

# Rally Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Never been on a Rally before, and therefore not sure what to expect? Well take a moment to read through some of these common questions regarding rallying with the AAOCC, and hopefully they will put your mind at rest and make you want to join us on the rally field soon.....

An AAOCC Rally is a gathering of AAOCC members who are looking to spend time away from home whilst making the most of their Caravans. Members are normally just looking to visit new locations, and to share a natter, maybe a few drinks and share a few laughs in the evenings with friends.

When we purchase caravans it's all too easy to use them for one or two weeks a year, then leave them stored away till the following summer. Here at AAOCC we look to make the most of our investment by planning rallies throughout the year (yes even in the winter!!!).

To come along to an AAOCC rally, you must first join the club. Membership starts at just £15 for the year, Membership covers yourself, your partner and any children you may have under the age of 18.

For more information see the website at <http://www.aaocc.org.uk/> and follow the links to the "Membership" page

Rallies are held at a variety of places, from Pubs and farmland to commercial sites, basically anywhere that our club licence will allow us to stay. Often rallying allows us to take our vans to sites that normal caravan users cannot easily get to, such as in the grounds of stately homes or private estates, anywhere really where we can provide fresh drinking water, and somewhere to empty the loo.....

Why not take a look at the rally program on our website at [www.aaocc.org.uk](http://www.aaocc.org.uk), just follow the links to Rallies. The rally program varies from rally to rally, but some of the basic ingredients will be the same on each one.

## Heading to site

Having followed the directions in the rally handbook you will have found the rally site signposted in the last few miles. Marshals use a variety of signage, but all will have AAOCC in as big a font as possible.

## Arriving on site

When you arrive at the site, the marshals should come out to greet you and point you to your spot for the rally. Should they not appear then pull up near the Rally Marshal's van, which will be identified by a sign in the window, and then they will point you in the right direction. The marshals will also point out the fresh water and Elsan (where the loo gets emptied!!) point.

## Pitching up

Once at your designated pitch, take some time to get the van level, and get the legs down, you never know you may even get a few offers of assistance for some of the jobs that you normally need to set up, like filling the water barrels etc.

## What's next?

Well that's the hard part over, all you need to do now is head back to the Marshal's van and in return for payment for the rally, the Marshal's will provide you with the rally running order, this normally consists of a brief detail on the area, a list of your fellow ralliers, and details of any entertainment that may have been arranged, but don't worry, should the marshals have arranged some entertainment it is not compulsory to take part. There may also be a competition or quiz to tax the mind over the rally

Facilities are dependent on the rally site, but as a minimum you will have fresh water drinking point, and somewhere to empty the loo. Normally the site owners will have also provide containers for dry waste, which should be bagged and sealed. When this isn't possible unfortunately you may have to take your dry waste home or to an alternative venue (i.e. local waste disposal point).

On occasion rallies can be held at sites that provide additional facilities such as toilet and shower blocks to electricity. Where this is the case it will be clearly identified in the Rally handbook.

Rallies are also held over the majority of bank holiday weekends, often with follow on rallies nearby to extend the breaks for those with spare holidays!

The club also arranges a rally over the New Year period, with a now famous disco night on the big night itself. Again it depends on the rally, on some of the smaller rallies there may be as few as 4 or 5 vans, whilst at our National rally there could be up to 15 to 20 vans. But don't worry, however large the rally we never lose the 'family club' feel to the rallies

Throughout the year the club hosts some event rallies, these are;

The **AAOCC National rally**, is used to raise funds for our elected charity.

The **Junior rally**, as the name suggests, this rally focuses on our Junior members, often arranged and organised by the Junior council, at a place that the Juniors would like to visit.

The **AGM rally**, this rally hosts the club's Annual General meeting, where elections for the committee are held, and as it normally coincides with the club's birthday we normally have a party in the evening.

The **New Year Rally** is our wrap up to the year, celebrating the New Year in style with entertainment and a disco.

All rallies are open to all members.

### **What does it cost?**

Again this is down to the rally site, but prices will normally be in the range of £4 to £12 a night, plus a £4 rally fee. Should electricity be available this will be charged locally with prices normally advertised in the Rally handbook.

Well for most rallies all you will need is the equipment that comes as standard with your van plus the usual extras of;

- Water containers
- Waste water container
- Fire bucket (Essential)

Additionally there are some items that will make your rally more comfortable.

- A 110 amp leisure battery
- Some chairs, for joining in the natter in the evenings.

Some other items that would be beneficial to you should the costs allow;

- Solar panel (as big a wattage as possible)
- Generators, the nice and quiet suitcase ones are the favourite.

Next steps are to follow the link to the AAOCC web page at [www.aaocc.org.uk](http://www.aaocc.org.uk). From there, follow the links to the "Membership" page, where you will find an application form along with details of where to send it.

You will then receive your membership pack which will include the all important Rally Handbook, from here you will be able to see which rallies are in your local area along with details on how to book.

Any more questions please feel free to email the Membership Secretary at mail to: [membership@aaocc.org.uk](mailto:membership@aaocc.org.uk)

**See you on a rally field soon...**