

ASOC

NEWS

365 FEBRUARY 2019



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News is the magazine of the
 AUTO-SLEEPER OWNERS' CLUB
 A Company Limited by Guarantee

Registered Office:

Orchard Works, Willersey,
 Worcestershire WR12 7QF

Registered No: 4616969

Important note

Contributions from members are published in good faith and 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 Club or your editor. Therefore, no warranties are expressed or implied nor indemnities given. You try them out at your own risk.

Advertisements for members items for sale or wanted are published free of charge, but small donations to club funds are appreciated. No guarantee can be given that any item will be published in any issue of the magazine. Cheques should be made payable to "Auto-Sleeper Owners' Club" and should be sent to the editor.

Supplier discounts

The list is available on the website

We have many companies who offer members a discount on the goods and services they supply.

To claim your discount, you must present your ASOC membership card at the time of order or arrival. You will not qualify for the discount by presenting your membership card after work has commenced.

Items for publication

The editor reserves the right to edit or omit any item for whatever reason. The opinions, beliefs and viewpoints expressed by the contributors to ASOC News do not necessarily reflect those of the editor. Please remember to add your membership number and name to your item. Any item appearing in any magazine issue may be freely used by other publications, but please acknowledge both the author and source.

Your items should reach the editor by the tenth of the month.

Send by post or email to

17 Newbridge Gardens

Bath BA1 3LT

asocnews@asoc.uk.com

Rally information**Points to remember**

Marshals should let the rally coordinator know when their rallies are fully booked.

Always carry your ASOC membership card when attending rallies. Inform the marshal if you plan to bring a car, tent or trailer to a rally.

All rallies start at 12 noon unless otherwise stated in the rally information.

Running a rally

If you would like to run a rally, contact the rally coordinator for "Guide for Rally Marshals". When a date and venue is chosen you will receive the "Rules for Rally Marshals" and asked to sign a marshal's declaration which should be returned to the rally coordinator. Assistance and advice is available from the rally coordinator or a committee member.

If you would like to assist a rally marshal to see what is involved in running a rally, or interested in the details of possible rally sites we have, contact the rally coordinator.

Important:

All potential rally dates and venues must be checked with the rally coordinator, who will check that the club will be able to comply with regulatory and insurance requirements.

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Members who subscribe to access the member and technical area

The username and password has changed
the new login details will be sent to you by email

NOTICE

THE THIRTIETH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
OF
AUTO-SLEEPER OWNERS' CLUB
will be held on
SATURDAY 4 MAY 2019

held at the National Rally in the Cedric Ford Pavilion
Newark and Nottinghamshire Agricultural Society Showground
Newark Nottinghamshire

Nomination forms for election to the Management Committee/Honorary Examiner and Proxy appointment forms are available from the Secretary, who requests that Nomination forms, and any resolutions for consideration at the meeting, should be received by him, on or before Monday 4 February 2019.

In the case of Proxy appointment forms they should be received by him on or before 10.30am Thursday 2 May 2019.

Members are informed that they have a right to appoint a proxy.

Members are reminded that admission to the Annual General Meeting is subject to proof of membership, and that current membership cards should be carried at all Club events.

John Osland-Jones, Secretary
Flat 7, Oak Tree Court
15 Pembroke Way
Hall Green
Birmingham B28 9EX



AUTO-SLEEPER OWNERS' CLUB

A company Limited by Guarantee, registered in England and Wales

Registered Office:

Orchard Works, Nr. Broadway, Worcestershire. WR12 7QF

editor's note

Welcome to February News.

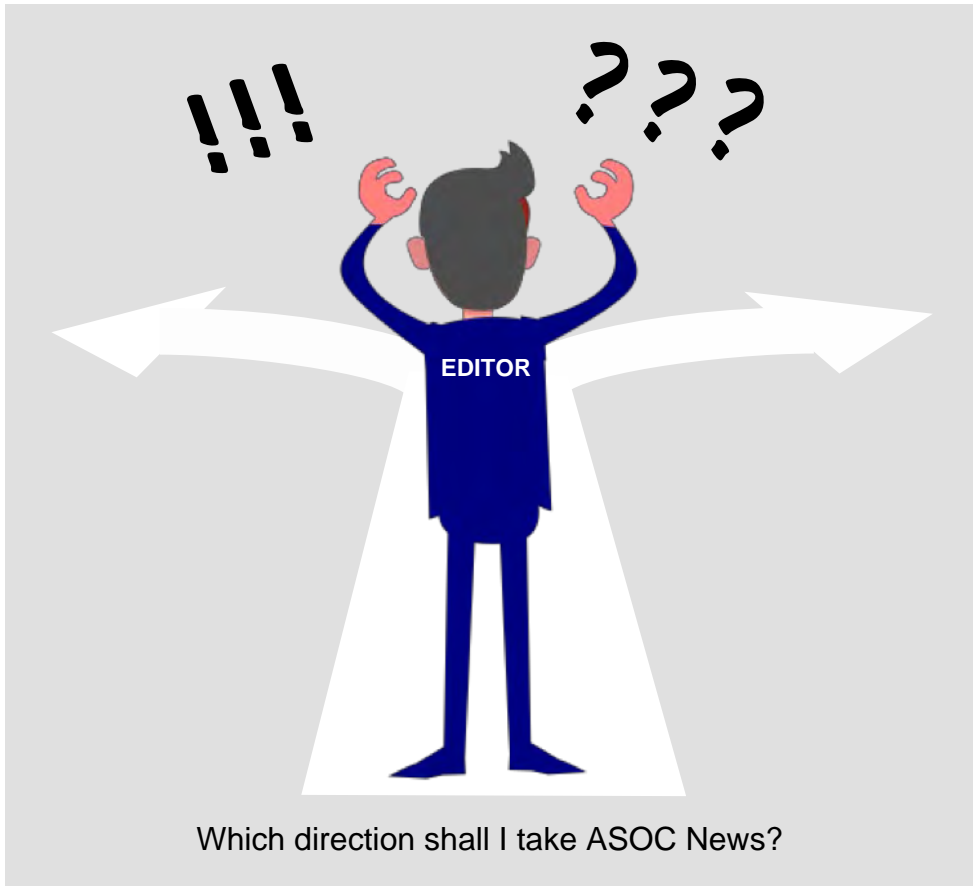
You will find the booking form for the National Rally as a centre spread to pullaway and fill in. You also have the choice to pay by bank transfer.

Just to remind members regarding the member and technical area on the website. We were going to automatically enrol you to the login details, but have now decided to leave it to members to decide if they they wish to access the information.

This is quite easy, all you need to do is go to the website and subscribe, or use this link

<http://eepurl.com/dCvBsz>

After you have subscribed we will send you the login details and a monthly email update when the online magazine is available to download.



photographic competition 2019

submit up to four
photographs

ANY SUBJECT

photograph entry size
can be

6 x 4 inches or 7 x 5
inches unmounted

All members per
motorhome can enter

**The judging takes place at
the National rally by an
independent person**

**Closing date for entries
14 April 2019**

The winning entry will be kept for
any publicity by ASOC and may
be displayed on the club website

Please send the following details on a
separate sheet with your entry

The photograph title

Your name and membership number
together with your address

**WIN
£25**

Send your entries to:
Rita Tubb
70 Charnwood
Crescent
Chandlers Ford
Hampshire

If you take the electronic version of News, all the links should take you direct to the websites

Clean Air Zone for Bath

Bath City are proposing to implement a Clean Air Zone which covers the whole of the city including some areas outside the city. The zone includes routes A4 and A36, which cross the city and means if you don't comply you will need to pay the £9 per day to travel through. The zone effectively stops you from crossing the city, unless you comply and will need to pay the fee. Travelling down the A46 from the M4 to the city will bring you into the zone if you are planning to travel towards the Bath Marina campsite or Bristol.

It is expected to come into force at end of 2020, *although residents have forced the council to rethink.*

Compliant vehicles allowed to travel through the zone without paying are:

Euro 6 diesel

Euro 4 petrol

Electric and hydrogen fuel cell

<https://bathnewseum.com/2018/10/16/9-to-cross-baths-clean-air-zone/>

ULEZ is coming to London

To help improve air quality, an Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) will be in place in central London from 8 April 2019. Most vehicles including cars and vans will need to meet new, tighter exhaust emission standards (ULEZ standards) or pay a daily charge to travel within the area of the ULEZ.

<https://tfl.gov.uk/modes/driving/ultra-low-emission-zone>

From 25 October 2021, the ULEZ area will be expanded to include the inner London area bounded by the North and South Circular roads.

Driving in Europe after Brexit?

We may need an International driving permit with our UK driving licence when travelling through Europe after Brexit. I understand many UK motorhomers are coming back before Brexit happens, but what if you plan to stay after? Permits are available from the Post Office, which you may need if driving in non European countries.. More information can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/driving-in-the-eu-if-theres-no-brexite-deal>

<https://www.postoffice.co.uk/international-driving-permit>

www.saneftolling.co.uk

www.eurotunnelgroup.com

www.tfl.gov.uk/lezlondon

www.viewdrivingrecord.service.gov.uk/driving-record/licence-number

www.gov.uk/check-vehicle-tax

Don't forget you can still enter the photographic competition even if you are not attending the National

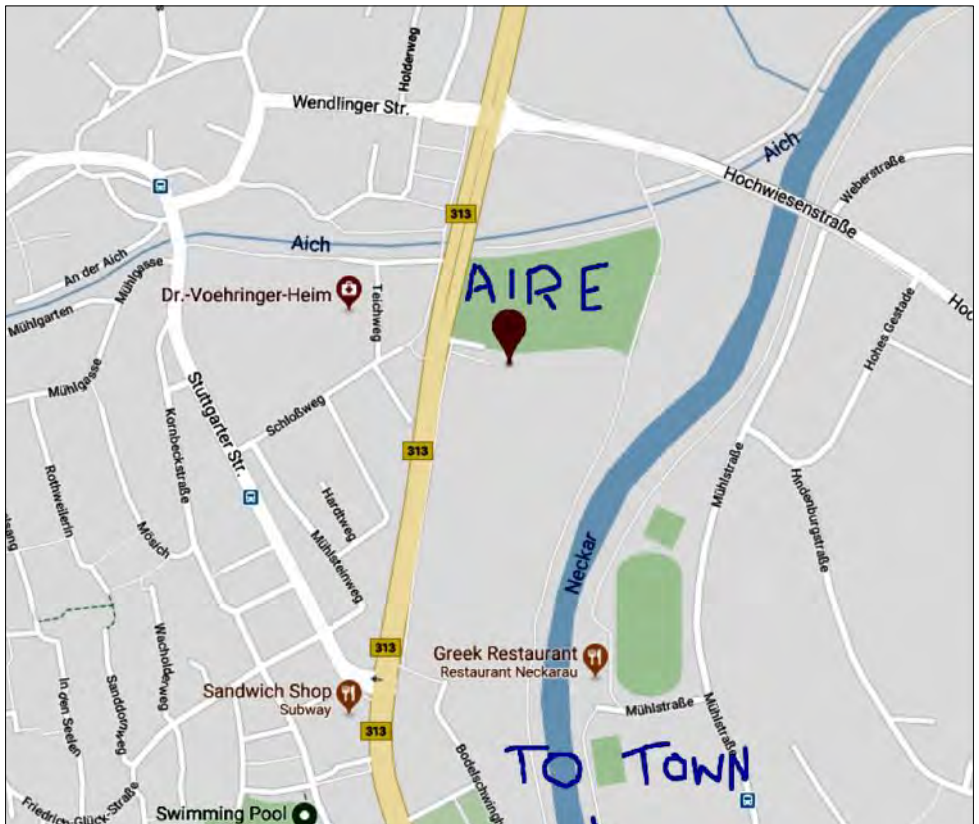


Co-ordinates 48.63645 9.33051

12 pitches at €5 per night. Water €1. 12hr Electricity (8 hook ups) €1

Handy stopover south of Stuttgart en-route to Bavaria, Austria, Italy, etc

Town centre 15 min walk along river path



what's on

Caravan, Camping & Motorhome Show 2019

19 -24 February 2019

NEC Birmingham

<https://www.ccmshow.co.uk>

Car S.O.S Exhibition

until 28 February 2019

British Motor Museum

Banbury Road, Gaydon,

Warwickshire, CV35 0BJ

<https://www.britishmotormuseum.co.uk>

The Cotswold Show & Food Festival

13 - 14 July 2019

Cirencester

www.cotswoldshow.co.uk

C&MC site next to the showground

Busvest (everything VW)

6 - 8 September 2019

Three counties showground, Malvern

<https://www.busfest.org>

SUPPLIER DISCOUNTS

what you need to know

We have many companies who offer members a discount on the goods and services they supply.

To claim your discount, you must present your ASOC membership card at the time of order or arrival.

You will not qualify for the discount by presenting your membership card after work has commenced.

WE NEED



your walks and cycle rides. Everyone has favourite ones from the campsites they visit, so now is the time to share them, why not send them to the editor.

your view

A Complete Contrast: Four days in Leicester

Day 1: We went to see Matthew Bourne's version of 'Swan Lake' with Tchaikovsky's wonderful music played by a full orchestra. The difference with this production was that a troupe of male dancers danced all the parts normally performed by the female 'corps de ballet'. This was at the 'Curve', our newest theatre celebrating ten years this year.

Day 2: We went to the De Montfort Hall, built in 1912, to see Daniel O'Donnell – three hours of perfect charm and singing all our favourites.

Day 3: In the centre of Leicester, we have the 'Little Theatre', where we saw Alan Ayckbourne's comedy 'Absurd Person Singular'.

Day 4: We were at the Haymarket Theatre, also in the City Centre, which has been updated and reopened after standing empty for ten years. This was a classical concert given by the Bardi Orchestra, which is made up of non-professional players, based in the Midlands. They perform on a Sunday afternoon, usually in the De Montfort Hall.

Elizabeth Grimsley 2080

COMING TO THE NATIONAL?

PLEASE BRING YOUR SURPLUS BOOKS, JIGSAWS, MOTORHOME BITS TO THE PAVILION

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Never been to an ASOC National?

Well 2019 is a good year to try it – it's our 30th ANNIVERSARY and in addition to our Saturday Night Dinner Dance we're having a special Celebration Night on Friday

You'll have seen from January News that Friday night will give you the opportunity to dress up – either in what you would have been wearing in the late 80s early 90s or as it's a Pearl Anniversary, as Pearly Kings and Queens. However, it's not compulsory you can just come along and enjoy the spectacle. Brenda Collins will be entertaining us and will judge our 'dressing up competition'. Brenda has entertained us before with her sharp wit and 'Cilla' type voice. She proved to be a very popular choice – so we asked her to come again.

Saturday is traditionally our Dinner Dance, but if you're expecting posh frocks and tiaras, I'm afraid you'll be disappointed – smart casual is the dress code. There is a three course silver service meal followed by the raffle, then 'bop until you drop' to Shooter, who are also back by popular demand.

Those are the two 'main events' but in addition there's a Social Evening on Thursday with or without a meal – your choice, and on Sunday evening there will be a Quiz Night. There is a bar in the Cedric Ford Hall which will be open each evening and at lunchtime on Sunday.

We should point out that although meals are available every evening (except Sunday) you will be most welcome into the Cedric Ford Hall just to have a drink and watch the entertainment, those tables used by the diners will be numbered to avoid any confusion. So, you don't have to book a meal to participate.

As far as the camping is concerned the fee per night includes electric hook up and disabled pitches are available (to blue badge holders) as close to the facilities as we can put them, free access to the halls and whichever social activity or professional entertainment that is on offer. You can book for any number of nights from one to four. As well as fresh water and Elsan disposal, there are toilet and shower facilities, and gas bottles are available at certain times during the day.

In addition to the evening meals on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, there is a Carvery Sunday lunchtime. There is also a coach trip organised for Sunday afternoon, depart 1.45pm, to the adjacent Boundary Mill fashion store and Downtown Garden Centre, which is a mixed goods retail outlet, both of which have a café. They are located just off the A1 a little to the north of Grantham.

SMC, the local Auto-Sleepers dealer will be arranging a mini bus to provide a shuttle service to and from their Showroom on Saturday and Sunday – tea and cake is available at their premises.

What else to do during the day? Well in the Stuart Goodwin Hall entries for the Photographic Competition will be on display, as well as a Tombola there are jigsaws, books and Regalia for sale and a motorhome 'Bring & Buy'. If you have any queries about your motorhome you can have a chat to somebody 'technical'. Tea and coffee is also available so you can have a sit down and a chat as well.

There will be a Q & A session with staff from Auto-Sleepers, including Geoff Scott, on Friday afternoon in the Cedric Ford Pavilion.

Last, but not least, you can attend the AGM on Saturday morning – it doesn't take long and there's an Open Forum afterwards where you can have your say on anything to do with your Club.

Want to give it a go?

Then join your fellow members who we'll be welcoming back, and enjoy a great weekend.

A booking form is enclosed with this edition of News which covers camping, meals and the coach trip. There is also a section where you can volunteer for marshalling and/or raffle ticket selling. This form is also available on the website. You can either e-mail it or post it and pay by bank transfer or cheque. Details of both methods are on the form.

LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU FOR A GREAT WEEKEND

2019

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2 - 6
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On Sunday a coach has been organised to
Boundary Mill and Garden Centre
<http://boundarymill.co.uk/store/grantham/#simple1>
<https://www.olderids.co.uk/our-stores/121-downtown-garden-centre-grantham>
book your tickets on the National booking form

BOOK YOUR PITCH

The fee per night includes electric hook up, free access to the halls and whichever social activity or professional entertainment that is on offer. The bar in the Cedric Ford Pavilion will be open in the evenings – but that's not free!

Facilities available on site include toilets, showers, fresh water, elsan emptying and purchase of gas cylinders.

A Newsagent will attend most mornings to bring pre-ordered Newspapers.

BOOK YOUR MEALS

Each day, meals are available in the Cedric Ford. Those wishing to order meals, do so on your application form. Those not taking the meals are welcome in the Pavilion but requested to avoid sitting at tables that are involved in the meal service.



NATIONAL RALLY TOMBOLA

all proceeds to the club's nominated charity

After continuing success, Chris and I are again running the bottle and can tombola at the National Rally in the Sir Stuart Goodwin Pavilion.

We would be very grateful if club members could start collecting bottles and cans to donate to the Tombola. The more we have, the longer the tombola goes on, and the more chances you have of winning.

Liz Irvin



Auto-Sleeper Owners' Club
National Rally, Newark Showground, 2 – 6 May 2019

APPLICATION FORM Please fill in your details and requirements

Membership number	Vehicle registration
Names of persons attending the rally	
Address	
Town/City	Postcode
Telephone	Mobile
Email	

Arrival date	Time of arrival
Disabled pitch required (Blue Badge Holders)	Is this your first rally

Please give details of a person to contact in the event of an emergency

Name	
Telephone	Mobile

Send your application to:
chairman@asoc.uk.com **OR** Peter Brown & Chris Mawdsley
5 Kenilworth Walk, Cheadle,
Stoke-on-Trent,
ST10 1WA

Queries to e-mail address above or 07771 827711

If you require confirmation of your booking by post please enclose SAE

Payment by cheque payable to The Auto-Sleeper Owners Club **OR**
Bank transfer (*reference must be included – see below*)

Sort code 01-01-78 Account no 19654375

Reference required: Membership number then surname (eg 4321 RICHARDSON)

Number of adults attending		
Number of children attending (<i>under 16's free</i>)		
Rally cost per van	Tick	£
4 nights including electricity, access to halls & entertainment 1 adult £63 2 adults £71 additional adult £8		
3 nights including electricity, access to halls & entertainment 1 adult £52 2 adults £60 additional adult £8		
2 nights including electricity, access to halls & entertainment 1 adult £41 2 adults £49 additional adult £8		
1 night including electricity, access to halls & entertainment 1 adult £30 2 adults £38 additional adult £8		
Total pitch £		

Coach Trip Sunday 5 May to Grantham Boundary Mill Stores/Downtown Garden Centre Depart Showground 1345 and back at 1730 £5 per person	Number required	£

Meals are optional	Number Required	£
Thursday evening (<i>please complete the menu options</i>) £7.00 per person		
Friday evening (<i>please complete the menu options</i>) £7.50 per person		
Saturday evening (<i>please complete the menu options</i>) £25.75 per person		
Sunday lunch (<i>please complete the menu options</i>) £8.75 per person		
Total meals £		

Total pitch, meal and coach trip £	
---	--

Menu options Please indicate your choices

Thursday Evening	£7.00 per person	Number required
Pulled Pork with BBQ and Apple Sauce, Coleslaw, Assorted Salad, Bread Roll		
Vegetarian Option (Red Onion Tart Tatin)		

Friday (foods from the world)	£7.50 per Person	Number required
England	Cottage Pie with Seasonal Vegetables	
Italy	Traditional Meatballs served in a tangy sauce with Garlic Bread and Tomato Salad	
China	Sweet and Sour Chicken, egg fried Rice and Prawn Crackers	
India	Chicken korma, Palau Rice with Crispy poppadum's	

Saturday	3 course Dinner £25.75 per Person	Number required
Starter choice	Leek & Potato Soup (GF)	
	Ham hock terrine with crusty bread & pea puree	
Main choice	Roast Lamb and Mint Sauce (GF)	
	Poached Salmon with a Herb infused crust with a Dill sauce	
	Stuffed Roasted Peppers	
	Chefs Medley of Seasonal Vegetables & Potatoes	
Desert choice	Brandy Snap Basket filled with Chocolate Ice cream and topped with hot Black Cherries	
	Sticky toffee pudding & vanilla custard	
	Ice Cream	
Coffee/Tea & Mints		

Sunday lunch carvery	£8.75 per person	Number required
Beef & Gammon		

Sweet and coffee will be available to purchase on Thursday, Friday and Sunday

Papers will be available on Friday Saturday and Sunday mornings.
 Please order them now and pay for them when you collect them. You will be issued with tickets to show what papers you have ordered.

Newspapers required
Friday
Saturday
Sunday

If you can help by Volunteering

Selling raffle tickets	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Thursday	N/A	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
Friday	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Saturday	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Marshaling duties		
Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	9-10am <input type="checkbox"/>	
2-3pm <input type="checkbox"/>	10-11am <input type="checkbox"/>	
3-4pm <input type="checkbox"/>	11-noon <input type="checkbox"/>	
4-5pm <input type="checkbox"/>	noon-1pm <input type="checkbox"/>	9-10am <input type="checkbox"/>
5-6pm <input type="checkbox"/>	1-2pm <input type="checkbox"/>	
	2-3pm <input type="checkbox"/>	
	3-4pm <input type="checkbox"/>	

IN THE SIR STUART GOODWIN PAVILION

WE ARE CELEBRATING 30 YEARS SINCE THE CLUB STARTED
AND WILL HAVE PHOTOGRAPHS AND MEMORABILIA FROM THE LAST 30 YEARS

IF ANY MEMBER HAS PHOTOS OR MEMORABILIA TO ADD TO OUR DISPLAY
PLEASE BRING THEM ALONG

TEA AND COFFEE
JIGSAWS & BOOKS
PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION
TECHNICAL INFORMATION
REGALIA FOR SALE
TOMBOLA
MOTORHOME BRING AND BUY



NATIONAL RALLY
2-6 MAY

FRIDAY 9.30 - 12.30 & 13.30 - 16.30
SATURDAY 13.30 - 16.00

YOUR CHANCE TO
WIN

£10 M&S VOUCHER

VALENTINE CAPTION COMPETITION



write a caption for the above picture and send to the editor
publications@asoc.uk.com or by post

closing date for entries 10 February 2019

the winning entry will be drawn by WINGS

New Year in Robin Hood Country

You may remember reading last year that the AAOCC decided to open up their New Year Rally to non-members using an ACCEO Exemption Certificate. Well, Peter and I decided to give it a go, not really knowing what we were letting ourselves in for – other than a Masked Ball, suitably attired. Peter got away with the frock, I had one, but I had to have new shoes – totally unsuitable and not sure if I could even walk in them let alone dance but must have!

What can I say – it was a great rally. In all there were 7 ‘Incomers’ and right from the start we were made to feel welcome and included. The Rally was held at the Robin Hood Activity Centre near Blidworth which boasts a modern, well heated hall which was used each evening for various social events. Saturday evening saw a get together over drinks and baked potatoes, Sunday we were entertained by Rachel Cooper – a really good singer with a wide repertoire.

A visit to a pantomime had been arranged for the afternoon of New Year’s Eve followed by a Masquerade Ball in the evening, during which we were wined and dined followed by a disco taking us through to the early hours of New Year’s Day. Everyone turned up suitably attired in posh frocks, lounge or dinner suits and masks. Each couple had their photo taken on arrival – can be viewed on the AAOCC website if you’re interested. It was different, it was fun, it was a really good party.

New Year’s Day we all duly turned up, in varying degrees of brightness, at around 10.30am for a full English, followed by the raffle. The final evening was another get together, this time with cheese and biscuits, followed by a couple of card games – not sure what it was called, but it was fun.

In between all this, Peter and I managed a couple of walks, one down to Blidworth, stopping off for a late lunch on the way back at the Little John pub in Ravenshead, and one to Newstead Abbey, touring the Abbey whilst we were there. It was the home of the ‘mad, bad and dangerous to know’ Lord Byron, and is set in extensive gardens and parkland. Well worth a visit.

All in all it was a fantastic New Year Rally and on behalf of all the ‘Incomers’ can I say a huge THANK YOU to all the marshals, who put a great deal of effort into not only ensuring the rally went smoothly, but into decorating the hall, doing the cooking and a myriad of other things to ensure we all had a good time. And thank you to everyone who attended for making us feel so welcome.

I understand they may run it again next year, again under an ACCEO Exemption Certificate, which means it’s open to anyone who is a personal member of ACCEO. So, if you’re interested form an orderly queue - BEHIND US.

By the way the shoes – purple four inch stiletto mules – behaved impeccably and both ankles are still intact.



Well, following a very restful Christmas holiday and New Year celebrations, I can report that things are settling down again and I am back in my normal "groove" again. Happy new year to you all.

I have been grateful for the enquiries you have been sending me via technical@asoc.uk.com as it forces me to study and research, which I find is the best way to learn (for me anyway!)

Amongst the enquiries was one regarding a series of failures of a Sargent EC480 control panel (the touch panel used with the EC500 power supply) in a 2017 Kemerton. Our fellow member was on the fourth panel and this too was showing signs of early failure. Despite their frustrations, they were effusive in their praise for their dealer, SMC in Newark who really looked after them. It seems that the panel was suffering with the effects of condensation forming on the electronics, apparently leading to failure. In the Kemerton, the panel is mounted above the sliding door, behind which is a 50mm layer of insulation and the outer metal wall of the vehicle. This particular problem is regarded as a "one-off" by SMC and the factory. A quote from the factory...

" Two people and a dog will produce a litre of water vapour overnight (imagine boiling off a decent sized pan of water before going to bed) and a couple of litres in 24 hours. This needs proper ventilation (a window and a roof vent open) to escape!!"

(I think they probably mean "cracked open" – which is what I do)

Another enquiry was a report from a member who was disappointed in the performance of the "wet locker" on his Broadway. It seems that the selling dealer had not told him this is a wet locker and he was disappointed that it seems to be letting water in.

Another member was struggling to remove the lens cover from the front marker lights on his 2005 Nuevo to replace the bulb. After a quick visit to Derby Motorhomes (I live only a couple of miles away) I was able to determine that if there are no screws securing the lens, it just prises off from either end and the light fitting is screwed to the body underneath the lens. This was a Hella light fitting and a new replacement was less than a Tenner.

On the 2002 Nuevo, you had to be careful not to lose the wires back into the body as there was not much slack, clipped a clothes peg on the wires so not to loose them [editor]



Guide to Winterisation

Auto-Sleepers has revised and updated Sheet 85 on winterisation, and is reproduced here it will also be available to download from the website in the member area

Internal insulation of Auto-Sleepers vehicles has improved over the years, so thankfully the only facility requiring winterisation is the water system. You should have no concern for freezing of the system other than the water heater and water pump, since the water tanks are manufactured in a material that can cope with the expansion caused by freezing. If your vehicle is being left unused for several days in freezing conditions, it would be prudent to drain the system fully. Surface freezing of the water in both fresh and the waste water tank will not cause any damage to the tank. The operation of the fresh water system may be affected by ice because the fresh water is drawn off the lower part of the water tank, underneath any layer of ice that may have formed.

It is important that during prolonged freezing conditions, and at times when your Auto Sleeper is left unused, the water system is drained including the water pump. To drain the system completely open all tank taps, dump valve/drain tap and all internal taps. When water has finished flowing turn the water pump on to rid any residue water from the pump, pipes, pump filter and taps then switch pump off and leave all taps open. Please note that the submerged Whale water pumps should only be operated for 5-10 seconds when there is a risk of running dry. Later Auto Sleeper models are fitted with either the Truma Combi, Truma Ultrastore or Carver Cascade/Rapide water heaters and instructions for draining and isolating these units are as follows:

- **Truma combi heater:** The Combi heater supplied to Auto-Sleepers has a built-in frost protection function called the "Truma Frost Control". If there is a risk of frost (ambient temperature approximately 3°C) the Frost Control opens automatically and drains the boiler. The boiler can be refilled when the temperature rises above 7°C. Nevertheless when the appliance is not in operation, it is essential to drain off the water content if there is a risk of frost. Truma do not allow claims under the warranty for damage caused by frost. Switch off the power to the pump assembly (main switch or pump switch), open the hot water taps in kitchen and bathroom. In order to check the volume of water that is flowing out, place an appropriate container (capacity 10 litres) beneath the safety/drain valve. Open the safety/drain valve. The boiler will now be drained directly to the outside via the safety/drain valve. Check whether all of the water in the boiler (10 litres) has been drained into the container.
- **Truma Ultrastore:** On Auto Sleepers models that are not fitted with an isolation tap, the complete water system should be drained. There is a dump valve that allows the Ultrastore to be drained of water and this is found in different positions on different models. The instruction manual clearly identifies the location of this dump valve and should be used and left open when your Auto Sleeper is left for prolonged periods in freezing conditions. If you continue to use your Auto Sleeper in such conditions, it is suggested that the retro-fitting of an isolation tap in the water circuit would be a wise move so that the water heater can be isolated while retaining the cold water facility. The Motorhome Service Centre (01386 853511) at Willersey will be happy to supply a tap and/or fit this should you require.
- **Carver Cascade/Cascade 2/Rapide Water Heater:** This water heater must be isolated in prolonged freezing conditions, since if the stainless steel cylinder is allowed to freeze it will stretch the securing bolt, blow the seals and cause leaking into the interior of the vehicle. Replacement securing bolts are no longer available. During the time the Carver Rapide water heater was fitted, an isolation tool was supplied with each vehicle. When the heater is drained the isolation tool should be found in an externally accessed chamber on

the outside of the water heater, concealed behind the large screw in the lower left-hand corner. Inserting the tool, thick end first, will lock the non-return valve preventing the filling of the water cylinder - the thinner section allowing the claws of the drain plug to fit around the tool and to allow it to be re-fitted. The upper drain screw, immediately above the aforementioned upper screw, should be left open for a good length of time to allow any residual water to drain out. If you do not have this isolation tool these are available from the Motor Home Service Centre. The earlier model of the Carver water heater, the Cascade, does not have the screw on the top left-hand area of the gas module cover; however the isolation tool may still be used.

- **Valliant Water Heater:** For the older vans fitted with Valliant water heater, you should ring the Motorhome Service Centre who will advise upon the course of action to be taken. It is possible that on the Vaillant water heater the lower diaphragm module can become warped through freezing, preventing the water heater working correctly. There is an easy and simple way of rectifying this - please seek advice from the Motorhome Service Centre. Due to recent changes in legislation the Motorhome Service Centre are unable to carry out repairs on any open flue gas appliances, but rectification advice will be given.

Questions are often asked with regards to the winterisation of the Thetford cassette toilet. Since these are positioned well in-board on the van and are well insulated, under normal working use in winter conditions, no winterisation is required. If necessary you may wish to put into the flushing tank a small amount of Glycol or similar anti-freeze to allow the toilet to function in extreme conditions. Further advice is available from your Thetford, see

<https://www.thetford-europe.com/gb/>

These are the only precautions that need to be taken in respect of the conversion side of your Auto Sleeper. If your vehicle is being stored in the winter for prolonged periods it is always wise to remove any detachable cushions/scatter cushions and keep these in your home. The fixed ventilation in each Auto Sleeper will allow the vehicle to breathe over the winter months, although it would be sensible, perhaps fortnightly or three weekly, to thoroughly air your Auto Sleeper perhaps using the heater to warm the interior of the vehicle to evaporate any residual moisture.

On the automotive side, advice should be taken from your local base vehicle dealer with regards to any specific instructions or indeed from the automotive section of the Motorhome Service Centre, but of course, it is always wise to ensure that prior to the winter your coolant is checked for anti-freeze content and to make sure that the specific gravity is of the correct reading. This can of course be checked and rectified by the Motorhome Service Centre on the number shown above. Another sensible precaution would be to periodically charge the base vehicle and conversion batteries to maintain them in good condition.

If using your Auto Sleeper in particularly harsh conditions, the Motorhome Service Centre always advises the use of Propane instead of Butane for the gas supply since this has superior low temperature performance. If you have any fears in respect of the winterisation of your vehicle please contact the Motorhome Service Centre direct on 01386 853511. They are always happy to discuss any concerns that you have, together with the retro-fitting of a frostat - a 12-volt heater in your fresh tank, which is a popular option for some owners and they would be pleased to quote for fitting



**more tech ideas can be found on the website in
the technical area**

stay snug this winter

with a club woolly hat

woolly hat with
badge £6.50 +
£2.00 postage



order from the Regalia Officer
regalia@asoc.uk.com or from the website

THE ASSOCIATION OF CARAVAN AND CAMPING EXEMPTED ORGANISATIONS (ACCEO)

The Auto-Sleeper Owners Club is a member of ACCEO and every now and again I think its good to remind ASOC members what ACCEO is about.

WHAT IS ACCEO?

The Association of Caravan and Camping Exempted Organisations is a group of over 200 caravan, motorhome and camping clubs (Member Clubs) all of whom hold a Certificate of Exemption.

The ACCEO Executive Committee is elected from members of Member Clubs to represent the combined interests of the clubs.

WHAT DOES THE ASSOCIATION DO?

ACCEO works closely with Government Departments and Authorities on behalf of its Member Clubs.

ACCEO is able to provide both services and access to facilities which are not directly available to individual clubs.

CERTIFICATES OF EXEMPTION

In order to rally on land with more than one caravan and without the need to apply for a caravan site licence or local council planning permission, rallying clubs must hold a Certificate of Exemption.

There are three Certificates of Exemption that most rallying clubs will utilise in organising caravan rallies, two of these come under the "Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960" and the third under the "Public Health Act 1936: Section 269".

The Certificate of Exemption that most clubs would hold is a Paragraph 6 Certificate which enable caravan and motorhome clubs to rally on land without a caravan site licence for up to a maximum of 5 days (5 consecutive twenty-four hour periods).

A Paragraph 4 Certificate would enable caravan and motorhome clubs to rally for a longer period; but certificate holders have agreed to limit this to twenty-eight days.

In order for camping clubs to rally under the same conditions and for caravan and motorhome clubs to be able to allow tents and trailer tents on their rallies, they would also need to gain a "Public Health Act 1936: Section 269" Certificate of Exemption.

EXTENDED RALLIES

For organisations prepared to establish themselves with the legal status to take a lease of land, enter into such leases and participate in a consultation with the relevant local planning authority the opportunity exists for that organisation to apply for its own Paragraph 4 exemption certificate.

However to make life easier for Member Clubs who would like to run extended rallies without going through that process, ACCEO can facilitate those rallies through the ACCEO Certificate of Exemption.

RALLIES IN NATIONAL PARKS

Rallies in National Parks cannot be held without first being approved by the appropriate National Park Officer.

Approval is necessary some one year in advance and must be obtained through a 'clearing' procedure, which is not directly accessible to individual clubs.

ACCEO is a national clearing house liaising with all National Parks to co-ordinate an approved annual rally programme with the relevant authorities.

ADVICE TO CLUBS

ACCEO is able to give advice on matters of vital importance to clubs and issues a series of information sheets on specific subjects.

Guidance and assistance is offered to Member Clubs when difficulties arise which may threaten their qualifications to hold a Certificate of Exemption.

The Association Magazine 'ACCEO Matters' is published three times a year and keeps Member Clubs informed on matters of interest and importance.

The ACCEO website (www.acceo.org) is also used to keep Member Clubs advised and informed. Member Clubs should ensure that all of their members know how to access this increasingly important method of communication.

ACCEO RALLIES

The Association organises a National and AGM Rally each year, with the AGM being on the first Saturday in October.

The rally arrangements are made by a volunteer Host Club in conjunction with Officers of the Association. Personal Members of the Association as well as members of the Association's Member Clubs are able to meet like-minded ralliers and enjoy the organised entertainment.

Member Clubs are also able to run Invitation Rallies where the Association makes arrangements that permit the attendance of other Member Clubs.

HISTORY

After the Second World War, caravanning as a leisure pursuit was perceived by the governments of the time to be growing rapidly in an uncontrolled manner. This perception resulted in the "Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960" which is still operating over 50 years on and is the legislation under which your club was granted a Certificate of Exemption permitting you to hold rallies on unlicensed land.

In 1976 the government called a meeting at Beaulieu to ascertain how the Act was working. Arising from these discussions the Department of the Environment (now "DEFRA" – Natural England) issued in 1978 a Consultative Document which was to introduce a degree of control of caravan rallies to prevent over-use of popular sites and, in particular, the National Parks. The tone of this document caused some alarm amongst ralliers who, discerning a possible threat to their pastime, determined that clubs must group together to provide a single voice and thus be in a stronger position to guard their interests.

Two groups formed in 1979, firstly the National Federation of Caravan Owners' Clubs (NFCOC), which as its name suggests was composed mainly of Owners' Clubs, and shortly afterwards came the Confederation of Caravan and Camping Clubs (4C's) comprised of other Social and Works Clubs. Later there was an attempt to enlarge the group by including the Caravan Club and the Camping & Caravan Club, but the initiative failed.

Both groups continued to operate in parallel, each operating their own 'clearing houses' for rallies in the National Parks. This duplication was expensive in time, effort and money and eventually led in 1985 to a merger to form the Association of Caravan and Camping Exempted Organisations (ACCEO). The Department of the Environment was enthusiastic about the creation of ACCEO and granted the Association a Certificate of Exemption limited to 5 day rallies initially and some four years later, when the Association altered its Constitution to become a Recreational Trust, rallies of up to 28 days could be arranged as controlled by the 1960 Act.

AND SO!

Finally, ACCEO exists to protect the interests of ralliers in general and its Member Clubs in particular. It is totally independent and run by a committee of elected unpaid officers who are all experienced regular rallying caravanners, motorcaravanners and campers themselves.

Peter Brown, Chairman

rally information February 2019

Neil C. Rogers, Rally Coordinator
5 Emerson Court, Carmel Road North, Darlington, Co. Durham DL3 8JB
Telephone or Fax 01325 954508 Email ncr@mypostoffice.co.uk

NEW RALLIES

28 October - 1 November Wells Holiday Park, Somerset
5 - 7 April Quorn & Woodhouse Station, Leicestershire

CANCELLED RALLY

Farmer Copleys rally 12 - 16 May has had to be cancelled due to circumstances beyond our control.



RALLY FULLY BOOKED

4th - 8th March 2019 (4 nights)

Whitmead Forest Park Rally, Parkend, Nr Lydney, Gloucestershire GL15 4LA.

Rally Marshals: John and Jackie Moss and Noel and Glenn Clarke.

Mobile 07580 809303 this is for on site contact only.

Site fees £48.00 (4nights) which includes entry to all,leisure facilities. Rally fee £4.00.

We shall be sited on the terraced area (known as the Meadow) which has been fully refurbished with gravel pitches and electric hook-ups.

Please send rally slips and cheques for £52.00 payable to J. Moss, 34 Cocksparrow Street, Warwick, CV34 4ED Telephone 01926 497309.

Please send SAE or a CLEAR email address for confirmation.

Excellent for walking and cycling. Good food at local pubs and in the on site restaurant.

Directions Drive into Lydney town centre from Gloucester, turn right at the Swan pub before the level crossing (sign post Parkend). Then follow the road to Parkend station and turn left at the Fountain Pub. At the top of the road turn left. Site is on the left in approx 100 yards.

DO NOT arrive before 2.00pm. (14.00 hours). Site rules.

5th – 7th April 2019 (2 nights)

Great Central Railway, Quorn & Woodhouse Station, Quorn, Leics LE12 8AG

Rally Marshals: Angie & Andy Cavell and Liz Irvin.

Emergency Telephone 07880 532057 (Marshal's mobile).

Site fee: £26.00 per unit for two nights plus £2.00 per person rally fee.

Rally slips & cheques to A. Cavell, 24 The Close, Hampstead Norreys, Thatcham, RG18 ORY.

Telephone 01635 201976. Please provide your email address (clearly written!) if you have one. If not please enclose an SAE.

This is a "green field site" on hard standing in part of the car park at Quorn & Woodhouse station.

There are no electric hook-ups available. Steam trains will be running on Saturday and Sunday.

Please do not arrive before 12 noon on Friday but you can stay until closing time on Sunday if you wish. We are hoping to arrange a meal in the Butler-Henderson café on Friday evening. The food is very good and reasonably priced – please indicate on your rally slip if you would be interested and further information will then follow when available. We will also have a get together on Saturday evening.

Limit: 22 vans.

25th - 28th April

National Motorhome Show, East of England Showground, Peterborough. PE2 6XE.

Emergency Telephone 07922 049714.

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

Please use a booking form from the ASOC website www.asoc.uk.com/mhs.html Motorhome magazine or online at Warners Out & About <https://www.outandaboutlive.co.uk/shows/> Please mark the form ASOC and note the special Club site fees: Arrive Thursday £53 arrive Friday £50. All bookings for the Saturday evening entertainment must be made & paid to Warners when returning the application form to them. Applications close on Wednesday 10th April.

If you wish to rally with the Club then you must return the application form to Warners by this date.

*****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, £1.75 singles, cheques payable to: N.C. & P. Rogers, 5 Emerson Court, 96 Carmel Road North, Darlington, Co. Durham. DL3 8JB. Telephone 01325 954508 Please collect the Club rally information pack from the ASOC marshals before parking where directed. The rally finishes at 12 noon Sunday but you may remain on site until 12 noon Monday.

NATIONAL RALLY BOOKING FORMS

Available in the centre of magazine as a pull out

Also available as a fillable PDF form on the website

If you wish to run a rally in 2019 please contact the Rally Coordinator.

When a date & venue is chosen you will receive the Rules for Rally Marshals and asked to sign a Marshal's Declaration which should be returned to me.

Assistance and advice is available, if required, from the Rally Coordinator.

If you would like to assist a Rally Marshal to see what is involved in running a rally please contact the Rally Coordinator.

We have details of possible rally sites, if interested.

It is important that all potential rally dates and venues are checked with the Rally Coordinator first as unless they are approved by the Club, there will be no Public Liability Insurance.

Application forms for the Peterborough, Malvern, Shepton Mallet & Lincoln Shows

As Warners no longer supply the Club with application forms for their shows, I have arranged for forms to be available on the Club website. <https://asoc.uk.com/mhs.html>

Bookings have started for these shows, but with the usual Club system, with rally information only available approximately two months before the show in the Rally News area of the magazine.

You can apply direct to Warners with the appropriate cheque using these forms or using forms from magazines. You can also use their Out & About website <https://www.outandaboutlive.co.uk/shows/>

Please do not forget to send a rally slip and cheque to the Marshals of these show rallies when information is available in the Rally News.

Neil Rogers, Rally Coordinator

AUTO-SLEEPER OWNERS' CLUB RALLY APPLICATION FORM

Date sent:		Rally name:	
First name:		Surname:	
Address:			
Address:			
Town/City:		Postcode:	
Phone No:	Mobile:	Membership No:	
Email:			
Additional number of named persons in your van			
Adults:		Children (incl age):	Dogs:
Name:		Name:	
Name:		Name:	
MOTORHOME DETAILS			
Registration:			
Length:			
Model:			
ARRIVAL DETAILS			
Day:	am <input type="checkbox"/>	pm <input type="checkbox"/>	Evening <input type="checkbox"/>
Cheque enclosed for £ for nights including rally fee			
Full payment must accompany the application and cheques made payable to the rally marshal			
OTHER DETAILS		Yes	No
Is this your first ASOC rally:		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Electricity:		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Evening meal:		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Any special needs: If yes specify below		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
EMERGENCY CONTACT DETAILS			
Name:			
Phone:		Mobile:	
We require the details of the person to contact in the event of an emergency			

Rally application form to reach the marshal 14 days before the event if possible.

Enclose a S.A.E if confirmation is required