekend).

NO ELECTRICITY. All hardstandings on car park. Eisan disposal & water available.

Rally Fee; £2.30 (Incl. VAT).

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

Attractions: Eden Camp is a modern history theme museum set in a P.O.W. Camp. Malton is within walking distance of the camp. **Friday** evening get together. **Saturday** evening an American Supper in Hut 12. 1940s dress optional. Meals served in the N.A.A.F.I.

Directions: Junct. A64 York to Scarborough Road & A169 Malton to Pickering Road.

Rally opens at 1.00p.m.

Late arrivals will have to park outside gates which are locked between 20.30 hrs. & 08.00hrs. NO ADMISSIONS to RALLY BEFORE 1.00 p.m.

(iii.)

Follow on to:-

3rd – 7th. October (4 nights) Earswick,Nr.York.

Emergency Tel.No. 0777 5570182.

Rally marshals: Jan & Vic Hicklin & Eirwen & Ben Cox.

Site Fees:£4.00 per unit per night. NO Electricity. Rally Fee: £2.35 (Incl.VAT).

GREENFIELD Site with water & Elsan emptying.

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

Attractions: Site close to Ebor Way & on a bus route into York with buses to the East Coast (Whitby,Malton & Pickering).York's attractions include the Railway Museum & the Minster.

Directions:Turn North off the A1237 York outer ring road at Earswick towards Strensall.After about 1 mile turn **right** into Farm Lane.Site on **right** hand side. Address of site is The Lodge,302 Strensall Road,Earswick,York.YO32 9SW.

7th – 11th. October (4 nights) Conkers Camping &

Caravanning Club Site,50 Bath Lane,Moira,

Swadlingcote,Derbyshire.DE12 6BD.

Site Tel.No. 01283224925. Marshal's mobile 07810 455318.

Site fees:£ £58.00 for 4 nights on hardstanding with electricity & full facilities.

Rally Fee:£ 3.50 couples & £2.00 singles,this includes use of room with tea/coffee in the neighbouring Youth Hostel on Monday evening. All charges include VAT and are for 4 nights.

Rally slips & cheques to Mrs.& Mrs. E.W.Grimsley, 24 Paul Drive,Leicester.LE4 9FY. Tel.No. 0116 269 2220.Please send an SAE for confirmation & information.

Attractions:This rally is based around a Bavarian Evening on Saturday 9th.October at the nearby Conkers attraction (10 minutes walk by road).A hot meal is included in the price of £15.00 per person,payable in advance – so please include this with your booking.(See note about this event elsewhere in the Newsletter before you book).

Calke Abbey (N.T.),Bosworth Battlefield Heritage Centre,Snibston Discovery Park,Moira Furnace & historic Ashby-de-la-Zouch.The three year old site is in the heart of the National Forest with former mining railway lines accessible to walkers & cyclists from the site.

Directions:Use A444 between Burton-on-Trent and junct.11 Off M42/A42 and the site is signposted down a minor road in Overseal.

Limit of 25 vans. Please do not arrive before 12 noon on Thursday (site rules),rally ends 12 noon Monday.

**Friday 5th – Tuesday 9th. November (4 nights) Sedgemoor
Carnival,Burnham on Sea,Burnham on Sea Holiday
Village,Somerset.**

Emergency Tel.No. 07711375323 Marshal's mobile.

Rally Marshals: Sheila & Ivor Barnett & Linda & Brian Ellis.

Site & Rally fee £56 incl.VAT for 4 nights. Rally limited to 64 selected pitches this year. The first 46 are hard standing and the rest are grassed.All pitches have electricity plus access to very good toilets & shower facilities.Please indicate on rally slip if disabled or special needs and we will try to pitch you close to the facilities.The Burnham on Sea Holiday Village is a full facility site about 10 minutes walk from the town centre and shops along the promenade.The complex & entertainment will be available and it is a good area for walking & cycling.

Pitches allocated as slips are received. Sorry but "NO PETS" allowed,site rules. Send site & rally fee to Brian Ellis,52 Golf Links Road,Burnham on Sea, Somerset.TA8 2PP. Tel.No. 01278 784524.

Friday 5th. November - Rally starts at 10.00a.m.**Saturday** Coach trip.,**Sunday** evening, Fireworks display on beach.**Monday** evening, Approx. Two hour Carnival Procession through Burnham.**Tuesday** midday Rally ends.

Attractions: We hope to arrange – **Saturday** coach trip to Clarks Village of Street,if enough interested. Cost approx. £3.50 per person.First coach 9.30.a.m.,second coach 11.30 a.m..Pick return 2.30 p.m. & 4.30 p.m.Please indicate on slip if you are interested. **Do not** send monies with rally slip,other arrangements will apply.

Sunday morning scenic stroll (weather permitting) through the park and onto Highbridge Caravan Sales & Accessories for tea & biscuits.

Sunday afternoon maybe a cycle ride to the Cider farm.**Sunday** evening after the fireworks join in our dingbat quiz night.

Monday Coffee morning then stroll on the beach to the Berrow Pub.(food available).

Directions: Sat.Nav. TA8 1NQ and look for Holiday Village signs.Or M5 junct.22 exit to large island turn **left** on A38.Follow signs to Holiday Village.Head towards Highbridge,Bridgewater.Bear **right** at next island,pass Highbridge Caravans and over railway bridge to Asda Supermarket Island (store & large car park to your left).Turn **right** and follw signs to Holiday Village.At mini island by petrol station turn **left** Site is about quarter of a mile on the **left**.

Early booking advised as slips & payments will be required by October.

I must have the dates of rallies for 2011 before the end of November if they are to be included in the "Provisional Rally List". After this date new rallies will be previewed in the Rally Supplement.

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.

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

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..**

Want life on the edge?

Then the Ledbury Rugby Club Rally is the place to be. This years rally was attended by 25 vans, 1 air ambulance, 1 helicopter, 2 ambulances and a fire engine!!

Apparently there was a fire at the local hospital of all places; according to the local paper an aerosol spray ignited at Ledbury Community Hospital and a man sustained serious burns. So 2 (?) ambulances brought the injured man to the rugby field where an air ambulance had landed to transport him to a special burns unit - quite what the fire engine turned up for is less clear....

Then there was the incident on the No.45 bus to Ross where a passenger asked "*Who are all those noisy people who have just got on?*" Whereupon Cedric (who else would be creating such a disturbance??) replied that they were all in Auto-Sleepers rallying on the Rugby ground. "*Oh, that explains it*" was the reply "*I was in ASOC for over 10 years, please give my regards to anyone who knows or remembers me. My last rally was the final rally a Malvern. Happy, happy days.*" So if anyone remembers Jim King - he certainly remembers his time in ASOC.

Dramas and incidents aside it was a very good rally and it gave Peter and I the chance to visit Hereford Cathedral and view the Mappa Mundi.

Thank you Max and Joan Cook and Sheila and Ivor Barnett for organising the rally, I'm sure we're all looking forward to your next major production.

Chris Mawdsley

And there was a special birthday party at the Lichfield Rally

What a fabulous few days I had at Beacon Park, 50 vans helped me celebrate my big birthday...

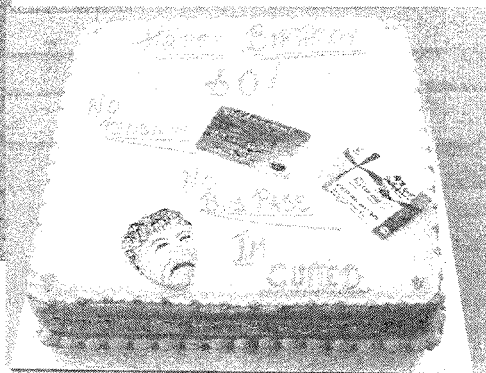
The weather was good the people fantastic and the whole experience was unforgettable. The cake made by Jan was brilliantly iced and

delicious. My Grandchildren's performance of My favourite Things brought a tear to my eye, and made me realise how lucky I am to have such a wonderful family and friends.



I must say a GREAT BIG THANK YOU to all who helped me over the weekend and for all the lovely cards and presents I received ...If any of you have any nice photos, I would be grateful if you will let me have a copy to send to the ASOC web site, thanks again from the bottom of my heart.

xxTrish



Once more we must sing the praises of the Lichfield Rally, only our 2nd one but seems like more. Trish Ted and all their friends and helpers are so friendly, I'm sure it makes everyone else the same.

The weather was perfect, kept seeing a few menacing clouds that soon passed by and had a lovely evening Friday with nibbles and bubbly for Trish's 60th - NIBBLES we had a plateful.

Then Saturday a tour round the Cathedral was organised well worth the money, two of us paid an extra £5-00 and went up the spire, wonderful views of Lichfield and beyond, Then in the evening the usual jacket potato with a good choice of fillings, which again were excellent.

Thanks to all.

Dave & Trish Robinson

My experience on buying an Auto Sleeper

Bernard Batchelor

The decision to exchange our Romahome for an Auto sleeper was not taken lightly but having made the decision we spent time looking for a layout which suited our needs.

By chance the model we liked was at Dolphin Motorhomes, Southampton, from whom we bought our Romahome. As part of the discussion about trade in values the staff member ran an Experian Used Auto Check on my Romahome. The check came back as Red Warning Alert as the vehicle was shown to be Stolen and ABI Condition (i/e written off). The report came as a great surprise to us all as the Romahome was parked outside and Dolphin Motorhomes sold it to us originally. Unfortunately this new information immediately curtailed any further sales discussion.

We left and the sales staff said they would look into the matter in more detail with Experian. Once at home we contacted a friend who was able to run a similar check through MMR Auto Check. The same result came back it was recorded as Insurance Theft on their Alert Register.

With this information I telephoned the police for their advice. They ran a police check on my Romahome and said there was no problem, as their computer data did not indicate that it was stolen or written off and so they could do no more then give me a police report number. While this police report was reassuring it did not resolve the main problem that I could not sell my Romahome with a vehicle check against it showing it was stolen. The sales staff at Dolphin Motorhomes did an excellent job to help us, and after a week's delay they came back to us to say that Experian had resolved the issue as they had been given incorrect number plate information from the insurance company. I have now been issued with a new vehicle check from Experian showing the Romahome to be clear. A cautionary note from this experience is that the police data and the vehicle check data is not compatible and how easy it is to unknowingly become a victim of poorly kept data information and records and therefore how reliable are these vehicle checks in the first place?

The satisfactory conclusion is that we now own an Auto Sleeper and we are very pleased with it and are enjoying the extended freedoms, which it has given us.

Grey Water Tank Smells

Further to the Editor's May advice and Robin Gardner's contribution in the August Newsletter on this subject, I offer another alternative that I find convenient and effective i.e., 1/2 a cup (total) of neat bleach poured down the drain tubes to the waste tank flushed through with about three/ four litres of clean water 5 minutes later (time allowing bleach to coat drains) This solution is left to slosh about as I drive on the next outing and gets drained when the tank is again emptied. I have no problems with smells from the tank.

Leaking Windows

We have a 2001 Talisman and noticed a small amount of water caught in the well of the large window frame whenever the rain beat hard on the near side. It never seemed to overflow and we did not detect any damp. However one day recently when 'fishing' through the trap on the offside behind the driver for the end of the lap seat belt, I felt the carpet was damp adjacent to the inside surface of the GRP body. I wondered at first if the gas/electric water heater or one of its components had sprung a leak?

I spoke to Auto Sleepers Service centre who suggested I check the window by undoing the 5 retaining screws of the upholstered panel and easing it back to feel under the frame area. I undid the panel just after a heavy shower passed over and discovered that indeed the window was the problem, I had a mop up job! Subsequently I had to ring out the towels I had then put in place as a temporary protection until A-S removed, cleaned, resealed and reinstalled both the large windows. They showed me the evidence of water ingress on both sides as they were doing the job.

It was explained that over the years the effect of the Sun on the exterior sealant breaks it down from the top eventually allowing water to track through between body and frame to the inside. You may think it worth while checking under your own windows in the light of my experience.

Richard McAllister

Technical Group & Website



Baz Wellard
Chairman, Technical Group & Webmaster

Valediction:

As you will be aware Sylvia & Brian Smith have hung up their motorhome keys and have, regrettably, left the Club. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Brian for his time on the Technical Group and particularly for selflessly giving up his time over the last 7 years at the National Rally answering members' queries at the Technical Desk. His humour, knowledge and advice have been very much appreciated and will be missed.

ASOC – A~S Liaison meetings: As you will also be aware Mike Valentine and I have been having informal meetings with Geoff Scott (CEO A~S) and a few recent 'nuggets' may be of interest?

- **A~S caravans.** Three models have been developed and have been presented to the Press. They will be on show (on a separate stand) at the NEC in October. As Mike will have mentioned caravan owners will not be eligible to join the Club as our 'Articles of Association' restrict membership to 'owners of A~S Motorhomes' only!
- **NEC:** Also at the NEC Geoff has arranged for space for a stand (being built by Mike) to hold ASOC application forms and Club details.
- **Monocoque:** It is an 'open secret' now that a new 'retro' monocoque has been designed and will be on display at the NEC. A Practical Motorhome short article names it as an Executive and, from the artist's impression, it looks remarkably similar. Contact me by e-mail if you'd like a copy.
- **A~S 50th Anniversary 2011:** At the request of A~S - a costed feasibility paper was presented to Geoff on ideas to recognise their 50th anniversary. These ideas will continue being discussed at our next meeting in mid September.

X250 Headlamps:

In the March 2010 Newsletter I advised that headlamp 'deflectors' are available for the X250 chassis Ref No. VAL 284 priced £10 + VAT from Peugeot.

I can further advise that headlamp 'protectors' are also available. The normal price is £69.85 but a mail order firm 'Fourdrive' are supplying them for £49.95 (inc. VAT) plus £5.50 p&p. (sorry, no extra Club discount!), Contact is fourdrive@hotmail.com or Steve Devere on 01406 540099.

Describe your requirement as – "for the Peugeot Boxer van 2006 onwards". I have brief fitting instructions if it would help. The protectors also show where to fit the 'continental deflectors'; and are, of course, a lot cheaper than replacement headlamps.

Motorhome valuation: Regularly the question arises for advice on the value of a motorhome being sold or bought. I regret that it is not possible for the Club to provide valuations as there are too many variables and should we get it wrong then we could be held accountable.

Approximate valuation can be obtained by researching comparable motorhomes being sold through such magazines as MMM, Practical Motorhome and Which Motorhome. Making allowances, accordingly, for warranty, after sales service, private sales, mileage, accessories etc.

Club library/archives: Two new books now available:-

- 1999 Legend Instruction Manual. Donated by Bob Wood (who unfortunately lost his Legend in a fire; but is still in the Club with another A-S model).
- 1985>on VW Vehicle Manual - 1.9 & 2.1 litre. Donated by David & Theresa Smith.

Any other literature is always welcome, please.

Ideas Sheets:

- No. 200 Reducing possible damage to roof aerials
- No. 201 Simplify erecting a drive-away awning

Website Updates:

- **10/10:-**
 - Cartmel rally report and photo gallery.
 - Ideas Sheets as above
 - Library additions as above
- **11/10:-**
 - St Ives & Lichfield rally reports and photographs
 - FAQs 22 & 23
 - Stop Press—Artists impression of the 50th Anniversary new monocoque
- **11a/10:** Fort Paull rally report and photo gallery.

Welcome to New Members



John & Jean Cornelius	Walton-on-Thames	Gloucester
Simon & Samantha Potts	Ringwood	Luxor
Cyril & Rita Wilkinson	Chorley	Lancashire
Ron & Kate Walmsley	Reading	Nuevo
Pat & Judith Ost	Newhaven	Symphony
Jon & Amanda Mills	Maesbury Marsh	Duetto
Richard & Doreen Maisey	Cerne Abbas	Sussex
Peter & Lorraine Lane	Saxmundham	Nuevo
Michael & Maureen Cowley	Bude	Mezan
Dennis & Lavinia Smith	Woodbridge	Broadway
Chris & Ann Payne	New Milton	Duetto
Keith & Patricia Voller	Sutton Scotney	Nuevo
David & Gloria Tubb	Kettering	Legend
Terry & Lorraine O'Sullivan	Lambourne	Duetto
Janet & David Lamb	Ellesmere Port	Symbol
Kevin & Pauline Gilligan	Gloucester	Sussex
Jim & Julia Stephens	Warrington	Broadway
John & Brigid Daniel	Truro	Dorset
Bruce & Diane Haines	Newbury	Duetto
John & Margaret Willimott	Norwich	Cotswold
Pat McCarthy	Llantwit Major	Topaz
John & Valerie Hook	Southampton	Topaz
James Ponting	Andover	Dorset
Ray Hall	Fareham	Inca
Rita Pike & Amanda Pike	Titchfield	Symbol
Michael & Eileen Standhaft	Poole	Executive
Roy & Eileen Barton	Norwich	Dorset
Graham & Anna Jones	Magdalen	Duetto
Ivor & Pauline Williams	Wakefield	Broadway
Rich Plamer	Henelsburgh	Trooper
Michael & Sandra Parkin	Alfreton	Devon
Reg & Helen Nott	Shirehampton	Executive
Burt & Margaret Hudson	Ipswich	Duetto

Jamie Cadle & Rebecca Haldearn	Brighton	Traffic
Noel & Ann Smith	Norton	Palermo
Janet Faherty	Aylesbury	Duetto
Louise Battye	Northampton	Gloucester
Howard & Gillian Thomas	Beaconsfield	Sussex
Tony & Paulette Hall	Peterborough	Sussex
Peter & Carol Hinde	Sheffield	Nuevo
Martin & Cheryl Duce	Plymouth	Clubman
Jeff & Jacky Barrett	Brentwood	Dorset
Andrew & Monica Longley	Cotheridge	Symbol
Tony & Trisha Finke	Yardley Hastings	Topaz
Alison McIntyre & Dilwar Singh	Redditch	Talisman
Clifton & Anne Kay	Camborne	Talisman

Fiamma Awning Spares

I read with interest the article supplied by Rita A. Jones regarding the purchasing of end caps for the above. I had to smile because I had only just replaced mine as they were showing signs of age and wouldn't clean up.

For others who may be interested, I found this web site: www.fiammastore.com

Frontier Leisure UK Ltd, Unit E, Glandwr Industrial Estate, Aberbeeg
Abertillery NP13 2LN Tel. 01495 321144

There are pages of every conceivable spare part anyone would ever want, with exploded diagrams as well.

Geoff Ward

I have just purchased a 1997 VW AS Trooper Tr diesel reg.no. P102SLG. I received the Auto-Sleeper manual but the service manual for the VW Transporter cannot be traced. I am at a loss without it. Does anyone have either a surplus copy of a photocopy of this Manual? I will meet all necessary costs.

Barry Newth 01204 451927

WANTED

Two infill cushions for a 1994 AS Executive and / or a single side set of Double glazed acrylic windows for sale. **Contact Malcolm Pitt 01256763456 or 07714 177196 malcolmn.pitt@btopenworld.com.**

Topaz T5 preferably automatic. **Contact Chris Brownsword 01892 531037 cbrownsword@supernet.com** (West Kent).



Thank you for your donations

Fiamma side wall Rain Blocker, with window, and rafter. Used once,

will not fit my new van. Dimensions: H 2.5m(rear) H 2.0m(front) W 2.1m. **£30.00 Contact John Geeson 01491 641776 or 07785 932348 john.geeson@talktalk.net**

Tailormade Screens with drop down front and sun insert. Fit Peugeot/Fiat from 2007. £50. **Clutch Claw** security device. Adjustable to fit most vehicles £50. **Fiamma** Leveling Ramps (4). £10. **Contact Roy Magna 01592 758475** (Fife, Scotland)

Autosleeper Nuevo 2 berth, 2.2 HDI, 2003 reg, 23,000 miles. Excellent condition, 30 months Warranty outstanding. Full service history inc new cam belt, No smokers, No pets, Heke Rooflight, Oven/hob/grill (with one electric hob plate), Electric/Gas heating plus blown air, Electric/gas hot

water, Electric/gas/12volt Fridge, Shower, Cassette swivel toilet, TV Ariel, MOT until Feb 2011, **£23,750 ono. Contact Ken Fuller 01435 862794** (East Sussex).

Inca (EK) 4 berth 2005 Peugeot 2.8 HDi 16,000 miles, taxed & MOT. Immaculate condition. Non-smokers, no pets. 3 way fridge, gas/electric oven, air blown heating & water heater. Large rooflight, light & airy interior. Included TV & DVD player, cab screen covers, Omnistore Safari Room 3m x 2.5m complete with curtains and breathable ground sheet, roofrack ladder, Milenco wheel clamp and Pro-tec vehicle cover. **£26,950 ono. Contact Peter Flanagan 01452 725344** (Gloucestershire)

Gatcombe 2002 2.5 diesel 1 owner 29,500 miles MOT & Tax. Interior terracotta. Alarmed + gas alarm. TV included. Non-smokers no pets. Very clean **£20,000 ovno Contact 01745 591853** (N. Wales)

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