



WESSEX MG CAR CLUB

THE OLD BEAR INN STAVERTON



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NEXT CLUB NIGHT

24th APRIL 7:30pm

<http://www.wessexmgclub.org.uk>

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

Hi, I hope that everyone has been able to get out with their cars during the recent good weather and that the good weather will continue in the coming months.

Our recent events have been well attended and enjoyed by members and I would like to thank Paul for the film night which featured Sir Stirling Moss and also a film on the MGB,

The Skittles evening organised by Vic was a great success again, congratulations to the winners who will be listed elsewhere in this newsletter. This was followed very quickly by the last club night which was an away trip to Wadsworth Brewery in Devizes, where we learnt all about brewing and also sampled some of the final product.

A large number of us made the early morning trip to Brooklands for the MG Era day, where there were hundreds of MG cars of all ages and the opportunity to

see some of the cars going up the test hill. The museum was open as usual and for those interested in aircraft a Concorde was on display along with other aircraft, plus a collection of buses in the London Bus Museum which is based at Brooklands.

Our next club night is at the Old Bear on Monday 24th April at the earlier start time of 7.30, this is the Prod and Poke night. For our new members this is an opportunity to show your cars to your fellow members and also if you have any car related items you wish to sell please bring them along as you may have just the thing that another member is looking for.

Our events in May are the club spring tour of Kent and East Sussex and on May 22nd Club Night we have a Mystery run.

Look forward to seeing you on the 24th April at the earlier time of 7.30.

Martyn





Time warp MGB
GT - It is
estimated to sell
for
£12,000-15,000.
Paul Wearn

Do you remember I featured this MGB GT in last month's issue? Well it sold for £12,320 compared with £18,975 for the red 1966 MGB GT also featured in the March newsletter.





My MG TA

Ken Scott

Ken Scott responded to the picture of the MG I included in last month's edition:

"If it was the first MG to have hydraulic brakes, it must be a TA, produced from 1936 to 1938. It had a Morris 10 engine and a wet, oil immersed cork clutch. I know it well as I had one in 1959 with a view to full restoration and then got married. Need I say more, I only had it for 18 months! We did enjoy a trouble free tour of Devon and Cornwall in it for our honeymoon.

The photo is a very young me and my wife to be, Jacki, just before we got married in July 1959."



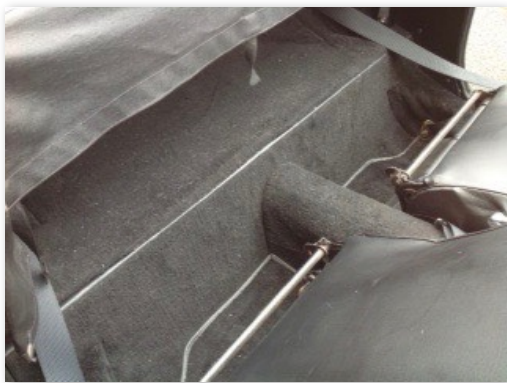


How to Accommodate a West Highland Terrier in a MGB Roadster

Rick & Joy Meopham
with inputs from
Millie

Our rescue Westie is of the opinion that she must always accompany us any time the classic car is taken out, to the point that whenever she hears the engine start-up she races to the door with goggles and scarf ready for the off. The same thought process applied when we had the TD which did not present a problem as there was adequate room in the back.

However, when we decided to acquire an MGB Roadster last December it



occurred to me that perhaps it would be wise to check the dimensions of the area aft of the seats, so I carefully measured the dog's inside leg, waist, height etc. using a neighbour's "B" as the trial vehicle. These simple checks confirmed that the accommodation area behind the seats would be more than adequate and a few days later we carried out a full trial with Mille the dog in position in the newly purchased vehicle.

All went well until last month when, for the first time, the sun appeared and the hood was lowered. To our horror it was then that we realised that the space was such that the dog would not fit. I had foolishly conducted dimensional checks with the hood up!

The options were somewhat limited. Put the dog on a diet? Well, she was already down to her summer racing weight so that was not an option.



Trade the dog in for a smaller model? Er, not on the agenda. Get rid of the dog and buy a ferret? Sell the "B" and buy a lorry?

It was at this point that the memsahib, who has totally misguided faith in my ability to solve any issues of a practical nature, suggested that I construct an extended removable platform aft of the front seats. "Should only take you an hour or so"! Yeh, right. So Millie and I retired to the garage where further dimensional



checks were carried out on both dog and vehicle. Full detail drawings were completed fairly smartly and construction commenced the next day with all aspects of the work monitored by Millie who lacks the faith that the memsahib has in my abilities. The Mk 1 version was produced in an hour or two as predicted by the memsahib, full road trials commenced that afternoon and with only minor modifications to the dog harness anchorage the Mk2 extension was given the

full Westie seal of approval.

Yesterday while enjoying a hood down run out with Millie in the navigator's position between the seats, a fellow Roadster and small dog owner observed that he was going home to do the same on his car. Perhaps I should give up the day job and start knocking these platforms out? Does anyone have a good contact number at the patents office?

Photos available on request. In conclusion, the total cost was zero as I used odds and ends lying around in the garage. Restrictions. Yep, if you have a Great Dane forget it.



It's a Mystery

This year's Mystery Run will take place on Monday 22nd May - the May club night.

Meet in the B&Q car park Bradley Rd Trowbridge BA14 0RQ at 6:45pm for 7:00pm start.

Can you please let me know if you are coming by Sat 6th May and also your choice from the menu. You can either let me know at our April meeting or use the following contacts for me Tony Neale - 01373 465044 or ynotjen22@aol.com

Starters

Prawn Cocktail
Homemade soup (Veg)
Homemade pate

Main

Braised rump steak in red wine & thyme sauce, served with a selection of veg and potatoes.
Breast of chicken with a white wine & asparagus sauce served with a selection of vegetables & potatoes.
Fillet of cod with a tomato and cheese topping served with a selection of vegetables & potatoes
Ratatouille crumble
Pie of the day
Curry of the day
Ham egg and chips

Desserts

Chocolate fudge cake
Homemade cheese cake
Apple tart with custard/cream/ice cream

2 courses £ 15-95

3 courses £ 21-45

Many thanks.

Tony Neale

"Competition Driving Seat"

I have been very pleased to have been able to get the Toddster out at least every fortnight this winter.

But it would appear that I have competition now for getting the driver seat position. Isla is not 5 until the summer but she has now proudly declared that she can reach the pedals as the attached photo demonstrates.



Ok, perhaps it isn't the ideal driving position for all around vision, but when you have your 18 month old sister as navigator in the passenger seat then you can't go wrong...

Steve Todd

The Vintage Nostalgia Festival

The Vintage Nostalgia Festival is a hidden gem in the heart of the Wylfe valley....."sssh don't tell everyone!"

The event focuses on the past and celebrates all that was great from before the turn of the century up to the 1980's. So whatever your interest, Vintage/classic cars, Veteran Cycles, Vintage Fashion, antiques, rusty automobilia, dance and music, There is something for everyone at VNS whether your 8 or 80!

With Live bands, Ringwood fine Ale bar, cocktail bar and dance troupe, Vintage Village and traditional children's entertainment its not to be missed!

The festival is run by enthusiasts for enthusiasts and is a wonderful opportunity to relax and enjoy the company of family and friends in beautiful surroundings.

Provisionally I have booked 8 places for Sunday 4th June. £5 for one person £10 for two in a classic car. Can you please let me know if you are interested in going as we must have 8 cars minimum to park together. You can either pay on line or at the gate.

Tony Neale - 01373 465044 or ynotjen22@aol.com

Pistons and Props

Join us for this year's Footman James Sywell Classic:

Pistons and Props Motoring Festival, combining historic racers, hot rods and motorbikes with classic planes and vintage music to create a fantastic two-day event, celebrating classic motoring on the ground and in the air.

Watch amazing live action on the transformed 'Racing Runway' and 'Sprint Strip' with iconic Formula 1 cars, Group B Rally cars, Hot Rods, Dragsters and Motorcycles all in action throughout the weekend.

Up in the skies; expect to see a variety of breath taking aerial displays & acrobatics from a variety of display teams.

Live Music will be played throughout the weekend with a superb line of bands performing in the Footman James sponsored Scarf & Goggles bar

With a vintage fun fair and shopping village, make a weekend of it as camping packages are available. It's a great weekend for all the family.

The event takes place over the weekend of the 23rd and 24th September. I am planning a club trip to travel up on Saturday 23rd, stay over night on Saturday at a local Travel Lodge and attend the event on Sunday.

Classic car owners are being offered the chance to get in pole position for this year's event with the introduction of 'Pole Position Parking' for cars over 30 years old. Those arriving in a car manufactured before 1986 can pre-book a place in the classic car parking area that is right in the heart of the show.

You will receive a commemorative plaque on the day to be redeemed from the Footman James stand. Individual tickets will need to be purchased for each attendant in advance.

Can I please have names of those interested by the April club night. This will enable me to book rooms in plenty of time for the event which will be very popular. Or contact me **Vic Wright - 01225 704685** vic@devizes-domestic.co.uk

Vic Wright

Sunday Lunch

I am thinking of organising a club Sunday Lunch at The Blue Bowl Inn at West Harptree, near the Chew Valley Lakes. Make your own way there, it's a lovely area to potter about in. Lunch for 1 o'clock.

Afterwards we can either lounge about in the garden, park at the Bristol Water picnic sites near Bishop Sutton and walk along the lake shore or there's the stone circle at Stanton Drew. Whatever takes your fancy.

Suggested date is 11th June. Anyone interested, please let me know on mtvantaylor2@gmail.com reasonably soon so that I can reserve space with the pub. Or let me know at the April club night.

If we are a party of 14 or more they have asked for orders to be pre-booked. I will send out menu choices once I know those interested.

Malcolm Taylor

SKITTLES EVENING - RESULTS

Men's Category - 1st Vic Wright
 2nd Jeff Rattle
Lady's Category - 1st Sue Warder
 - 2nd Nancy Strickland
Wooden Spoon - Jane Bennett



Vic receiving his prize

Photo Gallery

Images from the club's recent trip to the Brooklands MG Era event - **Martyn Lucas**



I have a friend whose husband is working in Vietnam. She keeps sending me local interest pictures. These are of transportation Vietnam style. I thought they were very slight people but one of the guys seems to have a bit of a spare tyre. Imagine what they could get into an MG with the roof down. **Malcolm Taylor**



Secretary's Scribbles

Hi all,

The Magnette has been out a few times to shake off the cobwebs and all seems ok.

I've had another fault on the MG3. This time the driver's seat suddenly became stiff to move between Nancy and my seating position on the runners. I took a look and could see nothing stuck in or obstructing them. The only thing seemed to be to continue to use a little force to slide the seat to the desired position. Whilst I was trying to improve the situation I suddenly found the situation eased and I thought the problem was solved..... Well until I looked down and found 3 ball bearings and a small piece of black plastic on the floor! I have no idea how long I can keep using the seat like this but I am not rushing to get it fixed! As usual my father's MG3 continues not to have a single problem!

I have just returned from another WW1 trip to Verdun in France. We spent 4 days doing 90% completely new sites and I think there is another trip still there to do. The huge forts are interesting but I love getting into the woods and finding shrapnel and barbed wire and exploring bunkers with torches. Do any of you know the story of the Lost

Battalion (made into a movie of the same title)? It is the story of an American unit that got completely cut off and surrounded on a steep hillside - one of the highlights this year was tracking down the spot and even finding a piece of shrapnel there.

We have been buying up various WW1 goodies from some of the small museums but we have now found that French boot sales are the place to go - we couldn't carry any more and we were buying for a tenth of the price! We bought brass shell cases, bayonets, water bottles and all sorts all for a Euro or two each! Verdun is great - it has French and America stories but it has so much in the way of trenches and bunkers - the Somme is a disappointment now with so much returned to perfect farmland. In contrast the miles of trenches at Verdun are too much to take in!

Anyway I had to buy some wine and chocolate on the way home so Nancy didn't get too cross with my two box loads of souvenirs!



Tom

Club Diary

2017 EVENTS DIARY				
Date	Event	Club Event	Venue	Contact Details & Start Point/Time
24th April	Club night - Prod & Poke	Yes	The Old Bear Inn	7:30 pm Start
7th - 10th May	Club Spring Tour Kent & East Sussex	Yes		Martyn Lucas
22-May	Club night - Mystery Run	Yes		Tony Neale (Vic)
4th June	Vintage Nostalgia Weekend - Stockton Warminster	No		Tony Neale
18th June	MG Live - Silverstone			Martyn Lucas
21st June	Vintage Gathering	No	Paulshot	For Info
26 Jun	Club night - BBQ	Yes	The Old Bear Inn	Paul Warn
July 8th	NEW Chateau Impney Hill Climb	No	Chateau Impney	Peter Hine
16th July	Summer Picnic	Yes		Paul Warn
24th July	Club Night - Social evening	Yes	The Old Bear Inn	
6th Aug	Gloucester Vintage and County Show	Yes		Martyn Lucas
12th Aug	NEW Retro Festival		Newbury Showground	For information only
20th Aug	Trowbridge Lions Show	No		Sue & Terry Warder

Date	Event	Club Event	Venue	Contact Details & Start Point/Time
21st Aug	Club night - Boules	Yes	The Tollgate Inn	Vic Wright
27th Aug	Tom's Action Day	Yes	Tom's Field	Tom Strickland
23rd Sep	Piston & Props Event	No		Vic Wright
25-Sep	Club night - Talk TBA	Yes	The Old Bear Inn	
Oct TBA	Haynes Motor Museum	No		Martyn Lucas
23-Oct	Club night - Talk Grand Prix Racing	Yes	The Old Bear Inn	Paul Warn - The Racing Life and Times of Jim Clark
TBA	Pre AGM Committee Meeting	No	The Old Bear Inn	
27-Nov	Club night - AGM	Yes	The Old Bear Inn	
9th Dec	Christmas Party	Yes	TBA	

NB The last column includes the committee member responsible for the event. If you need to contact them, you will find their details on page 11. Just click-on their email address or give them a call.

ED

Club Asset List

CLUB ASSET LIST			
ASSET	CURRENT HOLDER	CONTACT DETAILS	
Engine Hoist	Nigel Fowler	01380 840031	erchfonte@gmail.com
Club Sail Banner	Vic Wright	01225 704685	vic@devizes-domestic.co.uk
Event Shelter + Sides	Vic Wright	01225 704685	vic@devizes-domestic.co.uk
Projector	Paul Warn	01225 768676	paul.william.warn@gmail.com
Speakers	Paul Warn	01225 768676	paul.william.warn@gmail.com
Projector Stand	Paul Warn	01225 768676	paul.william.warn@gmail.com
Projector Screen & Cover	Paul Warn	01225 768676	paul.william.warn@gmail.com
New Set of Boules	Vic Wright	01225 704685	vic@devizes-domestic.co.uk

NOTE:

If you need to borrow or take custody of any of the club's assets, the current holder should be contacted directly to arrange transfer. The new 'holder' of the asset should notify Paul Warn by email to ensure the asset list is kept up-to-date.