



NEWS

387 DECEMBER 2020



VISIT SKIPTON

<https://www.welcometoskipton.com>





left: Entrance to Skipton Castle from the inside.
Inset: Leeds and Liverpool Canal, Belmont Bridge, Skipton.
above: Holy Trinity Church adjacent to castle.
below: Skipton Market behind the War Memorial.

photos: © Peter Brown



PUBLICATION DETAILS

The Editor reserves the right to edit or omit any submission. They should reach the Editor by the tenth of the month along with your membership number. The opinions, beliefs and viewpoints or advertisements expressed by contributors to ASOC News do not necessarily reflect those of the Club or Editor.
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IMPORTANT NOTE

Contributions from members are published in good faith, and they will be interesting and useful. All care is taken to ensure accuracy but no modification or suggestion has been tested by the Club or Editor.

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



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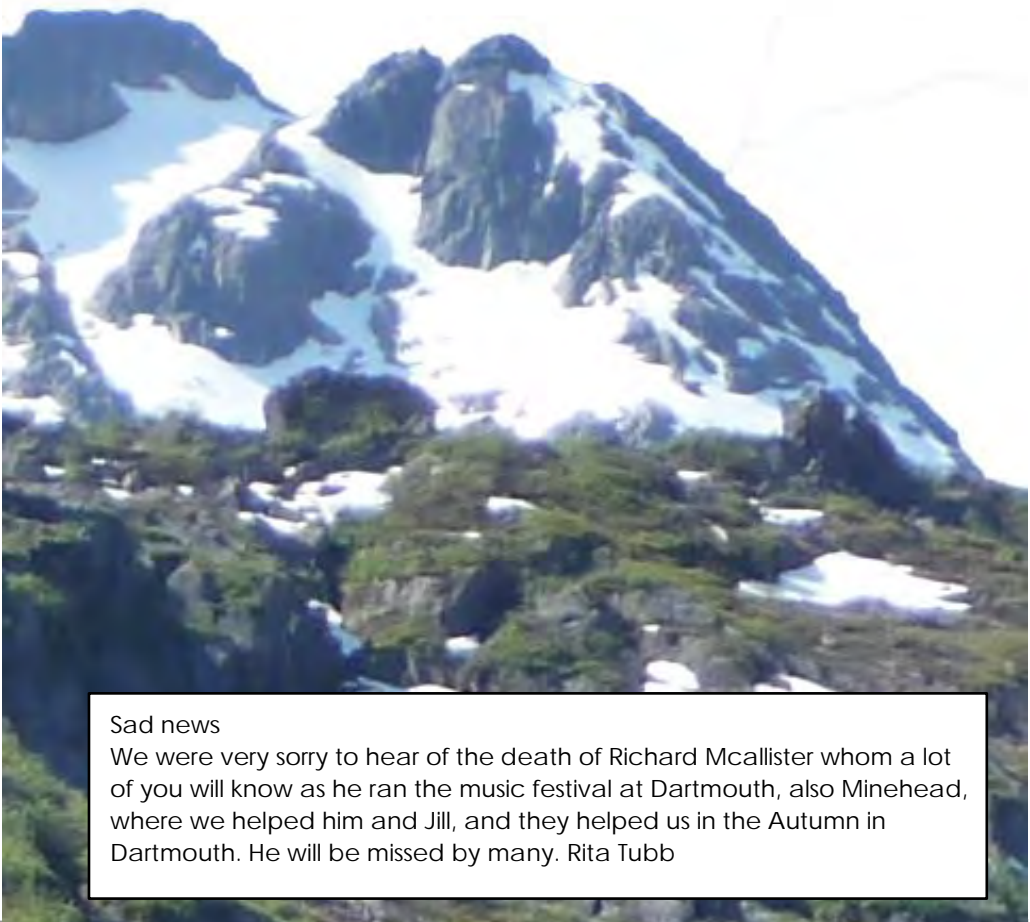
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editor's view

The views expressed by the editor may not be the views of the committee or ASOC

Welcome to December News

Your team at ASOC would like to wish our members Season's Greetings. This year will seem, with the present climate for those who spent it with family and friends. We are often asked, "what do you do for Christmas day?" For many years we have taken the car with a bag of sandwiches, Christmas cake, flasks of tea and coffee and take off for the day. It could be the New Forest, Cheddar, or a secluded coastline.



Sad news

We were very sorry to hear of the death of Richard Mcallister whom a lot of you will know as he ran the music festival at Dartmouth, also Minehead, where we helped him and Jill, and they helped us in the Autumn in Dartmouth. He will be missed by many. Rita Tubb

Reflections of 2020

Steve Ryan, Vice Chairman

2020 has been an interesting and challenging year for me and for many of us. With the support and encouragement from Peter our Chairman, together with the Committee members, I accepted the role of Vice Chairman of the Club in October 2019, with a view to progressing to Chairman in the future and meeting many of you along the way. Personal circumstances saw my wife and I taking up full time van life in the UK in our Broadway LPEK for 3 months up until December when we moved to our property on the Isle of Man. Perhaps I will reflect on our adventures and experiences in another article in the future.

January 2020 saw us upgrading from our Broadway to a New 2019 Winchcombe to give us more space, whilst achieving my ambition of having a vehicle with a Mercedes chassis and automatic transmission.

The change did not come without a number of challenges in transferring the E & P Hydraulic self levelling system and towing facilities (we tow a Honda Jazz) from the Broadway, which had some knock on effects on both the Mercedes and van electronic control systems, and all whilst still living full time in the vehicle but all proved relatively successful in the end.

The February committee meeting was very positive with all looking forward to achieving a well planned National and AGM, along with a good programme of events and Rallies throughout the year. In March I had the privilege to attend one of the quarterly face to face Technical liaison meetings at Auto-Sleepers works at Willersey with Dennis, and meet Auto-Sleepers senior management and technical teams to see the good work and interface, proactively discussing the opportunities and challenges surrounding the issues raised by Club members. The Club's technical team have been proactive in developing practical solutions both with Auto-Sleepers and their suppliers.

At the end of March, the borders closed to the Isle of Man and lockdown in the UK due to the COVID-19 pandemic, causing the flurry of activity by the National Rally team to postpone the event until 2021. Sadly the AGM had also to be cancelled. The committee and the many Rally Marshals attempting to interpret the ever changing lockdown rules of the UK Government whilst many of them being in the 'at risk group'.

Following the changes in Government rules in July, I would like to thank all those Marshals who managed to continue to hold their programmed rally for the benefit of Club members.

The Pandemic has seen the Committee adapting to alternative ways of conducting business through platforms such as Zoom and Teams, which have been successful.



As you can see in this magazine, the National & AGM organisation is well underway but is still subject to Government rules at the time of the event which are currently unknown, I am confident the Committee, the National organising team and the various Rally Marshals will bring you the very best rally programme possible in 2021 as government rules allow at the time.

Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and a successful motor homing New Year, stay safe and well.

ASOC CHOSEN CHARITY UPDATE

As you are all aware, unfortunately the 2020 AGM was cancelled due to Covid restrictions. The Committee have made the decision to carry the 2020 charity forward to 2021. Just a reminder the chosen charity is TOFS (Tracheo-Oesophageal Fistula Support).

May I take this opportunity to wish you all well and hope that you can enjoy your Christmas celebrations as best you can under the circumstances.

I'm very much reminded of the famous Vera Lynn song – "We'll meet again, don't know where. Don't know when". How true.

KEEP SAFE. REMEMBER SPACE.

Shelagh West, Charity and Exhibitions Officer

MEMBER AREA NOTICE

The username and password will change on 1 January 2021. Any membership renewals after this date will be required to opt back into the member area.

Please note: We are unable to reinstate your details after they have been removed from the monthly alert email.

FOR SALE



Ford Transit 2.5 Turbo Auto-Sleeper Amethyst

72000 miles MOT August 2021 4 berth (4seat belts)

£17,450 ONO

Extras include: wind out awning, Tracker unit installed Dash Cam, Reversing camera, Omni Vent, 2 gas bottles. Portable solar panel wired in by Auto Electrician and many more extras

Julia Lain 01480 463634 juliabri@btinternet.com
Cambridge area.

thank you for the donation

HERE BE DRAGONS (NICE BEACHES AND CASTLES TOO)

Rob Corcoran 9539



Us and Lily aged 13 and the Brecon Beacons

We had a trip to Wester Ross, Highlands of Scotland, half-planned for this autumn but then things started to look awkward for cross-border visitors. One of our long weekends away since opening-up on July 4th was to Llanberis in Snowdonia so we thought "Let's do a bit more Wales instead".

In the past year there's been a couple of railways programmes featuring the west of the country. One was Channel 5's World's Most Scenic Railway Journeys featuring the Cambrian Line. Another was Michael Portillo's Great British Railway Journeys where in Series 9 he travelled through North Wales to Criccieth and Abergelle.

The Cambrian Line runs from Pwllheli down the coast of Cardigan Bay then turns in and goes across country to Shrewsbury. There was some beautiful coastal scenery featured, plus Harlech Castle which we decided to make our starting base. It's a fairly swift journey from our north-west home across N. Wales courtesy of the A55 even though we do a detour into Conwy to call at the bakery (finest vanilla slices in Britain!). From there you skirt alongside the Snowdonia National Park, through the phenomenal slate workings of Blaenau Ffestiniog, then alongside the Afon Dwyryd to Harlech on the coast.

Harlech Castle is truly impressive, and very stylish for a building erected around 1289. It perches on the side of a hill, now around $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile from the sea which used to lap around its base. It's well worth a visit and was about 20 minutes walk from the



campsite. The beach, 15 minutes walk the other way, was long and sandy and there were some spectacular sunsets to admire too.

The train station is also close so you don't need to drive the motorhome everywhere. Highlights to the north include Porthmadog (for the Ffestiniog Railway), Criccieth (castle) and Pwllheli, and you can reach Portmeirion from Minfford Station. Going south by train Barmouth and Aberdovey are worth a visit.

Our next stop was the Camping Club's Cardigan Bay site at Cross Inn (there's more than one) which was a short drive from the seaside village of New Quay (Ceï Newydd), one of those idyllic villages you just fall in love with, as Dylan Thomas did apparently. The town of Cardigan, formerly the county capital, has castle walls and some fine old harbour buildings.

New Quay/Ceï Newydd



Aberaeron to the north is also on the Dylan Thomas Trail but its most prominent feature is the coloured house fronts. The majority of the Regency style houses round the harbour are painted in striking colours as if sponsored by Farrow & Ball! Very pretty though.

From Cardigan Bay we moved inland to the Brecon Beacons Caravan Club site. This is right next to the A40/A470, very convenient for Brecon but do be wary of road noise on some parts of the site. There is an excellent canal-side walk into the town, taking about 40 minutes (an hour with an inquisitive Westie!) that terminates at the Canal Basin next to the theatre. It's a fine market town with a cathedral at the top of the hill. On the day we walked up there it was closed for ordinations, but there is a really good tearoom/café in the grounds.

A couple of miles down the A470 is the Brecon Beacons Visitor Centre where we had a good walk to an ancient fort site for Lily Westie's 13th birthday. A little bit further on the A470 and you are right in the midst of the Beacons, grassy and flat-topped but still a serious climb if you're motivated.



Brecon Beacons and bracken bales



If you have time there is a canal walk the other way from the site to Brynich Lock and the aqueduct over the River Usk. It was interesting to watch first-timers at the lock, a bit like watching caravanners erecting awnings.

We didn't venture any further south as South Wales was heading into restrictions, and our plan had always been to head homewards via Chirk. The Camping Club site is at Lady Margaret's Park in the grounds of Chirk Castle. On the way we were passing the National Trust's Powis Castle so we called in there too. It has a fine interior and terraced gardens with 400 year old yew topiary.

Powis Castle and ancient yews



Chirk not only has a castle, it has the Llangollen Canal (and a branch to the Shropshire Union Canal) just along the road from the site. The canal disappears into a 421m tunnel towards Llangollen and you can walk through it (take a torch). Heading south it goes over the Chirk Viaduct – all well worth a visit. There's a railway station too so you could have a day out to Chester.

The castle, built in 1295, is well maintained and currently has a limited number of its many rooms open to maintain a one-way system. It's set amidst beautiful gardens and high grounds looking down to Powis, north Wales and Shropshire. If you are visiting any National Trust or Cadw properties don't forget to book ahead.



It was the first rainy day in two weeks of fine, sunny weather and storm clouds were beginning to gather. Not only was the sky looking gloomy – news reports were full of the restrictions and closures in the south. Then the north began to see rises in infections. With less than 48 hours notice the site was required to close, so having visited the castle we headed for home a day early.

Having had a better look at more of Wales we've decided we must go back again when things calm down. The west coast really was a delight, there are lots more castles to visit, mountains to climb and beaches to Westie-walk!



asocnews@asoc.uk.com

Stumped by a sump

We were particularly thankful as we were just off for 5 weeks to the Dordogne then onto Provence. We were fortunate and just caught the ferry booking that we had made much earlier.

I recently needed to move our Talisman and in doing so I noted a small amount of oil stain on the concrete. I took it to my local servicing garage who put it up on the ramp and reported that the sump was rusting. Fortunately they managed to source a new sump and fit within 3 days. Had I not spotted the oil leak we could possibly have been stranded on the road with a seized engine!

Perhaps it's not too surprising as our Talisman is 16 years old and has covered over 85,500 miles.

So my recommendation would be:- If you have an 'elderly' motorhome it may be worthwhile asking for the sump's condition to be checked at your next service, or sooner.

Baz Wellard

We are sorry to see it go

We hired a motor van (a Highway man) in 1979 and went for a week to the Peak District. It rained every day but did it put us off this new hobby - NO. We had a great time and came home and in March 1980 purchased a new Autohome / CI Highwayman on a

Sherpa Base. As a family we toured a large amount of the British Isles travelling as far north as Scotland, as far south as The Isle of Wight, and as far west as Southern Ireland. Great adventures and happy times were had but we found the wheel base very narrow and "Brian" as it was known swayed rather disconcertingly on corners. We saw advertised an Excalibur and rang the factory to see if we could see one. An appointment was made and we all fell in love with it. So in July 1983 we took delivery of the new van. This again proved to be a very happy period again travelling the width and breadth of the UK venturing even as far north as The Orkneys. These were the times when not many motorvans were on the road and at each site we always caused a stir and was even asked on one site whether we sold hot dogs !!!! As motorvans became more popular we were introduced to Auto-Sleeper and were very impressed with the quality. Result - a Talisman 2 was delivered in March 1988. Circumstances started to change although, again this motorvan was well used but a different layout was needed. We were introduced to the Amethyst going down to Willersey to have a look at one of the first models. It fitted the bill so in October 1995 our new van was delivered to the house. This motorvan has again taken us all over the UK with many many happy holidays. We joined the ASOC soon after taking delivery and have not looked back. Lots of friends have been made and lots of laughs have been had. Sadly it is time for this "friend" to find a new owner as once

again circumstances are changing and we are getting older so need a different layout, but we won't be leaving the Club. All the time we have had the vehicle it has been kept under cover and always washed on return of every trip, polished twice a year and kept well serviced. We shall be very sad to see it go but hope it can find a new home and give the owners as much pleasure as it has us.
Julia and Tony Lain 4437

Please help

Wow, I'm blown away by the new style magazine, what a transformation!

I'd like to make an appeal please. We met a lovely couple at Highcliffe in the late summer who owned a rare 2.0hdi Harmony, reg SF02....and they live in Fordingbridge.

We were chatting while I was wrestling with paying for parking by phone and probably gave them my wrong phone code.

My number is 07564 266593 and I would be grateful if anyone who knows this couple could pass it on.

In the parking 'panic' I didn't get their number either, doh !

We live in the same county and it would be great to meet up (when permitted) as I'm very envious of their 2.0hdi compared to my T reg. 1.9td Harmony! Thank you
Terry Hammond 7578

Don't forget us

We would like to wish all members we have met in our short but happy

association with ASOC a happy future.

It's with some regret that we are having to give up our membership with the club, as we have sold our Nuevo and now have a small Leisuredrive campervan. We decided it would be more useful as we can also use as an every day vehicle.

We also would appreciate any contact from members we feel we have made friends with in the past and on that basis our home number is 01262 675917 or mobile 07843 157248. If you would like to keep in touch then give us a call. Keep well and safe.
Paul Kelly & Wendy 8262 of Bridlington

More memories

The November News prompted memories which may cause a smile here and there.

In Editor's View you mentioned the master baker who gave his son the recipe for a rather large batch of scones when he only wanted to make a dozen; this reminded me of the time my mother was ill and I was left to make the dinner. I decided to make eves pudding. I was 12 years old at the time and hadn't the faintest idea where to start so off to Mum's room to ask. The instructions I got were 'take a gowpin of flour, a kneive of sugar, two eggs and a jitter of milk' I was more confused than when I started, translation was - flour scooped in two hands, a fistful of sugar, two eggs (which I understood) and a small quantity of milk. Dad said 'Weel Din' (well done).

On a rally organised by GB Privilege for ASOC members, we were fairly new

to the club and knew none of our fellow travellers. Waiting at the Dover port to embark Jill Bertlin came along to speak to us. We found Jill & I had a similar sense of humour and hit it off immediately thus the holiday went with a swing with much hilarity.

I will not bore you with a blow by blow account but on one occasion we were pitched on the shore of Lake Garda; we decided to take a trip on the lake so we bought tickets to take us to the next village. As the boat was approaching the landing stage James was already on the lower deck, Allan, Jill & I on the upper took too long in getting down and the boat took off with us still on. Jill got in such a panic as she thought James had got off and she had his wallet and phone in her bag, however, he had noticed we hadn't come down so stayed on. We decided we would get off at the next stop.

As we approached the landing stage there was no one waiting so the boat just veered away and continued up the lake. At this point we decided we should come clean and admit our error to the crew. The response was 'Not to worry - next village is nicer'.

We had a lovely day, saw a wedding party and called out good wishes to the bride and groom who replied in broad Scouse. We had lunch in a nice restaurant and on leaving the waiter asked where we lived. When we said Preston he replied 'I know Preston, I worked in Tigi's and lived in Lostock Hall which is 2 miles from our home. As they say 'It's a small world'.

On the return journey we had the top deck to ourselves so Jill & I were able to spread ourselves over two seats each and soak up the sun.

At another site, Jill, Irene Kitchen and I went for a swim but were not allowed in without a swim hat, we went to the shop and bought one each and by the time we got back to the baths they were closed, We made up a little song about having a swim hat in our motorhome to the tune 'There'll always be an England' and sang it to all our ASOC neighbours sitting outside their motorhomes.

As we passed a German gentleman he said 'you did not sing to me and it is my birthday, so we sang happy birthday to him, went back to our motorhomes and one had a little cake another had a candle so we went over and sang to him again. He seemed delighted and his wife who could speak no English just looked bemused. Later that evening he came over with three glasses of wine on a tray 'For my womens'.

That trip was the start of a great friendship cut short too soon. We are still in touch with James but we are always aware of the empty chair.

Allan and Moira Blackstock 4067

TRAVEL



Provence

Baz & Dorothy Wellard

We were asked if we would like to write an article on how we travel to Provence as it might assist members who may be considering going there for the first time. It is not a travelogue, but it is simply our usual route with the overnight stays - both outward & return. We leave the touring options to you.

We nowadays travel overnight from Portsmouth, with Brittany Ferries, booking a cabin which includes breakfast. Disembarking at Oustreham we drive 320 miles to Moulins (page 122 of the Michelin Atlas). There is a pleasant overnight 'Aire' on



the riverside bank over the bridge from the town, and it is well signposted.

Leaving the Moulins 'Aire' we travel 260 miles south to the Nyons area (Page 166 of the Michelins Atlas), by joining the A6 Motorway at Macon Junction 29 (Page 124 of the Michelins Atlas). Note. The A6 motorway changes its number at Lyon and becomes the A7! We leave the A7 Motorway at Junction 18, going on D133 then D541 across country to Nyons. (Page 166 of the Michelins Atlas).

The return is much the same route except that our overnight stay is at another





pleasant campsite by a small lake, at the small village of Noun-le-Fuzelier. (Page 88 of the Michelins Atlas).

Dorothy and I have always enjoyed touring in Provence since we first went there 15 years ago with our Talisman. There is so much to see with the river gorges, old villages and the lavender fields, etc. In these latter years, however, we seldom tour but mainly stay in our favourite site, in the Drome Provencale area, near Nyons. There are several campsites, and even more in the outlying area. There is an Aire in Nyons.

I regret we are not willing to suggest any particular campsites, not even ours, sorry! From Nyons you can then choose your own onward destinations in Provence to suit your own interests, routes, wishes and time scales.

We hope this might be of some use as a simple guide. Happy and safe motoring.



To wish members of ASOC a Merry Christmas and hopefully a peaceful New Year and hope to see you as soon as we can get back to rallying again. Sandra and Bernie Wisely 16

To all our friends who we have been unable to see this year and those few that we did manage to see, we wish you all a happy and healthy Christmas and let us hope 2021 will allow us to meet once again. Best wishes. Chris and Shirley Sturgeon 2897

Pauline & Neil Rogers would like to wish all members Seasons Greetings and hopes for a brighter New Year.

We wish all members of ASOC Blessings at Christmas and a Happy Healthy New Year. Allan and Moira Blackstock 4067



PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION 2021

submit up to four photographs

Judging takes place at the National Spectacular

Closing date for entries 31 March 2021

All members per motorhome can enter

Size 6 x 4 inches or 7 x 5 inches unmounted

WIN £25

This year's subject for photographs
What did you get up to in your motorhome
during and after lockdown




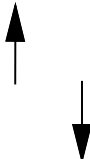

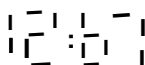
Entries should be sent with your name and membership number to:

Rita Tubb

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

NOTE: Items entered in the competition may be used in Club publicity

Dingbat probably comes originally from “disambiguation”.
 Printers ornaments or characters used as page edging or text boxes.
 Over the years it has acquired other meanings but here it is used to
 name the mind-bending quizzes such as you see in this collection.
 A guide to novices, is to look at the boxes, small numbers represent
 words of the answer and the number of letters in each word.

<p>4,5,3,6 TOPHEE TOFIE TOFFE 1/ TOFEE</p>	<p>3, 4, 3, 4 WAGE 1 3 5 7 9 2/</p>	<p>1, 4, 2, 3, 4  3/</p>
<p>5, 2, 8 UPRIGHT <i>RITE</i> 4/</p>	<p>4, 2, 5, BRASS 5/</p>	<p>6, 4, 3, 3 search  6/ and</p>
<p>7, 2, 2, INILT 7/</p>	<p>3, 1, 4, 5, 5 <i>LONG STOR</i>  8/</p>	<p>5, 2, 3, 6 MIDSOWDLE 9/</p>
<p>1, 4, 2, 3, 4, 2, 5, 3, 2, 3, 4 HAEAGLEND = BRAVENUSOWLH 10/</p>	<p>2, 3, 5, 5, 2, 3, 5, 5 SOME  WEHRE 11/</p>	<p>1, 5, 3, 4, 4 www.conjunctivitus.com 12/</p>

So You Think You Know
Christmas Quiz

- 1/ His song “**Last Christmas**” is still popular but for whom was Christmas 2016 the last Christmas.
- 2/ How many “**laa’s** come after the **faa** in “**Deck the halls with boughs of holly**”
- 3/ In the song “**Santa Claus is coming to town**”, how many times does he check his list to find out who’s naughty or nice?
- 4/ Frosty the snowman was a happy jolly soul, with a corn cob pipe and anose, and two eyes made out of coal. What was his nose made of?
- 5/ Good king Wenceslas looked out , when the snow lay round about, on whose feast?
- 6/ Other than blue, which other colours are mentioned in the Elvis song “**Blue Christmas**”?
- 7/ The following are words from which Christmas songs ?
- A/ She didn’t see me creep down the stairs to have a peep.
- B/ Once bitten and twice shy,
I keep my distance
- C/ The choir of children sing their song they practiced all year long,
- 8/ How many birds are given in one **full verse of** “The Twelve Days Of Christmas”
- 9/ In the song, “Rudolph the red nosed reindeer”, What would the other reindeers not let Rudolph do?
- 10/ Which of Santa’s reindeers name Starts with a “B”?
- 11/ How many ghosts are there in, “**A Christmas Carol**”, and who are they?
- 12/ What was the name of the Christmas special movie featuring the voice and likeness of Tom Hanks?
- 13/ Which of Santa’s reindeer is named after another animal?
- 14/ In the carol, “**It’s beginning to look a lot like Christmas**”, “It’s beginning to look a lot like Christmas, toys in every store, but the prettiest sight to see, is the . . what?”
- 15/ “So this is Christmas, and what have you done, another year over, a new one just begun”. Are the opening lines of what Christmas song and by whom?
- 16/ The line, “Chestnuts roasting on an open fire, Jack frost nipping at your nose”, is the first line from which song written by Torme and Wells in 1945?
- 17/ Lap land, the traditional home of Father Christmas, spans which four countries?
- 18/ According to the Bible, who were the first to pay homage to the baby Jesus?
- 19/ Written and first recorded in 1949, which “singing cowboy” sang the original Version of ;-
“Rudolf the red nosed reindeer”?
- 20/ Who tracks Santa’s location on Christmas Eve? A bonus point if you know when the tradition started.

Season’s greetings to you all from Linda and Brian Ellis 2360 and all our best wishes for 2021 and beyond.



Waleswood Caravan and Camping Park



I would like to share with the club members a great site for a stopover or a few days break. If travelling north/south on the M1 around the Sheffield/Rotherham area.

The site, is Waleswood Caravan and Camping Park. It's just 3 miles from Junction 31 of the M1. We stayed there recently for three days, just to get out and about. What a find it was! The facilities are fantastic. Brand new heated toilet and shower blocks that were open (unlike the majority of C& CC sites this year) as well as the washing up sinks. A small snack bar/bar on site although food and drinks had to be consumed outside at the time of our visit. It has a small shop in reception that sells essentials. The pitches are all spacious hard standings with electricity on each. At £20 per night for persons with van, it's excellent value. and open all year round. A short walk from the site along a public footpath leads to the Rother Valley Country Park. This is excellent for walking, cycling and running, with access to the Pennine Way for cyclists and walkers alike. There are several marked nature trail walks around the park and several mountain bike trails for the more active. It has a watersports area on one of the three lakes that has its own bar where snacks can be bought, and also has another cafe/snack bar in the park.

Perhaps, the drawback for some may be that there are no shops/pubs within short walking distance of the site. The site is a real gem.

We hope it's not too long before we can get back out and enjoy some freedom with our vans.

Martin Peace 1030

Think You Know Christmas Answers

- 1/ George Michael
- 2/ Eight Fa, la la la la. la la la la
- 3/ Twice
- 4/ Button Nose
- 5/ Feast of Stephen
- 6/ Red, green and white.
"decorations of red on a green Christmas tree" and "You'll be doing all right with your Christmas of white".
- 7/ A: I saw mommy kissing Santa Claus
B/ Last Christmas
C/ Wonderful Christmas Time
- 8/ 23, 7 Swans, 6 geese, 4 calling birds,
3 French hens, 2 turtle doves and a partridge in a pear tree..
- 9/ Join in any reindeer games
- 10/ Blitzen
- 11/ Four the Ghost of Jacob Marley, the Ghost of Christmas past, the ghost of Christmas present and the Ghost of Christmas yet to come.
- 12/ The Polar Express
- 13/ Vixen a female fox
- 14/ The holly that will be, on your own front door
- 15/ Happy Christmas,
War is over John Lennon
- 16/ The Christmas Song
- 17/ Northern Finland, Sweden and the Kola Peninsula of Russia
- 18/ The shepherds
- 19/ Gene Autry the singing cowboy,
No.1 in the U.S.charts Christmas 1949.
- 20/ NORAD – North American Aerospace Defence Command.
The tradition started in 1955

Something for Christmas?

With many tyre inflators they come with screw fitting on to the tyre valve. An adapter is available if you prefer the clip on type.

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/Oxford-Valve-Access-Tool/dp/B00GC299LQ>



ASOC

NATIONAL SPECTACULAR

NEWARK SHOWGROUND

29 APRIL - 3 MAY 2021

Martin and Ozzie would like to wish everyone Seasons Greetings for Christmas and the New Year. We are also looking forward to meeting old and new members attending the National Rally Spectacular



The calculator has been working overtime and we are ecstatic that once more we have been able to keep the costs down, not only that, but they are the same as they were for the cancelled 2020 National.

As you all will appreciate due to Covid-19 everything is up in the air, subject to government decrees and therefore may have to be cancelled. So, to give us a breathing space, the application form will be in the February Newsletter, but you will be able to get the form off the website from 1st January.

All cheques will not be banked until a decision is made, if the National is cancelled we will shred the cheques, this will save time, hassle and the Treasurer will only have to reimburse those who have paid by BACs.

Martin and I are now keeping our fingers crossed that all will be well, but it does cause problems when typing!

New upgrades to 2021 models

I read with interest that there are some upgrades coming on 2021 models that include Lithium-ion Batteries. I would like to get detailed information on these, and in particular what is required for existing models to upgrade as and when it becomes time to replace our leisure batteries. This may be an expensive option, but from what I have read, the life, capacity and reduced maintenance required all seem to come down on the side of "this may be good to do". I will look into this, but my access to the factory is restricted to telephone calls and emails until the Covid restrictions are lifted. This will slow me down somewhat.

Our recent summer rally at Whitby was cut short for some of us because the dull, damp overcast conditions resulted in many leisure batteries being discharged well before the end of the rally. Such a shame. I understand that next year, some limited charging facility may be possible, but with any luck, the sun will be out again and we will all be vaccinated! I am sure that greater availability of Lithium-ion technology will help when faced with this sort of "off-grid" situation. Of course as it is more widely adopted, prices will come down and it is encouraging to see manufacturers like Auto-Sleepers incorporating it into their models, certainly a great step forward.

Owners Handbooks and Workshop Manuals

I was asked for help recently with information from our copy of the Peugeot Talbot Workshop Manual. We have permission to copy and supply members with copies from the manual provided they are not sold or distributed. They are for members use only. I am happy to email sections of this comprehensive manual to individual members under our permission issued by Peugeot in 1991 and I have requested an updated permission from them to allow us to upload the full manual onto the website as we have done with the owners' handbooks.

I also have copies of workshop manuals to loan, published by Pocket Mechanic for:

Citroen C25, Fiat Ducato, Talbot Express Petrol 1.8 & 2.0L models from 1982

Citroen C25, Fiat Ducato, Talbot Express Diesel & Turbo Diesel 1.9 & 2.5 from 1982

VW Transporter from 1985

VW Transporter T4 from 1985 petrol

VW Transporter T4 from 1985 diesel

These Pocket Manual series are also available to purchase from the publisher at £15 each from their website <http://russek-publications.com> They look to be very comprehensive and cover servicing and repair.

Table For Free

Following on from my write-up last month about my table for free, Cath and Paul Dawson got in touch to show me the version they asked their dealer to fit to their Bourton.

We were very interested in the article by Dennis Downie (ASOC News Nov 2020) as we had asked our dealer to fit these straps about 5 years ago!! The door makes a great table for wine/beer/coffee etc. On asking Auto-Sleeper why they didn't fit the straps as "standard" we were told "health and safety" due to accidents if the shelf was sat upon!!

Personally, I feel they may have been "fobbed off" somewhat, as the Health & Safety issue could be covered with a warning label and / or a warning in the Owners' handbook.

I think they have done an excellent job. I was on-site in Scotland when I did mine, from materials and tools available to hand (that's my excuse and I'm sticking to it).

I have been advised that this will affect the water ingress warranty as the screws are fixed into the door frame. However (personal view) the screws are on the dry side of the door seals and water should never get into this area.



TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP STILL ONLY £20 FOR 2021

Membership of ASOC becomes due on the 1 January 2021 except for those joining after September 2020 as their membership is valid until the end of December 2021.

Any renewals not received before 10 January 2021 will no longer have the ASOC News posted to them and will no longer have access to the member area.

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

Please be sure to inform the membership secretary of any changes to your details during the year, by emailing on membershipsec@asoc.uk.com. For those members who do not have email my address is below.

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 please use as the payment **reference your ASOC membership number first followed by your surname.**

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

Our bank account details are:

The Auto-Sleeper Owners' Club
National Westminster 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. To speed up the process please **do not** send your payment to the Willersey address.

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

Jean Downie
ASOC Membership Secretary
88 Portreath Drive
Allestree
Derby DE22 2SD

Your new membership card(s) will be sent out as soon as possible after your payment has cleared.

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

If your membership card says “Member since 1990”, you will no longer need to renew or pay an annual subscription. You will be issued with a gold membership card. This card will be valid for as long as you own an Auto-Sleeper. Your membership number and entitlements remain the same. These cards will be issued in December.

Jean Downie
Membership Secretary



MEMBER AREA NOTICE

The username and password will change on 1 January 2021. Any membership renewals after this date will be required to opt back into the member area.

Please note: We are unable to reinstate your details after they have been removed from the monthly alert email.

EVENTS

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



RALLY INFORMATION DECEMBER 2020

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

Applying for rallies: You may only apply for rallies by post using a Club rally slip. Under no circumstances will marshals accept bookings by telephone. Always carry your membership card when attending rallies. Inform the marshal if you plan to bring a car, tent or trailer.

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

We are still building the list of rallies for 2021
If you are thinking of running one, let us know

NEED TO KNOW MORE ABOUT RUNNING A RALLY?

Running a rally: If you would like to run a rally, assistance and advice is available from the rally coordinator or committee member. A "Guide for Rally Marshals" is available from the website. When a date and venue is chosen you will receive "Rules for Rally Marshals" and asked to sign a marshal's declaration which should be returned to the rally coordinator. It is important that all potential rally dates and venues are checked with the rally coordinator, who will confirm 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, contact the rally coordinator.

Answers to Dingbat quiz

- 1/ Can't spell for toffee
- 2/ Pay over the odds
- 3/ A leap in the dark
- 4/ Stand on ceremony
- 5/ Bold as brass
- 6/ Search high and low
- 7/ Nothing in it
- 8/ Cut a long story short
- 9/ Piggy in the middle
- 10/ A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush
- 11/ In the wrong place at the wrong time
- 12/ A sight for sore eyes

Possible rallies 2021

8 - 12 March 2021 Whitemead Forest Park

20 - 25 June 2021 Wigginton F.C. York

8 - 13 July 2021 Leans Field, St. Ives

19 - 23 August 2021 Whitby Regatta

23 - 27 August 2021 Winchester, Symondians Cricket Club

1 - 16 September 2021 Multi-site Scottish Rally

6 - 10 September 2021 South Lychett Manor

24 September - 4 October 2021 ACCEO AGM

Shows that may take place

16 - 18 April 2021 National Motorhome Show, Peterborough

20 - 22 August 2021 Great Western Show, Malvern

10 - 12 September 2021 South West Show, Shepton Mallet

24 - 26 September 2021 Seasons Finale, Lincoln Showground



EVENTS 2021

The shop has a range of club items. They are available from the Regalia Officer by post or at the many rallies he attends.
Order form and more at www.asoc.uk.com/shop.html

**ASOC CLOTHING RANGE
(INCLUDES DELIVERY)**

**MENS & LADIES FLEECE
£23.30**



001 MENS: navy blue, royal blue, seal grey
S, M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL

002 LADIES: navy blue, royal blue, classic red
14, 16, 18, 20

POLO SHIRT £14.30



007 with ASOC badge
dark or light blue
008 with little man motif
pink, dark or light blue
S, M, L, XL

SWEAT SHIRT £19.00



005 with ASOC badge
light or dark blue
006 with little man motif
red, light or dark blue
S, M, L, XL

**009 WOOL SKI HAT £8.80
010 BASEBALL CAP £10.00**



ski hat black with ASOC badge
baseball cap with ASOC badge
cream, blue, blue with red peak

Many more items are available including badges, lanyards and much more; details can be found on the website

023 HOODIE £25.00



red, navy, royal blue,
black M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL

**024 BODYWARMER
£23.00**



navy, green, black
M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL

TEE SHIRT £11.30

003 with ASOC badge
dark or light blue
004 with little man motif
pink, dark or light blue
S, M, L, XL



Payment required is by bank transfer, email your order to regalia@asoc.uk.com

We will confirm your purchase together with our bank details, and a reference number to be used when paying by bank transfer. It is important to use the reference number when transferring as we require it to deliver the order