



WESSEX MG CAR CLUB

THE SPENCER SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB



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NEXT CLUB NIGHT

Monday 30th April - Start
Time 7:30 Prod and Poke

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

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

Hi, everyone,

The last month has been a busy month for us.

Our club night featured a very interesting talk by the Severn Freewheelers, volunteer Motorcyclists who run Blood Bikes transporting between hospitals after working hours.

Our annual Club Skittles night was a very high scoring evening with very little difference in the scores.

We have also visited the Morgan Factory in Malvern. This was very informative and it seemed in certain parts of the factory that we were going back in time watching craftsman louvering bonnets and making wooden body frames. This trip certainly attracted a lot of interest from our members in the Morgan product and who knows there may be more of our members buying a Morgan!

On behalf of all who went on the club Spring trip to Rutland Water I would like to thank Graham and Jane for the time and effort involved in organising the weekend for the

club. It was a great weekend which included our participation on "Drive it Day" in the annual Stilton Cheese Classic Car Run. Driving along the byways of the area, gave us the opportunity to see a large number of rare classic cars and the weather was very good with the warmest day of the year so far.

As you read this we may be participating in the Skittles Challenge match with the Gloucester MG Club. For those not attending this match the results will be published in your May newsletter.

Coming up in May we are attending the Bowood Classic Car Show and visiting the New Bristol Aerospace museum.

Our next club on Monday 30th April will include the annual bring your MG or other classic "Prod and Poke night, hope to see you then.

Martyn



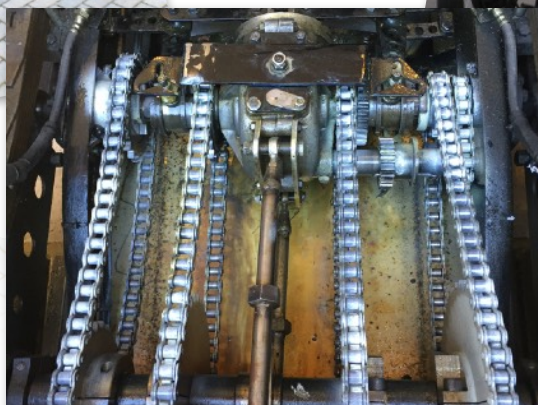


Malcolm
Barrington's
Eclectic
Collection
Paul Warn

Except that Malcolm's collection is the real thing.

I spent an extremely interesting couple of hours with Malcolm, chatting about cars in general and specifically his collection of historic cars, motor bikes and automobilia.

For me the most interesting was Malcolm's Fraser Nash "Tourist Trophy Replica". Replica, not in the sense of a back street copy, but a production-run by the Nash factory of the car raced on the famous Tourist Trophy race in the thirties - see last month's newsletter. Malcolm was in the process of preparing the car to race at last Sunday's VSCC meeting at Silverstone. Malcolm's Nash was the last of the line before the factory built the "Le Mans Replica". It was built by contemporary racing driver Bill Bradley in 1946. The engine is a 2 litre BMW 328 and sounds fabulous. Power is transmitted to the road via chains, as all Nash's were during this period.



Towering over the Nash is a wonderful 1920s Swift 14/40hp Tourer. Malcolm has driven this car around Europe.

The Coventry Sewing Machine Co. was set up in King Street, Cheylesmore, Coventry, c1859 by James Starley and Josiah Turner to import and market sewing machines from America. In 1869 they started to manufacture velocipedes, bicycles, tricycles and quadricycles and became the second largest cycle maker in Great Britain under the name of the Swift Cycle Co.



The Swift Motor Co. was formed in 1902 and produced one, two, three and four-cylinder cars, first using proprietary engines up to about 1907 and then those designed by their Works Engineer, William Radford, which were made in their own factory. Although Swifts had their faithful followers, by the late 1920's their hand-built cars could not compete with the mass-production methods of Morris, Austin, and Ford, whose similar cars sold for only half the price of Swifts. The factory closed its doors for the last time in April 1931. Superb!



Also nestling in "The Toy Shop" is a 1959 MGA and a 1943 GPW Jeep. You will all be familiar with the MGA but perhaps not the GPW.

After WW 1, the US military decided to standardise their military light vehicle fleet. By the eve of WW11 the US Department of War determined it needed a 1/4-ton cross country reconnaissance vehicle. Initially American Bantam and Willys-Overland entered the competition to build the vehicle. By July 1941 the War

Department decided to rationalise the pre production designs and to select a single manufacturer to supply 16,000 vehicles. Willys-Overland won the contract. However by October 1941 it became apparent that Willys could not keep up with the production demand.

Ford was contracted to produce them as well - exactly to Willys blueprints, drawings, specifications and patents. The Ford vehicle was then designated the **GPW**. **G** for a Government contract **P** commonly used by Ford to designate any passenger car and **W** referring to the Willys licensed design.

Amongst the cars can also be found an impressive collection of motor bikes. Including this 2016 Yamaha R1 Moto GP machine. Complete with Moto GP technology and high-tech electronics.



Part of the purchase arrangements was a two day course on the Silverstone Grand Prix circuit with members of the Yamaha team on how to ride the machine.

You will need to ask Malcolm more about that when you see him with his Nash at our Prod and Poke on Monday.





What a Weekend!

Sue & Terry Warder

Our first time at a Goodwood Members Meeting we saw freezing temperatures, biting winds and to round the weekend off, snow! A big thank you to Paul and Anne for welcoming us as their guests along with Peter and Sue.



With hundreds of amazing cars and their drivers braving the elements, the experience was brilliant. Although the motorbikes were unable to race and car tyres were cold there was still plenty to see.



From immaculately restored ex Carol Shelby classic transporter to Bubble Car or snowball- you decide.



Equally as immaculate was this converted Dennis Fire Engine, transporting a stunning but snow-covered Jaguar



Goodwood wouldn't be Good without it's theatre - The Great Hall looked like something out of Harry Potter and Terry and I earned Tormarton (our house) some house-points when quizzed by Schoolmasters in the Daffodil Marquee.



Celebrity drivers included David Coulthard driving a Gullwing Mercedes very carefully in the sub-zero temperatures.



Just a few pics of drivers handling the difficult conditions in almost priceless vehicles.



What really made this event for Terry and I was the "Access all Areas" including the Formula 5000 Grid walk and getting up close to the vehicles and crews in the Paddock. Also to see such a variety of treasured vehicles, with styling, engineering and history in such a perfect location.

Sue and Terry Warder



Corruption and Bribery at the Highest Levels within the Wessex MG Club?

"The Australian cricket team scandal and Trump's fibs about Sparky Daniels are of nothing compared to recent events within the Wessex MG Club" said an honest MG Club member, called Graham. "The recent, otherwise enjoyable, Wessex MG skittles night was unfortunately spoiled by rumours of corruption and bribery", an anonymous source has advised the magazine editor.



Originally headlined as a four leg competition, the two favourites from Melksham and Marlborough failed to perform. A close run finish produced two contestants with similar scores, but with one just ahead on the score board. However, as the winner prepared himself for the prize giving ceremony, the low-down event organiser announced that the Chairman had decreed that the competition was now to be over five legs, not four!

Of course the true winner's adrenalin and concentration immediately diminished through shock and the final leg changed the result in favour of a Frome contestant. It was reported by another anonymous source, Lynne, that the "organiser" and "winner" were later seen in the carpark shadows secretly dividing up the Easter Egg Maltesers that constituted the competition prize! Clearly the motive for this low down skullduggery.

The Spencer Social Club have agreed to provide video evidence from the car park surveillance cameras should the Chairman require it, though our anonymous source was quoted as saying "But he was in on it, and I expect he got a share of the Maltesers too!"

Name and address supplied....



Caption Competition



When I say competition, I don't have a budget to award a prize...

You will hopefully have read in Tom's scribbles, his account of the club's trip to the Morgan factory, during which he had problems with his MG Magnette. Note his supervisory role!

Well thanks to Steve Todd, if you have a German car or anything other than an MG here's your chance to get your own back by providing a caption to Steve's photo.

I look forward to your thoughts....

ED

Mystery Run

The start-point for the May Mystery Run is:

The BP Garage, Warminster bypass, Junction A362/A36 roundabout. Lorry car park exit. (just before petrol pumps)

Start time 7:15pm. Distance 32.8 miles but with a mix of lanes and fast roads.

The finish (for anyone that makes it) will be at a pub with adequate parking

Unfortunately/fortunately, Lynne and I are unable to be there, so **Martyn is the contact.**

Visit to Aerospace Bristol

For those wishing to drive in convoy:

Meet ASDA Melksham carpark leave **08:45 prompt.**

Arrive TOG Hill picnic area to join with cars **meeting enroute.** Leave **TOG Hill 09:15 prompt** — see map on next page for location of TOG Hill picnic area.

Destination:

Aerospace Bristol

Hayes Way

Patchway

Bristol

BS34 5BZ

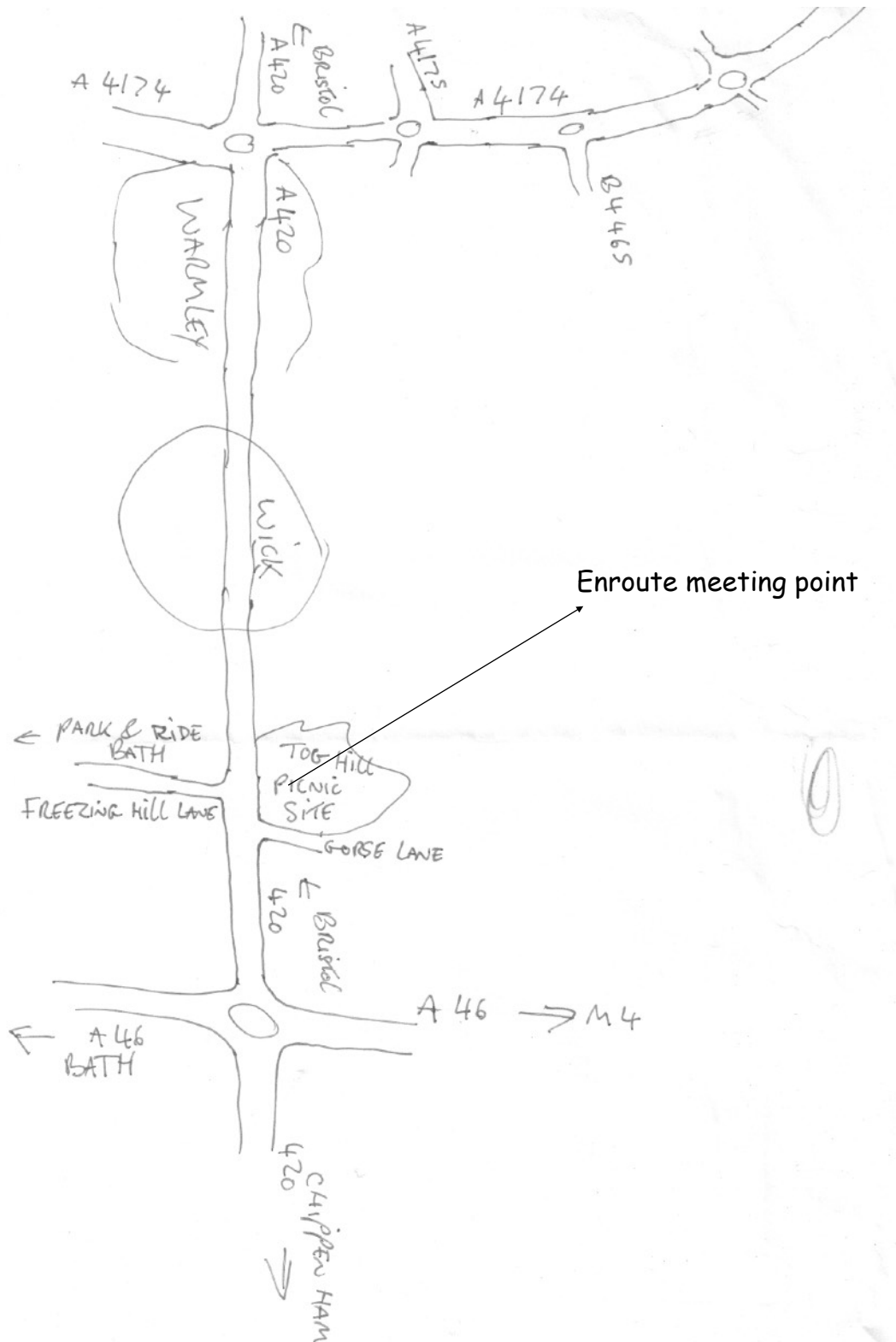




PHOTO GALLERY

Here are a few pics of the club's Spring Weekend to Rutland Water. I will include a report of our trip in the May edition. **ED**



With thanks to Ken for the first two



Secretary's Scribbles

I have just got back from the Morgan Factory trip, which was superb - thank you Peter.

Don't tell anyone but I think I have fallen for the charm of the Morgan and have started fantasising about Morgan 3 Wheelers. I would have a shiny green one - in a similar shade to GNER Pacific - I would also have the RAF roundels on. Seriously cool. Does anyone fancy sponsoring me in my crowd funding to get one.... Only 36 grand for an entry level one!

I love the Britishness of the Morgans - the way that if you order one you can go up and see it being built and even write on it. Is the Morgan 3 wheeler the closest you can get to a modern Midget? Possibly, apart from the price and a missing wheel! The lines of craftsmen working in separate areas must give a hint to what Abingdon was like before WW2. What if MG had taken a different path.....

Anyway, between the pub lunch and the factory I noticed an odd knocking sound on the Magnette - On giving it a bounce test in the car park the knock came from the front suspension and only manifested itself when lifting the wing. We (read as Paul Adams!) whipped the wheel off and we found that I had a loose nut on the top of the suspension- easily fixed.

There are actually two nuts that lock down together - a bit of spanner work and she was as good as new. Despite the damp weather the drive up the motorway was great and the Magnette purred along past the lines of boring German cars. You forget you are in a modern car apart from needing a helper to wipe the condensation from all the various windows every few minutes. The weather may be about to turn.....

Tom



Club Diary

2018 EVENTS DIARY				
Date	Event	Club Event	Venue	Contact Details & Start Point/Time
30-Apr	Club night - Prod and Poke	Yes	Spencer Club	Moved due to Club's Spring Trip
6-May	Spring Classic Car Show	Yes	Bowood	
20-May	Visit to Aerospace Bristol	Yes	Filton Bristol	Kevin Meakin
21-May	Club Night - Mystery Run	Yes	A Mystery	Roger Binney (Vic and Martyn)
27-May	Gurston Down Hill Climb	-		For Information
31May/3Jun	Jersey Motoring Festival	-		Martyn Lucas
10th June	Sunday Lunch		TBA/TBC	Malcolm Taylor
17th June	MGs in the Park Burford	-		(Event TBC)
23-24 June	Bicester Classic	-		For Information
25 Jun	Club Night - BBQ	Yes	Spencer Club	Martyn Lucas
15-Jul	Summer Picnic	Yes	Lepe Country Park	Sue Warder/ Jeni Wright
7-8 Jul	Chateau Impney	-		For Information
23-Jul	Club Night - Boules	Yes	Tollgate Pub	Vic Wright
20-Aug	Club Night - Pub Run	Yes		Vic Wright
27-Aug	Action Day	Yes	Tom's Field	Tom Strickland

2018 EVENTS DIARY				
Date	Event	Club Event	Venue	Contact Details & Start Point/Time
20-Sep	Coventry Motor Museum	No		Martyn Lucas (Event TBC)
24-Sep	Club Night - Talk - Topic To Be Confirmed	Yes	Spencer Club	Tom Strickland
TBC	Mini Factory Oxford Factory	-		Peter Hine (Event TBC)
6-Oct	Autumn Classic Meeting	-	Castle Combe	Vic Wright
22-Oct	Club Night - Talk - The Racing History of the Ford GT 40	Yes	Spencer Club	Paul Warn
27-Oct	Binney's Bash Halloween Party		Eddington Village Hall	Roger Binney
TBA	Pre AGM Committee Meeting	No	Spencer Club	
9-11 Nov	Classic Car Show NEC	-		For Information
26-Nov	Club AGM	Yes	Spencer Club	Formal notification will be included in the Sept & Oct newsletter.
15-Dec	Christmas Party	Yes	TBA	TBA

Club Asset List

CLUB ASSET LIST			
ASSET	CURRENT HOLDER	CONTACT DETAILS	
Engine Hoist	Vic Wright	01225 704685	vic@devizes-domestic.co.uk
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 (old)	Paul Warn	01225 768676	paul.william.warn@gmail.com
Projector (new)	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.