

WESSEX MG CLUB

AT THE BELL ON THE COMMON BROUGHTON GIFFORD



Wessex MG Issue 1 – January 2009

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 26 January 8.00pm

Chairman's Chat



A Happy New Year to you all. I trust you had a good festive season and we can all now look forward to the year ahead with long summer evenings and lots of top-down motoring.

At the end of the AGM last November I was somewhat surprised to be elected as Club Chairman for the year ahead – it certainly was not what I expected when I arrived. Before I give you a taster of what is to come however, can I take this opportunity of thanking the out going Committee for all their hard work over the last twelve months in organising and arranging an array of activities for our enjoyment and relaxation. Also welcome to the new Committee (many of whom are the same as last year) we have a fairly hard act to follow, but I'm sure we will make the grade.

The new Committee held its first meeting early in January and a basic framework has been established for the first half-year events. In addition to the activities listed elsewhere in the Newsletter and

our usual events, we are also investigating some wider ranging activities such as Go-karting, gliding, visit to Brooklands, talk on Bugatti cars at Prescott, driving test and much more. It may not be possible to squeeze all of these in but we will do our best to provide an interesting and fun programme.

We are also developing a Club directory, which we hope will help new and established members to get to know each other more quickly. If you haven't already been asked, you will shortly be invited to supply a passport type digital photograph to our Newsletter Editor for him to produce a comprehensive document.

Talking of the editor, we have a new one. But before that, on behalf of all the members I'd like to thank Roger Binney for his enthusiasm and hard work in providing the club with its newsletter for the last 2 years.

As you will have noticed we have a new format for the newsletter – we have entered the dark side of the electronic age! Paul Warn has succeeded Roger and will be developing the newsletter during the coming months. Please provide him with feedback on the new format and also copy for inclusion in the newsletter. This is your forum not only for MG matters but your views and stories.

Look forward to seeing you all at the January meeting.

Gordon

For your diary in the coming month

JANUARY

Club events:

26th Club Night – Quiz

FEBRUARY

Club events:

14th – Valentine's Dinner

23rd – Club Night – Travel Talk

Other events:

7th & 8th – Bristol Classic Car Show at Shepton Mallet.

22nd Stoneleigh MG Day.

Right to Reply (Or don't get mad get even!)

If you want to get ahead get a hat

Clearly you need to be robust in your attitude to headwear in this club! June and I have recently featured in photographs because of our taste (or lack of it) in what we cover our heads with. There is more to life than the MG baseball-cap style....



The beach hat that I wore to Slimbridge was in fact a recent acquisition: I bought in Tenby for £2 during a downpour and believed that it would enhance my top-down driving pleasure for many years to come. Sadly, however, it blew off at the



epitome of fashion in comparison with some of the objects that people had on their heads during the Annual Christmas Dinner.



top of Mount Etna (the wind is a little stronger at 10,000ft) and disappeared into a steaming crater during an October trip to Sicily.

I now have photographic evidence, however, that this beach hat was the



John Bishop

Fame has its price

As you may already know, Tom wrote a piece on a holiday he and Nancy had last year, touring Europe in their MG midget. He submitted it to the 'Enjoying MG' magazine and had it published. (See the December issue). Some think he should be brought down to earth..... **Ed**



The Sea Shall Not Have Them

For many years my daughter, now in her late 20's, has been complaining that I never took her mackerel fishing when she was young (er). As she is a bit of a foodie who particularly enjoys fresh fish, I decided that as part of our annual walking holiday together, we would fit in some sea fishing. I did a bit of research on the web to see what sea angling trips were on offer from ports that also offered some good walking in their hinterland and Lyme Regis hit the spot. Not having been there for about 20 years, I was also keen to revisit what always seemed to me to be a lovely old-fashioned seaside town with an almost unique harbour with its iconic connections with the film of *The French Lieutenant's Woman*.

After a splendid walk to Golden Gap (the highest point on the south coast) on the first day, we set off next day for the harbour and a boat to take us line fishing. It was a breezy morning and soon after our arrival we found a boat that was about to leave for an hour's trip with only two other people, a man and his son already on board. As we left the shelter of the harbour the breeze and the



wave height picked up immediately and we were somewhat taken aback when our jovial captain 'phoned his mates to tell them not to leave harbour as it was too rough for passengers! However, realizing of course that we four were made of sterner stuff, he didn't even consult us about carrying on and so lines and bait were prepared and deployed aft (as they say). Both Nic (my daughter) and myself, have fairly good sea legs so we were happyish about the rise and sudden fall of the boat as it made its way away across the waves and away from shore. The slight fear mixed with excitement soon moved towards the latter emotion as Nic caught her first of five fish, with me ultimately trailing (diplomatically of course) with a modest three. The trip back was somewhat calmer and so we entered

port as true fishermen with our catch won from the sea and feeling really quite good about our efforts. Our two companions weren't so fortunate (skillful!), so we gave them 4 of our eight mackerel and staggered ashore.

Although not particularly warm (it was summer!). The sun was shining so we decided to have a fresh fish barbecue on the beach. We had brought with us the necessary gutting knife, knives and forks and most importantly fresh lemons and salt and pepper. A disposable barby was purchased from a local shop and once the filleted mackerel were starting to cook, some chips were ferried back from the local chippie to accompany our freshest of all meals. So a good morning and a good lunch by any standards and Dad is off the hook until Nic thinks of some other activity I didn't expose her to as a child!

Jeff Rattle

Caption Competition

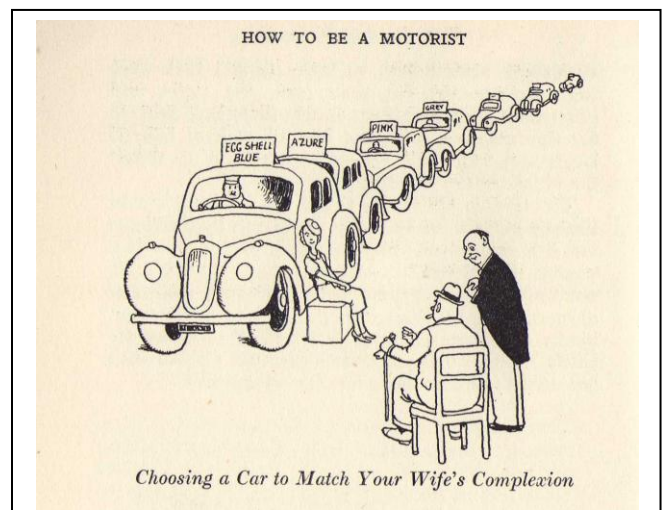
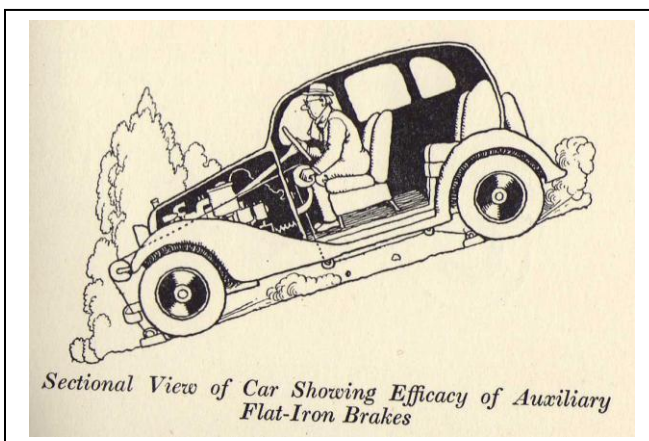


How to be a Motorist by Heath Robinson

When clearing his Grandmother's house Tom found an old book entitled 'How to be a Motorist' by Hetah Robinson and K R G

Browne - The following are scanned images from this book.

I will include a couple of examples each month for your entertainment.



Club News

Events

The club committee met on the 5th January and agreed the following programme of activities for the early part of the year. Included are other events that may be of interest.

WESSEX MG 2008 EVENTS LIST			
Date	Event	Venue	Details
26/01/2009	Club Night	The Bell	Quiz night
7 and 8 February 2009	Bristol Classic Car Show	Shepton Mallet Show Ground	You may be able to get a discount if you book on line. www.bccsl.co.uk
14/02/2009	Valentine's dinner	The George Sandy Lane	See Menu.
22/02/2009	Stoneleigh MG Day	Stoneleigh Park	
23/02/2009	Club Night	The Bell	Travel talk
07/03/2009	Skittles Night	The Fox & Hounds Devizes	To include food @ £4 to £5. Please contact Vic Wright asap (see committee members) if you want to go.
08/03/2009	Cobweb run	IBM site Nr Winchester 11.00 - 1430	Members to meet at the Wharf car park, Devizes - 10.00
23/03/2009	Club Night	The Bell	TBA
5 to 8 April 2009	Club trip to Guernsey		
27/04/2009	Club Night	The Bell	19.30 start - Prod & Poke - members to bring question about their car
04/05/2009	Popham Classic Air & Car Day		
18/05/2009	Club Night	Mystery Run	
14/06/2009	Cotswold Caper		
22/06/2009	Club Night	The Bell	BBQ
28/06/2009	Annual Picnic		

Photo Directory

Also discussed at the meeting, was the creation of a club photo directory. The directory will include the names and photographs of members and car details.

To talk dirty for a moment, the photos should be of low resolution so as to keep



the directory file size down. Peter Hine is assembling the directory and has provided an example of the head and shoulder format required.

Please send your pics, car model and registration to Peter, using the link under his name on the previous page.

Valentine's Day Dinner



Paul Wheal is organising this year's Valentine's dinner – see menu below. If you would like to go, please make your selection from the menu and let Paul know, either at this month's meeting or by contacting him no later than the 26th January. His contact details are on the previous page. The meal is booked for 14th February 7.30 for 8.00pm. Sandy Lane is on the A342 between Devizes and Chippenham just before the Bowood estate.

VALENTINE MENU

CHEF'S SOUP OF THE MOMENT

served with organic crusty bread

OVEN BAKED FLAT MUSHROOM FILLED WITH SMOKED BACON | & STILTON
CRUMB

PAN SAUTED TIGER SHELL ON PRAWNS WITH GARLIC & CORIANDER
BUTTER

HOMEMADE CHICKEN LIVER PARFAIT

with tomato & fig chutney & organic crusty bread

MARINATED MIXED SHELLFISH SALAD

on bed of mixed leaves

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GRILLED SIRLOIN STEAK STUFFED WITH STILTON WITH RED WINE JUS

served with chipped potatoes roasted tomato & mushroom

PAN FRIED HALIBUT STEAK WITH WHITE WINE & MUSHROOM SAUCE

on bed of coarse grained mustard mash & rustic mediterranean vegetables

PAN SEARED PORK FILLET MEDALIONS CALVADOS WITH APPLE COMPOTE

on bed of fine green beans with new potatoes

OVEN BAKED SCOTTISH SALMON

on bed of wilted spinach with new potatoes & chive cream

SLOW ROASTED SHOULDER OF ENGLISH LAMB JOINT BRAISED IN

MADEIRA SAUCE

on bed of creamed potato & rustic mediterranean vegetables

SWEET POTATO & ROASTED MEDITERRANEAN VEGETABLES CROCK POT

TOPPED WITH FLAT MUSHROOM & PARMESAN CRUMB

served with bowl of tossed leaves

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SANDY LANE (ETON) MESS

APRICOT BRIOCHE WITH CUSTARD

CHOCOLATE JUNK YARD INDIVIDUAL GATEAU

WILD BERRIES & LEMON CURD CREAM

SELECTION OF ENGLISH CHEESES & BISCUITS WITH CELERY & GRAPES

£2.00 SUPPLEMENT

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AFTER THOUGHTS COFFEE & MINT

£18.45 2 COURSES

£22.95 3 COURSES