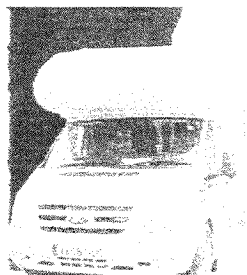




www.asoc.fsnet.co.uk

AUTO-SLEEPER OWNERS' CLUB

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



St Bees Head to Robin Hood's Bay

Wainwright's got a lot to answer for!!!

NEWSLETTER 276

September 2011

From the Editor ^(S)

Well we're back from our meanderings through France and Germany (I know - you never missed us!) and THANK YOU to Dudley and Kathleen for holding the fort and getting the excellent July and August Newsletters out.

The Club's VAT registration has been cancelled. Claims for expense reimbursement, rally returns, etc do still need to be supported by receipts but these no longer have to meet the criteria required by HMRC for VAT returns.

John Cox has written to say thank you to those members of ASOC who attended Barbara's funeral. The money that was donated to the Yorkshire Air Ambulance Service in lieu of flowers amounted to £187, an amount that Barbara would have been very pleased with.

Charity Choice 2012

Well it doesn't seem that long ago since writing about this last year, but once again, as members may remember at the National Rally, we select a charity that would benefit from our fund raising activities, We would like to do the same at the 2012 National Rally and the selection will be made by the committee from nominations made by you, the members.

The criterion is that it should be a lesser known charity. Nominations will remain anonymous to the committee until a charity has been selected. So, if you would like to nominate a charity for 2012 please write to me at 31 Abbott Lea, Manfield, Nottinghamshire NG19 6NF by 10th January 2012. Please send full details of the charity to wish to nominate and why, together with 14 leaflets from the charity for the committee (I will make copies of your letter). It would also help if you could confirm that your charity, if selected, would be able to set up a stand at the National Rally and that a representative would be available to accept the cheque on the Sunday morning.

Looking forward to receiving your nominations.

John Jones

S

I have just read through the very interesting ASOC August Newsletter. Once opened I couldn't put it down. (Thanks Dudley and Kathleen). I loved Mo's thoughts on life, and the *oh so true* "In the queue at the shop" I have just had 3 teenage-plus grandchildren staying with me!!!

n

'David and Betty's item on 'Cheap sites in Ireland' really caught my attention. Having spent numerous holidays over there with my late husband over the years, and Liz & Bryn's Rally in 2006 (The next one was too long for me to undertake), I almost started planning my next year's holiday. The information on SNI web-site has been noted.

i

Due to a very full life, I do not get to many Rallies, but did enjoy this year at Hurley, especially the Thames side walk with Rita & John, though I did wonder if I would make it all the way back after the superb pub lunch!

p

Pauline Hill

p

I have just returned from 2 weeks in Southern Ireland and found camp sites relative sparsely distributed and expensive. I wish I had known about this organisation before my holiday.

e

Most authorities are anti free camping which was not the case on my last holiday over 15 years ago.

t

Another problem was the height barriers, even on road side lay-bys. These have increased in number. I am thinking of writing to the Irish Tourist Authority on this matter as it is anti-tourist. Sometimes it was difficult to find a place to stop for a rest.

s

J Turner

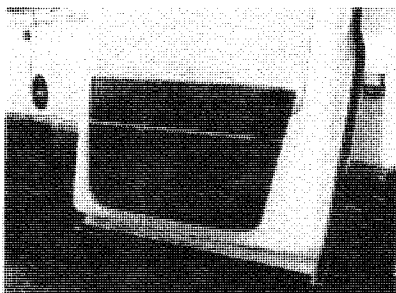
Insurance Drama "Act 2"

As a result of Graham Franklin's article in Newsletter 273 of June concerning vehicle insurance and the Motor Insurance Database (MID), I decided to check my own motorhome and lo & behold it did not "exist"! I hurriedly (*mild panic setting in!*) checked my insurance certificate....*you guessed,.....* it showed the WRONG registration number. The paperwork from the insurance company showed the wrong Registration number too!

As the road tax was only two weeks away from renewal, (*blind panic sets in!*) I had to wait until the next morning to contact the insurance company and, needless to say, I was up early the next morning! They apologised and sent out a new certificate by first class post and the MID was amended - but that took a couple of days to arrive. However, I was then able to update the road tax - panic over.

So, thank you Graham for bringing this to my attention and saving my bacon and let us hope that yours and my experiences may serve as a lesson to others!

Peter Pipe

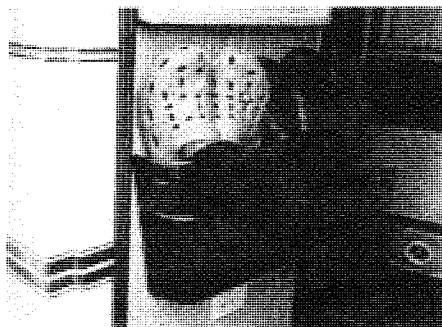


Van Door Pockets come in useful.

Some alternative uses for Citroen/Fiat/Peugeot commercial van door pockets. They have been installed on my Legend and the amazing thing is that

the top fixing hole centres on the door are the same as the holes in the door pocket. Since fitting them we have found them very useful. Oh, and I got them from a breakers yard for 3 quid each, bargain.

Patrick Beaumont.



Pongo or how to remove obnoxious effluvioms in your motorhome.

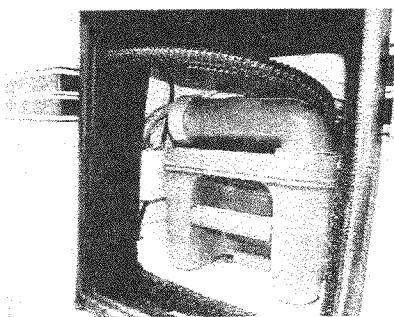
Most upmarket German motorhomes fit a SOG (Toilet ventilation system) and for many years I have admired this system, but was reluctant to install one in my Legend monocoque because I did not want to drill any holes in the side.

Now there is a SOG Mk.2 which uses an inline fan and vents through the floor. For those of you who do not know how a SOG works I will explain briefly, but its best to go online and have a good look.

A small fan sucks all pongs from the toilet and washroom through the Thetford cassette when you open the blade valve and vents them out underneath your motorhome, and an additional benefit is that you do not need to use chemicals any more. Good for your pocket and the environment.

Fitting the SOG is easily a DIY job - I took my time and it only took 2 hours. The fitting instructions which come with the SOG are very straightforward and easy to follow. I only had 2 one inch holes to drill to accommodate the vent pipe and power cable from the micro-switch.

For my Legend the first hole was through the side of the toilet compartment (see photo) and into the space under the wardrobe and the other hole was through the floor.



The hole in the toilet compartment was not a leap of faith. First I drilled a small pilot hole then probed with a piece of wire to ensure that when I drilled a 1 inch hole I was not going into something I shouldn't.

Next a small mod to the Thetford toilet to accept the micro-switch then put everything together and test, bingo it works and no pongs.

The SOG Mk.2 can be obtained from Symonspeed Ltd. of Torquay on 01803 214620 for £115.00 plus £5.00p&p, however I have obtained a concession that any ASOC member can receive a 10% discount. I must add that I have no connection with Symonspeed or SOG whatsoever, I am just a very happy and satisfied customer. If a member wishes to ask any questions about the installation I may be contacted on email; happydiver138@tesco.net.

Patrick Beaumont

More on pongos....

Concerning smells in the toilet (July Newsletter); I have had a similar experience with my Ravenna, a fault that I traced to the cassette flap seal of the toilet.

Assuming the cassette compartment in the Excelsior is the same, any leakage from this seal drains into a tray in the bottom of the cassette compartment, and this tray has no means of drainage other than into the shower/toilet compartment.

To clean this tray the trim at the front of this cassette compartment has to be removed, and to get that out the moulded cover protecting the electrical connections in the top left-hand corner has to be removed, thus allowing the removal

of the screws securing the front trim.

Obviously the cassette flap seal has to be the correct one, I think the design of the Thetford cassette seal was changed in 2006, and I realised this when I bought a replacement on the internet from the cassette maker's website.

It is this that could be the origin of the problem, or the rubber seal has hardened with age. Other than the obvious seal renewal, the only other advice I can give is that to give the rubber seal a thin coat of Vaseline when fitting. This, I have found, allows the rubber to retain it's flexibility for much longer.

I hope this is of help.

Alan Bulmer

Before we get into the *Rally Reports* we have had a note from Brian Ellis saying he has had a surge of mail for both the Brean Sands and Sedgemoor rallies, BUT several applicants have under-paid, many slips were difficult to read, some had no membership numbers on them and several people called asking who to make the cheques out to.....

So, on behalf of the Rally Co-ordinator can we make it clear that cheques should be made payable to the Rally Marshall concerned, *unless otherwise stated*. It tends to be foreign rallies where it is '*otherwise stated*'.

And could we also add on Brian Ellis's behalf that members fill in their rally slips more slowly as he can't read very fast.

Rally News

The Northern Caravan Show Tabley

Well done Roger, Liz, Eunice and Brian - for coping *the weather was awful!*) and for greeting us with a smile. ASOC was allocated with a super pitch - very near to the entrance to the massive showground and on the whole I am sure everyone enjoyed the week-end.

The first night 'Welcome Coffee Evening' was good for meeting up with friends old and new and although it rained we were able to compare notes on rallies we had been to - or in our case had not been to!!

Again folks thank you for coping.

Della Chapman

More of the Cheshire Show and Lichfield

We would like to thank Liz, Roger, Eunice and Brian for the good time we had at the Cheshire show, despite the very wet weather Saturday evening and Sunday. We really enjoyed the day trip to Chester, being able to walk the walls and also enjoy the scenery.

Lichfield rally too was great, thanks to Trish, Ted and all their assistants. With Steve and Mavis Heath we were able to enjoy some time at the Arboretum in Alrewas.

We were so lucky to have such wonderful weather during our stay at Lichfield, enabling us to enjoy our Saturday evening meal without taking umbrellas!

Rita A Jones and Keith J Taylor

Rudesheim

Thank you Peter and Chris for all your hard work in assisting Liz and Jeanne to make the Rudesheim rally such a success. We would like to offer our thanks and appreciation for a wonderful week; it was a completely new area to us so it was lovely to enjoy experiencing as much of the area as possible - tours by train and boat, brandy tasting, museums, wine tasting, walks, more wine tasting(!), weight increasing!! Rudesheimer coffees and Asbach liqueur chocolates, more wine tasting (!), and of course the finale to the week of the Rhine in Flames cruise. What a week!

Our holiday also included other treasures which we thoroughly enjoyed - the Mosel valley deserved longer than time we had allowed it, but we did stop over in Nennig, Wintrich and Ernst, visiting several places en route. We also discovered that Luxembourg is worthy of more than just a quick pop over the border for cheap diesel. We had a few days here and visited Remich, Echternach, Diekirch, and Luxembourg city.

We stayed three nights near Larochette before heading for Calais and home. Our stay in Northern France before the rally was a bit mixed weather-wise but because of that revealed places we had not previously found time to explore, finding a lot to see in Amiens with its magnificent cathedral, and Verdun with its citadelle museum of the first world war battle in the town.

Helen and John Greenwood

And whilst not celebrated on a rally we had to include this 40th anniversary cake made for Chris and Richard Ryan.



Abingdon Rally July 2011

Abingdon – a quintessential English town situated on the Thames a few miles south of Oxford was the location for this rally, again organized by Andy and Angie Cavell, ably assisted by Mike and Mo Valentine.

The site, on the grounds of Abingdon Vale Cricket Club is, in many ways ideal – a level grass site with cricket pitches to either side and a short walk over the bridge into the town, which in turn has many attractive features and has access by footpaths, cycle routes and buses to the surrounding countryside and into Oxford itself.

Some forty eight vans received a warm ASOC welcome, especially the First Timers.

Friday evening we were able to use the Cricket Club Pavilion where Angie had set up an unusual quiz that involved teams of four trying to identify the contents of plastic boxes and cloth bags that contained for example Pasta or other cooking ingredients – including pepper as we all found to our cost! Other samples included wood and cloth and Logos. In all a very interesting challenge that was met equally by two of the teams who shared first prize.

Saturday was “Fish and Chip” supper night followed by lots of chatting and reminiscing and a night off from cooking. During the day there had been a fete in the town square and many members had visited the town to enjoy the event which included “live music”. For some of us “live” really meant “loud” but it was nevertheless a well supported event in the town centre.

Sunday was a day free to travel around the local area or sit and natter with friends, which many of us did. The weather was kind to us for the duration of the rally which closed Monday evening with another gathering for Coffee, Tea and Biscuits and of course the Raffle, but not before Angie had ended our frustration by giving the answers to the Quiz. It was agreed by one and all that it had been a very enjoyable and successful rally and an enthusiastic vote of thanks was given to the Marshalls Andy, Angie, Mo and Mike.

Yes please, same again some time!

Peter Lucas

Mike and Heather Tucker wish to thank all those who attended our first rally at Hunstanton for their generosity in supporting the British Heart Foundation. A fantastic £32.50 was raised by the Book Swap Table and the cheese auction (cheese generously supplied free of charge by Keen's Farm, Wincanton, Somerset). This money has been donated to the local BHF store in Wisbech, along with the unsold books, so hopefully our efforts will raise even more for this worthwhile cause.

Farewell to Lichfield??

We would like to say a big thank you to Ted & Trish, Jan & Vic and Margaret & Bob for the fantastic rally at Lichfield. We went to Trish's first and last rallies and a lot in between and every one of them was a great success. We will all miss Lichfield but now Trish can enjoy going to rallies and letting somebody else do all the work (*if you can.....*).

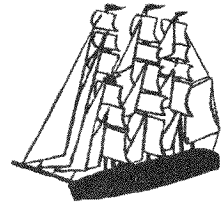
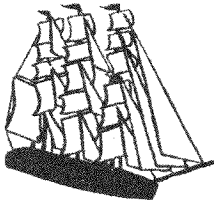
It was also very touching that it was Barbara Cox's funeral the day of Trish's last rally. Barbara was a great help to Trish on her first rally and to all of us who ran rallies and without John and Barbara starting the Club in the first place maybe none of us would have met. Thanks John and Barbara for 22 years of fun, laughter and many very good friends.

Kath & Norman Benyon

And finally Whitby

The Marshalls had a bit of a shock when they arrived at Eskdale School to mark out the pitches on the playground ready for the Whitby rally - about a third of it was fenced off surrounding building works, scaffolding poles, a skip and a portacabin, plus builders vans parked along one side. How on earth were we going to run a rally?? Anyway, after the initial shock and various conversations with the builders they were very helpful by making their 'yard' as small as possible, arranging for the vans to be parked elsewhere in the school grounds and going their very best to keep disruption to a minimum - so very many thanks to them.

We did give the ralliers the choice of whether to stay, or if they were



September 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.

1st September - 6th September (5 nights) Faversham Hop Festival .

Emergency Tel. No. 07818 006733. Marshal's mobile.

Painters Farm Painters Forstal Ospringe Faversham Kent ME13 0EG.

Rally Marshalls Barbara & Al Buckett Mo & Mike Valentine.

Site Fees £17.50 in total for 5 nights.

Rally Fee £ 2.40 per couple or £ 1.40 singles.

Dogs on leads welcome.

Rally slips & cheques payable to A Buckett please with a SAE for reply and directions

Mr A Buckett , 16 St Margarets Drive , Walmer Deal , Kent CT14 7UJ. Telephone number 01304 369149.

This is a green field site surrounded by orchards and countryside. A pub within 5 minutes walk serves good food. There is a nature reserve within 5 minutes walk.

The Faversham Hop Festival is on the Saturday & Sunday. It includes lots of music ie Jazz Bands Folk Dancers Morris Dancers Pearly Kings & Queens etc..

There are stalls and eateries all along the streets of the town. Parking for motorhomes nearby.

Canterbury is about 20 minutes away and has a Park and Ride for motorhomes to get into the city.

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

Rally starts at 12 noon. Please do not arrive before this time.

8th – 12th. September Motorhome & US RV Show, Shepton

Mallett, 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 24th.*

August. Show application forms to be returned to the organisers, Stone Leisure, by 31st. August.

12th – 19th. September (7 nights). Holiday Resort Unity, Brean

Sands, Somerset. TA8 2RB

Emergency Tel.No. *01278 784524 home with answer phone 07711375323 mobile*

Rally Marshals, Linda and Brian Ellis.

Site fee £12.50 per night includes electric and club passes. Plus £2.50 Rally Fee Includes VAT.

Send Rally slips with full payment to:- Brian Ellis, 52 Golf Links Road, Burnham On Sea, Somerset TA8 2PP. Tel.No. 01278784524.

This is a new rally which we have purposely slotted in between the motor caravan show at The Royal Bath and West Show Ground Shepton Mallet and the Little Cotton C.P Dartmouth Devon.

Unity Holiday resort is about 26 miles from the showground and 92 miles from Little Cotton Dartmouth. So anyone wishing to extend their break or use this as a stop over on route to

Devon may find this convenient.

Alternatively, Unity Holiday Resort is a full facility site in an area well worth exploring and would make an ideal September break. It is ideal for walking with 7 miles of beach, and the Brean Downs, or for cycling as the area is fairly flat, or use the local buses to Burnham On Sea and Weston Super Mare.

Swimming pool, golf course & fishing.

Dogs are welcome on this site

The rally starts midday Monday 12th September, And ends midday Monday 19th September

Directions.: M5 to Jct 22 Burnham On Sea.

Cross straight over A38 heading to Burnham On Sea, Cross Tesco Island, then at mini island, turn **right** Berrow /Brean. Follow this road for about 4 miles, to Brean, site is on the **right**.

**19th to 24th September 2011 (5 Nights) Autumn in Dartmouth
at Little Cotton Caravan Park Dartmouth. TQ6 0LB**

Why not come and join us for 5 nights now all the holiday makers have gone home, and enjoy all that this area has to offer.

Rally Marshals:- Rita & John Tubb,

Site fees £12.50

This rally is now fully booked.

Fee £3 (incl VAT.)

Send your applica

to Rita Tubb

together with **SAE or E-mail address** for reply and directions to 70 Chamwood Crescent, Chandlers Ford, Hampshire, SO53 5QL. Telephone No. 023 8026 7294 or Mobile 07754 761423.

The site has excellent facilities, inc. disabled.

Dogs are welcome but **must** use the doggy walk, and be kept on a lead at all times whilst on site.

The area has a good bus service, down into Dartmouth or venture further afield to Kingbridge, Totnes, Torquay. You can cross the ferry to Kingswear and catch the steam train to Paignton, or the bus to Brixham. You can enjoy a boat trip up the River Dart to Totnes or out to sea.

There are also various NT properties in the area to visit. Remember to bring your Bus Pass.

Please do not arrive before noon on the day of the rally.

If you wish to extend your stay either before or after the rally please contact the site direct on 01803 832558. Web site- www.littlecotton.co.uk

**22nd -25th ..September. The Motorhome Show,Season Finale,
Lincoln Showground.**

Emergency Tel.No. 07922049714.

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

Please use the booking form enclosed in the July Newsletter if possible. If you use a form from other magazines please mark the form ASOC and note the **special Club site fees:Arrive Thursday:£39,arrive Friday £36, arrive Saturday £33.**

All bookings for the Saturday evening entertainment must be made with Warners when returning the application form to the organisers, by Friday, 2nd. 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 £2.40 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 pack from the ASOC marshal before parking.

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

28nd September – 3rd October (5 nights) ACCEO National Rally, Towcester Racecourse, Northants

This will be a rally at the ACCEO National Rally, Towcester Racecourse, London Road, Towcester, Northants, NN12 6LB. Organisers (on behalf of ACCEO) are the Coachman Owners Club.

ASOC Rally Marshals : Pat and David Mayne.

This is a **Greenfield site** with no electricity 1½ miles from Towcester town centre, nearest bus stop 1 ¼ miles. Market town with buses to Milton Keynes. ASOC Marshal site emergency phone 07964 532936. Cost per unit, Friday & Saturday £17.00, additional nights Wednesday/Thursday/Sunday @ £7.50 per night.

Friday and Saturday entertainment pass £10 each adult.

Attractions: Hall for Friday night meet and greet with music, Saturday night show "Super Trouper" (Abba tribute Act) and close up magic with "Simply Magic" and on Sunday morning the grand raffle.

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 entertainment pass required).

Cheque for Rally and Entertainment with slip to Mr D Mayne, 27 Mentmore Rd, Linslade, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. LU7 2NY should have been made **by 30th August 2011**.

6th – 10th October (4 nights) Conkers Camping & Caravanning Club Site,50 Bath Lane,Moira,Swadlingcote,Derbyshire.DE12 6BD.

Site Tel.No 01283 224925. Marshals mobile: 07810 455318.

Rally Marshals: Elizabeth & Bill Grimsley assisted by Liz Irvin.

Site Fees: £14.75 per unit per night with hardstanding,electricity and full facilities.

Rally Fee: £2.00 per person,this includes use of room with tea/coffee in the neighbouring Youth Hostel on Sunday evening.

Rally slips & cheques payable to Mr. & Mrs. E.W. Grimsley,24 Paul Drive,Leicester.LE4 9FY. Please send a S.A.E for confirmation & information.

This rally is based around a Bavarian Evening on Saturday 8th. October at the nearby Conkers attraction (10 minutes walk by road).A hot meal is included in the price of £17.00 per person, payable in advance **so please include this with your booking**. It is a very rowdy and exhausting evening with "Umpah"

music,high slapping,swaying sideways and up and down at the tables with some audience participation at the front – ask anyone who went last year.!

Other attractions are Calke Abbey (N.T.),Bosworth Battlefield Heritage Centre,Snibston Discovery Park,Moira Furnace & historic Ashby de la Zouch.

The Youth Hostel has a bar where snacks are available and the nearby Navigation Pub does meals. There are many opportunities to walk or cycle along former mining railway tracks.

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

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

**4th – 8th. November (4 nights) Sedgemoor Carnival Rally,
Burnham on Sea Holiday Village, Burnham on Sea, Somerset,**

Emergency Tel.No. 07711375323 Marshal's mobile.

Rally Marshals: Linda & Brian Ellis.

Site fee £61.00, Rally Fee: £2.50 both incl VAT. Total payable before October 21st. please. £63.50 for 4 nights. Rally limited to 65 selected pitches this year.

The first 45 are hard standing and the rest are grassed. All pitches have electricity plus access to very good toilets & shower facilities. Usual rules apply, first to book are hard standing, remainder are grass. Please indicate on rally slip if disabled or special needs and we will try to pitch you close to the facilities.

Sorry but "NO dogs" allowed, site rules.

Send site & rally fee to Brian Ellis, 52 Golf Links Road, Burnham on Sea, Somerset. TA8 2PP. Tel.No. 01278 784524 or 07711375323 (mobile). E-mail:- Ell.ba82@yahoo.co.uk

Attractions: The Burnham on Sea Holiday Village is a full facility site about 10 minutes walk from the town centre and shops along the promenade. plus supermarkets and a long beach (about 7 miles). For those who have never seen this spectacular event visit:- highbridgeandburnhamcarnival.org.uk

We hope to arrange – **Saturday** coach trip to Clarks Village of Street, if enough interested. Cost approx. £4.00 per person. First coach 9.30 a.m., second coach 11.30 a.m.. Please indicate on slip if you are interested. **Do not** send monies with rally slip, other arrangements will apply.

Fireworks display Sunday and the Carnival on Monday evening.

Directions: Sat.Nav. TA8 1NQ and look for Holiday Village signs. Or M5 junct.22 exit to large island (Edithmead A38) turn **left** . Follow signs to Holiday Village (Taunton A38) Approx 1 mile, straight over island (A38), continue past caravan sales over railway bridge then turn **right** at the ASDA island signposted Burnham Holiday Village. To mini island by petrol station, bear **left** onto Marine Drive towards Burnham town centre. Holiday Village about a quarter of a mile on the **left**.

Rally starts at 10.00a.m. Friday 4th. November, no early arrivals please.

**10th-13th November (3 nights) Cheshire View Masonic Lodge
Christleton Chester CH3 7PT.**

Emergency Tel.No 07763776877 / 07712484917 Marshal's mobiles.

Site Tel. No. 01244332442 (hall manager).

Rally Marshals: Dave & Wyn Crabbe.

Site Fee: £8 per night, Rally Fee: £3.00 couples. £1.90 singles. All include VAT.

No Electricity. Elsan disposal point, **Only Green Elsan to be used.** Drinking water and Toilets on the rally field. There are also toilets in the hall building. No showers. Dogs welcome.

Hardstandings (overspill car park) if weather is wet, if dry on Grass.

Booking slip & cheques payable to D C & W Crabbe 27 Crawford Road, Crawford Village, UpHolland, Skelmersdale, West Lancashire. WN8 9QR. Tel. No. 01744884437.

Please send SAE for confirmation and directions.

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

Attractions:Historic Chester City is 3 miles from the site, with its Roman wall, Cathedral, its famous "Row" Galleried shops, and zoo. A bus stop to Chester is situated approx. 400yds from the site entrance near to a local pub.

The site is also convenient for Cheshire Oaks shopping complex, Blue Water Aquarium and Elsmere port Boat Museum.

Limit of 25 vans. Site gently slopes. Levelling blocks may be needed.

Dates for rallies to be included in the 2012 Provisional list must reach me before the end of November.

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 their 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..... Model/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..... Model/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.

unhappy with the situation and wanted to leave we would refund their site and rally fees. Guess what? Nobody did, so despite the building works, the weather - which was generally a combination of wind and rain with the occasional shaft of sunlight - we had a successful rally.

Coffee was provided every evening except Sunday, the raffle prizes were nearly on a par with the National Rally (thank you to everyone who contributed), there was plenty to see and do in the town it being Regatta week-end, and some first time visitors to the area were very taken with Whitby and the surrounding countryside. Now they know what they've been missing they said they'll be back

John Hill, Peter and myself finished our Coast to Coast walk (more of that later) and were joined by Dave Hollingsworth, Brian & Ruby Sutton and Gill Hopkins for the last bit down to Robin Hood's Bay and a drink in Wainwright's bar - where else??

So it just remains for me to say, on behalf of the Marshall Liz Irvin, Peter and myself who helped out, thank you everyone for making the very best of the situation and ensuring a good rally.

Chris Mawdsley

One final note on rallies would all dog owners please ensure their dogs are kept on a lead at all times on the rally site, even the most placid pooch can cause mayhem and/ or injury, as one of our ralliers knows from bitter experience recently. Failure to comply will result in owners being asked to leave a rally, but we don't want to go down that road do we?

Jude Banks has been trying to find out (from various sources including Auto-Sleepers) if anyone has suffered from, and come up with a solution to, a draught which runs the whole length of the window in her Trooper and appears to be caused by lack of insulation around the fridge.

If you can help you can contact her on paulandjudebanks@yahoo.co.uk.

Technical Group & Website

Baz Wellard
Chairman Technical Group & Webmaster



Transferable Warranty:

Recently a situation occurred where a transferable warranty was not actioned correctly, resulting in the unfortunate situation whereby it was not therefore valid. Following discussion it was clear that there are three particular points that need careful attention.

When any warranty is to be transferred the transfer criteria should be very carefully read and followed. Check to see if any transfer charge is applicable and pay. And ensure that the warranty transfer takes place as soon as possible after purchase.

Leisure batteries: -

With the expense of fuel many of us are 'linking-up' rallies and if the sites are green field (i.e. no mains) it is not possible to top-up the leisure battery. Several members have expressed concern that their leisure battery runs down even though they've had a journey between sites - when they would have expected the battery to be fully charged.

This is true to a certain extent. However, if the fridge is switched on during the journey between rallies it can draw around 10amps! If you are desperate about your leisure battery's charge, and the fridge can stand the journey without defrosting, try switching the fridge off and utilise the extra current available for the leisure battery.

Tyres:

Once again, this summer, there has been a shortage of tyres for motorhomes due to the late demand once the 'season' had started. If you are due to change your tyres next year (5 - 7 years max) may I suggest you change them early in the year - before there is another shortage in the supply chain.

Model review: Malvern 2011 review is now available.

Ideas sheets:

- No. 213 - Help prevent petrol going into a diesel tank
- No. 214 - Multi positional table for Talisman/Executive
- No. 215 - Bespoke ramps & stowage

Website:

Update No. 08/11 contained:

- Stop Press – Club's deregistration from VAT
- Deals for Members – Symonspeed added – supplier of SOG equipment
- Technical – Ideas sheets 213, 214 & 215 listed.

A copy of the 'hints&tips' was attached to all those on the listing.
(If you have not received a copy and would like one, contact me direct – see Newsletter back page.)

That elusive Knock or Clunk

Late last year we took delivery of our 'new' VW T4 motorhome from Robsons at Wolsingham and living way out in the sticks (Galloway actually) we tried to ensure that all wrinkles were ironed out before leaving the vicinity. We spent a night in the 'van on their forecourt and all seemed well, but during the drive home we (me mostly) became aware of a solid knock whenever we went over a joint or bump in the road. This wooden, not metallic, knock manifested itself intermittently and as such it was all the harder to pinpointing its origin. I was sure it emanated from the dash area somewhere in the vicinity of the radio/air vents.

Was something loose in there, had the heater matrix worked loose or perhaps the aftermarket alarm module was not affixed correctly? Clearly this needed sorting though it got no worse over time. The VW garage in Ayr said it could take a few hours as all the dash would need to come out, which sounded like many ££.

The dealer told us that if we brought it over they would try to sort out the problem, and so on one of our trips South we called in to have them look at it. A test drive confirmed that the knock was not imaginary and so we arranged for it to be investigated by their workshop at a time convenient to us both.

Calling in on our way back from a wedding down South, we spent a couple of hours in Wolsingham and on our return the 'van was sorted and Billy asked that we took it for a run to check it out. Where was that annoying knock, what had they done? Billy, on handing it over for trial would not say at first, but when he told us, after our test drive, we found it hard to believe!

During their initial road test both driver and passenger thought it emanated from the dash but Billy, with his experienced with A/S vehicles remembered a problem similar to ours. On a second road test with the observer standing behind the driver/passenger the sound appeared to come from the over-cab area.

On investigating, it was found to be caused by a loosely fitted support spacer between the carpeted 'luton' floor and the cab roof that had not been secured to either surface or the original cutaway metal sides. The movement in this area, when subjected to the vertical displacement caused by rough road surfaces to the vehicle body, caused a knocking sound to be transmitted via the 'A' pillars to the sounding box of the front dash. The cure was to secure all offending sections. Well would you credit it!

Ricky Smith

4 People old enough to know better, decide to do the Coast to Coast walk

It *seemed* such a good idea, chatting over drinks at a rally one evening discussing various walks we'd all done, we decided to tackle Wainwright's Coast to Coast walk, i.e. from St Bees Head on the west coast to Robin Hood's Bay on the east coast. We'd do it in small sections, as befits our years and see how it goes.

So after much talking by all of us and much planning by Peter three sexagenarians and one nearly - that is, Dave Hollingsworth, John Hill, Peter Brown and myself (all four of which *are* old enough to know better) arrived at Dockray Meadows Caravan Club site in Lamplugh on 14th May 2010 in order to do the first section, with a support team in the form of Jean Hollingsworth and Linda Hill. The entire group consisting of 3 couples, 3 cats, 3 Auto-sleepers and 1 car.

So early (well fairly early) on Saturday morning Jean, who was our chauffeuse throughout, dropped Dave, John, Peter and myself at St. Bees and after picking up our pebbles she took a photograph of us *wetting out boots* in the sea before starting out.

Arriving at Moor Row after our first day's walk (8 miles), Jean picked us up and we spent the evening trying to photograph red squirrels and watching the lambs in the next field over a couple of drinks, before retiring to the pub for dinner. Very good meal it was too. The only problem was that Dave had reluctantly decided that the walk was going to be too strenuous for him; he was suffering badly with his back after the first 8 miles - it would make no sense for him to continue and could be quite damaging. So in future there would be 3 walkers with Dave taking over the role of official photographer.

And that really set the routine for the rest of the walk; Jean would drop us off in the morning, we (well Peter) would estimate how long the walk would take us and she would be there to pick us up in the evening. Linda would wave us off in the morning and remind us how bonkers we were in the evening when we got back to camp shattered, Dave took the photographs and we would all go out for a meal on the last day of the trip to celebrate another few miles done.

The only hiccup we had was during our second trip when we walked from Patterdale to Burnbank, which went over Kidsty Pike and round Haweswater. The walk was over 11 miles, involved a very steep climb up to High Street, then Kidsty Pike, and an equally steep and rough decent down to Haweswater. But

the killer was the climb from the bridge half-way back up the fell in order to follow Haweswater to Burnbanks where Jean was waiting. Let's just say that section of the walk was a challenge. Anyway we were late arriving at Burnbanks where Dave informed us that he was giving us until 6 o'clock then he was going to call the mountain rescue..... I'm glad we didn't need it, but it's comforting to know somebody's waiting and worrying a bit. Needless to say, the following day's section was somewhat foreshortened - 5 miles to Shap!

Well, the walk was completed - we threw our pebbles in the North Sea and celebrated back at the rally site with Champaign and a buffet provided by John and Linda. Jean and Liz. And we all agreed it had been worthwhile, we had enjoyed it and we were fitter than when we started. Jean also presented us with commemorative cards (see below) which we are all very impressed with - thank you Jean.

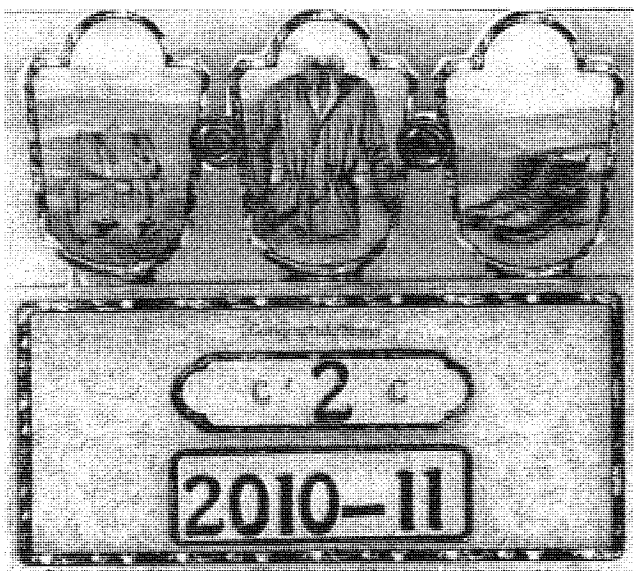
And the good news is that after an operation last December Dave's back is much improved and he joined us for the last 4½ miles down to Robin Hood's Bay.

For those of you interested in the technicalities we did the walk - 190 miles - in 21 days, spread over 5 trips; we stayed at Caravan Club sites at Dockray

Meadows, Kendal, Hawes and Leyburn, a CL at Stokesly - the Four Wynds and Eskdale School Whitby (I know that's 6 sites but it was only 5 trips). We could not have done it using the motorhomes and public transport, particularly in the Lake District, so without Jean dropping us off and picking us up (sometimes in some very remote places) it just wouldn't have been possible.

Of course, everyone keeps asking "What's next?" but we have all winter to think about that one.....

Chris Mawdsley



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



Roy & Kay Adams	Birchington	Ravenna
Paul & June Blatherwick	Chesterfield	Executive
Jan Humphries & Joan Humphries	Guildford	Broadway
Antony & Julie Thomas	Haverfordwest	Legend
David & Brenda Rea	Worcester	Suffolk
Andrew & Mary White	Salisbury	Nuevo
Geraint & Frances Evans	Llwyngwriil	Symbol
Tom & Olive Harding	Fareham	Broadway
Eric & Gill Bush	Stroud	Excelsior
Neil Burn	Enfield	Topaz
Neil & Jeanne Hall-Roberts	Petersfield	Broadway
Trevor Mastin & Eve Healey	Leicester	Gloucester
Mike & Helen Mitchard	Swanage	Gloucester
Roger & Karen Radley	Southampton	Berkshire
Mike & Rosie Smith	Bideford	Inca
Alan & Eve Whiting	Luton	Nuevo
Frank & Sadie Briggs	London	Dorset
Peter & Linda Casson-Crook	Tidworth	Executive
Julian & Liz Fielding	Liverpool	Duetto
Alan & Maria Haydon	Cheadle	Nuevo
Andrew & Christine Hicks	Northampton	Broadway
Fred & Shirley Potheary	Southampton	Cotswold
John Reed & Sally Popplewell	Banbury	Amethyst
James Wallman	Verwood	Sussex
Neil & Valerie White	Helston	Broadway
Ray & Mel Allen	Clacton-on-Sea	Executive
Alex Andrew	Ingatestone	Gloucester
Michael & Pauline Colling	Woodbridge	Berkshire
Paul & Carol Garraway	Chinnor	Gloucester
Ron & Liz Hankins	Bordon	Symbol

MORE NEW MEMBERS

Bryan & Pat Hillyard	London	Sussex
Kate Sarazin	Southend-on-Sea	Stratford
Sue Arnold & Peta Norman	Peterborough	Sussex
Dale & Dilys Chisholm	Benfleet	Trident
Bob Haynes & Pam Walton	Machynlleth	Cotswold
Alan & Jean Kirk	Bedford	Nuevo
Drew & Irene Lennie	Troon	Broadway
Jim & Josey Pengilley	Bude	Dorset
Colin & Margaret Richards	Yelverton	Dorset
Terry & Gill Stokes	Stafford	Bourton
Stephen Tompkin & Anita Cavell	Sheffield	Kemerton
David & Freda Cutter	Royston	Nuevo
John & Susan Larcombe	Chard	Nuevo
Pauline Smith & Derek Stirrup	Paignton	Topaz
Angela Porter	Flackwell Heath	Pescara
John & Nerina Cressey	Farnham	Northants
Colin & Joan Maskell	Ringwood	Worcester
Peter & Linda Adams	Swinson	Symbol
Allan & Pat Ramsden	Leeds	Sussex
Tom & Margaret Hunt	Trignmouth	Executive
Tony Bullett & Hazel Browne	Northampton	Dorset
John & Jacqueline Dewar	Emsworth	Luxor
Geoff & Margaret Matthews	Slough	Broadway
Anneli Thomas	Oswestry	Trooper
Neville & Lynne Sudall	Paignton	Nuevo
Heather Wilson & Phil Scordellis	Northampton	Topaz
Stan & Carol Gosling	Bury St Edmunds	Duetto
Brian & Carol Paterson	Gullane	Worcester
Eddy & Alison Queen	Huntingdon	Sussex
David & Ann Smith	Southampton	Stratford
Philip & Colleen Dunmall	Dursley	Talisman
Chris & Mary Simmonds	Henfield	Sigma
Tony & Audrey Edwards	Ormskirk	Duetto



Thank you for your donations.

Talbot Talisman 1987 2 ltr petrol, 2 berth. Double or single beds End

kitchen, new 3 way fridge. Toilet room. Swivel front seats, bike rack. Inside & outside VGC taxed & MOT **£6,000.** Contact Mrs J Haden 01527 527741 or 07940 445276. (Redditch).

Motorhome/Caravan Cover grey 5.7 x 2.35 used twice VGC **£60** ono. c/w sip ends and fixing straps. Contact Mr Swatridge 01243 829772. (Bognor Regis).

Harmony 1996 Peugeot Boxer 1905 cc diesel engine 81000 miles Power Steering MOT 1 year , Tax 6 months Immobiliser, radio/CD player 2 berth, there are 2 single beds or the choice of a very large double Both front seats swivel and with armrests Rear seat belts 2 burner hob and grill 3 way fridge/freezer Hot and cold running water Separate shower/toilet compartment with wash hand basin (Thetford cassette toilet) Separate leisure battery with Zig charger system Flat screen TV with Freeview Propex blown air heating Flyscreens and blackout blinds to hatches and windows Silver screens Famma wind out awning Famma bike rack (2 bikes) Mains hook up cable Built in 'safe' Spacious over cab storage The van is in very good condition inside and out, there is 6' headroom, lots of storage space in wardrobe and cupboards. Contact **Chris Knight 01691 829437** aurielknight@hotmail.com

Clubman GL. 2.4 diesel, January 1998, £17,500 ONO. 25,600 miles. One owner, non-smokers, no pets. 4 berth - over cab bedding etc never used, storage area above cab adapted with pull out ledge covered with fabric from Auto Sleepers to match. Habitation, electrical and engine serviced by Auto Sleepers in June this year who also fitted a new water pump. MOT til end of January 2012. Alarm, awning, solar panel on roof, bike rack for 2 cycles. **£9,500. Contact Doug Burnett, 02380781871,** Southampton.

Avtex 15inch flat screen television. silver 240v AC/12v DC PC monitor. CI slot. good condition. **£85** delivery to be arranged. **A/S SYMBOL CARPETS.** Brand new beige carpets made specifically for Symbol. Bound edges. Best quality. (not cab area) **£35.** **TV wall bracket NEXUS AVF Pro** multi-position wall mount for 12-25" TV Ideal for home or caravan Excellent condition. **£25 Contact Lynne and Neville Sudall 01803 842171**

Report in Delon 13/06

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