

NEWS

376 JANUARY 2020



AUTO-SLEEPER OWNERS' CLUB

IMPORTANT NOTE

Contributions from members are published in good faith, in the hope that they will be 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. No warranties are expressed or implied nor indemnities given. You try them at your own risk.

Advertisements are free, but donations to club funds are appreciated. Publication of any item cannot be guaranteed.

SUPPLIER DISCOUNTS

Available on the website are companies who offer members a discount on goods and services they supply.

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

PUBLICATION ITEMS

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. Add your name and membership number to any item.

Items appearing in any issue may be used by other publications, but acknowledge both the author and source.

Items should reach the editor by the tenth of the month.

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NOTICE

THE THIRTIETH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
OF
AUTO-SLEEPER OWNERS' CLUB
will be held on
SATURDAY 2 MAY 2020
at 10.30 am

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 included with this Notice or 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, 3 February 2020.

In the case of Proxy appointment forms they should be received by him on or before 10.30am Thursday 30 April 2020.

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

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EDITOR'S VIEW



Welcome to January News.

The team would like to wish all our members a prosperous New Year.

Membership became due on 31 December last year. If you have not renewed, this is the last ASOC News you will receive and if you have subscribed to the member area you will be removed. The membership cost is still only £20 and you could recover this by using the supplier and dealer discounts available to club members. All details are on the website. The club has a huge list of events for 2020 and list is available in the member area of the website.

The National booking form has been included with this month's News. We have great entertainment lined up for you. This event has unlimited pitches available, all with electric hookups. If you missed out on any rallies last year, you can be sure of a pitch at the National. It will also give you a chance to meet the committee and at the open forum express your opinion on how the club is doing.

If you wish to nominate a member for the committee or make a proxy vote, the necessary forms are also included in this month's News.

The photographic competition is open to all members, so look out your pictures and enter, see page 11 for details.

We had some very good articles last year on members' travels, so please keep them coming for 2020.

The Membership Secretary would like to wish members
a happy and prosperous New Year

MEMBER AREA LOGIN

The username and password will change on January 6. If your membership has not been renewed by this date, you will no longer have access to the member area.

Gill Hopkins

It is with great sadness that I write to let you know that our friend and the Club's Minutes Secretary, Gill Hopkins, succumbed to the cancer she had been fighting for the last two years, on the 12th November. We visited Gill a couple of weeks before she passed away and were struck by her positivity despite her obvious decline in physical condition.

Chris and I first met Gill on a club walk when she was taking a respite break from caring for her disabled husband and subsequently enjoyed her company during many rallies. Gill joined the Club committee during 2012 and took on the role of Minutes Secretary during 2015 – a job at which she excelled.

Gill will be greatly missed by the many friends she made within the Club

Peter Brown

PERFORMING

AT THE
NATIONAL RALLY



FIONA
HARRISON



THE
SOUNDATIONS



FREE ENTRY TO ALL EVENTS





where will your next view be?

Why not tell News all about it
news@asoc.uk.com

FREE TOLL TAG APPLICATION

This offer may still be open in 2020 from The Caravan club if you are a member, you can save 10 Euros when you purchase the Liber-t for France or Via-t for Spain and Portugal.

camc.com/emovis.

The Salvation Army are unable to attend on Sunday 3rd May for the service, due to lack of manpower.

We are trying to find an alternative, but it might be for 2020 we will just have a coffee get together at about 10.45am on the Sunday.

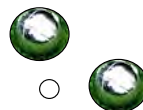
Hopefully everything will be back to normal for 2021.



SUNDAY AFTERNOON AT THE NATIONAL **boules competition**



weather permitting
so bring your boules



Advice sought regarding damp problem

I acquired my 1999 2-berth Symbol (2.0 Petrol) in 2015 in very clean condition. Early in 2019 dark water stains appeared on upper areas at the front end of the offside interior wall lining (1) around the P4 heater control panel just above the narrow storage shelf (2) below that shelf, between the wall light and the over-cab locker partition (3) lower edge of that partition (4) cab ceiling above driver's seat and (5) area above the driver's door frame.

From these locations I suspected the cause might be a leak where the GRP roof is bonded to the van body, perhaps exacerbated by the van inclining towards the offside when parked on my drive. I could not verify this theory externally as the area is hidden by the black acrylic rain channel which runs around the bottom of the roof.

In April 2019 a mobile mechanic applied sealant inside the bottom of the rain channel along the affected area, which appeared to stem the leak, and I was able to eliminate much of the stain over the Spring/Summer.

Unfortunately after several rainy days in mid October the stain re-appeared in most of the same areas except around the heater control panel. I took the van to a specialist caravan body shop, whose mechanics removed the rain channel for an external examination but were unable to identify any obvious source of the leak between the roof and van wall. They nonetheless re-sealed this joint, and also around the frames of the lounge and kitchen roof vents, and the narrow window along the side of the roof in case the cause of the leak is further afield.

Sadly none of this has resolved the problem. Drying the affected areas with a strategically placed fan heater initially results in single figure readings from my damp meter, however, any further rain immediately causes renewed dampness with readings in the range 25-35.

I wonder if any member is able to offer any help or advice as to possible causes and remedies?

Brian Bruton 9306



If you can help, Brian can be contacted on 07547 663275 or 01296 489736

Wishing all our friends and ralliers a healthy and peaceful New Year. Looking forward to meeting up in 2020. Janis and Mike Wood 4201

FOR SALE

Auto-Sleeper Talbot Express Talisman 1990

Dual fuel Petrol and LPG Vehicle. 1 x petrol tank & 2 x LPG tanks for engine. LPG 350 mile range. & 1 vapour tank runs cooker, water heater, saloon heater & fridge, all work well. half price motoring & green. (avg. 55p or 64c per litre) vehical on LPG register.

103000 Miles MOT 9 months

£7000.00

lots of extras: LED Interior lights, 2 domestic batteries, solar panel, rear axle ride assisters, rear LED high-level lights, overhauled gear linkage, new clutch, drive shafts, new bonnet, distributor & tyres.

07952 792676

onthecut@icloud.com

Kent area

thank you for the donation

BRISTOL TO BAN DIESEL VEHICLES

The ban will see privately-owned diesel vehicles prohibited from entering a central zone between 7am and 3pm with drivers fined if they stray into it, and will be enforced by automatic number plate recognition. The scheme is due to come into force by March 2021 but requires government approval before it can be introduced.

It may mean you will have difficulty arriving and leaving the C&MC Baltic Wharf campsite as it falls into the central zone.

<https://www.bristolpost.co.uk/news/bristol-news/city-council-congestion-zone-diesel-3483921>



ANTWERP

All foreign vehicles must register to enter the LEZ zone, its free to register online

From January 2020 more stringent emissions came into force.

If you are already registered, you may need re-apply.

The registration includes Flanders, and Ghent but not Brussels.

More information can be found on <https://www.slimnaarantwerpen.be/en/LEZ>



BERLIN

Diesel Euro 6 Low Emission Zone

Berlin has introduced a lower emission zone on several streets, this means only lower Euro 6 vehicles can enter. The streets it covers and more information can be found on

<https://urbanaccessregulations.eu>

and

<https://www.berlin.de/senuvk/umwelt/luftqualitaet/umweltzone/en/gebiet.shtml>

want ASOC News on your phone or tablet?

subscribe at
<https://www.asoc.uk.com/memlog.html>



STILL TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

STILL ONLY £20 FOR 2020

Membership of ASOC became due on the 1 January 2020 except for those joining after September 2019 as their membership is valid until the end of December 2020.

Any renewals not received before 10 January 2020 will no longer have ASOC News posted to them and will no longer have access to the member area.

The Club is streamlining the process of membership renewal to make it easier for both you and for the club volunteers who process your renewals.

There is now no need to fill in and post a renewal form each year.

We already have your details and provided you inform the membership secretary of any changes during the year, there is no longer any need to re-submit your details each year.

OUR PREFERRED METHOD OF PAYMENT IS BY BACS

For members new to BACS or who do not use internet or on-line banking, BACS payments are simple. You can either make BACS payments online through your internet banking system or go to your bank and ask over the counter to make a BACS payment.

The information the Teller will need is your bank account number and sort code (printed on your cheques) and the Bank name, account number and sort code of our club Bank, together with a payment reference.

When submitting your BACS payment at a Bank, please use as the payment reference your ASOC membership number first followed by your family name (surname).

Any other inclusions in the reference box may delay you receiving your new membership card. This is how the treasurer and membership secretary will identify you from your payment (eg. 1234 Smith).

The ASOC bank account details are:

NatWest Bank

Sort Code 01-01-78

Account Number 19654375

PAYMENT BY CHEQUE

You can still pay by cheque if you prefer, and if you do, you must put your membership number on the back of the cheque. That is all we need as your name will be printed on the front of the cheque.

Cheques should be made payable to Auto-Sleeper Owners' Club and posted to:

Membership Secretary ASOC

Orchard Works,

Willersey,

Worcestershire,

WR12 7QF

Your new membership cards will be sent out as soon as your payment is received.

As a result of a decision made by Members during the 2019 Annual General Meeting, members who have been in the club for 30 years or more become "Gold Members".

If you fall into that category you will be issued with a gold membership card and will no longer need pay an annual subscription. This card will be valid as long as you own an Auto-Sleeper. Your membership number and entitlements remain the same.

Jean Downie Membership Secretary



A 'Sad' Hobby?

Collecting German Wine Schnapps Glasses & Glass Boots.

In the October News, John invited members to send their hobby details to News. As I have not seen any hobbies so far, I wondered if my 'sad' hobby might encourage others to come forward?

My hobby started at the Club's Winningen Weinfest rally in August/September 1997. Many German towns have Weinfests and also produce their own individually designed schnapps glasses & leather pouches. These are sold to sample local wines at the many opportunities in the town. As well as wine there are various bands, groups, dancing and other evening entertainments, which go on into the late evening. A visit to a Weinfest is well worth it to enjoy the whole ambience, and the opportunity to compare, select and buy good wines. Many towns also have a campsite in the vicinity.

Collecting continued from further Weinfests; German Christmas Markets and in later years from charity shops & boot fairs. Collecting of glass boots simply followed on!



PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

submit up to four photographs

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

WIN £25
ANY SUBJECT

Closing date for entries 31 March 2020

Send your entries to:
Rita Tubb
70 Charnwood Crescent
Chandlers Ford
Hampshire
SO53 5QL

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

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

Tyre Pressures

Fellow member John Tubb has kindly provided us with some very useful information sent to him by Michelin Customer Care, relating to tyre pressures to be used with the common Michelin Agilis Camping Green 215/70 R15 Q (109) 8ply tyres. In an email to him they say...

"The recommended tyre pressure for the rear (single) axle of a motorhome running on the MICHELIN Agilis Camping is 80 PSI (5.5bar) and for twin axle, 69 PSI (4.75bar)

This is due to the construction of the tyre with 2 casing plies enabling the use of higher pressures. Its construction and the use of higher pressures is designed to cope with continual heavy loads sometimes found on motorhomes and can help with wear pattern issues, if lower pressures are used particularly on the rear axle.

The front tyres however can be adjusted down to a pressure of 65 PSI for a more comfortable ride and optimum performance."

They added safety points to be taken into account with regard to tyre pressures.

1. Always check the pressures when the vehicle tyres are cold. We consider the tyres as being cold if they haven't been used for at least 2 hours or if they have rolled less than 3 miles at low speed. If the tyres are not under these conditions, they are considered to be hot.
2. When tyres are hot you should always add 4.4psi to the recommended pressure.
3. Please remember – Never deflate a hot tyre.

Michelin contact details for further enquiries

Michelin Customer Care, Passenger Car & Light Truck Tyres 0800 031 8802

email – contact@tc.michelin.eu Web contact: <http://www.michelin.co.uk/contact>

Website: <http://www.michelin.co.uk>

Whale priming

I have witnessed the priming problem on my test rig. It needs more tests, but I believe the problem is a combination of several things that I cannot fully substantiate yet until much more structured testing is complete and I can write a report. The Non-return valve cracking pressure (as previously discussed) is an important factor, but added to this is the pressure exerted on the upstream side of the valve by the water in the system (pipes to the taps, shower head, water heater etc) which by its height above the floor, where the valve sits, will increase this cracking pressure when you open a tap to get the pump going. Please remember I am describing the effects when trying to prime. When the pump is primed it can generate all the pressure it needs to deliver water to the taps / shower head. My observations are that this is a good pump with plenty of capacity.

A new phenomenon has shown up that may explain why some motorhomes suffer more than others with this issue and why some have no problem at all. Because my test rig is "open" and everything is visible, I have observed water escaping from the

top of the pump where the pipe is secured to the pump outlet spigot. This water escape will lower the pressure and the quantity of water delivered to the pressure switch/non-return valve. It appears to be caused by the worm drive hose clip that secures the pipe deforming the connecting pipe and also the pump spigot. On one pump I have observed that the pressure exerted by the worm drive hose clip was so great, it has actually split the pump outlet spigot creating quite a large leakage of outlet water. Of course, this does not present a hazard to the motorhome as all the parts in question sit under the water in the tanks and just circulates back into the main body of water.

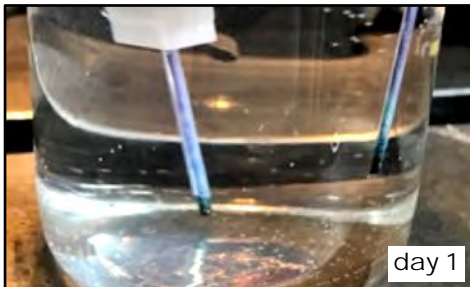
I need to check this out in my own van but that involves dropping the tank out to see what is going on, until the weather gets warmer!

Sargent EC700 Problems

Following exhaustive research by Sargent, X-Ray testing has revealed an anomaly on one layer of one of the chips that are used and testing on subsequent boards shows no sign of failure. Watch this space for more news. I trust you will see it here first instead of rumours on the forums / social media.

Level Sensors

I finally got the test rig, shown last month, wired up. I took two sensors that had been removed due to erratic performance and connected them up in a beaker of clean tap water (pic1). The control panel showed 25% reliably over 6 days, but quite early on, a white sediment had formed and after 6 days they look like this (pic2). There is definitely some electrolytic action going on here – the accumulation being on the +ve electrode not the ground electrode. I shall leave it like this for a few weeks and see how things change. I am presently of the view that these sensors only need their signals applying when a reading is being taken, but apart from the suggestion of fitting a switch to press for a reading I cannot see an easy way around this for our existing vans. I will give this some thought. My recommendation is still to store your van – even for a few days, with the tank drain valves open and the tanks empty, however, watch this space for future updates.



I trust members had a happy holiday and wish everyone a successful new year.

NATIONAL RALLY

Thursday 30 April to Monday 4 May 2020

NEWARK SHOWGROUND

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

all proceeds to the club's nominated charity

GREECE 2019

ON THE ROAD AGAIN



Part three
with Andrew Brown



Pitch by the beach Epidavros

19th May and our return to the Greek mainland. We docked in Piraeus (Athens) at 11pm after a 12-hour crossing with no comfortable seating and no food. (Greek island ferries are basic!) The satnav took us through some tortuously narrow streets to the aire we had identified to spend the night, only to find that it was now the car park for the Spring fairground which the posters advised us was open until 2am! Heyho, a quick look at the map and we set off towards Corinth and found a peaceful motorway services to get our heads down and have a sleep. In the morning we set off early to meet up with friends at Epidavros, stopping to have breakfast on the beach at Limanaki.





We arrived to find a pitch at Camping Bekas next to the beach with plenty of space and were greeted by some of the other campers whom we met the previous year. This was to be our last stay in Greece for this year and we enjoyed plenty of swimming, cycling trips into town (especially to the Italian ice cream parlour) and visits to ancient sites. We visited Corinth (which we didn't really like) and Mycenae where we found the structures of Klytemnestra's Tomb and the Treasury of Atreus just stunning. We also found some very interesting walks which were listed on the "Greek Paths of Culture" website.

A trip to Nafpoli which was a delightful town and port with a really good open market – but had to resist not buying too much as the quality and prices were fantastic, a really good day here with a visit to the cruise ship "Celebrity Edge," courtesy of the niece of our friends who was cruise director, who invited us on board and gave us a guided tour. Absolutely stunning, but we think we'll stick to our trusty motorhome.

2nd June we set off north heading for Patras to catch the ferry to Ancona. This one had good cabins and restaurants so much more comfortable. There were also hook-ups for motorhomes so kept the fridge running. The roads out of the port area were some of the worst we've ever travelled on, narrow, badly signed, full of potholes and heavy traffic, but only a short drive to Assisi where we arrived in a heavy thunderstorm.

Assisi is a beautiful town built on top of a hill. The site ran a shuttle bus into the town which we used a couple of times and also used the bikes to explore the area. Enjoyed a wonderful evening in town at a local restaurant (the tourist ones only open in the daytime) and then at the Basilica listening to a free concert given by the "Georgia Boys Choir" (USA).

6th June and off again heading for Cagnes-sur-mer via Viareggio. We had a massive detour because of the collapsed bridge at Genoa but found our site in Cagnes quite easily, where we met up with my brother and his wife and grandchildren to attend the England Ladies' first match in the 2019 World Cup. We won (shame we had to beat Scotland) and had to celebrate quietly once we got back to our site which was populated with a lot of Scotland fans. We used a taxi because of the traffic and parking problems in Nice – not a money-saving decision!

We finally set off for home a few days later, just thirteen weeks after setting off. A great journey and now already planning our next trip down to Spain in October.

Just a few thoughts about travelling:

Money: we carry 3 different sets of credit cards which do not charge commission, and two sets of debit cards which we can use in cash machines with no charges. These are hidden around the van in separate places so if broken into should leave us with at least one means of payment.

Gas: We have a "Gasit" re-fillable bottle and there are plenty of petrol stations with gas pumps. As soon as it is half-empty we top it up. We carry a 2.7 litre Campinggaz bottle as back-up (never used).

Communications: With no roaming charges in Europe we use our mobile phones for internet and phone access. We managed to send quite a few cards (Birthday and otherwise) but are always surprised as to how severe post offices are in other countries.

Supplies: We use local markets for fresh veg and fruit but sad to say we also come across LIDL everywhere and a satisfying level of quality. We managed to do 4 large BBQs roast leg of lamb (apologies to vegetarians) on a hanging spit.

Maintenance: When we arrived at Epidavros I checked a rear wheel which was making a bit of a grinding noise only to discover that only one wheel-nut out of five was tight. We had new tyres fitted the day before our departure and the mechanic had failed to tighten the nuts properly. No damage but some of the mountain roads we had been travelling on!

Sites: Using ACSI quite a lot. Early in the year a lot of "aires" are not open or have no services. We also have Apps on our phones (CCI and ParkforNight) for finding overnight stops.

Navigation: We rely heavily on Satnav (Tomtom Go64) which we always update before our journeys and use maps as a backup and to check that the GPS route is on real roads.

Language: Most road signs are written in Greek and English. We speak French, German and Spanish quite fluently and have a bit of Italian as well. The Greek alphabet was challenging at first but soon got the hang of it and reading signs became straightforward. English was widely spoken (and really well) but surprisingly we came across quite a lot of situations where German was the choice of foreign language. Just learning courtesy words "please", "thank you", "hello" etc makes a big difference.

FROM THE
ARCHIVES
WITH
Baz Wellard

Twentieth Anniversary of the Club Website

Twenty years ago in 2000 the Club website was uploaded to the internet for a 12 month trial, with the approval of the Committee. The outcome is now history, of course.

The original domain name was (www.asoc.fsnet) and in later years we purchased our present address www.asoc.uk.com

In late December 2004 Practical Motorhome magazine sent the Club a draft copy of their independent review of our website. We were not aware of their interest and it came as a complete surprise. As I recall they only asked three things: The Club's agreement to print, to correct any errors and a personal photograph.

My cutting of the published article, dated February 2005, has been languishing in my files for 15 years, thus the poor quality of the scan, sorry. I have re-typed the article to digitise it.

In early 2018 the management of the website was transferred to John Morris. It has continued to go from strength to strength with extra information, a more professional presentation and is now interactive. If you have not yet visited the website and seen its content and the News in full colour, or signed in - then I strongly recommend that you consider doing so.

The next twenty years: who knows?

Auto-Sleepers
Auto-Sleepers on the web

both outlets, including some for pre-1990 vehicles. Another page lists vehicle handbooks held by the Technical Group, and these go back as far as the Bedford CA and CE as well as almost everything since.

You can download new vehicle brochures from the Auto-Sleepers' website, too (www.auto-sleepers.co.uk).

You will even find a page for paint codes, which means that if your pride and joy gets scratched, you can always reference the original paint code and have a match made.

For further help, there's a page on winterisation, and another on published reviews of Auto-Sleeper models to help those who are considering changing their vehicle. (You can apply to the club for copies of the reviews.) Useful 'stop press' pages provide up-to-date details about vehicle recalls, for instance.

The website is regularly updated and changes are found by clicking on 'updates'. There is also a useful reference sheet to the relevant page.

If you're running an Auto-Sleeper, you should consider joining the club - the website is an excellent resource which, combined with the club's back-up makes membership well worthwhile.

Most useful is a page which contains 'ideas sheets' - club members' own list of suggested hints, tips and improvements. They are first edited and developed by Baz Wellard, before being approved (or rejected) by the design department at the Auto-Sleepers factory.

Once approved, the ideas become indexed fact sheets with details on how to make the modification or improvement. There are more than 80 such ideas.

If you are missing a handbook, you can get one from the club's Technical Group (on loan) or from the factory (for a small fee).

There is a list on the website of handbooks held by

Now you can keep your Auto-Sleeper running by using the internet - that's the message from Auto-Sleeper Owners' Club webmaster and Technical Group Chairman Baz Wellard. If you're a member of the Auto-Sleeper Owners' Club (ASOC), you can use its wide-ranging website to gain information on keeping your Auto-Sleeper running. If you're not a member, you can download a form to join.

The club's website (www.asoc.fsnet.co.uk) was designed by Baz to help members keep in touch and to serve their needs, whether for social events such as rallies, or club committee affairs, and to provide services to members and their motorhomes. Indeed, the club's aims are set out on its home page, so every new person who logs on can see what the club aims to do.

For owners trying to keep their vans running, there are technical pages. They're simply arranged but with an extensive menu.

There's a page on the Auto-Sleepers service centre. At the factory, with a list of prices for some of its services. These include insurance work and general repairs, vehicle servicing, living-area checks,

There are rally reports online, too

and the fitting of items such as under-floor storage units, Mini-Heiki rooflights, alarms, Omnisteps, suspension systems, and more. For each, there's a price and an email link to the service centre.

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Baz Wellard, the club's webmaster

Contact
Auto-Sleepers Owners' Club
Horns Caley (membership secretary), Auto-Sleeper Owners' Club, Queens Works, Wilkesley, Nr. Broadway, Worcestershire, WR12 7QF.
Email horns.caley@fsnetone.net

Auto-Sleepers on the web

Practical Motorhome 2005

Now you can keep your Auto-Sleeper running by using the internet - that's the message from Auto-Sleeper Owner's Club webmaster and Technical Group Chairman Baz Wellard. If you're a member of the Auto-Sleeper Owners' Club (ASOC), you can use its wide-ranging website to gain information on keeping your Auto-Sleeper running. If you're not a member, you can download a form to join

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such as rallies, or club committee affairs, and to provide services to members and their motorhomes. Indeed, the Club's aims are set out its home page, so every new person who logs on can see what the club aims to do.

For owners trying to keep their 'vans running, there are technical pages. They are simply arranged but with an extensive menu.

There's a page on the Auto-Sleepers service centre, at the factory, with a list of prices for some of its services. These include insurance work and general repairs, vehicle servicing, living-area checks, and the fitting of items such as under-floor storage units, Mini-Heki rooflights, alarms, Omnisteps, suspension systems, and more. For each, there's a price and an email link to the service centre.

Most useful is a page which contains 'ideas sheets' – club members' own list of suggested hints, tips and improvements. They are first edited and developed by Baz Wellard, before being approved (or rejected) by the design department at the Auto-Sleepers factory. Once approved, the ideas become indexed fact sheets with details on how to make the modification or improvement. There are more than 80 such ideas.

If you are missing a handbook, you can get one from the club's Technical Group (on loan) or from the factory (for a small fee).

There is a list on the website of handbooks held by both outlets, including some for pre-1990 vehicles. Another page lists vehicle handbooks held by the Technical Group and these go back as far as the Bedford CA and CF, as well as almost everything since.

You can download new vehicles' brochures from the Auto-Sleepers' website too (www.auto-sleepers.co.uk).

You will find a page for paint codes, which means that if your pride and joy gets scratched, you can always reference the original paint code and have a match made.

For further help, there's a page on winterisation, and another on published reviews of Auto-Sleeper models to help those who are considering changing their vehicle. (You can apply to the Club for copies of the reviews). Useful 'stop press' pages provide up-to-date details about vehicle recalls, for instance.

The website is regularly updated and changes are found by clicking on 'updates'. There is also a useful hyperlink direct to the relevant page.

If you're running an Auto-Sleeper, you should consider joining the club – the website is an excellent resource, which, combined with the club's back-up, makes membership well worthwhile.



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A Happy & Prosperous
 New Year to all
 members

January 2020 Rally Information

CLUB EVENTS

Applications for rallies

We would like to remind all rallying Club members that you may only apply for rallies by post using the Club rally slip. Under no circumstances will rally marshals accept bookings by telephone.

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.

If you are unable to attend a booked rally please inform the marshal as soon as possible as there may be other members wanting to attend.

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 a "Guide for Rally Marshals". When a date and venue is chosen you will receive the "Rules for Rally Marshals" and will 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.

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.

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, please contact the rally coordinator.

URGENT REQUEST

MARSHALS REQUIRED

National Motorhome Show
 East of England Showground, Peterborough
 15 – 20 April 2020

A show rally is quite easy to run as I complete the paperwork with Warners, leaving the marshals with complimentary entry to the show accepting rally slips, marking out the rally field and marshalling the rally.

Neil Rogers. Rally Coordinator

1 June – 11 June 2020 (10 nights)
 Camping Les Deux Vallées, Vézac, Dordogne,
 France

<https://www.campingles2vallees.com/en/>

Rally Marshals: Chris and Peter Brown, Liz Irvin.

Emergency telephone: 07771 827711.

Rally Fee: £25.00 this is not refundable if offered a place,

if you want to pay this by BACS say so on the rally slip and you will be sent account details.

Rally slips and cheques to Chris Brown, 5 Kenilworth Walk, Cheadle, Stoke on Trent, ST10 1WA. Enquiries to pcb7ty@btinternet.com or 07771 827711.

Please print a legible email address on your application that can be used for communication about the rally.

Site and Fees: The site has large grass pitches, swimming pool, restaurant/bar and is a 15 min walk from Beynac with its Chateau and restaurants and 7 miles from the town of Sarlat. For the ten nights, the fee will be €16.00 per night for the pitch that includes 2 people, 1 dog and electricity and there is (at 2019 rates) a Tourist tax (surcharge): 0.61 € / day / person + Eco participation of 0.36 € / day / person.

Limit: 25 vans



PLEASE NOTE

BOOKINGS FOR THIS RALLY ARE NOT OPEN UNTIL

1 JANUARY 2020

please do not apply before this date

2nd - 6th March 2020 (4 Nights)

Whitemead Forest Park Rally,
Parkend, Nr Lydney,
Gloucestershire, GL15 4LA

Rally Marshals: John and Jackie Moss.

Site fees £48.00 (4Nights) which includes entry to all leisure facilities.

Rally Fee £5.00.

We shall be sited on the terraces area known as the meadow, hard standing with electric hook-ups.

Please send rally slips and cheques for £53.00

payable to:

J. Moss.

34 Cocksparrow Street,
Warwick, CV34 4 ED.

Telephone 01926 497309

Please send SAE or a CLEAR email address for confirmation.

Excellent for walking and cycling.

Good food on site restaurant and at local pubs.

Mobile: 07580 809303 this is for ON SITE USE ONLY.

Directions: Drive into Lydney town centre from Gloucester, turn right at the Swan Pub before the level crossing (signposted Parkend).

Follow the road to Parkemd Station and turn left at the Fountain Pub.

At the top of the road turn left, site is on left.

Approx 100 yards.

DO NOT arrive before 2.00pm (14.00 hours).

These are the site rules.



AUTO-SLEEPER OWNERS' CLUB RALLY APPLICATION FORM

Rally application form should reach the marshal 14 days before the event if possible
Enclose a SAE if confirmation by post is required of your booking

Date sent:	Rally name:		
MEMBER DETAILS			
First name:	Surname:	Membership No:	
First name:	Surname:		
Address:			
Address:			
Town/City:		Postcode:	
Telephone:		Mobile:	
Email:			
We require these details below of the person to contact in the event of an emergency			
Name:			
Telephone:		Mobile:	
Members guests (include children and their age)			
Name:			
Name:			
Name:			
Name:			Number of dogs:
MOTORHOME DETAILS			
Registration:	Length:	Model:	
ARRIVAL DETAILS			
Day:	am	pm	Evening
OTHER DETAILS			
Is this your first ASOC rally:	Electricity if available:	Evening meal if available:	
Do you intend to bring an additional car, trailer or tent:			
Any special requirements:			

PAYMENT

Including rally fee £

Number of nights

Full payment should be by cheque and made payable to the Rally Marshal
Details can be found on the event details