



JANUARY 2022

# NEWS



**ASOC**  
membership  
office

177



this bus has left, but  
you still have a chance  
to renew your

# TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP STILL ONLY £20 FOR 2022

Membership of ASOC becomes due on the 1 January 2022 except for those joining after September 2021 as their membership is valid until the end of December 2022.

Members who do not renew: Any renewals not received before 10 January 2022 will no longer have the ASOC News posted to them and will no longer have access to the member area, benefit from the various discount schemes or be able to take part in the rally programme.

Please take this opportunity to advise of any changes to your details during the year, by emailing on [membershipsec@asoc.uk.com](mailto: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 online 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.

**IMPORTANT:** 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 do not send your payment to Willersey.

Cheques should be posted to:  
Jean Downie  
ASOC Membership Secretary  
88 Portreath Drive  
Allestree  
Derby DE22 2SD



# THIS MONTH

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Treasurer: Carol Ryan [treasurer@asoc.uk.com](mailto:treasurer@asoc.uk.com)

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**SUPPLIER DISCOUNTS:** You must present your membership card at the time of order or arrival.

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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 the January News.

With this issue we have details of the AGM and the National Rally application form. Bookings open on 1 January. A fillable PDF will also be available in the member area of the website, payment can be bank transfer or cheque.

For those who have never attended the National Rally and AGM, why not give it a try? All pitches will have electric hookup, entertainment and an open forum where you can make any suggestions and meet the Committee. We usually have staff from the factory where Dennis hosts a technical forum.

Just to remind members, where links to websites or files are mentioned, most of these are clickable in the PDF version of News. More members are taking up the digital version only of the magazine, let us know if you would like this option.

We still need volunteers to run a rally, If you require more information, just contact Neil, our Rally Coordinator who can give you further information. He also has sites for rallies, if you would like to give one a try.

We have Committee vacancies, If you would like to help run the club, email Steve, our Chairman, who can give you any information and what is involved.

Has anyone found the LPG listing website useful? Please let us know.

The member area username and password will change, so if you have subscribed and not renewed your membership, you will not receive the the new details to log in.

The Club always like to receive travel topics from members, so if you have any, please send them to the editor.

# Chairman's chat



Happy New Year to one and all, let us look forward to some fine, sunny weather to get out and about and meet up in our motorhomes in 2022.

We will still live with Covid, Omicron and its inevitable successors well into the future hopefully, it will not stop us enjoying life, fresh air, good company and the wonderful scenery around the UK.

Despite the COVID 19 issues and restrictions in 2021, the club held 11 successful and well supported Rallies. I look forward to meeting some of you on the many rallies in 2022, not forgetting the National at Newark showground at the end of April.

Today as Storm Barra crossed the Isle of Man, the winds flattened 25 metres of our back fence, damage to the Airport Terminal building roof resulted in the closure of the airport and the ferry has not been sailing for several days, but that's Island living for you.

We are crossing our fingers that Winnie, our van, has survived in storage during the recent storms in the north west of the UK.

Hopefully you are all well and have managed to survive the weather and are looking forward to getting out and about in your motorhomes.

Steve

# Need to keep your bones warm this winter?



Then the club  
bodywarmer  
and ski hat is  
what you  
need

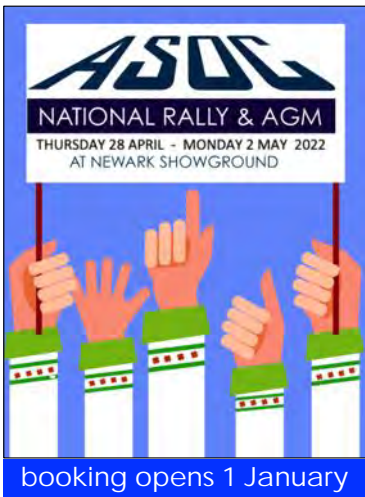
**BUY BOTH FOR £27.00  
including postage**

024 bodywarmer £23.00  
navy, green, black  
M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL  
009 wool ski hat £8.80

email [regalia@asoc.uk.com](mailto:regalia@asoc.uk.com) with  
your requirements or use the  
order form on the website  
[www.asoc.uk.com/shop](http://www.asoc.uk.com/shop)  
payment by bacs

## WINTER TIP

To stop your windscreen wiper blades from freezing to the screen, pop some corks or similar under the arms to keep them away.



## UK LOW EMISSION ZONES

Some UK cities have implemented LEZ and others plan to do so, check out these websites for more information.

<https://www.gov.uk/low-emission-zones>

<https://www.gov.uk/clean-air-zones>

<https://tfl.gov.uk/modes/driving/congestion-charge>



Dear ASOC friends.

After 17 years of motorhoming with you, we have sold dear old Otto the Clubman GL.

We have thoroughly enjoyed the many rallies, in so many fascinating places with our kind and friendly co-members!

We wish you all good weather and bon voyage for the future!

Richard and Ivy Birch

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## WHITEMEAD RALLY 2022 UPDATE

We hope to run the rally as normal as possible on Monday 14th March- Friday 18th March. Booking details will be in the February magazine .

John and Jackie Moss

\*\*\*\*\*

Sadly no pictures available of 2021 beautiful overseas scenic holidays but here's one of something we have enjoyed at numerous UK locations. Thanks to Mo Valentine for her recommendation for this marvellous piece of cooking equipment and NO we have not kept the other two Cadac Safaris, I persuaded Mike he didn't need to store them in the garage with all the other excess Motorhome paraphernalia ! Hope you all had a very Happy Christmas and New Year and looking forward to meeting up very soon with the many ASOC friends we have made. Val and Mike Pippard 8862



# TRAVEL EUROPE

## Austrian Toll Roads

You can buy a digital vignette online in order to drive a vehicle of 3500kg or less on motorways and toll roads in Austria. For vehicles over 3500kg it is still required to obtain and install a GoBox. Previously, drivers had to buy a physical sticker or vignette at a border crossing or petrol station, these can be bought online, and not required to display anything in the vehicle as they work on number plate recognition.

A vignette is not needed on the Brenner pay motorway between the Innsbruck Sud junction and the Italian border. <https://www.asfinag.at/en/toll/vignette/> for further information.

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## NEW YEAR GREETINGS

We would like to wish all members a Happy and Healthy New Year and we will look forward to meeting up later in the year.

Mo & Mike Valentine

## ASOC regalia

The club has a large selection of regalia including caps, sweat shirts and lots more. For the complete list and prices, checkout the website or contact

Stuart Wood  
[regalia@asoc.uk.com](mailto:regalia@asoc.uk.com)



**DON'T  
FILE YOUR  
TRAVELS  
AWAY**

send them to  
ASOC NEWS

## National Rally Tombola 2022

Chris Brown and Liz Irvin are again holding the successful bottle and can tombola at the National Rally in the Sir Stuart Goodwin Pavilion.

All proceeds to the Club Charity.

They would be very grateful if club members could start collecting bottles and cans to donate to the Tombola.

The more we have, the greater the contribution to the charity.



# FROM THE ARCHIVE



1995 Malvern National Rally



2006 Dartmouth Rally



National Rally date unknown

# FROM THE ARCHIVE



2000 Club & Company Rally

The Smartest Motorhome Competition the committee arranged at the C&C 2000. Judging by the Service Centre Technicians, with Charles Trevelyan donating & presenting the prize.



1993 Wicksteed - Angela and Charles Trevelyan

I trust you will have had a good holiday and New Year celebrations. As I sit writing this on a cold, wet December day, nursing the worst head and chest cold that I have had in years (or so it feels like)

I am on my son's driveway in Horton Heath, using the Motorhome as my office, so at least there is the illusion of enjoyment. I look forward to the festivities in just under 3 weeks' time. I keep taking the lateral flow tests that in my area have become in very short supply. I had to order mine off the .GOV website to get them posted to me. Did you know you can do this over and over, one kit of seven tests every day, here... <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

## Electric Hook-up Reliability

Peter Brown kindly wrote this following my mention of damage caused by surges in last months News...

*I noted with interest the Tech Talk piece entitled Site Hook-up Reliability in the December issue of ASOC News.*

*I have on my bench an adjustable voltage protector similar to that described by Dennis. It is a Sinotimer SVP-912 and the reason its not in the van yet is that I'm waiting for a similar unit, the Sinotimer SVP-916 that has a display of current as well as voltage. I will follow the advice given by Dennis and install both, the 916 in circuit and the 912 as a ready to hand spare.*

*I think you will find it of interest to read why I was planning this installation before being aware of the damage caused to Roy Mould's van:*

*A few weeks ago, a small club held a rally on a field adjacent too and owned by a pub. Nineteen units attended the rally and there was a mix of caravans and motorhomes all having electrical hook-ups. Around midday on the Sunday an electrical fault occurred in the supply to the field causing an overvoltage on one of the three phases supplying about half of the units on the field. The fault disappeared before it could be professionally investigated so the exact cause is unknown but the damage it caused was severe. All of the 230v powered equipment in the Caravans and Motorhomes connected to the faulty phase was burnt out; battery chargers, fridges, microwave, TV, etc. Thousands of pounds of damage to each unit. ➡*



I am aware of this as, being Secretary of ACCEO, I was contacted by the club for advice as some of their members were having insurance claims on their unit insurance rejected. We determined that the owners of Caravans were having their claims accepted but the owners of Motorhomes not. The ACCEO Insurance Officer, who is a professional in that business could not explain why the difference but did point out that those with Motor Legal Protection Insurance could use the Uninsured Loss Recovery element to make a claim on the Pub.

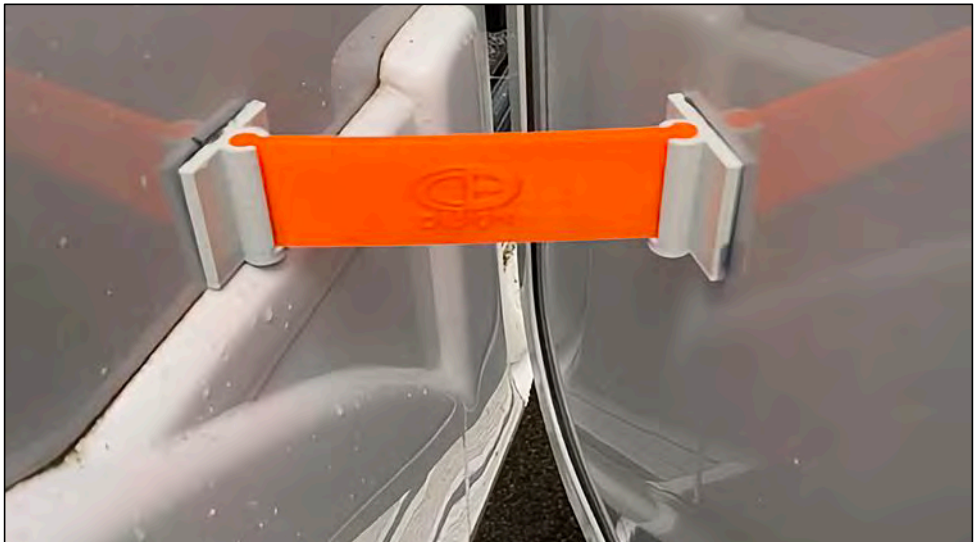
I join Dennis in thinking that the installation of an Over/Under voltage device at a cost of £20-£40 is a very sensible precaution.

### 3D printing for new motorhome

Colin Barnett sent us this...

Having just down-sized from a Winchcombe to a snappily-named Broadway EK TB LP, I was expecting to have to be more imaginative to fit everything into a package 1 metre shorter. In practice, after the first shake-down trip, the only real compromises have been the washroom and the fridge, both of which are now adequate rather than extravagantly spacious. However, I've continued my efforts to maximise space in readiness for the big trip, whenever that may be. Some of the solutions involved my hobby of 3D printing, while others are more accessible.

My first item doesn't actually improve storage, but was carried over from the Winchcombe, a 3D-printed door retaining strap which prevents uncontrolled closure on a blustery day. It simply drops into slots fixed to the door and body with standard automotive badge tape, while a second pair of slots just inside the door mean it's always at hand.



One main area of attention was optimising the crockery cupboard to accommodate the standard Auto-Sleepers issue dinner service, while eliminating it as sources of rattles. Much of the latter was cured by alternating the melamine plates with cheap paper items left over from the barbecue season. With a few spare ones included, they can also be used in the microwave.

A couple of melamine pint glasses fit neatly in the far corner, and by stacking the supplied mugs in pairs, they just fit in the bottle holders and stay secure, and still leave room for a wine box just inside the flap. The only real challenge was securing the bowls, and this is where my hobby of 3D printing really came into play. It took a few hours of design and a 6-hour print to perfect a cruciform design to keep the bowls in place. While we normally only carry two of everything, these tips should work equally well with four.



For many owners, especially those of us who live in areas where a straight road is a novelty, it's not long before the seat cushions end up on the floor. Using some 1" webbing and fixings, I've created some retaining straps to keep them in place in one bundle on the twistiest road. With one end screwed or glued under the window frame and the other looped around the bed frame, they can be tucked away unobtrusively when on site.

The convoluted plastic pipe I use for grey water drainage seems to have a life of its own, wanting to return to being curved when you want it to be straight, and vice-versa. Securing it at the motorhome end is straightforward, with a shoe lace left attached to be tied over the outlet tap, which can also be used to hold it together with curled up for storage. Unless you are able to actually poke the other end through to the drain's grid, it waits until your back is turned before going walkabout.

My solution is a 3D printed retainer, which clips onto the grid, but a similar retainer could easily be fabricated from plywood or a piece of rigid plastic. If any other owners have a 3D printer, I'm happy to share any of the design files.

If anyone is interested, please let me know at [technical@asoc.uk.com](mailto:technical@asoc.uk.com) – Dennis



Lithium Leisure Batteries:  
Some concern has been expressed about potential irreversible damage to lithium Leisure batteries by having them charge when they are below 0 degrees Celsius (freezing). I seek some knowledgeable input on this subject. How it might affect our new motorhomes and what mitigations are / can be adopted to help us.

Anyone wishing to contribute should contact me at [technical@asoc.uk.com](mailto:technical@asoc.uk.com) and I will be happy to create a space in Tech News for this topic.

IF YOU HAVE ANY TECH IDEAS  
PLEASE LET US KNOW

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# ASOC

## NATIONAL RALLY & AGM

THURSDAY 28 APRIL - MONDAY 2 MAY 2022  
AT NEWARK SHOWGROUND



**GHOST SIGNS**  
Gas Street Basin, Birmingham  
photo: John Tubb

## EVENT INFORMATION

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

If you wish to run a rally in 2022, please contact the Rally Coordinator

### CLUB RALLY DATES

#### MARCH 2022

14-18 Whitemead Forest Park, nr. Lyndney, Forest of Dean

#### APRIL 2022

21-24 National Motorhome & Campervan Show, East of England Showground,  
Peterborough

28 April - 2 May National Rally & AGM

#### JUNE 2022

19-24 Wigginton FC, York

#### JULY 2022

7-12 Leon's Field, St. Ives, Cambridgeshire

18-24 Bath, B&NES

#### AUGUST 2022

6 -11 August, Redcar Rugby Club, Redcar & Cleveland

11-16 Eskdale School, Whitby.

18-21 Great Western Show, Malvern, Worcestershire

22-26 Symondians Cricket Club, Winchester

#### SEPTEMBER 2022

8 -11 South West Motorhome, Show, Shepton Mallet

11-18 Unity Resort Brean Somerset

22-25 Season's Finale Motorhome & Campervan Show, Lincoln Showground.

28-3 October ACCEO Rally, Tamworth

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.



## INVITATION TO ASOC MEMBERS

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You will need to quote your membership number  
Book via the AAOCC website [www.AAOCC.org.uk](http://www.AAOCC.org.uk)  
(booking will be active after January 1st 2022)

Friday 25th March to Sunday 27th March  
Langer Landings, Harby Road, Langar, Nottingham  
Nottinghamshire, NG13 9HQ  
Site fee: £16 including hook up  
Rally fee: £4:00

Friday 29th April to Monday 2nd May  
McKies Caravan Park, Inholme Farm, Beeford,  
Driffield, East Yorkshire, YO25 8BG  
Site Fee: £ TBC  
Hook Up: TBC  
Rally Fee: £4:00

Friday 26th May to Monday 30th May  
The Pastures, Highfield Farm,  
Heage Lane, Etwall, Derbyshire, DE65 6LS  
Site Fee: £ 7.00  
Rally Fee: £4:00

Thursday 7th June to Thursday 14th June  
Cobbs Meadow, Bekesbourne Hill  
Bekesbourne, Nr Canterbury, Kent, CT4 5DY  
Site Fee: £ 20.00 including Hook Up  
Rally Fee: £4:00

Tuesday 13th September to Tuesday 20th September  
Warcombe Farm Camping Park, Station Road, Mortehoe  
Near Ilfracombe, North Devon, EX34 7ES  
Site Fee: £15.50 p/n Inc EHU  
Rally Fee: £4:00

Friday 23th September to Sunday 25th September  
Ripon Race Course, Boroughbridge Road, Ripon, HG4 1UG  
Site Fee: £23.00 for weekend (includes race entry and all race amenities)  
Rally Fee: £4.00



## NATIONAL RALLY & AGM

THURSDAY 28 APRIL - MONDAY 2 MAY 2022

AT NEWARK SHOWGROUND

The dilyhium crystals have been calibrated so Martin and Ozzie have been going out on day release, where no man has gone before to infinity and beyond. During this expedition they came across a redundant HAL 9000 computer looked after by Buzz Lightyear.

This intrepid duo asked, what is the meaning of life the universe and everything. After great thought, the answer came. "It's the thirty-third National Rally and AGM 2022 at Newark". This came as quite a surprise as the accepted thinking is forty-two.

With this publication and on the website there is an application form for this once in a year event, where you can enjoy the meaning of life with old and new friends.

Martin and Ozzie will be returning to earth via Mongo as they must report to their probation officer Emperor Ming. Then hopefully on returning to earth they will be at their control terminals ready to process applications swiftly and with style. Returning conformations by sub-space telecommunications or snail mail. This is being overseen by Marvin, the paranoid android and Tinkerbell.

More from Martin, Ozzie, and the team next month after they have seen their probation officer

# PHOTO COMPETITION 2022

WANT TO WIN  
£30

This year's subject  
Anything you like

entries close  
30 March 2022

submit up to four photographs

All members per motorhome can enter  
Size 6 x 4 inches or 7 x 5 inches  
unmounted

*Entries should be sent with your name, address, membership number, and title of your photograph to:*

**Rita Tubb**, 70 Charnwood Crescent, Chandlers Ford, Hampshire, SO53 5QL

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