



# Auto-Sleeper Owners' Club NEWSLETTER

March 2025



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## AUTO-SLEEPER OWNERS' CLUB

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The Auto-Sleeper Owners' Club (ASOC) is hosting its 36th National Rally and Annual General Meeting (AGM) from May 1st to 5th, 2025, at the Newark Showground in Nottinghamshire. The event will feature entertainment on Friday and Saturday evenings, a quiz on Sunday, and a raffle throughout the weekend. Meals will be available



Web Site <https://www.asoc.uk.com>

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## Editor's Edit

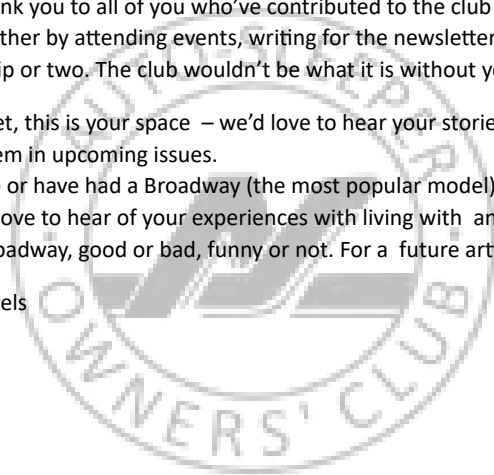
As we welcome 2025, it's a great time to reflect on all we've achieved together and look ahead to another exciting year. We've had some wonderful adventures in 2024, and the Auto-sleeper Owners' Club continues to grow, both in numbers and in the sense of community. I'm proud to say we've seen even more members joining us from all corners of the country, and our events have been more successful than ever. Whether it's been weekend meet-ups, rallies, the spirit of camaraderie is alive and well.

A huge thank you to all of you who've contributed to the club over the years, whether by attending events, writing for the newsletter, or simply sharing a tip or two. The club wouldn't be what it is without you.

Don't forget, this is your space – we'd love to hear your stories and feature them in upcoming issues.

If you have or have had a Broadway (the most popular model) in the past, we would love to hear of your experiences with living with an Auto-sleeper Broadway, good or bad, funny or not. For a future article.

Happy travels



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## NOT A CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

For the Club's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, I put together a Big Red Book presentation delivered in the format of This is Your Life, for those who remember that. It went down very well and over the intervening years I have often wondered if it could be updated so that newer members of the Club might have an idea of how things got going.

It's not really possible, largely due to the fact that most of the original contributors are no longer members. In hindsight it seems the presentation was *'timely'*.

However, I thought I might share some information from that presentation, almost 16 years ago, in answer to a question.....

### ***WHY ARE WE HERE???***

**Well, it all started with a letter. A chap called John Cox thought it might be a good idea to have an Owners Club, so he wrote to MMM with his suggestion and got about a dozen responses, all offering help.**

**Needless to say, they were ALL recruited!!!!**

**This letter was also read by a rookie employee at Auto-Sleepers, one Charles Trevelyan (one of the sons of the company's founders and our President).....**

**Charles and his brother Anthony read the letter with **both interest and** trepidation but felt (hoped) this would possibly be the end of the matter.**

## **NOT A CHAIRMAN'S CHAT** (Cont)

**NO SO!** The next week a letter arrived from the previously mentioned John Cox outlining his proposals for the formation of an Owners Club, to which said rookie responded with a polite acknowledgement, a free Company tie and a sigh of relief.

**WHEREUPON A SECOND LETTER ARRIVED!!** And Charles and Anthony really felt they should do something.....

So, John, supported by his wife Barbara, Phil and Rita Daley and Frank and Dilys Stinchcome (sound familiar? – the Bell which opens and closes the AGM....) were welcomed to Willersey to discuss matters further. Whereupon Anthony backed out of the whole affair leaving matters to the poor rookie, supported by the then Factory Manager Neville Jelfs.

Initially meetings were held in Charles' very cramped office, but the lure of the local pub, a quiet corner and a piano (??) seemed altogether more pleasing. So future meetings were held at the New Inn in Willersey accompanied by suitable refreshments and closed with Dilys playing the piano.

Things moved on apace, members were recruited, newsletters were produced (manually no less) and an AGM was organized.

## NOT A CHAIRMAN'S CHAT (Cont)

Of course, Founder Members were all able to choose their own numbers – John and Barbara 001, Phil and Rita 002 and of course what else could Charles be but 007....

Some related memories from those easy days include

- ⇒ An Auto-Sleeper Manager escaping in a rowing boat at South Cerney to avoid *yet more* Club members
- ⇒ Sitting in a marquee that was about to take off in a storm at Burnham-on-Sea
- ⇒ Arriving at Wickstead Park to find NO marquee
- ⇒ Having the AS Luton van laden with kit for another National Rally being overtaken by a hearse ..... TWICE!!

Whatever the tribulations, the expertise and professionalism of that early Committee set the seal of success for the Club. Coupled with continued enthusiasm and a sense of commitment, not just from the Committee but all those Club members who through the years have run rallies, helped out whenever and wherever they could, to ensure our Club keeps on keeping on.

Chris brown

# THE AUTO-SLEEPER OWNERS' CLUB THIRTY SIXTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AGENDA

To be held on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2025 at 10:30am  
At the Cedric Ford Pavillion, Newark and Nottingham Agricultural Society  
Showground, Newark

## Officers 2024/25

Chairman: Chris Brown, Vice Chairman: David Thompson, Secretary: Dennis Downie, Treasurer John Geeson / David Thompsn, Membership Secretary: Jean Downie, Rally Co-ordinator: Martin Ross / Carol Grain, Chair, Technical Group: Alec Avery, Newsletter Editor: Phil Lowe, Publications: John Morris, Chair, National Rally sub-committee: Liz Irvin Merchandising: Elaine Davies, Minutes Secretary: Liz Stuart, Exhibitions Officer: Liz Irvin

## AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Appointment of Tellers
3. Minutes of the 35<sup>th</sup> AGM 2024, circulated in March 2025 ASOC News
4. Notes of the 35<sup>th</sup> Open Forum 2024 circulated in March 2025 ASOC News
5. Committee Reports circulated in March 2025 ASOC News
6. Accounts for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024 circulated in March 2025 ASOC News
7. Election of Honorary Examiner for the accounts
8. Committee elections
9. Any other competent business
  - 9.1. Proposed Amendment to Articles of Association circulated in March 2025 ASOC News
10. Date of next Annual General Meeting

# Proposed Amendment to Articles of Association

## THE PROCESS OF ELECTION TO THE COMMITTEE BY VOLUNTEERS.

It has been the practice of the Club and its Members, to elect volunteers to the Committee at the AGM and then the Committee to elect *its* members to specific roles preceding the Committee Meeting that afternoon. In practice a candidate volunteers to take on a specific role and the process of annual elections by the Committee, involving either the President or a Vice President has become an unnecessary exercise.

Therefore, in order to more clearly reflect the fact that volunteers for the Committee, are sought, and volunteer for a specific role, the Committee is proposing that volunteers are elected to the roles they have volunteered for at the AGM. This role they agree to undertake for a period of 3 years, at the end of which term they are eligible to either stand for re-election in the same or an alternative role, or stand down.

To this end the Committee is proposing a Resolution to Amend the Articles of Association relating to the election of Committee Members.

This Amendment also reflects the way in which other bodies, specifically CMC, are moving towards.

A further resolution to Article 41 is proposed to include Proxy Voting.

### RESOLUTION TO AMEND ARTICLES 37 TO 42

#### MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

37. A Committee Member shall be elected to the role for which they have volunteered for a term of 3 years. Any Committee Members retiring at the end of this term may offer themselves for re-election. The position of Chairman will be restricted to two re-elections which will result in a maximum term of 9 years.
38. Any Committee member retiring before completing their term of office shall be replaced by a co-opted volunteer, to be elected at the next AGM for a term of 3 years.
40. Nominations for specific roles on the Committee, with the written consent of the member nominated and signatures of the proposer and seconder, must be submitted to be received by the Secretary on a given date not less than forty-five clear days before the meeting at which an election is to take place.
41. If, by the closing date, there are more nominations for the Committee than there are vacancies, the Secretary shall prepare voting papers, in alphabetical order, of the names of those nominated. Only members present at the Annual General Meeting, or a duly appointed proxy shall be entitled, but not obliged, to vote for as many candidates as there are vacancies. The candidates receiving the greatest number of votes, up to the number of vacancies, will be declared elected. In the event of two or more candidates receiving an equal number of votes, the Chairman of the meeting shall have a casting vote.
42. The Management Committee must include Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. The Secretary shall by virtue of that appointment act as Secretary of the Company. Other roles will be identified as required and volunteers sought to fill them.

**The Auto-Sleeper Owners Club**  
**Thirty Fifth Annual General Meeting Minutes**  
**Held on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2024 at 10.30 am**

Committee:	Steve Ryan	Chairman
	Chris Brown	Vice Chair
	Dennis Downie	Secretary
	Carol Ryan	Treasurer
	Alec Avery	Technical Chairman
	Martin Ross	Rally Co-ordinator
	Liz Irvin	National Rally Chair & Exhibitions
	John Morris	Publications
	Phill Lowe	Editor

**1. Apologies**

Elizabeth Stewart	10354	
Dave and Wyn Crabbe		5213
Geoffrey and Mary Dye		7296
Andrew and Betty Entwistle		807
Pete and Rita Hardstaff		9702
Tony and Julia Lain		4437
Sheila Peirson		11513
Bob and Glenis Radford		11410
Mo Valentine		2776
David and Penny McRoberts		11399
Jean Downie		10117
Andrew and Andria Saines	8264	

**2. The Appointment of Tellers**

John and Jean Gutsell were proposed by Jean Sellers 1051 and seconded by Bob Warwick 6591, a vote was taken and they were appointed as Tellers.

**3. Minutes of the AGM 2023**

The Minutes were circulated in March News and there were no comments or amendments. Acceptance of the Minutes was proposed by John Geeson 2187 and seconded Bernie Wisely 16. The Minutes were accepted and subsequently signed as approved. Vote for acceptance was 120 for and 2 abstentions, there were no proxy votes.

**4. Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

## **The Auto-Sleeper Owners Club**

### **Thirty Fifth Annual General Meeting (Cont)**

**5. Minutes of the Open Forum 2023**

The Minutes were circulated in the March News and there were no amendments. The Minutes were proposed by Steve Pollard 8879 and seconded by Arthur Allen 11386. The Minutes were accepted and signed as approved. Votes for acceptance were 116 for and 6 abstentions.

**6. Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

**7. Accounts for the year ending 31 December 2023.**

The Treasurer went through the Accounts with the meeting. Pat Udale 6849 raised a query on the £9,000 profit apparently made in 2023. SR explained there was a delay\* in getting the membership funds into the Bank Account. Consequently circa £3,000 which should have gone into the 2022 Accounts could not be processed until the early part of this year. [**\*Post Meeting Note:** delay was due to postal strikes during the latter part of 2022.] Acceptance of the Accounts was proposed by Trish Pratt 1081 and seconded by Heather Tidbury 38. The Accounts were accepted.

**8. Annual Subscriptions**

The Treasurer recommended an increase in the membership fee to £25 per annum. The increase was proposed by the Treasurer and seconded by Sandra Wisely 16. This was voted upon with 111 For 8 Against 3 Abstentions.

**9. Committee Reports**

The Committee Reports were circulated in the March News. There were no questions or comments.

**10. Honorary Examiner**

Carol Ryan thanked John Tidbury for examining the 2023 Accounts and for agreeing to continue in the role of Examiner for 2024.

# **The Auto-Sleeper Owners Club**

## **Thirty Fifth Annual General Meeting (Cont)**

### **11. Committee Elections**

There are 4 vacancies on the Committee and the following nominations have been received:

Phill Lowe

Elizabeth Stewart

As there were fewer nominations than vacancies the nominees were elected en bloc.

**There are still vacancies on the Committee.**

### **12. Resolution to amend Article 4(b) to the Articles of Association.**

Dennis Downie explained the background to the amendment to Article 4(b) and the Resolution:

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

The Resolution was proposed by the Chairman, voted upon and agreed. The Articles of Association will be amended accordingly.

### **13. Any Other Business**

There was none.

**Date of the Next Annual General Meeting 3rd May 2025 at 10.30am at Newark.**

## The Auto-Sleeper Owners Club

### Notes on the Open Forum Held on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2024

1. Martin Ross, Rally Co-ordinator, explained that as he is temporarily without a van there is some question whether he will be able to Marshal Shepton Mallett Show, Briarfields and Southport. So he is looking for volunteers to run these rallies should he be unable to do so. John Geeson suggested a whip round to get Martin a new van, which he whole heartedly seconded.....
2. The only outstanding issue from the last Open Forum was the Resolution on 30 year membership, which has been addressed in the AGM.
3. Trish Pratt 1081 requested a show of hands to have the magazine back monthly. This indicated a majority of the meeting would be in favour of this.

**Committee Response** Chris Brown, Vice chair, said the Committee will continue to keep it under review but asked how many people actually contributed articles in the last 6 months. 2 of the 122 members attending the Open forum had. Chris Brown then asked if the membership actually wanted the magazine or just the rally information.

4. There was an agreement it was the rally information, but Janis Wood 4201 said it was the information, technical articles, and advertisements. She said she was happy to pay the extra subscription as long as the extra money went to the magazine.

**Committee Response** Chris Brown explained that the committee cannot guarantee the increase will go to the magazine because there are other expenses that are increasing, but re-iterated the committee will keep it under review.

John Morris, Publications, explained that if members want to know about rallies the information is on the website. Yes, there is a reluctance to use this medium, but the information *is* there. We can also send it by e-mail.

5. Arthur Allen 11386 explained that Rotary International Caravan and Motorhomes section use a web-based system for booking rallies. The system is easy to use and maybe could be looked at by ASOC. [He subsequently agreed to have a chat with Phill Lowe after the meeting.

## The Auto-Sleeper Owners Club

### Notes on the Open Forum (Cont.)

6. Val Pippard 8862 asked if everyone gets a postal version of the Newsletter regardless of whether they take it electronically.

**Committee Response** John Morris said this is not the case. He also confirmed there about 65 take the PDF version only.

7. Darryl Nolan 9652 said he felt the Committee did a very, very good job, they're very stretched as it is and can't get new members to come on. It's placing extra stress on the committee – other organisations may publish every 2 months, but they are commercially funded. He felt a monthly magazine was really onerous on the committee.

**Committee Response** Steve Ryan, Chairman, did confirm that finding time to write articles for the magazine every month was difficult.

8. Beverley Denton 11252 suggested changing the default to the electronic version with an option to opt in for the paper version.

**Committee Response** This will definitely be considered.

9. It was further suggested there be a discount for those not taking the paper copies, but it was explained that a two- tier system would create extra work.
10. John Geeson 2187 asked John Morris to confirm that the digital version went online when he actually received his paper copy, which he did. He then highlighted the fact that for some people it can take up to a week to receive their posted copy and the magazine could already be online, so actually taking a postal copy means some of the members will lose out and there's nothing anyone can do about postal deliveries. If the magazine went PDF to your mailbox everyone would get it at the same time.

Of course you would have to actually open your mailbox..... We send out information, notice of special events, etc to 600 or 700 people and maybe 400 will open them.

11. Liz Irvin, National Rally Chair, pointed out that she can access the magazine online while in New Zealand during the winter.

## **The Auto-Sleeper Owners Club**

### **Notes on the Open Forum (Cont.)**

12. Peter Murphy 6527 asked for an easier password to access the magazine online. John Morris explained that the construction of the password must conform to security requirements. He also can't issue individual passwords – if the server crashed or had to be closed down for some reason, he can't be expected to re-issue umpty thousand individual passwords.
13. Gerard Mitchell 11257 suggested saving your password so it automatically comes up.
14. John Smith 3242 wanted to thank the Committee for all the work they've done during the past year. This comment was applauded.
15. Dennis Down, Secretary, informed the membership of the grave illness of Ian Canham, a member who joined in 1999 and who's in his early 90s now and was rallying up until last year.

Steve Ryan thanked the Committee for their support during his time as Chairman. He was then presented with a token of appreciation for all the work he's done by the Vice Chairman. Stuart Wood who is also standing down from the committee will also receive a similar token. Stuart has been unable to join us this week-end due to Yvonne's illness.

On a final note, Phill Lowe, Editor, pointed out that he came on board on the basis of producing a magazine quarterly, he wouldn't be able to do it monthly. He also confirmed the deadline for the next magazine is 10<sup>th</sup> May 2024.

Auto Sleeper Owners Club

Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024

<u>2023</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>2024</u>
	Membership Subscriptions	
3,245.00	Donations received	
	Merchandise	
1,243.37	Raffle & Fund Raising - National Rally Charity	
	Interest on Deposit & BACS A/Cs	
13,889.45	National Rally & AGM 2023	0.00
925.60	National Rally & AGM 2024	20,760.38
0.00	Rally Deposits for 2024 Returned	1,332.04
	Sundries	
<u>40,941.11</u>	Total Income	<u>38,839.18</u>
<u>Expenditure</u>		
	Club Administration	
	AGM	1,000.00
	Capital Equipment	
	Digital (Zoom & Dropbox etc)	
2,513.49	Meetings & Travel	4,599.63
	Membership (Packs, cards)	
1,254.13	Membership Postage	
	Printing & Stationery	
	Postage Other	
3,535.36	Newsletter Printing	3,726.39
2,202.47	Newsletter Postage	2,153.20
	Web site (Hosting and Addresses)	
14,928.49	National Rally	19,633.28
1,243.37	Raffle & Fund Raising - National Rally to Charity	957.49
	Rally plaques & leaflets etc	
1,335.60	Rally Deposits for 2025	0.00
819.32	Merchandise	
<u>31,073.15</u>		<u>36,672.81</u>
9,867.96	Surplus brought forward	2,166.37
<u>32,892.39</u>		<u>35,058.76</u>
	Represented by:	
	Cash at bank-current NW A/C 54359	
	Cash at bank-deposit NW A/C 54367	
	BACS Payments NW A/C 54375	
	The National Rally 24 NW A/C 55133	1,484.67
1,275.53		<u>1,882.80</u>
<u>32,892.39</u>		<u>35,058.76</u>

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

# ***Committee Members Reports***

## **2025 AGM CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

You will remember that I took over as Chairman after the AGM last year. What you may not remember is that the Committee was left without a Treasurer or a Vice Chairman. To say that I felt a little 'challenged' was putting it mildly, although Carol Ryan did say she'd stay on until we got someone. However, things are never as black as they seem and before the day was out we had volunteers to be co-opted for Treasurer and Vice Chairman, John Geeson and David Thompson.

Later in the year Martin Ross also had to step down from the Committee due to ill health, and Carol Grain volunteered to take over the role of Rally Co-ordinator. The plan being that Martin would give her all the support he could in the early weeks.

You will recall how shocked we all were when Martin died in November.

This meant of course, that Carol was somewhat adrift. But determined not to let the Club, or indeed Martin, down she got on with it and I have to say a huge THANK YOU to the Rally Marshals for supporting her during her struggles to come to grips with, what is, quite a challenging job, especially for someone not widely experienced in rallying. We intend having a Rally Marshals Meeting at the National Rally in 2025, which will give you all the opportunity to get to know her better.

The beginning of 2025 has also seen John Geeson having to resign from the Committee, due to his experiencing health issues, which combined with Jan's condition has made it impossible for him to continue. I can't say how grateful the Committee were that John offered to take on this role and in doing so made the first few months of my tenure easier than it might have been. So, THANK YOU John.

David Thompson has taken over this role and will present himself to be formally elected to post at the AGM.

The 2024 AGM also saw the election of two new Committee Members; Phill Lowe as Editor and Liz Stewart as Minutes Secretary. Both have taken their respective roles in their stride and are doing marvellous jobs.

## ***Committee Members Reports (Cont)***

The Finances for 2024 look reasonably healthy with a surplus of just over £2,000 on the year, largely due to the reduced Newsletter costs. The National Rally was also just over £1,000 in profit this year, not quite sure what the team did right, but maybe we can do it again in 2025.

The European rallies continue to be popular with the French rally getting booked up within 10 days of the December ASOC News popping through the letterbox.

The 2025 UK Rally Programme looks great and will be reported on by Carol Grain.

What can we promise you for 2025? Well, more of the same really – an enthusiastic and committed Committee running your Club as effectively as we know how.

**Chris Brown**  
**Chairman**

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### **MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY REPORT FOR 2025 AGM**

There has been an increase in the membership fee to £25 from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024. The majority of members remembered to pay the increase, although I have had a substantial number who paid the old fee of £20. This delayed them having their membership renewed and made renewals more difficult at a time when they come in thick and fast.

Many members have contacted me asking “how do I renew?”  
How can we make it clearer?

Payments were fairly evenly split between BACS and Cheque. We do prefer BACS payments where possible.

There are still a lot of members who have not yet renewed for 2025. At the time of writing there are 400 non renewals. This number is up on last year’s figure of 304. Membership renewals are still trickling in.

I would like to welcome our new members and hope they can join us on future rallies.

Jean Downie Membership Secretary

## ***Committee Members Reports (Cont)***

### **TECHNICAL REPORT FOR AGM 2025**

I cant believe its been 2 years since I joined the AOC committee, and been a continual learning curve, as most of these questions I have been asked to reply to have been on older models, where members have been trying to solve a number of problems from graphics to parts procurement.

Over the past 12 months, I have had an average of 9/10 enquiries a month, which is manageable and encouraging so that our members still find this helpful. I hope that I have been able to hep all those members to resolve their issues regarding obtaining replacement parts and information on their vehicles.

The majority of the enquiries I have received were about older models, some of which, I have not seen or heard off, so it has been , and still is, a steep uphill learning curve, but one I have enjoyed doing.

I always appreciate feedback from members enquiries, as this is also how I can find out and learn from what help and advice I have given. So PLEASE let me know if what I have said or done has really helped you. I have also trialed sending out an email to owners/members , where I think that members who own specific models may be able to help fellow members, so if you do receive one of these, please bare in mind that you will be assisting a fellow member, who needs help with possible images to help with their enquiry that I, unfortunately, do not have the necessary information requested. It could be you one day that also needs this help. Feedback from you is important, as I need to know if requesting this help from members really works or not.

During the coming year, my aim will be to update hints and tips items, and perhaps even add them. If there are any that you also think could do with a refresh or even a new item, please let me know via the technical email.

Finally, I look forward to meeting more of you at the AGM or on the rally field, so please come up and introduce yourselves.

Alec

## ***Committee Members Reports (Cont)***

### **Vice Chairman Report**

I took on this role at the 2024 AGM and have spent the year mainly learning about the club and its management. I along with my wife Ruth are new to Motorhomes having spent many happy years caravanning. I have held many committee positions over the years with other clubs and look forward to continuing to work alongside the other ASOC Committee Members.

David Thompson

Vice Chairman

---

### **Rally Co-Ordinator report for ASOC AGM**

My name is Carol Grain and I was co-opted onto the committee to replace Martin last November. In a past life I was a Special Needs Teacher in a secondary in Chester. My husband John and I plus our three children were caravaners for thirty years before buying our first Swift motorhome in 2017 when our children had fled the nest. We then bought our Auto-Sleeper Broadway in 2021 and have been members of the club since.

The rally programme for 2025 is well underway and many were passed to Phil ready for the March magazine. The Whitemead rally, (March 10<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>) which in previous years has been fully booked, plus had a waiting list, has been struggling this year to get the numbers, which is a concern. We have a new rally in April in Dawlish followed by the AGM a few days later. Following the AGM the next rallies are not until June. We also have two rallies already booked for 2026.

Carol

## ***Committee Members Reports (Cont)***

### **Publications Annual Report**

John Morris

#### **Websites:**

The main website is updated regularly as required with information which is mainly in the member area. We are adding event details as rally information with booking information when they become available from the Rally Coordinator.

The PitchSTOPS website listing Aires and campsites as used by members has been shut down because the information may be out of date, and because no new sites have been added for quite a while. To reinstate, we would need more sites sent to us

The LPG website is still active at the moment. The site has not been updated for a while as it is only updated as we hear of any additions or deletions from members. We suggest that a telephone call to any of the LPG stations listed before going as they may have discontinued LPG.

The website may be shut down in the future as other sites are available for LPG information.

Traveller Magazine: This is not produced on a regular basis, and is only available as a digital option, which is readable across all devices. Those who read it on a laptop or desktop might find reducing the browser size a little easier to read.

#### **Mailing Alerts**

We use Mailchimp, a bulk mailing programme to send information to member email. Some members decide to unsubscribe from these. This means they are removed from any further information in this way, even if they have a different email address listed on their membership details we hold.

## ***Committee Members Reports (Cont)***

### **Secretary Report 2025**

During my second year in the role of the Club and Company Secretary, there have been thankfully few bumps in the road. It remained a steep learning curve during the year, having “dropped the ball” by forgetting to register Phil Lowe as a director following the AGM, I technically, missed a statutory deadline by a wide margin. I found the staff at Companies House very helpful with no hint of slapped wrist or sanction.

Faced with the shocking and very unexpected loss of Martin Ross, our Rally Co-ordinator, who died in November, I had the sad duty of reporting and removing his name from Companies House as a Director of ASOC. More happily I was able to register Carol Grain as his successor and welcome her as our new Rally Co-ordinator.

I would like to pay tribute to Martin for the quiet, friendly and effective way in which he served the Club.

I will continue in 2025/6 to act as your secretary. However, I would like to stand down following the 2026 AGM, when my 3-year term is complete. I will need a new Secretary at the 2026 AGM, after which, I can promise support and an orderly handover.

Best wishes to all my fellow members Dennis Downie

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### **Acting Treasurers Report**

As you may know I took on this role very recently due to John’s Geesons resignation.

As I’ve found with other banks nothing is straight forward, at the time of writing this report (15/02/25): -

1. My application for online banking has been declined due to a signature missing. I will be reviewing the application and rectifying any issues and will re-submit in due course.
2. John has kindly been sorting out the books and records removing anything that was outdated or not relevant anymore. I expect to receive the books etc by the end of next week.
3. I currently have no access to the bank so please bear with me until its sorted. I will strive to get things properly in place as soon as possible and hopefully I can update you with positive news at the AGM meeting.

David Thompson Vice Chairman / Acting Treasurer

## ***Committee Members Reports (Cont)***

### **MERCHANDISING REPORT for 2025 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Elaine Davis**

John & I purchased our Auto-Sleeper Kingham in August 2021 we joined the Auto-Sleeper Owners Club and attended the AGM the following year. Since then we have been on rallies in the UK & Europe. We have met many likeminded people and have forged some great friendships, all this would not been possible had we not joined the ASOC.

At the end of the AGM 2024 there was still a vacancy to look after the Merchandising with Stuart & Yvonne stepping down. I decided to volunteer.

Firstly I have to say a huge thank you for the support I have received from Stuart Wood since taking over the Club Shop.

I emailed Stuart with a list of questions and in no time at all Stuart responded to all my queries and has continued to support me whenever I have had a question.

Also all the committee members have been very supportive in helping me to get up and running.

Mick Hughes has been very helpful on the printing side of the Van Names advising on fonts and colours ect. Orders promptly supplied.

It has been a slow process getting to grips with the original supplier in Huddersfield. Link to website was old and trying to pin down prices and what was being supplied was difficult.

I have since found a supplier in Gloucestershire which is local to me. This means I can actually see the stock and choose from their wide selection. I hope to introduce some new lines and colorways . Also introduce a wider range of sizes including ladies sizes rather than just unisex. The prices are comparable with the original supplier. Although there has been a slight price increase this is to be expected.

Online shop to be updated with new lines. Purchases can be paid for by Card payment or BACS.

Sales were slow to start but did pick, hopefully this will continue to improve with some new lines.

I will have survey/suggestion sheets at the AGM Club Shop to gauge what people would like to be able to purchase as ASOC merchandise.I hope to have a selection of the new lines available at the AGM for sale.

So get you thinking caps on and let me know what you would like to see in the ASOC shop!

## ***Committee Members Reports (Cont)***

### **Auto-Sleepers Owners' Club Newsletter Editor's Report**

As we reflect on another fantastic year for the Auto-Sleepers Owners' Club (ASOC), it is a pleasure to present this Editor's Report. Our club continues to thrive, bringing together motorhome enthusiasts who share a passion for adventure, camaraderie, and the exceptional quality of Auto-Sleepers vehicles.

**Club Communications & Publications** Throughout the year, our club newsletter has remained a vital link between members, providing news, trip reports, technical advice, and features on member experiences. Regular contributions from members have made the newsletter a dynamic and informative resource, and I extend my heartfelt thanks to all who have shared their stories, tips, and photos.

#### **Highlights from the Year**

- **Member Contributions:** The newsletter has seen a rise in submissions, from detailed travelogues to practical motorhome modifications and maintenance guides.
- **Rallies & Events Coverage:** Reports from our well-attended rallies have provided valuable insights and inspiration for future trips.
- **Technical Support:** Our technical articles and Q&A sections have been particularly well-received, offering guidance on common Auto-Sleepers issues and enhancements.

**Looking Ahead** As we move forward, we aim to further develop our publications, incorporating more interactive content and presentation, member spotlights, and expert advice columns. We encourage all members to continue contributing their experiences and suggestions to make our club communications even stronger.

Thank you for your ongoing support, and I look forward to another year of engaging content and shared adventures.

**Phill**

Editor, Auto-Sleepers Owners' Club

# RALLIES 2025

"As the newsletter is published quarterly, rally details may be out of date. Please check the latest information on the ASOC website for the most up-to-date details." [www.asoc.uk.com/eventinfo.html](http://www.asoc.uk.com/eventinfo.html)

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**10 -14 March 2025 (4 nights)**

## **Whitemead Forest Park**

**WHITEMEAD IS NOW FULLY BOOKED.**

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## **Cofton Holiday Park**

Star Cross, Dawlish, Devon EX6 8RP

**Tuesday April 22nd - Sunday April 27th**

**closing date for the rally bookings is 10th March**

Full facility site on hard standing pitches with electric hook up.(see below)

£5 rally fee plus £120 per unit site fee Total of £125.00

Electric charges are not inclusive in the standard pricing and will be charged in addition to the site fee on a pre paid meter dependant on usage.

This can be topped up anytime or unused payment is refunded on departure.

*(this may sound a bit unusual but we found it easy and economical and totally dependent on how much you use with refunds direct to your bank.)*

Site fee includes a non refundable £10 deposit per unit.

Strictly no arrivals before 12.00 pm (midday) or up to 6.00 pm

Departure by 10.00 am on the last day although a late stay can be arranged via the reception for an additional charge dependant on pitch availability.

A popular site that we have used in the past, in a good location to explore Devon.

Bus stops outside of the site for Exeter, Dawlish and Teignmouth etc.

Rally slips and cheques for £125.00 with return envelope or "neatly legible" e-mail for confirmation and any additional information regarding pre paid electric etc.

Bacs payment to :

Brian Ellis

*Reference:* Your surname and membership number, on back of cheques please.

BACs information available on request.

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

Phone: 01278 784524 or mobile : 07711 375323

**1 – 5 May 2025**

## **National Rally & AGM**

### **Newark Showground, Nottingham**

with electric hookups

There will be exhibitions in the Sir Stuart Goodwin Pavilion

Meals available to book each evening

Entertainment on Friday and Saturday nights And lots, lots more

Applications to Chris Brown as soon as possible (event and contact details on the booking form).

Booking forms are available online, containing all the information you need.

Liz Irvin and the National Rally Team will be on hand throughout to help you.

The Auto-Sleeper Owners' Club (ASOC) is hosting its National Rally and Annual General Meeting (AGM) from May 1st to 5th, 2025, at Newark Showground in Nottingham. This event is a wonderful opportunity for Auto-Sleeper motorhome enthusiasts to come together, share experiences, and enjoy a variety of activities. The rally will feature social gatherings, live entertainment, and educational workshops tailored for members. Additionally, the AGM will provide insights into the club's activities and future plans. For more details and booking information, please visit the ASOC events page <https://www.asoc.uk.com/eventinfo.html>

Find the perfect regalia at our shop



## **Details for the Wigginton Rally in June.**

**15th to 20th June 2024 (5 Nights) Wigginton Grasshoppers FC 82 Rally Mill Lane, Wigginton, York YO32 2PY**

**Bookings open from 2nd April 2025**

Rally Marshals: Les & Carolyn Lamley. 07923 054306 & Les and Pat Dale

Site fees: £13.00 per van per night

Rally fee: £5.00 couple. £2.50 Single

Booking slips and cheques payable to:

Mrs C Lamley,

6 Azalea Close,

Lutterworth,

Leicestershire LE17 4FR

Include an email for booking confirmation.

Site details: This is a greenfield site with water, chemical disposal, toilets, showers and changing rooms plus a club room for socialising.

Area information: A bus stop at the site entrance has regular buses to York and Haxby Village where there are local shops, supermarkets, takeaways and pubs.

The site is convenient for cycling both locally and into York. York is a place of enormous historical interest with lots to see and do.

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 the left signposted Sports Club Playing Fields.

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**TURCKHEIM RALLY NOW FULLY BOOKED**

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2025**

**BEVERLEY RALLY – Manor Farm, Woodmansey, Beverley HU17 0SA**

Rally Marshals: Glyn & Sue Tomkins

Emergency Contact 07968 130051

Site Fee £28.50, including EHU, Shower & Toilets

Rally Fee £5.00 couples, £2.50 singles

Please send a cheque to

Glyn Tomkins,

The Close,

Broomfield,

Clayton,

Bradford West Yorks

BD14 6PJ,

along with a SAE or legible email for confirmation and directions

The pitches are grass on a the Rally Field,

**NO DOGS**

There are bus links to Hull, Beverley and the coast. Beverley is a small market town, with a beautiful Minster, thriving market on a Saturday. Interesting museums in Hull and plenty of cycling and walking opportunities in the area. The site is ½ mile from a nursery with café, 12mins walk to the Pub. Buses ¼ mile. Friday night is Pie Night, by pre order, Saturday Night is Pizza Night, neither to be missed.

Limited to 20 Vans, **please reply before end of April 2025**

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# Chatsworth House Golden Gates Rally

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June – Wednesday 2nd July 2025 (4 nights)**

**Rally Marshals Jackie and Al Buckett. Mobile No 07818 006733**

**Assistant Marshals Jackie and John Moss**

**Pitch fees £10 per night. Rally fee £3 per couple and £1.50 for singles, making it £43. For a couple and 41.50 for singles.**

Rally slips and cheques payable to:

Mr A Buckett,  
16 St Margarets Drive,  
Walmer, Deal,  
Kent CT14. 7UJ

or **BANK TRANSFER**. Please enclose S.A.E. 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.**

This is a greenfield site at the quiet and wooded end of the park with water point and elsan facilities only. NO ELECTRICITY. Refuse sacks will be provided. Dogs are welcome and must be kept on a lead at all times. As this is a slightly sloping field, levelling blocks will be required.

The village of Baslow with shops, pubs and buses to Bakewell, Sheffield and Chesterfield is a quarter of a mile across the fields.

Deer, Hares and Badgers are abundant in the area. Chatsworth House and gardens plus excellent restaurants are a mile away down on the estate road. No entrance fee reductions unfortunately.

Rally is limited to 25 vans.

**BOOKINGS OPEN 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025**

# 10<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> July 2025 (5nights) Leon Field, St Ives, Huntingdon, Cambs PE27 5ER

Rally Marshals Jackie and Al Buckett Mobile No 07818 006733

Assistant Marshals Jackie and John Moss

**Greenfield site – No electricity – No toilets.**

**(Charging facilities available for mobility scooters only)**

Site fee: £10 per night. Rally fee £2 per couple and 1.50 singles. Total for 5 nights £52 per couple and 51.50 per singles.

Rally slips and cheques payable to:

Mr A Buckett,  
16 St Margarets Drive,  
Walmer, Deal,  
Kent CT14. 7UJ

or **BANK TRANSFER**. Please enclose S.A.E. 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 and 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.

Dogs on leads are welcome.

**PLEASE DO NOT** arrive before 12pm on Thursday. Rally closes 11am on Tuesday. Rally limited to 40 vans.

**Do not enter St Ives town centre.** Follow directions.

**APPLICATIONS OPEN ON THE 1<sup>ST</sup> APRIL 2025**

## Stafford Boat Club Rally

**5 nights arriving Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> July to Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> July (Following on from Leon's Field).**

**£20 per night plus £5 rally fee or £3 for singles. That is £105 or £103**

**Limit 24 vans minimum 4 nights**

The Boat Club has level short grass pitches with electricity.

Showers and toilets are available plus elsan and rubbish bins. Dogs must be on a leash.

The site is a large secure canal marina and maintenance centre with an excellent club house and cheap bar. In which we traditionally play games some nights.

Dogs not allowed inside but may use the balcony. We organise a walk up the canal and also have a pub meal on the last day.

There is a steep road of about a third of a mile to supermarkets and excellent butchers plus the bus stops to Stafford, Sheffield or Litchfield. The National Arboretum is a short drive away.

Medical services are nearby. Canal fishing and tuition available onsite.

We will send out a map for the Club nearer the time.

Rally Marshals. Peter and Janet Murphy

Assisted by Carol and John Grain

Phone 07746293022.

Apply to:

Janet Murphy

9 Pennine Rd

Hazel Grove

Stockport

SK75BG.

[Piscator2004@btinternet.com](mailto:Piscator2004@btinternet.com)

**Please Send cheques for the full amount with the application form. For BACs transfers apply with the online or paper form, ask and we will give you the details.**

## 7<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> August 2025 REDCAR

A level grass site in the grounds of the Redcar Rugby Club. 5 minutes' walk to the beach, it is also a good base for walking, cycling and exploring other resorts and villages along the coast, notably Marske, Saltburn and Whitby via a regular bus service. Redcar itself can also be accessed either by bus or via a 30 minute stroll along the promenade. Redcar has numerous shops, pubs, cafes and fish and chip shops, including Pacittos – famous for lemon topped ice cream.

The club house bar opens at 5 – 11pm where meals are available on certain nights. There are showers and toilets.  
Dogs are welcome on leads.

Site Fee: £48 Rally Fee: £3/ person.

Booking either by email and BACS to **Peter & Chris Brown** [pcb7ty@btinternet.com](mailto:pcb7ty@btinternet.com) account details will be emailed, or by post and cheque to:-

Peter & Chris Brown,  
5 Kenilworth Walk,  
Cheadle,

Stoke on Trent, ST10 1WA.

Confirmation will be via email. Please note there will be no response during June but applications can be handed over at the National Rally.

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

# 14th- 17th August The Western Motorhome Show Malvern .

Emergency telephone 07885812512

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

Book direct online at [outandaboutlive.co.uk/shows](http://outandaboutlive.co.uk/shows) ( new digital booking system this year) special club site fees still apply.

Arrive Thursday £87.15 .

Bookings for Saturday night entertainment must be made and paid direct to warners. Application's close on July 30th.

Then you MUST complete a club rally slip and return it with the rally fee £3 couples /£2 singles, cheques payable to:-

Gary Wanklin

18 Beverley Way

Malvern Worcs

WR141LA

Telephone 01886832364 .

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



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4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> September 2025 The Southwest Motorhome & Campervan Show,  
Shepton Mallet.

**CANCELLED**

# **Briarfields Touring Caravan Park Cheltenham GL51 0SS**

## **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> – Saturday 19th September 2025 ( 5 Nights )**

Rally Marshals: Brian & Linda Ellis

Site Fees £135 for 5 nights. (£27 per night) Rally Fee £5 Total £140.

No Bookings before July 2025 please

Please send your rally slip and a CHEQUE for £140.00 payable to Brian Ellis Together with a clearly written e-mail address please or an SAE for confirmation and directions.

To:- Brian Ellis,  
52 Golf Links Road,  
Burnham on Sea,  
Somerset TA8 2pp

Telephone :- 01278 784524 Mobile :- 07711 375323 e mail:- [brianasoc2360@yahoo.com](mailto:brianasoc2360@yahoo.com)

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

This is an adult 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 its 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.

There is also a daily service to Oxford which allows you approximately 5 hours to explore the city before returning you to Cheltenham.

This rally follows on shortly after the popular St. Cross, Winchester rally.

As there is a gap of 3 nights anyone wishing to go on direct from Winchester rally may find a C L site or there is a site near to Briarfield with hard standings and electric hook up.

Regency Court Park, Cheltenham, GL51 6SL

phone 07706 208509 to check for vacancies or pre book.

## **1-6<sup>th</sup> October 2025 at SHREWSBURY**

The West Midlands Showground is a 15-minute walk along the river to the historic Town Centre which boasts a Castle and Museum as well as numerous shops and restaurants. This event is the annual rally for the Association of Camping and Caravanning Exempted Organisations (ACCEO) **and this year is being hosted by ASOC under the guidance of our own Glyn Tomkins.**

Professional entertainment is provided on both Friday and Saturday evenings, there will be social events and opportunities to catch up with old friends and make new ones on the other nights. This Rally is open to all member Clubs of ACCEO and gives everyone an ideal opportunity to meet members from other Clubs and exchange ideas and views on all sorts of topics concerning our leisure activities.

**BOOKING IS NOW OPEN** and your application forms should be sent to [gbtomkins@btinternet.com](mailto:gbtomkins@btinternet.com) the preferred method of payment is by card on entry to the rally but other options are available. The cost for all 5 nights of the rally is £120.00 (payable on arrival) and includes two nights entertainment. If you would like to assist Glyn and Sue as part of the on-site team; please contact Glyn direct by email. Such assistance will include pitching the units, assisting with refreshments, selling raffle tickets etc. pretty much as with our own National Rally.

**This is a good site for Motorhomers, conveniently located and it would be nice if ASOC could join the ranks of other Caravan and Motorhome Owners Clubs have been excellent hosts in years gone past. Looking forward to seeing you all there.**

## ARTICLE

### 10 Year Old Under-slung LPG Tank Issues. 2013 Symbol.

Ok, so March 2024 I had my Hab check. First time ever the LPG tank was checked. this highlighted an issue with surface rust due to paint chips from stone/road debris. The recommendations were, change gas regulator as over 10 years old and have the tank pressure tested and refurbished. Oh how little did I know what the last statement would cost in wasted time and financially.

So, I started ringing so many LPG installers and LPG suppliers I lost count. My findings, no one does testing on LPG tanks in the UK as the cost would be as much as a replacement, with no guarantee it would pass and I was also informed, there is no testing facility in the UK. How true these statements are is unknown, but I can only repeat the information imparted to myself.

Secondly for the majority of LPG under slung tank installers I contacted they only did new installs, not replacements. Not even Auto-sleepers workshop, as Alec Avery, ASOC Technical committee member, discovered on my behalf.

During my previous and subsequent investigations, one name came up regularly, Autogas2000 Leisure based in Thirsk N.Yorkshire.

I phoned and discussed my options. They confirmed the testing issue but stated they do replacement tanks and have done so for many years. Quick Google search revealed good reviews, also they do a 10% parts discount for Auto-Sleeper Owners Club members.

Ok, Somerset to Thirsk is not a one day round trip and a long way even for a two night stop over. However we had been excepted for the two site Scottish Rally later that year. So with this in mind we booked in for the work to commence the day of the Rally start, questionable but my confidence was high of a successful install. We also decided we would add in a stop in a CMC CL site located in Cottingham for a couple of days prior, to see family (Hull). A short hop to Thirsk.

The other good news is that the work is normally done in a morning and there is overnight parking on site so we would be away by 1-2pm. there is even on site electric.

We arrived on the Sunday night and was greeted by Karen, who occasionally stays over in a caravan to get an early start and save on the commute, especially if they have been to a show. Karen also allowed us to pick several tasty Apples from their tree.

## 10 Year Old Under-slung LPG Tank Issues. 2013 Symbol (Cont)

08;30 Monday morning. Quick intro to Jon the technician who would be doing the work. He showed us the new tank and informed us that they also change the original straps for custom made parts. I took some before pictures and Stephen took additional ones during the install. Karen was making a bank drop in Thirsk and gave us both (Sarah and I) a lift in her Tesla, my first time. Lovely car and a tech geek, like me, dream interior, gadgets galore.



We spent a delightful, if not cold, morning in Thirsk, visiting the James Herriot museum and the local Wetherspoons, plus a walk along the river. The local street market was a little disappointing as it wasn't the farmers market I had been to on previous visits, those being way back in time on motorbike ride outs of my youth. At 1pm I received the call all was done and ready for collection. We caught the local bus back and a short walk from the stop, almost outside the workshop entrance, we had the painful part, payment.

All done and with the required paperwork for LPG in hand we embarked for our two site Scottish rally. Where I can confirm all was ok with LPG and continues to be. Final recommendation from Autogas 2000, check regularly and reseal, with suitable under seal, over any chips.

Many thanks to Autogas 2000 Leisure, with special thanks to Stephen, Karen and Jon.

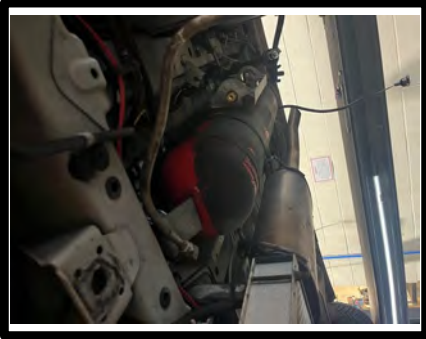
Safe travels one and all

Dave and Sarah Pollard 8879



# 10 Year Old Under-slung LPG Tank Issues. 2013 Symbol (Cont)

ORIGINAL TANK IN SITU



TANK REMOVED TOP



TANK REMOVED BOTTOM



NEW INSTALL PRE SEAL



SEALED



## **36<sup>th</sup> National Rally and AGM May 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> 2025**

We have a Technical Table on Friday morning in the Stuart Goodwin Pavillion, as well as the usual activities. Auto-Sleepers and Dometic have confirmed, and other technical manufacturers we are in negotiations with to attend.

Representatives from Auto-Sleepers and their Technical department will give a presentation on Friday afternoon in the Cedric Ford Pavillion.

We have entertainment on Friday and Saturday evening, and a quiz on Sunday evening.

Optional meals are available to book Thursday, Friday and Saturday evening, and a Sunday lunch Carvery.

The raffle will support our annual charity, this year it is Alzheimer's, and the raffle will be drawn on Sunday morning at the coffee morning. Discussion on the annual charity will be discussed at the AGM.

All pitches include electrics, come and meet friends old and new, and send in your booking slips soon.

Updates on confirmed technical attendance will be available on our website. Please check you have this year's password.

We have lost some of our stalwarts due to ill health issues, so if you feel you could volunteer and join our happy band of helpers, please contact me. Liz Irvin. [nationalrally@asoc.uk.com](mailto:nationalrally@asoc.uk.com)

Liz Irvin

National Rally Chairman

NEWARK SHOWGROUND,  
NOTTINGHAM NG24 2NY  
**1 – 5 May 2025**

**National Rally**  
**ARE YOU?**  
Bookings in the  
member area



## WEEKEND ENTERTAINMENT



Friday night  
**Natalie Knight**



Saturday night  
**The Conspirators**



Sunday night  
**The ASOC Quiz**

**HAVE YOU  
BOOKED  
YET?**

## IN THE SIR STUART GOODWIN HALL

### BRING AND BUY TABLES

Please bring any unwanted camping or motorhome accessories

### TOMBOLA

Please bring any bottles to donate to the tombola

### JIGSAWS, BOOKS AND MOTORHOME PARTS

Please bring your surplus jigsaws, books and motorhome parts

### THE CLUB SHOP

### TEA AND COFFEE STALL

We are looking for Volunteers to exhibit their crafts, hobbies or paintings.  
These can be displayed on an exhibit board.

The list of hobbies in which other members would find interesting is endless,  
this is not a competition, it is for like-minded members who enjoy crafts and  
hobbies and are willing to show and exhibit.

If you can help us set up the Sir Stuart Goodwin Hall,  
please contact

Carolyn and Les Lamley by email, phone or post.  
carolynlamley@gmail.com.

Phone 07923 054306

6 Azalea close, Lutterworth, Leics, LE17 4FR

## NOTICE BOARD

Wyn and I have decided to retire from motorhoming and as such we will not be renewing our membership of asoc at the end of the year.

As my 80th year is approaching too rapidly we have decided to try new adventures before life and health puts a stop to it.

We have had a wonderful 20 years with the club with its excellent rallies. We enjoyed running the Southport rally for the past 11 years, 2024 being our last attending and running. Also we were proud to serve the club for a few years as membership secretary. We have made some lovely friendships, met lots of interesting people, sadly some are no longer with us. We have lasting memories of all those happy years. We are now putting our lovely 1998 Talisman up for sale having served us well for the past 18 years.

We wish you all well and safe motorhoming.  
David & Wyn Crabbe 5213

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Sadly I have to inform you my beloved mother, Gwen, passed away on 25th July this year.

Gwen was 94 at her last birthday, so she reached a great age. She had her last holiday in her much loved van in June 2023 when we had a week at Filey. As a child we always had a fortnight's summer holiday at Filey (though not in the Autosleeper obviously!) so it is a place of many happy memories. Sadly with increasing arthritis and her health steadily declining Gwen did not feel up to any more holidays.

Gwen was a lifelong caravanner. She first went caravanning on 1939 when her father (my grandfather) built a caravan. He was a joiner so this van was very well built. Indeed, as a baby and toddler I had my first holidays in it (not that I can remember them).

I miss her very much but must be grateful I had her for so long and that she remained an enthusiastic caravanner nearly to the end.

Kind regards, Muir Gordon - member 9827.

## NOTICE BOARD (Cont.)

Good morning

I am writing to inform you that our motorhoming days are over and we have now sold our Autosleeper Broadway. Therefore will not be renewing our membership ! We have enjoyed the past 10years of ownership and have had many enjoyable times at many locations but due to health it was time to try a different style of holiday!

I would like to thank all the membership team for their devotion and dedication in running the club and we always have enjoyed reading the magazine!

Best Regards

Philip Bickerdyke

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One that got away

Bobbie and I would like to wish all our Autosleeper friends old and new a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

If God spares us with good health we look forward to renewing friendships again in 2025.

Every Blessing from Bobbie and Beatrice Gordon 4396

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## ASOC LPG MEMBER WEBSITE

[asoc.uk.com/lpg](http://asoc.uk.com/lpg)

This is a list of LPG stations that members have used.

Because many are now discontinuing LPG, and we are unable to verify how many on the list are no longer supplying LPG, the site is now closed.

There are many other apps and websites available to locate places to fill your LPG tanks.

We aim to try and add links to these sites in the member area.

## Auto-Sleepers: New Dealer Appointment in North East

Auto-Sleepers are delighted to announce the latest appointment to our dealer network, Jordans Leisure.

This latest appointment offers another dealership to our network in the North East region where our customers can explore the latest range brought to you by Auto-Sleepers. Jordans will be displaying a great choice of Auto-Sleepers and also are able offer your service requirements within their inhouse service centre.

Established since the early 1900's as a retailer in automotive and leisure products, they have great experience to look after Auto-Sleeper owners and pride themselves on their customer service.

Commenting on the appointment, Ben Hakes said "This partnership marks the start of an exciting journey, and we can't wait to share some fantastic offerings and exclusive deals with you soon."

Jordans Leisure look forward to welcoming all of our customers to their showroom and would like to personally invite you to their showroom launch event on Saturday 15th March where you can step inside and discover the latest offerings from Auto-Sleepers.



Pictured are Auto-Sleepers' Sales Development Manager, Tony Swarbrick partnered with Sales Director of Jordans Leisure, Ben Hakes, both thrilled by this new partnership.



Woolacombe



Lulworth Cove



Minehead



Chesil Beach



Fowey



BEER



Port Isaac



Clovelly



South West Coast Path  
Minehead - Poole 630 Miles



Tintagel

# Walking Part of SOUTHWEST COAST PATH Editor

The South West Coast Path (SWCP), a stunning 630-mile footpath along the coastline of southwest England, offers breathtaking views of cliffs, beaches, and historic landmarks



It is possible to use a motorhome in some parts of the South West Coast Path (SWCP), but not directly on the walking trail itself. It's primarily a walking route, so vehicles, including motorhomes, aren't allowed on the actual trail.

## Parking & Overnight Stays

Campsites and Caravan Parks: There are many campsites and caravan parks near the SWCP that cater to motorhomes. These are typically located near coastal towns or countryside locations within walking distance or a short drive from the path.

## SWCP Things to Consider

Road Access: Some parts of the coast have narrow or winding roads, especially in rural areas, which might be challenging for larger motorhomes.

If you plan ahead and choose the right places to park or stay overnight, you can definitely enjoy a motorhome trip along the South West Coast Path!

We used our motorhome staying at different campsites close to SWCP.

Like others we camped at the end of the walk and bus it to the start and walk

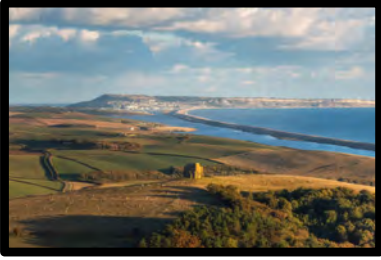
back. Some bus journeys are longer but it is all a part of the experience and you get to see areas you wouldn't normally travel around.

Doing this way round you can take your time to get back to motorhome as your not tied to bus time tables.

Doing the same the next day by going the opposite direction.



## SWCP Things to Consider (Cont)



Whether you're planning a multi-day hike or a short walk, choosing the best time to explore the SWCP is key to making the most of your experience. Our plan is to walk a different section of SWCP two or three times a year, missing out the larger towns/cities and going for the scenic/interesting areas.

## SWCP Best time to venture

### Spring (March to May): Vibrant Nature

#### Why Walk in Spring?

Spring is an ideal time to explore the SWCP for those who love nature in bloom. The landscape comes alive with wildflowers like bluebells and primroses, and the countryside is lush and green. The weather is generally mild, with occasional showers.

- **Pros:** Fewer crowds, cooler temperatures, and colourful scenery.
- **Cons:** Some trails may still be muddy from winter rains.
- **Highlights:** Look out for seabirds nesting along the cliffs and enjoy quieter beaches.

### 2. Summer (June to August): Long Days and Clear View

#### Why Walk in Summer?

Summer is peak season on the SWCP, offering the longest daylight hours and generally the best weather. Coastal towns along the path are vibrant, and you'll have plenty of options for refreshments and accommodations.

- **Pros:** Warm temperatures, ideal for picnics and swimming; lively atmosphere in coastal villages.
- **Cons:** Trails can be crowded, and prices for accommodations may be higher.
- **Highlights:** Golden sunsets over the sea, festivals in towns like St. Ives and Salcombe.

### 3. Autumn (September to November): Tranquility and Stunning Light

#### Why Walk in Autumn?

The SWCP in autumn is perfect for those seeking solitude and striking scenery. The changing leaves add golden and russet hues to the landscapes, and the crowds thin out significantly after the summer.

- **Pros:** Crisp air, fewer people, and stunning photographic opportunities.
- **Cons:** Days are shorter, and weather can be unpredictable.
- **Highlights:** Enjoy hearty meals in cozy pubs after a day of walking.

### 4. Winter (December to February): Rugged Beauty and Reflection

#### Why Walk in Winter?

Winter walking on the SWCP offers dramatic seascapes, stormy skies, and a sense of peaceful isolation. It's a unique time to experience the path's raw beauty.

- **Pros:** Almost no crowds, a chance to experience the coastline in its wildest form.
- **Cons:** Short days, wet and windy conditions, and some facilities may be closed.
- **Highlights:** Watch waves crashing against cliffs and enjoy the serene quiet of deserted paths.

#### Best Time Overall

While the SWCP offers beauty year-round, **late spring (May) and early autumn (September)** are often considered the best times to walk. These months balance good weather with fewer crowds, providing an optimal experience for enjoying the path's natural and cultural attractions.

Recommended Humorous Books that have been read between walking days:-

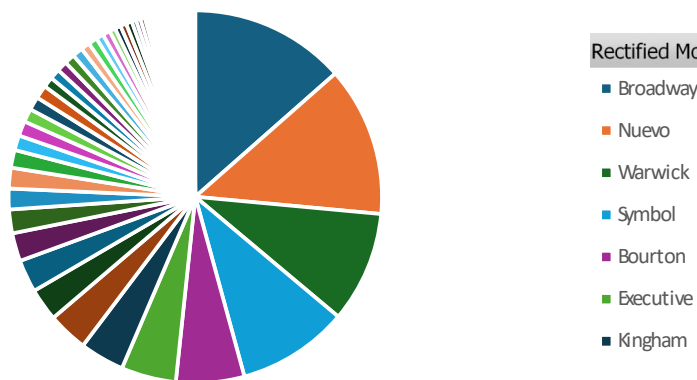
A. The Man Who Hated Walking, Overend Watts.

B. 500 Mile Walkies, Mark Wallington

## ASOC Members Vans (Dec 2024)

Broadway	105	Malvern	9	Worcester	2
Nuevo	101	Trident	7	Rienza	2
Warwick	75	Pollensa	7	Excelsior	2
Symbol	75	Lancashire	7	Trophy	2
Bourton	46	Symphony	7	Orion	2
Executive	37	Gatcombe	7	Gloucester	2
Kingham	30	Legend	6	Rambler	2
Kemerton	27	Devon	6	Inca	2
Burford	22	Harmony	5	Stratford	2
Duetto	22	Mezan	5	Pavo	1
Fairford	19	Sussex	4	Suffolk	1
Clubman	16	Stanway	4	Hampshire	1
Talisman	14	Ravenna	4	Dorsetes	1
Corinium	14	Stanton	4	Palermo	1
Winchcombe	12	Sandhurst	3	Mirage	1
BLANK	10	Dorset	3	Windsor	1
Topaz	10	Surrey	3	Carthago	1
Trooper	9	Frisky	2	Romero	1
Amethyst	9	Sigma	2	Gemini	1

### Member Model Types



## **Please Note :-**

**As we kick off this year, I'd like to remind everyone of our quarterly publication schedule for the newsletter:**

**March Issue – Deadline for articles: 10th February**

**June Issue – Deadline for articles: 10th May**

**September Issue – Deadline for articles: 10th August**

**December Issue – Deadline for articles: 10th November**

**Please make sure to get your articles and contributions in by the 10th of the month prior to publication. We love hearing from you – whether it's sharing your latest road trip, offering helpful tips, or recounting memorable experiences in your Autosleeper.**

**Your stories are what make this club truly special.**

**Articles can be emailed to [editor@asoc.uk.com](mailto:editor@asoc.uk.com)**

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### **CLUB ALERTS**

From time-to-time we send out Club information by email via Mailchimp. We have noticed that some members do not open them, maybe because they are going into spam/junk folders. Or perhaps you do not wish to.

Some members have unsubscribed from these alerts, this means they are removed from any further communication in this way.

It also means that even if the email address we hold on our records was different from the one you have unsubscribed to in the member area, this will also be listed as unsubscribed.

If our server requires us to change the member area login details, and if you have unsubscribed, you will not receive the change of details.

We aim to send out Club information by Mailchimp. Some members may not have included an email on membership details. Please contact the membership secretary via the contact form on the website of any changes you wish to make.

## 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:** Dave Thompson *treasurer@asoc.uk.com*

**Rally Coordinator:** Carol Grain *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*

**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

Dear ASOC Member

Please be reminded that your ASOC Member Number is required in all correspondence with the club. Including your Member Number helps us assist you more efficiently.

Best regards,

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](http://www.asoc.uk.com)