



WESSEX MG CAR CLUB



THE SPENCER SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

CONTENTS

PAGE 2

**DETAILS OF THE CLUB'S
2018 AGM**

PAGE 3

G&W CLASSIC CAR SHOW

John Bishop

PAGE 4

A SANDY MG

Steve Todd

PAGE 5

**UBER COMPETITIVE
"TOM'S FIELD" EVENT**

Paul Warn

PAGE 8

AUGUST MYSTERY CAR

John Bishop

PAGE 9

**AN EXTENDED
SECRETARY'S SCRIBBLES**

Tom Strickland

PAGE 11

**WHEEL SPINNERS FOR
SALE & CHRISTMAS PARTY**

PAGE 13

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

PAGE 14 - 15

**CLUB DIARY & CLUB
ASSETS REGISTER****NEXT CLUB NIGHT****Monday 24th September
at 8.00pm**[http://](http://www.wessexmgclub.org.uk)www.wessexmgclub.org.uk

Hi, everyone,

The last month has been another busy one for our club, with the weather being kind to us on most occasions!

Firstly congratulations to the winners of our recent events. The Wessex Boules evening was won by Gordon and Sandra, who also travelled the farthest to attend, it was a very competitive evening and thanks must go to all who were runners up.

On a glorious bank holiday Monday the Action day in Toms field was won with a spirited performance by Terry, congratulations to Terry and all who attended. On possibly the worst weather day in August, myself and some other adventurous members went to the 2nd Classic car Show at Bowood House, it was a shame that the poor weather resulted in a smaller attendance of cars and public

Much better weather saw a group of us make an early morning start to attend the classic car show at The Gloucester Steam Railway where we enjoyed a trip on the Steam train, which travelled from Toddington south to Cheltenham race course and also on the newly opened line to Broadway,

Several members made the short trip to the inaugural White Horse Classic Car show at Westbury, due to a previous invitation to Haynes Museum at Sparkford I could not attend but will endeavour to next year when the show is held in September.

On Thursday October 4th we have the away skittles match with the Gloucester MG Club, we still need more players to help us win this match, if you have not already put your name on the list please consider doing so to enable your club to retain the trophy.

Coming up in October on Saturday 6th we have a Club Visit to the Castle Combe Classic, and on Saturday October 27th we have the Binney Bash at Eddington Village Hall.

If you have not already put your name on the list for our Christmas Party night at The Leigh Park Hotel, there is still time but please do so by October 5th.

Our next Club Night is on Monday September 24th at Spencer Club and will feature a talk from Tom our resident World War Historian, this promises to be a very interesting and informative evening and certainly worth attending.

Martyn



WESSEX MG AGM

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**2018 Annual General Meeting**

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

26th November
at
The Spencer Sports & Social Club

commencing at

8:00 pm

Preceded from 7.30 onwards by the payment of subscriptions for the 2019 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 2017 AGM.
3. Chairman's Report.
4. Treasurer's Report.
5. Consideration of any motions received.
- Break**
- **Photo competition**
- **Voting for awards**
6. Election of Committee for 2019.
7. Presentation of Awards.
8. Arrangements for 2019 AGM.
9. Any other business.



Classic car show at Gloucester and Warwick steam railway

John Bishop

Sorry folks but the Bishops were late arrivals at The Milk Churn. We had just received a message telling us that our credit card had been hacked: a little research showed that the criminal responsible had been on something of a spending spree in London, but the fraud department called a halt to proceedings when s/he tried to pay for £736 worth of chicken from an establishment in Oslo! This all begs a few questions...



Anyway the card was blocked and we have new ones, but this was not the carefree start to the day that we had been hoping for.

But I digress. The weather was benign and several of us enjoyed a top-down trip through the Cotswold countryside to Toddington where the rally had been allocated a field adjacent to the railway

station. There was an admirable turnout with some very tasty vehicles on display; coupled with the delights of the railway, the event was positively heady with nostalgia. The popular choice seemed to be to take the 11.35 to Broadway: after the required whistling and chuffing we were soon on our way, the elevated track allowing excellent views over the countryside.

There is certainly plenty to see and do at Toddington. Photo opportunities abound especially with the volunteer staff dressing in period costume. After



an enjoyable "re-fuelling" stop at the Flag and Whistle café, we were able to look around the memorabilia displays in a restored GWR Collett Brake Coach dating from 1935, check out the demonstration signal box and take in the loco yard viewing area.



A DAY OUT IN BOURNEMOUTH

I thought you might like my handiwork on Bournemouth beach. We can't all fit in the MG for a day out - I must have been having withdrawal symptoms.



Steve Todd





"Tom's Field" Bank Holiday Monday

Paul Warn

As you will gather from the main picture, although Terry Warder won the main prize in the duel in the sun in Tom's field, it was the Strickland household that packed the places behind.

Not only was there intense - note the expressions on the competitors' faces - competition for the main prize, there was also competition to usurp "Tom's field" as the destination of choice for Bank Holiday Monday. We passed the Bowood estate, encouraging folk to visit their food festival. Not a bit of it, "Tom's field" is now well established on the Wessex MG calendar and is able to tough it out with any external competition.

A photograph of an older man with white hair, wearing a green polo shirt, leaning into the open rear hatch of a red sports car. The car is parked outdoors, and the background shows green foliage. The man is looking towards the camera with a serious expression.

There was added interest this year in the form of a rifle shoot courtesy of Roger Binney, who brought along his .22 rifle.

The club's resident warlord looked handy with the rifle - not sure about the legs - which is more than can be said for other wannabe gunslingers in the club.

The MG contingent had it pretty much their own way. Peter Hine the 2017/18 holder of the trophy was unable to defend his title and I was croaked awaiting a hospital procedure.



There were all the usual tests organised by Vic. Some thought they could do it with their eyes closed and in some cases size was everything.



There was a lull in proceedings as everyone settled down for lunch and to reflect on the morning's competition and how they might regroup in the afternoon.

I mentioned earlier that the MG contingent had it pretty much their own way. Well not quite. Most folk had completed their runs in the afternoon around the circular course, and one or two were looking quite smug. Until that is a John Deere tractor emerged from the shrubbery with a young Strickland at the wheel and looking suspiciously confident. Is that coaching legal?



Well as the results show, Claire came in a creditable 3rd. Does this mean that purpose built machines will be de rigueur next year? Has the prestigious "Tom's field" event become too competitive? an agenda item for the next committee meeting perhaps? Tom looks as though he had an each way bet on his protégé.

Many congratulations to Terry.



Thank you Tom and Nancy for the use of your garden and to Vic for organising the event.



Thanks to John Bishop and Tony Neale for contributing photos for this short report.



August
Mystery Car

John Bishop

L'Eclair- 1930

Built by Jean Legeay of Gennes, France, the L'Éclair is a home-built propeller-driven car. Built in M Legeay's garage, he made every part, except the Indian V-twin engine, the wheels, and the gauges. He even carved the propeller himself! The name L'Éclair shares its meaning with the pastry; éclair in French means "flash of light". It was said you ate the dessert as fast as a bolt of lightning. M Legeay also used the car from 1930 until 1935, making many improvements. He said the car ran very well, had smooth acceleration, and was faster than anything else of the time. The drawback was the noise; it scared people, and it was said he would also chop up many chickens that ran across the road in front of him. In 1935, he gave up on the L'Éclair to pursue other business interests.

Specifications:

Manufacturer: Jean Legeay

Country of Origin: France

Drivetrain Configuration: Front engine, propeller-driven

Engine: Indian V-twin, 1189cc, air-cooled, 8 HP

Transmission: None; direct drive

Top Speed: 60 MPH

Years of Production: 1930

Number Produced: 1

Priscilla and I discovered this wonderful machine at the Chateau de Clos Lucé in Amboise - the place is famous for being the official residence of Leonardo da Vinci between 1516 and 1519, when Leonardo died. I think that he would have approved of L'Eclair! Of course this was an unreasonable challenge for the mystery car item given that only one was ever made, but I thought that it might interest and possibly amuse you.



A Blue MG ZS
(not one like
Kevin's! - The
New Compact
SUV).

Tom Strickland

We got back from France in early August and decided to take advantage of an offer to use my Aunt's Holiday house on Lock Sween. We decided to use the MG3 as we had put a lot of miles on the Honda this year. Off we set, packed up with gear heading for a Travel Lodge in Burton. Nancy and I shared the driving doing shifts. As we started the M6 stretch, we hit rain and as is customary the MG3 automatically swept the screen keeping a clear view ahead. As we munched the miles, disaster was about to strike..... the driver's side wiper came loose on the spindle and got entwined with the other wiper!!! Luckily we were just by a services and popped in to sort out the problem. I eventually found a kind trucker man who had a 13mm socket and off we went again.

We endured the family room experience overnight and Nancy took the first shift at the wheel. We were minutes into our journey when the temperature red light came on and quite soon started to bing and bong at us. We pulled into the next services and following the guidance in the handbook topped up the rather low expansion tank. This all took thirty or so minutes, after various children decided that they needed the loo etc etc. So with fingers crossed I took the wheel and we headed back on to the M6. What happened next worried me, the red light came on then went off, came on, then went off and finally stayed on.... So we stopped again.

I couldn't open the radiator as it was red hot and the expansion tank still seemed ok - did we just have an airlock from earlier? We all went to the loo again and Nancy had a walk round the shop and we tried again. Ten minutes later though the

light was back on and I started to worry about head gaskets etc so we stopped again and I called the RAC.

An hour and a bit later a really excellent RAC chap turned up and by this time the radiator had cooled enough to open - he put rather a surprising amount of water straight in and then pressure tested the system. He found no leak..... He drove with us up to the next service station and all seemed fine so we headed on 'up North'

We went through Glasgow and a further two hours off 'logging truck' windy Loch roads until finally arrived at my Aunt's house. We had made it! Whilst we were up there I brimmed the radiator every morning and decided to stop at Solihull to see my brother on the way home. The return journey went smoothly, despite our nerves. I booked the car into the MG garage to get it properly checked. To start with they could find no problem. In the end they found there was a leak in the lid part of the expansion tank (£12) and it was duly fixed.

Nancy drove me up to the MG garage at Wickwar to collect the car and as I went into the Service office to sort the paperwork etc she went into the showroom and before I knew it she was putting a deposit down on a Blue ZS (not one like Kevin's! - The New Compact SUV). Well I wasn't going to argue with that! The thing is she had lost confidence in the car, what with the Deer incident and then all this she needed to move on... so we did.

This month's club night talk will be on 1918 and the last 100 days of the First World War. Be there or be square (Best to be octagonal).



ITEM/S FOR SALE



Set of 4 off 3 eared spinners 8 TPI (Threads Per Inch) for MGB and others (?). All MG's up to 1964 including early MGB's had 12 TPI. The 8 TPI will fit all later B's, midgits, sprites and MGC's and most Morgans! good condition. £100.

Ken Scott

Wessex MG Christmas Party

This year, your club is holding the Christmas Party at The Leigh Park Country House Hotel at Bradford on Avon, this is a 3-star Best Western Hotel.

There is a different format to the evening this year as we will have a 3 course meal plus Coffee or Tea and mince pies, followed by dancing to a Disco hosted by the resident DJ

The cost is £34.50 per person and we need a deposit of £10 per person to be paid at the September Club Night or by bank transfer.

If you wish to stay overnight there is a special rate of £89.50 for Bed & Breakfast Double Room ., to book quote Wessex MG party

The menu is attached .

Martyn

Leigh Park Hotel
Christmas Party Nights 2018
Friday & Saturday £34.50 pp

Starters

Cream of Vegetable Soup

Leigh Park House Pate

Served with toast and onion marmalade

Brie, Mushroom and Cranberry Tart

Main Course – Served with fresh vegetables

Roast Turkey

With stuffing and bacon wrapped chipolata

Game Pie

In a rich red wine, port and redcurrant sauce

Hake Supreme

Grilled; with a prawn and mushroom sauce

Portobello Mushroom

Stuffed with spinach, cherry tomatoes and cheese; topped with parmesan breadcrumbs

Dessert Selection

Traditional Christmas Pudding

Served with cream

Fruits of the Forest Cheesecake

Tulle Basket

Filled with fresh fruit and whipped cream

Selection of Local Cheese and Biscuits

To Finish

Freshly brewed tea and coffee with mince pies



Secretary's Scribbles

I'm not here this month, I've been allocated a bigger space - see page 9.

Tom





Club Diary

2018 EVENTS DIARY				
Date	Event	Club Event	Venue	Contact Details & Start Point/Time
24-Sep	Club Night - Talk - Topic To Be Confirmed	Yes	Spencer Club	Tom Strickland
4th Oct	Skittles Match - Gloucester MG Club		TBA	
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	The Leigh Park Hotel	Martyn Lucas

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.