



## SUFFOLK CENTRE

### TIPS AND IDEAS



(Researched and written by Chris Sanderson)

#### Winterising - Draining Down Fresh Water.

If it is your last rally or site visit before laying up for your van for the winter, remove any drain valves (red plugs on later models) normally found on the underside of your van and open the water heater drain tap and the sink / shower taps before making the journey home. The van movement should shake the majority of water out of the system.



If you are not sure all the water is out of the pipes and you've got a shower fitted, open the shower tap, remove the showerhead and blow back down the pipe as hard as you can until any gurgling noises stop and blowing gets much easier.

Additional info & checks – if your van has a filter fitted as part of the fresh water system, don't forget to remove this to ensure that as much water as possible has been drained out.



Some vans are fitted with a Strainer (see photo) in the pipework that connects direct from the exterior fresh water connection point. These Strainers are often fitted with their clear plastic bowl pointed downwards and as a result, water never drains from the bowl when drain cocks/taps are opened. To drain the Strainer – place a cloth under the bowl and unscrew bowl clockwise (as viewed from the top). Don't overtighten on reassembly – check for any leaks when you refill system again.

From experience I have had one of these Strainers freeze and the small plastic bowl cracked. This can easily go unnoticed resulting in water leaking and the subsequent hunt for a replacement when you are miles from a dealership.