

# NEWS

The magazine of Auto-Sleeper Owners' Club

JANUARY 2024



## YOUR CLUB COMMITTEE

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WR12 7QF Registered No: 4616969

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**JUST LET US KNOW**  
[editor@asoc.uk.com](mailto:editor@asoc.uk.com)

From time to time the Club sends out  
email alerts for member information  
regarding club activities.

If you want to receive them, you need to  
be subscribed to the member area of the  
website.

You can of course unsubscribe from these  
emails at any time, and you will be  
removed from the member area. It does  
mean if the login details change for any  
reason, we will be unable to tell you.

The login username and password will  
change during January 2024

### JUST A REMINDER

The following club emails are no longer active

[asocnews@asoc.uk.com](mailto:asocnews@asoc.uk.com)  
[newsdesk@asoc.uk.com](mailto:newsdesk@asoc.uk.com)  
[news@asoc.uk.com](mailto:news@asoc.uk.com)

### IF YOU HAVE NOT RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR 2024

This is the last magazine you will  
receive and will be removed from the  
member area.



# 35-Year Anniversary

NEWARK SHOWGROUND, NOTTINGHAM, NG24 2NY

2ND – 6TH MAY 2024

This is a special milestone in the history of the Auto-Sleeper Owners' Club so why not come along and help us celebrate. There will be hobbies and crafts, a technical table and various other exhibitions in the Stuart Goodwin Pavilion. Of course, there will be entertainment on both Friday Night – Keith Slater, and on Saturday night, Helen & Derek Fenton.

Meals will be available each evening, including a Silver Service Dinner on Saturday, should you wish to book them.

Other events are being planned, including a Quiz Night. Raffle tickets will be on sale in support of the Oxford Head Injuries charity. There will be a shuttle bus available on Saturday afternoon and Sunday to take you to Auto-Sleeper local dealer SMC, and ample opportunities to meet up with old friends and make some new ones.

The Rally Booking Form is available on-line and is also enclosed with this magazine, which gives you full details of the rally costs and what is included, and the meal options and costs, which I'm sure you'll agree are very favourable in comparison to restaurant prices.

As always, the National Rally Team, now headed by Liz Irvin, will be on hand throughout to help you in any way they can. So please get your application completed and forwarded to Chris Brown, as soon as possible (contact details on the booking form). We look forward to seeing you.



Formal Notification of the AGM is contained elsewhere in this magazine



## NOTICE

### THE THIRTY-FIFTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF

### THE AUTO-SLEEPER OWNERS' CLUB

WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY, 4 May 2024

At 10.30 am at the National Rally, in the Cedric Ford Pavilion of the Nottinghamshire Agricultural Society Showground, Winthorpe, Coddington, Newark, NG24 2NY

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 requires that nomination forms for Committee elections and any resolutions for consideration at the meeting be received by him, on or before Monday 5 February 2024.

Please be informed, non-attending members have a right to appoint a proxy for voting purposes.

In the case of Proxy appointment forms, they should be duly signed and received by the Secretary NO LATER THAN Monday 22 April 2024

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.

Dennis Downie,  
Secretary  
88 Portreath Drive  
Allestree  
Derby  
DE22 2SD

AUTO-SLEEPER OWNERS' CLUB

A company Limited by Guarantee, registered in England and Wales Registered Office:  
Orchard Works, Nr. Broadway. Worcestershire. WR12 7QF

APPEARING IN THE STUART GOODWIN PAVILION  
**AT THE NATIONAL AND AGM**  
**2 - 6 MAY 2024**

BRING AND BUY TABLES IN THE PAVILION OFFERING  
NUMEROUS GOODS TO BUY

TOMBOLA

PLEASE BRING ANY BOTTLES TO DONATE TO THE TOMBOLA

JIGSAWS, BOOKS AND MOTORHOME PARTS FOR SALE

PLEASE BRING YOUR SURPLUS JIGSAWS, BOOKS AND MOTORHOME  
PARTS WITH YOU

CLUB SHOP WITH THE USUAL ITEMS AND MAYBE SOME NEW ONES  
TEA AND COFFEE STALL

We are looking for Volunteers to exhibit their crafts, hobbies or  
paintings. We would really like to see some of your paintings that  
we can display on an exhibit board.

These could be jigsaws finished or in the process of being done.

Model car, boats, or planes may be not quite finished.

.This is not a competition. It is for like minded members who enjoy  
crafts and hobbies and are willing to show and exhibit.

Please contact Martin Ross by email, phone, or post  
mross@uwclub.net Phone 07901771040

"Elvina" Wold Road, Barrow-upon-Humber, North Lincolnshire, DN19 7BT

**IF YOU CAN HELP MARTIN SET UP THE HALL**  
please let him know

# Chairman's Chat

## with Steve



As 2023 draws to a close whilst sitting here overlooking Port Erin Bay, and looking back on another successful year for the club.

From a personal perspective, I'm sorry I have not had the opportunity to meet any of you nor been able to attend any Club Rallies this year. However, my experience this year meeting other individuals with cancer has been an amazing experience, and their positive attitudes and outlook in life has truly been an inspiration to me.

Making the most of every day, observing the small gestures and things that surround us, which we either take for granted or just pass us by in our quest to keep up with the challenges and opportunities of our busy lives.

At the October Committee Meeting, we took a closer look at printing and publication timings with Christmas New Year holidays. In light of the Royal Mail business surcharges for deliveries over the festive season, and agreed to bring forward the quarterly printing dates by a month.

Our Committee Meeting was held at the ACCEO Rally at Statfold Barns my thanks to ACCEO where they kindly let us use a room on the Thursday.

Statfold Barns houses a very interesting private steam railway collection, which was operating over the weekend, and had the Darjeeling Steam Society's newest acquisition in steam. The attraction is open to the public at weekends and is well worth a visit if you are near Tamworth.



Our secretary, Dennis, has been leading a review of the Members Handbook and Articles of Association to confirm they meet current legislative requirements.

Martin and the team have been working hard to put together the Rally Programme for 2024 and publish it. This was a request from many members to help them plan out their year's activities in advance, especially those who are working. To this end, a rally supplement booklet is included with this magazine which you can refer to throughout the year. The information contained is the best knowledge the team has at time of going to print. Additional rallies and any alterations to published rallies will be notified to members via the club website or quarterly magazine.

I noted in a recent email from the Motorhome Club, costs for site fees are substantially increasing next year due to the current economic climate. This is another good reason for giving our club rallies a try next year, lower cost, friendly Marshals and Club members.

Will motorhomes go electric in the near future? With the current charger shortage at least you could wait in comfort! I also noted an interesting article that JCB have recently installed their Hydrogen engine in a sprinter van. It will be interesting to see how the EV market moves forward especially as insurance for an electric vehicle has almost doubled this year.

I look forward to meeting you in person in 2024, until then take care.

Wishing everyone a Happy Christmas and safe and prosperous 2024.

Steve, Chairman

## BREAN RALLY

A BIG thank you to Brian & Linda & to those who helped them make this such an enjoyable & pleasant rally.

The first evening there was a welcome coffee tea & biscuits, where it was nice to meet up with friends old & new. Followed by jumping frogs, which didn't work too well on the grass! As the weather was extremely kind to us, we met each evening for refreshments and skittles etc.

As it was a beautiful day, on the Tuesday, we decided to take the van out to explore Cheddar Gorge. We had an interesting drive up through the Gorge & back down, before parking up & then wandering around the village & buying several cheeses.



Next day we went to Burnham on Sea, where there was easy parking on the Esplanade, enabling us to look around the town & enjoy a couple of cafes.

Also we had a day at Weston-super-Mare where it was difficult to park, but we eventually found suitable central parking in the town. Walking along the prom, Janis was tempted by one of the many donut stalls! As although we did not partake, there was an abundance of Fish & Chip shops!

There was a good Chinese Takeaway on site, so one night we treated ourselves to a delicious meal, no washing up!

On the final day, Saturday, it was showers, so, we took a short walk to the Beachcomber Cafe for an enjoyable lunch.

Fortunately we were able to meet up again for quiz results & the raffle, before our departure on Sunday back home to Yorkshire.

*Janis & Mike Wood 4201*

# Talking Technical with Alec

Hello to you all.

As your new technical officer, my first 6 months has been an upward learning curve. We have received many requests for assistance and have managed to help all but a few that the club could not get involved with.

These requests have been various, from water leaks to electrical faults, to paint codes and fuel consumption. I shall continue to learn about our vans and look forward to helping many more members with their problems.

We also tried a new way of helping by asking fellow members who had a specific model, if they would contact the member who needed some advice or information on a fault which we did not have any knowledge on. This was a success, and hopefully we will be able to use this in the future again.

In September, Dennis and I paid a visit to Solar Technologies, who supply the solar panels used by AS. This was a follow up on Dennis's last visit to them in 2022 and was reported in the Tech News in the June 2022 newsletter.

His article was about improving the off-grid endurance of the leisure batteries, as some members have had to leave rallies early because of their leisure batteries going too low to stay any longer on the 4 to 5 day rallies being held. His visit was to see what they could offer the membership to extend the battery life.

Since the last visit, the Company Chairman, Phil Symonds, has been busy experimenting with different size panels, the largest being used to run mobile surgeries in Africa, and explained how he had brought down the size to a small foldable unit, which he hoped would suit the motorhome users.

Dennis has now got one of these on trial, hoping that it would do the job for our members. He will report back to Phil Symonds and the membership when he has had sufficient use/knowledge of the system, and of it costs to the members.

I have received a very in depth piece of information regarding electrical fault finding on an AS Symbol van, which may be of help to those who have this model when trying to diagnose electrical faults. This can be found on the website in the member area.

We know many members use their motorhome throughout the winter,  
but many do not

**PREPARE YOUR MOTORHOME FOR WINTER**

We have a document in the member area under downloads

it is in PDF or HTML format

The shop has a range of club regalia including sweatshirts, hats and much more. They are available from the Regalia Officer by post or at the many rallies he attends.

Club regalia is only available to members of the club. Remember to quote your membership number when placing orders.

For van and name badges please clearly write the information you require on the order form

### Garment sizes

*Ladies:* 14=38, 16=40, 18=43, 20=45, 22=48

*Men:* S=37/38, M=39/40, L=43/44, XL=43/44, XXL=46/48, XXXL=49/51

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#### 015 ASOC GRILLE BADGE

£14.00 + p&p £2.00  
with fixings (fits all vans)

<https://www.asoc.uk.com/shop/grillorderform.php>

#### 027 NAME BADGE

£5.50 + p&p £2.00

<https://www.asoc.uk.com/shop/namebadgeorderform.php>



#### 008 POLO SHIRT

£13.50 + p&p £3.35  
dark blue or dark pink  
M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL

<https://asoc.uk.com/shop/poloorderform.php>

#### 006 SWEAT SHIRT

£16.50 + p&p £3.35  
with little man motif, blue  
M, L, XL

<https://www.asoc.uk.com/shop/sweatorderform.php>



#### 024 BODYWARMER

£24.00 + p&p £4.95  
navy M, L, XL, XXL,  
XXXL

<https://asoc.uk.com/shop/bodyorderform.php>



#### 028 HI VIS VEST

£8.50 + p&p £2.65 with  
ASOC logo

<https://www.asoc.uk.com/shop/hivisvestorderform.php>

#### 023 HOODIE WITH ZIP

£25.00 + p&p £4.95  
red, navy, M, L, XL, XXL,  
XXXL

<https://asoc.uk.com/shop/hoodieorderform.php>



#### 009 WOOL SKI HAT

black with ASOC badge  
£6.50 + p&p £3.35

<https://asoc.uk.com/shop/skiorderform.php>



#### 010 BASEBALL CAP

£10.00 + p&p £3.35  
with ASOC badge  
cream or blue

<https://asoc.uk.com/shop/hatsorderform.php>





### MENS & LADIES SHOWER PROOF JACKET WITH INNER FLEECE

£32.00 + p&p £5.00

025 MENS: navy M, L, XL XXL XXXL

026 LADIES: royal blue 14, 16, 18 20

<https://asoc.uk.com/shop/showerorderform.php>



### 014 LANYARD

£2.50 + p&p £2.00

<https://www.asoc.uk.com/shop/lanyardorderform.php>



### MENS & LADIES FLEECE

£21.00 + p&p £4.95

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

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

<https://asoc.uk.com/shop/fleeceorderform.php>

### 012 BUDDY BEAR

£9.50 + p&p £3.35 with ASOC tee shirt

<https://asoc.uk.com/shop/buddyorderform.php>



### 004 TEE SHIRT

£8.50 + p&p £3.35

with little man motif, light blue M, L, XL

<https://asoc.uk.com/shop/teeorderform.php>

### 030 LAPEL BADGE

£4.20 + p&p £2.00

<https://www.asoc.uk.com/shop/lapelbadgeorderform.php>

### PITCH RESERVATION BOARD

019 without vehicle registration

£3.50 + p&p £2.65

020 with vehicle registration

£6.50 + p&p £2.65

<https://www.asoc.uk.com/shop/pitchorderform.php>



### 013 LITTLE MAN STICKER

£3.25 + p&p £2.00

4' high, available in purple, silver, red, blue, green and black

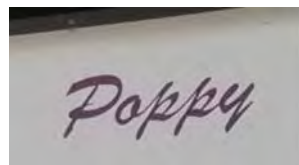
<https://www.asoc.uk.com/shop/littlemanorderform.php>



### 021 VAN NAME STICKER

plus 60p per letter + p&p £1.25

<https://www.asoc.uk.com/shop/vanameorderform.php>



# LOST IN FRANCE . . .



. . . well not quite

Having arrived at the tunnel just thirty-five minutes after leaving Black Horse Farm, we were somewhat ahead of ourselves to say the least. It meant we arrived in France at just after 8am and were off.

Our first intended stop was Neufchâtel-en-Bray, but as it was only 10am as we approached our turn-off we decided to carry on to Brionne. This was a mistake as it turned out, since the campsite we had intended staying, was closed – permanently. To make matters worse Peter reversed into a boulder whilst trying to turn around! We did, however, find a charming campsite a few kilometres away at St. Nicolas.

On to Saumur – a long haul but we cheated and used toll roads, which made the journey quite easy. We spent 3 nights on the Aire Camping Car Park and had a couple of days sight-seeing in Saumur, where we encountered a band from Dorset playing on the forecourt of the Town Hall. Turns out they were guests of the Marie, Wimbourne being twinned with Saumur.



Then on to Aix sur Vienne, where we met up with Liz, who had motored down from the Hook of Holland, having stopped off at Zell am Mosel to collect some 'rally wine'. The camp site is on the banks of the Vienne and has rail access to Limoges, the reason for the stop. The old city is quite charming with half timbered houses and narrow streets, but it's the railway station that grabs everyone's attention, an impressive structure built in 1924 with an adjacent clock tower named The Benedictins Station.

From Aix, we drove down to Vezac for the rally, which is the subject of an article in the October magazine.

After Vezac, we bounced and swayed our way across country to the west coast largely because most of the roads, as well as being fairly narrow, were either subject to chantier (road works) or chaussee deformee (damaged road hardly explains it!). However, we eventually reached St. Georges-de-Didonne where we met several of the ralliers who'd also headed west. The campsite is situated about a 15 minutes walk from the town itself, and on our first foray along the promenade we were treated to a sort of 'regatta' type event, with windsurfers, boaters and paragliders. St George itself is a nice town, popular with the French and has lots of eateries.

From St George the plan was to head to La Turballe, via St Hillier de Riaz, which we did, but when we arrived found they were so busy we could only stay one night.

However, the Campsite Manager recommended an Aire in Piriac-sur-Mer, which they were loosely associated with, and we headed for it the following day. We stayed on the Aire, which was actually once a commercial camp site and again it was a short walk from the town, which was very picturesque with a harbour, shops and quite a few restaurants. It also has 3 accessible beaches around the headland, we spent an afternoon on one, and whilst the weather was very warm there was quite a strong breeze, which played havoc with Liz's quite large parasol – at one stage we thought she was going paragliding!!

We parted company with Liz after Piriac, when she headed off towards Germany and we headed towards Vannes, another campsite on a coastal inlet with a seawater bathing pool. Then on to Josslin where, after a walk around the town we decided to carry on to Dinan. Dinan is quite a pretty town and boasts a Clock Tower – the 'Belfry' being converted from the original municipal tower in around 1500 - which is worth a visit.

We then moved on to Honfleur via Caen, spending a couple of nights at the Aire by the harbour, which turned out to be free as the barriers weren't working when we left.

Returning home on the Sunday we were hoping for a fairly quiet journey. In that we were disappointed, but we have come to the conclusion there is no 'quiet time' on the roads in the UK these days, unless it is around 3am and even then it's probably not guaranteed. Nevertheless, we enjoyed our time in France and will be planning our 2024 journey during the winter.





Honfleur



Dinan



St Georges de Didonne

## JOHN NORMANDALE

John Normandale, our first elected Club Chairman, passed away, peacefully, on 5th September, 2023.

Until John retired in 1989, he was Chief Accountant of The National Dock Labour Board, a key part of his job being the distribution of pensions for its employees before its closure, later that year, by Margaret Thatcher's Government.

At that time, John and Daphne were living in Chislehurst and daily, as with numerous other commuters, John and Daphne travelled by rail to their respective offices, leaving home at some unsociably early hour for London.

In 1986, a few years before his retirement, John and Daphne espied a motorhome being offered for sale by a New Zealander, prior to his return to the Antipodies, parked by the Thames Embankment. They purchased it immediately, this being their first venture into a hobby that engaged much of their time thereafter.

With this new acquisition, they travelled extensively, albeit with fairly basic facilities, before purchasing, in 1987, their first Auto-Sleeper, a Leyland Sherpa with, unusually, the luxury of blue leather upholstered cab seats, no less!

In 1990, Daphne retired from her role as Departmental Manager at the National Westminster Bank. Knowing Daphne well, I can imagine her being rather good at this job!! Thus their time was truly their own, whereupon they purchased in 1988 the first of the three Talisman models they subsequently owned over the coming years, from Peter Doman of Bromley Motor Caravans, then one of Auto-Sleeper's foremost dealers.

This was one of the first Talisman models with a Thetford Casette toilet, certainly a step up in luxury from their previous rather basic model. John and Daphne specified numerous extras including an awning which, in those early days, was considered quite a luxury. This Talisman was their retirement dream costing £12,500 which, twelve years later in part exchange for their second Talisman, made them three thousand pounds profit.

Two further similar models followed, each a little more luxurious than the previous ones, which widened their horizons, travelling extensively abroad to France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Portugal and Switzerland, even as far afield as Norway, Denmark and Sweden!

Their next motorhome was a Marquis badged Peugeot, featuring a rear bed in the style of a Nuevo. This they retained for only a year before purchasing a Nuevo, their final motorhome that they loved dearly and kept for a little over six years.

During such trips, both together with Club members and solo, they made many lifelong friends along the way, remaining in close contact thereafter. John and Daphne also joined the International Caravanning Club touring, for up to six weeks, in hired motorhomes, as far afield as Canada, the USA, Australia and New Zealand. In those days the Caravan Club didn't organise rallies abroad, as is the case these days, so

their adventures became even more extensive! They certainly had the taste for adventure and continued to travel extensively abroad until old age forced them to explore less arduous and demanding ways of travel, such was their desire to explore the world in which we live.

It was in 1988 that John was elected Club Chairman, a role in which he excelled, his first AGM being held at South Cerney, near Cirencester. Remembering that he undertook this appointment a year before he retired, this surely demonstrates his commitment to this important role and, likewise, his ongoing support to our Club.

John was at heart a professional businessman, and I well remember his first Committee Meeting at Willersey. Meticulously planned and succinctly chaired, all business was completed well before lunch, much to the amazement of other Committee members who had looked forward to a day out and general rambling discussion!! Not so with John! Business done, decisions made, and it was off to The Bell Inn for lunch!

Latterly, John and Daphne moved from Chislehurst to Battle in East Sussex, where they settled into a charming cottage and sizeable garden by the sea.

John was 97 when he left us. The Auto-Sleeper Owners' Club and its many members, past and present, owe John our heartfelt thanks, both for his leadership and warmth, his professionalism and, with Daphne, for taking such an active part in all our activities and events. John leaves a gap impossible to fill and we all shall remain very much in his debt.

To Daphne, her extended family and many friends, we all offer our very deepest condolences.

Charles Trevelyan.



# Club hub

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## SAD NEWS

My husband Alex passed away after what seemed to be a very short illness, but what turned out to be in the end, cancer. He passed away very peacefully for which I will be eternally grateful.

His beloved Camper Van will now have to be sold, so, our Membership with the Club will now unfortunately cease. We have spent 12 happy years in ASOC, enjoying all of the rallies we attended. Most of them spent laughing until our jaws ached with our new found friends. Usually over a cuppa and cake or a glass of wine.

A big thank you to all of you lovely people whom we met over the years. I shall miss each and every one of you, and never forget the happy times shared. I wish you all many happy rallies in the future. Enjoy them whilst you can. We never know just what is around the corner. *Chris Campbell.*

\*\*\*\*\*

ACCEO has a Facebook group, some smaller clubs are now intending to use it to promote rallies that they will open up to any member of clubs which are members which ASOC is. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/727576550694643>

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## SEASONS GREETINGS

We wish all our friends in ASOC seasons greetings and good health and safe travels in 2024. *Di and Brenda 2759.*

\*\*\*\*\*

## WE ARE SORRY TO LEAVE

We have just traded in our beloved Gatcome of 15 years ownership for a touring caravan as neither of us drive anymore. It is going to be easier for our family to take us on our breaks away, requiring just one driver. Also we are starting to struggle making up the double bed in the Gatcombe and Bess is finding it hard into the small washroom. The caravan we have got has a fixed double bed and a spacious washroom on the level.

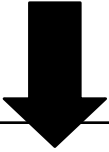
We joined the club in 2003 and in the 20 years we've been to 112 rallies, all of which been very enjoyable, especially the repeated rallies, the Whitmead Rally run by John & Jackie Moss, the Lichfield rally run by Trice and Ted Pratt, the Burnham Carnival rally run by Brian & Linda Ellis, the Stafford Boat Club rally run by Bob & Angela Warrick. (The last rally which we attended in July) not forgetting the National Rally at Newark which we have attended five times.

We will still be out and about so if any of you spot us on a camp site call by and say hello, just remember we will be in a caravan not a motorhome.

Good luck to all you motorhomers out there, we will miss the motorhome waves we used to get when driving along.

Look after yourselves and drive carefully. The 112 rally plaques are now on a picture frame in our bedroom reminding us of the great time we had with the club.

*Pete & Bess Orme*



## Join the National Rally Team

We have a vacancy to join the National Rally Sub-committee, due to ill health of one of the team who has had to resign.

We would like someone to join the team to organise the Sir Stuart Goodwin Pavilion. Martin Ross is caretaking for 2024, But would like someone to shadow Martin with a view to taking over the role in 2025.

There are willing helpers who help set up tables, chairs, and display boards.

If you are interested in joining the team?

Please contact

Liz Irvin or Martin Ross

Chair National Rally Sub-committee.

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

**JUST BE CAREFUL:** If you get an email asking to confirm your email password, or any other password **JUST DELETE IT** you should never be asked for it.

### FOR SALE



**ATE pedal lock** for a Fiat Automatic £25 plus postage of £6

**Fiamma Carry Bike ProC** bike rack, used only once, not required as have one on our new van. £100.

Call Alec 07773 430639

**11 -15 March 2024 (4 nights) Whitemead Forest Park**

Parkend Near Lydney. Gloucestershire GL15 4LA

*Rally Marshals:* John and Jackie Moss Janet and Paul Nash

*Site fee:* £70

*Rally fee:* £5

Limited to 30 vans.

**Booking open 2 January 2024**

Please send rally slip and cheque for £75 payable to:

J Moss, 34 Cocksparrow Street, Warwick CV34 4ED

*Telephone:* 01926 497309 *mobile:* 07508 200336

Please send SAE or CLEAR Email address for confirmation

We are on the Meadows which has hard standing and hookups.

The site has a swimming pool gym restaurant and bar.

We have booked the venue for Monday and Thursday evening for social

gathering. Good walking and cycling area . NO ARRIVALS BEFORE 2.00 PM

**2 – 6 MAY 2024 NATIONAL RALLY AND AGM**

**NEWARK SHOWGROUND, NOTTINGHAM, NG24 2NY**

35-Year Anniversary

**BOOKING OPENS 2 JANUARY 2024**

This is a special milestone in the history of the Auto-Sleeper Owners' Club so why not come along and help us celebrate. There will be hobbies and crafts, a technical table and various other exhibitions in the Stuart Goodwin Pavilion. Of course, there will be entertainment on both Friday Night – Keith Slater, and on Saturday night, Helen & Derek Fenton.

Meals will be available each evening, including a Silver Service Dinner on Saturday, should you wish to book them.

Other events are being planned including a Quiz Night. Raffle tickets will be on sale in support of the Oxford Head Injuries charity. There will be a shuttle bus available on Saturday afternoon and Sunday to take you to Auto-Sleeper local Dealer SMC and ample opportunities to meet up with old friends and make some new ones.

The Rally Booking Form is available on-line and is also enclosed with this magazine, which gives you full details of the rally costs and what is included, and the meal options and costs, which I'm sure you'll agree are very favourable in comparison to restaurant prices.

As always, the National Rally Team, now headed by Liz Irvin, will be on hand throughout to help you in any way they can. So please get your application completed and forwarded to Chris Brown as soon as possible (contact details on the booking form). We look forward to seeing you.

**14 - 17- May 2024 (3 nights)**

**Hopley's Camping, Bewdley Worcestershire**

*Rally Marshals:* Arthur and Cheryl Allen

*Site fee:* £70

*Rally fee:* £5 (pay cash on arrival to the rally marshal)

Electricity is extra (on pay as you go using a pre-paid card)

**Limit 30 pitches.**

**Booking opens 2 January 2024**

Enquires and Applications: Email your rally form to arthur.allen2427@btinternet.com to confirm a place.

*Payment direct to site:* Telephone Hopley site on 01299 402173 ask for Karen to pay the £70 site fee.

*Site details:* The site has an onsite Farm Shop, café, showers, fishing pool, pitches have electric-hook-up and it is on the outskirts of the Georgian riverside town of Bewdley.

Bus stop at the site entrance to Bewdley where you can change to Ludlow which has 11th century castle and Kidderminster, in the other direction is Tenbury Wells and the City of Worcester.

*Local attractions:* Bewdley Town Centre with cafes, restaurants and bars, walks along the river Severn. Severn Valley Railway – train to Bridgnorth and Kidderminster, West Midland Safari Park and Wyre Forest Centre with café and walks. Wharton Park Golf course is within walking distance from the site.

**16 - 21 June 2024 (5 Nights) Wigginton Grasshoppers FC Rally**

Mill Lane, Wigginton. York YO32 2PY

*Rally Marshals:* Alan & Glenis Hurst.

*Site fee:* £12 per night

*Rally fee:* Couples £4.50. Singles £2.50.

**Booking opens 2 January 2024**

*Site details:* Greenfield site with water, chemical disposal, toilets, showers & changing rooms. Squash Club evening bar.

Booking slips and cheque payable to:

Mr Alan Hurst, 6 Chadwick Street, Little Lever, Bolton BL3 1ND.

Include an email for booking confirmation.

*Area information:* Bus stop at the site entrance with regular buses to York and Haxby village with local shops, supermarkets, takeaways and pubs

*Directions:* From the A64, exit onto the A1237 York North to Clifton Moor roundabout. Take the B1363 signposted Helmsley and Wigginton. At the first traffic lights turn right into Mill Lane Wigginton. Site is 150 metres on the left signposted Sports Club Playing Fields.

21 – 26 June 2024

Manor Farm Camping Woodmansey, Beverly. HU17 0SA

*Rally Marshals:* Yvonne & Stuart Wood

*Emergency Telephone:* 07799 591550

*Site fee:* £28.00 per night including hook up, showers and toilets

*Rally Fee:* £4.00 couples, £2.00 singles

**PLEASE REPLY BEFORE END OF MARCH**

**Booking opens 2 January 2024**

**LIMITED TO 20 VANS,**

Cheques and rally form to: S.Wood, 26 Burton Acres Way, Highburton, HD8 0RF

Please send SAE or email in capitals for directions and confirmation

These are good grass pitches on the rally field, but **NO DOGS** on the rally field, a pitch off the rally field may be possible .

*Attractions:* Bus or cycle into Hull for very interesting Museums. Bus, Cycle, Walk into Beverly. Saturday is market day, not to be missed. A look round the Minster is a must.

¼ mile to nursery and café. ¾ mile to Garden Centre and Restaurant.

12 minutes to pub or two bus stops. Buses ¼ mile

Friday night is pie night on site (please text order on Thursday, details on confirmation) Saturday night is pizza night on site.

**25 - 30 June 2024 (5 nights)    Newton Abbot Rugby Club**

Rydon Industrial Estate, off Newton Road, Kingsteignton, Newton Abbot, TQ12 3SJ

*Site fee:* £60.00

*Rally fee:* £3.00

Postal bookings and cheques only

**Booking opens 1 May 2024**

**No arrivals before 1.00 pm**

Non electric, grass area, toilets, showers, water, elsan and Club bar.

Electric available if needed for mobility scooters.

Send rally slips and cheques for £63.00 payable to

Brian Ellis, 52 Golf Links Road, Burnham on Sea, Somerset, TA8 2PP

Telephone 01278 784524. email ell.ba82@yahoo.co.uk for enquiries only

This is an excellent location ideal to explore this area of Devon.

A Retail Park opposite and a Beefeater pub .

A short walk to the town of Newton Abbot and fairly flat.

Bus stops on the main road for both directions.

Bus and trains from Newton Abbot to Teignmouth, Paignton, Dartmouth, Exeter.

20 ● JANUARY 2024

28 June - 8 July 2024 (10 nights)

Campingplatz am Rhein. Rudesheim am Rhein. Germany.

*Rally Marshals:* Liz Irvin, Chris and Peter Brown,

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

**Booking opens 2 January 2024**

*Site and Fees:* The site fee at £39 per night is £390, this includes electricity and tourist tax. For 1 person £29 per night. There will be an adjustment depending on the exchange rate at the time. Only the rally fee of £25 is payable to reserve a place.

*Enquiries and Applications:* lizirvin@outlook.com 07711 271568. Please do not phone between 03/12/2023 and 27/01/2024 as I will be in a 12-hour difference time zone.

*Payment details:* This must be made by bank transfer. Account details will be passed to members on receipt of application.

**Limit: 25 vans**

The campsite is by the river with easy walking into Rudesheim and the moorings for the river ships. [www.campingplatz-ruedesheim.de](http://www.campingplatz-ruedesheim.de) The site is listed with the Caravan and Motorhome Club. Rudesheim is in the UNESCO World Heritage site of the Upper Middle Rhine Valley and has many tourist attractions and restaurants. Good walking and cycling from the campsite. I hope to organise a wine tasting, visit to the Asbach Brandy visitor centre and a group visit to a local restaurant for those who are interested. The ring tour involves a cable car ride to the monument above Rudesheim, a walk along the top visiting various viewpoints above the Rhine, descend to Assmannshausen on the chair lift and return to Rudesheim by ship. The rally is timed for the Rhine in Flames on 06/07/2024. Some of the fireworks can be seen from Rudesheim but the 6-hour cruise includes a two-course meal, and all seven firework displays from the flotilla of ships. This year it was €99 per person.

**RALLY INFORMATION - Points to remember**

Marshals should let the Rally Coordinator know when rallies are fully booked.

Always carry your ASOC membership card when attending rallies.

Not able to attend a rally you have booked, please inform the marshal as others may want to attend. Inform the marshal if you plan to bring a car, tent or trailer to a rally.

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

No matter how far away  
you can always get ASOC News

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