



1989

The Newsletter of  
**Auto-sleeper  
Owners' Club**



2026

Issue No. 424 | March 2026



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## Editors Edit

Yeah, it really hasn't been very motorhome-friendly lately cold, wet, grey... not exactly "park up with a view and a cuppa" weather. And when even the usual sunnier spots abroad are getting battered, it feels extra unfair.

But honestly, a bad start as a down payment on a great rest of the year? There's something oddly comforting about the idea that the weather's just getting all its grumpiness out of the way early, then flipping the switch when spring and summer roll properly in.

If nothing else, it'll make that first dry, warm trip feel *amazing*. The roads dry, windows open, evening light hanging around... it'll hit different after this slog. Here's hoping it's setting us up for a cracking rest of the year.

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### Committee Vacancies

**We urgently need volunteers for the following positions:**

**Web Manager, Minutes Secretary, Vice Chairman**

**If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Chris Brown at [chairman@asoc.uk.com](mailto:chairman@asoc.uk.com)**

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### Member Notice – Password Security Reminder

We would like to remind all members to keep our shared login details private and secure.

Please do not share the username or password with anyone outside of our paid-up membership. These login details are intended exclusively for current members.

In addition, we ask that you do not use our shared username or password for any other website, platform, or personal account you may have. The login is common to all paid-up members and must only be used for its intended purpose.

Protecting our shared access ensures the security and continued benefit of all members.

Thank you for your cooperation.

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Cover Pic. Winchester Rally | Spreuer Bridge, in Lucerne, Switzerland

## Chairman's Chat

I hope everyone enjoyed their Christmas festivities. As I write this it's not that long ago, but the way the years flash by you've probably all forgotten it. Unfortunately, Peter had a nasty fall just before Christmas, breaking several facial bones, left wrist and sternum. Consequently, he spent 4 (more) weeks in hospital being repaired. We still have several follow-up appointments to attend, but he is recovering well. I really do feel I have spent almost as much time at the hospital last year as the staff.....

Our Membership Secretary, Jean Downie is still undergoing treatment but is managing to continue her role for which we are all extremely grateful and I know everyone will join me in wishing her all the very best for a full and speedy recovery.

The new rally administration system came into force in January; well from December really when the magazine was published, and it seems to be running very well. We will of course, fully review it at the end of the season but Carol Grain has taken on her new, expanded role with enthusiasm.

On the subject of rallies, we had a great time at the Chester rally in November. The site is very convenient for Chester via bus, we visited Cheshire Oaks and managed to avoid spending in the shops, though we did indulge in fish and chips at Harry Ramsdens (first time ever for me). We also had an excellent meal at a tapas-style Italian – not as crazy as it sounds – in the pub down the road. All rounded off with mulled wine on the final evening. Thank you to John and Carol Grain for organising a super rally.

Also talking of rallies, several people have said we need some rallies in Scotland and we all agree. We have had some wonderful rallies in Scotland but the Marshals who have run them have had to retire from motor-homing. So, the challenge for all our members who live in this beautiful country is to identify a suitable site (or sites, some years we have had two-centre Scottish rallies) and run a rally on it.

## **Chairman's Chat (Cont)**

It is unfortunate that no-one came forward to volunteer for the National Rally Organiser role but, as I mentioned previously, David Thompson has taken this on, along with his role of Treasurer and Ruth Thompson has joined the National Rally Sub-Committee as Administrator, which will be a great help to David. But we really cannot start a trend where fewer people are doing more jobs – none of us want these roles to become full-time occupations. You will see elsewhere in the magazine that we still have vacancies, please volunteer.

Everyone should be aware that we opened a new Facebook Group – Auto-Sleeper Owners Club UK. It is a closed group available to Club Members only, which is why you are asked for your membership number when requesting to join. We had quite a flurry of requests and posts initially, getting up to 80 members quite quickly. **Unfortunately** we now realise there is another Auto Sleepers Owners Club Facebook page which is Dutch, so we have edited our title to **Auto-Sleeper Owners Club UK** with a short descriptive history.

I think that's brought me pretty much up to date. Peter and I are looking forward to Whitemead and the opportunity to catch up with a lot of you at the National. AND We're hoping 2026 will be a more normal year than the last one.....

***Keep Rallying***

## Rally Events 2026

### Sourton Downs, DEVON 20<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> April

I am now compiling a reserve list for this new rally, in case anyone cancels last minute. The site has full facilities, a bus stop close by for travel to Okehampton or Tavistock plus cycle and walking paths.

### Lickhill Manor, STOURPORT-ON-SEVERN 26<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> April

We still have a few spaces left for this new rally, which has full facilities and is a short walk into Stourport-on-Severn. It is also a good stop for anyone travelling from the south to the National and AGM at Newark.

### Bookings now open for the following rallies:

Tynedale Rugby Football Club, **CORBRIDGE** 11<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> May

Hereford Rowing Club, **HEREFORD** 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> June

Bala Rugby Club, **BALA** 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> June

Aberystwyth Rugby Club, **ABERYSTWYTH** 14<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> June

Wigginton Grasshopper FC 82 **WIGGINTON** 21<sup>st</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> June

### Warners shows:

**MALVERN** 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> August

**LINCOLN** 18<sup>TH</sup> – 20<sup>TH</sup> September

### Bookings opening on March 1<sup>st</sup>

Manor Farm **BEVERELEY** June 26<sup>th</sup> – 1<sup>st</sup> July

Stow on the Wold – **CANCELLING** due to lack of information

Stafford Boat Club **STAFFORD** 11<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> July

Leon's Field **ST IVES** 16<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> July

Gloucester Vintage Extravaganza **CIRENCESTER**

**Full details and application forms are in the members area on the website.**

Marshals are the life of this club. Without them what would be the point of the club? For a start there would be no rallies and without the rallies no club!

Marshals organise and host rallies for us and enable us to visit different parts of the country and meet friends old and new.

Over the last year I have been asked by many people if we can have a rally in the south of the country, in the Lincolnshire Wolds, Norfolk, Wales or in Scotland. Sadly, we are losing members due to lack of rallies in these areas.

## Rally Events 2026 (Cont)

We have four new members who have volunteered to become marshals, one couple, Andrew and Andrea hosting the new rally in Okehampton, Andy and Mary hosting Hereford, Alec, our technical officer, hosting the Vintage Extravaganza in Gloucester and Pamela and Colin hosting the two new rallies in Wales this year which is brilliant.

However, we have no one in the other areas I have mentioned. If anyone is interested in becoming a marshal in these areas and would like to know what it entails, please get in touch with me at [rally@asoc.uk.com](mailto:rally@asoc.uk.com)

Any members struggling to access the membership area on-line to complete the booking form, **please note** that the new username and password are on the back of your new membership card.

If members want to pay by cheque, which is not the Auto-Sleepers Owners' Clubs preferred method of payment, that is fine and if you want to send them in advance of the booking date that is also fine, and I will not process them until the booking opening date.

In addition, I have some members still struggling to complete the application forms on-line and have added information on how you should/may be able to achieve this.

If you are experiencing problems with the form please get in touch directly with me at [rally@asoc.uk.com](mailto:rally@asoc.uk.com) and not the secretary of the club.

FOR THE LATEST RALLY UPDATES PLEASE SEE AOSC WEBSITE :-

<https://www.asoc.uk.com/blog/ev26/index.html>



### Filling in the application forms

On an iPhone or an iPad when you download the form:

Click on this box at the bottom of the page 

Scroll down the menu and click on 'mark up' 

At the top of the page click on: 

The form should go blue and are then able to fill in the form.

For other devices to use the PDF form you may need to use the 'adobe fill and sign' which is free or a similar app to fill in the PDF using a tablet or a smart phone.

Alternatively, you could print the form off, fill it in by hand, scan, take a photo and email it to [rally@dasoc.uk.com](mailto:rally@dasoc.uk.com). Or of course send it by post which takes a lot longer than an email.

If you are taking a photo of it please take it in portrait and not in landscape. Also if taking a photo please make sure you have a steady hand to prevent blurring.

**APRIL 2026**

**Rally reference: SDCCP**

**20<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> April (4 nights) Sourton Down Caravan and Camping Park**  
Sourton Down, **OKEHAMPTON** Devon EX20 4HT

Rally Marshals: Andrea and Andrew Saines (07717 664156)  
motorcamper2@gmail.com

**Bookings now open**

**LIMITED TO 15 VANS**

Site fee: £108 for four nights including electric **PLUS**

Rally fee: £5.00 for couples £2.50 for singles

**Totally fee:** £113.00 for couples and 110.50 for singles

**Payment details on the application form:**

**Reference: membership no + SDCCP**

This is a lovely site with toilets, shower block, washing up area and laundry. There is access to the Granite Way cycle route/walking path from Okehampton to Lydford Gorge (National Trust) on a disused railway line, that can also take you to the Meldon Viaduct and access to Dartmoor. For those who are not as energetic Lydford Gorge is a 6.5 miles drive away.

There is a bus stop close by with busses going to Okehampton in one direction and Tavistock in the other.

The Pump and pedal pub & cycle shop serving pizza, pasties, breakfast baps and cakes is next door to the site.

This site is dog friendly and has dog showers.

**NO ARRIVALS BEFORE 2pm.**

**APRIL 2026**

**Rally reference: LMCP**

**26th – 30th April (4 nights) Lickhill Manor Caravan Park**

**Lower Lickhill Road, STOURPORT-on-SEVERN, Worcestershire DY13 8RL**

Rally Marshals: Brian and Linda Ellis

Telephone :- 01278 784524 Mobile (07711 375323 )

e mail:- [brianasoc2360@yahoo.com](mailto:brianasoc2360@yahoo.com)

Bookings now open and closes 18<sup>th</sup> April 2026

LIMITED TO 15 VANS

Site fee: 4 nights @ £92.00 including electric **PLUS** rally fee: £2.50

**Total fee: £94.50**

**Payment details on the application form: Reference: membership no + LMCP**

Directions:- From Stourport on Severn High Street (one way) at the top of the High street at the fork in the road, turn left at the Swan Pub and **immediate left** at M & Co. onto Lickhill Road. Continue on this road to the caravan site, about a mile.

Lickhill Manor Caravan Park occupies 65 acres circling the 17th century manor house alongside the River Severn and is a short riverside stroll to the Georgian canal town of Stourport-on-Severn.

**Local attractions**

There are canal and river boat trips, amusements, heritage wanders and more at Stourport Riverside and Stourport Canal Basins.

Busses to Bewdley, Kidderminster and Bromsgrove.

Interesting museums in the vicinity are the award-winning Black Country Living Museum at Dudley, with its collections (and tram rides), and the Bewdley Museum, with resident craftspeople and loads of local artefacts.

At Kidderminster there is the Severn Valley Railway also Hartlebury Castle and Worcester Cathedral within easy driving distance.

This rally could be a convenient stop over for some on route to Newark for the AGM or as an interesting rally for any not going on to the National.

**NO ARRIVALS BEFORE 1pm.**

9 - March 2026

**MAY 2026**

**Rally reference: NR**

**30<sup>th</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> May (4 nights) National Rally and AGM Newark Showground with EHU.**

**Bookings are now open.**

The Auto-Sleepers Owners' Club (ASOC) is hosting its National Rally and Annual General Meeting (AGM) from 30<sup>th</sup> April to 4<sup>th</sup> May, 2026, 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.

There is EHU, plus meals are available to book each evening and the rally will feature social gatherings and live entertainment. Additionally, the AGM will provide insights into the club's activities and future plans.

There will be exhibitions in the Sir Stuart Goodwin Pavillion

The ASOC shop will be there

Meals available to book each evening

Entertainment on Friday and Saturday evening and lots, lots more.

Booking forms are also available online and contain all the information you need.

**Payment details on the application form:**

**Reference: membership no + NR**

For further information please look at the full advertisement in this edition of the magazine.

## MAY 2026

11<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> (5 nights)

[Bookings open:](#)

Tyndale Rugby Football Club  
Station Road CORBRIDGE  
Northumberland NE45 5AY

## JUNE 2026

1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> (4 nights)

[Booking open:](#)

HEREFORD Rowing Club  
37 Greyfriars Avenue, Hereford, HR4 0BE

14<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> (5 nights)

[Booking open:](#)

ABERYSTWYTH Rugby Club  
Plascrug Avenue,  
Aberystwyth SY23 1HL

21<sup>st</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> (5 nights)

[Booking open:](#)

WIGGINTON Grasshopper FC 82  
Mill Lane, Wigginton  
York YO32 2PY

26<sup>th</sup> – 1<sup>st</sup> July (5 nights)

[Bookings open: March 1<sup>st</sup> 2026](#)

BEVERLEY  
Manor Farm, Woodmansey  
Beverley HU17 0SA

## JULY 2026

11<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> (5 nights)

[Booking open 1st March 2026](#)

STAFFORD Boat Club Ltd.  
Maplewood, Wildwood  
Stafford  
ST17 4SG

16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> (5 nights)

[Bookings open: March 1<sup>st</sup> 2026](#)

Leon's Field, ST IVES  
St Ives, Huntingdon,  
Cambridge  
PE27 5ER

30<sup>th</sup>- 2<sup>nd</sup> August.

[Bookings open: March 1<sup>st</sup> 2026](#)

Gloucestershire Vintage &  
Country Extravaganza

## AUGUST 2026

10<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> (4 nights)

[Bookings open: April 1<sup>st</sup> 2026](#)

North Ribblesdale Rugby Club  
Grove Park,  
Lower Greenfoot,  
SETTLE  
BD24 9RB

21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> (2 nights)

[Booking open:](#)

The Western Motorhome and  
Campervan Show  
Three Counties Showground  
WR13 6NW  
MALVERN

## SEPTEMBER 2026

7<sup>th</sup> -11<sup>th</sup> (4 nights)

**Bookings open: July 1<sup>st</sup> 2026**

St Cross Symondian's Cricket Club  
WINCHESTER  
SO23 9RT

25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> (2 nights)

**Bookings open:**

The Motorhome & Campervan  
show seasonal finale  
Lincolnshire Showground  
LN2 2NA

30<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> October

ACCEO Rally  
Weston on Trent  
Derbyshire

## OCTOBER 2026

8<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> (4 nights)

**Bookings open: July 1<sup>st</sup> 2026**

Chatsworth Golden Gate



# 37th National Rally & AGM

30 April - 4 May 2026

Newark Showground

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## 31<sup>ST</sup> JUL - 2<sup>ND</sup> AUG 2026

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# **THE AUTO-SLEEPER OWNERS' CLUB THIRTY SEVENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

To be held on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2026 at 10:30am  
At the Cedric Ford Pavillion, Newark and Nottingham Agricultural Society  
Showground, Newark

## **Officers 2025/26**

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

## **AGENDA**

1. Apologies for absence
2. Appointment of Tellers
3. Minutes of the 36<sup>th</sup> AGM 2025, circulated in March 2026 ASOC News
4. Notes of the 36<sup>th</sup> Open Forum 2025 circulated in March 2026 ASOC News
5. Committee Reports circulated in March 2026 ASOC News
6. Accounts for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025 circulated in March 2026 ASOC News
7. Election of Honorary Examiner for the accounts
8. Committee elections
9. Any other competent business
- 9.1. TBA
10. Date of next Annual General Meeting

**Auto Sleeper Owners Club**

**Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2025**

<b>Income</b>		<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
	Membership Subscriptions	12,501.60		
	Donations received	2.00		
	Rallies	4,037.08		
	National Rally inc £3000 donation from A/S	19,578.70		
	National Rally Fund raising for Charity	877.10		
	Merchandise	1,651.73		
	Interest on Deposit A/Cs	253.54		
	Sundries	230.60		
	<b>Total Income</b>		<b><u>39,132.35</u></b>	
 <b>Expenditure</b>				
<b>Meetings</b>	Committee	1,086.71		
	AGM	973.00		
<b>Travel</b>	Committee Meetings	865.66		
	AGM - (Travel)	690.26		
	Other	0.00		
<b>Comm Admin</b>	Consumables	275.92		
	Postage Other	23.95		
<b>Membership</b>	Consumables	375.38		
	Printing	335.03		
	Postage	541.19		
<b>Publicity</b>	Website	2,395.56		
	Zoom	143.88		
	Dropbox	95.88		
	Mailing	0.00		
<b>Newsletter</b>	Printing	2,879.80		
	Postage	1,805.33		
<b>Rallies</b>	Plaque production and distribution	342.75		
	National Rally	19,128.28		
	Raffle & Fund Raising - to Charity	877.10		
<b>Insurance</b>		537.48		
<b>Exhibitions</b>		1,192.71		
<b>Marketing</b>		0.00		
<b>Merchandise</b>	Goods	2,062.97		
	Postage	27.51		
<b>Capital Ept</b>		69.99		
<b>Other</b>		413.07		
			<b><u>37,139.41</u></b>	
	Surplus for Year		<b>1,992.94</b>	
	Cash at bank-current A/C 54359	4,312.03		
	Cash at bank-deposit A/C 54367	20,934.10		
	BACS Payments A/C 54375.	5,560.47		
	The National Rally A/C 55133	7,970.22		
	<b>Totals monies held in Bank Accounts</b>		<b><u>38,776.82</u></b>	
	Stock value		1,410.84	
	<b>Total Assets</b>			<b><u>40,187.66</u></b>
	Hon Treasurer			

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

Accounts Examiner

*J. Talbury*

**The Auto-Sleeper Owners Club  
Thirty Sixth Annual General Meeting**

**Held on May 3rd 2025 at 10.30**

**At Newark Showground, Lincoln Road, Coddington NG24 2NY**

**Committee:** Chris Brown Chairman (by Zoom)

David Thompson	Vice Chair and Acting Treasurer
Dennis Downie	Secretary
Jean Downie	Membership Secretary
Alec Avery	Technical Group Chair
John Morris	Publications Officer
Liz Irvin	National Rally Chair & Exhibitions Organiser
Liz Stewart	Minutes Secretary
Elaine Davis	Merchandising Officer
Phill Lowe	Editor
Carol Grain	Rally Coordinator

10.30 am the bell rang and the meeting was declared open.

**1. Apologies**

Charles and Angela Trevelyan	007
Bob and Margaret Cleaver	85
Geoff Dye	7296
Julia and Tony Lain	4437
Linda and Maurice Wilson	8140
Neil and Pauline Rogers	313
Pat and Les Udale	6849
Peter and Rita Hardstaff	9702
Brian and Eunice Lockett	6486
Peter Brown	5128
David and Penny McRoberts	11399
Cheryl Allen	11386
Janice and Mike Wood	
Jackie and John Moss	

**2.Remembrance**

A minutes silence was held in remembrance of members no longer with us.

### **3. The Appointment of Tellers**

John and Jean Gutsell (4170) were proposed by Chris Brown, Chairman, and seconded by Trish Pratt (1081). A vote was taken and they were duly appointed unanimously.

Chris Brown introduced the committee.

### **4. Minutes of the AGM 2024**

The minutes were circulated in the March Magazine and there were no comments or amendments. Acceptance of the minutes was proposed by Arthur Allen(11386) and seconded by Ruth Thompson ( 11987). The minutes were duly accepted unanimously and subsequently signed as approved.

### **5. Matters Arising**

There were none.

### **6. Minutes of the Open Forum.**

The minutes were circulated in the March Magazine and there were no amendments. The chair accepted them as read.

### **7. Matters Arising.**

There were no matters arising.

### **8. Accounts for the year ending 31 December 2024**

The accounts were distributed in the March Magazine.

Arthur Allen (11380) raised a query with respect to the balancing of the accounts and requested an update. Balances were given to the meeting. On examination it was concluded that the accounts published were incomplete but the Chairman confirmed that the official copy had been verified and signed off as such.

To clarify the closing balances were

Current Account	10988.30
Reserve	20703.00
BACS	0.00
National Rally	<u>1484.67</u>
Total	<u>33175.97</u>

The accounts were proposed by Jean Sellers(1051) and seconded by Pete Hill (5798). Approved by all.

## **9. Annual Subscriptions.**

David Thompson reported to the meeting that on reviewing the accounts that subscriptions would remain at £25 per annum.

John Tidbury(38) was thanked for his support during the Treasurer hand-over and has kindly offered to remain as the accounts examiner for 2025.

## **10. Resolutions**

Chris Brown explained the proposed Resolution to amend the Articles of Association as detailed in the March Magazine with respect to Articles 37-42. This proposes that the committee members be appointed at the AGM for the roles they have volunteered for. This is for a period of three years at which time they can either stand for election/stand down. The Articles were detailed in the Resolution circulated in the March Newsletter.

The proposal was put to the floor and there was general agreement. The change was proposed by Bobby Gordon (4396) and seconded by Trish Pratt(1081). There was one abstention. Companies house would be informed of changes made.

## **11. Committee Reports**

The Committee Reports were circulated in the March magazine. There were no questions.

## **12 Committee Elections**

There are six vacancies and five nominations.

The nominations are Chris Brown Chairman, Liz Irvin Exhibitions Officer, David Thompson Treasurer, Carol Grain Rally Coordinator and Elaine Davis Merchandising Officer. These were elected en bloc.

Chris Brown thanked Liz Irvin for the excellent job she has done for the national rally 2025 but she does not want to do it next year. We need someone sooner rather than later as this will make the process of handover much easier. Please come forward if interested.

Dennis Downie has informed the committee that this is his last year and he will stand down at the 2026 AGM. Again please come forwards if interested. Chris stressed the importance of the role to the effect that the committee cannot function without a secretary and the Club cannot function legally without a Company Secretary.

## 12. Committee Elections (Cont)

A club member has suggested two members who they feel should be nominated for the post of Vice President of the club. The committee agreed that John Oswald Jones (948) and Peter Brown (5128) should indeed be nominated. These appointments were approved by the meeting and they Join John Tidbury (38) as Vice presidents.

## **13. Any Other Business**

- a. John Smith (3242) thanked the committee for all their hard work that they engage in for the club.
- b. Ruth Thompson (11987) suggested that in future members should be invited to submit questions for the AGM prior to commencement of the meeting.
- c. A presentation was made to John Geeson (2187) thanking him for his work as treasurer and wishing him all the best for the future.
- d. A presentation was made to Les and Caroline Lamley (10965) thanking them for the tremendous support they have given particularly during the latter part of last year.
- e. On behalf of the committee Chris Brown was presented with flowers as a thank you for continuing to participate fully with the Committee and with the National Rally admin during a very difficult time.

**Date of next Annual General Meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2026 at 10.30am at Newark**

The bell was rung at 10.59 to signify closure of the meeting.

## Committee Members Reports 2026

### Chairman's Report for the AGM 2026

I'm sure all of you are aware that 2025 was, shall we say, an interesting year from a personal viewpoint..... Culminating with Peter proving the old maxim that 'You take a risk getting out of bed!!' However, let's review ASOC's year.

You may remember that at last year's National we gave you nomination forms for suggestions for our 2026 charity, which proved to be Cancer Research. A large charity we know, but given the number of our members and friends who are affected by this disease, not an undeserving one.

This year there will be another nomination form, but it will contain a number of suggestions for charities and ask for a tick in the chosen box and space to nominate something different. We have done this in the hope that more than 33% of attendees will participate but thank you to those who did last year.

In October 2025 Glyn and Sue Tomkins marshalled the ACCEO National Rally at Shrewsbury on behalf of ASOC. The rally went very well in spite of the Showground management's JIT approach to everything *and* Storm Amy. The Committee would once again, like to thank Glyn, Sue and all the members who turned up to support them, helping to pitch, organising the charity information, the quizzes the refreshments, etc., etc. It all added up to a very successful rally and ACCEO add their thanks to ours.

The NEC, also in November was very successful, particularly from the point of view of signing up new members, and Auto-Sleepers (now ASG) included the Owners Club in their thanks for all the support on Facebook. However, their stand in February is much smaller and consequently they cannot accommodate us. At the time of writing (necessarily before the NEC due to publication cut off dates), Emma Franklin has offered to accommodate National Rally Flyers, Member Application Forms and a pdf copy of the on-line Rally Brochure issued at the beginning of January on the Auto-Sleeper Information Desk. Our thanks to Emma Franklin at ASG for arranging this.

There will be some changes to the Committee at the AGM with Elizabeth Stewart taking on the role of Secretary from Dennis Downie, who steps down and David Thompson adding the role of National Rally Chairman to his existing role of Treasurer.

## **Chairman's Report for the AGM 2026 (Cont)**

We still have vacancies for a Vice-Chairman, a Web Manager and a Minutes Secretary so please give these vacancies some thought, and if anyone wants to take over the National Rally Chairman please speak to us; David's role as Treasurer is quite enough to be getting on with. As I mentioned in the magazine not having a full compliment of committee members makes us vulnerable. So, if you want to secure our future help us out.

We also set up a Facebook Page in December 2025, and it seems to be quite popular. It is a closed group available to members only and acceptance requires your membership number being quoted. We had to amend the title to Auto-Sleeper Owners Club UK as one of our members discovered there was another Auto-Sleepers Owners Club, which we found was created in January 2026 and is administered from Florida. Hopefully our new title will avoid confusion in the future.

At Carol Grain's suggestion a new role was set up with effect from January 2026, that of Rally Secretary, combining new systems with some of the existing activities of what was Rally co-ordinator. This means that all rally applications go to the Rally Secretary and all payments for rallies are paid to Auto-Sleeper Owners' Club direct. This avoids Marshals having to hold rally monies in their personal accounts and dealing with the financial side of running rallies. As with any new system it has required 'tweaking' along the way, but it seems to be working well.

The Committee also decided on and approved a new Website for the Club; the existing one being over 20 years old, somewhat cumbersome and out of date, causing a lot of work for John Morris. The decision was to start from scratch with a new design and build – trying to amend and update the existing one is what's made it so difficult to manage. It should be easier to navigate and more importantly, to manage.

Well, haven't we had a busy year. You have a very dedicated team running the Club, which was reflected in an e-mail from our President Charles Trevelyan who, with his wife Angela, joined the Committee for a meal (which, for the avoidance of doubt, we pay for not the Club) on the evening of our November Committee meeting as follows:

*"Wasn't Saturday evening fun, such a delightful group and we couldn't have had a more enjoyable time; great food and good company; one couldn't wish for more!!"*

*Thank you and all the Committee for all that you do, a great Club indeed!"*

**Chris Brown Chairman**

## ASOC Treasurers report

You will notice that the accounts sheet has been presented in a different way this year, this is largely due to the fact that whilst going through the accounts we found that the club had more money than was reported in last year's accounts and we were having trouble reconciling them with this year's accounts so it was decided along with the auditor to draw a line under the 2024 accounts and start again from the beginning of 2025 with the correct amounts held in all of the bank accounts. It would have been very different if we had found a shortfall.

Unfortunately, I am unable to shed any more light onto why the error was made but the Treasurer role passed through a few hands in 2024 into 2025.

We are being forced by legislation to report our accounts to Companies House digitally, something I was dreading. We have signed up to "Xero" bookkeeping and with the assistance of an experienced club member I believe this will be easier to manage.

Going forward, at the end of 2026 we will close the following bank accounts, "National Rally" account number 19855133 and what we know as the "BACS" account number 19654375 leaving just the current account and a reserve account (which gains us interest). The good news for all is that you will only need one set of details to make BACS payments to pay for Membership, Merchandise and Rallies.

You will see that the Website has a significant amount against it, this is because we are in the process of building a new site which required an up-front payment of £1,750.00.

I'm pleased to finish my report by saying that the club remains in a healthy financial situation and is able to cope with future requirements for the year 2026 and it is my recommendation that membership fees remain unchanged.

## **MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY REPORT FOR 2026 AGM**

Renewals have gone smoothly this year with BACS payments being greater than payments by cheque. We prefer payment by BACS as it is easier to check the bank statement daily to see who has renewed. Accurate description on the BACS payment is most helpful quoting the membership number and surname. Getting this wrong makes some payments a struggle for Sherlock Holmes to identify.

Many members are still asking "how do I renew?"

So, let me ask, are the renewal notices in the magazine clear enough? What can I do to make them any clearer? Suggestions are important and always welcome.

Some members have been trying to renew on the website. This is not possible.

At the time of writing 233 have not yet renewed for 2026.

I have added on the membership cards for this year the User name and Password for the website

Welcome to all our new members. I hope we can see you on future rallies.

Jean Downie 10117

Membership Secretary

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### **Exhibition Report for AGM 2026**

The October NEC was successful, and we signed up 13 new members. One new member has a Topaz. ASOC will not be present on the stand this February, it is a very small show this year and Auto-Sleeper are unable to accommodate us. I will be attending to network with various suppliers and endeavour to source some raffle prizes for the AGM.

We will be discussing with Auto-Sleeper the possibility of attending in October 2026.

**Liz Irvin 4636**

**Exhibitions Officer**

25 - March 2026

## Secretary Report 2026

As the Club and Company Secretary in my third year, I've had a few challenges navigating the new Companies Act regulations. To align with general money laundering rules, each committee member now needs to verify their identity and register it with Companies House. This process was quite intricate and involved creating an online identity on the government website GOV.uk. Once completed, a unique, personal 13-digit identity code is generated for each individual. The use of these codes is personal to each and the government plans in future rolling this out for use in any interactions with all government departments, such as the DVLA, DHSS and HMRC etc. With the help of Peter Brown (thank you, Peter), and after many frustrating hours following the instructions, we successfully obtained all 11 identity codes, which I then registered with Companies House within the deadline we had been set.

I submitted the alterations to the Articles as agreed at last year's AGM to Companies House, using the same document format as for previous years. They were rejected and required new information. I re-submitted them and they were rejected again! A second new requirement was explained (they couldn't possibly have explained what was required the first time!) and after re-submitting, the changes were accepted.

Following my resignation after the AGM, Elizabeth Stewart has agreed to be our Company Secretary, Thank you Lizzie. I will be on hand to ease the transition if required.

Best wishes to all my fellow members

Dennis Downie

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### PUBLICATIONS REPORT FOR AGM

The website continues to be updated with the shop having a new clothing range. The Club and Auto-Sleepers have been working together to compile a complete list of all the manuals available from 1988 to 2023. The list should be available shortly and members will be able to request a copy to be sent by email. The member area contains events and other information which is updated regularly. A final reminder members that member area login details can be found on the membership card.

## **Merchandise Report for AGM 2026**

Thank you to the treasurer for the support he gave me to finalise the Merchandise End of Year report. I am very pleased to have made a profit of £36.66 having had expenses for the set up discs for logos, order book, postage & sundries.

Will need to give thought this year for making allowances for the sum up costs and price increases for merchandise & postage while maintaining a affordable good quality product that appeals to all.

I have been working with John to update the online shop. Many thanks to John for his patience. I have introduced new lines which I hope will be popular. Also I have worked hard on the sizing of garments.

Working closely with SL Clothing our new supplier in Gloucestershire. We have been able to setup an account with them. I am happy to report that this is working extremely well for David & myself as it has streamlined the quotation, ordering & payment process, we are small fry compared to their usual clientele so this is a great achievement. We are in talks with our supplier regarding reducing the minimum order value to help with our stock holding.

At present now planning for the AGM regarding what stock to have logos and what stock to ask for sizing. Also pricing information.

I have looked again at the AGM questionnaire from last year and some of the requests I cannot fulfil. Umbrellas are proving tricky as are the thermal mugs due to minimum order quantities and the cost of logo setups. We don't have the buying power of Auto-Sleeper or the likes of Audi/Mercedes who do a lovely range.

Will look again at another questionnaire for this year's AGM and welcome your suggestions and comments.

I wish to say a huge THANK YOU to all of you who have supported the shop this year and look forward to seeing you at the AGM.

## **2026 Annual Technical Report For AGM**

Well as I come to end of my first 3-year tenure with the club committee, my learning curve continues, as the majority of questions relate to electrical problems with your vans, and I am indebted to Peter Brown for his help and tuition, especially when confronted with new technology from suppliers to Auto Sleeper's.

Over the last twelve months, I have had an average of 8 enquiries a month, so my services are still in demand by yourselves, and I hope that I have been of value to the club and yourselves, be it with help in obtaining parts, technical information, or contact information. As I said earlier, this last year the focus has changed to electrical, and this has been on newer vans.

During the last year, I have updated the manuals which I have been helped by Emma at Auto Sleeper's, and as a result we have practically doubled the number available to read or download, on both ours and Auto Sleeper's web sites, which can only be a good thing for all of us. The later models are grouped together as panel van conversions or coach built, so please check if your model is not found as an individual model.

The discounts that are offered to the membership have also been updated, so please check and if possible, use these companies, otherwise there is a risk of losing them.

We have listened to what is causing the most anxiety, and as a result, I have managed to get Dometic to offer a discount to service the fridges fitted to your vans, and also Road Pro, who are a well-known company specializing in off grid electrical remedies, as this is a much asked question, at this year's AGM, so please utilize their expertise and hopefully make your motor homing less anxious.

Although I have got a few ideas for the technical tables at the next AGM in 2027, I would welcome ideas from the membership, as to what you would like me to try to obtain.

I look forward to seeing you all at this year's AGM.

Alec Avery ASOC Technical

28 - March 2026

## Rally Report for the AGM 2026

The new system for booking rallies is now up and running. There are still a few teething problems, mainly related to the application forms which people are struggling to complete but I am hopeful that will soon be made easier for everyone, including myself.

I am slowly making slight changes to the way I am working to accommodate what the marshals and the members want. I have drafted a letter for each rally so that I can email to say they are on the rally and the marshal will be in touch nearer the time. I have done this due to people not wanting to pay until they know they are on the rally.

I have had complaints that there are still no rallies in Scotland or in the South of England, unfortunately we have no members in those areas who are willing to host a rally. If anyone is interested in running one, please come and talk to me after the AGM.

We have a few new rallies this year hosted by some new marshals, the one in Devon being hosted by two new marshals Andrew and Andrea Staines prior to the National. We also have Hereford being hosted by Mary and Andy Timmer, Bala and Aberystwyth hosted by Pamela and Colin Maltby and the Gloucester Vintage and Country Extravaganza hosted by Alec Avery who is looking for someone to assist him at this event. I would like to say a big thank you to all of the new marshals for stepping up to showcase these new areas.

I would like to say a big thank you for all the marshals and club members who have supported me and have been patient while I work out ways to help them complete the application forms

Carol Grain 11197  
Rally Secretary

## **Editor's AGM Report**

It really hasn't been very motorhome-friendly lately — cold, wet, grey... not exactly “*park up with a view and a cuppa*” weather. And when even the usually sunnier spots abroad are getting battered, it somehow feels extra unfair.

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 and website has remained a vital link between members, providing news, trip reports, technical advice, and features on member experiences. The regular contributions from members have made the newsletter a dynamic and informative resource, and I extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone who has shared their stories, tips, and photos.

### **Looking Ahead**

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

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

*Phill*

Editor, Auto-Sleepers Owners' Club

## **CLUMBER PARK**

### **A favourite of Ours: Brenda and Doug Averis**

Once again, this year we made our annual Autumnal visit to the C&MC site at Clumber Park. It has been a place we have visited over several years at different seasons, but we particularly enjoy being there during Autumn when the trees are at their colourful best and the footpaths are covered with the fallen leaves which rustle to the sound of our footsteps or small animals scurrying through the undergrowth trying to avoid us.

The site itself has recently undergone refurbishment and the facilities are, in our view, are very good. It means that washrooms never close since the new C&MC arrangement is that one half of a block remains open whilst the other half is cleaned. It's the small things ....

The Park itself situated just to the south of Worksop and part of the old forest of Sherwood used to be the country estate of the Dukes of Newcastle and is an expanse of parkland, heath and woods, including a 38-acre lake, covering nearly 4,000 acres in total. It is currently managed by the National Trust and at the centre of the park there is a café/restaurant with the usual facilities including a second-hand bookshop in which at least one of us can spend quite a lot of time.

## CLUMBER PARK (Cont)

However, for us the main attraction is the huge variety of walks available directly from the campsite and whatever happens en-route, it is almost impossible to get lost whilst walking in the park. Furthermore, one of the attractions for cyclists is that there is a bike hire facility at the centre and to encourage would-be Tour de France riders, the Park is well signposted with marked routes which are discretely

situated in accordance with a very simple map (see below). The Park website suggests that there are 20 miles of footpaths and/or cycle trails which easily accessed.

Whilst membership of the National Trust is required to enter the Park, it is

not required to access and leave the Caravan Site. Therefore, once established on a pitch, all the National Trust buildings are accessible on foot.



## **CLUMBER PARK (Cont)**

Points of interest include a Grade II listed bridge built between 1763-1770 designed to lead guests from one side of the lake to the other, (This year we noted that there is now a free 'bus' that will take would-be explorers from the central tourist facilities to the opposite side of the lake, thus making it accessible for all), and the Chapel of St Mary the Virgin. It was opened in 1889 and was built for the family of the Seventh Duke of Newcastle to use when at home at Clumber Park. However, it is no ordinary country house chapel, acting today as a parish church and is certainly worthy of being called a 'Cathedral in Miniature'. When our visits to the Park have coincided with Remembrance Sunday, the displays in the church have been quite magnificent.

Whilst the Clumber Park site will be familiar to many, for those for whom it would be a new venture the view of the trees alongside Lime Tree Avenue cannot fail to be impressed by the majestic double row of 1296 Lime trees along the road. Being two miles in length, it is the longest stretch of its kind in Europe.

### **Caravan and Motorhome Clubsite – Clumber Park**

<https://www.caravanclub.co.uk/club-sites/england/east-midlands/nottinghamshire/clumber-park-club-campsite/>

### **Clumber Park Cycle Routes**

<https://nt.global.ssl.fastly.net/binaries/content/assets/website/national/regions/nottinghamshire-lincolnshire/places/clumber-park/pdf/clumber-cycle-map--routes-2023.pdf>

## Discounted Dometic Fridge Servicing at the National Rally AGM ONLY £55

When was the last time your Dometic fridge was serviced?  
If you're like most of us... probably never.

If you're attending the AGM this year, this is a great opportunity to get your fridge professionally serviced.

Dometic has kindly offered a discounted fridge service for members attending the National AGM. The service will include:

- Cleaning and checking of the burner
- Cleaning of the chimney
- Checking of other components
- An overall condition check of the fridge

If you would like to take advantage of this service, Dometic asks that you confirm your fridge model in advance. Ideally, please provide a photo of the data plate (located inside the fridge on the back wall). This will allow them to prepare for the fridges being serviced and organise any parts that may be required.

Payment will be made directly to Dometic at the time the service is carried out.

To book or for more information, please contact:

**Technical:** Alec Avery [technical@asoc.uk.com](mailto:technical@asoc.uk.com)

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### **AT THE NATIONAL 2026 Our Very Popular Bottle & Can Tombola**

We are once again holding our much-loved Bottle and Can Tombola.

If any member would like to donate bottles or cans, your contributions would be greatly appreciated. Please let us know in advance or simply bring your items along on the day. All proceeds will go to our nominated charity.

Thank you for your continued support!

# MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE VACANCIES

## WE URGENTLY NEED

### VICE-CHAIRMAN

We need someone to fulfil this role, which includes

- Acting as a sounding-board for, and supporting the chairman
- Deputising for the chairman if necessary
- In conjunction with the Secretary, Treasurer and Chairman, dealing with any urgent matter which occurs between Committee meetings and reporting the same to the following Committee meeting.
- Deputise for the Treasurer in the event of unplanned unavailability
- Deputise for the Secretary as above

Please get in touch with Chris Brown at [chairman@asoc.ukcom](mailto:chairman@asoc.ukcom) for more information.

### SOMEONE TO MANAGE THE WEBSITE

We are currently having our website 'refurbished' which should make the navigation and the management easier. John Morris is maintaining the current site until the new one goes live and we need someone to come on board to manage the new website.

Do you have experience, knowledge or simply enthusiasm to take on this role? There will be training.

Please get in touch with Chris Brown at [chairman@asoc.uk.com](mailto:chairman@asoc.uk.com) for more information.

## **MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE VACANCIES (Cont)**

### **WE URGENTLY NEED**

#### **MINUTES SECRETARY**

Our current Minutes Secretary, Lizzie Stewart, is taking on the role of Secretary when Dennis Downie steps down at the AGM and is currently working with him to ensure a smooth transition. We need someone to take on this role, which involves the taking and circulating of Minutes of Meetings, both Committee and AGM. This means 5 meetings a year; 2 of which are at the National.

You will get all the support and guidance you need including the use of recordings.

Please get in touch with Chris Brown at [chairman@asoc.ukcom](mailto:chairman@asoc.ukcom) for more information.

I'm sure a lot of our members have time on their hands which could be spent helping to run our Club. We need more people on the Committee not the same people doing more jobs. Not having a full Committee makes the Club vulnerable and means we all have more to do and we're less able to help out or cover for each other where necessary.

You have a good team running your Club, why not join it? You will be most welcome.

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#### **'Auto-sleeper owners club UK' Facebook Page**

We're delighted to announce that ASOC now has its very own members-only Facebook group

**"Please ensure you include your membership number and agree to the terms.**

**Failure to do so will result in access being declined."**

Join the Group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2578562662499103>

## Shop News Flash – Pre-Order for AGM (Deadline April 4)

Dear Members,

### SHOP NEWS FLASH

Pre-order your merchandise now for collection at the AGM.

Please take a look at the updated shop, which now includes new lines and additional sizes. <https://www.asoc.uk.com/clubshop.html>

If you have any queries, please contact Elaine Davis:

- Email: [shop@asoc.uk.com](mailto:shop@asoc.uk.com)
- Phone: 07464 787252

**Deadline for orders: April 4th**

Kind regards,



Pre-order your merchandise now for collection at the AGM.

## FOR SALE

**Roger Watts**

**MEMBERSHIP NUMBER**

**8549**

**EMAIL**

**rogerw@bfocus.co.uk**

**MESSAGE**

**I have a pair of decals for a Fairford AS never been used. They are RHS 15CGI1043 stripe decal and 15CGI Mid lower Decal were £131 will accept £50 + postage. Is it possible to advertises these in the news letter?**

**thanks**

**Roger Watts**

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**FREE**

**Fiamma Privacy Room (ref. 2000.03) Awning. The front panel measures 9ft and fitted a 2005 Nuevo.**

**FREE**

**Movelite Pro XL Driveaway awning (steel poles). Fitted Fiamma F45 awning on 05 Nuevo.**

**Please contact Jeff Harrison (7648) on 07919 023668 for further details.**

**Many thanks John**

**Jeff Harrison (7648)**

## Sad Loss

have just had a phone call to let me know of the demise of Josie Busby from Coventry. For some years she joined up with Alan Guest, travelling over Europe and to many rallies together. She had suffered from Alzheimers and passed away in late June.

I'm sorry to be the bearer of such bad news, particularly in view of my last email about Philippa's death.

Yours,  
Pete Fisher

---

I have very sad news that Tony my husband has passed away at the age of 90.

We have attended many rallies, and he is best known to those attending the rallies at St Ives, where we live beside the river.

I have many happy memories, and hopefully will carry on travelling for a little longer.

Julia Lain 4437

## Club Committee Contacts

**President:** Charles Trevelyan

**Chair:** Chris Brown [chairman@asoc.uk.com](mailto:chairman@asoc.uk.com)

**Vice Chair:** [vicechairman@asoc.uk.com](mailto:vicechairman@asoc.uk.com)

**Secretary:** Dennis Downie [secretary@asoc.uk.com](mailto:secretary@asoc.uk.com)

**Treasurer:** Dave Thompson [treasurer@asoc.uk.com](mailto:treasurer@asoc.uk.com)

**Rally Coordinator:** Carol Grain [rally@asoc.uk.com](mailto:rally@asoc.uk.com)

**Technical:** Alec Avery [technical@asoc.uk.com](mailto:technical@asoc.uk.com)

**Club Shop:** Elaine Davis [shop@asoc.uk.com](mailto:shop@asoc.uk.com)

**Publications:** John Morris [publications@asoc.uk.com](mailto:publications@asoc.uk.com)

**Members Secretary:** Jean Downie [membershipsec@asoc.uk.com](mailto:membershipsec@asoc.uk.com)

**Editor:** Phill Lowe [editor@asoc.uk.com](mailto:editor@asoc.uk.com)

**Exhibitions:** Liz Irvin [exhibitions@asoc.uk.com](mailto:exhibitions@asoc.uk.com)

**Minute Secretary:** Liz Stewart [minutesec@asoc.uk.com](mailto:minutesec@asoc.uk.com)

**National Rally: Vacant** [nationalrally@asoc.uk.com](mailto: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

## Your club needs you

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

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



Auto-Sleeper



## WEBSITE

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

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

Please NOTE:-  
The Website  
Address is :-

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