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**MOTORHOMES  
OWNERS CLUB**



**Newsletter No 139 - Spring 2025**



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## COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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## Chairpersons Chat

I begin this chat with great sadness following the passing of Anthony Steward at the beginning of January. Many of you will have met Anthony and, if so, will know what a true Gentleman he was. He always had time for a chat, even when he was very unwell and would share many stories of his life and clear passion for farming, everything equine and travel. He will be sadly missed by Andy & I and his many friends in the club, several of whom attended a very fitting celebration of his life. It was held in his local church, which was packed with hundreds of his family and friends, who then joined together in a Marquee in the village to share their memories of Anthony. Our heartfelt sympathies at this difficult time go out to Jane, Anthony's wife. You can read more about Anthony and his association with the club later in the edition of the newsletter.

As I write this, we have just completed our first rally of the 2025 calendar, which was held at Foxtails Holiday Park, Chirk, a very pleasant site alongside the Llangollen canal and over the road from a pub! The site had good links to both Oswestry/Shrewsbury and Wrexham and despite the cold weather, we all had a good time, especially with our Co-Marshall, Ann Jones, providing her wonderful selection of cakes and other delicacies.

The rallies this year look great, so make sure you sign up early and join us for some fun.

Our overseas rally to Ireland is all booked up and hopefully, those on the trip are getting prepared. Don't forget to book your ferry! We have a full itinerary and yes, lots of pubs for a Guinness or three.

This year is my last as Chair; it's certainly been an interesting time with lots of new changes to the club, all for the right reasons, I hope. Whilst challenging at times, I have certainly enjoyed my tenure, working with my co-committee members and spending time with many of our members on rallies throughout the UK and abroad. The job of the chair, in my view, is that of a custodian, ensuring we constantly look to improve where necessary whilst retaining the core values on which the club was created over 35 years ago.

I firmly believe that whoever takes on the challenge of being the chair should always have the heart of the club first and, together with the support of the Committee, continue to shape its future for the benefit of every member. As the saying goes, "No man is an island".

This year's AGM is on 13<sup>th</sup> September at Stourport Community Centre, Lickhill Road, Stourport-On-Severn so please pop the date in your diary and come and support your club. Remember if you wish to become part of the committee, please fill in a form in this newsletter and send it to our secretary.

So finally all I have to say is, if you haven't attended a rally, please come and join us, you will always meet other members happy to chat, possibly take part in a quiz, enjoy a leisurely walk (usually with a café or pub en-route) or partake in Sunday lunch!

Best Regards

Heather (Chair-person)

\*\*\*\*\*

## A very warm Swift Motorhomes Owners Club welcome to our new members

Lesley & Mark Jones - 3625

Ron & Irene Garner – 3626

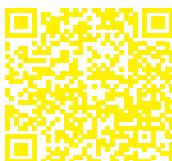
Pauline Gaughan & Dolores Murray – 3627

Stuart & Andrea Webster – 3628

### NEW DEDICATED CLUB FACEBOOK PAGE

If you haven't already, don't forget to join up to our clubs new Facebook Group. So far over 85 of our members have signed up but that still leaves a lot that are still to take the plunge.

To join simply scan the QR code below, answer the 3 qualifying membership questions and accept the group rules.



## EDITORIAL

It is such a sad loss to hear of a dear friend and SMOC member Anthony's passing. He will be a great loss to the club and all that knew him. His lovely stories and banter will be greatly missed. My deepest sympathy goes to Jane . We will hopefully see you in many rallies in the near future.

Well spring is in the air! Time to give that motorhome a spring clean and polish ready for all your planned trips.

Hopefully you are all booking your trips away in your motorhomes with the club? It is always a welcome break and a good time to catch up with the news from the many places that the club visit. Unfortunately as we are still working getting away is very difficult for us. We try to get to the weekend part of the club trip, but with work which sometimes has an impact on our Saturdays we are unable to attend all the trips. I enjoy reading what you all get up to on your trips and I am sure that a lot of the editorials you send in are not covering all that you get up to!

In the back of this newsletter the form for nominations for the club roles are there for you to fill.

Sue - Newsletter Editor





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## Where to Start, a MoHo cleaning tale

I can never again  
Look at The Van With No Name  
Without the feeling of utter shame

My Satellite dish, green with mould  
It looks a mess, is what I'm told  
A forest of leaves in my engine bay  
My shiney paintwork, lifeless and grey

So out with the bucket, sponge and hose  
Where to start, the top I suppose  
Ladders are out, but what a sight  
They sink into the grass, what a fright

Try again, safer this time  
Supported on boards, it will be fine  
My roof, once all shiny and clean  
Is now a disgrace, never to be seen

Here we go, scrub scrub scrub  
Hard at work, rub rub rub  
On with the cleaner, then the polish  
The dirt begins to slowly vanish

Satellite, aircon, solar, the rest  
Nice and clean it's looking its best  
Now the sides front and back  
2 hours in, I'm well on track

Snow foam next, Demon shine  
Oh how I need a glass of wine  
Polishing cloths, nearly done  
Wheels scrubbed, one by one



Once again I can look with pride  
My head not in shame, I don't have to hide  
A shiney van for all to see  
Including the birds up in the tree

For 5 minutes later its covered in poo  
I look on in despair, what to do  
So back out with the sponge and hose  
Where to start, the top I suppose

Now we're done, the van like new  
My body tired, yes it's true  
But feeling happy now she's white  
But must confess, took all my might

So can I ask, if I dare  
Any cleaning tips to share  
For winter is a filthy season  
And a question gives this poem a reason!

Thanks for reading

David Member (3407)



Well I have one page to fill and I have had no stories off anyone about there adventures apart from the rallies, so you will have to put up with some page filling. I will be a little more prepared next time!! (Hopefully) If you have anything you would like to add (photos too) please forward to me to my email on the Committee Members list.

\*\*\*\*\*

### A Little Story

An elderly couple entered McDonald's and sat next to a table where some young people were having dinner.

The old man walked over and made the order for himself.

He unwrapped the burger, cut it in half and put one half next to his wife. Carefully he counted all the fries and did the same.

He dipped 2 straws in the soda and put it between himself and his wife.

The old woman began to eat her half of the burger, while people stared at her compassionately.

A young man approached them and offered to buy them another portion of food.

The old women replied not to bother, as they were used to sharing everything.

Poole realized that the old man had not eaten, he only watched as his wife ate.

The young man approached them and repeated his offer.

This time it was the old man, who explained that no, they were used to sharing everything.

The young man then asked the old man.

And what are you waiting for then?

THE TEETH!!!!



## Christmas Rally - Tudor Caravan Park, Slimbridge 20th to 27th November 2024

Greetings all. This is the clubs second visit to Tudor Caravan Park as voted by members. It's near to the canal and Slimbridge wetlands, with a lovely pub/restaurant next door and a cafe over the road.

Our hosts were Bridget, Robert, Gill and Geoff, who welcomed us around to their place for the meet and greet (plus other meet ups) and treated us to their homemade sausage rolls and minced pies which were delicious. Robert informed us that this rally was the most motorhomes we have had (25) since Thornton's Holt back in 2019, where we had 32. Geoff shared his knowledge of the local area, including places to see and things to do. He had also arranged a group walk to Frampton on Seven via the canal with a stop off at the local pub for refreshments and for the local minibus to take whoever wanted to go into the town.

This years programme for the Christmas Rally was full of daily activities that you could join in or do you own thing. In tune with the festive theme, vans were dressed up with Christmas decorations; from twinkling lights to creative and festive ideas, completed a cozy Christmas atmosphere that made it feel like home on wheels. The agenda included mulled wine, nibbles, secret Santa, a charity auction donated by Sue (Sams) who hand knitted a beautiful England football outfit for the Swift teddy bear, to bacon rolls cooked by Robert. Other events included spontaneous or planned meet ups whether that was inside a van or outside, at the pub or cafe, to gentle mindful walks either together or on your own. To top it off there were birthday celebrations to be had, some members were a year older in and around that week. Jane (Kelly) invited us to her birthday bash, she brought goodies including cakes and biscuits that ended in a sing song. Thank you Jane that was very generous of you.

The Christmas spirit from members of the rally really shone through with caring and sharing but more importantly thinking about others. The ethos of giving and not getting reflected the focus of the season and as such, we were given a wide range of charities to choose from as to which one would receive a gift for "hope". Prostate cancer received the highest vote with all donations from the raffle, auction, Christmas card, bacon rolls to name but a few, going to a very worthy cause.

The Tudor Arms restaurant was an ideal location where we all gathered for our Christmas dinner. Continuing with Christmas spirit, some did fancy dress while others dressed dapper. The Christmas meal included three courses, Heather (chairperson) came up with a savvy idea for committee members to sit on different tables between each course. Moving around meant members of the club could chat to the committee members and to be part of the clubs ethos and by that I mean the motorhome community; friendly, approachable and fun people to be with.

The following day we went back to the Tudor Arms for Sunday lunch. Some members

opted to go off the menu, some launched straight in for Sunday lunch, whilst others did their own thing. Whatever we all decided to do, we all ended up in the same place, just milling around, chatting and enjoying the time we had together.

Storm Bert was on the horizon with warnings of heavy snowfall, rain and strong



winds. The snow thankfully did not hit us but the rest did. Vans were a rocking!! With the heavy rainfall, sadly prevented myself and Alistair from venturing too far from the site. However, with a dry day forecast we took advantage and jumped on our bikes to cycle along the Gloucester and Sharpness canal to Frampton on Severn. It's a great place to visit with old buildings and picturesque village with one of the longest village greens in England (according to Tudor Caravan Park leaflet !!!). It also has a couple of cozy pubs (dog friendly) the shop (not dog friendly) proved to be a good day out.

It was unfortunate for us that the weather did not play ball (but then again it was November), as it prevented us from exploring further afield. I'm sure that in the summer months you would be spoilt for choice in what to see and do. So on that note, I asked members if they would mind sharing their experience and travels (albeit it was on the last evening), as we would of loved to have seen and done more in Slimbridge and, of course for future reference to know what was on offer in and around the area, so a big thank you to Ann and Nick who wrote:

From Ann and Nick Halford

Nick and I visited Stroud by car, taking Heather and Keith along with us. Friday was market day, so we all headed towards the Shambles market where there were a few outdoor stalls and some indoor ones. A mix of food, drink, books gifts and crafting. Good town centre with a choice of cafes and restaurants. There was a very good street food market in one of the shopping centres. Saturday found us at the Christmas Market and winter ice rink in Gloucester. This was adjacent to the National



Waterways museum and Gloucester Quays Outlet shopping centre. Plenty to do and see and dodge the bad weather!

Monday we just visited Attwools. A large camping/caravan and Motorhome accessory shop and outdoor clothing. On the return journey we decided to visit a large garden centre which had a very popular restaurant/cafe for lunch. Nick had a large plate of chicken curry and I had a decent portion of Lasagne.

Following a breakfast at the Black Shed, our last outing was to Wotton Under Edge, a small Cotswold town on the Cotswold Way. Despite a lot being closed on Tuesdays the main street was worth walking down. A number of independent shops and cafes and quite a view over a small valley below the rising hills of the Cotswolds the other side. There was also a heritage museum located by the free central car park.

Great write up Ann, many thanks, Gwen



To conclude: what a wonderful time we had, just being with like minded people made this years Christmas rally memorable. We met new and old friends, spent quality time together, enjoyed the freedom that motorhoming brings but, above all had so much fun .. what a treat... A big shout out to the rally Marshals, Geoff, Gill, Robert and Bridget who made it possible for all members to have a great time. That leaves me only one thing to say, I wish everyone a wonderful and happy New Year.

Gwen Smith (3418)

As Keith and myself (Sue) were only here for a few days on the christmas rally. (The dredged work commitments come in again) we did the walk down the canal to where all the boats had been beached. This is known either by the Purton Hulks or The Purton Ships Graveyard. It apparently is a unique location where over 80 boats were deliberately beached to reinforce the riverbank and protect the Gloucester and Sharpness Canal. This has created the UK's largest ship grave. We walked from the camp site all the way down the cannal path to see the graveyard. Luckily for us the rain had not set in and it was quite a trek. There was no stops on the way and no refreshments when we got there, luckily we had taken refreshments with us. Forget toilet stops as there was none when we got to the Hulks either!!! We had some lovely chats with local people on our walk that lived in the cannal cottages by the side of the cannal and we had some lovely insights into the local life.

When we actually got to the Hulks the ground was very wet underfoot and did not make a good walk around them all. The area was very overgrown and it was difficult to see the boats to start with. Each boat had plaques to say what they did and how old they were. It was a shame that it was so far to walk and the weather did not look too good when we got there. It was not a very easy walk to the area but glad we did it and say we have been there. Not sure Keith was impressed by the amount of walking!! Sue and Keith (3237)







## **In Memory of Anthony Steward**

**22<sup>nd</sup> Oct 1939 - 16<sup>th</sup> Jan2025**

On 16<sup>th</sup> January we learned that our good friend, Anthony, (known to everyone as 'Ant' ) had finally succumbed to prostate cancer. In spite of many years of chemotherapy treatment, he never complained and was always the perfect gentleman.

He loved going on rallies, meeting new people and making friends, and everyone loved talking with Ant. He was down to earth, a man of the world and a great storyteller.



Lots of his stories were of his real life experiences, which were many, but often he would slip in a joke story, which he told so convincingly that you believed it was true - until the punch line! This would either have you in fits of laughter or groaning and exclaiming 'Oh Ant' knowing you'd been had by him, again.

Ant's life story began in Brigstock in 1939. He lived most of his life in the house where he was born. Farming and horses were in his blood and he rode before he could walk.

He attended school in nearby Kettering. The teachers thought he was a sickly child as he had many days off. On one occasion, Anthony's father, Jim, was summoned by the headmaster. He wanted Jim to explain how, if Anthony was so poorly, he had managed to win a prestigious class at The Royal Show. He presented Jim with a newspaper with a write up and photo of a local boy's success at the Royal Show.

Jim removed Ant from the school and his education was continued in Rockingham, at the church school, by the vicar - who wasn't concerned whether Anthony attended regularly, so long as he received his due payment.



Much of Ant's schooling took place outside the classroom. He helped to farm the land, learned how to repair the machinery, rode the ponies and helped with the stock. Early in his working life he would work for his father during the day, then in the evening he would work for himself in his workshop repairing farm machinery and buying and selling tractors.





On the farm, Ant's real love was his cattle. He started out buying a few cattle to fatten up and sell, but over the years moved onto breeding his own closed herd of Simmental cattle.

The horse side of the business ran alongside the farm and Anthony competed in Show Jumping classes all over the country, alongside the likes of Harvey Smith and Fred Welch. He had a great eye for a horse and was a judge at shows in this country and abroad.

In 2006, Ant and Jane were attracted to motorhoming after seeing some people wild camping in Corsica. Several years later they finally viewed one that was for sale in the local paper, but it was a total heap. Undeterred by this, much later, in 2012 they went to White Arches to view a Kon Tiki 660. Following a serious amount of haggling (remember Ant is a skilled Horse Trader) and numerous price reductions they became the proud owners of a motorhome and in 2014 joined SMOC at the Peterborough Show.



*2017 AGM, Stratford*



*2020 Brewery Tour, Melton Mowbray*



*April 2021, Whitby*



*NEC Recruitment Stand 2020*



*June 2022  
Montsoreau, France*



*Nov 2024, Gran  
Canaria*

May you Rest in Peace, Anthony. We will remember you as a true gentleman who will be greatly missed by all your friends at SMOC

*Ray & Carol Collinson 2576*



## **Swift Motorhomes Owners Club - Code of Conduct:**

### **1. Be kind and courteous:**

- We are all in the club together to mutually enjoy the pastime of Motorhoming, so we should always create a positive, welcoming and inviting environment.
- We should treat everyone with respect and dignity, whilst healthy debates are natural kindness should prevail.

### **2. No hate speech, bullying, physical or verbal abuse:**

- We should always make sure people feel safe. Physical or verbal abuse or intimidating behaviour of any kind is not allowed and degrading comments about things like race, religion, culture, sexual orientation, gender or identity will not be tolerated.
- Instances of such behaviour should be challenged and reported.

### **3. Respect everyone's privacy.**

- Being part of a club requires mutual trust. Authentic, expressive discussions make groups great, but they may also be sensitive and private.

Inappropriate behaviour by a member which causes (or could reasonably be expected to cause) offence, embarrassment or disruption to the Club or other members, shall be in breach of the Code of Conduct.

**The Club reserves the right to suspend or permanently exclude any member who breaches the Code of Conduct, along with all other members directly linked to the same Membership.**



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## New Year 2025 – A step into something new for the club

Traditionally, the club rally season finishes with our Christmas rally in November and does not restart until the following February however, we tried something a little different at the end of 2024 and went away to celebrate New Year with a few other members of the club.

Our venue was Milestone Caravan Park, Cromwell, which we had visited in 2023 and when also we found out they held a New Year party in their barn. So after making some enquiries, we booked some places.



After an overnight pub stop on the way up to Cromwell, we arrived mid-morning on the 29<sup>th</sup> of December, this gave us a little bit of time to set things up before everyone arrived. As is the norm we all gathered for a meet & greet and shared our Christmas stories as well as enjoying some nibbles and some warming drinks. This was followed by our first visit to the local Milestone Brewery and Tap Room,

which, luckily for us all, being near the site entrance, was only a five-minute walk away. The brewery has a fine array of its own ales as well as a very good selection of spirits and other drinks, so something for everyone. We enjoyed a cosy evening up on the mezzanine snug, putting the world to the right and competing in one of



Heather's quizzes. I can't recall who won, but I do remember there was a fair bit of gamesmanship going on.

The following morning, we got up early(ish) as we were doing bacon rolls, with a £2 per roll donation going to Prostate cancer. Everyone contributed, although most took them back to their warm motorhomes as it was bitterly cold. We raised £28, although given the very sad news about Anthony Steward, one of our



long-standing and much-loved members who passed away in January after living with Prostate cancer for many years, Heather & I increased the amount to £50, so with Gift aid this made an overall donation of £60 to this very worthy men's charity. We spent the remainder of the day with a visit to Newark on the bus with Robert & Bridget, where we met up with a few others and got waylaid in a pub for a few hours, so missed our intended bus home!

That evening, we spent another evening gathered in the Milestone Taproom and enjoyed food from one of the visiting vendors, which was very good. I seem to recall there was yet another quiz, although this time organised by the venue so as per normal none of us won!

On New Year's Eve, we awoke to a cold but bright day and we all convened that morning around our Motorhome for the raffle and some warm drinks, which were most welcome. The day was spent walking the dogs and preparing for that evening's festivities, which began with us all huddled in the site's small information



hut for bubbles and nibbles before going over to the site's barn for the New Year's Eve party.

We all found some tables together, although we later discovered that the site had reserved us a table, but it had been taken by other revelers before we arrived, he ho! There was a fantastic raffle with absolutely loads of prizes, with some of our members winning a few, although unfortunately not the star prizes. They even had bingo, which I love (not), but that said, we all had a go but won nothing! There was an outside barbecue run by the site staff, which provided all-you-can-eat burgers and hot dogs, which were enjoyed by everyone. The evening finished off with much revelry and merriment as we brought in 2025 after which we toddled off back to our Motorhomes.

The 1<sup>st</sup> day of 2025 was a quiet one, I wonder why! Heather cooked a lovely bowl of chilli and rice for those who needed sustenance, surprisingly, many did, with a couple even coming back for seconds. We then did little more than spend the afternoon gathered with other members, talking about our plans for 2025 and where we were planning on going in our motorhomes.

That evening, we met for one last time in the Brewery and Taproom and said our goodbyes, with some planning early starts for home.

I hope you all have a lovely 2025 and look forward to catching up with you on a rally somewhere this year. Also don't forget we have a New Year rally coming up this year, so if you are interested, we may still be able to squeeze you in but you had better hurry.

Andy Hartell – Rally Secretary





Time to level the motorhome!

### French toast Recipe

An irresistible breakfast that's easy to make and super tasty is French toast. You could have it plain or drizzle some syrup over it and add a few berries.

What you'll need:

4 Sliced bread (the thicker, the better)

1 Egg

¼ cup of Milk

Butter

Toppings: berries, golden syrup, honey, jam, chocolate spread (savoury options can be cheese, ham, bacon)

Optional: 1 teaspoon vanilla extract and ½ teaspoon of ground cinnamon

How to make this easy camping meal:

Whisk your egg in a bowl and add in the milk. For an extra sweet-tasting French toast, add the vanilla extract and cinnamon to the mixture and stir. Dip your bread slices in the mixture, and generously coat both sides equally. Then lightly grease your pan, place your bread on it, flip it over and dab a bit of butter to keep the moisture. Continue doing that until it's golden brown. Once made, add toppings of your choice.

## **Southern Motorhome Show – Newbury Showground**

**Chieveley, RG18 9QZ**

**15th -19th May, 2025**

Celebrating the Swinging Sixties, this Warners show is held over 4 days at the Newbury showground just off the M4 motorway. With both local and national dealers displaying a wide range of both new and used vehicles, you will need to be careful you don't part with something you didn't intend to!

The entertainment line-up includes the Moondogs, Beatles Experience, The Cilla Black Experience, Jimmy Jermain & the Knight Shadows, Swinging Blue Jeans, and New Amen Corner, please note that a separate fee is charged for the Saturday night headliners.

A continuous shuttle bus service will operate to Newbury on Saturday between 9 am - 5:00 pm, and tickets can be bought at the show from the information office. (£~5 pp) Plus, there is a coach trip to Oxford on Friday (departing at 10 am) for £26.63 per person, bookable via the Out & About Website.

When booking via the Warners site, please make sure you quote Swift OC (SMOC) when selecting club camping as this ensures that you will be with the club group. Also, please remember to book the event on the "Members Portal" and pay your rally fee. As usual, for these events, we need to have a minimum of 11 units to ensure we are together as a club, so please ensure you book well ahead of the closure date below.

**Show Camping Fee: For a 4-night stay (Thursday or Friday arrival) - £87.15 per unit.**

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

**Rally Marshals: Ann Jones**

**Closing Date for bookings: 30<sup>th</sup> April 2025**

**No arrivals before 08.00 on any day**



## Bagwell Farm Rally

Chickerill DT3 4EA

16<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2025

Bagwell Farm is located at the heart of one of Britain's most beautiful and celebrated landscapes and a great base for staying in Dorset. The site has spectacular views of the World Heritage "Jurassic Coast, Chesil Bank, Fleet Lagoon and Lyme Bay.

Onsite you will find all the usual amenities, including a Bar & Grill, takeaway food outlet and a grocery shop.

There is direct access to the Southwest Coastal Path, from where you can walk for miles. The nearest bus stop is less than 10 minutes away with buses to Weymouth or in the opposite direction to Bridport, Axminster and Lyme Regis.

Please note that the rally will be on the site's rally field (Grove Field). The field has 10-amp hookup outlets as well as communal water, waste, Elsan and recycling points. Access to the toilet and shower facilities in the main park is limited to off-peak times only.

Pitch Fee: Grass with EHU - £32

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

Rally Marshals: Ann & Nick Halford

Closing Date for bookings: Wednesday 4th June 2025

No arrivals before noon on any day

## **Netley Marsh Steam & Craft Show – Netley Marsh** **Meadow Mead Farm, SO40 7GY**

24<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> July 2025

Netley Marsh Steam and Craft Show has something for everyone, whether it's the sound and smell of the steam engines or the smell of the food outlets dotted across the site, you can be sure there is something there for you!

The event not only has what you would expect from a Steam Fair, but you will also find a range of commercial vehicles, classic cars, heavy horses, motorcycles, a Wall of Death and a funfair! Plus, there is entertainment on both Friday & Saturday nights.

When booking via the “Members Portal” please select all the nights you will be attending the show (rally). The pitch fee is zero as you also need to complete a booking via the “Netley Marsh Steam & Craft Show” website and make your payment there. Please make sure you use the dedicated booking portal below.

<https://www.nmscs.org.uk/swift-owners-club>

The site has toilet facilities, fresh water and waste disposal points

**Show Camping Fee: £18 per night - Thursday or Friday arrival**

*(There is a minimum 2-night stay)*

**Show wristbands @ £25 each**

*(Provides unlimited entry to the show)*

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

**Rally Marshals: Fred & Silv Morris**

**Closing Date for bookings: 1<sup>st</sup> July 2025**

**No arrivals before midday on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> July**

# **Aberystwyth Rugby Club Rally**

**Aberystwyth SY23 1HL**

**7<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> August 2025**

Aberystwyth, meaning the mouth of the river Ystwyth and commonly and colloquially known simply as “Aber” sits smack bang in the middle of the rugged Ceredigion coastline, making it a cracking destination for a rally. It is one of the biggest towns in Mid Wales, with a town centre that is spread around a variety of interesting roads, the names and architecture of which reflect the town’s history and growth since the Middle Ages.

A visit to Aberystwyth is quite impossible without a walk, jog or mindfulness moment on the mile-long Victorian promenade. The seafront also boasts the oldest pier in Wales (it was built in 1864), which offers the second-best vantage point of Aberystwyth, with the best vantage point being at the end of North beach’s promenade, atop the 430 feet that is Constitution Hill. This hill also houses the world’s largest Camera Obscura.

Nearby our rally site is the Vale of Rheidol railway, offering a chance to travel 12 miles on a vintage steam train to Devils Bridge and visit the famous waterfalls. If you want to explore further afield you can hop on a local bus or catch the train, with places like the pretty harbour towns of Aberaeron, or New Quay relatively close, or travel on to Llanerchaeron, an 18<sup>th</sup> Century Georgian Villa, owned by the National Trust.

Our rally venue in Aber is the rugby club, which is just a 15-minute walk from the town centre with a further 5 minutes to the beach. The club will have a potable drinking water and foul water disposal point available, as well as an Elsan disposal point.

**Pitch Fee: Grass with EHU - £13**

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

**Rally Marshals: Ann & Nick Halford / Keith & Sue Morgan**

**Closing Date for bookings: Thursday 26th June 2025**

**No arrivals before 1pm on any day**

## **Western Motorhome Show – Three Counties Showground**

Malvern, WR13 6NW

**14th -18th August, 2025**

A firm favourite in the rally calendar with four nights of live Country & Western-themed entertainment across three venues. With over 450 new and used Motorhomes/campervans to view and numerous stalls selling everything from awnings to Western clothing, there is plenty to while away your time and money!

At this year's show, prepared to be entertained by acts such as Rob Childs, The Thornhills, Henry Smith Band, The Westcoasters, The Shania Twain Story and the Diablos. Please note that there is an additional charge for the Saturday night headline acts. In addition to the nighttime entertainment, there is music throughout each day in the food areas, plus authentic displays by the Lonestar Old West re-enactment group can be enjoyed in the exhibition area. Why not try your hand at a bit of archery or axe throwing? Alternatively, visit the advice centre and dip into a variety of talks on camping. Or, if you fancy a trip out, why not visit Worcester or Malvern during your stay. (extra charges apply)

Booking is via the Warners site; please make sure you quote Swift OC (SMOC) when booking for club camping, as this will ensure you are with the SMOC group. Also, please remember to book the event on the "Members Portal" and pay your rally fee.

As usual, for these events, we need to have a minimum of 11 units to ensure we are together as a club, so please ensure you book well ahead of the closure date below

**Show Camping Fee: For a 4 night stay (Thursday or Friday arrival) £87.15 per unit.**

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

**Rally Marshals: Sheila & Trevor Howard**

**Closing Date for bookings: 30<sup>th</sup> July 2025**

**No arrivals before 08.00 on any day**

## **AGM Rally 2025, Lickhill Manor Caravan Park**

**Stourport on Severn, DY13 8RL**

**10<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> September 2025**

Lickhill Manor Caravan Park circles a 17<sup>th</sup> century manor house alongside the River Severn and is just a short riverside stroll from the Georgian canal town of Stourport-on-Severn.

The park has an abundance of wildlife around several carefully developed habitats, with bird and bat boxes, wildlife pools with waterfowl and over 2000 specially planted trees and shrubs, including many among its pitches. If you fancy some fishing? Lickhill Manor has its own three-quarters of a mile stretch of the River Severn with half a mile set aside from which to cast off its specially constructed platforms for perch, roach, barbel, chub and tench.

Stourport has an abundance of shops, cafes and restaurants as well as many water-based pastimes on the river and canal. The town is noted for its restored and unique historic canal basins where over 100 boats are moored.

Just a short distance from Stourport are attractions such as Hartlebury Castle, a stunning historic site once home to the Bishops of Worcester, which today houses the Worcestershire Country Museum. The Wyre Forest, one of the largest ancient woodlands in England. Severn Valley Railway, a heritage steam railway winding its way through the Worcestershire and Shropshire countryside.

**Pitch Fee: Grass with EHU - £23.75**

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

**Rally Marshals: Andy & Heather Hartell**

**Closing Date for bookings: 30<sup>th</sup> July 2025**

**No arrivals before 1pm on any day**





## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2025**

**This is to advise the membership of the Swift Motorhomes Owners Club that the 35th Annual General Meeting will be held at  
10.30 a.m. on Saturday 13th September**

**Venue:**

**Stourport Community Centre, Lickhill Road, Stouport-on-Severn**

### **NOMINATIONS FOR ELECTION TO THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

**The Secretary must receive nominations for election to the Management Committee no later than 2nd August 2025. Whilst nominations can be emailed to the Secretary, they must be followed up with a form and signatures at the AGM. All nominations must be signed by the Proposer, Seconder 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 4th August 2025 and must include the Name and Membership number of the Proposer and Seconder.**

### **DISTRIBUTION OF THE AGENDA, TOGETHER WITH THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR 2024/2025 WILL BE CIRCULATED BY 9<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2025**

**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.**

**Pauline Hayward - 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 Media & Recruitment Officer

Post: .....

Nominee: ..... Memb.No:.....

Signature: .....

Proposer: ..... Memb.No:.....

Signature: .....

Seconder: ..... Memb.No:.....

Signature: .....

**Please send completed forms to :**

**Pauline Hayward, Swift Motorhomes Owners Club,  
5 Cambridge Close, Harmer Hill, Shrewsbury, SY4 3HG**

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[SmartBox DUO]

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