


NEWSLETTER

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

**WESSEX
MG CLUB** 
AT THE BELL INN SEEND



Sandra and I had a wonderful week in Cornwall prior to the MGB50 event only to come back to an almost complete wash out at Blenheim on the Sunday. After so much work by so many people in getting so many MGB's (and others) together it turned into a disappointing day when the rain started late morning and it soon became clear that it was set in for the day. Having departed earlier than originally anticipated I had an uncomfortable, damp drive home because in true MG tradition water gets in and soaks the driver's seat of my 'F'. In retaliation I have completed a SORN application and will leave the car to slumber in the garage for the rainy/icy season. In the meantime we have taken the caravan to the New Forest for a week and had mostly glorious day-light weather with overnight storms that made tramping in the forest a water-logged affair. But a good time was had not least stalking the deer and watching the rutting stags. Something that was lacking (though not surprising) when the Club took part in the Exmoor Rut Run in recent years.

Following our first meeting at The Bell at Seend I have received a number of favourable

comments about the new Club venue. I do hope it continues that way and though it was still a little difficult for people to move around, some reorganisation of the furniture in the future should ease this matter. The Club has also recently purchased a projector stand to use instead of a dining table and this will free up a little more space to help circulation. The stand is likely to be brought into use at our next meeting when Richard Edmonds is coming along to talk about classic car and automobilia auctions. Promises to be an interesting evening so don't miss it.

The AGM gets closer when a new committee will be elected. New blood on the committee is needed to bring new ideas and to keep the activities fresh and to maintain a lively and dynamic club. I hope a number of you will step forward and take an energetic role in developing and expanding the club.

The Membership numbers continue to grow and this month I am pleased to welcome new Members Terry Gazzard and Simon Hopkins.

Gordon

For your diary in the coming month

October

22nd - Club Night.

November

3rd - Lynne and Roger's Party at Edington Village Hall.

26th - Annual General Meeting - 7:30pm

For details see page 9.

Please note that unless otherwise stated club nights start at 8:00pm

We have moved!!!

To "The Bell Inn" at Seend



Bell Hill, Seend,
Wiltshire SN12 6SA

Tele 01380 828338 - <http://www.thebellseend.co.uk>

THE WESSEX MG CLUB NEEDS YOU



YES YOU!
PARTICULARLY LADY
MEMBERS - I'M NOT ASKING
YOU TO JOIN UP OR LAY YOUR
LIFE ON THE LINE - NOT THIS TIME
- JUST TO CONSIDER GIVING UP
SOME OF YOUR TIME AND BECOME A
MEMBER OF THE YOUR CLUB'S
COMMITTEE - OR EVEN BECOME
CHAIRPERSON. WE ARE LOOKING
FOR NEW BLOOD. I DON'T LOOK
AS IF I HAVE FUN, **BUT I DO**, AND
YOU WILL IF YOU JOIN THE
COMMITTEE, SO WHY NOT
GIVE IT A GO!



The MGB Birthday Celebrations

to celebrate 50 years of the iconic British sports car
"a very successful, but wet, event at Blenheim on Sunday 23rd September, where we believe over 2,500 MG's were on display" (quote from MGB50 Website).

Well it was certainly a weekend to remember!

We set out on the Friday for "the Beast's" (thanks Tom) first show. Newly completed, Terry decided a trailer was the safest option until she's done a few more road miles. So we loaded up and off we went.

The campsite on the Blenheim estate was fantastic, about three quarters of a mile from the palace entrance.

We eventually unloaded her – it's funny how many people on the site decided to come out for a walk when we arrived! At least we gave them something different to look at (a change from erecting awnings) and a chance for a chat.



The next day we decided to go for a "reccy" to see where to plant the club gazebo. We set off at 10.00am when the palace opened and joined THE QUEUE! We have two large fans fitted for this purpose but they didn't seem to want to work and the old temperature gauge was showing the Beast's V8 getting warmer and warmer, just when we thought she was about to boil, click and whir and she started to regain her cool, and so did Terry (gradually).

The nice young man on the gate let us through; we found our pitch and were told that we could park up there while we visited the palace and grounds.

It was a perfect day, the sun was shining, and everything looked beautiful showing the estate off in all its glory.

Lunch and Blenheim Champagne on the Water Terrace made our day even more perfect.

Then a return journey with the gazebo in the motorhome and some members of the “Caledonian” section of the MGOC were kind enough to lend a hand erecting the frame – we decided not to risk putting the canvas up as the forecast was gales and rain and we didn’t want to see it flying over Woodstock that night.



Later that evening Terry decided to go “cruising” around Woodstock. It’s such a pretty place, all old stone buildings – mostly Antique shops and Hotels. It was a perfect setting for all the other MG’s who had decided to do the same as us, and those people that weren’t driving around had their cameras at the ready or were just drinking in the atmosphere.

THE DAY OF THE EVENT DAWNED, grey, overcast but no rain yet!

What a spectacle, MG’s in there thousands arriving at Blenheim Palace, it was unbelievable. Every model and colour of MGB you could imagine and some you might not. Everyone was guided to their parking areas and five minutes later, who should be right behind us but Paul and Andrea just arrived with the Wessex convoy, the rest of which were hastily setting up the gazebo and display – a big thank you to Vic and everyone else who contributed.



Then at 12 o'clock down came the rain and up went the umbrellas, I think Wessex MGOC should be entered into the Guinness Book of Records for “how many MGOC members can you squeeze into a gazebo”.

The plans for walking round the grounds were abandoned and as the other option was to join the two hour queue for the palace, a lot of people decided enough was enough and to call it a day, despite the gallant efforts of the Abingdon Brass Band.

What a shame, after all the months of organisation and planning.

But regardless of the only shine coming from Andrea’s ring, it was still amazing to see that number of MGB’s together in one place and I’m sure we will never see the like again.

Sue Warder

PICTURE GALLERY

Scenes from the MG50 celebrations



DO YOU DRIVE - TOPLESS

According to a survey conducted by AUDI in August, just under two thirds of Britain's convertible owners (64%) either never or rarely take the roof down.

Almost half of the owners polled (46%) cited exotic looks rather than "wind-in-the-hair driving appeal as their primary reason for choosing a soft top. Suggesting that it is the status of owning an exotic open car that is the motivator rather than the practicality of having an open or close choice.

The survey also showed that those who do like to come out from under the canvas, women owners are actually more likely than men to frequently drive in the open air; 39% of the female contingent said they almost always drive with their their car open, versus 32% of males, and only 17% claimed they never drop their roof, compared with 27% in the male camp.



Moving right along.

ED

OR IN LEATHERS!

This is an advert placed in a newspaper by "Allweathers" the motor clothing specialists, in 1903. It is promoting their range of leather garments, to meet the needs of the rapidly increasing number of lady motorists.



"The item modeled on the right is called **"Montague"**. Handsome Three-quarter Coat, in specially prepared leather, with skirt to match, combining warmth and comfort with perfect protection from dust, wind, and water; lined in various ways; coat fitted with Storm Fronts and our new patent Wind Guards to sleeves. Made to measure or pattern bodice - available within 10 days.

The other is a ladies "Taylor Made Leather Motoring Knickers" - Crikey! it all looks a little risqué - with detachable flannel lining. These are made of specially prepared leather in various shades and are particularly adapted for ladies. You may want to know that the calf motor leggings as illustrated are available separately.

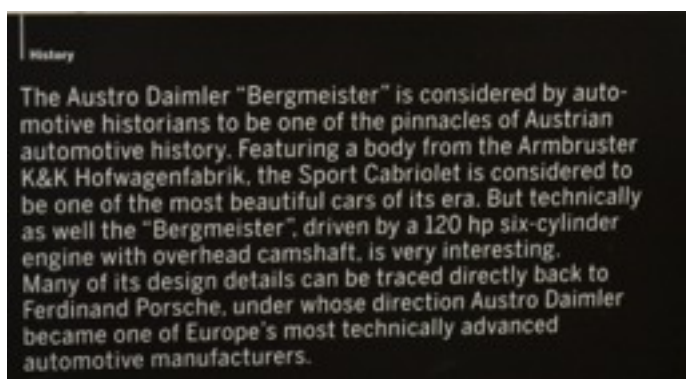
For your information there is a new fully illustrated book for every requisite for ladies' and gentlemen's motoring specialities. Post free.

ED

MYSTERY CAR - *AND ENGINE*

Now **John Bishop** has taken the mystery car spot to the edge. We are normally struggling to establish the make of the car - which is as it should be, but hey.

John encountered this car in the Porsche museum in Stuttgart this summer . Its a Mercedes of course but John is asking a lot more of us, which we were unable to deliver. So here's the story:



It took 10,000 hours to restore and is on loan to the museum from the private collection of Wolfgang Porsche. Having honed his skills at Austro Daimler, Ferdinand Porsche of course, went on to found and build up the Porsche motor company.

Now if that wasn't difficult enough try this for size, Ron Alderson sent this pic of an engine:



Mr chairman, I think if anyone gets this right they deserve a bottle of the club's finest.....Or perhaps to the knowledgeable in the club it's not so difficult.

For the November edition, Ken has provided a good test which you will have a reasonable chance of identifying - if you try hard enough.

ED

CLUB NEWS

The WESSEX MG Club 2012 EVENTS LIST				
26 Nov	Event	Club Event	Venue	Contact Details & Start Point/Time
22 Oct	Club Night Richard Edmonds Classic Car Auctions http://richardedmondsauctions.com	Yes	The Bell Inn at Seend 8:00 pm	Roger Binney. 01380 830524.
3-Nov	Roger & Lynne's Party	No	Edington Village Hall	<i>Roger & Lynne 01380 830524 - details to follow</i>
26 Nov	Club AGM	No	The Bell Inn at Seend 7:30pm	Formal notification will be included in the Sept & Oct newsletter.
8 Dec 2012	Christmas Dinner	No	The Greyhound Bromham	Peter Hine

Peter sent an e-mail to all members on 2nd October about the club's Christmas dinner. I have included it here again as a reminder, although of course we have passed the 12th October. However I'm sure if you have not yet contacted Peter for this very popular event in the club's calendar get on and do it now and hope its not too late.

Hi All,

The Club Christmas dinner is now confirmed for Saturday 8th December at the Greyhound, Bromham - attached is the menu for your info. Re the cost, the club funds will be subsidising this by £5 per person against the cost shown on the menu.

I would be pleased if you could let me know if you will be attending by **Friday 12th Oct** so that we can confirm numbers to the pub and secure the room. To note, confirming your attendance will commit you to a £10 per person non refundable 'deposit' (as this is the cost the club will have to pay if we commit to numbers and then somebody does not turn up / cancels after we have confirmed numbers...)

I will collect all money and menu choices at the AGM in November so please do not send me money now, just let me know if you are going (if you want to let me know your menu choice with your confirmation then that's fine - for couples, please put a name against each choice).

Thanks

Peter

PS For new members and a reminder to the old guard - to add fun to the occasion, we give and receive a £5 present at the dinner - that is one present per person. So you have a bit of time to search for presys.





SECRETARY'S SCRIBBLES

Following the great success of the Frome Treasure Hunt and the Bletchley Park trip we were denied a third beautiful Sunday when we were flooded out at MGB 50. This was a real shame and I really feel for the organisers who spent such a long time planning and arranging it. Most of us were lucky enough to get round briefly before the rain came in. We were also fortunate to have accidentally booked ourselves the Gazebo pitch – which was an invaluable dry location to hang out in! As the rain came in so the cars began to drift away. It was great to see the Wheal's and the Warder's cars in the Pride of Ownership – both cars looked great and real contenders for the award. I really like Paul's new darker shade of red (Tartan) on his GT and as for the Orange V8 beast that Terry has been secretly building – fantastic! I had a great trip up in Kevin's GT (not really a good idea for a man struggling to get over his own GT loss!). It was of course nice to go to an MGB event in an MGB. It was great to see so many new faces again at our last meeting – it is great to meet you all. Please do be proactive and get involved with the club.

Tom

PS

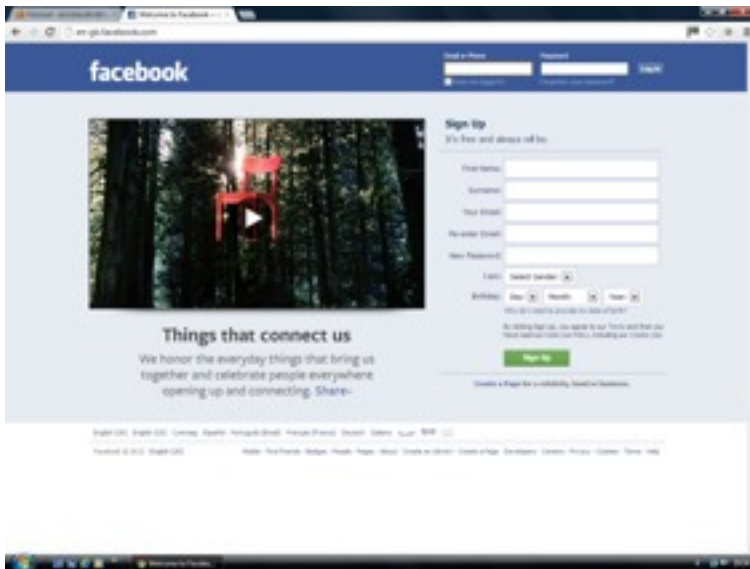
We are now on Facebook. For a guide on how to find the club see below.

A Guide to Facebook

(for those members who need a helping hand)

If you are already on Facebook please search for Wessex MG Club and click 'Like'

1. Type Facebook into Google or equivalent Search page and then select Facebook when it comes up. You will then get a page like this.....



2. Fill in your details to open up an account

3. Facebook will then take you through the basic set up – it may want to access your email addresses – it wants to do this so that it can find your friends for you and

suggest friends for you to add.

4. Once you are in you can search for friends and they can

search for you – you can decline any friend requests or change your mind later.



5. In search box type Wessex MG Club and find us – once there click the 'like'.

6. This should be enough to get you started.

7. Enjoy World of Facebook – you may even be able to get the app on your mobile.....

AGM

Please be advised that in accordance with the Club's rules, two month's notice is given for our Annual General Meeting.

Wessex MG Club

2012 Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the above meeting will take place on the

26th November
at
The Bell Inn, Seend

commencing at

8:00 pm

Preceded from 7.30 onwards by the payment of subscriptions for the 2013 season.

Notice of any resolution to be proposed at the meeting should be given in writing to the Secretary before the 1st October.

The proceedings of the meeting shall be as follows:

Agenda for AGM

1. Apologies for absence.
 2. Approval of minutes of 2011 AGM.
 3. Chairman's Report.
 4. Treasurer's Report.
 5. Consideration of any motions received.
 - Break
 6. Election of Committee for 2013.
 7. Presentation of Awards.
 8. Arrangements for 2013 AGM.
 9. Any other business.
-



Christmas Menu

2 courses £18.99 per person • 3 courses £21.99 per person

STARTERS

Roast Parsnip Soup (v)

Bromham parsnips, roasted and puréed into a rich soup, served with fresh crusty bread

Oak Smoked Salmon & King Prawn Cocktail

served with a Marie Rose sauce and fresh crusty bread

Duck Parfait with Port

smooth duck liver paté with port, served with toast and chutney

Pear, Date & Walnut Salad (v)

with a creamy Stilton dressing

Baked Camembert (v)

served with ciabatta fingers and homemade chutney

MAINCOURSES

Traditional Free Range Roast Turkey

free range turkey from Woolley Park Farm in Bradford on Avon, served with all the trimmings

28 Day Aged Sirloin Steak

local sirloin steak from Stokes Farm Coulston topped with a red wine, shallot & pancetta sauce

Rack of Lamb

rack of lamb roasted medium-rare and served with mint and red currant gravy

Scotch Salmon Fillet

prime fillet of Scotch salmon topped with a king prawn, asparagus and tarragon infused Hollandaise sauce

Roasted Stuffed Chicken Breast

free range chicken breast stuffed with sage & onion pork sausage meat, served with a rich gravy

Fig & Cranberry Nut Roast (v)

seasonal nut roast with figs, cranberries and home roasted chestnuts

*** all will be served with a selection of locally grown ***

seasonal vegetables, roast and new potatoes

DESSERTS

West Country Christmas Pudding

West Country recipe, brandy, cider, spices and loads of fruit!

Port and Berry Cheesecake

light vanilla cheesecake topped with raspberries, strawberries, blackberries, red and blackcurrants, then smothered in cream

Toffee Apple Crumble

served with lashings of custard

Black Forest Gateau

a triple layered chocolate gateau filled with jam and fresh cream, finished with chocolate shavings and cherries. Not for the faint hearted!

Cheese and Biscuits - £2 supplement

Godminster Cheddar, Waterloo Brie, Wyfe of Bath, Rachel Goats Cheese and Colston Bassett Stilton, served with grapes and chutney