



Winter 2021



Collective mark of Mobile Caravan Engineers Associates Ltd



Approved  
Mobile  
Workshop

Caravan and Motorhome Newsletter

# DAELY News

**DAE Caravan Services**  
[www.daecaravan.services/](http://www.daecaravan.services/)  
[daecaravanservices@gmail.com](mailto:daecaravanservices@gmail.com)

**DAE** CARAVAN  
SERVICES  
LTD

*Quality Servicing at Affordable Prices*  
mobile trailer and caravan servicing by a qualified engineer

**DAE Caravan Services shop and repair centre** is now open in  
Oldbury Road, Old Cwmbran. NP44 3JU

Visit my Cwmbran shop for caravan and  
motorhome servicing, spares and accessories

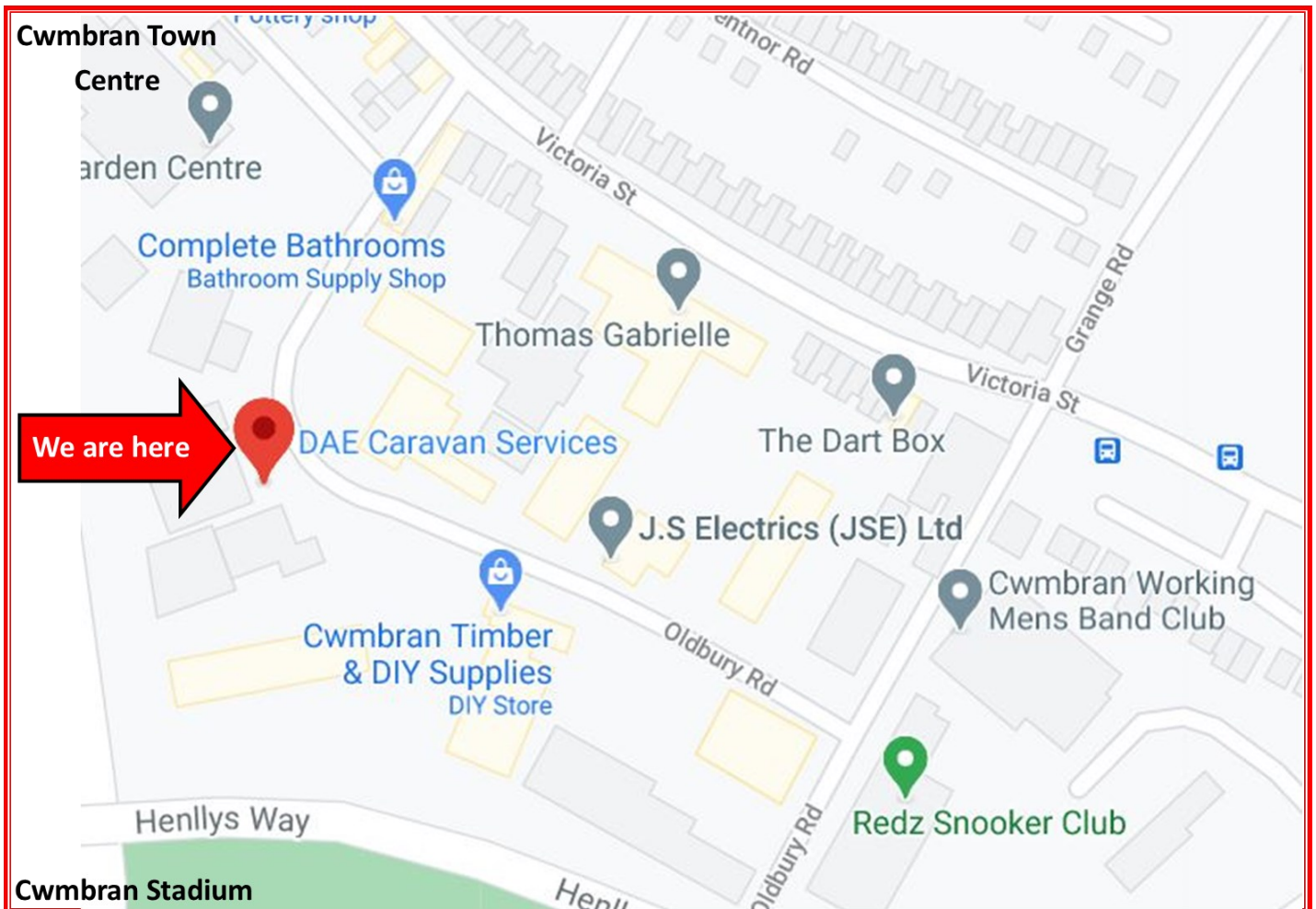
## DAE Services Caravan and Motorhome Service Centre and Shop

DAE Caravan Services Shop is open in Oldbury Road, Old Cwmbrian. NP44 3JU

We are sited between Cwmbrian Stadium and Cwmbrian Town Centre, we are easy to get to and have free parking directly outside the shop.

Find us using Sat-Nav NP44 3JU or using the map below.

Always make sure that your chosen engineer is qualified to the highest standard by being a member of the AWS NCC and if they come to you they have a mobile workshop certificate.



Cwmbran's Caravan and Motor Home Shop and Service Centre



Spares  
Accessories  
Parts  
Special orders



DAE Caravan Services at Oldbury Road, Old Cwmbran.

NP44 3JU

## Making the most of your caravan adventures



Caravanning has always meant different things to different people. For some, it's a chance to meet up with a circle of close friends. For others, it's a way to enjoy favourite places in their home from home.

Whatever your reasons for touring, there's always more to explore – not just new places, but different ways to experience your travels and fully appreciate this wonderful way to holiday. Here are just a few ways you can get more from your caravanning in 2021.

### Driver Training

For many of us towing is a necessary evil. But with some expert guidance, it can become a satisfying aspect of the whole touring experience.

Trailer training is now big business, as drivers who passed their test since the start of April 1997 look to upgrade to a B+E licence, allowing them to tow heavier car and caravan combinations.

But driver training isn't just for those with a test to pass. It can also help to improve your ability and confidence, even if you already have a B+E licence.

There are plenty of independent schools offering instruction in the dark arts of trailer towing, and both major caravanning clubs have manoeuvring courses.

For example, a Confidence Builder Course from The Camping and Caravanning Club costs £155 for members, and £180 for non-members.

## Making the most of your caravan adventures

### Personalising your van

Upgrades such as a solar panel for off-grid camping are great, but it's not just about adding more practical features. Why not make 2021 the year you personalise the inside of your caravan?

This doesn't necessarily mean reupholstering the entire interior. A few new scatter cushions, or perhaps a change of curtains, can make a van that's looking a bit tired feel just like new again.

The satisfaction you'll get from breathing new life into an ageing tourer will be doubled if you make the soft furnishings yourself.



### New horizons

Last year was enormously frustrating for caravanners, campsite owners and... well, everyone, really.

The immediate temptation, when we are able, is to head straight back to a favourite haunt and make your first tour of the 2021 season something special, to somewhere you already know and love.

There's nothing wrong with that, but if 2020's cabin fever has taught us anything, it's that we must make the most of the time we have while it's ours to enjoy.

So don't just stick with the places you know, try somewhere new! Be adventurous. Visit that far-off destination you've always had on your bucket list. Let 2021 be the year you make it happen.



## Driving in Europe after Brexit: what to look out for!

From buying an international driving permit and a green card, to checking their insurance, British drivers will now need to understand upcoming changes that will affect them.

Driving experts from car and van hire comparison site StressFreeCarRental.com have revealed what to look out for when driving in continental Europe in 2021, as life for British motorists will be very different.

The UK officially left the EU on 31st January 2020 but is currently in a Brexit transition period. This means that most arrangements, including rules on driving, stay unchanged until the deadline on 31st December 2020.

A deal is still being negotiated but whatever its outcome, there will be some changes for drivers heading for the continent from the new year.

### Do I need an International Driving Permit?

From 1st January 2021, Brits might need what is called an International Driving Permit (IDP) to drive in some European countries.

The UK Government is currently involved with negotiations with the EU about this and has promised more details later this month.

In the meantime, if Brits have overseas travel booked, then we'd recommend buying an IDP from Post Offices for £5.50.

### Will my current license be accepted?

EU and EEA licences will continue to be accepted in the UK for visitors and residents. The EEA is the European Economic Area, which is the EU member states plus Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, and Switzerland.

### Will I still need headlamp beam converters?

These are still a necessity when travelling anywhere in Europe and are available in my Cwmbran shop.

### Do I need a high viz top?

Every country in Europe requires that you carry at least one inside the car and you must have a top for every passenger. These are always in stock and ideal whether in the UK or Europe, so pick them up when you are next in the shop.



## Driving in Europe after Brexit: what to look out for (continued)

### Do I need a green card when driving abroad?

British driver's UK insurance is still valid for visiting the EEA during the transition period. But after this period, Brits may also need a green card. This is a document from your insurer to prove your car is covered if you are driving in Europe.

The government's official advice is: "You should plan to carry one for the vehicle you're driving in the EU and EEA, including in Ireland, from 1 January 2021."

Please note that separate green cards are needed for trailers and caravans.

### Do you need extra car and motor insurance?

Under the European Union 2009 motor insurance directive, any vehicle legally insured in one EU country can be driven between other European nations on the same policy. So Brits will still be insured under their current providers, but if Brits drive in Europe without a Green Card, then they might face a fine or get their vehicle seized.

### What about a GB sticker on vehicles?

The UK government is recommending that Brits have a GB sticker on the car, even if there's already a GB symbol on the number plate.



### Anything else I need to know?

British drivers need to remember to carry their V5C logbook with them if they own the car. If it is a hire car, then Brits will need to get a VE103 form to show they have permission to take it out of the UK.

- Reflective jackets (there must be one for each passenger and be kept within the cabin of the car)
- Warning triangle (compulsory in most countries)
- Headlamp beam deflectors (depending on your car, you'll either need deflector stickers or have to adjust the beam manually)
- First aid kit (compulsory in Austria, France and Germany)



## Don't Forget to Check...



You can take your caravan to a registered caravan engineer or have them come to you. DAE Caravan Services can service your caravan or motorhome and you'll be safe in the knowledge that you are in the hands of professionals.

Don't try to do your utilities such as gas and electricity yourself – some things are best left to the experts!

Get ready to put your caravan away for the winter and check...

- **Damp and mould** – it's time to air the caravan and look for any signs of damp or water ingress. Check windows, doors, skylights and the back of cupboards. Any mould can be removed with a mould spray or anti bacterial wipes (check the directions). Use a dehumidifier if it smells musty and then give the 'van a good spring clean – inside and out.
- **Battery** – Check the leisure battery, clean the terminals and charge it up. Check the voltage to make sure it's holding enough charge.
- **Lights, electrics and appliances** – Check the road lights and electrical connections between the tow car and caravan are working properly and clean or remove any corrosion on the connectors with wire wool and then protect with WD40. Replace any broken or dim bulbs. Connect your gas and check all appliances are working correctly, making sure the flames on the gas cooker are blue and that all gas hoses are still in service – high pressure rubber hoses should last for five years and will be stamped with the date of manufacture.
- **Get the touring kit essentials** — batteries, lightbulbs, gas, first aid kit and cleaning equipment together, plus blankets and wet weather clothing for those rainy days that are forecast this Easter!
- **Book a service** – make sure the caravan is serviced by an approved workshop or engineer or get booked in for that annual check. At **DAE Caravan Services** we can do this on site, at your home or at our site in Old Cwmbran.



Please read the small print as some insurance providers require regular servicing by an registered caravan engineer.



## Motor Movers

### What is a motor mover?

A motor mover is an electronic device you fit to your caravan to enable you to 'manoeuvre' it remotely, using a handheld control.

It consists of two or four motor units (for single or twin axles), an electronic control unit, and of course, a handheld remote to control the manoeuvres.

### Why do I need a motor mover?

Apart from being the coolest thing on any campsite, motor movers play a major part in stress reduction, both when manoeuvring on a tricky-to-access campsite pitch, and when positioning your tourer in a tight or awkward storage space at home.

A caravan fitted with a motor mover can almost turn on its own axis, so they're perfect for moving a caravan into a tight spot, say, between a garage wall and a fence post. This has the added bonus of making the caravan far more difficult to remove, thereby increasing security.

Manoeuvres with a motor mover are slow and precise, so in tight spaces you're much less likely to damage your tourer. They are also handy for precisely manoeuvring onto levelling ramps on sloping caravan pitches, and for aligning the receptors for Al-Ko wheel locks.

### Where does it fit on my caravan?

Traditional motor movers are bolted to the caravan's chassis next to the wheel(s). Typically, they hang below the chassis.

### How do I operate it?

Once you're close to your pitch, unhitch the caravan and lower the jockey wheel, turn on the mover's master switch, engage the rollers, then release the handbrake and use the handheld remote to 'drive' the caravan perfectly onto the pitch – wherever you are!



Visit [www.daecaravan.services](http://www.daecaravan.services) for prices of power movers.



If you are thinking of having a motor mover fitted then contact Dave a registered caravan engineer with mobile workshop certification for peace of mind in knowing it's done properly. He'll give you a great price and fit it at a time to suit you.

## Falcon Technology

If you are looking for the latest in technology and innovation then look at Falcon Technologies equipment and resources. Falcon offer a great range of products for your caravan and motor home, making it a home from home with the latest technology and upgrades.

Falcon technology products include:

- Sat-nav systems designed for caravan and motor home users

- Televisions

- Satellite
- Manual and automatic satellite dishes



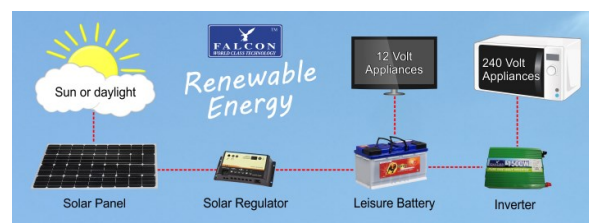
- Mobile Internet—never be out of touch again, unless

you want to.

- Solar panels



caravans and motor homes



- Power inverters - Use your home electrical appliances in your home from home



- Leisure batteries - making sure you have the best power supply available for your needs



- Electrical accessories from mounting plates to cables
- Alarms and trackers keeping your loved ones and property safe
- Parking sensors enabling you to park with confidence



**Ask Dave about a discount code and get extra money off Falcon Technologies**

## Tyre Safety

### Have you checked your tyres and wheels?

Caravan wheels may look similar to car ones, but they are usually specially made for caravan use.

On a single axle caravan, each wheel has to support at least half the weight of the caravan, which is often more than one quarter of the weight of a typical car.

It is important, therefore, to consider carefully any change in wheel specification for your caravan. As a general rule, it is not a good idea to use car wheels on a caravan, unless you can establish (usually from the wheel manufacturer or supplier) that they are appropriate.

### How do I know when to change my tyres?

Caravans do a fairly low annual mileage – on average around 2,000 miles a year, so it would take many years of use to wear out the tread.

A number of factors can make tyres deteriorate in a different way, even with careful use.

- All tyres age and deteriorate due to exposure to sunlight and atmosphere, even if not used.
- Caravan tyres can suffer fatigue due to the repetitive small impacts they suffer in everyday use.
- Being stored for long periods of the year without use can put undue strain on one particular part of the tyre.



Tyres which are damaged or worn to the legal minimum tread depth must be replaced immediately. Caravan tyres need regular replacement, irrespective of their visual appearance. **DAE Caravan Servicing** recommends that you replace your caravan tyres when they reach five years old and should never be used when more than seven years old.

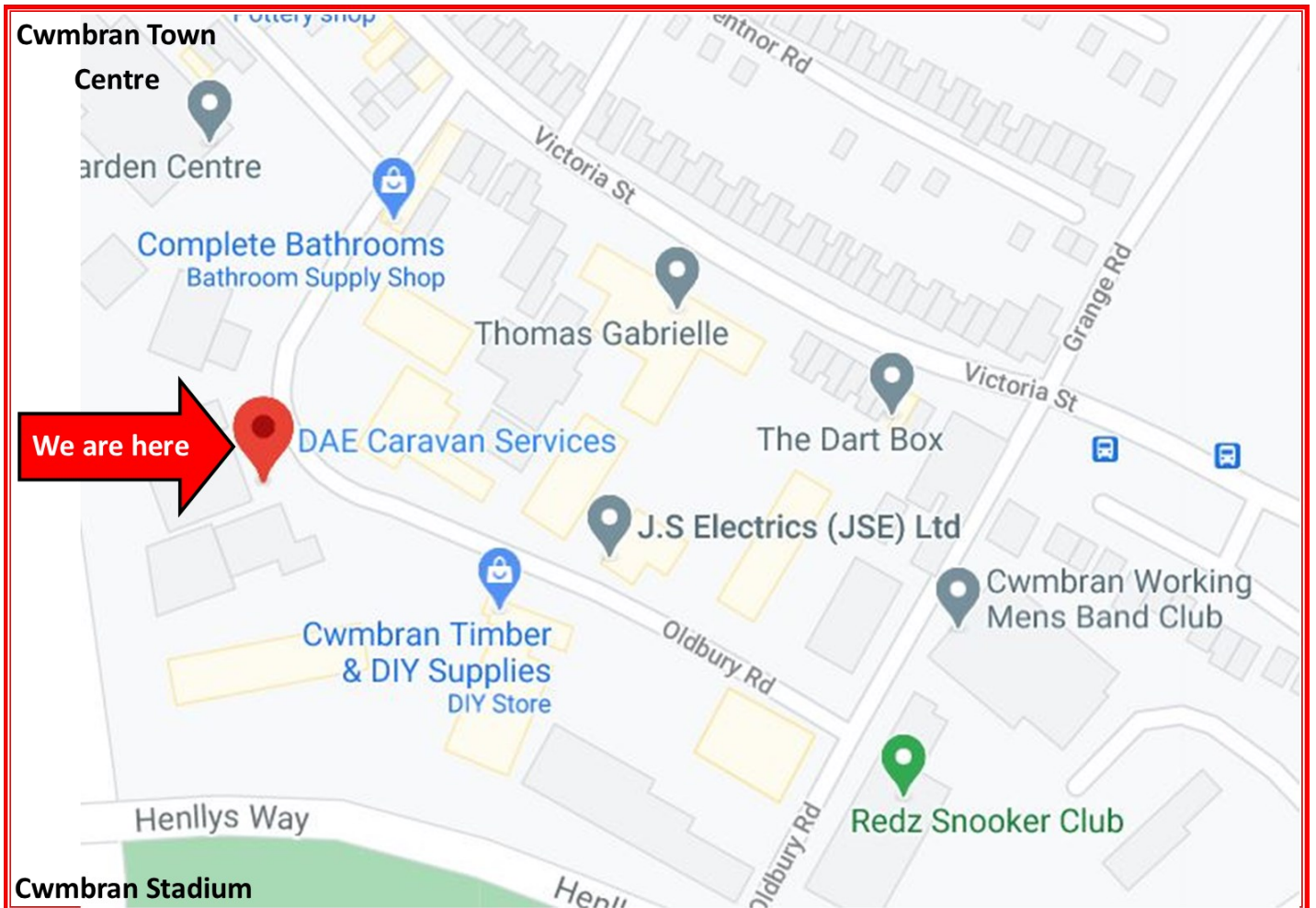
If your tyres need a high inflation pressure (50psi or more), you should check regularly for signs of deterioration from three years old and should not be used when they reach five years.

*(Talk to Dave at **DAE Caravan Services** for tyre replacements and competitive prices)*

**Remember – the tyres age starts from when it was made, not from when it was fitted.**

## Contact Details

Sat Nav **NP44 3JU**



Call me on

**07596 608923**

Email me at

**Dave@daecaravan.services**

Visit my website at

**www.daecaravan.services**