

NEWSLETTER

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

Happy New Year! Hope you all enjoyed your Christmas break and found an excuse to take that MG for a spin. Because of the mild weather what little road salt has been put down was soon washed off and so there was no excuse not to blow the cobwebs away.

Early in December we held our Christmas Dinner at the Greyhound in Bromham. A good meal and plenty of frivolity made for a very seasonal evening at a venue that we have not used before for this purpose. Member's comments would be welcome.

On the matter of venues, you may be aware that The Bell at Broughton Gifford has changed hands again, just some twelve months after Tony's retirement. I have spoken with the new Landlords, Wayne and Helen who have confirmed that so far as Wessex MG Club is concerned it is business as usual and we can continue to use these much valued facilities. At some unspecified time in the future, however, the Landlord proposes to change the access arrangements to the upstairs function room thus allowing him to create a self-contained upstairs staff apartment. I will give you more news on this as it emerges.

The new Committee met early in December and a programme of events for 2012 has been developed and is printed elsewhere in this Newsletter. You will see that there are some new events and activities as well as the

favoured regulars. It is hoped that the long weekend away this year will be to Derbyshire. This was the favoured venue following the ballot held in December. Details have yet to be worked out including the dates, but as soon as there is any firm information it will be sent out to all Members. I have received a good response to my request for Members ideas for Club activities and to help in the preparation and organisation of events. Thank you for that. In this respect, John Bishop has volunteered to tell us about one of his other hobbies. For some considerable years he has enjoyed constructing and flying model aircraft and he will be telling us about one aspect of that at our January meeting including an impressive display of models. (*Aircraft that is!*)

Paul Warn, our much valued Newsletter Editor, has not been in the best of health since mid-November, so together with David Whiteley, we visited Paul and Anne shortly after Christmas to wish him well and on behalf of all Members to wish him a speedy recovery. We took him an impressive book about the achievements of the McLaren Formula 1 Team. Despite feeling tired and weary as a result of his condition, he still insists on preparing the Newsletter for which we should all be grateful.

Get well soon, Paul.

Gordon



The WESSEX MG CLUB
At the Bell on the Common Broughton Gifford

For your diary in the coming month

January
23rd - **Club Night** - Talk on model aircraft.

February
14th - St Valentine's Dinner.
19th - International MG Show and Spares Day.
27th - **Club Night** - Debate.

For details see page 3.

ON A PERSONAL NOTE

I would like to thank you for your good wishes through the phone calls, get well cards and e-mails I have received over the past couple of months. Gordon and David's visit was a particular tonic and the club's generous gift. Hopefully the New Year will bring better times and Anne and I can get back into the activities of the Club.

Paul and Anne

MYSTERY CAR

You may remember in the last edition (November) of the newsletter, Peter Hine provided this teaser for our occasional mystery car section. I'm pleased

to report that I received two suggestions as to the identity of the car.

The first came from Geoff Fry who thinks it is a Buckler

and the second from Ken Scott who has put his shirt on a Dellow.



Geoff's suggestion came without any supporting information. So referring to my edition of Gregor Grant's British Sport Cars, I found **Buckler**, which included the following...

"The Buckler Cars company was founded by Derek Buckler and based in Reading. Around 500 cars were produced between 1947 and 1962. The basis of the design is a cleverly-designed, multi-tubular frame, to which can be fitted various Ford components, including axles, wheels and brakes. They are usually powered by Buckler modified Ford Ten engines and fitted with Buckler close-ratio gears."

Ken's suggestion of a **Dellow** is also featured in Gregor Grant's book, but Ken provided the following information.

The car is a Dellow Mk. 2. The Dellow was a car built specially for trials and 'mud-plugging' hill climbs. Built near Birmingham in the 1950's originally around the Austin 7 but subsequently around the Ford E93A side-valve cars. The Ford beam axle with transverse leaf spring and telescopic dampers giving amazing articulation for 'off road' use. Around 300 were believed to have been built.

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Both cars are similar in concept, built in the immediate post war period using Ford parts and designed to be multi-purpose machines used in hill-climbs and speed events as well as trials and rallies. I'll leave **Peter** to arbitrate based on the information he has - Good luck!

Ed

CLUB NEWS

The WESSEX MG Club 2012 EVENTS LIST				
Date	Event	Club Event	Venue	Additional Information
23 Jan	Club Night - 'Autogyros'	Yes	The Bell	<i>John Bishop. 01225 755319.</i> A talk about John's long standing hobby building & flying model aircraft.
14 Feb	St.Valentine's Dinner	Yes	The Bell (Provisional)	<i>Gordon Newman. 01225 755645.</i> Details to follow.
19 Feb	International MG Show & Spares Day	No	Stoneleigh Park, Warks.	<i>Vic Wright. 01380 859618.</i> 8.30 am Esso Filling Station north of Chippenham on A350.
27 Feb	Club Night – Debate	Yes	The Bell	<i>David Whiteley. 01380 828806.</i> Motion to be revealed on the night. Prop. John Bishop; Sec Paul Wheal; Opp. Roger Binney; Sec Jeni Wright. Audience participation.
26 Mar	Club Night - Games Night	Yes	The Bell	<i>Jackie Court. 01249 462013.</i> Bingo & Paper Aeroplane comp.
? Mar	Skittles Evening	Yes	TBC	<i>Vic Wright. 01380 859618.</i> Details to follow.
6/7/8/9 Apr	Easter Bank Holiday			
8 Apr	Brooklands MG Era Day	No	Weybridge	Details to follow.
15 Apr	Gaydon MGB Organised by MG Car Club/MGOC.	No	Gaydon via Abingdon	<i>Vic Wright. 01380 859618.</i> Depart 8.30am The Wharf Car Park, Devizes. Make application to MGOC.
21/22 Apr	Bristol Classic Car Show	No	Shepton Mallet	For information.
23 Apr	Club Night – 'Decorated' Prod & Poke	Yes	The Bell	<i>Gordon Newman. 01225 755645.</i> Give your car an 'Easter Bonnet' Chips in the pub afterwards. More details to follow.
?? Apr	Club weekend Away	No	Derbyshire (Provisional)	Investigation currently in hand. Details to follow.
6 May	Abingdon Air & Country Show	Yes	Abingdon	Details to follow
7 May	May Bank Holiday			

The WESSEX MG Club 2012 EVENTS LIST				
Date	Event	Club Event	Venue	Additional Information
28 May	Club Night – Mystery Run	Yes	Its a Mystery!	Tom Strickland. 01249 447125. Details to follow.
4/5 June	<i>Queens Diamond Jubilee Bank Holiday</i>			
25 Jun	Club Night - BBQ	Yes	The Bell	<i>Gordon Newman. 01225 755645. Details to follow.</i>
15 Jul	Sherborne Castle Classic Car Show	Yes	Sherborne	<i>Gordon Newman. 01225 755645. Details to follow.</i>
22 Jul	Club Summer Picnic	Yes	Studland	<i>Jeni Wright. 01380 859618. Beach games & summer sun fun. Details to follow.</i>
23 Jul	Club Night – Boules Evening	Yes	The Bell	Details to follow.
28 Jul	Salisbury Race Meeting (Provisional, subject to support)	No	Salisbury	Evening meeting with Abba tribute band to follow.
20 Aug	Club Night – Driving Test	Yes	Tom's Field	<i>Tom Strickland. 01249 447125. Details to follow.</i>
27 Aug	<i>Bank Holiday</i>			
8 or 9 Sept	Club visit to Bletchley Park	Yes	Bletchley Nr. Milton Keynes	<i>Peter Hine. 01672 512847. Details to follow.</i>
23 Sept	MGB 50 MGCC/MGOC Event	Yes	Blenheim Palace	Details to follow.
? Sept	Club Treasure Hunt	Yes	Frome	<i>Tony Neale. 01373 465044. Walking Treasure Hunt. Details to follow.</i>
24 Sept	Club Night -			Details to follow.
22 Oct	Club Night – American Civil War	Yes	The Bell	<i>Roger Binney. 01380 830524.</i>
3 Nov	Roger & Lynne's Party	No	Royal Edington Village Hall	<i>Roger & Lynne. 01380 830524. Details to follow.</i>
26 Nov	Club AGM	No	The Bell	Formal notification will be posted nearer the time.
8 Dec (Prov)	Christmas Dinner	No	TBA	Details to follow

SECRETARY'S SCRIBBLES

I hope everyone had a great Christmas. I am sure that we will be an even better club for 2012 with a few new faces on the committee – it was a real pleasure to watch Jeni Wright talk herself on! I would like to warmly welcome Jackie and Tony too.

I have been unable to get my Magonette out of the garage for a couple of months, but hopefully the builders' static caravan should soon be gone and I can find out if she still works. The BGT has been my faithful commuter vehicle this winter as Nancy would have been pretty much stranded in my parent's village otherwise (we are currently squatting). I have come across some new problems as a result – some which may not surprise you – rather remind you of ye olden days. I find that because the car has to be left outside and the rear view demister has failed that I am pretty much blind out the back due to condensation and rely heavily on my mirrors – this was fine until I found one of them on my bonnet one morning! This problem is a chore and doesn't affect the occasional commute from a garage.

Just before Christmas I had a stint of random bonnet releasing caused by the big pin being loose and a need to lubricate the catch. It was particularly annoying as it seemed to be secure but would rattle itself loose due to the play in the pin after a few miles. I think I stopped twice on the way into work and three times on the way home. All was restored with a spanner and some oil/grease on my Dad's dimly lit drive. You may want to check that your nuts are all tight!

Tom (hoping to be back in his house soon and before Nancy gives birth!)