



www.asoc.uk.com

AUTO-SLEEPER OWNERS' CLUB

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



NEWSLETTER 305

February 2014

Committee Members

President	Charles Trevelyan		
Chairman	Andy Cavell	chairman@asoc.uk.com	01635 201976
Secretary	John Osland-Jones	secretary@asoc.uk.com	01217 448065
Treasurer	Peter Brown		07771 827711
Vice-Chairman	Jill Bertlin		01539 534500
Rally Co-ordinator	Neil Rogers	ncr@mypostoffice.co.uk	01325 374540
Webmaster & Chair, Tech Group	Baz Wellard	webmaster@asoc.uk.com technical@asoc.uk.com	01329 231259
Regalia Officer	John Jones		01623 627903
Newsletter Editor	David Mayne	daveatasoc@virginmedia.com	07745 330304
Membership Secretary	Jill Bertlin	Jbertlin@aol.com	01539 534500
Chairman, National Rally Sub Committee	Al Buckett	nationalrally@asoc.uk.com	01304 369149
Minutes Secretary	Alan Waugh		01392 271955
Committee Member	Mike Valentine	commember1@asoc.uk.com	02392 482818
Committee Member	Gill Hopkins	Commember2@asoc.uk.com	01244 675180

Contents		National Rally Advert	9
Committee Details	2	Charity Choice 2014	10
From the Editor	3	Cab Screen Covers	10
Chairmans chat	4	Our New Year Experiences	11
Time to say goodbye	4	The obvious Quiz	12
Leaving the Club	5	Answers to last quiz	13
Rally News	5	Tech Group and website	14
Photo Competition	6	New Members	15
Thanks to Members	6	For Sale	16
National Rally- Fridges	7		
Sir Stuart Goodwin Pavilion	7		
Cake Competition	8		

The Editor reserves the right to edit or omit items. Advertisements for items to be sold or wanted by members are published free of charge, however, small donations to Club funds are appreciated and will be acknowledged. No guarantee can be given that any item will appear in the next, or any, issue of the newsletter. Cheques should be made payable to "Auto-Sleeper Owners Club" and not ASOC and send to the Editor.

IMPORTANT: Contributions from Members are published in good faith in the hope that they will prove interesting and useful. All reasonable care has been taken to ensure accuracy but no modification or suggestion has been tested by the Company, the Club or your Editor. Therefore no warranties are expressed or implied nor indemnities given. You try them out at your own risk.

From the Editor



Another month has flown by after the usual Christmas festivities. (Remember I am writing this on 10th January).

So far early January has been a period of copious rain with many places flooded due to high tides and rain falling on waterlogged ground.

I am really looking forward to a good year with excellent weather to enjoy the outdoors. Surely we must get a hot summer to make up for the rain we have had lately!

In this newsletter, you will find details of the National Rally at Newark with amongst others the Cake Competition and the Photo Competition, so start practicing and sorting through the photos you took last year for anything suitable.

If you haven't sent in your National Rally Slips yet, now would be a good time to do it, so that the Rally organisers are not rushed off their feet at the last minute. You had all the forms for this last month.

With the Rally scene soon to start again, I look forward to your many contributions to the newsletter.

Deadline for next month's Newsletter is the 10th February. Send your contributions to me at daveatasoc@virginmedia.com or via the post at the address below.

David Mayne

Items for the newsletter **MUST** reach your Editor by the **TENTH** of the month. You may post them to 27 Mentmore Rd Leighton Buzzard Beds LU7 2NY or email to daveatasoc@virginmedia.com.

Any item appearing in this Newsletter may be freely used by other publications.

Please acknowledge both author and source.

Chairman's Chat

When I first became involved with ASOC and the committee all those years ago, I soon became aware of how much work goes on behind the scenes and just how quickly the Club would be in trouble without the efforts of a comparatively small number of people. In those days less than one per cent of the club's membership was active in its management and that is still very much the case today. We all owe a huge debt of gratitude to the committee, their partners and all the other volunteers, marshals et al who keep the club going.



However, the immutable laws of nature dictate that none of us are getting any younger and there is a constant need to involve new blood in the organisation of the club. Whilst the committee is currently fully staffed this is not something we can expect to continue so we thought that some of you, who may be interested in getting involved, might like an opportunity to see us at work!

The ideal opportunity will be at the committee meeting on the Saturday afternoon at our National Rally so we are inviting up to 5 members to attend as observers. You will be welcome to ask questions about procedures and participate to a limited extent in discussions but will not be able to vote. If you attend you will be expected to maintain the usual confidentiality of committee proceedings

Pre-registration will be essential, so I am inviting anyone who is interested to contact me – my details are on the inside front cover. I look forward to being inundated with replies!

See you down the road.

Andy

Time to say goodbye

After 16 years as members and over 100 rallies, we are having to hang up the ignition keys of our faithful Executive AU53CXP. Many thanks to all the rally marshals for all the wonderful rallies in so many interesting places, and the friends made over the years. We shall miss you all but thank you for the many happy memories.

Ken and Mollie Beales 2420

Leaving the Club

We are sad to say that we have reluctantly parted with our Motorhome and as a result will be leaving the club.

We have thoroughly enjoyed our membership and would like to thank all committee members, past and present, and rally organisers for all their dedication and hard work.

Cheerio to the friends we have made over the years and good health and good luck to you all.

Who knows we may meet in a field somewhere in the future??

Best wishes

Georgina and Richard Keefe (6279)

Rally News

The rally scheduled for the dates Tuesday 29th July to Sunday 3rd August 2014 due to take place at Hunstanton now has a new venue!

Although this rally was booked with Redgate school immediately after the 2013 rally ended we have just had a communication from the school advising us that a rally booked to take place prior to our dates has decided to stay longer and they have agreed to accommodate them rather than us! Not wishing to disappoint anyone and not wishing to change our dates we have found an alternative venue.

We have now booked Sheringham High School - a little further along the Norfolk coast. The facilities are comparable, if not better, and the rally will be all on hard standing, with possible use of shower and toilet facilities. There will be room for a few more vans, and we hope club members will support this new venue.

More details will be given in the rally announcement in due course.

Mike and Heather Tucker 5477

Stop Press: Just as we were posting to the printer, we heard of the sad death of John Cox. Member 001. Full obituary in next month's newsletter

Photographic Competition 2014

Photos to be judged at the National Rally and will all be on display.

Set Subject category

MUST contain at least 1 Auto Sleeper Motorhome. On or off a rally but preferably on.

Open Subject

Anything at all, on or off a rally.

Up to 2 images can be entered in each category. ONLY Sizes not to exceed either 6 x 4 inches or 7 x 5 inches.

In each category there will be:

1st prize £15.00 2nd Prize £10.00 3rd Prize £5.00.

During the National Rally an overall winner will be selected by attending members voting. The winner will be awarded a £20.00 prize.

Closing date: April 21st 2014, no entries will be accepted after this date.

It's got to be worth entering with a possible top prize of £35.00.

Photos to be sent to :
Jean Hollingsworth
24 Norton Grove
Kinston upon Hull
HU4 6HL

Please ensure the correct postage otherwise I need to go and collect from the post office and pay additional postage charges.

Jean Hollingsworth

Wyn and I would like to thank all our ASOC friends for their kind words and thoughts after the loss of our "Skip". Skip passed on the 7th December after a very short illness.
Thank you all

Dave and Wyn Crabbe.

National Rally at Newark 2014

Once again the club will be taking up the Dometic UK Ltd's offer of the FOC checking of refrigerator installations on vehicles purchased since January 2011.

We have also invited the local Dometic Service Engineer to be come during the weekend and service fridges of vans that are earlier than 2011. Sorry but Dometic only.

Would you please either e-mail, phone or write to me as soon as possible so that arrangements can be made and completed. Thank you.

I need your membership number, van registration number, model of van, year of manufacture.

commember1@asoc.uk.com Tel : 023 9248 2818 address 11, Hamilton Close, Langstone, Havant PO9 1RP

Mike Valentine

2014 National rally Sir Stuart Goodwin Pavilion

The Sir Stuart Goodwin Pavilion will be open on Friday and Saturday.

There will be a jigsaw selling table so please bring your jigsaws to sell for the charity fund.

There will be a bring and buy table of motorhome parts so please bring your unwanted motorhome parts to sell for the charity fund.

There will be a book stall so please bring books to sell for the charity fund.

There will be a table for the cake competition, please look out for the recipe in This Newsletter

Baz Wellard will have his usual table for technical information, also a table for 25 years of pictures and memorabilia.

HOBBIES:- If anyone would like to display or demonstrate a hobby please contact me A.S.A.P on 01484604133, stuwd@yahoo.co.uk.

Stuart Wood.

Silver Jubilee Cake Competition

8"/20cm Cake Tin

Cooking time : 1. 1/2 < 1.3/4 hrs

Oven Temp : 325/ Mk 3
Fan: 160< 170

Ingredients

12 oz/350g mixed dried fruit
8 oz/225g butter
8 oz/225g soft brown sugar
14fl oz/400ml milk
1lb/450g s.r. flour
1 teaspoon/5ml bicarb of soda
1 teaspoon/5ml mixed spice
2 off large beaten eggs

Method

Preheat oven to 160/325/3.

Butter and line tin.

Put fruit into large pan, add butter, sugar and bring slowly to the boil.

When melted, cook for 2 mins. Remove and cool slightly.

Sift flour with bicarb + spices and stir into pan.

Add the milk + egg mixture with fruit in pan.

Mix well together.

Pour into tin and smooth surface.

Bake Until firm, test with skewer

Leave in tin to cool for 20<30mins and then turn out onto rack.

Please take your cake to the Stuart Goodwin Hall between 2.00 and 4.00pm Friday afternoon for judging.

Mo Valentine

There is a prize for the winner and some of the cakes will be auctioned on Friday Night and the remainder sold in the Stuart Goodwin Pavilion- all for our Chosen Charity.

THE NATIONAL RALLY 1st- 5th MAY 2014

COME AND CELEBRATE THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AUTO-SLEEPER OWNERS CLUB

As this is a special celebration there will be a FREE Buffet on Friday evening

This is the first year that Electric hook-ups will be available for everyone who requires it.

Further details will be in the Application Form enclosed in the January 2014 Newsletter.

The proposed Programme is as follows:

The Cedric Ford Pavillion

Thursday

Evening Meal followed by a get together to meet or make friends.

Friday

Question & Answer Session with staff from Auto Sleepers - Line Dancing - Free Evening Buffet followed by a Quiz. The results of the Cake Competition and then the Cake Auction

Saturday

AGM followed by Open Forum.

Evening Dinner followed by The Raffle Draw and Dancing to Ashby Big Band

Dress is as formal or informal as you wish. As it is the silver anniversary of ASOC if anyone wishes to wear silver items this would be fine, but not essential.

Sunday

Sunday Service - Presentation of cheque to the chosen Charity

Followed by Tea and Coffee - Carvery Lunch

Evening entertainment provided by Ian Scott – Tom Jones and Neil Diamond Tribute Act.

Stuart Goodwin Pavillion

Friday & Saturday

Crafts - Cakes - Bring & Buy - Jigsaws – Bring & Buy motorhome spares or equipment, Books and Regalia Stalls - Technical Advice - Photo and Cake Competitions. Tea & Coffee will be available

Sunday

CLOSED

A free minibus service will run on Saturday and Sunday afternoons to 'Southern Motor Caravans' to see motorhomes for sale. There is also a small accessory shop. Some refreshments will be provided.

Charity choice 2014

The chosen charity for 2014 is '**Motor Neurone Disease Association**' Reg. No. 294354 and was nominated by Victor & Lesley Prince, Membership No. 6599.

The charity was formed in 1979 and now consists of 100 branches across England & Wales, it's purpose to support patients and their families and to fund research into a disease for which there is no no cause or cure at the moment.

If you need any more information you can contact them on **01604 250 505** or visit their web site

www.mndassociation.org

Once again I would like to thank all of you who sent in nominations for the Charity.

Regards
John

Cab Scen Covers

This subject is in response to Bobbie Gordon's piece in the January Newsletter:

We possess Silver Screens for the inside and a wrap around one for the outside of our VW Gatcombe. The outside one with the fold down front is always used during the winter as it completely eliminates condensation. If it is wet when we pack up it is loosely folded and put pointing downwards into our bucket. Then it will either go straight on at the next stop or hung out as soon as we get home.

Very occasionally if the weather is freezing we have used both sets of screens at the same time for double insulation. In the warmer weather we only use the interior screens. If there is a cool night at any time when we are using the interior ones there is usually some condensation around the edges of the windows. These fit individually, with rather poor suckers, over each door window and the windscreen.

Elizabeth Grimsley 2080

OUR NEW YEAR EXPERIENCES

For many years we always spent New year at Hidden Valley, near Ilfracombe, with the Autosleeper Owners' Club. We looked forward to each one and enjoyed the company of friends, entertainment and several meals in the camp site restaurant. This all came to an end when the organising couple, Sandra and Bernie Wisely who lived in Barnstaple, moved to Warwickshire. Now we really miss this annual event.

We like spending Christmas at home and going somewhere in our camper for New Year. One year we joined friends whom we had met on a trip to Norway, and camped at Ferry Meadows Caravan Club Site. In walking distance from the site is a Pub where we all had a meal on New Year's Eve. As the bewitching hour approached, the Pub remained as devoid of customers as it had all evening - what a disappointment!

Another time we got together with the same friends at a caravan site at Cromer. As we approached Norfolk we found a very snowy scene and had to be towed onto our pitch. You couldn't see which pitch was which either. There was a buffet laid on for New Year's Eve but the room was not big enough for the number of people there. Food was in short supply as those who got there first, youngsters in particular, had grabbed most of it. When it was time to leave the site the weather was less cold and the snow had melted away. The problem now was mud and as the site did not want damage to pitches, we were towed off. That was the first time we have ever been towed onto and off a pitch in 20 years!

Once the Camping and Caravanning Club site at Conkers was set up, with a Youth Hostel next door, we soon started camping there. In fact more recently we have run two Autosleeper rallies there. One year we were attracted by a New Year event at the Youth Hostel. So, together with friends in a caravan, we booked our pitch at the caravan site and tickets at the Youth Hostel. The time of arrival was given as 7.30 p.m. but when we got there the lounge area was already full of families with small children and left over food and dirty plates all over the tables. There was plenty of food available all evening, so we didn't go short, but it was just the untidy messy appearance when we first arrived that was very off-putting. At midnight an elderly man came in and played the bag-pipes, very badly. He was in the caravan next to us and had practised during the morning, outside!

Another year we booked in to the Teversal Camping and Caravanning Club Site who have a large marquee for Christmas and New Year activities. We went alone, didn't know anyone, and were sat in a cold corner of the heated (by gas blower) space, but we did stick it out till midnight.

One more attempt was made to go camping at New Year to a site in Derbyshire where we could use Camping Cheques. The site was full but we didn't know anyone. A lot of people were in large groups who totally ignored any strangers. At the evening buffet we sat with another lone couple from York and chatted to them, as much as we could. Well, before midnight they decided to return to their caravan, and so did we. After so many disappointing New Years we decided to stay at home and watch T.V. to bring in the New year.

Everything changed New year 2012-13 when we decided to book with the East Midlands Motorcaravan Area of the Camping and Caravanning Club for their event at Hose, a village in Leicestershire. We knew a few members and soon got to know others. We were on hard standing at the village hall with use of the whole building for three nights of fun and games, music, quizzes and lots of food. There was "afternoon tea" and a cooked evening meal on each of the three days. We have just been again and have already put our names down for the next one, 2014-15.

Elizabeth and Bill Grimsley 2080

THE OBVIOUS QUIZ

- 1/ What do these seven words all have in common!
1. Banana 2. Dresser 3. Grammar 4. Potato 5. Revive 6. Uneven 7. Assess
Look at each word carefully and it is not that they all have at least 2 double letters.
- 2/ How long did the Hundred Years War last between France and England?
3. Which country made Panama hats?
- 4/ In which month do Russians celebrate the October Revolution?
- 5/ What is a camel's hair brush made of?
- 6/ The Canary Islands in the Atlantic Ocean are named after what creature?
- 7/ What was King George VI's first name?
- 8/ What colour is a purple finch?

- 9/ Where do we get Chinese gooseberries from?
- 10/ What is the colour of the black box in a commercial airplane?
- 11/ In which city is the University of Warwick?
- 12/ Where in the world do you think American Bulldogs were first bred?
- 13/ Where is Leeds Castle ?
- 14/ What is Prince Harry's first name ?

**This is just a fun quiz, no winners, no loser's, and No prizes.
You can ask family, phone a friend, surf the net. *Brian Ellis***

Answers to Last month's quiz:

- 1 / MORECAMBE Morecambe and Wise Eric & Ernie
- 2 / SELBY "sell by" date
- 3 / YORK (Yorkie 6 letters 4 of the 6 letters)
- 4 / LEEDS leads
- 5 / TONBRIDGE (20 CWT) ton bridge
- 6 / LEICESTER (Lester Piggot jockey)
- 7 / HULL (Rod Hull with his arm puppet Emu)
- 8 / LANCASTER 's
- 9 / NUNEATON Nun were eaten
- 10/ PRESTON
- 11/ BLACKBURN
- 12/ DUMFRIES (Thick) Dum - - (chips) (French) fry's
- 13/ CRAWLEY
- 14/ RUGBY
- 15/ KILMARNOCK Kill Ma Knock ...
- 16/ WOODSTOCK
- 17/ BEER
- 18/ PLYMOUTH Ply(wood) Mouth
- 19/ SOUTHEND ON SEA Not Southsea
- 20/ ANDOVER And - over your money
- 21/ AVON
- 22/ BANGOR
- 23/ WATCHET
- 24/ WELWYN GARDEN CITY (Well in garden (of) city)
- 25/ AMBERGATE between Matlock and Derby
- 26/ ABERGAVENNY did Abba give any
- 27/ LOOE

Technical Group & Website



Webmaster and Chairman Technical Group: Baz Wellard can be contacted at 18 Greenwood Close, Fareham, Hants PO16 7UF or email : technical@asoc.uk.com

Pressurising Tyres:

Bill Chitty has found difficulty in pressurising the tyres on his A~S motorhome. Firstly he used an unsuitable cheap 12volt compressor; followed by another compressor from a well known motor component store, which was equally unsuitable as it had a screw-on connection. This meant losing pressure whilst trying to screw on to the Schrader valve.

He now recommends the German manufactured Heyner Big Air 40L PRO 12v heavy duty air compressor which is 100PSI/7 bar and comes with a 3m cable and four adaptors, costing £49.99 post free. He bought through eBay from Nixon_cp who are based in Ardingly near Haywards Heath.

I had a similar problem with a small compressor which although, allegedly, had a high output did not have the capacity for large motorhome tyres, so the motor seized blowing a fuse. I now have a heavy duty 'truck compressor', which I carry with me, especially during the winter.

The 'winter' theory being that if I'm stuck in snow/ice, I can lower the tyre pressures, (*as recommended when driving on soft sand*) and drive slowly out of the trouble - re-inflating when clear! Well that's the theory – I hope I never have to test it!

Incidentally, my compressor's instructions recommend running the engine when using the compressor.

New Year's Resolution (late!):

I'm still very short of fuel statistics for Euro V engines! Perhaps, as a late New Year's resolution, a few members could record their fuel usage as against mileage and let me know for the Club records, please?

The data is very simple as you will see on; - www.asoc.uk.com >'Technical' > 'Fuel Information'.

Website Update:

- **01a/14 - Rally list** - Prestwood Steam Fair 4th to 6th July rally added

A Warm Welcome to New Members

Membership Numbers from 8602 to 8623

John & Carol Tarring	Filey	Winchcombe
Andrew & Pilar Stocker	Macclesfield	Symbol
Alan & Margaret Carder	Brackley	Broadway
Bill & Jane Johnson	Folkestone	Broadway
Paul & Christine Lawrence	Harpenden	Broadway
Charles & Irene Hurst	Witney	Nuevo
Mike & Pat Wenden	Cardigan	Broadway
David & Dawn Frost	Penzance	Trooper
Stephen Baldrey & Jayne Ford	Brighton	Symbol
Gordon & Elaine Goodwin	Sandy	Legend
Mike & Geraldine Jamieson	Ashburton	Symbol
Trevor & Grace Harvey	Gloucester	Nuevo
Richard & J Caddy	Thurso	Bourton
Michael & Vivien Meath	Barnoldswick	Broadway
Ken & Caroline Maskell	Carlisle	Broadway
Larry & Maureen Ackland-Smith	Exeter	Symbol
Tony & Linda Bennett	Holmfirth	Stanton
Jerry & Judith Foster	Gosport	Symbol
Chris & Chris Webster	Salisbury	Warwick
Jeff Coombes	Llangollen	Nuevo
David & Linda Cox	Loughborough	Warwick
Clive & Brenda Treacher	Boreham Wood	Bourton

Membership Secretary: Jill Bertlin, The Rockeries, Sunny Terrace, Lindale, Grange-over-Sands, Cumbria, LA11 6LQ or email: jbertlin@aol.com



Thanks for your
Donations .

**September 2003 Auto-Sleeper
VW Topaz LE**

12,000 miles only with history.

Photos available on request.

£18500 Malcolm Lewis

Tel 01646 690110

Mobile **07831 110637**

email **rmlewis@btconnect.com**

Auto-Sleeper Rambler 1990
for sale. Talbot 2litre Petrol.

70,000 miles. 2 Berth. Fridge,
Toilet Compartment,

Wardrobe, Hot water, Sink unit,
Cooker but no oven, Water
tank.

New MOT, gas bottles, wind
out awning. Good Condition.

£3,500 Contact **077111 76067**
(Herts)

For Sale Paragon

Silverscreen to fit a Fiat
Ducato / Peugeot Boxer, 2006
models or earlier. Good
condition £50.

Contact Tony on **01752 337170**
(Plymouth Devon)

Auto-Sleeper Executive HD
2000. 2 berth or double. 21,398
miles, First registered Nov.
2003.

FSH. MOT. First Class
condition. All usual A/S features.

Many extras including rear
safety bar with ball hitch.
Telescopic TV aerial. Wind out
awning. 2 Bike rack. Solar
panels Mains and aerial booster
cables and many more extras.

A very comfortable and well
cared for motor home. Sale due
to Ill health. Price: £18,995
Contact: Ken Beales **01206**
572238 (Colchester)

Auto-Sleeper Nuevo 2.2 2006
for sale. 2 berth 16,700 miles.
Gas/electric heating. Water
Heater. Full cooker. FSH. Taxed
till April. MOT and. Habitation till
October. Ladder, air suspension,
towbar. Twin reversing cameras.
£23,000.
Contact Roger **01392 257759**
(Exeter)

Protec Cover to fit Auto-Sleeper
Pescara/Polensa on Peugeot
Boxer. As new £200 ono.

Swivel Seat to fit 2008 Ford
Transit £75 ono.

Contact Norman Smith **01784**
436894 (Surrey)