

NEWS

The magazine of Auto-Sleeper Owners' Club

MARCH 2024



Editors Edit

Welcome to the latest edition of NEWS.

Greetings, welcome to the latest edition of our quarterly newsletter.

A few editor changes a foot, notably John Morris has stepped back from the newsletter (to concentrate on website and other publications), so I'm introducing myself as new editor.

My name is Phill Lowe and will be trying to step into John's shoes over the coming months.

My first introduction to ASOC committee was at the recent meeting and I was impressed with the dedication and depth of knowledge your committee has.

This newsletter there will be a lot of official information, as we try to condense all official information into the newsletter.

As always the content in the newsletter relies on contributions from the membership so the newsletter is an interesting read. So please keep this up.
editor@asoc.uk.com

Your AGM is 35 years old this year, so why not come along and help us celebrate?

Full details are available from your website and in this newsletter.

"As mentioned recently in a mailshot to all our members, we are in need of volunteers for the committee. After the AGM there will be various vacancies on the committee," Further details in newsletter.

Phill Lowe

Whats inside

- Chairman's Chat
- Back To The Future
- 35 Year Anniversary
- AGM Agenda
- AGM 2023 Meeting
- Notes on Open Forum April 2023
- Accounts
- State of the Nation Report
- Committee Report
- Notices
- Club Events
- Contacts

Auto-Sleeper



www.asoc.uk.com

NEWS
The magazine of Auto-Sleeper Owners Club

Chairman's Chat



As I write this column for the last time before I step down as Chairman at the 2024 AGM having completed my term in accordance with the articles of association.

It's been great pleasure to serve the club over the past few years, I look back on my time with the club.

In June 2018 we took the first step into motor-homing moving up from a 2014 VW California purchased our first Auto sleeper Broadway EK, attending our first National Rally in 2019 full of enthusiasm. In the October I was co

oped onto the committee as Vice Chair to Peter Brown. We changed our Van to a Winchcombe in 2020 before being locked down on the Island in the March due to Covid 19. With the van securely locked away undercover in the UK. Dec 2020 Peter resigned as chairman and I took office. Early in 2021 we had our first committee meeting via Zoom and 1st May achieved the clubs 32nd AGM held virtually by Zoom video link which was an interesting challenge not only technically but also how to manage the meeting with 45 members joining the meeting remotely and on a TV screen in the Isle of Man IM. Ozzie and the team were supporting me in running the event which we can mark down as a success.

In 2022, the AGM and the National were back face to face, despite the many precautions against Covid 19 that were taken for the event many of us took away an unwanted bonus after the event.

As people started to venture out after lockdown and the number of rallies started to build things gradually got back to normality.

In 2023 rallies continued to grow in number for the membership to enjoy which is due to the hard work of the Rally Marshalls in organising. My thanks go to all the Marshalls and their assistants who put on some great well attended rallies.

At the beginning of the year my health took a down turn which meant I missed the National and AGM, a big thanks go to Chris and the committee who ran the proceedings in my absence. The power of Zoom allowed me to continue to run the committee meetings remotely, whilst keeping the costs down for the club. Following my successful operation, the committee and I met face to face at the ACCEO AGM where they kindly lent us a room over the event for our ASOC meeting.



Our February Committee meeting was held in Morton in Marsh, where we had the opportunity to meet with the Club's President Charles Trevelyan and his wife Angela. This week some of the committee are at the NEC motor home and caravan show, on the Auto Sleeper Stand providing an owner's perspective and gaining new members along the way. It has been good to see many existing members drop by to see us and have a chat.

At the event Chris and I had the opportunity to have a meeting with Spencer Davies the new Sales and Marketing director of Auto Sleepers, Spencer kindly gave us an appraisal of what is happening at the factory and within the business. We discussed a number of potentially great opportunities to bring closer ties for mutual benefit in the future which hopefully Chris will take forward.

Before I sign off my last chat as chairman, I would like to thank you all for your support since 2019, I look forward to welcoming many of you to the 35th AGM and National Rally at Newark in May and will no doubt see you at some of the rallies around the country.

I will also be doing a little more sailing and power boating around the island, acting as Safety boat officer for the Isle of Man Yacht Club in my spare time.



If you ever have the opportunity to come to the Isle of Man which is a fantastic place to visit in your motorhomes, you will spot many fellow Auto sleeper owners on the island.

I cannot sign off, without thanking my good wife Carol (your treasurer) for her encouragement, unwavering support and dedication in being by my side throughout my time with the Club.

Until we next meet take care and thank you.

Steve Ryan
Chairman
Auto-Sleeper Owners Club

Back To the Future (The first newsletter, 1988)

Greetings,

AUTO-SLEEPER OWNERS' CLUB

We have certainly been given a GO for LAUNCH as far as the Club Is concerned. The response has been so good we are wondering just what John has started!

At the moment there is obviously a need to let you out there know what we in here are doing about YOUR Club. I am happy to report that there is complete agreement by the six people who have formed an ad hoc committee to get things established that the club shall be run by the Members for the Members. In other words, it will be the kind of Club you want it to be.

That involves you; make your wishes known!

So, who are 'we'? Charles Trevelyan Is acting Chairman. Well, we were sitting round HIS desk in HIS office and he is a Director of A-S so that seemed right and proper. John Cox, who started all this, has accepted responsibility for finding a suitable site for the Inaugural "meeting-rally" If you insist- and is, I know, going on from there to prepare a programme of rallies. Frank Stinchcombe agreed to look after the funds A-S were kind enough to give us, for postage, paper, envelopes, etc, so is acting Treasurer. Neville Jelfs of A-S was there to offer further backup from our Sponsor (!) and will make sure we don't get under the feet of the production people, Rita Daley actually volunteered to become acting Secretary because she had been a full-time club secretary and also liked using word processing and filing programs on our micro computer. As for me, I did not see it coming in time to say no so landed the job I am now trying to do.

A little bit more explanation, I suppose it would be possible to form a club by inviting all interested parties to meet somewhere and start from scratch, hoping it would be alright on the night, but what a potential shambles! So, a few of us are laying the foundations and expect to present the results to you in the Spring when you can say what you think of our efforts and change anything or everything. By that time you will have received a lot more information and will, no doubt, be ready to volunteer to serve on committees and to vote for other candidates, approve the Constitution or amend It, etc.

Mention of the micro reminds me that the Data Protection Act insists that personal data (things you tell us) can only be kept on a computer If you agree. If you don't agree, the same records can be kept on a card Index whether you like It or not! Seems daft to me. However, the reason why we want to use a computer system Is: a) to reduce the space required (in our fairly modern semi.) & b) to provide a fast and reliable retrieval system - in about 90 seconds it can find and list all members who own a Legend, for example. The sorting It can do is fascinating, but that's another story. So, on the Membership Application Form there will be this question...

here must be hundreds of reasons for buying a motor caravan and you, our (potential) members are already indicating a wide variety of reasons for joining the A-S Owners' Club. The one reason in common is obvious, the others will be catered for as soon as possible, Some are keen ralliers, some, like Rita & I, have never been to a rally and really bought the van to get out and do their own thing - foreign touring, birdwatching, visiting National Trust properties, getting to out-of-the-way places for all sorts of pursuits.

It has been suggested that we should not try to compete with the established clubs who cater very well for rally enthusiasts but put our energy into things we can, hopefully, do better than them. At this stage I had better make it quite clear that what you read in this newsletter is only my Interpretation of what is happening in our committee meetings or what you are saying in letters or completed questionnaires, If you' ll pardon the jargon, I want to bounce ideas off you and off the Committee to see what we come up with. Official views, comments, statements will come from the Secretary; the newsletter is personal and very unofficial!

Things we should do:

1. Arrange contact between Members and Auto-Sleepers. (A-S have work to do and we must not disrupt this, despite their well-known willingness to help.)
2. Collect technical data on base vehicles and conversions which will be available to Members on loan If necessary.
3. Arrange contact between members by mutual agreement. We will not give one Member's address to another without the former's consent. Perhaps It would have to be in writing?
4. Compile lists of recommended suppliers of all sorts of useful and Interesting things, (Do you know who can fit a bulk - 30 litre - propane-storage tank? Bulk propane at 18 per litre).
5. Perhaps arrange Club discounts on spares, tyres, batteries, exhausts etc.

Most of those Items are just headings and could be expanded, some things are not so easy as others; for example, most manufacturers have been putting their technical data onto microfiche Instead of In (expensive) owners' handbooks. Anyone got a spare microfiche reader?

Forgive me if I return to the topic of rallies. I feel, and there Is some evidence for it, that this is possibly the potential stumbling block as far as a number of people are concerned. Could you manage one a year? Especially the first one? No compulsion anyway. I foresee small groups getting together in various localities with the minimum of organisation from the centre. The new Club badge, currently being designed, will

doubtless facilitate introductions on a one-to-one basis. (Badge stuck inside windscreen or on badge-bar?)

I nearly forgot to mention the spread of interest, from Aberdeen to Cornwall and from Belfast to Southend on Sea! Can't be bad...

Perhaps you would like to know that John has a WV HT, Frank has a Legend and we have a CX1000GTL, respectively petrol, petrol/automatic and diesel. We don't think alike on everything!

Enough for now. Don't rabbit on... Must collect some rabbit for next month!

Phil Daley. September 1988.

35-Year Anniversary National & AGM



**NEWARK SHOWGROUND,
NOTTINGHAM, NG24 2NY
2ND – 6TH MAY 2024**



We are really looking forward to the National Rally and AGM this year – 35 years, what an achievement.

HAVE YOU BOOKED YET? It's getting close so get your applications in.

We've enclosed another Rally Booking Form and it's still available online.

It gives you full details of the rally costs and what is included, together with the meal options and costs, which are great value.

What to look forward to.....



HOBBIES



ENTERTAINMENT



EXHIBITIONS



TOMBOLA



CRAFTS



QUIZZES

The Pavilion is open on Friday and Saturday

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**

Please bring any unwanted camping or motorhome accessories to the Bring & buy Tables

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 cars, boats, or planes that may not be quite finished.

This is not a competition, it is for like minded members who enjoy craft's 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

THE AUTO-SLEEPER OWNERS' CLUB THIRTY FIFTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

To be Held on 4th May 2024 at 10.30 a.m.

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

Officers 2023/24

Chairman: Steve Ryan, **Vice Chair:** Chris Brown, **Secretary:** Dennis Downie, **Treasurer:** Carol Ryan, **Membership Secretary:** Jean Downie, **Rally Co-ordinator and Liaison with ACCEO:** Martin Ross, **Chair Technical Group:** Alec Avery, **Newsletter Editor:** John Morris now Phil Lowe, **Publications & Web:** John Morris, **Chair National Rally Sub-Committee:** Liz Irvine, **Regalia Officer:** Stuart Wood, **Minutes Secretary:** Chris Brown, **Exhibitions Officer:** Liz Irvine.

AGENDA

- 1 **Apologies for absence:**
- 2 **Appointment of Tellers:**
- 3 **Minutes of the 34th AGM 2023** circulated in the March News magazine.
- 4 **Minutes of the 34th Open Forum 2023** circulated in the March News magazine.
- 5 **Committee Reports** circulated in the March News magazine.
- 6 **Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2023** circulated in the March News magazine.
- 7 **Subscriptions for 2025.**
- 8 **Election of Honorary Examiner for the Accounts.**
- 9 **Committee Elections.**
- 10 **Any other competent business.**
 - 10.1 **Proposed amendments to the Articles of Association** circulated in the March News magazine.
11. **Date of next Annual General Meeting.**

**The Auto-Sleeper Owners Club
Thirty Fourth Annual General Meeting
Held on 29th April 2023 at 10.30 am**

Committee:	Chris Brown	Vice Chair
	John Osland-Jones	Secretary
	Jean Downie	Membership Secretary
	Martin Ross	Rally Co-ordinator
	Stuart Wood	Regalia Officer
	Liz Irvin	Charities and Exhibitions
	John Morris	JM Publications

Just after the official opening of the meeting John Osland-Jones pointed out that the meeting might take a little longer than usual as he and Chris Brown were covering the roles of Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary and Minutes Secretary between them.

1. Apologies

Tony and Julia Lain	4437
Peter & Phillipa Fisher	0336
Ian and Julie Hazelgrove	11433
Tony and Margaret Largo	11350
Dave & Wyn Crabbe	5213
Geoff Dye	7296
Mary Driver	7296
Bobbie and Breatice Gordon	4396
John and Diane Bailey	9871
Jeff and Chris Harrison	7648
Stephen Say and June Watkins	11288
David and Penny McRoberts	11399
Mike and Janis Wood	4021
Steve and Carol Ryan	10272

Before moving on Chris Brown advised that meeting that in sending his apologies Charles Trevelyan (007) sent his best wishes for a successful National Rally and AGM and wished to be remembered to all.

2. The Appointment of Tellers

Chris Brown (5128) proposed John & Jean Gutsell (4170) and John & Rita Tubb (4910), John Osland-Jones (0948) seconded, the vote was carried, and they were appointed as Tellers.

3. Minutes of the AGM 2022

The Minutes were circulated in April News and there were no comments or amendments. Acceptance of the Minutes was proposed by Les Udale (6849) and seconded by Mel Irwin (7909) The Minutes were accepted and subsequently signed as approved.

4. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

5. Minutes of the Open Forum 2022

The Minutes were circulated in the April News and there were no amendments. The Minutes were proposed for acceptance by John Geeson (2187), seconded by Jean Sellers (1051). The Minutes were accepted and signed as approved.

6. Matters Arising

The question of organising a coach into Newark; this has not been pursued in the interim but will be brought to the attention of the next National Rally Chairman

The question of extending the rally to the Tuesday after the Bank Holiday. This was investigated with Newark staff, who said it would not be possible as the facilities would not be available and there would be no-one on site.

7. Committee Reports.

These were circulated in the April News. There were no comments on or additions to the committee reports. Acceptance of the reports was proposed by Sandra Wisely (0016) and seconded by Jeanette Strange (6618).

8 Accounts for the year ending 31 December 2022.

Chris Brown gave an overview of the Accounts then went on to outline the savings strategy to be implemented, assisted by a short presentation. The savings strategy included producing the magazine quarterly, having committee meetings via zoom, producing rally plaques in-house at a much-reduced cost. She also pointed out the necessity of increasing the contingency fund ('Surplus') to a level equivalent to one year's running costs.

Chris Brown also informed the meeting that the Treasurer was looking at restructuring the Accounts in order to provide more detail.

9 Annual Subscriptions

Chris Brown informed the meeting that although it was initially thought we would have to recommend an increase in the subscription fee, it was felt by the committee that this could well prove counterproductive as we are currently at the top end of the Owners Club Sector. Therefore, with encouraging subscription income in the first quarter and having embarked on a savings strategy the Treasurer now felt able to recommend the Membership Fee remain at £20 for 2024. Proposed for acceptance by John Geeson (2187), seconded by Al Buckett (5829). The vote was carried by majority (126 to 4).

10. Honorary Examiner

Chris Brown thanked John Tidbury for examining the 2022 Accounts and for agreeing to continue in the role of Examiner for 2023.

11. Committee Elections

There are 6 vacancies on the Committee and the following are nominated:

Jean Downie
Steve Ryan
John Morris
Dennis Downie
Alec Avery

The nominees were elected en bloc. There are still vacancies on the Committee.

12 Any Other Business

Chris Brown presented the results of the Photo competition; the 3 finalists were:

3rd Jean Sellers, 2nd Irene Kitchen, 1st Shirley Sturgeon.

She then presented John Osland-Jones (Ozzie), who stepped down from the committee, with a Token of Appreciation for all his hard work over the years, not only on the committee, but also his very significant contribution to the National Rally, particularly in recent years. His commitment and hard work are very much appreciated.

Date of the Next Annual General Meeting 4th May 2024 at 10.30am.

2 – 6 MAY 2024 NATIONAL RALLY AND AGM 35 Year Anniversary

The Auto-Sleeper Owners Club

Notes on the Open Forum Held on 29th April 2023

1. Ricky Smith (1533) asked why we had to take our own mugs to the Stuart Goodwin this year.

Committee Response The cost of paper cups has skyrocketed this year and the committee decided that we would deal with refreshments as with other rallies. (You take your own cups to the marshals van.)

We are trying to save money, but also where do we store them.

2. Beverley Denton (11252) Do we have a breakdown of how many take the magazine on line?

Committee Response Currently 51.

Beverly then went on to suggest that the magazine be available on line and if you did want a printed copy you would have to 'opt in' and pay an additional subscription fee.

Committee Response The reason for going quarterly was what the committee felt was the best compromise between those members who wanted to maintain a printed copy and the committee's need to save money.

3. Daryl Nolan(9652) asked what the savings would be if 50% of the membership took the magazine on line and commented that any such savings were a 'no-brainer'.

4. Neil Rogers (0313) asked that if we were going to restrict publication, why not restrict the winter editions not the summer editions when there are rallies?

Committee Response It was pointed out that members are away in the summer. When the committee made the decision to go quarterly we had a discussion with the Rally Marshals and explained to them how we proposed to ***deal with the rallies. Having explained that the Rally Co-ordinator was working on a system to deal with rallies the Rally Marshals agreed, some reluctantly, to 'give it a shot'.***

5. ***Neil Rogers pointed out that some of our members would not use computers, these members are now eliminated.***

Committee Response The information will still be contained in the magazine.

6. Rita Tubb (4910) said she was not happy with the 3 monthly magazine because when you want to go to rallies the 2 month notice is fine; if people wanted to go to 4 rallies during that time where was the money coming from? Also Rally Marshals don't want money for 4 different rallies at once. There was no notice cancelling the March magazine.

Committee Response The Rally Marshals can put an application date on their rallies. The committee also apologised at the Marshals meeting that there was such short notice given.

7. Brain Ellis (2368) In the past it's been mentioned that only one third of members rally, we should look at the cup one third full. Will the two thirds of members who don't rally still pay their subs. The ralliers who are here this year, were here last year and go to rallies - they are the Club. Most of them still want a monthly magazine.

Committee Response We can only reiterate what's already been said, but can we just say there is more to this club than the magazine – there's dealer discounts, there's information provided, there's technical support and yes the rallies are the most important part of the club. It's what the club was set up for but we also have to make changes and when we make changes all we ask is you give it a shot. Nobody knows how it will work until we've tried it, and with apologies, for the time being, it's a quarterly magazine. It's the best compromise we could come up with to save money.

8. Linda Ellis (2368) Can you tell us which rallies made a loss.

Committee Response The rallies don't normally make a loss, but last year there was the extra cost of the plaques which didn't seem to be passed on to the Rally Marshals and then we lost a deposit on a rally which the Marshal cancelled at the last minute. When the Marshals want to run a rally on a site which requires a deposit they ask the Club and a deposit is usually given – we would not expect the Marshal to provide the deposit – and the Club gets it back when the ralliers have paid. But if a rally is cancelled from our side then the Club loses the deposit.

9. Ricky Smith (1533) said that usually Marshals will not use sites who want a deposit and when this happens the membership needs to be aware of why this loss has occurred. Similarly with the rally plaques the Marshals were not informed of the increase in price.

You have to make changes when will they happen next year? – too late. You have to decide to re-introduce the magazine every two months at this meeting. The committee is there to do work at our behest.

Committee Response That is understood, but we also have an obligation to run the Club efficiently and to maintain a decent financial base.

10. Neil Rogers (0313) said that he was Rally Co-ordinator at the time and at no time were we told of the increase in the price of the rally plaques.

Committee Response It was agreed that such information should be passed on but obviously there was a communication breakdown.

11. Mo Valentine (2776) asked if the subscription fee was put up to £25, which she felt was a sensible figure, would we be able to go back next year to having a monthly magazine.

Committee Response We don't know. We have no way of predicting how the year will pan out, what circumstances will prevail, we don't know what decisions we'll have to make based on those circumstances.

It was pointed out that the notification of the membership fee was voted on, and accepted at the AGM.

It was asked when it could be voted on again – the next AGM.

12. Mike Buxton (13650) Do Auto Sleeper make a contribution to the Club?
Committee Response Yes they do. They have contributed £3000 this year and generally speaking the contribution goes to this event.

13. Carolyn Lam (10965) I voted against the proposed membership fee in the AGM and felt it should go up – if you've bought a motorhome you can afford the membership fee.

Committee Response. Reiterated the membership fee can only be altered at the next AGM.

14. [Sorry cannot make our either name or number on recording].
Regarding advertising in the magazine – can we have a contribution from one of the Dealers each month.

Committee Response. We did look at that but it was felt that as a number of Dealers are offering discounts to members it would be unfair for certain Dealers to have the advantage of more advertising in the magazine.

15. Dennis Downie (10117) made the comment that every member on the committee is busy doing their duties and shouldn't be asked to do more. Yes they can do anything the membership wants - but with more resources. And we need to canvas the whole of the membership not just the people here, what it is they want.

16. Chris Brown (5128) asked how the membership would feel about having the National Rally on a non-Bank Holiday week-end, the reason being that it would probably be from Friday to Tuesday, which would mean the Monday would be a normal working day, which in turn would possibly give us more success getting representatives from suppliers and maybe technical people here. A show of hands indicated approval from the members assembled. It will not be next year because we have to book years ahead.

17. Bernie Wisely (0016) I have a gold card but would be quite happy to continue to pay my membership fee. He asked how many gold card members there were at present. Quite a few of the members assembled are going to become gold card holders in the next couple of years which will represent quite an amount.

Committee Response Gold card members could donate their £20 to the Club anyway. 23 gold card members currently. The membership was asked if we should do away with the gold card concept.

18. Brian Ellis (2368). We're coming up to our 30 years and it's nice to be acknowledged by getting a gold card but I don't agree with free membership.

Committee Response The Articles of Association 4(b) would have to be changed at the next AGM. After a show of hands indicating support for the changes the committee undertook to bring a proposal to the next AGM to amend Article 4(b) to retain the gold card but reinstate the membership fee.

19. Twink Bunker (5753) As the membership fee can only be changed at the next AGM she suggested those of the members present who wished to could give a donation of £5 to the Club now.
20. Trish Pratt (1081) I am very proud of the gold card but would still pay my membership fee.
21. Tony Goodwin (11461) Could we have an Extra-ordinary Meeting here and now to vote on the membership fee.

Committee Response It has to be notified to the membership as a whole.

22. Ricky Smith (1533) Are you saying there's no way to go back to bi-monthly instead of 3 monthly now?

Committee Response At this point in time we are going to stick with what we propose and see how it works. Some have the view it's not going to work, but nobody knows we need to try it.

23. Keith Iles(3881) Asked if we could have an aisle up the middle of the chairs for the audience.

Committee Response Noted, thank you.

24. Rita Tubb (4910) The only way to get new members to renew their membership is by the Marshals making them welcome.

Committee Response It's what happens on rallies, its what Rally Marshals do.

25. James McAnich (11642) It's our first time here this year- we've only had the van four months and we've felt really welcome and have met a lot of new people.

26. Carolyn Lamley (10965) Is it possible to have the Open Forum before the AGM?

Committee Response It's not feasible – we have to have the AGM, we don't have to have the Open Forum and it was pointed out (by a member of the audience) it usually goes on a lot longer.

27. Jean Sellers (1051) offered to organise the members £5 donation to the Club.

28. Wendy Morris (2388) pointed out the amount of work the committee members put in and asked what happens if they can't recruit a Secretary?

Committee Response If we can't recruit a Secretary the Club will fold or someone will have to take it on temporarily. We do have Dennis re-joining the committee and Alec Avery joining the committee, but if there's anyone else willing please come and chat to us.

29. John Geeson (2187) The committee is very committed. We do want more people on the committee; we want younger people on the committee. They can't do it all and if we don't get a Secretary – we shut down.

Auto Sleeper Owners Club

Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023

<u>2022</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>2023</u>	
£		£	£
13,380.00	Membership subscriptions	19,960.00	
0.00	Donations received	3,245.00	
1,175.33	Regalia	944.87	
482.59	Rallies	477.05	
1,454.24	Raffle - Annual Rally 23	1,243.37	
45.10	Interest on Deposit & BACS A/Cs	255.77	
15,454.50	National Rally & AGM 2023	13,889.45	
0.00	National Rally & AGM 2024	925.60	
0.00	Sundries	0.00	
<u>31,991.76</u>	Total Income	<u>40,941.11</u>	
 <u>Expenditure</u>			
2,271.21	Club Administration	155.14	
0.00	AGM	840.00	
265.48	Capital Equipment	0.00	
175.87	Digital (Zoom & Dropbox etc)	239.76	
1,284.46	Insurance	453.00	
2,860.66	Meetings & Travel	2,513.49	
187.63	Membership (Packs, cards)	254.47	
576.89	Membership Postage	563.24	
284.51	Printing & Stationery	1,254.13	
248.85	Postage Other	87.38	
7,587.00	Newsletter Printing	3,535.36	
5,397.52	Newsletter Postage	2,202.47	
713.92	Web site (Hosting and Addresses)	570.00	
17,119.63	National Rally	14,928.49	
1,454.24	Raffle National Rally to Charity	1,243.37	
931.72	Rally plaques & leaflets etc	77.93	
0.00	Rally Deposits for 2024	1,335.60	
1,336.41	Regalia	819.32	
<u>41,359.59</u>		<u>31,073.15</u>	
-9,367.83	Surplus for Year	9,867.96	
32,392.26	Surplus brought forward	23,024.43	
<u>23,024.43</u>	Accumulated Surplus	<u>32,892.39</u>	
 Represented by:			
1,572.19	Cash at bank-current NW A/C 54359	10,326.47	
20,121.61	Cash at bank-deposit NW A/C 54367	20,364.79	
0.00	BACS Payments NW A/C 54375	0.00	
0.00	The National Rally 24 NW A/C 55133	925.60	
1,330.63	Stock at Cost or Value	1,275.53	
<u>23,024.43</u>		<u>32,892.39</u>	

Hon Treasurer



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

Accounts Examiner



Accounts Continued

Balances as at 11/02/24

Current Account	4,223.77
Reserve Account	26,391.49
BACS	1,732.07
NATIONAL Account	6,401.78

You will notice an additional account, the National, which I opened to keep the monies separate from the Club's current account which appears to be working very well.

For 2023 I have been working on making the final accounts a bit more detailed as part of the budgeting exercise going forward.

Although the Club has made some good savings last year by changes to the magazine, insurance reductions and a review of the Budget, going forward, being mindful of the economic climate in the UK, with the agreement of the committee, I am proposing a modest increase in the 2025 fees to £25.00 per annum which is the first increase in over ten years.

Carol .

Treasurer

State of the Nation

ASOC Chairman's Report January 2024

As I come towards the end of my 3-year tenure as Club Chairman and in accordance with Item 4.18 of the Management Committee Handbook I will be stepping down at the next AGM.

I would like to take this opportunity to say it's been both an honour and privilege to lead an enthusiastic, hardworking, and friendly team of people throughout the period.

I wish to thank my Vice Chair Chris Brown and the rest of the team for stepping in to cover both Carol (Treasurer) & my absence at the last AGM due to my Health Issues.

As I reflect on my last State of the Nation Report of October '22 where the headlines were:-

- Leadership concerned over the future of the club, where "Apathy Rules" is judged OK by the membership.
- Has the Club lost sight of its Unique Selling Point?
- Receding committee and is fast approaching a point of NO Return
- Club communications "at Risk" as Editor resigns at critical time.
- Inflation hits, costs spiralling, a raid on reserves and cost control for 2023.

As a team we have moved a long way forward in addressing the above issues as outline below.

The future of the Committee.

We have seen several changes within the committee, with Dennis Downie joining us as Club Secretary, Alec Avery as Technical Officer and Phil Lowe as our New Editor.

Liz Irvin has taken on the additional role of National organising Sub Committee Chair along with the exhibition liaison role. I understand she has a strong enthusiastic national Subcommittee which is continually looking for additional volunteers.

Martin Ross is doing a fantastic job in managing and co coordinating the Rally programme.

John Morris has decided to stay with us to concentrate on the Web site management activities along with producing the rally plaques.

Stuart Wood is sadly standing down as Regalia officer, I would like to thank him and Yvonne for his many years service, hard work and dedication to the club both as a valued member of the committee but also for their work in managing the events in the Stuart Goodwin Hall at the National Rally.

Carol our current Treasurer is considering stepping down as it will become cost prohibitive for just one of us to travel from the Isle of Man for a committee meeting.

The committee is still in need of recruiting new enthusiastic members to support the current team.

The future of the Club.

Since my last report, we have a constantly evolving membership as with any club of this size, the membership numbers are buoyant and stable with growth attained from several sources (Dealers / Website / internet / van packs / word of Mouth etc) which is a positive sign.

Auto- sleeper have kindly hosted the club on their stands at the NEC's major Motorhome shows throughout the year, Liz has organised the presence of committee members to man the club area. I was pleased to receive positive feedback from Geoff Scott CEO of Auto- sleeper in that having the club members present on their stand has worked well to the mutual benefit of both parties. The team needs to continue to forge close ties with the evolving teams at the factory at Willersey for mutual benefit through Geoff Scott. As club members are the prime users of their products, I would like to see a confidential forum be developed to give feedback to AS design & Technical teams and to allow two-way feedback between our users to look at innovation and help AS design teams shape future improvements in new or existing models. In the past we used to have innovation sheets which helped our members improve their existing vehicles.

Rallying in 2024 & beyond

2023 saw an upturn in both rallies and number of members attending, with 22 rallies, 527 pitches filled by over 200 members though-out the year, it is good to see a positive upswing trending which hopefully can continue with new venues and additional new marshals in 2024.

With the sad loss of John Tubb early in the 2023 season, I would like to thank the marshals who took over his rallies for the season.

It has been great to hear the positive feedback from the membership on the changes to the Rally Plaques produced by John Morris in collaboration with the Marshals. Not only has cost savings been made by producing our own premium designs "in House" they also contributed to our environmental impact saving. (apologies to those members who used the old-style plastic square plaques as rattle mitigation), the cost of the plaques for 23 season including postage ranging from £1.50 to £13.50 per rally totalling £78.03 overall for the season. Although I do believe this is slightly increasing for 2024. The time taken by John & Carol to breakdown their costs and add to the rally returns is of very little benefit, bearing in mind the printing and material costs are accounted for under Administration expenditure on the main accounts. I think we may of reached Analysis paralysis, my thoughts to be discussed at the February committee meeting.

My thanks to Martin & John for producing and publishing the annual Rally programme at the start of the year, in response to members requests at previous AGM's, I think this is a good step in the right direction.

Proposals for 2024.

- 1) The team in conjunction with the Rally Marshall's we review what information is required to ensure we satisfy Statutory and legal obligations whilst reassuring members that the individual rally accounts are being independently examined by the treasurer through the Rally return paperwork.

Whilst reviewing and negotiating this year's Insurance requirements for the club it is becoming more evident to me that the underwriters are requiring in the event of a claim

- Site H&S risk assessments have been undertaken and recorded.
 - Accident logs are recorded.
 - The club has documented processes and procedures in place which are current.
- 2) Encourage additional / new marshals to come forward and give it a try.
 - 3) A reminder to both new and seasoned Marshalls that the club does have a policy of supporting the Marshalls with the deposit fund as many sites requiring an upfront deposit for the next season rally, potentially with Marshalls being personally out of pocket for up to a year in advance until the rally bookings open. Any deposits requested from the fund will need to be paid back to the treasurer as part of the rally return.
 - 4) We need to explore what effect the recently announced new tourist tax will have on rallies in Scotland and Wales. Club or commercial sites will have the tax imposed upon them by government but with rallies in fields or pop-up sites it will be interesting to monitor.
 - 5) With many commercial sites now favouring Seasonal Pitches, it is becoming harder to obtain short term / touring Pitches, which may have a beneficial effect on alternatives such as Rallying an area we need to continue to promote.

Club Insurance 2024

Following our last committee meeting at the ACCEO Rally back in October 23. I undertook a review of the club's insurance requirements as costs were escalating and review also the ACCEO offering.

At the ACCEO AGM this year, Peter Brown took on the additional role of ACCEO interim insurance officer. Peter moved the ACCEO club members policy from Saffron Insurance brokers to Howden insurance brokers. Howden provided ACCEO's 130 + member clubs with a new bespoke rally insurance policy underwritten by other insurance companies should they wish to take up the offer. Application forms arrived 15 days before renewal.

Each club applies directly to Howden for a tailored quotation, with the Howden staff new to the policy as well the underwriters also wanted to know everything about the club including the inside leg measurement of a grass hopper at the National, a 90 minute interrogation which tested my knowledge of the club. Having diligently reviewed over 550 pages of documents and small print from both insurance brokers at the back end of November, with many phone calls for clarification due to the short timescales before renewal.

I carried out some negotiations for additional requirements to cover directors liabilities with Howden.

I opted to change to an enhanced version of the ACCEO policy provided through Howden brokers.

The reasons for the change were

1. Our previous brokers Gallagher restructured their Business attracting additional fees
2. Their Ansvar Charities policy was excessive as a package to get the parts of the cover we needed for rallies.
3. Their Markel director's insurance policy again excessive for our needs as it was directed at small to medium sized businesses.
4. Costs had risen to £1,362.10 inclusive from Gallagher brokers.
5. ACCEO / Howden Policy tailored to meet our Clubs needs for Rallies including directors' liability cover for a total cost £453.00. (66% saving).

However, I expect this figure to increase next year as we also received new Business rates discounts from Howdens this year.

Budgeting

You may recall one of the headlines (see beginning) from my 2022 report was to look at cost control.

I took the opportunity to set up a draft Budget spreadsheet with the assistance of Carol our treasurer and the management team to profile income & expenditure each month and identify areas which needed focussed cost control. Whilst confirming our minimum reserves required to meet the articles of association. I hope to continue this for 2024 Financial Year.

At the same time, we took the opportunity to expand the items reported on the Annual Accounts for clarity to the membership. These were reviewed and reflected for the previous year 2022 for clarity.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank John Tidbury for examining the accounts in the new format.

You will note on this year's accounts a £3,000 donation from Auto-sleeper donation to support the financial costs associated with the AGM & National Rally. In previous accounts the donation has been included directly into the National Income on the Annual Financial Statement. This has now been rectified and I would like to thank Geoff Scott CEO of Auto sleepers on behalf of the club for their continued financial support.

Financially

I think the changes to the Frequency of the Hard copy Newsletter agreed at last year's AGM along with the budget controls identified above have seen a halt to the decline and financial instability identified in my previous report. Our treasurer Carol has instigated a separate new account for the National 2024 which assists with the ease and clarity of accounting for the event. A decision will need to be agreed at the February meeting regarding any Membership Subscription changes for 2025. I will provide Budget spreadsheets for 2023 and proposed 2024 at the February Committee Meeting

Communications to Membership

2024 see the team welcoming Phil Lowe as our new Newsletter editor, allowing John Morris to focus on web site management and the other electronic means of communications, email, and electronic document storage etc on behalf of the club.

Phil's appointment will achieve the club's goal of having critical member communications resilience, as both have extensive experience in both hard copy and web site management. Working as a team hopefully they can provide the membership with a consistent message and information no matter which format or platform the member wishes to receive the information in.

It has come to our attention that the ASOC.co.uk web address belongs to the Avenger Sunbeam Owners Club who are writing to us complaining of our current / prospective members having to be redirected by their secretary to ourselves. Their website was set up before ours back in the day. I'm unsure how to resolve this apart from highlighting our web address at every opportunity and possibly instigating a Google Lead to redirect the recipient to our website, with respect to our email addresses we need some advice.

Actions:-

- 1) we need to put out a renewed call to the membership for Newsletter articles and items from other sources which they would like us to investigate further. The recent Marquis Sussex fire, what are their plans, what is the best advice for members to get their habitation Checks done within the 60-day warranty requirement for instance.
- 2) The continuing review of the clubs drop-box account and how it can be improved.
- 3) Review of the clubs GDPR requirements and compliance in 2024.

The National Rally & AGM

The organisation of the National Rally 24 is well underway, and bookings are coming in. I am aware of possible risks of the Technical Table and Regalia staffing for the event, we need to discuss how these areas can be managed in the event of Alec and Stuart being unable to attend.

It also good to hear that Liz has secured the 2025 and 2026 bookings at Newark showground.

Technical

Alec is making inroads on the technical side and meeting the AS technical contacts at the factory. In a recent meeting with Auto sleepers' management, I was advised that the factory is undergoing many improvements in working processes, conditions and environment. Hopefully the club can continue to forge closer ties with the technical team at the factory and service centre to mutual benefit.

Overall Summary

The club is in a stable position both in terms of Membership Numbers and Financially.

There are many great opportunities and challenges ahead in the coming years and I wish the new chairperson and the committee well for the future.

Steve Ryan ASOC Chairman 2024.

2024 NATIONAL RALLY REPORT

1. VENUE

At the Open Forum last year. The membership was asked how they would feel about having the National & AGM on a non-Bank Holiday weekend. A show of hands indicated approval of this suggestion and the National Rally Sub-Committee duly followed up on the suggestion.

As pointed out at the time the Showground was already booked for 2024 so primarily, we would be looking at 2025 onward.

We have investigated the possibility of running the event over the weekend before the Bank Holiday; going from Thursday 24th April to Monday 28th April 2025. However, there will be two other events on from Friday to Sunday, one is gardening, and the other is dogs – both are daytime events, but it did mean we would have had to be relocated. Of more concern was the fact that there is also an Antiques Fair on the runway on the Monday, which meant the red gate (and the showers and toilets) would be unavailable on that day AND they start setting up at 5am.

It is not possible to move the event back a week as this will interfere with the County Show preparations and the Show itself, and any further back would encroach on the rallying season. The AGM has to be held before the end of May in any case, so this is another restriction.

The Sub-Committee did also consider moving venues but decided against it. Therefore, we have come to the conclusion that the National Rally and AGM should continue to take place on the Spring Bank Holiday:

@ because there is no obvious alternative which is as centrally located,

(b) there are no viable alternative dates available at Newark, and(c) because of the very good working relationship ASOC have built up with the Showground staff over the years.

2. QUESTIONNAIRE

Questionnaires were included in the Rally Packs in 2023 covering the format of the event, thank you to everyone who completed one (almost 100%). The results showed that the majority of members want:

- a. To retain entertainment
- b. To retain the availability of meals each evening
- c. No format change
- d. No venue change
- e. As to a change of date the results showed 36% for 44% against 20% no opinion.

SUMMARY

From both the Sub-Committee's investigations and the results of the Questionnaire it seems prudent to retain the event's format and timing as it is for the foreseeable future.

The new Sub-Committee has been working well and is committed to ensuring the 35th Anniversary goes as well as it possibly can do.

Liz Irvin, National Rally Chair

—TECHNICAL REPORT

Well its been almost a year since joining the committee as Technical Advisor, and it's been a year of learning, to say the least. There is still a lot to learn about the Auto Sleeper product, both old and new, but I hope that I have been able to help those members who have emailed me requesting information and help with their problems.

Dennis and I had a meeting in September with Geoff Scott, CEO of Auto Sleepers, and Phil Symonds of Solar Technologies, who supply AS with solar panels. We hope to have an update from Dennis later this year when he has had the opportunity to try out their portable solar battery charging system, which they have kindly loaned us. I had hoped to meet with other AS suppliers at the Caravan and Motorhome show in October, but unfortunately due to a health issue, I was unable to attend the show. Hopefully I will be able to meet more AS suppliers later this year.

Since taking over at last years AGM, I have had almost 30 requests for information ranging from Crit Aire application to renovation of an old VW based Trooper pop up top, so if I can help any member with their problem, just email me but please you must quote your membership number, other wise I will not be able to answer your question.

Alec Avery
Chairman ASOC Technical Group

—Rally Report

Rally Organiser,

The rally program is done we have the spring rallies advertised in our magazine, I have van poster to do and laminate + Marshals pack to send or give to in person and Plaques to deliver plus plaques have increased to 35p each.

I have a lot of the rally information ready to send to the editor for March magazine to do with the summer rallies up to September.

AGM MEMBERSHIP REPORT 2023

Renewal of memberships for 2024 have gone smoothly with, as usual, a fairly even split between BACS payments and Cheques. We would prefer payment by BACS as cheques take more processing and attract fees from the bank.

There are still a number of members that have not renewed (304) this is slightly up on last years report (272) but it is a movable feast as as memberships will continue to come during the year as members realise, they have not had their magazine.

The new membership cards which are pre-printed with the relevant label on the reverse have gone down well. There have been a number of comments sent to me saying that they are liked.

I would like to give our new members a big welcome and hope that they can join us on future rallies. Please say hello if you see me.

Thank you for all your kind comments and good wishes

Jean Downie
Membership Secretary

Secretary annual report 2024 AGM

So, this first year in my attempt at taking over and filling a huge pair of shoes (metaphorically, sorry Ozzie) has been and gone.

First of all, I would like to pay tribute and thank Ozzie for smoothing the way for me – an example of a responsible and helpful handover. I have little wriggle room now for excusing any mistakes or omissions!

It appears that my new role is punctuated by key dates and activities during the year in order to discharge the statutory duties placed on The Club as a Limited Company. It would be remiss of me not to mention the considerable learning process required by me who has not had experience of this sort of role before. I am well on the way to understanding much of this, but my next big test is assisting and supporting the orderly execution of the AGM and open forum at the National Rally. First time with anything always adds its own pressure.

My next duties following the AGM are to submit to Companies House details of any new directors (Committee Members) elected, and to inform of any resignations. Each 3 years, the exemption certificates allowing us to run rallies on un-licenced sites need renewing and as our current ones expire in August this year, that process will begin shortly after our AGM.

Thanks all for your patience and for the friendly support of the Committee.

Dennis Downie Feb 2024

26 - March 2024

Publications Report for AGM John Morris

ASOC News

January 2024 was my last issue as magazine editor.

We had a few changes, where we moved from bi-monthly to quarterly in order to save the increased production and postal cost of producing the magazine.

A very small number of our members helped by opting to receive the magazine by PDF only, with a link sent to their email.

Publications

For the first time, we produced a rally programme printed in colour, showing what was on offer to members for 2024.

This was a supplement to the January magazine. The PDF can be found in the member area

ASOC Traveller 2 and 3 were produced completely digital, which meant it made it easier to read across all devices.

ASOC Website

We ask members to look at it regularly, and a panel on the opening page tells you when it was updated. We also encourage members to subscribe to the member area.

For the first time we have included rally details and booking forms, when they become available, in the member area.

Short cut to it <https://www.asoc.uk.com/member/R24>

PitchSTOP website.

We have only a small list of Aires and pitches at the moment and would welcome members to provide information of any they think should be included.

Have a look at it <https://www.asoc.uk.com/p>

LPG website

This list has been provided by members. Any stations you have used and not listed, or no longer provide LPG, let us know.

<https://www.asoc.uk.com/lpg>

Resolution

During the 2023 Open Forum the membership expressed their opinion on the subject of the 30 Year Gold Card achievement. The membership is of the opinion (particularly the 30 year Gold Card holders) that although they appreciated the fact they have a gold card it is felt that it is neither necessary or desirable to get 'free membership' and they would far rather continue to pay their membership fee.

Accordingly, the committee agreed to amend Article 4(b) to reflect this and bring it to the 2024 AGM for approval.

I would suggest the following wording to amend this Article.

“Club Members who have attained 30 consecutive years of membership at the time of the annual renewal of membership will be issued with a Gold Membership Card. They will continue to pay a full membership subscription and retain their benefits and responsibilities to the Club.”

Notices

Vacancies

“As mentioned recently in a mailshot to all our members, we are in need of volunteers for the committee. After the AGM there will be three vacancies on the committee, one of which will be to fulfil the Treasurer’s role, which is critical to running the Club. We also have two other roles which will be vacant – that of Minutes Secretary and Vice Chair. If you feel you would like to become involved we would very much appreciate hearing from you. Time is short to process nominations for the AGM so please – we know there are a lot of skills within our Club, which of you are willing to donate some of your time and expertise to help run it. Contact me at vicechair@asoc.uk.com and I’ll be happy to process your nomination. Many thanks. Chris Brown.”

Plea

Can we ask current members and new member to check for any emails and in particular the email address, that you may have sent to ASOC committee members and not had an answer. we have had notification of another website receiving misdirected emails, which were unable to trace. We endeavour to answer all emails, but if its misdirected/mistyped we will not received them.

Please NOTE:- the email should finish **name@asoc.uk.com**

A full list of Committee email Address are in Club Contact.

Safety

It has be noticed on campsites that many are leaving their hookup cables wound on reels. To avoid overheating the cable reel, the recommendation is they should be fully unwound.



Club Events Martin Ross rally@asoc.uk.com

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

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

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.

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 07982416878

Les & Pat Udale 07762 164776

Les & Carolyn Lamley 07923 054306

Site fee: £12 per night

Rally fee: Couples £4.50. Singles £2.50.

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.

**Friday 21st June – 26th June 2024. Manor
Farm Camping Woodmansey, Beverly. HU17 0SA**

Rally Marshals : Glyn & Sue Tomkins

Emergency Telephone:- 07968 130051

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

Rally Fee £4.00 couples ,£2.00 singles.

Send cheque to :- Glyn Tomkins, The Close, Brookfield, Bradford, Yorkshire, BD146PJ.

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 2 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 .

Please send SAE or email in CAPITALS FOR DIRECTIONS AND CONFIRMATION

LIMIT TO 20 VANS ,PLEASE REPLY BEFORE END OF MARCH.

25 - 30 June 2024 (5 nights)

Newton Abbot Rugby Club

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

Booking opens 1 May 2024

Site fee: £60.00

Rally fee: £3.00

Postal bookings and cheques only

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

ell.ba82@yahoo.co.uk Telephone 01278 784524. email 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.

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.

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
www.campingplatz-ruedesheim.de The campsite is by the river with easy walking into Rudesheim and the moorings for the river ships. 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. Last year it was €99 per person.

Saturday 6th July - 11 July (5 nights)

Stafford Boat Club, Maple Way, Wildwood Stafford ST17 4SG

BOOKINGS OPEN 1 MAY

Rally Marshalls: Janet and Peter Murphy, Telephone 07746293022

Site Fee: £20 with electricity *Rally Fee:* £5 per couple. £3 singles

The Rally starts at 12 noon on Saturday 6th and finishes on Thursday 11th.

Please send rally slips and cheques plus a clear email address, phone number or return SAE to: Mrs J M Murphy, 9 Pennine Rd, Hazel Grove, Stockport SK75BG or email to Mystery1000@hotmail.co.uk

Bank transfer available if requested on the rally application form, but must be paid within two weeks of application, or the application will be withdrawn.

Site: Stafford Boat Club is one of the prime ASOC venues. A flat grass field on the side of the Staffs&Worcester canal with coarse fishing available from the site, and some tuition. There is direct access to the towpath and the hostleries within walking distance. Access to the rally field is down a steepish slope from the main road via a housing estate. There are shops, a bus stop and a pub on the main road, but the hill can be a tiring 15 minute walk for the less able.

We have the use of the excellent Clubhouse and reasonably priced bar from 8pm for quizzes, games and socialising, unless there is a function booked. There are toilets and showers in the club house, plus a laundry is available. It is advised that campers use their own facilities. Dogs allowed on a lead only.

Stafford is 10 minutes away by bus. The National Memorial Arboretum, Trentham Gardens and Shugborough Hall are all an easy drive away. See barges being hauled out and repaired in the canal shipyard.

Owing to clashing rallies we are short of an assistant Marshall. Someone to assist marking out the day before the rally and to assist providing a holiday atmosphere by helping to run activities like walks and a few competitions.

Anyone can apply, experienced or not. The club is short of rally organisers at the moment so this is a good chance for new people to get involved and to get to know fellow members. If you are interested tell us on your rally application form.

11 - 16 July 2024 (5 nights)

**Leon's Field, St Ives, Cambridgeshire
Huntingdon, Cambs. PE27 5ER**

Rally Marshalls: Barbara & Al Buckett Mobile No: 07818 006733

APPLICATIONS OPEN ON 1ST APRIL 2024.

Rally limited to 40 vans

Green field site – No electricity – No toilets.

(Charging facilities available for mobility scooters only)

Site fee: £10.00 per night.

Rally fee £2.00 per unit or £1.50 singles.

Total for 5 nights £52.00 per unit or £51.50 singles.

Rally slips and cheques payable to:

Mr A Buckett 16 St Margarets Drive Walmer Deal Kent CT14 7UJ or **BANK**

TRANSFER

Enclose SAE or **email** address for confirmation and directions.

IF YOU PREFER TO PAY BY BANK TRANSFER PLEASE CONTACT US AND WE WILL GIVE YOU THE BANK DETAILS.

The site is by the Great Ouse river 200 yards from the picturesque town centre.

There is a market on

Friday and Monday and there are plenty of pubs, restaurants, cafes and a variety of shops. Buses run every 10 minutes to Huntingdon and Cambridge. A trip on the St Ives guided bus to Cambridge is quite an experience and bus passes are accepted. Beautiful riverside walks nearby.

Dogs on leads are welcome.

PLEASE DO NOT arrive before 12pm on Thursday. Rally closes 11am Tuesday.

Do not enter St Ives town centre. Follow directions.

10 - 15 August 2024 (5 nights)

Redcar Rugby Club,

Green Lane, Redcar, TS10 3RW

BOOKINGS OPEN 2 MAY

Rally Marshals: Martin Ross, Lesley Prince.

Emergency telephone number 07901 771040

Site Fee £10.00 per night, no electric.

Rally Fee: £5.00 couples £3.50 singles.

Rally starts 12 noon Sat 10 August and finishes 11 o'clock Thurs 15 August.

Send your rally slip and cheques to:

Martin Ross: Elvina Wold Road, Barrow-upon-Humber, North Lincolnshire, DN19 7BT.

Email: rossim1982@gmail.com

Including a SAE or clearly written email address for confirmation.

This is a level grass site, 5 mins walk to the beach with good cycle routes. Buses run regularly directly from the bottom of Green Lane to Marske, Saltburn, Staithes, Runswick Bay and many other places on the way to Whitby. Buses also run directly into Redcar or it's a 20 to 30 minute stroll along a promenade right next to the beach, where there are numerous shops, with a Morrison's supermarket, pubs, cafes and fish and chip shops, including Pacittos - famous for its lemon top ice creams.

The clubhouse bar is open 5 pm - 11 pm where meals are available certain nights. There are showers and toilets. Dogs welcome on leads at all times.

Whitby Rally follows on starting Thurs 15 August and is only 40 - 50 minutes drive away across the scenic North York Moors via A171

Directions: From A19 N or S take A174 signposted Redcar and continue to 6th roundabout. Turn left onto A1085. Continue through Marske and along coast road to Redcar. Look for sign for Redcar Rugby Club & turn left onto Green Lane. At roundabout take 2nd exit. Entrance to site on right in 200 yds.

Caedmon College Whitby 2024

15th -20th August 2024 (5 nights) Caedmon College, Whitby, North Yorks.

Rally Marshals: Liz Irvin, Peter, and Chris Brown

Emergency Tel. No. 07711 271568 (Marshal's mobile) email lizirvin@outlook.com

Site Fees £17.00 per night. Rally Fees £6.00 couples, £5.00 singles.

Total with rally slip £91.00 couples, £90.00 singles.

We have the use of toilets, showers, but no electricity available.

This is a new site for us, and is larger, as our previous site closes in July. We are on a level grass field, nearer to the centre of Whitby and the Cinder Track Cycle route. There is a good bus service. The rally follows on from the Redcar rally for those wishing to travel around the North Yorkshire Coast.

Arrivals after 12 noon on Thursday.

Booking slips by post or online. Cheques payable to Mrs E Irvin. This year, payment can be made by BACS. Please request BACS details on your booking slip, and I will forward you the details. Your booking will be confirmed when I receive your payment. Send to Mrs E. Irvin, 43 School Lane, Kirk Ella, HULL, East Yorkshire. HU10 7NP. lizirvin@outlook.com Mobile 07711 271568. Please enclose SAE, or clear email address on slip for confirmation. In June and early July, please use email or mobile contacts, for confirmation.

The Whitby Regatta is a 3-day event starting on Saturday. Subject to weather conditions, the Red Arrows are booked for Saturday afternoon, with the Lancaster Bomber display both Saturday and Sunday afternoons. On Monday evening there is a firework display.

The school is on Prospect Hill, the Whitby end of the Guisborough Road.

Directions: From Scarborough on A171, continue over the river bridge, turn left at the traffic lights and then the first right to the school. From Guisborough or Pickering on A171, enter Whitby and continue straight over the roundabout into Mayfield Road. Site on left before the traffic lights.

Post code YO21 1QD

.15 -18 August 2024

**The Western Motorhome Show Malvern
Three Counties Showground, Malvern**

Emergency telephone 07885 812512

Rally Marshals: Gary & Pat Wanklin Assisted by John and Jean Gutsell

If you require a booking form go to www.outandaboutlive.co.uk booking forms or book online

Please mark the form ASOC and note the special club site fees

Arrive Thursday £80 arrive Friday £75. All bookings for Saturday night entertainment must be made and paid to Warner's when returning the application form to them.

Application's close on Wednesday 31st July 2pm If you wish to rally with the club then you must return the application form to Warner's by this date.

Then you MUST complete a club rally slip (this also applies to internet bookings)

Return it with the rally fee of £3 couples £2 singles, cheques payable to Gary Wanklin 18 Beverley Way Malvern Worcs WR141LA Telephone 01886 832364.

Please collect the club rally information pack from the ASOC Marshals before parking where directed

The rally will finish at 12 Noon on Sunday but you may remain on site until 12 Noon Monday

19 - 23 August 2024 (4 nights)

St. Cross Symondians Cricket Club Winchester SO23 9RT

BOOKINGS OPEN 1 JUNE

Please do not arrive before 12 noon

limit 30 Vans

Rally Marshals: Bob & Angela Warwick and John & Frances Thomas

Emergency Telephone 07530 366237

Site Fees: £56.00 *Rally fee:* £4.00

Please send your rally slip and cheque for £60.00 payable to:

R.G Warwick 14 Furneaux Gardens Fareham Hants PO16 7HD

Telephone 01329 236442 Mobile 07530 366237

together with your Email address or a SAE for confirmation and directions.

This is a Greenfield site with a CDP and water point. Own sanitation required

The site is less than a mile from Winchester Centre.

There is a bus stop right outside the site on the other side of the road which will take you to Winchester, alternatively it is a nice walk along the river.

Buses to Southampton are from the near side of the road, buses are also available from Winchester bus station to Romsey, Alresford Alton and various other destinations.

Places of interest: At Alresford there is the Watercress Line (steam train), various National Trust Houses, Royal Green Jackets Museum, Whitchurch Silk Mill, Jane Austen's House, Winchester College tours, Intech Science Centre, Marwell Zoo and Winchester Cathedral.

3 - 11 September 2024 Two Sites Scottish Rallies 2024

Lothian Bridge Caravan Park, Newtongrange, Dalkeith EH22 4TP

Callander Woods Holiday Park, Stirling Road, Callander, FK17 8LE

BOOKINGS OPEN 1 JUNE

Rally Marshals: Moira 07891 704186 & Allan Blackstock 07969 312703

Site fee: £235 (this includes a non-refundable deposit of £10)

Rally fee: £8 Couple £4 Single

Cheques rally slips to: M Blackstock, 39 Sumpter Croft, Penwortham, Preston PR1 9UJ or if you wish to pay by bank transfer please ring 01772749178 or 07891704186 or email moiblac39@gmail.com for details

4 nights at Lothian Bridge, a pleasant site all hardstandings by an impressive viaduct. The bus stop for Edinburgh is near the site entrance with Tesco Store on route. Opposite the park entrance there is a pub serving food, a short walk takes you to the village where there is a Co-op a cafe and a craft centre, Rosslyn Chapel (mentioned in Dan Brown's The Davinci Code) is 6.5 miles and (in our opinion) well worth a visit, the National Coal Mining museum is about 1 mile.

4 nights at Callander Woods Holiday Park. All hardstanding on the edge of the Trossachs National Park, with good walking and cycling opportunities. Just over 1mile to the centre. Bus stop to Callander or Stirling near the site gate. Callander is a small town with shops and cafes a car park big enough to take motorhomes and a small park by the river Tieth. Sir Walter Scott steamship offering cruises is 22 miles away on Loch Katrine.

5 - 9 September 2024

South West Motorhome Show 2024

Shepton Mallet, Somerset, BA4 6QN

BOOKINGS OPEN

Rally Marshals: Martin Ross

Emergency Telephone 07901 771040

No electric

If you wish to rally with the club Please use booking form from Warners or other magazines. Mark the form ASOC and note the special club site fees:

Rally from Thursday 5th to Sunday 8th September,

Arrive Thursday £80 Arrive Friday £75

All bookings for Saturdays entertainment must be made & paid when returning the application forms to Warner's by 2pm Wednesday 21st August.

You must also complete a club rally slip (this also applies to internet bookings).

Return it with the rally fee of £5.00 couples, or £3.50 for singles.

Rally slips and cheques payable to:

Martin Ross, "Elvina" Wold Road, Barrow-upon-Humber, DN19 7BT.

Mobile 07901 771040. Email: rossim1982@gmail.com

Please collect the club rally information pack from the ASOC marshal before parking where directed.

The rally finishes at 12 noon Sunday but you may remain on site until 12 noon Monday.

9 - 15 September 2024 (6 nights)

Holiday Resort Unity, Brean, TA8 2RB

Near to Burnham on Sea, and Weston Super Mare, Somerset

BOOKING OPENS 1 JULY 2024

Pitch fee: £118.50

Rally fee: £2.50

Total cost: £121.00

Note: no arrivals before 12.00 pm

Limited to 25 pitches

Rally slips and cheques payable to:

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

Phone 01278 784524. Postal bookings and cheques only.

Note: cheques will be banked about two weeks before the rally.

All pitches are hard standing with electric and water. Excellent toilet and showers,

A small shop on site for essentials and a bar, cafe, restaurant, club, and the Splash swimming pool.

Bus stops outside the site to Weston and Burnham or bring your bikes because it is a nice area for cycling to Bridgwater, Axbridge, and Cheddar or with an off road cross country cycle path route about 7 miles from Brean to Uphill at Weston Super Mare

A popular dog friendly full facility site. It is an ideal run up to Briarfields rally or as a follow on rally from Shepton Mallet Motor Caravan Show which finishes on Sunday 8th but allows stop over until Monday 9th

There is 7 miles of walkable dog friendly beach with the site about midway between Burnham town centre one way and the other way to the Brean Downs with its café's and the Napoleonic fort plus excellent views, take binoculars to get the best of the vast views.

Great for dog walking (*but please keep dogs on leads over the Brean Downs for their safety*).

16 -20 September, 2024 Briarfields

THE MOTORHOME AND CAMPERVAN SHOW SEASONS FINALE AT LINCOLN LN2 2NA

Marshals Glyn and Sue Tomkins

Emergency Telephone 07968 130051

Please use the booking form from MMM or book online with Warners, <https://www.outandaboutlive.co.uk>. Mark the form with ASOC club and note the special club fees. Arrive Thursday £80 or Friday £75.

Bookings for Saturday night entertainment must be made and paid to Warners on their booking form.

You must book through Warners and only send the rally fee to the Rally Marshal Applications closing date 4th September, if you want to rally with the Club you must return the form before this date.

You must also send a rally slip to me with your rally fee. Couples £3.00, Singles £2.00. SAE or a legible email address for conformation.

Cheques payable to G. Tomkins – The Close, Broomfield, Clayton, Bradford West Yorkshire BD14 6PJ.

Please collect club rally information from the marshal before parking where directed.

2 - 7 October 2024 **ACCEO Rally & AGM**

22 -26 November 2024 **Southport Rally in Victoria Park**

Club Events Martin Ross rally@asoc.uk.com

Club Contacts

President: Charles Trevelyan
Chairman: Steve Ryan chairman@asoc.uk.com
Vice Chair: Chris Brown vicechairman@asoc.uk.com
Secretary: Dennis Downie secretary@asoc.uk.com
Treasurer: Carol Ryan treasurer@asoc.uk.com
Rally Coordinator: Martin Ross rally@asoc.uk.com
Technical: Alec Avery technical@asoc.uk.com
Club Shop: Stuart Wood shop@asoc.uk.com
Publications: John Morris publications@asoc.uk.com
Membership Secretary: Jean Downie membershipsec@asoc.uk.com
Exhibitions: Liz Irvin exhibitions@asoc.uk.com
Editor Phill Lowe editor@asoc.uk.com
Minute Secretary: Chris Brown
Chair, National Rally: Liz Irvin nationalrally@asoc.uk.com

PUBLICATION DETAILS: The opinions, beliefs, viewpoints or advertisements expressed by contributors to ASOC News do not necessarily reflect those of the Club or Editor.

Contributions from members are published in good faith. All care is taken to ensure accuracy but no modification or suggestion has been tested by the Club or the Editor. No warranties are expressed or implied nor indemnities given. You try them at your own

AUTO-SLEEPER OWNERS' CLUB

A Company Limited by Guarantee

Registered Office:

Orchard Works, Willersey, Worcestershire WR12 7QF
Registered No: 4616969

Your club needs you

We are looking for more articles/essays for inclusion in future newsletters.

One possible option "your" best campsite or location
your best experience at a location and why.



Auto-Sleeper



WEBSITE

We have a wealth of information in the members area of the website.

To access this, you will need to subscribe to the member area in order to receive login details.

Please NOTE:-
The Website
Address is :-

www.asoc.uk.com