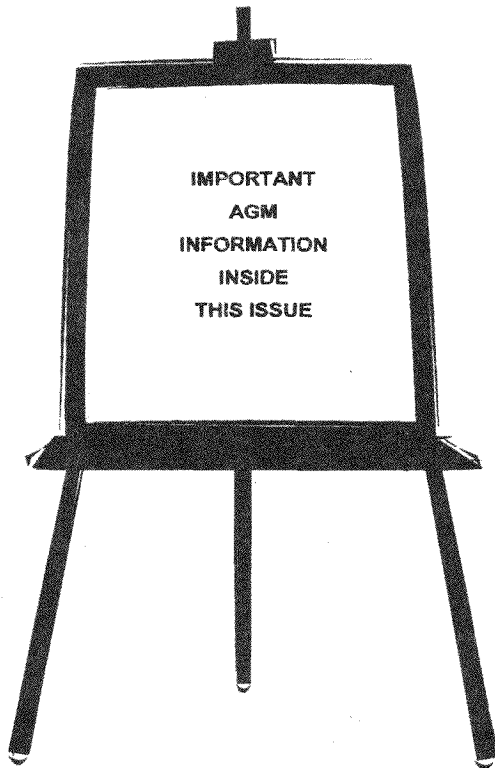




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AUTO-SLEEPER OWNERS' CLUB

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



NEWSLETTER 271

April 2011

From the Editor ^(S)

Quite a lot of you will know Audrey Crouch, who sadly, has had to resign from the Club. We have had a lovely letter from Audrey which she would have liked in last month's Newsletter. Unfortunately, it arrived just too late hence it's inclusion this month.

You will also find in this issue of the Newsletter an article from Geoff Scott. I'm sure a lot of you will find this article very interesting, especially since it is some time since we had anything *'From the Factory'*.

One of our members, Gerald Young has advised that, although over 70 and with a [now] restricted licence limited to categories B + E (BE) he can tow a trailer up to the maximum allowed by his vehicle Gross Train Weight (combination of the loaded weights of his van plus trailer). Gerald checked this with the DVLA at his milestone birthday and again this week.

I have consulted the Driver Licensing section of the Directgov web site and find that the information given there agrees with that told to Gerald. His van has a Gross Vehicle Weight of 3500kg and a GTW of 6000kg. That means that WITH HIS LICENCE he can tow a trailer/load combination up to 2500kg if his van is fully loaded.

Rules of the Road Change in France

I was reading a French Newspaper today and noticed an article regarding new rules for Drivers. It stated that New Rules on Road Etiquette were now in place in France and the main one:-

When driving through towns and cities, Drivers are now obliged to give way to pedestrians if they walk into the road or show a 'clear intention of doing so'.

The fine for not giving way is 130 euros on the spot!

May I suggest that fellow travellers really take notice, it could be an expensive mistake!

Mike Valentine

The National Rally

It is unfortunate that this year we have to make changes to the programme. When it was announced that due to the Royal Wedding Friday 29th April is to be a holiday most people working wished to make it a long weekend and who can blame them.

This means that this year there will not be the usual A/S session and the new A/S Models will be on display at Brownhills with at least one A/S Salesman to show you around and answer any questions. Baz and his team will be in the Stuart Goodwin Hall and they will also answer your queries or get answers from A/S and contact you later. However, Geoff Scott, CEO of Auto Sleeper, will attend on Saturday night.

Hopefully things will be back to normal in 2012.....

The Bus to Brownhills will operate from 10.a.m. to 5p.m. on Friday 1p.m.to 5p.m.on Saturday and 10 a.m. to 5p.m. on Sunday so you will have every opportunity to get to get your free cream tea.

This is my last year for organising the National Rally, and *apart from the problems which have occurred this year*, I have enjoyed being part of the Committee and doing this job. I would like to thank the Sub Committee members for their input and hard work and the main Committee for their support. I sincerely hope whoever takes over from me will receive the same support and enjoyment.

I am also very grateful for the letters and cards of thanks I have received over the last 12 years, it has made doing the job worthwhile.

Nora Venables

STOP PRESS:

Glamour Shield are going to issue raffle tickets (to be included in your envelope) with the prize of a 'Free Make Over' to be carried out on the Saturday of the rally. The draw will take place on Friday evening after the cake auction. So, if you fancy having your van spruced up, make sure you get along to the National Rally. It is of course, **in addition to** our usual raffle.

CAKE COMPETITION

TOSS IN FRUIT CAKE

225g (8 oz) S.R. Flour
125g (4 oz) Margarine
125g (4 oz) Castor Sugar
2 Eggs
350g (12 oz) Sultanas
50g (2 oz) Chopped Glacé Cherries
1 tsp Almond Essence
Pinch of Salt
4 tbs Milk

METHOD

Toss all the ingredients together in a bowl
Mix well until smooth and very soft
Pour into a lined 7" round tin
Sprinkle granulated sugar on top
Bake in a moderate oven for approx. 1 to 1¼ hours at 160° or gas
mark 3.

Place the cake on a cardboard plate and cover with cling film.

**Please bring the cake to the Stuart Goodwin Hall on Friday
after 2pm.**

1st Prize	£30
2nd Prize	£20
3rd Prize	£10

All cakes will be auctioned off for the chosen charity.

Jigsaws

There will be a table set out in to Stuart Goodwin for selling jigsaws. Please bring any jigsaws that you would like to be included to me at the Stuart Goodwin Pavilion.

Stuart Wood

Charity 2011

Firstly, I would like to thank everyone who sent in nominations to be chosen as our Charity of the year at the National Rally this year; I must say we had a fantastic response. If you were not successful, please remember you can still nominate your charity next year.

Out of all the nominations received, the one chosen was sent in separately, by both Chris Sturgeon and Julia Briars-Filby and is 'Parkinson's UK' and is the biggest Parkinson's support and research charity. If you require any more information about the charity you can contact them on 0808 800 0303 or visit their website at parkinsons.org.uk. Once again thank you all for your nominations.

Secondly, and better late than never, we have received a letter of thanks from the Max Appeal Treasurer. Below is an extract from it:

"I just wanted to formally write to thank your organization for its generous donation of £1,795.83. Many thanks to your members.

Keith Markham, Treasurer"

John Jones

For those interested, the process by which the committee make their choice of charity is - John collates all the nominations and supporting documents received and then deletes all traces of the nominator, numbering them instead. The packs of anonymous documentation are sent to the committee members for their consideration. During a committee meeting each committee member votes for one charity and the charity with the most votes is selected. It is only after that process is complete that the rest of the committee are advised by John who it was that made the successful nomination.



Chairman's Chat

Well, the arrangements as far as can be done 'before the day' are in place for the National Rally. If you are proposing to attend may I encourage you to **send your application in urgently**. The charity chosen this year by your committee from all of the applications sent in by members is the Parkinson's Disease Society. There will be a display at the National Rally giving everyone a chance to learn more about this debilitating disease and I was amazed to learn that every hour, someone in the UK is told that they have Parkinson's. The committee has also decided to start this year's collection off with a donation of £500 taken from the monies raised by the raffles run at many of our rallies. Since 1992, ASOC has given (from charity fund raising activities) to the various nominated charities over £50,000, a list is available should anyone like to see it.

At the recent NEC show the latest vans from the A~S stable were to be seen, three Mercs. and a Peugeot Panel van called Kemerton. I thought they were most impressive when compared with some other makes on show. These latest Mercedes based vans will be available from dealers other than Marquis. All of the 50th Anniversary Executives have now been sold to the dealers and a decision made by the middle of March as to whether further examples will be built, so if you fancy one of the new Executive's do not delay with your decision and then miss out.

You will, no doubt, have read in the caravan press about Dometic's new 3 year offer to owners of vehicles registered since the 1st Jan 2011, where the engineer will, by prior arrangement come and check your that fridge is working properly, under warranty. I am hoping to arrange for the engineer to service other Dometic fridges whilst he is on site at the National Rally but numbers and cost need to be finalized. **Would you please let me know as soon as possible on both counts, because I need to make the necessary arrangements for the time of service and method of payment before the rally? It will not be possible to arrange this when we are on the rally site.**

Finally, I am sure that you would like to join with me to **Thank** both Nora Venables (National Rally organizer) and John Tidbury (Treasurer) for all of their hard work and support to the club over many years and wish them a long and happy retirement.

Mike Valentine

Committee Reports 2010–2011

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Coming to the end of my second year as your Chairman, I must say again a Big Thank You to all the committee for their support and hard work; as usual they have all been most generous with their time, keeping this great Club of ours 'on track' and functioning well.

This AGM will see Nora Venables (National Rally Organiser) and John Tidbury (treasurer for the last 20 years) stepping down from the committee; their contribution will be greatly missed. Peter Brown has offered to become the new Treasurer and Al Buckett is taking on the job of organising the National Rally in the future.

Baz Wellard and I have continued with our meetings with Geoff Scott, the CEO of Auto-Sleepers, dealing with questions relating to new vehicles, laws affecting our vehicles, snags and queries raised by members and whilst we could not deal specifically with a member's problem, we did get some sort of answer which was fed back. We also continue to meet with Design and Development team, hearing about the latest ideas, give our reactions and we are pleased to see some of our ideas and comments coming to fruition.

During this last year we have had to say good-bye to several long standing Club members, some having retired from motorhoming, while others have changed to other makes and it is always sad to hear of these decisions or situations.

We have welcomed a substantial number of new members, some joining via the Marquis scheme and others joining through encouragement of existing members. It is disappointing however that this year a number of these new members did not rejoin but our numbers are slowly increasing.

It was good to see many of last year's rallies were full and read the reports thus repaying the Marshals for their efforts. The early rallies of this year are also reported as being full, which means the Club is obviously in good heart and the members determined to get out and about. Let us hope that the diesel does not rise too much so that we can continue to enjoy our hobby.

Mike Valentine
Chairman

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The committee held four meetings during the course of the year, compared with three in 2009. Our venues were Moreton in Marsh twice, Warwick and the National Rally. We use Moreton and Warwick due to the proximity to a Caravan Club site to the towns and being able to hire a meeting room at a reasonable cost, also these venues are central for the committee members who come from both ends of the country.

I would also like to pay my tribute to Nora Venables and John Tidbury for the work they have done over the years on the committee, their help has made mine and others on the committee so much easier.

At this time of the year our thoughts also turn to those members who have passed away during the course of the year and again I know the thoughts of all went out to their families.

John Osland-Jones
Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT

2010 was a good year for the Club as it made a surplus of £6054.47. The reasons for such a large surplus are outlined below.

Those of you who were at last year's AGM may remember that I confessed to making a typing error which led to paying £2000 too much VAT in 2009. This error was corrected in 2010 by reclaiming the money. This means that instead of paying £736.92 in Tax, the Government paid us £1263.08 which is shown as a minus figure under Expenditure in the Accounts.

New for 2010 was a scheme from Marquis giving buyers of Auto-Sleepers free membership of ASOC - contributing an extra £3400 income for subscriptions. Hopefully many of these will renew their membership when the time comes.

In 2011 there will be two changes - a new Treasurer as I am retiring after 20 years and for the first time a budget has been set. It will be interesting to see how this works out.

John Tidbury
Treasurer

AGM SUB COMMITTEE REPORT

Due to Friday 29th April being made a Bank Holiday because of the Royal Wedding, plans for the National Rally have been altered. We have made every effort to put together an enjoyable weekend. As always all of the money raised will go to the Charity together with a £500 donation from the Club.

I am retiring from the committee this year and would like to thank members for the cards and letters I have received over the twelve years I have been organising the Rally. Also thanks to my Sub Committee for all of their input, and to the Main Committee for their support.

I sincerely hope that whoever takes over from me will get the same support.

Nora Venables
AGM Sub Committee Chairman

NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S REPORT

Chris and I are again pleased to report on Newsletter matters to the Club at the AGM.

This is our penultimate AGM report on the Newsletter as Chris and I are retiring as Editors. The last issue we will edit will be May 2012. Hopefully a replacement Editor will then be in place and ready to produce the June 2012 and subsequent issues. Will anyone who is interested in taking over or wants to know more about what's involved please contact me.

Once again we are very grateful for the support from the Deputy Editor Dudley

Woodhams, who took full responsibility for the production of the July and August issues and is planning to do so again in 2011.

Many of those who placed advertisements in the Newsletter choose to make a donation to the Club funds. During the calendar year of 2010 those donations totalled £220.

Thanks to Rita Daley for coming out of retirement and producing more 'ASOC Little Men' sketches that we are using from time to time on the front cover.

Thanks to all who have contributed to the Newsletter and please keep those contributions coming - it's the Club members who write the Newsletter, we just assemble it.

Peter Brown & Chris Mawdsley
Newsletter Editors

REGALIA OFFICER'S REPORT

Well that's another year that has flown by, and does not seem that long since I was writing this report.

Sales for 2010 have been quite good, once again I have managed to have a Price List/Order Form put inside the Newsletter for the February, usually it is in the January issue, but never the less I have still had a good response for orders, (Feb).

Also remember I always have Regalia with me at Rallies I attend. As of this moment I have no new items to report.

Well that seems to be all for new except to say a big thank you to all Members old and new for your support, and of course family and friends, and remember if you need any information, or Price List/Order Form, please get in touch with me.

Well that all for now, except to wish you all a good and safe "Motorhoming" year and see you at the National Rally.

John Jones
Regalia Officer

RALLY CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT

2010 was a very successful year for rallies. Most of those arranged were well attended and the weather was kind to us, on the whole. There were six new rally locations as well as many of the usual sites. The show rallies were well attended with the new location of the Northern Motorcaravan Show in Cheshire, being popular.

The National & AGM Rally was as usual, very successful due to the hard work put in by the Sub Committee ably led by Nora Venables.

There was one continental rally in Turcheim, France and one on the Isle of Wight, both of these being very popular.

There appears to have been an increase in the members applying for rallies so it is even

more important to apply for any chosen rallies as soon as they are advertised in the Rally Supplement.

Once more I am appealing to members for more rally locations. Members of the Committee and myself are available for advice and assistance, if required. I have a "Guide to New or Possible Marshals" and is available upon request from myself.

Once more I must remind members that if you are attending a rally on a non commercial site then it is important that you adhere to the starting and finishing times. Our Exemption Certificate, which is used on such sites, is at risk if we do not follow the guidelines laid down by Natural England. On commercial sites it is important to follow the start times laid down, as early arrivals can cause embarrassment to both the marshal and the rallier. Unless stated in the rally info. all rallies start at 12 noon.

As usual my thanks go to all the volunteer marshals who give freely of their time and energy to organise rallies in 2010. Thanks also to those of you who attended rallies; if you have not tried a rally why not give it a go?

Finally a reminder to all members to carry their ASOC membership cards at all rallies.

Neil Rogers
Rally Co-Ordinator

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT

At the beginning of 2010, the Auto-sleeper Group introduced an incentive of up to 12 months complementary ASOC membership for purchasers of a new or used Auto-Sleeper through Marquis dealerships. Existing members receive a voucher to cover the following year.

During the first year 599 Auto-Sleepers were purchased and 360 owners accepted the offer of ASOC membership, of which 18 were already members.

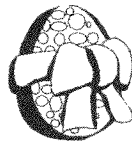
Of the 163 who joined by the 1st September 2010. 10 have since resigned, 32 renewed for 2011 and the remainder have not communicated, therefore are no longer considered members.

As at 1st February 2011 the Club has a total membership of 960, compared to 886 in 2010 (and 884 in 2009) which would suggest that Marquis incentive has been instrumental in the increase.

The 2012 Renewal Form will be Pink and inserted inside the November Newsletter (circulated at the end of October) I would appreciate the completed renewal form and your cheque by the due date of 1st January.

It should be noted that only members who have sent the completed renewal form and subscriptions will be certain of receiving the February Newsletter, as the labels for that edition will be dispatched to the printers during the first week of January.

I apologise for sounding very dictatorial but incorrectly completed forms, renewal subscriptions sent with application forms, cheque's sent without any forms and having to send out replacement form and membership cards is extremely time consuming and causes additional



April 2011 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. The only exception is the National & AGM Rally.

Please inform the Rally Marshal beforehand if you wish to bring a car, trailer or tent to a rally.

NEW RALLY 2ND – 6TH August (4 Nights) Redgate Junior School,
Hunstanton, Norfolk, PE36 5DY

NEW RALLY 12TH – 19TH September, Holiday Resort Unity, Brean
Sands, Somerset. TA8 2RB

Monday, 27th June to Monday 4th July 2011. (7 nights) Camping Rudesheim
am Rhein, Rudesheim, Germany.

Rally Marshals: Liz Irvin and Jeanne Hall: assisted by Peter Brown and Chris Mawdsley.
Emergency Tel. No. 00 44 (0) 7711271568.

Rally fee £17.50 inc VAT (non refundable if successful) to be sent with rally slip and SAE or email address for reply, to Mrs. E Irvin, 43 School Lane, Kirk Ella, Hull, East Yorkshire, HU10 7NP.

Cheques payable to E. Irvin. Tel. No. 01482 658345. E-mail irvin@irvin.karoo.co.uk

Site Fees payable direct by members to site owner, expected to be similar in 2011. Fees in 2010 were € 27.30 per night for 2 adults, € 22.00 for 1 person, inclusive of electricity 10 amps.

Dogs €3.00 per night.

Showers € 1.00 for 5 minutes. English credit cards are not accepted. The site is a short walk along the riverside to Rudesheim.

For local attractions please see the November newsletter.

The Campsite website is: <http://www.campingplatz-ruedesheim.de/index-en.htm>

I plan to organise an evening Rhine in Flames cruise on Saturday 2nd July, including a 2 course dinner (traditional German main course with meat, supplements and dessert) €50.50 per person in 2009. I will need to know numbers for the cruise on the rally slip.

You will be expected to make your own arrangements for ferries and insurance.

Limit of 25 vans Please do not arrive before 12 noon.

7th –April 10th 2011- (3nights) Marston's Rally. Albion Hotel, Burton on Trent, Staffs.

Site behind the Albion Hotel, Shobnall Road. Burton on Trent.

Emergency Tel. no. 07713186508 Marshal's mobile.

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

Marshals Tel.no. 01283538818 or please ring Jan on 01246236157 if I am not available.

Site Fee: £5.00 per night, all hardstanding, Rally Fee: £2.40. All inc VAT.No Electricity.

Booking slip & cheques payable to P.M.Pratt, 3 Grafton Rd, Stapenhill, Burton on Trent. Staffs.

DE15 9DN. Tel 01283538818.

Please send SAE for acceptance and further directions.

A VISIT ROUND THE BREWERY ON THE FRIDAY MORNING will be arranged.

Cost £6.50p each, please send cheque with site fees if you would like to participate in this trip.

A MEAL FRI. EVENING and MEAL SAT. EVENING will be available.

(WEEKEND OFF COOKING DUTIES LADIES).

Directions: The Albion Hotel is situated on the B5017 the Burton to

Uttoxeter road and is on the bus route into Burton on Trent.

Dogs are allowed.

Rally starts at 12 noon Thursday. NOT BEFORE PLEASE.

14th - 17th April National Motorhome Show,East of England Showground,Peterborough,PE2 6XE.

Emergency Tel.No. 07922049714

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

Please use the booking form enclosed in the February 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:£41,arrive Friday £38, arrive Saturday £35.

All bookings for the Saturday evening entertainment must be made with Warners when returning the booking form to the organisers, by Friday 25th March 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 £2.50 couples,£1.70 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.

28th April – 2nd May National Rally & AGM. Nottingham Showground,Newark.

Application forms in January 2011 Newsletter.
Completed forms & cheques for camping & meals to be returned by 2nd April 2011.

4th - 9th May (5 nights) Little Cotton C.P. Dartmouth.

Site Tel.No 01803832558, Fax 01803834887. Website www.littlecotton.co.uk

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

Site Fees: £12.50 per night incl. electricity. Rally Fee: £3.00 includes VAT.

Minimum booking 3 nights.

Rally slips with cheque payable to R.J. McAllister, Milesway, Steart Drive, Burnham on Sea, TA8 1BZ.

Please include a S.A.E. for confirmation. Tel. No. 01278 781976 or 07840076771 (Mobile).

Attractions: This is a 7.5 acre immaculate site with full and disabled facilities.

Dogs are welcome but they **MUST** use the site dog walk and be **KEPT ON A LEAD** while on site.

There is a well stocked site shop; papers must be ordered the day before. Close by are Sainsbury's &

Lidl. There are regular bus services into Dartmouth and beyond to Kingsbridge, Plymouth, Totnes &

Torquay. Cross on the ferry to Kingswear for a steam train to Paignton or a bus to Brixham.

There are boat trips from Dartmouth. Ferries run to Greenway Quay, Greenway House & Gardens

(NT). There are other NT properties in the area. Bring your bus passes

This is the 14th year of the Dart Music Festival held from Friday 6th to Sunday 8th May.

If you wish to be on the site before or after the rally contact the site owners. Please do not arrive before NOON on Wednesday.

NB This rally follows on directly after the Dartmouth Music Festival Rally and will start at 2.00p.m. to allow the marshalls to get to Minehead and set up.

If sending applications for both rallies they can be sent in one envelope.

9th - 13th May (4 nights) Butlins, Minehead, Somerset.

Emergency Tel.No. 07840076771.

Rally Marshals: Jill & Richard McAllister & Rita & John Tubb.

Site & Rally fees £60 (4 nights) including electricity. This is a 16.5% discount on normal site fees it includes a £20 non-refundable deposit for each pitch.

Send Rally slips & cheques payable to Mrs. J.M. McAllister, Milesway, Steart Drive, Burnham on Sea, TA8 1BZ. Tel. No. 01278 781976.

Please send an **S.A.E** for confirmation & directions.

Attractions: Butlins is a quiet commercial touring site with full facilities, showers, toilets plus access to all the usual Butlins on site facilities. There might be a "meal deal" i.e. 4 dinners & breakfasts at a bargain price, details on arrival.

Pets are welcome. Bicycles are useful for getting to the main gate and to the centre of town for shops & cafes. There is a cycle track to Dunster. The Tourist Info, the station of the West Somerset Railway, trains to Bishop Lydiard & Tesco are within walking distance of the gate. Minehead & Butlins are on level ground but you must allow 15/20 minutes to walk to the main gate and the same 15/20 minutes into Minehead.

Minehead is on the edge of Exmoor and within an hours bus ride up Porlock and down Countisbury Hills to Lynton & Lynmouth where there is a 19th.C. water powered cliff railway. The bus for Lynmouth leaves from the railway station - 10 minutes walk from the main gate. Some buses for Taunton come through the main gate into Butlins to pick up & drop off.

10th-13th May (3 nights) Cartmel Park Race Course, Cartmel, Cumbria
LA11 6QF

Emergency Tel.No 07710 200547 . mobile.

Rally Marshals: James & Jill Bertlin.

Rally Fee: £3.00 Site Fee: £28.75 Electric Hookup: £11.25 (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. On Thursday evening a two course meal can be provided in the Grandstand Restaurant at £15.00 per person. Please indicate on Rally Slip if you wish to partake, but do not send money with slip.

Attractions: Cartmel Village is only a five minute walk from the Racecourse where you will find the 12th Century Priory, the Cartmel Village Shop - home of Sticky Toffee Pudding, four traditional Lakeland Inns, quaint tea rooms, a bistro, the famous L'Enclume Restaurant and a multitude of individual shops to explore.

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, do not go left to the Car Park, but take the right hand road at the village shop (sharp bend) and continue along to entrance of Racecourse on left.

Limit of 25 vans.

19th - 23rd May (4 nights). Bentley Wild Fowl & Motor Museum.

Nr. Halland, E Sussex

THIS RALLY IS NOW FULL

23rd -27th May (4 nights) Hurley Riverside Park, Hurley, Maidenhead,
Berkshire SL6 5NE

Emergency Tel:- No.07754 761423 Marshal's Mobile.

Site Tel:-01628 824493 Website:- hurleyriversidepark.co.uk

Rally Marshals: Rita & John Tubb and Jean & John Gutsell.

Site Fees £50.00 including electric for four nights. Rally Fee £3.00 all include VAT.

Please send a SAE for full directions and confirmation, with rally slip and cheque for **£53.00** payable to Rita Tubb, 70 Charnwood Crescent, Chandlers Ford, Eastleigh, Hampshire SO53 5QL Telephone 023 8026 7294.

If you are bringing a car or towing a trailer please state on rally slip.

The rally is on a commercial site with full facilities, all pitches have electric and there is a laundrette, hot showers, toilets, CDP and a shop with provisions and papers available.

The site is ideal for visiting Henley on Thames, Marlow, Maidenhead and Windsor. It is situated beside the River Thames with fishing available. There are two pubs serving food near to the site. Hurley village is about ½ mile from the site with pubs, shop and post office. There are several N.T. properties nearby you can visit. There is a bus stop right by the site entrance.

You can walk or cycle the Thames Way path towards Marlow or Henley from the site.

The site is situated on the A4130 between Henley on Thames and Maidenhead.

Limit of 25 vans PLEASE DO NOT ARRIVE BEFORE 12.00 NOON.

If you wish to stay additional nights either before or after the rally please book these by phoning the site on 01628 824493.

27th -31st May (4 nights) Ledbury Rugby Football Club, Herefordshire.

Emergency Tel.No. 07791582881(Max) or 07989153109 (Joan).

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

Site fees: £10 per night. Rally Fees: £2.40 (Incl.VAT). **No Electricity.**

Drinking water,waste facilities, toilet & showers.Bar open each night.

Bus stop outside gate for Ledbury,Ross & Hereford.

Booking slip and cheque payable to J.E. Cooke,The Magnolias,Canon Pyon Road,Hereford.HR1 7RB.

Please include a S.A.E for confirmation and directions.

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

Limit 25 vans

5th - 12th June (7nights) Old Barn T.P. Nr.Sandown,Isle of Wight. PO36 9PJ.

Emergency Tel.No. 07730212750 -07866621291.

Rally marshals: Ken Bolton & Mac.McArthur. (Tel.No. 01983875918).

Rally fees (including ferry fares) £148 per unit for 7 nights including electricity.(Incl VAT).

The ferry will be Red Funnel Southampton to East Cowes.Basic ferry charge is for a van 5.5 metres long & 2.25metres high.

Anything higher & longer will be charged extra.Ferries leave Southampton every hour on the hour so when booking put time of departure on rally slip.

Contact the rally marshal before booking for details of package.

Then send an S.A.E. with rally fee made out to K.Bolton, 2 Cherryside, Lake,Sandown,Isle of Wight.PO36 9LU.Tel.No. 01983 402059.

Attractions:Most of the Isle of Wight is an area of outstanding natural beauty with many attractions.The site is situated on the main Newport Road between Sandown and Newport.

A Morrisons store is ¼ mile away & opposite the site is a very nice café.

There are bus stops nearby and it is quite easy to get all over the island by bus,passes accepted.

There are lots of walks nearby and you are in sight of the Isle of Wight airport,a small private airport with a grass runway.Pleasure flights are available or you can learn to fly.

Rally starts 12 noon 5th June,ends 12 noon. 12th June.

2ND -6TH August (4 Nights) Redgate Junior School, Hunstanton, Norfolk, PE36 5DY

Emergency Tel No 07879 643988 or 07796 445176 - Marshals' mobiles.

Rally Marshals: Mike & Heather Tucker.

Site Fees £8.50 per night inclusive of VAT. Rally Fee £4 couple, £2.75 single inclusive of VAT.

Please send booking slips and cheques payable to M. Tucker, 43 Outwell Road, EMNETH, Norfolk, PE14 0DU. Telephone No 01945 581618.Please enclose a **S.A.E.**

All hardstanding.Greenfield site with limited access to toilet facilities including disabled, patio area with seating and use of hall in inclement weather. Cheese & Wine evening and 'Bring your own Supper' is planned.

Dogs welcome but must be kept on leads and exercised off site.

Attractions. Hunstanton is an attractive seaside town - the only west facing seaside on the East coast - with plenty of restaurants, cafes and pubs, also Sainsbury's and Tesco stores within walking distance. There is a range of smaller shops covering most needs.

There is also a Sea Life Centre, a Theatre, a Swimming Pool and a permanent Fairground! There are numerous walking and cycling opportunities. Good high street shopping is close by at King's Lynn with regular bus service. The Coasthopper bus service with a stop within walking distance has a regular service to the North Norfolk coast, taking in Brancaster, Wells-next-the-Sea, Blakeney, Sheringham and Cromer. This coastline has some of the best bird watching in the British Isles.

Maximum of 18 vans.

Rallies are advertised in this supplement giving approx. 2 clear months notice to members. Exceptions are made in certain circumstances if requested by the marshals.

Please inform the marshal if you find that you are unable to attend a rally as there may be a waiting list.

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.

expense to the Club.

That said, may I thank all the members who 'do it right' and wish every member a very happy, safe year travelling.

Jill Berlin
Membership Secretary

CHAIRMAN TECHNICAL GROUP & WEBMASTER'S REPORT

TECHNICAL:- You will have read how much has gone on during a busy year, in the Newsletter monthly articles, so I will simply summarise.

Ideas Sheets remain popular with a total 9,297 having now been issued with 1,317 in the last year alone. Almost all are now sent over the internet, with the advantage to members that they can be filed for ease of use and retrieved, and no printing/postal costs. Latest number is 208, with 15 new Ideas Sheets in the last year. More ideas are always welcome.

The list of 'hints and tips' now covers 9 pages and is updated monthly.

Reviews of most Auto-Sleeper models are available to be sent over the internet or by post. They have proved extremely useful to prospective members as well as existing members.

Along with the Chairman, I continue to attend informal meetings with the CEO, Production, Design and development Department and Marketing, keeping in touch with developments.

We now have 13 companies offering incentives to members.

CLUB LIBRARY:- The Club library is now becoming quite extensive. It is well accessed by members and is often referred to in Motorhome forums as a source of information - thus encouraging others to join.

WEBSITE:- There have been 15 updates in the past year, and we've had a total of over 120,500 hits. Many of the applications for new membership are received through the website. If you wish to be advised, over the internet, when the website is updated please let me know. Please remember to have a good virus protection and keep it up-to-date.

NATIONAL RALLY:- We will be hosting a 'Technical Table' again this year, where you are welcome to come along and we will try to answer your queries - or perhaps just come along for a natter and review some of the Club's library material.

Last year's 'Question & Answer' session was well attended and appeared as popular as ever. However, as you are aware from the Newsletter, there will not be a formal Q & A session this year - but questions can be raised at the Technical Desk referred above.

AND FINALLY:- Would you please include your membership number on all correspondence?

Baz Wellard
Chairman Technical Group & Webmaster

Rally News

FIRST RALLY EVER

Paula and I just wanted to express our thanks for the very warm welcome we received from everyone at the Whitemead Rally on the 14-18th February. It was our very first Rally of any type and we thoroughly enjoyed ourselves.

We had a delightful walk on the first day, cycled ourselves around the Lydney area on the second and on the third, a very amusing cycle ride in the Forest with a dozen or so intrepid folk!

A special thanks to Stuart and Yvonne and indeed everyone we managed to get to know for their friendship and all the fun we had; we shall be back!

Mike & Paula Cairns Smith – Mezan + Bikes

Rally in the Forest of Dean

This was our second time at this rally. On the first evening we had a very interesting talk about life in the Forest when it was a busy mining area - mainly coal and some iron ore. On Tuesday we walked through the forest to the Visitor Centre for some light/hot refreshment. It was very evident what damage is caused by the wild boar at the sides of the roads and paths - the worst ever this year. We returned along the same route before the promised rain began - last year we all got very wet!! The day was rounded off with a curry or jacket potato meal and a humorous TV quiz.

On Wednesday a trip on the Dean Forest Railway was arranged again, with a stop on the return at the shop and museum. There were some very new and modern toilets since last year. We also spotted a large yellow piece of equipment for 'Line Grinding', hired at a cost of £35,000. Thursday there was a bike ride, but some of took the bus to Lydney. Bill

and I walked the mile or so to the harbour on the side of the river Severn, where the tide was out and it was so murky we couldn't see the nearest Severn Bridge.

Although the weather for most of the week was dull, dismal, dreary and rather damp the atmosphere completely changed and cheered up no end on our last evening. We all met indoors again to get the answers to several quizzes we had been give and, of course, the usual raffle with many good prizes. The evening descended into total hilarity when one, Michael, decided to make a paper aeroplane with his quiz sheet. Soon everyone was designing and making their own models, and inevitably the last completion of the rally was to see how far we would all throw our aeroplanes. It became like a class full of unruly children!!

Finally, many thanks to Stuart and Yvonne, and Alan and Celia for an excellent rally in the middle of winter - it was a very good reason to go out with the camper in February.

Elizabeth Grimsley

Before Burton-on-Trent

Bill & I have decided to spend three nights at the Camping and Caravanning Club Site at Conkers (April 4—7th) mainly to check on certain aspects for our rally in October. The thought struck me that anyone who is going to the rally at Burton-on-Trent (April 7—10th) may like to join us at Conkers, as the two venues are not far apart.

I must stress this would not be a rally, but just a gathering of friends. The site has excellent facilities and there is a Youth Hostel next door with a bar and coffee lounge open to anyone. There is also the Conkers attraction with a restaurant and gift shop. There are many walking and cycling opportunities along old railway tracks and through the National Forest.

So we look forward to seeing anyone there.

Elizabeth Grimsley

HH Ferries between Denmark and Sweden

Following our enjoyable holiday in Denmark in 2009 we have decided to go to Norway this year in June.

There is no direct ferry to Norway so we are going from Harwich to Esbjerg, Denmark and then drive to Helsingor, take the ferry to Helsingborg, Sweden and then drive up the coast to Oslo and then explore the southern half of Norway.

Have any members tried this route? if so any advice would be very welcome. Thanks very much

Derek & Maureen Moras
e-mail; derekmoras@talktalk.net

Memories & Farewell

Memories of our first rally spring to mind; my late husband, Syd and myself were touring the East Coast and came across the Pemtney Caravan Park, Kings Lynn Rally in June 1989. We had a great time and from then on we were hooked.

Numberous rallies were to follow and in April 1991 we organised our first rally at Edbury Hill, Shrewsbury. A fancy hat competition was held and enjoyed by all. Some of the headgear was amazing and wouldn't have gone amiss at the forthcoming Royal Wedding!!

Another rally was a very wet rally at Hawes in July 1992 - salad on a plate, food in one hand and hanging on to a broly with the other.....

May 1992 Beverly Racecourse rally - Ben Mansfield pushed the starters gate over to our van, Syd unable to help from his wheelchair acted as foreman. The roof was immaculate in no time.

Many years were to follow, enjoying rallies north, south, east and west. We toured most of Scotland visiting the Outer and Inner Hebrides Tiree being our favourite.

Sadly in May 1995 at the Kettering Club & Company Rally Syd had a fatal heart attack. A few weeks later I reluctantly, but with encouragement decided to press on with rallying. This I have done for the past 15 years.

At my last rally at Beacon Park in Litchfield Trish & Ted presented me with a very large bottle of whisky. Apparently, I had attended their rallies more than any other members. It was a lovely gesture.

But the time has come to say farewell, having had (with the same van may I add) a great time in a grand club.

I'll miss the Club and the the many friends I have made over the years, but nothing will dull the happy memories.

So, to you all, happy and safe motoring and Best Wishes.

Audrey Crouch

Technical Group & Website

Baz Wellard
Chairman, Technical Group & Webmaster



A~S Liaison Meeting:

As you are aware Mike Valentine (*Chairman*) and I have regular liaison meetings at Auto~Sleepers, with Geoff Scott (*CEO*) and other managers, and it is thought that a brief feedback might be of interest to members.

For those not already aware there are 3 new Mercedes models, the Stanton, Bourton and Malvern, which are available through A~S authorised dealers. They are similar to Marquis County models - Devon, Northants and Gloucester respectively but have different trims. There is also a new LWB Peugeot panel van - the Kemerton. For those you could not go to the NEC the Club Stop Press page has a link to their, and other, internal spherical views.

A few more 'snippets' that may be of interest: Management are happy with current sales, especially the 50th Monocoque and they have been awarded 'Whole Vehicle Type Approval' for all models. Thetford fridges are now being used, as well as Dometic. Some models now have an LPG tank, satellite dish, TV and LED lighting fitted as standard. A Renault panel van has been reviewed but no decision made on production. Unfortunately, in spite of trying to source locking nuts for Peugeot alloy wheels they are not available.

There will be no single 50th Anniversary celebration but some Marquis Dealers may participate individually. At the National Rally there will be copies of the A~S 50th Anniversary brochure and there will be a display of A~S motorhomes at Brownhills.

Deals for Members: -

Travelworld. Travelworld have now become an authorised dealer for Auto Sleepers, and they have kindly offered a special deal to members of 10% off accessories and habitation checks. They are based at Telford, Shropshire and can be contacted on 0844 8804938 or by internet on www.travelworlddrv.co.uk

Ultimate: Ultimate vehicle polishers now also offer a members only combined 'wash and machine polishing service' aimed at restoring the appearance of their motorhomes. The price is £195 inc. Vat., and contact should be made direct with Paul Grundy on 0330 1000034.

Battery charging:

In February's Newsletter Harry Emblen and Peter Brown gave advice on leisure batteries and preventing over charging of batteries when in storage. Two other suggestions are using a domestic 24 hour timer set to a few hours a day, or a 7-day timer - set to one day's charge per week (or part day). Providing the timers are in a safe place away from the elements.

Website Update No. 04/11 includes:

- **Technical:**
 - Model reviews - Broadway EK TB LP & 50th Anniversary Executive
 - Eligible models - Stanton, Bourton, Malvern & Kemerton
 - Fuel Information - Talisman 2004
- **Ideas Sheet 209** - Continental reversing lead
- **Deals for Members**
 - Ultimate's additional offer
 - Travelworld offer
- **Stop Press**
 - Hyper-link to AS spherical photo gallery
- **Rallies**
 - Hunstanton, Norfolk
 - Brean Sands, Brean, Somerset (*Supplement 04a/11 refers*)

And finally:

I've had several e-mails from members regarding an 'Auto Sleeper internet forum' that started up in February with some querying if there is any Club connection. This new forum is an 'extension' from an earlier forum, but the difference being that it now deals with specific models.

I can confirm that neither the Club nor Auto Sleepers have any connection with either of these forums – however I will be viewing occasionally.

FROM THE FACTORY

Well, we have just returned from a busy week at the NEC Show. It has been exhausting but very rewarding work and a big thank you goes out to all staff members that worked so tirelessly to ensure the show was a success for Auto-Sleepers.

As some of you may be aware, at the show, we launched the Malvern, Bourton and Stanton (Mercedes based vehicles) along with the Kemerton a LWB Peugeot panel van. We also added the Worcester to the Marquis county range. All of these models were well received and a number of orders taken.

I always enjoy the shows, albeit these days my legs and feet seem to suffer! It is great to speak with customers and get feedback on new and existing models and generally catch up for a chat. I am pleased to report that our sales were better than we anticipated and the feedback and orders taken for the caravans was exceptional.

Back here at the factory, there have been many interesting developments over the past 12 months and we continually strive to improve efficiency and productivity. I believe we have made great strides over the past few years over our product offering, and feedback from the customers at the show have reinforced this. The factory has been re-organised and efficiency levels have increased by 25% over the past couple of years. Further the incidents of warranty claims is now at the lowest point ever in the history of the company. The team spirit at the factory is at an all time high and we are currently having fun and enjoying what we do here which is making high quality products that customers can enjoy their leisure time in.

We have recently instigated an apprentice training programme with our first apprentice, Gavin Griffiths now working in the R+D department. Training and investment for the future is of paramount importance to us and to that end we are currently training over 60 of our staff in business improvement techniques. We anticipate completing this training programme by the summer of this year.

I would like to pass on my best wishes from myself and all my staff within the Auto-Sleeper Group for the forthcoming season and look forward to meeting those that are able to attend the AGM at Newark.

Geoff Scott
CEO Auto Sleepers

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



Wendy Ferguson	Rothley	Stratford
Nancy Child & Sally Child	Sittingbourne	Excelsior
Don & Barbara Hodson	Kenilworth	Nuevo
Graham & Jillian Woodhouse	Lubenham	Duetto
Martin & Liz Williams	Dover	Nuevo
John & Frances Thomas	Pershore	Sigma
Rick & Hilary Goodinge	Winterborne	Clubman
Geoff Gregg	Cannock	Topaz
Michael & Judith Rowe	Telford	Rhapsody
Ian & Shirley Walton	Thorrerton	Clubman
Sudheer & Sushma Manthri	Walsall	VHT
John & Heather Cook	Esher	Executive
Bob & Mandy Bearman	Benfleet	Clubman
Chris & Bridget Biggs	Abingdon	Lancashire
Roland & Doreen Dunk	Kettering	Nuevo
John & Barbara Dunn	Nr Coleshill	Sussex
John & Jean Foord	Westcliffe on Sea	Nuevo
John & Margaret Hall	Wareham	Nuevo
David & Mary Hanson	Seer Green	Symbol
Mike & Pat Kennedy	Brackley	Vivanti 4
Trevor & Anne Lane	Bideford	Symbol
Robin & Linda Molyneux	Witney	Trooper
Richard & Sylvia Siddall	Grange-over-Sands	Topaz
Alan & Karen Wheeler	Nailsworth	Symbol
Richard & Ivy Birch	Biddenden	Clubman
Allan & Jean Morgan	Milford Haven	Surf
Stewart Jackson	Blackburn	Nuevo
Sarah Oakey-Phillips & Peter Phillips	Dunvant	Trident
Geoff & Les Tutt	Alresford	Gloucester
Robert & Pauline Hardy	Stevenage	Nuevo
Alan & Beverley Doughty	Maidenhead	Talisman
George & Sylvia Stopps	Great Yarmouth	Gatcombe

Richard & Annette Wilkinson	Staplehurst	Symbol
John & Pamela Challans	Nottingham	Talisman
Chris & Jill Linpow	Stratford upon Avon	Talisman
Jack & Linda Sharpe	Stirling	Sussex
Keith & Juliet Tucker	Yeovil	Surrey
Paul Castle	Stratford upon Avon	Gloucester
Margaret Ayling & Ron Wales	Haywards Heath	Executive
Peter & Jean Daigneault	Eastbourne	Executive
David & Pat Burkinshaw	Cawthorne	Symbol



Thank you for your donations.

Two bed extensions for Nuevo (2008 Model), to make extra width for single

beds. Also two cushions f.o.c., all in Aparo upholstery. **£35.00.** Can deliver to AGM rally. **Contact Godfrey Adams on 0151 608 8987 or godfrey@adamsmail.co.uk**

Fiamma Ultra Box 320 Back Box
1000x700x530mm.

As new with all fittings, & side padlocks. **£150** (Fits on to Fiamma cycle racks etc.) (Could dispatch by mail, approx cost £20+) **Haynes Manual** for Transit Diesel 2000-2006 **£12 Ford DP-ASM Hydraulic Fluid** (1litre) for 2000-2006 'Auto Shift Manual' transmission, unopened **£12** Will be at AGM. **Contact Ricky Smith 01776 705628 rathlrg@btinternet.com** Wigtownshire.

AS Symbol 2+2 berth W (April 2000) reg. 2lt petrol, under 47,000 miles. Tax MOT to Oct 2011. Usual Fixtures & Fittings plus roof fan, TV aerial, awning & bike rack. Dealer purchased 6 months ago so 2½ year warranty available. **£16,500 ono. Contact Liz Cameron 01288 361677 or 07977 096139 (Bude).**

Fiamma Privacy Room F45 Bought for Nuevo used once will fit similar size. **£200. Beeny Box £75. 2 bike rack £40. Contact Pat Gascoigne 02380 551133**

Solar Tracker 24" wheel electric bike unisex frame a few years old, but good condition. Lights, rear box & carrier. Lock & chain, cycle helmet cost £900 bargain at **£195. Contact Tom Huntingdon 01246 417159 or 07808 207949.** Could bring to National at Newark.

Omnistor carry all box 150 fits standard cycle rack or can be mounted on an available frame. This is a very solid ABS big volume luggage box. Used only a few times on a Legend. Easy to fit. Fitted with alarm switch. Weight 22kg. Current new price is £409. Bargain at **£100. Contact Dave Wood 01202 897743.** (Dorset).

AS Nuevo 2.0 diesel. Oct 2002 reg. 27,000 miles. Excellent condition. Non smokers, no pets. Oven/grill/hob. Electric/gas heating, hot water and fridge. TV point & aerial. Mains hook-up. Cruise control, reversing sensor, carpets. Taxed & MOT to July. **£19750 ono. Contact Ken House 01803 551811 or ken-nuevo@talktalk.net.**

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