



SWIFT

**MOTORHOMES
OWNERS CLUB**

Newsletter No. 127

Spring 2022

Lynwood Garage

Nationwide Motorhome Transportation

24HR BREAKDOWN & RECOVERY



For all cars, commercials &
Motorcycles. Workshop,
Servicing & MOT's. Storage

T: 01970 617498

Capel Seion, Aberystwyth,
Ceredigion SY23 4EE

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman : Ian Matthews

Lynwood Villa, Capel Seion, Aberystwyth, SY23 4EE
Tel : 07855 438171 Email : lynwoodrecovery@yahoo.co.uk



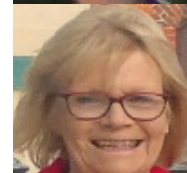
Vice Chairman : Heather Hartell

12 St. Boswells Close, Hailsham, E Sussex, BN27 3WB
Tel : 07887 426453 Email : heather.hartell@btinternet.com



Secretary : Val Dobbin

4 Ranleigh Drive, Newburgh, Lancs, WN8 7NA
Tel : 01257 462433 Email : valdobbin@sky.com



Treasurer : Bob Mason

Capen Hurst, West Camel, Yeovil, Somerset, BA22 7QX
Tel : 01935 851120 Email : bob@bobmason65.plus.com



Rally Secretary : Andy Hartell

12 St. Boswells Close, Hailsham, E Sussex, BN27 3WB
Tel : 07733 222027 Email : smoc.rallysecretary@gmail.com



Newsletter and Website : Ray Collinson

80 Minsthorpe Vale, South Elmsall, West Yorks, WF9 2PQ
Tel : 07876 506744 Email : rcolli4139@aol.com



Membership Secretary : Robert Hubbard

43 Oaklands Drive, Brandon, Suffolk, IP27 0NW
Tel: 07799 533434 Email:smoc.members.secretary@gmail.com



Regalia Organiser : Marilyn Miland

Peelers, Bayford, Wincanton, Somerset, BA9 9NR
Tel : 01963 34297 Email:smocregalia@aol.com



NEC Events Organiser : Jane Steward

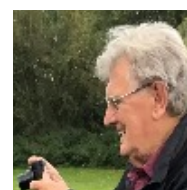
Walton House, Brigstock, Kettering, Northants, NN14 3HH
Tel : 01536 373269 email : j@janesteward.co.uk



Co-opted Member

Photo Editor : Bill Hoggett

84 Zetland Rd, Southport, PR9 0RH
Tel : 01704 534129 Email : billhoggett12@googlemail.com



CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

We are now hopefully in for a less restrictive rally season, with COVID hopefully at bay. Our season kicked off to a great start thanks to Nick and Ann Halford organising a great rally season start at Lincoln Farm Park. The local village pub was very welcoming and hosted some very entertaining late nights!

Hopefully members will support and join rallies in the months to come. Our rallies are very friendly and entertaining, with some great locations to visit. We all look forward to members old and new to join us for however many days you may choose.

The club would also like to apologise to members for not attending with a stand at February's caravan and camping show at the NEC. This was due to the Swift Group choosing not to exhibit at the February show. They kindly provide our club with a recruitment stand each year, but sadly, were not able to do so this time.

Hopefully the weather will be kind this year and we can all enjoy our forthcoming rallies. The holiday rally in France is at last on the horizon, this excellent trip to France has been a long time coming after the past two years unfortunate cancellations, and the frustrations for all concerned. Roll on C'est si Bon! Here we come Clement!

Have a great season all,

Ian (Chairman)

EDITORIAL

Due to Swift Group's non attendance at the NEC in February we didn't have a recruitment stand. Jane, our Events Organiser, has come to the rescue by booking a stand at the Peterborough Show. We hope you can join us - bookings are due to close very soon, so be quick if you want to be sited in the SMOC area.

This issue contains 'Notice of the AGM' in September and 'Nomination Form for positions on the Committee'. All the Committee stand down at the AGM, but most will be offering themselves for re-election. There will, however, be the following role changes:

Ian, our Chairman, having served his 3 years in office, will be replaced by Heather, our current Vice Chair. This means the position of Vice Chairman will be vacant. Also, after 8 years, I am standing down from my role as Newsletter Editor and Webmaster, so the Club needs someone to take over the role.

Please note that the venue for the AGM has changed. Due to renovation of the meeting room at Cranberry Moss, it is not available.

The AGM has been moved to

**Townsend Touring & Camping Park
Pembridge, Leominster HR6 9HB**

Our Rally Season is now in full swing and the French Rally is due to take place this June. This will probably delay the next edition of the Newsletter until late July.

Ray

Hugh Jackson - Member No. 647



Just before Christmas I received a letter from Pauline, Hugh's wife, to say that Hugh had died after having a really bad stroke in October.

They were due to come to the AGM in September, something they had done many times during their 27 years of membership, but Hugh became unwell just as they were about to set off and they had to cancel.

Their 'van', which they bought new, was a 27 year old Royale that Hugh had cherished over the years. In spite of it's age, it always looked immaculate due to the care and attention that Hugh gave it.

Hugh and Pauline were one of our earliest members who still attend rallies. They were always good company, ready for a chat and very friendly. I will miss seeing both of them at our rallies, as will a lot of other long term members.

Ray (Editor)



Swiss Farm Touring Park, Henley On Thames (2021 Christmas Rally)

Originally, we weren't going to this rally (erroneous thoughts on which site it was), so glad we found out our error, great venue and great rally!!

Henley-on-Thames is, of course, famous for the Royal Regatta where people such as Steve Redgrave honed his rowing skills to become a 5 time Olympic Champion before becoming SIR Steve Redgrave. It seemed that there would be plenty to see and do, so with a busy schedule in mind we decided to extend our stay, arriving a day early (it would have been 3 days if Bill hadn't had a burst pipe!!!!)

Andy and Heather, the rally marshalls, had devised a very busy programme for us, with something to do every day, either in the evening or morning. There were the "Meet and Greet" and the "Farewell" on the 1st and last evening. There were 2 evenings with birthday celebrations, Jane and Jill Thursday (apologies for our absence!!) and David and Anne on Tuesday, our last evening, where some attractive and tasty cakes were provided.



Friday was the evening of the Christmas meal at the local Rugby Club a 5 minute walk away. The generous portions of Christmas dinner were "worked off" by some energetic youngsters by dancing the night away, yet another Christmas highlight enjoyed by all. However, despite being a only 5 minute walk away, we were very grateful to have a lift back to the van (thank you Jim) when on leaving the clubhouse we were met with howling wind and lashing rainfall, the start of storm Arwen which was sweeping the country and causing such devastation.





HIRE | SALES | SERVICE | PARTS

'Lincolnshire's Premier Motorhome Dealership'

T: 01522 411252

WWW.CAMPERUK.CO.UK

New & Used
Vehicle Sales

Workshop

Accessory Shop

Leisure Park



01522 697070 | Camper UK, Deacon Road, Lincoln, LN2 4JB | www.CamperUK.co.uk



camperuk.co.uk



@Camper UK



@Camper_UK



@Camper_UK

Unfortunately, the storm impacted on our Saturday evening, Val and Dave having taken on Stella Mary's tradition of mulled wine and mince pies, it was hardly the weather to stand around celebrating and reminiscing. It was almost a case of "grab your lovely drink and hot mince pie and dash back "home". Such a shame after all Val and Dave's hard work.

Fortunately Sunday, although chilly, dawned bright clear for the coffee morning and raffle. Heather, Andy and many helpers cheered us all with bacon rolls to go with our drink. These were sold for £1 each (very, very good value, oodles of bacon) and after costs were deducted any profits were donated to the Macmillan Nurses. Yet again, Val and Dave did a sterling job with the raffle, with lots and lots of prizes donated and making over £160 for Club funds, "well done " Val and Dave.



On Monday evening yet another outing was arranged to an Indian restaurant in Henley a 20 minute walk away. Bill and I never go to Indian restaurants, so it was a new experience for us. I took advice from regular diners of Indian food and like everyone else thoroughly enjoyed my meal.

Henley-on-Thames was an interesting town, lots of very nice shops, mostly displaying wares without prices!!! (If you have to ask the price, you can't afford it, sprang to mind) but lovely for browsing.

Luckily it was our last day whilst walking along the river we spotted "The Chocolate Cafe". We had already stopped for coffee; but only a few hours before, the Chocolate Cafe had been highly recommended; so it was an easy decision that we could all "manage another". The cake counter was very tempting but after seeing the menu it was a unanimous decision "afternoon tea" for everyone. 2 delicious warm scones, a large pot of cream and strawberry, a large pot of butter and strawberry and a pot of tea each. Later it was voted the "best afternoon tea" ever. Had we found this cafe earlier I think we would all be at least a stone heavier.

Despite what you might be thinking, the rally wasn't all about food, there were lots of places to explore. A local Christmas Fayre at nearby Stoner Park with over a 100 stalls, including food and drink!! was enjoyed by many. Marlow, Shiplake and Reading were accessible by bus, but generally were not thought to be as pretty or interesting as Henley. Nearby National Trust properties were also high on the visiting list. I understand that Cliveden was enjoyed so much that the House, having been turned into a hotel, was a tempting proposition, until the price of £750 per night was quoted!!!!

Peter and Janice went into the forest apparently???? to find the place where the Magna Carta was signed but ended up lost in the forest!!! A likely story!!



There is also a railway station in Henley, which Bill and I used to have a day out in London. We were pleased to find the trains and buses not at all crowded, we had seating for 4 to ourselves both ways, so felt very safe.

We decided not to use the underground system at all, instead first catching the number 11 bus (using our bus passes) which runs almost the same route as the Red Tour Bus (costing £20) so we got to see most of the well known sites. We left the bus to walk through Trafalgar Square, continuing down to the river, crossing the Jubilee Bridge and along the embankment, passing the London Eye, back over Westminster Bridge, past the Houses of Parliament and Westminster Abbey. Then it was back on the bus until we reached Oxford Road (apart from a quick stop at the famous Annabel's Nightclub frequented by the Royal youngsters to name but a few!!!). It was now getting dark so we were able to see the fantastic Christmas Light Displays everywhere, a tiring but lovely day out.





A bonus of this rally venue was that the location was close to an “elder member” Stella Mary Fitzpatrick. Whilst she no longer has the joys and trials of owning her own motor home, she drove to Henley and checked into a hotel for 2 nights so that she could meet many of her old friends. She joined us for coffee and later for our excellent Sunday lunch. On Monday Stella Mary again joined us for the Indian “Club” meal, where due to her army service in far flung places, she was able to advise on suitable dishes for a novice like myself. Thus, together with a few nostalgic games of Rummikub, Stella Mary, like ourselves, thoroughly enjoyed partaking in this years SMOC Christmas rally.

I must say a huge thank you to Jim Brian for ferrying Stella Mary to and from the hotel (there being no car parking at the hotel, her car was left on our pitch); to Val and Dave, for their excellent warming mulled wine and mince pies as well as the very profitable raffle, well done!!; to Heather and her many helpers (Robert, Bridget, Sue and Keith to name but a few) for Sunday breakfast and finally to Andy and Heather for their superb hosting and organizing of a very welcome (in these difficult times), enjoyable and happy Christmas rally. I’m sooo glad that we went after all!.

Phyllis Simcock



This email was received by the Editor following the Henley Rally....

I just wanted to say a few words,

Thank you for such a wonderful weekend away.

We joined in 1996 and this was our first rally in 19 years- due to children being at school. It was wonderful to catch up with some oldies that's not age, but Membership years....lol.

You really are a wonderful friendly bunch - I honestly thought I wouldn't see that again in a group. Many thanks again for making us feel so welcome.

See you all again real soon, I promise it won't be another 19 years.

Rebecca & Alan Gregg (878)

SMOC RECRUITMENT STAND TO DEBUT **AT THE PETERBOROUGH SHOW**

Due to the decision by the Swift Group not to attend the NEC Show in February, we did not have our (Swift funded) recruitment stand at the event.

Because of this, we've booked a stand at the Warners Peterborough Show to advertise the Club and hopefully attract new members.

All members are welcome to come along for a chat and a cup of tea and biscuits.

If any member can spare some time to man the stand for an hour or two, to help recruit new members, please contact Jane Steward (Event Organiser) by phoning **07775 830 526** or emailing j@janesteward.co.uk

Pre Booked Camping at the Show is available until the 6th April

Book with Warners, quoting Swift in the Club Camping menu, to be pitched with the SMOC group



A TRIP TO THE NEW FOREST : HAMPSHIRE

Despite the name there is nothing “new” about the forest. It was established by William the Conqueror in 1079 so it has been around for a good few years and covers a large area between Southampton and Bournemouth. It boasts the highest concentration of ancient and veteran trees in Europe and contains 63% of Britain's' insects and an amazing 75% of all dragonfly species and also all six of our UK native reptiles. Most famous residents are the New Forest Ponies which run free the whole year and keep the rough heathland in check.

The forest itself has its own set of people who look after it and the animals. The Commoners own the ponies and have the “Right of Common of Pasture”, an ancient right which cannot be withdrawn. The Agisters, number about six people who are a skilled group with a good knowledge of the forest and ponies and oversee all aspects of the land and animals. The Verderers are ten people appointed to administer the laws concerning the New Forest. They hold the register of brands of the ponies and have admin control of the stallions.

There are well marked walks and cycle trails through the forest, which are mostly flat, and you are almost guaranteed to see a lot of free ranging animals. As well as the ponies there are cattle, donkeys, sheep and five different species of deer. In the autumn pigs are also let loose to Hoover up as many acorns as they can as if ponies or deer eat too many they can become ill.

Parts of the forest are used for commercial purposes and there are acres of pine trees which must provide enough telegraph poles for the whole country! There are also areas of peat bog which are very valuable as they can store enormous amounts of carbon and in the valleys are “mires” which get filled with plants such as sundew, bladderworts, aromatic bog myrtle, bog orchids and sedges.



**A mire in Spring
filled with violets**



**A mire in Winter
filled with ice**

Lyndhurst is considered the “capital” of the Forest and contains many touristy shops and the Tourist Information Centre. Personally I prefer Brockenhurst which has a different more “old fashioned” feel about it. There are excellent local shops including a Butcher, Baker (could not find a Candlestick Maker), Greengrocer and two small supermarkets.



There are many ancient place names throughout the forest whose meanings have been lost in the mists of time. My favourites are Camel Green, Foulford Bottom, Anthony’s Bee Bottom, Smoky Hole, Mouse’s Larder and Shaves Hat!

We stay at Black Knowl CAMC site which is within walking distance of Brockenhurst, but there are several other commercial sites in the Forest and also some that are run by the National Park as “Camping in the Forest”, but these are very basic with only fresh water and loo emptying facilities.

Marilyn Miland

“Members Portal” - New Online Rally Booking Function

As recently communicated to those members with an email address, we have gone live with an online rally booking option through our “Members Portal”. At the time of reading this you will be able to book all rallies up to the end of September, as well as track rally payment progress and other activities related to specific rallies. The AGM rally will be available to book once we have communicated the new venue with rallies beyond August becoming available once announced in future newsletter.

The one exception to the above are Warners Shows which are already open for booking on the “Out and About” website, so to allow you to complete a rally booking slip and make the appropriate rally fee payment these are all bookable on the “Members Portal”

To book a rally simply select “Book Rally” and you will be taken to the booking page. Please carefully follow the guidance provided and remember to wait for the Shopping Basket to close before moving to the Rally Fee payment page.

At checkout please remember to select your payment method (BACS or Cheque) and for both methods of payment please ensure you reference your unique “Bank Reference Code” and the system generated “Order Number”

After checkout you will be taken to a simplified “Rally Booking Form”, although if not already completed you will be taken through your individual profile pages and communication preferences (applies to all family members) which we ask that you complete. This step will not appear when booking further rallies.

On completion of a rally booking you will receive a confirmation email from the “Members Portal” detailing the nights booked and the information you have provided on the “Rally Booking Form” please check these to ensure everything is in order.

Once payment (BACS or Cheque) has been cleared into the Club’s account our Treasurer will mark your Rally Booking Order as payment received and you will get another confirmation email, which will include the following items,

The items you ordered

Your rally form information

Tickets for each night booked (these are for information only and are not required and we suggest you don’t print them off)

If you have not yet signed into the portal or haven't previously provided an email address but would like to please contact the Rally Secretary (contact details in the front of this newsletter)

We do hope you find this new way to view, book and pay for upcoming rallies useful, however please note that this method, whilst preferred, does not replace the existing methods of booking a rally, i.e. via the paper form or the e-form which can be posted or emailed to the Rally Secretary with the appropriate payment being made either via BACS or cheque.

If you need any further information or have any feedback on the "Members Portal", rallies or the club in general please do not hesitate to contact any member of the committee.

Please Note :

There is a window to the Members Portal on our Website at

www.swiftmotorhomesownersclub.co.uk

A Warm SMOC Welcome to our New Members.

We look forward to welcoming you to our Rallies

Janet & Michael Walch from Tyldesley 3406

Brian & Christine King from Basset Down 3407

David & Julie Bedt from Preston 3408

Paul & Hilary Warboys from Sittingbourne 3409

Tony Worsley from Haverfordwest 3410

Malcolm & Sheila Davis from Cornwall 3411

Tim & Caroline Caddy from Milford Haven 3412

Steven Lewis from Castle Donnington 3413

David & Helen Moody from Cornwall 3414

FUTURE RALLIES

BUCKLER'S HARD MARITIME MUSEUM AND HISTORIC VILLAGE

Beaulieu, SO42 7XB

Mon 16th – Mon 23rd May 2022

www.bucklershard.co.uk

Discover the fascinating story of Montagu Town as it was originally known which was founded as a free port for the trading of sugar from the West Indies. The newly re-designed Maritime Museum tells why the ambitious plans for a new town were never realised and why its name changed to Buckler's Hard. Learn about the machine gun that fired round and square bullets and see characters from the village at the time of Henry Adams, the Master Shipbuilder who lived and worked at Buckler's Hard.

An ideal base to explore the New Forest, Buckler's Hard is just a short walk away from Beaulieu village. Here you'll find a range of charming shops as well as the many delights of the Beaulieu visitor attraction, including the world-famous National Motor Museum.

Bucklers Hard has been accommodating rallies for many years and the site has both a fresh water and Elsan point available, although pitches are on grass and there is no EHU. There are public toilets in the village which are available during the day.

Please note that there is a **maximum capacity of 25 units for this rally** so please book early to secure a place.

Pitch Fee: £16.50 / unit per night

Rally Fee: £1 per person (Guests £10 per unit)

Rally Marshals: Fred & Silvia Morris

Closing Date for bookings: Monday 4th April 2022

Arrival Time TBC

FRENCH RALLY (Bookings now Closed)

3 sites - 16 nights

June 6th – 10th **BOCAGE DU LAC** (Brittany, France)

June 10th – 14th **LA GUYONNIERE** (Vendee, France)

June 14th – 22nd **L'ISLE VERTE** (Loire Valley, France)



SWIFT

Discover
peace of
mind.
Escape in
a Swift.



**WEST COUNTRY
MOTORHOMES**

The UK's Premier Dealer

www.wcmh.co.uk

- Specialist finance (subject to status)
- See website for our special offers
- Top px prices for motorhomes, caravans and cars



SALES



SERVICE



ACCESSORIES

Over 200 new and quality used motorhomes in stock

SOMERSET SALES CENTRE

Bristol Road (A38) Brent Knoll,
Highbridge, Somerset TA9 4HG

☎ 01278 761200

WILTSHIRE SALES CENTRE

Turnpike Road, Blunsdon,
Swindon, Wiltshire SN26 7EA

☎ 01793 726666



Ambleside Rugby Club, Borrans Rd, Ambleside LA22 0EN

Wed 13th – Wed 20th July 2022

<https://www.facebook.com/AmblesideRUFC/>

At the head of Lake Windermere, England's largest natural lake, Ambleside is one of the most popular towns in the Lake District and is a great place to explore the area from, be it by land or water. The bustling town is full of outdoor equipment shops, bookshops, gift shops, cafés, and restaurants plus a couple of independent arthouse cinema's each with their own restaurants!

The town provides easy access to the wider National Park and its myriad of walks including two starting directly from the town which are Loughrigg Fell and Stock Ghyll Force. The towns of Grasmere, Keswick and Windermere are nearby and can be accessed via the Langdale Rambler bus service, which runs throughout the summer months.

On the lake accessed via the village of Waterhead, why not take a cruise to Bowness or Haverthwaite, either by the regular boats that ply their trade on the lake, or you can even hire a boat and take yourself! Back in Ambleside don't forget to take in a visit to The Armitt Museum an art gallery and library or Rydall Mount and Gardens the home of William Wordsworth for over 40 years.

Our home for the duration of the rally is Ambleside Rugby club which sits half a mile in one direction from the town and the same in the other direction to Waterside. There are also bus stops a short 10-minute walk from the club.

Please note that we will be on grass and there is no EHU, toilet or shower facilities although fresh water and waste facilities will be available.

Pitch Fee: £13 per night / unit. Rally Fee: £1 per person (Guests £10 per unit)

Rally Marshals: Bridget & Robert Hubbard

Closing Date for bookings: Monday 6th June 2022

No arrivals before 2pm on first day of rally or before 10am on subsequent days

Gloucestershire Vintage & Country Extravaganza, South Cerney Airfield, Northmoor Lane, South Cerney, GL7 5QD

Thurs 4th – Sun 7th August 2022

<https://www.glosvintageextravaganza.co.uk>

Set on an ex-wartime airfield, the sprawling show site covers around 200 acres, with surprises around every corner, to suit young and old alike.

The main arena has displays throughout the weekend with steam traction engines, hundreds of vintage vehicles including bikes, cars, caravans, motorcycles, buses, and trucks. Whereas the countryside arena displays all manner of animals from ferrets to shire horses!

There is a large trade area selling all manner of goods plus a large food court and don't forget to visit the vintage 1940s Tea Room, featuring period style furnishings and serving tea or coffee from delicate china cups which you can choose to accompany delicious homemade cakes or scones with jam & cream. In the background, music plays from a 1940s style radio in keeping with the setting. There is also a large beer tent with entertainment throughout the day and evening.

As 2022 is the Queens Platinum Jubilee dancers will be performing to two classics from 1952 – a Jive Aces version of the Gene Kelly Classic "Singing in The Rain" (which premiered on Broadway in 1952) and a freestyle like flash mob performance to "Rock The Joint" by Bill Haley & The Comets. There will also be regular sets by 'Steamed Up Brass'.

. **Show Camping Fee:** For a 4-night stay (Thursday arrival)

Price TBC before end of March

Rally Fee: £1 per person (£10 per guest unit)

Rally Marshals: David & Marilyn Miland

Closing Date for bookings: 3rd July 2022

No Arrivals before 12 noon on Thursday, 9a.m. other days

Brecon Rugby Club, 63 Watton, Brecon LD3 7EL

Wed 10th – Wed 17th August 2022

<https://www.breconrfc.co.uk>

Nestling in the shadows of the majestic Beacons and at the confluence of the rivers Usk and Honddu the town of Brecon or Aberhonddu in Welsh is a picturesque market town, famed for its Georgian architecture. First built as a Roman military base it grew in the shadows of its Norman castle which once guarded one of the few crossing points on the river Usk.

Along with the castle the town boasts an 11th century cathedral (a former priory) a vibrant and colourful canal basin and the South Wales Borderers Military Museum. There are numerous independent shops and café's along with a monthly farmers market. There is also a 1930's cinema as well as a modern theatre and arts venue.

We will be staying at Brecon Rugby club which is situated on the edge of town and directly alongside the Monmouthshire & Brecon Canal. The centre of Brecon is a short 15-minute walk away.

During the month of August the annual Brecon Jazz Festival will once again be filling the town with music and for those interested further information is available via the link below.

<https://breconjazz.org>

Further afield are Abergavenny, Hay on Wye, and the spa town of Llandrindod Wells as well as Cardiff, all of which can be accessed via the local buses with many of the routes passing through the Beacons. The nearest bus stops are a short 10-minute walk from your motorhome.

Please note that we will be on grass and there are **no toilet or shower facilities** although fresh water and waste facilities will be available.

Pitch Fee: £16.50 per night / unit including EHU or £13.50 excluding EHU

(Please note there are only 22 hooks up)

Rally Fee: £1 per person (Guests £10 per unit)

Rally Marshals: Andy & Heather Hartell

Closing Date for bookings: Monday 4th July 2022

No arrivals before midday on first day of rally

Western Motorhome Show , Three Counties Showground, Malvern, WR136NW

Thurs 18th – Mon 22nd August 2021

This is one of the UK's leading Country & Western weekenders, a must visit event for all Country Music lovers so join 6000+ people at Warners largest camping rally of the year. Enjoy live music each night of your stay with entertainment across 3 venues provided by over 20 bands. Saturday's headline acts are Forever in Blue Jeans, Voice of the Heart, and Texas Gun, please note that is an additional charge at the time of booking.

Get in the spirit of the festival with authentic living history displays, educational workshops and live-action performances based around 19th Century Western America. Several of our members regularly go the whole hog and dress up in authentic western gear, so why not join in as well you're sure to find something around the many stalls. Also we are hoping to be able to offer some private line dance tuition to our members so watch this space!

With hundreds of new and used Motorhomes to view and over 200 stalls selling everything from awnings to zip ties there is plenty to while away your time and money!
Booking is via the Warners site, but please make sure you quote Swift MHOC on the drop-down menu for club camping as this will ensure you are with the SMOC group. Also remember to place a rally booking order, with the appropriate payment via BACS on the new online "Members Portal" or alternatively send in your rally slip to the Rally Secretary (details in the front of the newsletter) as well as your applicable rally fee.
As usual to ensure we are all pitched together as a club we need a minimum of 10 units so be sure to book early.

Show Camping Fee: For a 4-night stay (Thursday arrival) £68 per unit.
3-night stay (Friday arrival) £65 per unit.

Rally Fee: £1 per person (£10 per guest unit)

Rally Marshals: Heather & Andy Hartell

Closing Date for bookings: 3rd August 2022

No arrivals before 09.00 on any day

AGM Rally 2022, Townsend Touring & Camping Park Pembridge, Leominster HR6 9HB

Wed 7th – Wed 14th September 2022

<http://www.townsend-farm.co.uk>

NOTE THE CHANGE TO THE ORIGINALLY ADVERTISED VENUE

Owing to circumstances beyond our control, our original venue for this year's AGM rally has let us down. So instead we will be going to Pembridge in Herefordshire. Situated in the northwest of the county the site is within a 15-minute walk of this "jewel in the crown" Black & White village; one of many in this area and boasting 2 pubs, a number of cafés, bars, restaurants and a thriving village hall which will be the venue for our AGM on Saturday 10th September. There are bus stops in the village with routes to Leominster via a number of other Black and White villages, including Eardisland voted the Midlands prettiest village and in the other direction to Hereford, the county town with its majestic cathedral, cider museum and home to the SAS.

The park an award winning 5-star site has fully serviced pitches with EHU, waste and water which are either on grass or hardstanding, 2 coarse fishing lakes, 2 mountain bike trails and an award-winning onsite farm shop and butchery.

Please note that we only have access to 8 hardstanding pitches and the remainder will be on grass, so please remember to book early if you want to secure a hardstanding pitch.

Pitch Fee: £26 per unit / night on hardstanding fully serviced pitch

£25 per unit / night on grass fully serviced pitch

Rally Fee: £1 per person (Guests £10 per unit)

Rally Marshals: TBC

Closing Date for bookings: Monday 1st August 2022

No arrivals before 1pm

Sept 22nd – 26th

Lincoln Motorhome Show (Lincoln, LN2 2NA)

October 11th – 18th

Harford Bridge (Tavistock, PL19 9LS)

November 23rd – 30th

Christmas Rally, Poston Mill (Hereford HR2 0SF)

More details can be found at www.swiftmotorhomesownersclub.co.uk



**MOTORHOME
PROTECT**
INSURANCE SPECIALIST

**INTRODUCTORY
OFFER
FOR CLUB MEMBERS**

£25 OFF
your motorhome or
campervan insurance with
Motorhome Protect

Call us on
01865 818 345
With the code 'CLUB25'

*Terms and
Conditions apply

MOTORHOME INSURANCE YOU CAN TRUST

Available Benefits at a Glance

- 🛡️ 365 days EU Cover*
- 🛡️ Self-build & DIY conversions
- 🛡️ UK & EU breakdown cover
- 🛡️ Unlimited mileage
- 🛡️ Club member discounts
- 🛡️ Introductory NCB allowed
- 🛡️ Personal effects cover
- 🛡️ Excellent Service

motorhomeprotect.co.uk  **/Motorhomeprotect**

*Policy benefits, features and discounts offered may vary between insurance schemes or cover selected and are subject to underwriting criteria. Motorhome Protect is a trading name of Insurance Factory Limited who are authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (No. 306164). For mutual security, calls are recorded and may be monitored for training purposes.

EVE'S SIDE OF THE STORY

After three weeks in the Garden of Eden, God came to visit Eve. 'So, how is everything going?' inquired God.

'It is all so beautiful, God,' she replied. 'The sunrises and sunsets are breathtaking, the smells, the sights, everything is wonderful, but I have just one problem.'

It's these breasts you have given me. The middle one pushes the other two out and I am constantly knocking them with my arms, catching them on branches and snagging them on bushes. They're a real pain.'

And Eve went on to tell God that since many other parts of her body came in pairs, such as her limbs, eyes, ears, etc. She felt that having only two breasts might leave her body more 'symmetrically balanced'.

'That's a fair point,' replied God, 'But it was my first shot at this, you know. I gave the animals six breasts, so I figured that you needed only half of those, but I see that you are right. I will fix it up right away.'

And God reached down, removed the middle breast and tossed it into the bushes

Three weeks passed and God once again visited Eve in the Garden of Eden.

'Well, Eve, how is my favourite creation?'

'Just fantastic,' she replied, 'But for one oversight. You see, all the animals are paired off. The ewe has a ram and the cow has her bull. All the animals have a mate except me. I feel so alone.'

God thought for a moment and said, 'You know, Eve, you are right. How could I have overlooked this? You do need a mate and I will immediately create a man from a part of you. Let's see....where did I put that useless Tit?'

Now doesn't THAT make more sense than all that crap about the rib?



'We're on the brink of extinction and you have a headache?'



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2022

This is to advise the membership of the Swift Motorhomes Owners Club that the 32nd Annual General Meeting will be held at 10.30 a.m. on Saturday 10th September at

**Townsend Touring & Camping Park
Pembroke, Leominster HR6 9HB**

NOMINATIONS FOR ELECTION TO THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The Secretary must receive nominations for election to the Management Committee no later than 6th August 2022. I am quite happy for nominations to be emailed to me, but they must be followed up with form and signatures at the AGM. All nominations must be signed by the Proposer, Secunder and Nominee. (See Overleaf for Nomination Form)

MOTIONS FOR INCLUSION IN THE AGENDA

Motions for inclusion in the Agenda must be received in writing by the Secretary no later than 6th August 2022 and must include the Name and Membership number of the Proposer and Secunder.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE AGENDA, TOGETHER WITH THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR 2021/2022 WILL BE CIRCULATED BY 13th AUGUST 2022

Only full and family members shall have the right to attend, speak, vote and stand for office at the AGM. Associate Members shall have no voting rights.

Val Dobbin - Hon. Secretary



**The following Committee posts need to be filled at the next AGM
and nominees duly elected.**

Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Vice Chairman, Rally Secretary,
Membership Secretary, Newsletter Editor/Webmaster,
Regalia Organiser, Social Secretary

Post :

Nominee : Memb. No:

Signature :

Proposer : Memb. No:

Signature :

Seconder : Memb. No :

Signature :

Please send completed forms to :

**Val Dobbin, Swift Motorhomes Owners Club,
4 Ranleigh Drive, Newburgh, Lancs, WN8 7NA**

www.swiftmotorhomesownersclub.co.uk

POLITICAL SPIN AT ITS BEST

Judy Rudd an amateur genealogy researcher in south east Queensland, was doing some personal work on her own family tree.

She discovered that ex-Prime Minister Kevin Rudd's great-great uncle, Remus Rudd, was hanged for horse stealing and train robbery in Melbourne in 1889. Both Judy and Kevin Rudd share this common ancestor.

The only known photograph of Remus shows him standing on the gallows at the Melbourne Jail. On the back of the picture Judy obtained during her research is this inscription:



'Remus Rudd horse thief, sent to Melbourne Jail 1885, escaped 1887, robbed the Melbourne-Geelong train six times. Caught by Victoria Police Force, convicted and hanged in 1889.'

So Judy recently e-mailed ex-Prime Minister Rudd for information about their great-great uncle, Remus Rudd.

Believe it or not, Kevin Rudd's staff sent back the following biographical sketch for her genealogy research:

"Remus Rudd was famous in Victoria during the mid to late 1800s. His business empire grew to include acquisition of valuable equestrian assets and intimate dealings with the Melbourne-Geelong Railroad..

Beginning in 1883, he devoted several years of his life to government service, finally taking leave to resume his dealings with the railroad.

In 1887, he was a key player in a vital investigation run by the Victoria Police Force. In 1889, Remus passed away during an important Civic function held in his honour when the platform upon which he was standing collapsed."

**That's got more spin than driving for 30 miles to Barnard Castle
to test one's eyesight**

MARIA'S WEDDING NIGHT

Maria had just got married, and being a traditional Italian, she was still a virgin. On her wedding night, she stayed at her mother's house, and was very nervous.

Her mother reassured her: "Don't worry Maria, Tony's a good man. Go upstairs and he'll take care of you. Meanwhile, I'll be making pasta."

So, up she went. When she got upstairs, Tony took off his shirt and exposed his hairy chest. Maria ran downstairs to her mother and says, "Mama, Mama, Tony's got a big hairy chest."

"Don't worry, Maria," says the mother, "All good men have hairy chests. Go upstairs. He'll take good care of you."

So, up she went again. When she got up in the bedroom, Tony took off his pants exposing his hairy legs. Again, Maria ran downstairs to her mother, "Mama, Mama, Tony took off his pants and he's got hairy legs!"

"Don't worry! All good men have hairy legs. Tony's a good man. Go upstairs and he'll take good care of you."

So, up she went again. When she got there, Tony took off his socks and on his left foot he was missing three toes. When Maria saw this, she ran downstairs. "Mama, Mama, Tony's got a foot and a half!"

Her Mama said, "Stay here and stir the pasta."

'OLD' IS WHEN...Your sweetie says, 'Let's go upstairs and make love,' and you answer, 'Pick one; I can't do both!'

'OLD' IS WHEN...Your friends compliment you on your new alligator shoes and you're barefoot.

'OLD' IS WHEN...Going bra-less pulls all the wrinkles out of your face..

'OLD' IS WHEN....You don't care where your spouse goes, just as long as you don't have to go along.

'OLD' IS WHEN...You are cautioned to slow down by the doctor instead of by the police.

'OLD' IS WHEN..'Getting a little action' means you don't need to take a laxative today.

'OLD' IS WHEN...'Getting lucky' means you find your car in the parking lot..

'OLD' IS WHEN...An 'all nighter' means not getting up to use the bathroom.

'OLD' IS WHEN...You're not sure if these are facts or jokes.

Lincoln Farm Park, Standlake, Oxfordshire - 9th to 16th February 2022

Andy and I were certainly pleased to be going out in our MoHo once more, just a relatively short journey for us to Oxford lol, well only two and half hours! The dogs were also very happy to finally board their holiday home, whilst the cat was somewhat dejected and forlorn at being left to guard the house from predators once more.

There were lots of things to do in the area as our newbie Rally Marshalls, Nick and Ann detailed at our rally meet, well done for such comprehensive research on the local area. There was a local bus into Witney, then from there you could get a bus to Oxford and beyond, with many of our members taking good advantage of these services. In the opposite direction was Abingdon.



Abingdon County Hall was built as a Courthouse but is now home to a museum and contains the last MGB sports car made in Abingdon



Abingdon's Former Jail, now luxury flats



The River Thames at Abingdon

We had 17 MoHo's at our first meet of 2022, a great turn out. It was great to eventually see everyone, especially those who missed the last rally due to health issues and some who nearly missed this one too! We also had our usual spate of Motorhome issues, with breakdowns on route for some and a curtailed rally for others due to issues with the Alde system. It's always an adventure when out with our MoHo's.



We had a new addition to the pet branch of the club, a trainee puppy called Tom from “The Guide Dogs for the Blind” who is being brought up by David and Gillian Reed. Tom is a Retriever / Labrador Cross, he was gorgeous, and we all very much enjoyed meeting him. It's such a lovely thing to do, to train up a young pup for a blind person, as it makes a significant change to the person's life. I'm sure Gillian and David will enjoy taking Tom to lots of coffee shops, try different escalators and go on lots of public transport. I do hope Tom has deep pockets for all those cups of coffee and plenty of treats to keep him going.

Now funnily enough the pub was not very far from the site, so of course we had to visit it. The Black Horse was quite a trendy pub attracting a lot of local younger people (well younger than us at least!) and had some good beer and food on offer. Some of our members, who shall remain anonymous raved until the early hours although I understand there is an outstanding summons from the Oxford Constabulary for excessive frivolity and drinking the pub dry.

We enjoyed the Thursday night pub quiz, which included rounds on music, sport, local knowledge, and general knowledge, although surprisingly our best round was the one on local knowledge although after walking around the local area with the dogs and going out and about with Robert and Bridget in their car it wasn't so surprising.

We also learnt a few interesting facts such as the famous people associated with the Oxford area, did you know Raymond Blanc started his career as a kitchen runner at the Rose Revived pub near Standlake, before he went on to become a renowned Michelin starred Chef.

Also, Colin Dexter an author famous for his Inspector Morse novels, lives in nearby Summertown. Plus, Sir Roger Bannister ran the first 4-minute mile in 1954 at the Oxford University track at Iffley Road.



On Friday evening we enjoyed fish and chip's together in a little room onsite, which looked very much like a Wendy house! It was very cosy and with around 25 of us in there it didn't need much heating, especially after Nick, Ann and Tony had fetched the fish and chips from a local van that comes to the village each week.



Many thanks to Nick & Ann for organising it as we'd all be very sad without our rally Fish and Chips. Its always great to get together and catch up on our activities and lives. This is what the club is about socialising, making friends and exchanging points of view.



It was my 60th Birthday in early February and Andy had gone out secretly with an accomplice (Robert) to buy cakes and drinks for a surprise celebration in the Wendy house for me after we had finished our fish & chips. It was lovely to be wished happy birthday by you all and being able to enjoy some cake and a drink, also many thanks for the card you had all signed, as I said 60 is the new 40. Thanks also to Tony and Barbara for the gift and to Andy for treating us all!

Nick and Ann held the raffle on Sunday in the Wendy house, which was ideal as unsurprisingly it was raining. We all enjoyed the supplied coffee, tea, and biscuits. The raffle made £105 pounds which was great. Thank you for all the donations, especially the alcohol, which always seems to be selected first and then taken to new homes to be enjoyed at leisure.



Following the raffle most of us went out for Sunday lunch at our local hostelry, which was enjoyed by all, although the service was somewhat slow, but it did provide more time for drinking.



It was lovely to see you all at the rally, especially after the curtailments and cancellations of the last two years, due to Covid restrictions. It's always a joy to have old and new members come and join us to so please come and book a rally in 2022 with us, you can join in or do your own thing, it's up to you. Also if you fancy Marshalling or even organising a rally please let us know, it's easy just ask Nick & Ann!

by Heather Hartell (Vice-Chair)

Electronic Power Braked light weight A Frame Specialists

Tow A Frame

12 Nationwide Install Centres | 24 month Warranty | Award winning USA electronics



Electronic vacuum assisted braking system
fast, smooth, proportionate pneumatic braking

Tow A Frame



[SmartBox DUO]

***NEW** for October 2019 TowAFrame in partnership with Tow bar Solutions Wales and Wessex Nissan are pleased to announce our exciting new offer. We can now supply a Brand New Nissan Micra – supplied ReadyToTow with TowAFrame.com system installed & Nissan Wessex Finance options available. View the new Demonstration RTT Nissan Micra in the Atrium area Site E.

KEY BENEFITS

Dual sensing design means our system only brakes when required - No false braking

Hardware proudly designed, manufactured & fully tested in the UK

NCAP standard safety features retained with OEM Crash Management System bar strengthened for dual point towing



[Tow GLIDE]

Folded length only 80cm
Extended length 110 cm



Also see our Car Transporter Trailers that feature as standard:- 2 year warranty, galvanised steel chassis, full EU Type Approval, Chassis plate with 17 digit unique VIN, full 13pin electrics, spare wheel, front wheel chocks, slide out captive ramp design. Trailers for smart cars to Jaguars & almost everything in between. Call us for more details!

TowAFrame.com

T:0333-335-1020
E:Mike@TowAFrame.com