



Hanging by a thread!

NEMO ASSOC



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

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**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 be 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.



# THIS MONTH

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## editor's note

Welcome to April News.

Where are we going with the magazine; and where shall we go? Back in February, you may have noticed I was scratching my head to decide which direction to take it.

We seem to be hanging on every month with very little contributions from members. We need to fill 28 pages each month, but with only rally information and tech pages, we still have plenty of pages left to fill. Articles do not have to be motorhome based, so if anyone has items of interest, just send them in.

Maybe members feel it is not their place to fill the magazine, but the club's responsibility to provide a magazine of interest. If this is the case, we will need to look at the content in a more commercial way.

The question we need to ask is, is it time to stop the printed version of the magazine? I have been told some members do not read it, we are not sure why, but they don't tell us. I suppose if they don't read it...

We have a few options, discontinue the magazine completely, produce the magazine less often or have an electronic version only delivered by email.

Can I suggest, if members have an email they opt-in to the member area, if you do, an email is sent every month with a link to access the magazine electronically, which is in colour. It also enables members to click on any of the links to go direct to websites etc. It also allows you to access the technical idea sheets and other information available on the website.

The committee annual reports 2018 and AGM information are included in this month's News. Those attending the AGM should bring it with you. This ensures you will have a copy as a reference.

## from the Chairman

### **Examination of ASOC Accounts**

The Committee wish to continue with the practice of the Clubs annual accounts being examined but, however, no requirement for this to be done is contained in either the Companies Act or the Clubs Articles of Association.

The Committee have therefore, agreed to accept an offer from John Tidbury to examine the 2019 accounts and have appointed him as Examiner. There will not be an election for an account's examiner at the AGM.

### **Membership Renewal**

For the 2019 membership renewal, we agreed a one-year trial to accept payment by BACS. 17% of the membership paid this way, so it could be interpreted that the majority wish to pay by cheque and we should revert to that as the required means of payment. It may be, however, that if the need to post the renewal form was removed, then more would pay by BACS. You should be aware that 45 of the cheques received were lost in transit between the post office and the bank, the club has been compensated financially but this caused a great deal of work for the relevant club officers and those members affected.

The Committee would like to hear views from the membership on this subject and will raise it as a topic to be discussed at the Open Forum, this follows the AGM. If you are unable to attend the AGM, but would like your view heard, please email [chairman@asoc.uk.com](mailto:chairman@asoc.uk.com) and I will present a summary of any views I receive.



What unusual pet have you seen on a campsite?

We have seen parrots, ferrets, rabbits, tortoise. But this must be the most unusual

This is a rescue bird and travels with its owner in their motorhome

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### Postage Stamps

I have a large number of used postage stamps. If anyone would like them for a charity, I can bring them to the AGM on a first come first served basis.

Contact me either by phone or email.

David, 5213. Membership Secretary

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### CHARITY OF THE YEAR 2019

First of all, thank you to those who sent in nominations for this year's charity.

The chosen charity for 2019 is the A-T Society (The Ataxia-Telangiectasia Society). Website [www.atsociety.org.uk](http://www.atsociety.org.uk). A-T is a generic neurodegenerative condition which causes increasingly severe disability and most children use a wheelchair regularly from the age of 10.

There will be a display in the Stuart Godwin Pavilion over the weekend of the National Meeting at Newark. The Charity will be represented by Dennis and Jean Downie who will be able to answer any questions you may have about the work carried out by the Society.

Shelagh West (6055), Charity and Exhibitions Officer

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### ADVERTISING FOR MEMBERS

Members have asked about advertising items for sale or wanted in News, how many words and cost. As long as we have the space, the item advertised has no limit of words and sometimes we can include a photograph.

Advertisements are published free of charge. Should you wish to make a donation to club funds, but this is not a requirement.

Advertisements should be sent to [publications@asoc.uk.com](mailto:publications@asoc.uk.com)

# 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

In the case of Proxy appointment forms they should be received by the Secretary 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

### FOR SALE

Auto-Sleeper low profile Gloucester 2009 luxury 2/4 berth fixed bed, based on Mercedes 315CDI LWB chassis, automatic gearbox, cruise control and cab air con. Full kitchen and bathroom facilities, 240 v air conditioning, solar panel, satellite tv dome, complete with 19" Avtex dvd tv, digital safe, gas safe alarm, Van Bitz strike back alarm system along with many other extras. Very clean and tidy, one owner from new with all vehicle and habitation service history.

Full year MOT

£33,995 ONO

Telephone 077457 83035

### FOR SALE

Auto-Sleeper Topaz VW T4, Dec. 1996  
2.4 litre non-turbo diesel engine, 121,000 miles, recent new cam belt.

One owner for last 14 years, full service and habitation check history for that time.

Recent batteries. Fitted Heki roof light and bike rack.

Re-upholstered and no pets or children.

Complete with winter cover and many accessories.

Age (of owners!) causes sale. £10,000 ovno.  
Contact Chris – chrismeaden42@gmail.com

## snippets

### Brussels Region Low Emission Zone

All vehicle registered abroad entering the Brussels Region Low Emission Zone must be registered in advance. No exceptions.

Registration is free.

Vehicles that do not meet the low emission criteria will need to buy a daily pass €35 valid for use on eight days per year.

Not registering in advance may receive a fine of €150. Any incorrect information during the registration is liable to a fine of 25 euros.

Failure to comply with the access criteria of the Brussels Low Emission Zone will lead to a fine of €350.

More information and registration can be found on the website below.

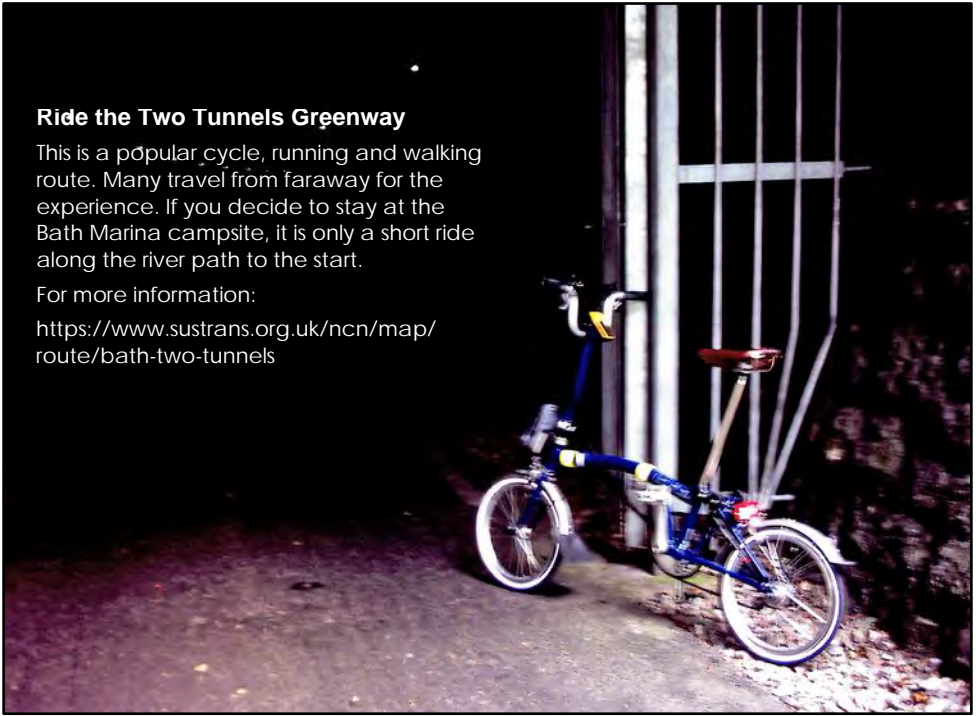
<https://www.lez.brussels/en/content/registration>

## Ride the Two Tunnels Greenway

This is a popular cycle, running and walking route. Many travel from faraway for the experience. If you decide to stay at the Bath Marina campsite, it is only a short ride along the river path to the start.

For more information:

<https://www.sustrans.org.uk/ncn/map/route/bath-two-tunnels>



## Chairman report 2018 – 2019

I am pleased to report that all is well with the Club.

I am lucky to have the support of an exceptional set of members who join me on the Club committee. They all work extremely hard and the new committee members have integrated seamlessly into the team. I give my thanks to them all.

Martin Ross and Ozzie will be running the 2020 Rally and Newark Showground has been booked for that event.

We have another good programme of rallies this year but no new marshals, and no European rally. It would be great if we could have other members start to run rallies whilst the old hands are still around to help.

Peter Brown, Chairman

## Secretary report 2018 – 2019

To try and say something different from my usual report is very hard. All the members of the committee have worked extremely hard over the past year on your behalf so that the Club can run smoothly, not only attending the four committee meetings at Moreton in Marsh, Newark, Lichfield and Warwick, but carrying out untold work during the year by using email.

I must once again thank the Auto-Sleepers Management for their hospitality and for allowing the Club to have an area on their stand at the NEC in October 2018 and February 2019 to promote our Club.

I also have the privilege of representing the Club at the AGM of ACCEO.

John Osland-Jones, Secretary

## Treasurer's report 2018 -- 2019

The final accounts for 2018 have been examined by Sheila Henthorne and approved.

The accounts were accepted and approved by the committee at the last February meeting and submitted to Companies House on 23rd February 2019. Sheila will not be carrying out this task in future as she has now left the club. I wish to take this opportunity to thank her for the contribution and sterling work given to the club in the past.

You will all have seen the final accounts for 2018 and comparisons with 2017 show an accumulated surplus of £37,463.66 slightly less than 2017, which was expected due to the increase in overall costs.

Print costs are higher, plus 13 months of 'ASOC News' were paid for in 2018. Postage has increased again this year. Equipment shows a significant increase in software and domain costs due to the increased security of the upgraded website. Club administration has risen due to a full strength committee and increases in fuel costs.

The National Rally, as expected, makes a significant loss due to numbers attending. Costs remain the same whatever numbers attend.

We have a 'rule of thumb' that, at the start of the New Year, we maintain a financial reserve in hand equivalent to one year's subscription. Over the past few years that has been: - 2010-£24,380, 2011-£25,315, 2012-£24,240, 2013-£25,240, 2014-£22,820, 2015-£22,445, 2016-£21,060, 2017-£19,605, 2018-£19,020. I, therefore, consider a reserve for 2019 of £20,000 - £22,000 would be appropriate. Renewal fees paid in November and December will take the bank balance at the end of the year to about £40,000, depending, of course, on membership remaining at current levels.

# Annual committee reports to the AGM 2019

For several years we have aimed to lose about £2,000.00 to £3,000.00 per annum but have not been very successful and regulars at the AGM remember that the committee has often been criticised for holding on to excessive funds. As it was the clubs intention to reduce the surplus, I recommend that the subscription remains at £20.00 for the foreseeable future.

The introduction of payments by BACS, on my part, have caused only minor problems but members renewing in this way have been quite small.

Some members may be aware that the Bank and the Post Office, between them, managed to lose 45 cheques in two separate transactions which caused the membership secretary and myself untold hours of additional work, contacting members, asking them to cancel their cheques and re-submitting new ones. For this I apologise for the inconvenience caused to them. This debacle did not, fortunately, cost the club financially. I managed a compensation amount of £500.00 from the Bank.

John Geeson, Treasurer

## *Regalia Officers report 2018 – 2019*

Last year was a good year for selling new items of clothing .

The new Regatta Fleeces with ASOC branding sold very well at £20.00.

A new line of Teddy Bears are now for sale this year as the stock was depleted, although the design is different they are still in keeping with the Auto-Sleeper style.

We do not make a huge profit on selling Auto-Sleeper branded goods as previously we did.

I am looking into a sun resistant hat to sell along side the baseball hats as some members do not like the baseball hats.

There will be a new garment for sale at this year at the National Rally where orders can be taken after the samples are sold.

This year at the National Rally there will be a for sale table and goods can be sold for a reasonable donation to this years charity.

Stuart Wood, Regalia Officer

## *Editor's report 2018 – 2019*

We have managed to fill the pages of the magazine, even when some months it was a struggle. It does rely on input from members to help fill some of the pages. I have been told that some club members do not even read it.

Numerous requests for a Deputy Editor or Editor to come forward has proved fruitless. So, we can assume the same difficulty will continue in the future.

Almost 300 members have opted in to access the member area of the website and the electronic version of News.

The website was redesigned during 2018, with technical information being available as downloads.

John Morris, Editor

## Exhibition and Charity reports 2018 – 2019

### *Charity Officer's Report*

The Club received a grateful note of thanks from the Rosemere Cancer Foundation for monies raised for their charity in 2017/18.

This year's charity is The A-T Society (Ataxia-Telangiectasia) which is a neurodegenerative condition which causes increasingly severe disability.

There will be a manned information table in the Stuart Godwin Pavilion over the whole weekend of the National/AGM Meeting at the beginning of May. A cheque for the monies collected will be sent on to the Society after the meeting.

### *Exhibition Officer's Report*

The Club Committee had representation at both NEC Shows. They answered questions regarding benefits relating to membership of the Club and also met with current members for a general chat.

Our presence at the shows is always appreciated by Auto-Sleepers and the Sales Centre.

Shelagh West (6055)

## Technical reports 2018 – 2019

The technical activities during my first year "in post" have been interesting and varied.

The website has been updated and the technical content will continue to grow with help from the Factory and the Membership. There is still much to do and suggestions for further material to appear on the website will be welcome. Following permission being granted by Auto-Sleepers, it is planned to publish as many owners' manuals for older models as possible, for download from the Members' Area. Contributions of manuals held by members should add to the value of this resource. When this work commences a request for loan of material will be made in the Newsletter.

It is now possible to download ideas sheets and most other material in the members' area, so the need for postage has been reduced.

Regular Liaison Meetings with technical and management teams at the factory have led to an insight into the latest work underway on new models and has resulted in a detailed report on the new Mercedes Sprinter based motorhomes.

Dennis Downie

## Rally Co-Ordinator's Report 2018 – 2019

In 2018 we had four new locations for rallies and a total of twenty eight rallies. However, we lost two rallies for reasons beyond our control. It was very pleasing to have two new marshals volunteering to run rallies at South Lychett Manor and the South Western Show in Shepton Mallet. We had one rally in Italy, one in France and another in Ireland. As in previous years rally attendances varied, however, most rallies were full.

The A.G.M. & National Rally at the Newark Showground went very well under the leadership of Jan & Keith Ross and their team. The 2019 National Rally & AGM will be organised by Chris & Peter Brown. I would welcome comments from ralliers on how to improve rallies and locations bearing in mind that all marshals are volunteers and they can only claim basic expenses.

As I have said many times before, do not hesitate to apply early for rallies as the majority tend to fill very quickly, not forgetting that you must wait for the rally information to appear in the Rally News first.

# Annual committee reports to the AGM 2019

Again I must remind ralliers of the importance of not arriving at a rally before 12 noon, or the stated time in the Rally Supplement. If we are using our Exemption Certificate then we must abide by the rules that govern our use of this. Arrival on time also avoids any embarrassment for yourselves and the marshals who have to prepare the site for the rally. Please do not forget to have your ASOC membership cards available, as they may be requested by the marshals.

Once more I must thank those members who volunteered to run rallies during the year. They gave their time and effort freely for the benefit of the Club

I must also thank those who do support rallies and encourage more of you to think of becoming marshals, help is available if requested, you only have to ask!

Finally, if you haven't attended a rally yet why not try one; you will not be "organised" and any events at a rally are purely optional to attend.

Neil Rogers, Rally Co-Ordinator

## *Membership Secretary report 2018 – 2019.*

This year has seen the membership numbers remain steady, 807 at end of February. This was borne out by the numbers renewing which was approximately the same as last year.

The complimentary membership offered by the three dealerships is still the main source of new members, though they are still the largest number who do not renew at the end of the year.

It is appreciated that having to fill in a Renewal form annually can be annoying. The club is obliged to keep accurate records, members are asked to advise of any detail changes, yet still many leave it to the renewal form.

I would like to thank all those members who sent in their renewals before the deadline of 10th January.

The renewal process got off to an exceptional busy November and December in no small part by the introduction of a trial to allow members to pay by Bacs. This made the process very challenging with having to run two systems and the ensuing problems attached to it, with an increased cost in time and expenditure.

David Crabbe, Membership Secretary

## **Don't forget**

you will need to bring the magazine with you if you are attending the AGM  
this means you will have the  
committee reports  
2019 agenda  
2018 minutes of the AGM and open forum

**Quick thanks** to Paul Rodway for his snippet on being properly registered, I too have a 2001 Pollensa and had never thought of checking the vehicle description, I have now and I'm OK but it was nice to know, thanks Paul.

Malcolm D Thacker 7733

### **Dear Editor and Technical Officer**

I read with interest Paul Rodway's Snippet Is your Motorhome properly registered? in ASOC News March 2019. I have a 1997 VW LT35 Autosleeper Medallion motorhome. I contacted Dart Charge Customer Services as I was not charged under Vehicle class B as a motorhome but charged as a vehicle with 2 axles class C. The explanation was, your vehicle is classified by DVLA as class C, *a vehicle type approval of N1*. Category N vehicles are those which have at least four wheels and are designed and constructed for the carriage of goods. N1 is specifically defined by VCA as *a vehicle designed and constructed for the carriage of goods and having a maximum mass not exceeding 3.5 tonnes*. Should I also re-register my motorhome?

Geoff Dreher.

### **Mark Burdett leaving Auto-Sleepers**

One of our members felt we should recognise the great assistance that many of us have received in recent years from Mark. I agree and so having been prodded in the back and with the help of one of his (now ex) colleagues.

Members of ASOC who use the service facility at Willersey will have been sorry to learn that, after 30 years with the company [surely not – he looks too young!] Mark has left the motorhome industry for a new career.

On joining Auto-Sleepers, Mark's first job involved polishing the wooden furniture. He moved on from that to be a Unit Fitter on the assembly line, one of the most responsible jobs on the line. In due course Mark moved to the Coachbuilt production line, becoming foreman. When AS started producing models from Styrofoam, Mark moved to that area and played an important role in the production of those models, particularly with the Nuevo.

With that experience, Mark went 'on the road' for three years as Dealer Support Technician before returning to Willersey to a senior technical role in the Service Centre. When Charles Trevelyan retired from the post of Service Centre Manager, his replacement, Trevor, needed an assistant and Mark was drafted into the office to do that. Some 8 years ago, when Trevor retired, Mark was appointed manager.

Mark is held in the highest esteem by the many AS owners whom he has helped over the years. We at the ASOC wish him the very best for the future and look forward to working with his successor.

Peter Brown



**BURSTING WITH IDEAS?  
THEN TELL NEWS**

**THE AUTO SLEEPER OWNERS' CLUB**  
**AGENDA FOR THE THIRTIETH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**to be held on**  
**Saturday 4 May 2019 at 10.30am.**  
**at the Cedric Ford Pavilion, Newark and Nottinghamshire**  
**Agricultural Society Showground Newark.**

The Chairman's welcome to the sixteenth Annual General Meeting of the Club as a registered Company Limited by Guarantee.

1. Apologies.
2. Appointment of Tellers.
3. Minutes of the Twenty-Ninth Annual General Meeting 2018.
4. Minutes of the Open Forum 2018.
5. Committee Reports 2018-2019.
6. Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2018.
7. Annual Subscriptions.
8. Committee elections. There are seven vacancies on the committee and the following nominations have been received.

Dennis Downie 10117          Stuart Wood 2020    John Geeson 2187  
John Osland-Jones 0948      Martin Ross 8332   Shelagh West 6055

9. Resolution 1. To amend Article 40 of the Articles of Association.

As a result of declarations required from the Club by both our bankers and our insurers, the Club have an obligation to seek personal declaration from each potential committee member. The information required of the individual is of a personal nature and not appropriate to be requested during the public meeting. The Committee propose that the final sentence of Article 40 ("the chairman shall have the discretion to accept nominations at the meeting should there be insufficient candidates") be deleted.

Resolution 2. In celebration of the Thirtieth anniversary of the forming of the Auto-Sleeper Owners' Club the committee proposes that the Club amend the Articles of Association by adding a new Article 4b.

"4b Club members who have attained 30 consecutive years of membership at the time of the annual renewal of membership will be appointed as Honorary Members. Individuals so appointed would be entitled to all the benefits and responsibilities of the Club but would pay no subscription.

Such membership will continue until the individual concerned ceases to be a current owner of an Auto-Sleeper motorhome"

Both have been, Proposed by Peter Brown, Chairman and  
Seconded by John Osland-Jones, Secretary.

10. Any other competent business.

**Auto Sleeper Owners Club**

**Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2018**

2017	<u>Income</u>	2018		
£		£	£	£
19,605.00	Membership subscriptions	19,020.51		
278.47	Donations received	165.00		
1,002.65	Regalia	1,378.68		
728.93	Rallies	1,430.50		
251.10	Raffles	53.55		
4.72	Interest on Deposit A/Cs	22.55		
<b>17,987.21</b>	<b>National Rally (incl raffle)</b>	<b>14,916.98</b>		
	Sundries	1.00		
<u>39,858.28</u>	Total Income		<u>36,988.77</u>	
<b><u>Expenditure</u></b>				
808.40	Postage & Telephone	882.21		
1,683.71	Printing & Stationary	1,418.20		
13,756.23	Newsletter	15,137.51		
4,131.10	Club Administration	4,902.44		
881.94	Rally plaques & leaflets	980.61		
1,887.03	Insurance	1,875.52		
855.39	Regalia	1,079.76		
173.49	Sundries	84.70		
0.00	Tax paid	0.00		
59.99	Equipment. Domain, software etc costs	976.94		
<b>18,822.08</b>	<b>National Rally (incl charity donation)</b>	<b>15,985.32</b>		
<u>43,059.36</u>	Total Expenditure		<u>43,323.21</u>	
-3,201.08	Surplus for Year		-6,334.44	
<u>46,999.18</u>	Surplus brought forward		<u>43,798.10</u>	
<u>43,798.10</u>	Accumulated Surplus			<u>37,463.66</u>
Represented by:				
12,761.81	Cash at bank-current	NW A/C 54359	16,077.13	
30,013.49	Cash at bank-deposit	NW A/C 54367	20,035.80	
	Subscription by BACS	NW A/C 54375	0.00	
1.00	Cash at bank-current Lloyds	A/C 52423	0.00	A/c Redundant
<u>1,021.80</u>	Stock at Cost or Value		<u>1,350.73</u>	
<u>43,798.10</u>				<u>37,463.66</u>

John Geeson  
Hon Treasurer



I have examined the above accounts, which are in accordance with the records of the Club.  
I have received satisfactory explanations to my enquiries.

Sheila Henthorne  
Accounts Examiner



# THE AUTO-SLEEPER OWNERS' CLUB TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held on 5th May 2018 at 10.30 a.m.

At the Cedric Ford Pavilion, Newark and Nottingham Agricultural Society Showground, Newark

## Officers 2017/18

Chairman: Peter Brown (5128), Secretary and Liaison with ACCEO: John Osland-Jones (0948), Treasurer: John Geeson (2187), Membership Secretary: David Crabbe (5213): Rally Co-ordinator: Neil Rogers (0313), Chairman Technical Group and Webmaster: Baz Wellard (1508), Newsletter Editor: John Morris (2388), Chairman National Rally Sub-Committee: Keith Ross (4982), Regalia Officer: Stuart Wood (2620), Minutes Secretary: Gill Hopkins (2953), Charities and Exhibitions Organiser: Mike Valentine (2776).

147 members were present. The Chairman, Peter Brown, welcomed everyone and asked our President, Charles Trevelyan, to say a few words, who for the benefit of newer members gave a history of the Stinchcombe Bell used to open and close the meeting. So named in memory of early members of the Club Frank and Dilys Stinchcombe.

### 1 Apologies for absence had been received from:

Ablett, Pat and Ian 9780 Brindley, Gill 1241 Calf, Ann and John 7965 Emblen, Harry 3905  
Evans, Marilyn and Tom 9953 Henwood, Marion and Jim 0009

(Jim had asked Ozzie to say how sorry they were at not attending the National and AGM as they were one of the founder members in 1989)

Hicklin, Jan and Vic 2301 Horton, Carol and David 1001 James, Loraine 9741  
Lain, Julia and Tony 4437 Luce, Jan and Bob 9405 Patmore, Lesley 9741  
Phillips, Jo and Terry 6162 MacGowan, Christopher 9868 Skinner, Linda and James 7203  
Strange, Jeannette 6618 Sturgeon, Shirley and Chris 2897

**2 Appointment of Tellers:** John and Jean Gutsell (4170) and Brian and Ruby Sutton (4688) were proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Shelagh West (6055) and approved by all.

**3 Minutes of the 28th AGM 2017** had been circulated in the April News. Thereafter acceptance was proposed by Godfrey Adams (0088) and seconded by James Bertlin (2770), agreed unanimously and signed off.

**4 Minutes of the 28th Open Forum 2017** had been circulated in the April News. It was pointed out by Ricky Smith (1533) that in the final paragraph his membership number should be (1533) and not 533 as printed and Roger "Spencer" should be Roger Spensley (4293). Ricky Smith (1533) proposed and Bernie Wisely (0016) seconded acceptance of the amended Minutes – agreed by all and The Minutes were signed off.

**5 Committee Reports** had been circulated in the April Newsletter. The meeting was asked if there were any questions/comments. None being forthcoming, the Reports were accepted en bloc, proposed by Shelagh West (6055) and seconded by Ken Hughes (5959) and agreed by all.

**6 Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2017.** The accounts had been circulated in the Newsletter. The Treasurer, John Geeson, said that comparisons with the 2016 accounts show an accumulated surplus of £43,798.10 for 2017, slightly less than 2016. The accounts had been approved and signed by the Examiner, who he thanked for her time and effort. Income was down mainly on subscriptions and rallies but the only significant rise in expenditure was the newsletter, reflecting the better quality paper and printing methods, which he is sure is well worth the increase. There is to another increase in postage charges forecast in 2018.

There was a deficit in three rally returns, Fort Paull £54.93, Gulval £50.31 and Hendra where the surplus had yet to be declared. The club had paid for the rally plaques to the sum of £85.35, the total outstanding

being (£190.59+) - a significant loss to the club. The organiser of these rallies had failed to respond to the many communications from the committee requesting completion of rally returns and the surplus cash to be paid into the club accounts. They had not renewed their membership for 2018. The committee will continue to pursue their efforts to recover these payments.

The committee is exploring the idea of members renewing their membership by BACS and is in the early stages and considering the impact of the workload.

Three debit cards had been issued to the club Secretary, Vice-Chairman (Chairman National Rally) and Treasurer. This alleviates any sundry payments being made personally and the necessity to claim reimbursement on expenses. John added that this was working perfectly and saving him a great amount of work.

There was now a simple Regalia accounting system in place.

John requested that rally returns be forwarded to him ASAP after the event.

John ended his report saying that the club remained in a healthy condition and he foresaw no requirement to propose any increase in subscription for 2019. (Murmur of approval and applause!) The accounts had been submitted to Companies House and approved.

John asked if there were any questions or comments— those regarding rally returns and marshals' payments were asked to raise them in the Open Forum. Paul Kelly (8262) felt that we should have an explanation regarding the deficits, to which John replied that we cannot negotiate with someone who does not respond.

Acceptance of the 2017 Accounts was proposed by Bernie Wisely (0016), seconded by Brian Sutton (4688) and agreed by all.

## **7 Subscriptions for 2018/19**

As indicated in his report John Geeson proposed that the annual subscriptions remain the same, this was seconded by Shelagh West (6055) and happily agreed to by all!

8 Election of Honorary Examiner for the Accounts. One nomination had been received: Sheila Henthorne (0029). With approval of the meeting, Sheila was elected unopposed and Peter joined John G. on behalf of the club in thanking her for her work.

**9 Committee Elections.** There were five vacancies on the Committee and 3 nominations had been received, since when Mike Valentine had had to withdraw. Therefore the remaining two nominees were elected, unopposed: Peter Brown (5128) and Neil Rogers (313)

## **10 Any other competent business**

A question was asked about the remaining vacancies – could someone be nominated from the meeting or offer to stand. The Chairman explained that prospective nominees had to sign a declaration before serving: if there were folk willing to come onto the committee to please see him or any committee member.

Before the close of the meeting the Chairman asked Keith and Janet Ross, Mike and Mo Valentine and Baz and Dorothy Wellard to join him at the front; whence they each were presented with a gift to mark their retirement. Keith and Janet had run the National Rally in 2016, 17, and 18 and had contributed so much to its success. Mike and Mo Valentine had joined the committee in 2005, Mike was Chairman from 2009 – 2012 and recently had been a great help in looking after the Charities and liaising with Auto-Sleeper for our presence at the NEC in the last couple of years, all with Mo's support and help. Baz and Dorothy Wellard had joined the club in 1993, Baz the AGM sub-committee in 1998, and between 1999 and 2002 he ran the Club and Company Rally. He started the club website in 2001 and the Technical Group in 2003. Baz paid tribute to their son Matt who 19 years ago set up the club website and had been active in upgrading ever since. He thanked him on our behalf. Charles Trevelyan said they were six good souls and heroes of the club and from the heart thanked all six on behalf of the Club for all they had done.

**Auto-Sleeper Owners' Club**  
**Open Forum held at the Cedric Ford Pavilion,**  
**Newark and Nottingham Agricultural Society Showground, Newark on**  
**Saturday 5th May, 2018**

The Open Forum commenced at 11.00 am. The Chairman, Peter Brown (5128), opened the session by stating he would just mention a couple of things before he asked for questions from the floor. "We have three vacancies on the committee and, as you know, Baz is going to retire in the very near future. We are in luck that we now have potential candidates for the posts of Webmaster and Chair of the Technical Group; one from within the committee and one new candidate. As usual, we in the committee will be considering who does what in our meeting that follows this. After the meal this evening I will be introducing the committee and let you know the role that each has taken.

As you know, Keith Ross is leaving the committee and therefore his role as Chair of the National Rally sub-committee. All of the existing committee members feel they are committing enough to the club already, so if we are to have a National Rally in the future we need a volunteer to organise it. To ensure we have this rally in 2019, Chris and I have recruited a team to help us do so – but that is definitely for one year only. Hopefully someone will step up and join us in running the 2019 Rally and then take on the job of running future Nationals (and I'm NOT looking at the many members in the room who already running other rallies and/or do a lot for the club to do this). If we do not have a Chair for the National Rally Sub-committee by this time next year, the committee will have to review the position and may cancel this venue for 2020 and just hire a room for that year's and subsequent Annual General Meetings. The meeting was then opened for questions from members.

Mo Valentine (2776) said that members were wishing to know why the traditional service with the Salvation Army had been curtailed to just half an hour of music, with no service it seemed. She stated that no-one had to attend this meeting and a lot of us enjoy it and had done over the years, which she had seen by the number of donations given in collections and which she with others had counted. Whose decision was this to stop the service, why and what will take on Sunday morning? Peter replied that it was a very complex subject following discrimination legislation: not just for ourselves but for a lot of organisations, e.g. the armed forces and police. It couldn't be answered quickly in the context of the meeting. However, by facilitating a service for Christians and not organising one or more for other faiths, we believe we are in breach of the legislation. We are very willing to provide space for any members who wish to worship in their own faith, in their own way: if anyone wants to hold their own service, please let us know and we will find you some space to do so. The event on Sunday morning will be as far as possible, in consultation with the Salvation Army, very similar to previous events – just not a Service being organised by the Auto-Sleepers Owners' Club. Mo replied that the Army does not discriminate between anyone in need of help. But if we discriminate in saying that the Salvation Army may not come when folk of other religions do not attend, she believes we are not correct to do so and stop it, and thinks that the club should have some sort of input into whether they want to have it or not, never mind the faceless wonders says at the top of the tree. (At this much applause). Peter replied that because the Club is a Company limited by Guarantee, all the members of the committee become Directors and have to abide by the Companies Act and are liable in breach of same: so the Directors of this company have investigated the law and feel it is inappropriate to organise a Christian religion service without organising services for other faiths within the club. If we know who or what they are – and we are not about to intrude into what others' beliefs are. Rita Tubb (4910) said that she personally would miss that service; that this is a Christian country. Again, some supported applause. Peter re-iterated that should members wish to organise a service to let committee know. Also, if anyone wished to investigate the law and take advice

and find clear evidence that the club would not be discriminating against other faiths by organising one for Christians, Peter would be willing to receive and present it to the committee. Janet Ross (4982) remarked "that obviously Keith had talked to Neville (S.A. Captain) and Neville was very understanding of our situation because the Salvation Army are facing the same problem. He had given Keith some guidance and explained the problems they were having as the Salvation Army. He has been invited in good faith and was coming in good faith and hopefully we would welcome him in good faith and support them as we always have. It is not a problem unique to this club; it is a problem unique to all religions and to those who practice them". Applause. Philippa Fisher (0336) asked was it allowable for a member to organise a Service – invite the Salvation Army - and not the club? Reply, absolutely – this is what happens at ACCEO AGM. Can I emphasize that the meeting will be as it's always been, just that it is not advertised as a religious Service. Janis Wood (4201) "so you are saying we could organise a service with the Salvation Army"? Reply – yes or with whoever you feel appropriate. As you have pointed out, people can come or not come, just as they can to Friday evening or other events. She asked if anyone present wished for a service other than a Christian service to raise their hands - - none raised - "so it appears not". John Geeson (2187) asked if we would be allowed to advertise a specific religious service on our programme if someone other than the committee arranged it. Peter said he would look into that. Peter Burt (7248) asked that under those circumstances would the club be prepared to bear the cost of hiring an extra room. Peter – it would depend on logistics/numbers/appropriate size. Peter repeated that this Sunday gathering would be virtually the same, just that description "Service" had been omitted. By doing that we are immunising the club from any potential complaint, not necessarily from members, that we might be discriminating. Shelagh West (6055) asked would the prayers be addressed to God – Do all members worship the same god? -just wondering about other faiths if they should come. Peter replied that the meeting was in Neville's hands and we are trusting him to manage it in an appropriate manner.

Roger Spensley (4293) said BACS payments should be more supported by the club, as he felt it would save a lot of time. He was a member of another organisation which had gone down this route 3 years ago and it been very successful. The Chairman replied that it was early days but the committee had already discussed this and we had a free account which could be used for subscriptions and could be put into effect before next renewal; there was a discussion paper to look at all aspects of the club on the Agenda of this afternoon's committee meeting.

At different times during the Forum, varying points were raised regarding payments by BACS/cheques. Janis Wood (4201) said that many villages and small towns were losing their Bank and perhaps doing away with cheques, so using BACS for payments might be an advantage. Trish Pratt (1080) kept an emergency cheque in the van but had found on use that it was out of date. The treasurer had had some cheques declared void and after consulting owner and the Bank discovered that one had not used a cheque for three years - Banks have a time limit on cheques. John Geeson appreciated that villages were losing banks and post offices but that payment details were on the return forms; also if members had any problems to phone him.

Rally returns. Francis Thomas (7229) remarked that having run rallies she could not see why all Returns could not be in within a month: a time limit should be set for the monies to be paid into the club's account. The chairman replied that there were two issues here: 1) premises such as schools/parks were not as quick to send their invoices and marshals could not return figures/monies until all accounts had been paid. 2) Very few members run rallies; some run more than one rally consecutively and could not send in Returns until after the last rally. (Overseas, Scotland, e.g.). John Geeson said that all he asks is that Returns are completed as per instruction and are correct, otherwise he can spend hours and hours trying to sort out correct details. When entered correctly he can complete in minutes. He had re-written Instructions for Marshals (which all received) and he hoped it was an 'Idiots' Guide.' Neil Rogers made the point that if the returns are done on line it does it all for you, i.e. adds it up automatically as you enter, so makes it so easy and all marshals get the programme to do so.

Tony Herbert (6317) asked if we were going to take the bad debt (declared at the AGM) to the small claims Court – “no? - then why do you not just claim it as a bad debt for such a small sum of money, and clear your books”. Peter (chairman) said that whilst it would be nice to have the money we would not be pursuing it.

Rally Slips Steve Earnshaw (3865) said that there should a place on the slip to add if a trailer/car was being brought. Neil Rogers (0313) Rally Co-ordinator, said this request used to go not on the rally slip but at the beginning of the Rally supplement asking to let marshals know if you plan to bring a tent, car or trail and that goes in regularly in the rally seasons. Peter (Chairman) confirmed that this information is within the Important Notices at the beginning of ASOC News and goes in every month. John Tubb (4910) said that there was space for this below special needs, Rita Tubb (4910) asked did we need 3 lines for other persons/ children. Janis Wood (4201) asked why only 1 slip per News (there are often 2 or 3 rallies listed that month) having cut it out to apply for the Whitby rally found she was left with no information about as it had been on the reverse of the slip. Elizabeth Grimsley (2080) suggested why not place the rally slip on the inside back cover and have a picture on final page. Alan Guest (1362) said there used to be two. John Morris (2388) Editor, said that he kept it following on with the rally information, but would look at it again. Peter said that we had spent much time of the wording of the rally slip in committee but would look at it again – we may change it, we may not. Dennis Leeson (3090) said it was easy to photocopy the slips. Peter (Chairman) said that in the past we were constrained by the rally supplement to the extent that the Editor did not have the freedom to edit the magazine to its best for all the members: the rally slip had been placed on the website and could be downloaded and printed off. Liz Irvin (4636) said that she always used the electronic slip and has printed a master slip with all her family/contact details so that this information does not have to be filled in with new rally application. She also carries a few with her; and suggested it might be a good idea for spare slips to be made available at the AGM for those who rally but do not have access to web or printer.

Rita Tubbs (4910) said that 30% of members rally, if not, it's their choice, and where would the club be if members didn't rally? Peter said that 70% join for other reasons and the committee represent all members.

Godfrey Adams (0088) said he was disappointed that he didn't receive a list of attending members this year in his envelope – why? Peter said that it had been a mistake, but that there would be one next year. Ozzie, Secretary, (0948) had quickly compiled and printed a list which had been put up in the foyer of the main hall.

Steve Earnshaw (3865) asked what the committee had done about the GDPR (General Data Protection Regulations) and what as rally organisers they should do with the personal data they had. The Chairman, Peter, said that the committee had explored it, written a Privacy Policy, written a Privacy Notice and had incorporated it in the committee handbook. Peter confirmed that marshal's present practice complied with data protection and they would advised should anything new arise. Existing members had been informed of the details of the Privacy Notice and Policy in the April News. All new applicants would be asked to read the privacy policy before they join the club. Basically, we have what is called a legitimate interest in holding your data for club purposes – you join a motorhome club knowing that that club has to verify that you own an Auto-sleeper, the fact that they have to communicate with you, and if when you are involved in club activities you want to join a rally, you know that you have to give further information to the rally marshals and that they will be share this with other ralliers. In fact the information that we and any rally marshals hold is in public domain – it is not sensitive information. If any of you wish to go into this further, please see me afterwards.

Ivy Birch (7248) said it was good to meet people and catch up and thanked us for being friends.

Ged Hallam (5428) asked why not charge for newspapers ordered, buy in and run a shop, so no one has to run about. Answer – not practical, organisers can do no more. Ged suggested another volunteer could take it on – answer -at the moment no volunteer to take on National let alone newspapers!

Moir Blackstock (4067) said that she missed Rita's "little man" on the Newsletter and why not explain to newer members its significance. Peter said that he missed it too and would discuss at committee. Pauline Porter (9458) said that this was her first rally, although she had been a member on and off for some years, and said what a warm welcome she had been given which was much appreciated – she will rally more in future. Neil Rogers appealed for marshals for Shepton Mallet (he was already doing four Warner's shows) volunteer must have attended rallies and know how they run.

ASOC News: John Tubb (4910) said that the print in the ASOC News was too small, difficult to read. Could it be made larger? Peter said we will discuss in committee. John Morris said others have said font size too large. He said that the electronic version gives the ability to enlarge the font size and is worth taking. He will be looking at it again. Jean Downie (10117) also had an issue with the font of the newsletter and said that people with visual impairment found black print on yellow paper easier to read. John Morris (Editor) said it unlikely he would use yellow paper as it was more costly and was not good for photos. He continued by saying that he had been tasked to make it different and was looking to make the magazine more commercial looking for all members of the club. He is aware of how many members feel and will continue to produce the magazine for all the members. He thought that 28 pages would be the norm. He said that he would be available all Sunday should anyone have questions/ comments for him. We need more articles but if he does not get them he will fill it with things he sources. Doris Pritchard (6499) said that John M had improved the News, there was more content and it was enjoyable to read – congratulations. She also appreciated the emails she gets where she just has to tap on the email and the magazine is there.

Mo Valentine (2776) asked had the first time ralliers been checked and welcomed – we usually meet them with tea. Ozzie (Secretary) confirmed they had.

There being no further questions, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending. A member from the floor thanked the committee for all their hard work over the past year, saying that they are all volunteers and do a wonderful job, which was endorsed by the rest of the members present.

The Forum closed at 12.15 p.m.



## France Passion stopover

For those members who are familiar with the France passion system of free overnight motorhome stopovers we discovered this escargot farm for one of our nights on the way home last year.

Within the department 76 Seine-Maritime, off the A28 J10 then the D915. In 6km lies the small village of Sommery, well worth the detour, and L'Escargot du Mont Fosse.

Here, Fabienne & Christophe Lamy offer a friendly welcome and the choice of a secluded spot for the night. The hosts are keen to explain the breeding process of the snails and the process for the market place. Should you wish there is the opportunity to handle, feed and taste them, should you choose.

A wonderful encounter for us on a very warm evening.

France Passion is an excellent way to discover the rural lives of the French people and they are always welcoming to visitors. Visit [www.france-passion.com](http://www.france-passion.com) for details.

Jan & John Geeson 2187



# TECH NEWS

Dennis Downie, Chairman Technical Group

[technical@asoc.uk.com](mailto:technical@asoc.uk.com)

I would like to thank 11 members who have contacted me so far (as I write this) confirming that they have suffered the air-locking issue on their water systems as described in last month's Newsletter, many citing multiple vans they have owned with the issue. Please, if you have not already, let me know if you have a submersible pump system and have experienced difficulty priming your water system after draining and filling your freshwater tank. I would like to give Whale a feel for the scale of the problem, just from our members' experiences.

We had a communication regarding the unavailability of spares for Hartal Habitation doors. It would seem that there is a recurring problem whereby the spring(s) that operate the latches in the door sometimes break. Hartal do not supply replacement springs, rather suggesting the purchase of a complete lock. While at the factory in February, I was able to establish that the Auto-Sleepers spares department have these springs made by a local engineering company and have stocks of the springs. They report that they ship springs to owners at least once each month.

I was advised that there are two variants of the doors in use. One uses two springs and the other only one. If you need spares, please quote your Build Number (to be found in the glove box) so they can determine which set of springs you will need. They will cost a fraction of the price of a complete lock.

As I do not have a description of the procedure to replace these springs and as there are two variants, I would say, if any member has replaced his own broken springs, it would be a great help if you could contact me, so we can produce an Ideas Sheet to show how it is done.

The Club was again hosted on the Auto-Sleepers stand at the NEC Show in February. One member approached us to complain that when he packed his new Broadway to go on holiday, he mounted his bikes on the newly fitted bike rack to discover that the number plate was now obscured. This on the morning of his departure. Even fitting a trailer board did not solve his problem as there was no way to connect the electrics for the number plate lights etc. to make it legal. This is common to all the newer coach-built models.

I enquired of the factory what the solution to this issue is. It turns out that the position of the lower rails was designed in response to feedback from customers about having to lift heavy bikes on to high mounted racks. The fitting of a trailer board is facilitated by the optional trailer wiring loom that plugs in to the Sargent VLM5 rear light control unit fitted to these vans. It means that a standard 13 pin connector is then available to connect the trailer board to. This fellow member was not advised by his dealer that these additions were necessary when carrying anything on the bike rack that might obscure the number plate.

On a cautionary note, if anyone does a DIY job after fitting their bike rack that involves connecting to the existing wiring to power the tail lights etc using the likes of "Scotch Lok" connectors, this will interfere with the electronic monitoring system for bulb failure and would very likely invalidate that part of the van warranty, so beware of using a non-approved installer, tow bar fitters, trailer suppliers or the big national car accessory shops to connect to your electrical system. They may not know of the requirement for the additional wiring loom and proceed to splice into your van's electrical system.

I checked with Derby Motorhomes (my local dealer) who are aware of the requirement for the Sargent loom and have fitted for customers in the past.

I had a communication regarding incorrect classification details on the V5 Registration document for a motorhome This came to light when a toll was incorrectly applied. I do not believe this is an isolated

incident and errors on the V5 seem fairly commonplace. It is worth getting out your V5 and carefully checking it over. The advice is to contact the DVLA about any errors on your V5.

In last month's Tech News, I reported that I was able to confirm that a member could uprate his solar panel from 30W to a maximum of 120W without the need to change the Sargent supplied Solar Controller. It has since been pointed out to me that the cables from the original solar panel to the controller may need to be uprated to cope with the additional charging current supplied by a bigger panel. This is correct. The wiring to an uprated system such as this needs to be assessed for capacity and I should have included this statement in my recommendation.



## TECHNICAL AT THE NATIONAL

SV-Tech, Richard Drinkwater and Gareth Marsh will be offering free weighing on Thursday afternoon and will also attend the Friday Tech session

SMC, Warren Ryder, Service Manager and Shaun Percival, Technician, will attend on Friday for the Tech session

Truma, Mark Tricker and Barry Noon will be at the Friday Tech session

# early booking is open for

## Lichfield Rally 2019

Many of you enjoyed attending the Lichfield Fuse Festival with which we shared Beacon Park in 2018. In 2019 we will be sharing with something completely different, Carters Steam Fair <https://www.carterssteamfair.co.uk/index.html> .



### What is Carters Steam Fair?

Carters Steam Fair is a unique attraction – it is an authentic travelling funfair entirely consisting of rare vintage equipment. They live in vintage showman's wagons and caravans, and the whole fair is moved from place to place with a highly-decorated fleet of vintage lorries. It is now believed to be the largest vintage travelling funfair in the world, and travels every week of the season, from Easter to Bonfire Night each year.

The Carter family and friends are dedicated to the fair's smooth running and are passionate about their historical attractions.

### Location of ASOC Rally

This year, we expect our vans to be pitched adjacent to the facilities building which will mean a much shorter walk to the showers, Elsan emptying and Bistro whilst maintaining a similar distance walk into town. I am told that the access gate will be fitted with a combination lock for the period of the rally so anyone who wishes to take their van off site will be able to do so with ease.

### Deposit

For the first time this year, the club are required to pay a substantial deposit to secure the site. This will be refunded by the Council if we cancel due to the ground becoming unsuitable for the pitching of motorhomes or if cancelled by the Council. I have agreed that the deposit will not be paid until mid-May, just before Chris and I depart for Europe, we are therefore inviting applications a month earlier than usual to be able to fund the deposit.

Peter Brown

Full details of this rally can be found on the inside back cover

**Thursday 18 to Monday 22 July (4 nights) Beacon Park, Lichfield, Staffordshire.**

Rally Marshalls: Peter and Chris Brown and Liz Irvin.

Site Fee: £13.00 per night. Rally Fee: £4.00 per couple £2.50 single.

Emergency Telephone: Marshals' mobile 07771 827711

You can book for one, two, three or four nights.

Booking slips and cheques payable to Chris Brown, 5 Kenilworth Walk, Cheadle, Stoke-on-Trent ST10 1WA. Telephone 07771 827711. There is no limit on the number of units attending, and confirmation will be sent via email where possible. Please note any applications received by post after 23 May cannot be responded to. If you have any queries after that date, please email pcb7ty@btinternet.com. If you wish to pay by bank transfer, please email and request details of account information.

You may arrive on Thursday AFTER 12.00 noon NOT BEFORE PLEASE. This is a greenfield site although there are toilets available in Beacon Park; Elsan emptying and showers will be available 08.00 to 10.00 Friday to Monday.

Attractions: Beacon Park is adjacent to Lichfield City Centre with its Cathedral, Restaurants, Museums and Shops. Buses are available to the National Arboretum from Lichfield Bus Station. The park will also be hosting Carters Steam Fair that weekend.

Directions: Beacon Park is situated on the outskirts of Lichfield, just off the A51 Tamworth to Rugeley/ Staffordshire Road leaving Lichfield. Follow the brown Beacon Park tourist signs. Turn into Walsall Road, then immediately left into Lower Sandford Street. Follow the signs for the Car Park, the site is through the car park keeping to the right.

POSTCODE for Lower Sandford Street is WS13 6RA.



just a short walk to the town and cathedral

# photographic competition 2019

submit up to four  
photographs

**WIN £25**

**ANY SUBJECT**

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

photograph entry size can be  
6 x 4 inches or 7 x 5 inches unmounted  
All members per motorhome can enter

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

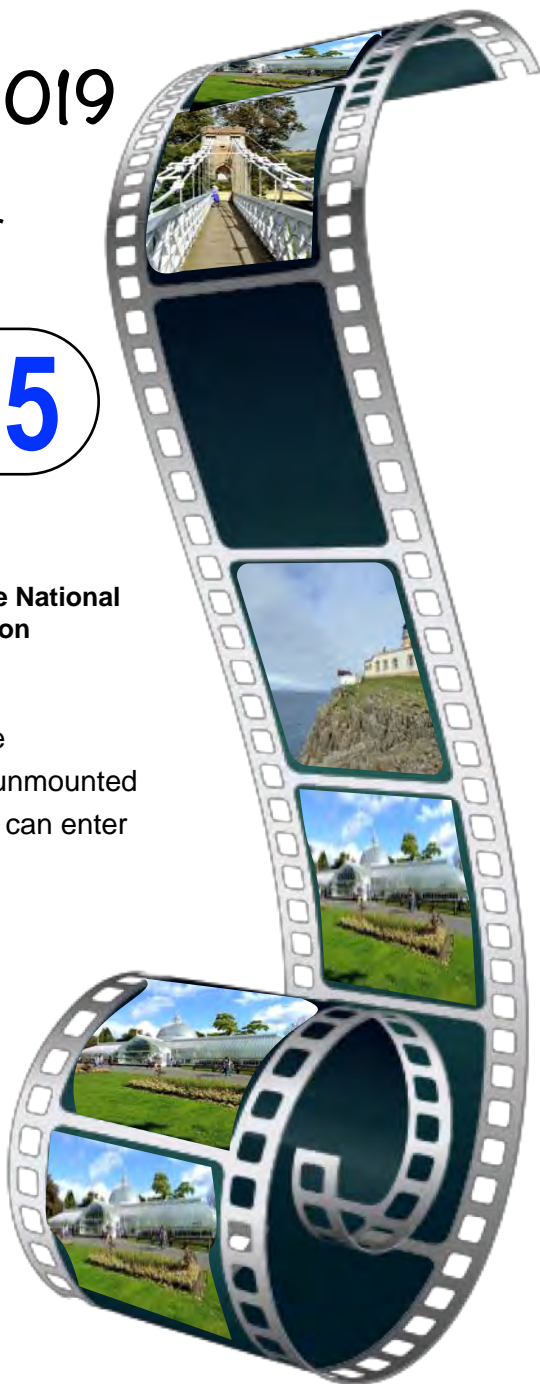
*Please send the following details on  
a separate sheet with your entry*

The photograph title  
Your name and membership number  
together with your address

*Send your entries to:*

Rita Tubb  
70 Charnwood Crescent  
Chandlers Ford  
Hampshire  
SO53 5QL

Closing date For entries 14 April 2019



# rally information April 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

## CANCELLED RALLY

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

### 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 0RY.  
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](http://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.

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### **2 - 6 May National & A.G.M. Rally Newark Showground, Notts. NG24 2NY**

booking forms available in the member area of the website  
or email [publications@asoc.uk.com](mailto:publications@asoc.uk.com)

### **8 - 11 May (3 nights)**

#### **Silvercraigs Caravan Park, Silvercraigs Road Kirkcudbright, DG6 4BH**

Ideal follow on from the National Rally at Newark.

Rally Marshals: Moira & Allan Blackstock.

Site fee: £48 (3 nights) Rally fee: £4 couple, £2.50 single.

Send rally slips and cheques payable to M Blackstock,

39 Sumpter Croft, Penwortham, Preston PR1 9UJ. Telephone 01772 749178.

Please send a SAE or a CLEAR email address on application for confirmation.

Mobile Numbers whilst on rally Moira 07891 704186, Allan 07969 312703.

Kirkcudbright sits at the mouth of the River Dee four miles from the Irish Sea, sometimes called the Artist's Town. It has a picturesque harbour square beside the ruin of MacLellan Castle, not a large town but nevertheless interesting.

*Directions:* On the A75, passing Castle Douglas and the small village of Bridge of Dee turn left onto A711 carry straight on for approximately 2 miles over the crossroads the campsite is signposted on the left, carry on up the hill, your destination is at the end of the road.

**Limit 18 units**

### **Saturday 11 May - Tuesday 14 May (3 nights)**

#### **'Aird Donald' C.P. Stranraer, Dumfries & Galloway, Scotland. DG9 8RN**

This Rally would be IDEAL as part of your Galloway/Carrick Trip.

Rally Marshals: Ricky & Ann Smith

Marshals Mobile 07729 026359 (Ann) 07731 869183 (Ricky)

Site fees: £16 per night on hard standing with electrical hook-up.

Rally fee: £3.00 single, £5.00 couples.

Please send rally slip & cheque to FGH Smith,

'Rathlurg', Leswalt Rd. Stranraer, Wigtownshire. DG9 0HX. Telephone. 01776 705628

SAE or e-mail address for confirmation.

Site is mainly level with excellent toilet facilities, see aird-donald.com.

Half hourly bus from near site entrance to town. (Not Sunday).

We hope to have a Fish Supper (£5.50ish) get together on the Saturday evening and on the Monday evening a final get-together with finger buffet at Creachmore, the local Golf Club.

(cost £7.50 each. inc. transport).

Please indicate if interested. (Monies on arrival.).

*Attractions:* This area of South West Scotland is known for its mild climate being on an arm of the Gulf Stream and as a result there are many Gardens which are open to the public, the best known being 'Logan Gardens' an offshoot of the Royal Botanic Gardens Edinburgh, 'Castle Kennedy Gardens' & 'Glenwhan Gardens'.

Many other attractions are within easy reach either by bus from Stranraer, a mile away, or by using ones own transport.

*Directions:* Site is well signposted from both the A75 & A77 after entering the 30mph limit.

Pets allowed on leads.

**Limit 18 vans**

### **14 -17 May (3 nights)**

#### **Culzean Castle Camping and Caravanning Club Site, Maybole KA19 8JX**

Rally Marshals: Moira & Allan Blackstock.

Site fee: £57 (3 nights) Rally fee: £4 couple, £2.50 single.

Send rally slips and cheques payable to M Blackstock,

**RALLY FULLY BOOKED**

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39 Sumpter Croft, Penwortham, Preston PR1 9UJ. Tel. 01772749178 .  
Please send a SAE or a CLEAR email address on application for confirmation.  
Mobile Nos. whilst on rally Moira 07891704186, Allan 07969312703

The site is situated on the grounds of Culzean Castle, a National Trust Property 12 miles south of Ayr, the surrounding area is steeped in the history of the Scottish Bard, Robert Burns.  
The Isle of Arran can be seen from the site and if the weather is kind the sunsets are spectacular.

*Directions:* From Stranraer 40 miles north on the A77 in approx. 35 miles turn left onto Maidens Road/A719 in 4.5 miles turn left for .5-mile destination on the left.

**Limit 18 units**

### **June 3rd to June 9th (6 Nights)**

#### **Briarfields Touring Caravan Park Cheltenham GL51 0SS**

Rally Marshals: Rita & John Tubb  
Site Fees £114.00. Rally Fee £6.00.

Please send your rally slip and a cheque for £120.00 payable to Rita Tubb together with a clear e-mail address or an SAE for confirmation and directions to:

70 Charnwood Crescent, Chandlers Ford, Hampshire SO53 5QL.

Telephone: 023 8026 7294 Mobile 07754 761423

This is an adults only site with full facilities, and is ideally situated for experiencing Regency Cheltenham renowned for its exclusive shopping; from charming boutiques to shopping centres with many leading retailers. Historic Gloucester has a wonderful Cathedral where Harry Potter was filmed, dockside, award winning Waterways Museum and its Quays outlet shopping centre. The site is well positioned as a base to explore the beautiful quaint Cotswold villages of Bourton on the Water, Stow on the Wold, Broadway & Winchcombe. There is an excellent bus service which runs frequently (every 10 minutes during the daytime and every 20 minutes throughout the evenings) from outside the park to both Cheltenham and Gloucester.

There is also a daily service to Oxford which allows you approximately 5 hours to explore the city before returning you to Cheltenham.

Please do not arrive before 1-00pm.

**20 pitches only**

### **Sunday 9th. – Sunday 16th. June ( 7 nights)**

#### **East Fleet Farm T.P. Chickerell, Nr. Weymouth, Dorset. DT3 4DW**

Emergency Tellephone 077113 75323

Rally marshals: Linda & Brian Ellis & Jackie & John Moss.  
Site fee for 7 nights £150 OR £25 per night plus Rally Fee £6.00.

Send rally slip & cheque payable to Brian Ellis for 7 nights £156 or £25 per night plus £6.00 rally fee.

Plus a S.A.E. or clearly written e-mail address for confirmation to

Brian Ellis, 52 Golf Links Road, Burnham on Sea.TA8 2PP. Telephone 01278 784524

The site is at Chickerell about 3 miles out of Weymouth on the B3157 towards Portesham on a regular bus route with a coastal path walk to Weymouth for the more energetic.

This is a full facilities site with electric hook up, toilet & showers, laundry & dryers as well as ironing facilities. There is a well stocked shop.

It is dog friendly with well behaved dogs allowed in the bar. There are lots of nice walks & dog friendly beaches nearby. Site is down a lane about 10-15 minutes walk to the main road and bus stop.

The rally field is sloping so levelling blocks may be required.

### **Sunday 16 – Friday 21 June ( 5 nights)**

**Brixham Rugby Club, Astley Park, Rea Barn Road, Brixham.TQ5 9ED**

Emergency Telephone 077113 75323

Rally Marshals: Linda & Brian Ellis & Jackie & John Moss.

Site fees £8.50 per night ( up to 5 nights)plus a rally fee £6.00.

Send a rally slip & cheque payable to Brian Ellis to

52 Golf Links Road, Burnham on Sea. TA8 2PP. Telephone 01278 784524.

We will be camping on grass pitches. There is no electric hook up but we do have use of the club showers, toilets and excellent clubroom facilities with free honorary membership during the stay.

There is a coastal path or footpath down from the club to the town or use the local bus services to Paignton, Torquay & Kingswear plus a ferry to Dartmouth.

This rally provides an ideal location to explore Devon's Jurassic coast.

The town's harbour is also home to the replica of Sir Francis Drake's Golden Hind galleon.

Please strictly no arrivals before 12 noon.

### **19th – 23rd June (4 nights)**

**Manor Farm (Listed CCC Site), Thearne Lane, Woodmansey, Beverley, HU17 0SA**

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

On site Mobile: 07799 591550

Site Fee £50 for 4 nights including electric. Rally Fee £2.00 Per Person.

Please send rally slip and cheques payable to

S. Wood, at 26 Burton Acres Way, Highburton, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire, HD8 0RF.

Telephone 01484604133.

For confirmation please send SAE or supply a CLEAR e:mail address .

The site has showers and toilets. There are buses a short walk from the site to Hull, Bridlington, Hornsea, and to Beverley (from here to York).You can cycle into Hull and Beverley. There are walks around Beverley.

There is a pub with good food 18 minutes walk (2 bus stops)away and 2 garden centres are a short walk away with cafes. Friday is pie night, cooked on site, Saturday is Pizza night cooked on site. Dogs are allowed on a SHORT lead , but it MUST be put on your application form .

*Directions:* From M62, follow to end then onto A63 for (approx.) 10 mile, before bridge take A164 Beverley for (approx.) 10 mile, then right onto A1174 ( Minster way) to roundabout, turn right for Hull through Woodmansey village past Beverley garden centre and then lookout for greenhouses on left, turn left at greenhouses down Thearne Lane .

Site on corner (2nd Entrance) Security gate will be open.

**Limit of 25 vans.**



### **23.-28 June ( 5 nights)**

#### **Wigginton Grasshoppers FC Rally Mill Lane, Wigginton. YORK YO32 2PY.**

Emergency Mobile: 07982 416878 / 07843 157248

Rally Marshalls: Alan & Glenis Hurst / Paul Kelly & Wendy Gilson.

Site fee £10 per night - Rally fee £3 couples/ £2 singles.

Booking Slips & cheques, with SAE or written email address for confirmation payable to:

A Hurst, 6 Chadwick St, Little Lever, Bolton, BL3 1ND Tel: 01204 700582.

Greenfield site with toilets, water, chemical disposal point & Sports Club evening bar.

The site is within a 10-minute walk from the local convenience store and pub and a 15/20-minute walk from Haxby village centre with several coffee shops, Co-op & Sainsbury's supermarkets, shops and takeaways.

The bus stop to York and Haxby village is at the entrance to the site with regular buses.

#### **Limit 30 vans**

### **Thursday 18 to Monday 22 July (4 nights)**

#### **Beacon Park, Lichfield, Staffordshire.**

Rally Marshalls: Peter and Chris Brown and Liz Irvin.

Site Fee: £13.00 per night. Rally Fee: £4.00 per couple £2.50 single.

Emergency Tel. No: Marshalls' mobile 07771 827711

You can book for one, two, three or four nights. More information about the rally page 22

Booking slips and cheques payable to

Chris Brown, 5 Kenilworth Walk, Cheadle, Stoke-on-Trent ST10 1WA. Telephone 07771 827711

There is no limit on the number of units attending, and confirmation will be sent via email where possible.

Please note any applications received by post after 23rd May cannot be responded to. If you have any queries after that date, please e-mail pcb7ty@btinternet.com. If you wish to pay by bank transfer, please email and request details of account to send to.

You may arrive on Thursday AFTER 12.00 noon NOT BEFORE PLEASE. This is a green field site although there are toilets available in Beacon Park; Elsan emptying and showers will be available 08.00 to 10.00 Fri-Mon.

*Attractions:* Beacon Park is adjacent to Lichfield City Centre with its Cathedral, Restaurants, Museums and Shops. Buses are available to the National Arboretum from Lichfield Bus Station. The park will also be hosting Carters Steam Fair that weekend.

*Directions:* Beacon Park is situated on the outskirts of Lichfield, just off the A51 Tamworth to Rugeley/ Staffordshire Road leaving Lichfield. Follow the brown Beacon Park tourist signs.

Turn into Walsall Road, then immediately left into Lower Sandford Street. Follow the signs for the Car Park, the site is through the car park keeping to the right.

POST CODE for Lower Sandford Street is WS13 6RA

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

As Warners no longer supply the Club with application forms for their shows, The forms are available 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.

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

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# 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:	
<b>MOTORHOME DETAILS</b>			
Registration:			
Length:			
Model:			
<b>ARRIVAL DETAILS</b>			
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			
<b>OTHER DETAILS</b>		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"/>
<b>EMERGENCY CONTACT DETAILS</b>			
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