



WESSEX MG CAR CLUB THE TOLLGATE INN-HOLT

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

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SUSPENDED FOR THE
FORESEEABLE FUTURE

[http://
www.wessexmgclub.org](http://www.wessexmgclub.org)

I hope that everyone is keeping safe and well and have been able to take advantage of the short spell of late summer weather during the last month.

A few of us made the short journey to Castle Combe for the Autumn Classic, this was the weekend that the weather started to change. The Saturday was damp but the racing went ahead as planned and we enjoyed watching Malcolm Barrington on the track with his Frazer Nash. We returned on the Sunday but after several track inspections the circuit decided to cancel the days racing,

Later this month Haynes Motor Museum are planning to reopen following a refurbishment and will have new displays featuring Williams Formula 1 and a tribute to the founder of the museum John Haynes. I am planning to go and see what is new during the coming weeks.

Unfortunately COVID 19 infections seem to be on the increase, and at present there does not seem to be

any likely-hood of restrictions easing for some time yet, therefore we are unable to hold the usual club nights so the regular club quizzes on zoom are proving popular,

Your committee held a meeting recently to discuss the way forward and because of the current restrictions we cannot hold a physical AGM this year. It was felt that rather than holding the AGM on zoom, which would preclude some of our members from participating it would be better to send out the draft proposals with this newsletter and ask members if they have any comments.

Please see the AGM agenda and draft reports in this newsletter.

The committee decided that as there has been a lack of club nights and events in 2020, all current members should not pay a membership fee for the 2021 term.

Let's hope that the pandemic eases soon and then we can all enjoy a brighter future.

Martyn



WESSEX MG 2020 AGM

Wessex MG Club

2020 Annual General Meeting

Agenda for AGM

1. **Apologies for absence** - Not Applicable
2. **Approval of minutes of 2019 AGM** - Approved by the Committee.
3. **Chairman's Annual Report** - See draft on page 3 of this newsletter
4. **Treasurer's Annual Report** - See draft on page 5 of this newsletter
5. **Consideration of any comments by members received on the above drafts will be taken during November prior to their formal publication in the November edition of the newsletter.**
6. **Election of Committee for 2021** - With the notable exception of the passing of Vic Wright, the committee will remain the same until the club reconvenes.
7. **Presentation of Awards** - Awards held by members during 2020 will be retained by them until the club reconvenes.
8. **Arrangements for 2021 AGM** - 22 November 2021(provisional)

DRAFT CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT

Thanks to all who have continued membership during the past year and also thank you to the potential new members who are interested in joining us when activities resume, without the enthusiasm and participation we would not have a club.

Thanks to the committee for the hard work during the past year, Terry as vice chair, Paul in his role of newsletter editor, Peter as Treasurer, Membership Secretary and Data Compliance Officer, Tom for his role as Club Secretary and Sue, Malcolm, Roger and Steve as general committee members.

Sadly in the middle of the year our longest serving committee member Vic Wright passed away after a short illness, he will be missed and remembered by all who knew him and the committee have agreed to present a new trophy in memory of Vic, this trophy will be presented for the first time in 2021.

The year started with great enthusiasm and we had many events scheduled in the diary.

In December we held our Christmas Party at the Tollgate Inn, this was a very enjoyable evening with Raffle Tickets keenly sold by Roger and the prizes sourced by Sue.

January Club night saw the "Guess what is in the Bag" challenge, which involved feeling sealed bags and then trying to identify the contents, this produced some amazing answers!

February saw our annual Valentines meal and our club night included a visit from Wiltshire Search and Rescue who told us what they do as a voluntary organisation and showed us around one of their support vehicles.

In the month of March we started our events season with a Scalextric evening organised by Roger and Lynne, this was a fantastic evening and was enjoyed by all who attended.

And then later in March came the national increase in Covid 19 cases which brought about the countrywide lockdown which as you know has completely changed the world social scene.

Despite the slight easing of restrictions we have unfortunately been forced to cancel our regular club nights, and also the many events that we had planned to either organise or attend during this year have been postponed until 2021.

In October the Castle Combe Classic Race Event was held complying with the Covid guidelines and several members attended, and the Saturday racing was held in damp conditions but after a mid morning track inspection the organisers cancelled the racing due to excessive rain on the Sunday.

The autumn committee meeting agenda included an item on how to hold the 2020 AGM, as with the national restrictions it would not be possible to hold the traditional physical AGM.

It was decided that holding the AGM on Zoom would preclude some members from participating. Rather than cancelling the AGM, a more inclusive solution was to have a virtual 2020 AGM whereby the AGM standing agenda was published in the October newsletter to include a draft response to each agenda item. Members were invited to comment on the draft, the outcomes of which formed the “proceedings” of the 2020 AGM which are published in the November edition of the newsletter.

It was decided that as there has been a lack of events during 2020 all current members will have a membership fee holiday for 2021 and will not be required to pay subscriptions, and any new member joining during the coming year will pay the pro rata fee from when we resume normal activities.

We have plans for many events in 2021 but at present cannot confirm these as it looks like the restrictions will be in place for a while yet, and we hope to be able to resume the regular club nights and events as soon as it is safe and legal to do so in 2021.



A Wet Autumn Classic

Malcolm Barrington

Here are a few pictures of me before and after the race. My brother and nephew were supporting me in the paddock. Mathew also races at Combe in the "Hot Hatch" series.

I 'm very happy to have qualified 19th out of 32 entrants eventually finishing 15th in the race.

I am told that I was the first of the TT Reps across the line.

This was my first and last race this year. Hopefully life will return to normal next year.





Wessex MG Club Go

WET, WET WET

Terry Warder

It's not what you may be thinking; it wasn't an outing to see the mild rock band called Wet Wet Wet but a weekend of classic car racing and classic club car displays in the wet wet wet!

Having not been to anything car related this year, Sue and I were very much looking forward to going but still with social distancing in the back of our minds, as I'm sure we all are, even when we get the groceries or walk down the pavement towards another person.

So with rain in the forecast off we set, well I say we, as it turned out it was just myself as early in the morning our cat took a turn for the worse having been poorly for some days. He had already been to the vets two days earlier, so Sue rushed him there again for an operation. Our son then brought her to Castle Combe and dropped her at the entrance to meet up with the hardy souls already trackside, and by now adorned in many layers of warm clothing all topped off with a fashionable water proof covering.



Well some were, mine looked more like MR BLOBBYS rejects but I stayed warm and dry.

Practice started with competitor's still giving it their best shot especially both classes of Mini saloons. The wet conditions seemed to level the field out performance wise; you could see some of the more powerful cars especially an AC Cobra weaving from side to side as it accelerated away down the straight.

Rain seemed to ease slightly when it was time for Malcolm Barrington to do his



qualifying session in his Frazer Nash (I don't know if he would agree, being sat out in the elements travelling at speed). With qualifying over and a shortened lunch stop racing started in earnest. As it was the 70th anniversary the first race (the 500cc single seaters that began the first races at Castle Combe all those years ago) started proceedings and spectacular they were too, especially as they splashed through the now even

larger water splash being created by the rain at the chicane section.

The Jaguar race saw some of the larger saloons spin off onto now soggy muddy grass luckily with no injuries; Malcom came out to do his race and finishing mid field against some much more powerful cars (well done). I got a friend of mine to take some photographs of Malcom as he has a much more sophisticated camera than my little compact. I have included them along with my poorer efforts as a motor sport photographer!!!.

Sadly the rain on Sunday was of more biblical proportions but we still managed to have five cars turnout with six people in attendance so keeping to Boris's rule of six. The racing kept getting delayed until finally the race officials called a halt to the day's proceedings at 11:30. Sue and I decided to return home via Chippenham



rather than the lanes we had used that morning, as we had gone through five lots of flood water all the way across the road on the way there.

And just to let you all know how the cat got on, he had a seven inch long piece of grass removed from his soft pallet and nose, making him a star on the vet's Facebook page that day. Hope you enjoy the photos especially the ones supplied by my friend Pete See (another Morgan enthusiast).



Pic of Malcolm (No 27) at Castle Combe. I know he finished 15th and made up some places from his starting position. **Peter**



A Rare Outing

Malcolm Taylor

Pat and I took the MG for a run recently, a rare event this year. I was late putting it on the road because of 'you know what,' and I'll put it back on Sorn at the end of this month.

It did less than a thousand miles last year and it will be even less this year. I never bothered to change the oil last year but I had better do it before I lay it up this time.

We were pottering around and ended up at Bratton Camp by Westbury White Horse, purely by accident. It was getting cloudy where we were but it looked sunny over Westbury way, so we headed in that direction.

As we approached we could see there was a lot of Parascending activity. The wind was obviously in the right direction and the clear blue skies were filled with flying contraptions of all sorts. They ranged from the usual parachute jobs through hang gliders to things that were almost like small aircraft with wings and separate tail assemblies.

I had a go at tandem parascending in New Zealand once and it's an absolutely stunning way of seeing the scenery.





A Sinister MGC

Steve Todd

I only have a small gaggle of photos from Castle Combe but I have attached what I have. I've also attached a photo which makes an MGC look slightly sinister in my humble opinion.



Wessex MG Committee

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Secretary's Scribbles

I have now put right my embarrassing confession last month and have been out and about in the Magnette. In particular I took the kids over to Stonar school for their swimming lessons.

The weather has since turned - was anyone out and about a few Sundays ago when we had all that rain? I was again going to Stonar school and decided to ford the famous flood spot on the Bromham to Melksham road (A3102). I have been through this spot flooded quite a few times over the years but I took one look and thought twice this time, then a car came the other way so after it came on by it was 'game on' I went Clarkson style full pelt in. I saw at the last minute the rescued cars on the bank (so they weren't oddly parked cars) and also the floating hub caps and black plastic car under trays..... next the car started to skew with the back lifting off the road..... but then with a roar I was through sweating profusely.

Luckily I had taken the Honda CRV as I honestly think the MG ZS would have turned into a boat (or even a submarine).

I am not going to talk too much about work at school because quite frankly it is horrendous for both teachers and students and prospects do not look good. I am fully expecting there not to be full exams again this summer, despite the latest statement from the government. This actually puts a lot more stress on teachers as they have to spend more time stuck in processes where they can absolutely prove one student is better or worse than another - let alone prove with evidence which grade they should get.

Anyone watching the BBC programme called Enslaved - there is a Magnette in the background of one part - nice!

I hope you are all keeping well and safe.

Tom

Club Diary

2020 EVENTS DIARY				
Date	Event	Club Event	Venue	Contact Details & Start Point/Time
23rd November	AGM	Yes	The Toll Gate Inn	CANCELLED - SEE ALTERNATE ARRANGEMENTS IN THIS THE OCTOBER NEWSLETTER
12th December	Christmas Party	Yes	The Toll Gate Inn	CANCELLED



Club Asset List

CLUB ASSET LIST			
ASSET	CURRENT HOLDER	CONTACT DETAILS	
Engine Hoist	Tom Strickland	012489 447125	stricklandto@hotmail.com
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New Set of Boules	Tom Strickland	012489 447125	stricklandto@hotmail.com

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.