

The Newsletter of Auto-Sleeper Owners' Club

Sept 2024



Enjoy a coffee whilst you renew your ASOC membership

As the year draws to a close, it's nearly time to renew your annual subscription and continue enjoying the exclusive benefits that come with it. Whether you've been with us for years or this is your first renewal, ensuring uninterrupted access to all ASOC content and services.



Editors Edit

Welcome to this edition of the Auto-Sleeper Owners Club Newsletter. We're thrilled to bring you the latest updates, stories, and tips to enhance your adventures on the road.

This edition is brought to you whilst walking part of the Southwest Coast Path, hopefully it reaches you all on time and all in order.

The newsletter relies upon articles from our readers who can share their unique experiences and insights.

No articles No news.

Going Paperless: A Step Towards Sustainable Travel

We delve into the benefits of going paperless. Transitioning to digital can seem daunting, but it's a step worth taking for both convenience and the environment. We'd love to hear your thoughts and experiences on going paperless. Have you made the switch? What tips do you have for fellow Auto-Sleepers? Share your stories with us, and let's inspire each other to embrace a more sustainable lifestyle on the road.

Thank you for being a part of our journey!

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Auto-Sleeper



NEWS

The Newsletter of Auto-Sleeper Owners' Club

Chairman's Chat

Well hasn't it been an awful summer? The weather was no better on the Continent than it was in the UK during June and July, what it's like in France and Germany now I don't know but it hasn't improved much here has it? Still, we did have *some* very good days and after purchasing an 'extra layer' each the weather didn't confine us to barracks except on two occasions.

Heading for Redcar, Whitby and Hampton Ferry in August so opportunities to catch up with some of you on these rallies, then we're off to the North East Coast in September.

In between all these high jinx you'll be pleased to know your Committee has been keeping things ticking over in the background, as well as welcoming new members to our committee – Liz Stewart our new Minutes Secretary, who was elected at the AGM. And the subsequent volunteers for co-option –David Thompson Vice Chair, John Geeson Treasurer and Elaine Davis Merchandising Officer.

On a personal note, I have received the most charming letter of support from our President, Charles Trevelyan, which is very much appreciated. He and Angela will be hosting the visit to the Bugatti Museum, which was arranged as part of the Hampton Ferry Rally. Our thanks to Liz Irvin for co-ordinating this with Charles and Angela.

I would also like to say a huge THANK YOU to Glyn and Sue Tomkins for stepping in to Marshal the Beverley Rally. Talk about a quick turn-around – they left there, drove to Hull, caught the ferry, drove to Rüdeshheim arriving, not surprisingly "Hot, tired and hungry" but in good time for the Rally. Not only that they brought wine!! Truly 'over and above', so again Thank You.

More good news on the rallying front is that we have two new volunteers to assist with next year's Turckheim rally – Dave and Sarah Pollard so welcome to the 'Marshalling World' to them. Who else out there thinks they might want to give it a go? Have a word with Martin Ross at rally@asoc.uk.com and I'm sure he'll be able to arrange for you to assist experienced Rally Marshals to ease you in gently....

Until next time.

Chris Brown

TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

NOW £25 FOR 2025

Membership of ASOC becomes due for renewal on the 31st December 2024, except for those joining after September 2024 as their membership is valid until the end of December 2025.

Members who do not renew

Any renewals not received before 10 January 2025 will no longer have the ASOC News posted to them and will no longer have access to the member area, benefit from the various discount schemes or be able to take part in the rally programme.

Please take this opportunity to advise me of any changes to your details during the year.

Email me at membershipsec@asoc.uk.com. For those members who do not have email my address is below.

OUR PREFERRED METHOD OF PAYMENT IS BY BACS

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

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

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

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

Our bank account details are:

The Auto Sleeper Owners' Club

National Westminster Bank

Sort Code 01-01-78

Account Number 19654375



PAYMENT BY CHEQUE (NO CASH ACCEPTED)

You can still pay by cheque if you prefer, and if you do, you must **put your membership number on the back of the cheque**. That is all we need as your name will be printed on the front of the cheque. To speed up the process please do not send your payment to Willersey.

Cheques should be made payable to **AUTO-SLEEPER OWNERS' CLUB** and posted to me at:

Jean Downie

ASOC Membership Secretary

88 Portreath Drive

Allestree

Derby DE22 2SD

Do not use any abbreviation of the club name on your cheque. Using ASOC will result in the bank rejecting your payment and delaying your renewal.

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

Thanks

Jean Membership Secretary

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SIX GOOD REASONS TO VISIT TURCKHEIM IN 2025

Apart from the excellent Cave, Turckheim has a lot to offer. Situated in the Alsace Region of France, two kilometres from Colmar at the base of the Voges mountains, the town is accessed by three medieval 'Gates' and has a long and rich history. It also boasts the charming ritual of the Night whose original function was to patrol the streets in the late evening admonishing everyone to 'Take care of the fireplace and the candles' – obviously an early fire-prevention strategy. These days you can accompany the Night Watchman on his rounds at 10pm each evening between May and October, so that's an experience to be enjoyed.



Turckheim is also noted for its storks, whose nests can be seen on various chimney pots and other tall structures, usually in specially designed frames. These storks migrate to Africa each year, returning to hatch and rear their young in and around Turckheim.

There are plenty of walks and cycle rides in the area and amenities in the town, including bakeries, restaurants and a small supermarket – Petit Casino. The campsite is on the outskirts of the town. However, it is not a large site and is very popular, for that reason we have only been able to reserve 20 pitches. Full booking details will be available in the December ASOC News and on the website.

Chris and Peter Brown

Habitation Checks



A motorhome habitation check is a comprehensive inspection that ensures the living area of a motorhome is safe, functional, and compliant with legal standards. In the UK, these checks are particularly important for several reasons:

1. Safety

Gas Systems: Ensures that gas appliances (stoves, heaters, water heaters) are working correctly and safely, preventing gas leaks and potential carbon monoxide poisoning.

Electrical Systems: Verifies that the 12V and 240V electrical systems are functioning properly, reducing the risk of electrical fires.

Portable Appliance Testing of electrical appliances, **especially extension Leads.**

Fire Safety: Checks smoke detectors, carbon monoxide alarms, and fire extinguishers.

2. Legal Compliance

MOT Requirements: For motorhomes over a certain age, a habitation check can help ensure the vehicle meets MOT requirements for safety.

Insurance: Some insurance policies may require a habitation check to validate coverage.

3. Preventive Maintenance

Water Systems: Identifies leaks, ensures the water heater and plumbing are in good condition, and prevents water damage.

Damp Checks: Detects moisture and potential damp issues that can lead to structural damage and health problems.

Structural Integrity: Assesses the overall condition of the habitation area, including walls, floors, and roof for any signs of wear or damage.

Hab Checks (Cont)

4. Comfort and Functionality

Appliance Functionality: Ensures that all living appliances (fridge, oven, heating systems) are operational.

Ventilation: Checks that ventilation systems are working correctly to avoid condensation and maintain air quality.

Seals and Locks: Inspects door and window seals and locks to ensure they are secure and functioning properly.

5. Resale Value

Service History: A documented habitation check adds to the service history, which can increase the resale value and appeal to potential buyers.

Condition Verification: Demonstrates that the motorhome has been well-maintained, providing assurance to buyers regarding its condition.

6. Peace of Mind

Travel Confidence: Knowing that your motorhome is in good condition allows for stress-free travel.

Long-term Investment: Regular habitation checks help to extend the lifespan of the motorhome by addressing minor issues before they become major problems.

Frequency of Checks

It is recommended to have a habitation check **annually**, typically before the start of the travel season, to ensure everything is in working order.

In summary, a motorhome habitation check is crucial for safety, legal compliance, preventive maintenance, comfort, functionality, resale value, and overall peace of mind. Regular checks help ensure that the motorhome remains a safe and enjoyable home on wheels.

Editor

Using a SOG Toilet Vent for Your Autosleeper

A SOG toilet vent system is a popular solution for motorhome owners looking to manage odors and improve the efficiency of their chemical toilets. Originating in Germany, the SOG system has gained a strong following in the UK due to its effectiveness and eco-friendly operation. This article explores the benefits and considerations for using a SOG toilet vent in your motorhome.



What is a SOG Toilet Vent System?

A specially developed small high-performance fan, which switches on automatically when the toilet slide is opened, creates a negative pressure in the waste-holding tank:

This creates a "suction" at the slider opening that draws in fresh air, as well as odors generated during use, and directs it outside. The drawing in of air acts as a seal and 100% prevents all unpleasant foul gases from rising from the tank.

Thus, each time the cassette is used, more air (oxygen) is drawn into the cassette. Water is also supplied each time through the flushing process. However, after the slider is automatically switched off and closed, there is permanent aeration - i.e. oxygen supply - through a pipe or hose connection that is always open to the outside, which thus promotes the further decomposition process.

Benefits of a SOG Toilet Vent

1. The primary advantage of a SOG system is its ability to significantly reduce toilet odors by venting them outside the motorhome.
2. Unlike traditional chemical toilets, which require chemical additives to control odors and break down waste, the SOG system reduces or eliminates the need for these chemicals, making it more environmentally friendly.
3. By promoting aerobic decomposition, the SOG system helps break down waste more efficiently, reducing the likelihood of blockages and making emptying the tank easier.
4. With reduced reliance on chemicals, motorhome owners can save money over time.
5. The system minimises the environmental impact by reducing the need for chemical additives and promoting a more natural waste breakdown process.

Using a SOG Toilet Vent for Your Autosleeper

Considerations and Tips

Ensure the SOG system you purchase is compatible with your specific toilet model. Kits are available for various brands and models.

Check and replace the activated carbon filter to maintain the system's effectiveness.

The fan's power consumption is minimal, but it's still wise to monitor your motorhome's battery levels, especially if you're using multiple electrical accessories.

Professional Installation: If you're unsure about the installation process, consider hiring a professional. Improper installation can lead to leaks or system inefficiencies.

Conclusion

The SOG toilet vent system offers a practical and eco-friendly solution for managing toilet odors in your motorhome. With its ability to reduce reliance on chemicals, improve waste breakdown, and enhance overall comfort, it's no wonder many UK motorhome owners are opting for this innovative technology. Whether you're a seasoned DIY enthusiast or prefer professional installation, the benefits of a SOG system can make your motorhome experience more pleasant and environmentally friendly.



Rallies Roundup 2024

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

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

South West motorhome Show 2024

Shepton Mallet, Somerset. BA4 6QN

Rally Marshals: Martin Ross & Bob & Angela Warwick

Emergency Telephone 07901771040 Mobile.

Please use booking form from Other magazines Please 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 with Warners when returning the application forms to Warner's by 2pm Wednesday 21st August.

If you wish to rally with the club then return the application form to Warners by 21st August.

Then 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 07901771040. 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.

There are no electric hookups on site.

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).

Briarfields Touring Caravan Park Cheltenham GL51 0SS 16 - 20 September 2024 (4 Nights)

This rally follows on from Holiday resort Brean Somerset and the Shepton Mallet motor caravan show..

Rally Marshal: Martin Ross

Assistant Marshal : Arthur & Cheryl Allen

Site Fees £27pn for 4 nights £108 + Rally Fee Couples 5.00

Singles £3.50 Please send your RALLY SLIP and a CHEQUE for Couples £113 or Singles £111.50 payable to Martin Ross "Elvina" Wold Road, Barrow-upon-Humber North Lincolnshire DN19 7BT

together with a clear e-mail address or an SAE for confirmation and directions.

20 pitches only. Please do not arrive before 1-00pm

Briarfields Touring Caravan Park Cheltenham GL51 0SS 16 - 20 September 2024 (4 Nights) (Cont)

This is an adults only site with full facilities, hard standing pitches with electric hook up. This site is ideally situated for experiencing Regency Cheltenham renowned for its exclusive shopping; with charming boutiques and shopping centres and also the historic city of Gloucester with it's wonderful Cathedral where Harry Potter was filmed, dockside, award winning Waterways Museum and its Quays outlet shopping centre. The site is well positioned as a base to explore the beautiful quaint Cotswold villages of Bourton on the Water, Stow on the Wold and Morton in the Marsh. There is an excellent bus service which runs frequently (every 15 minutes during the daytime and every 20 minutes throughout the evenings) from outside the park entrance to both Cheltenham and Gloucester.

20 - 22 September 2024 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.

Shrewsbury – West Midlands Showground (ACCEO National Rally) Wednesday 2nd to Monday 7th October 2024

This is a peaceful site with its own fishing rights on the banks of the River Severn.

Less than 15 minutes' walk from Shrewsbury town centre, where tourist sites and shopping are within easy reach. You can follow the winding medieval streets of Shrewsbury, explore the castle and abbey, stroll around gardens and parks, following the Darwin Town Trail (the evolutionist was born here) and take boating trips on the Severn.

There are many pubs, restaurants and cafes plus train and bus connections from the centre of Shrewsbury to many lovely places including Bridgnorth and Ludlow.
Half an hour drive from Ironbridge Gorge and the Shropshire Hills.

Shrewsbury – West Midlands Showground (ACCEO National Rally) Wednesday 2nd to Monday 7th October 2024 (cont).

This is part of the Association of Camping and Caravanning Exempted Organisations (ACCEO) annual National Rally. The core rally is Friday to Sunday at £56 including Friday and Saturday entertainment with optional nights of Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday at £18 each night.

Bookings on ASOC rally slip by email to pcb7ty@btinternet.com with payment to ACCEO either by BACS, Credit Card or Cash on entrance to the rally.

The rally is to be hosted on behalf of ACCEO by the Eldis Owners Club who will facilitate a programme of optional social evenings, some with professional entertainment.

Fri. 15th – Tue. 19th November 2024 (4 nights) Victoria Park Southport

Emergency Tel No : 07901 771040, & 07763 773877 mobile

Rally Marshals: Martin Ross, Dave & Wyn Crabbe.

Site Fee: £19:00 per night including Electric hook up, Rally Fee: £5.00 couples. £2.75 singles, this may change if a marquee becomes available, attendees will be informed.

This is a public park and green field site. Dogs welcome on a lead on site at all times.

A fish and chip supper has been arranged for Friday evening. Chips @ £2.75, Fish (cod) @ £5.25, Please indicate on the booking form your order and send payment with the form.

Booking form & cheques payable to Martin Ross, "Elvina" Wold Road, Barrow-upon-Humber, North Lincolnshire, DN197BT.

Limit of 25 vans. Minimum 3 nights stay.

Please do not send form before the 1st of September.

Please send SAE for confirmation and directions or e-mail address clearly written (BLOCK CAPITALS) please.

If you would like to arrive and stay before or stay on after the rally there is a Caravan and Motorhome Club site adjacent to the park. Please book your extra nights with the CC site directly. This is not part of the rally and incurs an extra charge.

Attractions; Victorian coastal town of Southport and its shops, parks and beaches, The Park and ride is closed + car park £5.00 now, it has the second longest Pier with tram in the country. switch on of Christmas lights will hopefully happen on that wkend, Liverpool with its wealth of attractions, architecture, museums, waterfront, Albert dock, and Liverpool One shopping centre. Martin Mere Wild Fowl centre. Ormskirk market town, Crosby Beach with the Antony Gormley statues, Red squirrel sanctuary at Formby and a lot more around the district and further afield.

There is a Morrison's supermarket within 5 minutes' walk from the site.

Rally starts at 1200hrs. NB. There is a barrier across the entrance which requires a code to enter. Please do not arrive before 1200hrs as parking on the road will cause problems. Rally closes at 1000hrs Tuesday.

NEWS ON ASOC NEWS

You will remember from the 2024 Open Forum that it was suggested from the floor that ASOC News be distributed as a pdf with the option to continue to take it in printed form. The Committee has agreed to have a look at this process in detail and as a first step, we are going to distribute ASOC News electronically **AS WELL AS** a printed version, from the December 2024 publication.

The purpose of doing this is to let all our members see what the electronic version is like, which in turn will enable each individual to make an informed choice on which version they want.

As those of you who have attended the AGM and Open Forum will know, this subject has been debated often and at length and the Committee understands that a number of members have no desire to change. But it is difficult for us to know exactly how many members have ever seen the electronic version and exactly how many members would be happier with an electronic version. It's main advantage of course is that it is easily accessible when members are away from home, doing what they do most –travelling, camping and rallying. AND given the length of time it takes for the postal version to reach some areas it's more efficient.

The next step in the process will be to actually give each individual a choice, but the best way of doing this is still very much under review and will not happen overnight.

You will receive your emailed copy of ASOC News in the email address you supplied to the Membership Secretary on your application form when you joined, or subsequently advised us that you changed email address. For the first delivery, you may need to look in your 'spam' or 'junk' mail folder in case your copy was diverted there by your mail server.

ASOC Management Committee

Having an electronic newsletter for the Auto-Sleeper Owners Club offers numerous benefits. Here are some reasons why it can be a valuable resource:

1. **Instant Communication:** Electronic newsletters allow for immediate dissemination of information, ensuring members receive the latest news, updates, and event details without delays associated with traditional mail.
2. **Cost-Effective:** Digital newsletters save on printing and postage costs, making them a more economical option for the club.
3. **Environmental Impact:** Reducing paper use aligns with eco-friendly practices, demonstrating the club's commitment to sustainability.
4. **Enhanced Engagement:** Interactive features such as hyperlinks, videos, and surveys can be included in electronic newsletters, making the content more engaging and interactive for members.
5. **Broader Reach:** Digital newsletters can be easily forwarded and shared, helping to reach potential new members and expanding the club's community.
6. **Timely Updates:** Members can receive real-time updates about urgent matters such as rally event changes, maintenance tips, or important club announcements.
7. **Archiving and Accessibility:** Electronic newsletters can be easily archived and accessed at any time, providing a valuable resource for new and existing members to reference past issues.

By implementing an electronic newsletter, the Auto-Sleeper Owners Club can enhance communication, reduce costs, and create a more engaged and informed membership base.

Editor

The Future of Motorhome Design: How AI is Revolutionising the Market

The motorhome industry in the UK is undergoing a transformative phase, with artificial intelligence (AI) at the helm of this evolution. As technology continues to advance, AI is playing an increasingly pivotal role in designing motorhomes that are not only more efficient and user-friendly but also tailored to the specific needs and preferences of consumers.

For a bit of fun. Here's a look at the editor's Ai impression of an autosleeper VW ID.BUZZ.



Upton upon Severn:

A Charming Riverside Town in Worcestershire

Upton upon Severn is a picturesque market town nestled on the banks of the River Severn in Worcestershire, England. Renowned for its scenic beauty, historic charm, and vibrant cultural scene, Upton upon Severn offers visitors and residents alike a rich blend of natural and man-made attractions.

Historical Background

Upton upon Severn's history dates back to at least the Roman era, with evidence of early settlements in the area. However, it flourished significantly in the medieval period, largely due to its strategic location on the River Severn, which was a crucial transport and trade route. The town's medieval heritage is still evident today in its narrow streets, historic buildings, and the iconic Upton Bridge, which has been a crossing point since the 14th century.

One of the town's most notable historical landmarks is the Pepperpot, a distinctive octagonal tower that was once part of the original church of St. Peter and St. Paul. The Pepperpot now serves as a local heritage centre, offering insights into Upton's rich past.



Architecture and Landmarks

Upton upon Severn boasts a variety of architectural styles, reflecting its long and varied history. The town is home to several Grade II listed buildings, including traditional timber-framed houses, elegant Georgian structures, and Victorian edifices. The Parish Church of St. Peter and St. Paul, rebuilt in the 18th century, is a focal point with its striking architecture and serene churchyard.

Festivals and Culture

The town is famously known as the "Festival Town," hosting a range of annual events that attract visitors from far and wide. These include the Upton Jazz Festival, Upton Folk Festival, Mingle Lane Festival, Sunshine Festival and the Upton Blues Festival, each celebrating different genres of music with live performances, workshops, and vibrant street parties. These festivals not only showcase local talent but also bring international artists to this small riverside town, fostering a rich cultural exchange.



Festivals For All

Upton Jazz Festival

One of the most prominent music festivals in Upton upon Severn is the Upton Jazz Festival, established in 1985. This festival is a celebration of jazz music in all its forms, from traditional New Orleans jazz to contemporary styles. Held over a long weekend in June, it turns the town into a bustling hub of musical activity. Venues range from intimate pub settings, offering diverse experiences for



Upton Blues Festival



Another major event in the town's musical calendar is the Upton Blues Festival, which takes place every July. This award-winning festival is one of **the largest free** blues festivals in the UK, attracting over 20,000 visitors annually. With performances spread across multiple stages, the festival covers a wide spectrum of blues styles, from Delta and Chicago blues to modern blues rock.

Upton Folk Festival

Upton Folk Festival are delighted to be able to bring the Folk Festival back to Upton upon Severn this May Day Bank Holiday weekend

Once again, the streets will be filled with the colourful sights and joyous sounds of dancing; the waterfront will be alive with stalls and people enjoying the atmosphere, and the pubs will be full of music, song and laughter. The town will be full of visitors, happy to be back, enjoying the ambience, and exploring what the town has to offer.



Upton Sunshine Festival

Sunshine Festival is a popular weekend music festival with five stages held in Upton-upon-Severn.



Road Name Festival

Upton is famous for being the most musical town in the world. It has also been voted as the town with the rudest street name, Minge Lane. The sign has been stolen numerous times and is now firmly embedded in the wall.

In 2022, the Minge Lane Festival was established, which is a vibrant music and fancy dress festival that continues to grow in



The Minge Lane Festival showcases talented up and coming musicians who will be performing in The Star Inn and in it's beer garden. The free festival will include bands and musicians of all genres so will be something for all.

The whole town will dress up in fancy dress for this event like they did last year so all visitors are expected to come in costume the more outrageous the better.



Auto-Sleeper Owners Club Re-Launches Regalia Shop

The Auto-Sleeper Owners Club (ASOC) has officially re-opened its Regalia shop, offering members an exclusive range of merchandise and accessories. This venture marks an exciting development for the club, which has long been a hub for enthusiasts of the iconic British motorhome brand.

A New Hub for Enthusiasts

The ASOC shop aims to provide members with a way to purchase branded merchandise, parts, and accessories that reflect the quality and style synonymous with Auto-Sleeper. From clothing and lifestyle items to essential motorhome accessories, the shop is designed to meet the diverse needs of the club's passionate community.

Exclusive Merchandise

Members can now browse a selection of high-quality products featuring the Auto-Sleeper logo and other bespoke designs. The collection includes clothing such as polo shirts, jackets, and hats. Each item is crafted with the attention to detail that Auto-Sleeper owners have come to expect.



The shop has a range of club merchandising including sweatshirts, hats and much more. They are available from the Merchandising Officer by post or at some of the many rallies.

Club merchandising 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.

A Growing Community

The Re- launch of the shop is just one of the many ways the ASOC continues to support and grow its community. With a calendar full of events, rallies, and meet-ups, the club remains dedicated to bringing Auto-Sleeper owners together, fostering a sense of camaraderie and shared passion.

Looking Ahead

As the Auto-Sleeper Owners Club shop continues to expand its offerings, members can look forward to even more exciting products and exclusive deals. The club's commitment to quality and member satisfaction remains at the forefront of this new venture, ensuring that the ASOC shop becomes an integral part of the Auto-Sleeper ownership experience.

For those who haven't yet joined the Auto-Sleeper Owners Club, now is the perfect time to become a member and take advantage of all the benefits,.

Online shopping at:-

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



Your contact information

In this edition of News, we ask you all to once again consider the information that you have provided to the Club, either on your membership application form or subsequently have advised us of any changes. In particular, we are going to be using email more to communicate with you from now on so we need to be sure that we are using the correct and current email address for everyone.

We understand that many people have more than one email address and we ask that you let us know which primary email address you would wish us to use for you. To that end, and if you have changed your email address, or wish to use a different email address, please send me an email from your preferred mailbox to secretary@asoc.uk.com and I will check and amend our records accordingly. If you do submit a new email address, I would just remind you to keep an eye on your Junk or spam folder as your mail app may put emails from us there initially and you may not see them.

As Jean, our membership Secretary has requested elsewhere in this edition, please take the opportunity to advise us if you have made any other changes that we might need to know such as model of motorhome & reg number, change of address or phone number etc.

We do have some members for whom we do not have an email address. If you think you might be one of those, please let us know and consider allowing us to communicate with you in this way.

Many thanks

Dennis, your Club Secretary

**Please note our email address ends in @asoc.uk.com
a list of Committee contact emails on rear of newsletter.
website address is <https://www.asoc.uk.com>**

WEBSITE MEMBER AREA

WHY YOU NEED TO JOIN

From time to time we send an ASOC alert to those members who have subscribed to the member area.

It also means you can opt-in to receive the magazine as PDF only to your email instead of the printed copy.

You can, of course, unsubscribe at any time and you will be removed from the member area. This means you will not have any Club information or new login details should the password need to be changed.

PITCHstops

These have not been updated for many years, and we cannot confirm the accuracy of the pitchstop details. The site has been removed from the member area of the website.



auto-sleeper models

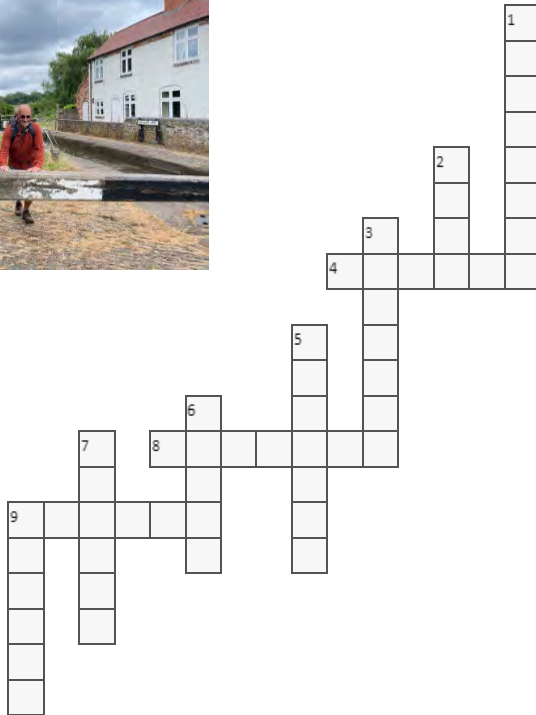
H	M	R	I	M	I	N	I	Z	M	R	M	V	S
I	E	D	W	M	S	R	T	O	S	Y	M	T	I
D	Z	T	A	D	T	Y	R	O	Y	Y	I	B	A
R	A	A	R	E	O	R	M	M	M	O	R	R	T
O	N	L	W	V	O	D	O	B	M	A	A	O	V
F	O	I	I	O	W	E	O	P	O	S	G	A	I
R	I	S	C	N	U	T	M	R	H	L	E	D	M
I	K	M	K	M	N	A	D	D	S	Y	E	W	A
A	K	A	P	E	H	I	R	I	D	E	R	A	L
F	D	N	D	G	D	O	T	T	B	Z	T	Y	V
O	Y	I	N	M	F	T	Y	Z	O	M	O	B	E
N	R	I	I	R	E	E	V	N	O	N	P	E	R
T	K	A	U	F	N	U	E	V	O	Z	A	O	N
R	M	B	S	Y	M	P	H	O	N	Y	Z	Y	N

Find 18 Auto-sleeper Models

Models are taken from the ASOC website

<https://www.asoc.uk.com/mods.html>

Quick Crossword



Across

- 4. Place to buy fresh produce in Stafford
- 8. Place to borrow books in Stafford
- 9. Historic building in Stafford



Down

- 1. Memorial structure in Stafford
- 2. Green space for recreation in Stafford
- 3. Exhibition space for art in Stafford
- 5. Venue for live performances in Stafford
- 6. Natural feature running through Stafford
- 7. Place to learn about local history in Stafford
- 9. Religious building in Stafford

For Sale



We have a Milenco BC anti-theft device, also referred to as a Clutch Claw. This fitted our 2017 Mercedes Sprinter. It prevents access to the pedals, rendering the vehicle immobile. These are commonly advertised and are therefore quite well known. As we now have a Fiat Ducato based

Warwick XL, it is now redundant. We would like £45 for it. We are based in North Shropshire. 07973 360022 Edward and Sue Parry.

Regards

Edward Parry Membership No: 11739

Two Bicycles Chameleon folding electric bikes. £385ea / £700 the pair

The original purchase was in 2014 and have hardly been used at all, probably 25-30 miles or so at the most. The batteries have been regularly charged in line with manufacturers' recommendations. They fold easily and tow can fit in the boot of a medium sized car.

The 10Ah batteries are locked onto the frame and are removable for storage. The keys for the batteries and the supplied bike lock are present (Two sets each). The batteries can be charged on the bike or removed. They give the bike a range of around 20 miles (depending upon riding conditions). It is surprisingly powerful.

The bike frame is made from aluminium and the bike weighs 20.5kg. it has Shimano 6 speed gears. Although stored in doors in my garage, there is some minor surface marking on bare metal parts from condensation. Please study the pictures.

We paid £700 for them recently and are just trying to resell them as we have realized that bike riding is not for us due to health reasons. The original price for these bikes was £800 each when new. I have carried them both easily on our Bourton. We live in Herefordshire, where you can see them and try them out and take them home.

You can contact me at technical@asoc.uk.com or 07773430639.

Many thanks
Alec



Good afternoon,

Thankyou for the guide to filling LPG tanks in the June issue. We live in Oswestry, North Shropshire, and have experienced increasing difficulty in finding a supplier of LPG. However, if you are in or passing through Shropshire, we found Robinson and Young, Shrewsbury Road, Wem, Shropshire, SY4 4PA recently. We can report that we encountered very friendly and helpful staff. They also have a pretty well stocked forecourt shop on the site. We highly recommend them. This service is on a self service basis, but staff are always willing to come and give assistance.

We note that Marquis Leisure are finding it worth investing in LPG refilling at currently three of their branches, and with the decrease in the number of vehicles propelled by LPG, this facility in general may now sit more comfortably with caravan and motorhome facilities rather than fuel station forecourts. I have approached Salop Leisure twice, making this suggestion, but have met with no response. If you are local to Salop Leisure, it may be worth your while to approach them. If they realise there is a reasonable demand, they may be more receptive to the idea.

Regards

Edward Parry

Membership No: 11739

AGM Charity.

Jan and I wish to thank all ASOC members for their generous contributions towards this years nominated charity, (Oxford Head Injury Services) who have done so much for Jan during her recovery and ongoing rehabilitation from her stroke.

The charity were extremely grateful for the amount raised.

Thank you all once again.

Jan & John Geeson 2187

You can learn more about this small charity by visiting oxfordheadinjuryservices.org.uk

Marquis Leisure Team up with VB-AirsuspensionUK

The UK's largest dealer network and delighted to announce a new working relationship with leading motorhome and campervan suspension systems supplier VB-AirsuspensionUKLtd.

Motorhome & campervan owners regularly report issues of driving stability in strong crosswinds, vehicle drift, instability in certain driving situations and rattling in the habitation area. These are just a few of the suspension related problems owners are experiencing and Marquis can now offer solutions to these problems with a variety of products from VB-Airsuspension.

Through nine of their dealer network of NCC Approved Workshop ServiceCentres, Marquis are able to fit VB-FullAir, VB-SemiAir, VB-CoilSpring and VB-FSDshock absorber systems' on most motorhomes and campervans. The fully trained staff will establish which product can offer the right solution for your needs and provide a quotation and mutually convenient installation time for you.

Commenting on the new partnership Mike Woodhouse, Managing Director - VB-AirsuspensionUKLtd said: *"We are delighted to be partnering with Marquis and expanding our retail network by showcasing the VB product range at Marquis showrooms across the country. Marquis' reputation for industry leading service is a perfect fit for VB's innovatively engineered products and we look forward to working together to improve the experience of motorhome ownership to Marquis' customers".*

Marquis Leisure's Commercial & Service Director Graham Davidson-Bowman commented *"We aim to offer a one stop shop for our customers, the VB systems further enhance our extensive service to assist owners to get the very best from their leisure vehicles. We are very impressed with the efficient implementation of the training, point of sale and shared knowledge to get these products in place for our customers. We look forward to working with VB-Airsuspension UK."*

For further details contact your local Marquis branch, visit the website www.marquisleisure.co.uk or email VBInstalls@marquisleisure.co.uk

N.B These products are not available for installation at Marquis branches in Berkshire, Exeter or Devon (Plymouth)



1

For editorial information please contact: Emma Franklin, Marketing Manager
emma.franklin@marquisleisure.co.uk

Issued by: Marketing Department, Auto-Sleepers Group Ltd T/A Marquis Leisure
Registered office: Orchard Works, Willersey, Nr Broadway, Worcs WR127QF United Kingdom

AD BLUE CRYSTALLIZATION

All new diesel vehicles manufactured since 2015 now come with this system fitted by the manufacturers. I am sure you all know how and when to fill the system, but are you aware of the crystallization of the AdBlue liquid? I, for one, did not know until I started to look into it.

The most common time that crystallization can occur is during the winter layup, which many of us do without thinking about it. As temperatures start to fall, this can certainly happen. However, unless we have a particularly hard winter, some owners may not experience any trouble, as the temperature needs to drop to about -10°C for it to start to freeze. We can have this drop, but it might only be for a short duration, so we might not notice it. If you leave a container of AdBlue partially used, this could also crystallize. Therefore, you need to ensure that you either use it all up or keep it well away from any cold source.

The fluid is also very corrosive, so please ensure you clean up any spilled fluid and wash down any paintwork thoroughly. Ad blue crystals are white in colour, so you should be able to see them at the neck of the container, should the problem occur.

It should be noted that this problem can also occur in vehicles that run at slow speeds, which I think many of us may experience.

Should you be unlucky enough to suffer from this problem, it will probably not be covered by a manufacturer's warranty, as it is outside of their control. This can cost a considerable amount to remedy, as it might result in the replacement of the system due to it being integrated into the AdBlue tank. It may also cause engine damage or even failure.

A simple way to prevent this from happening to your vehicle is to add a bottle of AdBlue system cleaner and preventative, manufactured by several different companies such as Wynn's or Forte, every time you need to top up the system. The cost is small, at below £10, compared to the cost of a system repair.

There is plenty of information on the internet about this, but I hope that by bringing it to our members' attention, it will prevent any costly repairs for you.

I found the information I have reproduced above from the following web sites.

Forteuk.co.uk Rix.co.uk Wynns.eu Newsmartsafe.com



✉ events@oxfordheadinjuryservices.org.uk

☎ 01865 326263

Mr D Downie
Auto Sleepers Owners Club

22nd May 2024



Dear Mr Downie,

On behalf of all of us at Oxford Head Injury Services I wanted to extend our sincere thanks to Auto Sleepers Owners Club.

Your donation of **£957** will go far in helping us to continue providing support, advocacy and rehabilitation to brain injury survivors. This is made even more special to us with our wonderful Jan and her husband John- members of the Auto Sleepers Owners Club coming to us every week.

Once again- thank you. We hope you all had a wonderful time away and will be sure to hear all about it from Jan and John.

Should you need any further information or have any questions please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Kindest Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Lucy Walker'.

Lucy Walker
Head of Fundraising and Marketing

OHIS is wonderful, absolutely terrific. If they weren't here I don't know what we'd do, the way they look after us and how nothing is too much trouble. After the stroke it took everything from me- they helped me get bits of myself back.

TONY – BRAIN INJURY SURVIVOR



WWW.OXFORDHEADINJURYSERVICES.ORG.UK

Registered Address: 4 Bagley Wood Road, Kennington, Oxfordshire, OX15PL

Registered Charity Number: 1156538

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NEWS

National Rally 2025

The National Rally Sub -Committee have been working to prepare for our Rally and AGM on 1st – 5th May 2025.

Martin has been busy booking the entertainers, Natalie Knight on the Friday night. On Saturday night the artists are The Conspirators, a three-piece band with two guitars and one on the drums. They play 60's,70's,80's and perhaps 90's music.

Put the dates in your diary, and we are ready to welcome new and old friends at our annual get together next May.

Liz Irvin 4636 Chair National Rally.

HELP REQUIRED again



If you are tempted to send something for possible inclusion in future Newsletters or on the ASOC Website (www.asoc.uk.com) , please don't hesitate it is always appreciated. It can be current, past or future related. You can send it to me by email or the old fashioned way by post.

Your participation is key to the success of this Newsletter, (No Articles NO News)

Cutoff date for articles for next newsletter is 10th November

Club Committee Contacts

President: Charles Trevelyan

Chair: Chris Brown *chairman@asoc.uk.com*

Vice Chair: David Thompson *vicechairman@asoc.uk.com*

Secretary: Dennis Downie *secretary@asoc.uk.com*

Treasurer: John Geeson *treasurer@asoc.uk.com*

Rally Coordinator: Martin Ross *rally@asoc.uk.com*

Technical: Alec Avery *technical@asoc.uk.com*

Club Shop: Elaine Davis *shop@asoc.uk.com*

Publications: John Morris *publications@asoc.uk.com*

Members Secretary: Jean Downie *membershipsec@asoc.uk.com*

Editor: Phill Lowe *editor@asoc.uk.com*

Exhibitions: Liz Irvin *exhibitions@asoc.uk.com*

Minute Secretary: Liz Stewart *minutesec@asoc.uk.com*

Chair, National Rally: Liz Irvin *nationalrally@asoc.uk.com*

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AUTO-SLEEPER OWNERS' CLUB

A Company Limited by Guarantee

Registered Office:

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

Terry Legg

Sad news Terry has passed away in hospital our thoughts are with Rosemary and the family at this sad time. they sold their van due to ill health. Sandra & Bernie

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