



WESSEX MG CAR CLUB THE TOLLGATE INN- HOLT

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

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NEXT CLUB NIGHT

22nd May - BBQ

Start time 7:30pm

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

The last month has been a busy one and at times a very wet one, but we are only just into spring and have the summer to look forward to.

Our last club night featured a very interesting and informative presentation on the Battle of Roundway, I found this very interesting and many thanks to Tom for another excellent talk.

A couple of days before the club night a group of us were "round and about" in West Sussex for the club spring break, which this year was organised by Gordon and Sandra, thanks go to both of them for a very good weekend, it was good that we were joined by new members Chris(Macca) and Karen and I trust that they enjoyed their first Wessex MG event.

On the May Day Bank Holiday I took my MGB to the Popham Wings and

Wheels day, this was the first time I have been to this show and it was good to see around 400 cars and also various small aircraft landing and taking off from this grass strip airfield, maybe next year we may consider attending with a club stand?

Our next club night is on Monday May 22nd and this will be a bring your classic night and also the annual club "BBQ" night which will this year be subsidised by the club, there are choices of Burger and as there will be a large attendance I need your menu choices by Wednesday May 17th as the Tollgate need pre orders, please bring £10 cash per person on the evening as I need to pay the Tollgate in one payment.

Hope to see you at the Tollgate on the 22nd

Martyn





Spring Tour to West Sussex

21st - 24th April

Paul Warn

A popular entry in the club's diary is the annual Spring Tour, which this year courtesy of Gordon and Sandra Newman took us to the Roundabout Hotel in West Chiltington between Pulborough and Storrington in West Sussex. Ah I hear you say a hotel on a roundabout?

First a little history...

One Reginald Fairfax Wells trained as a sculptor at the Royal College of Art in the late 1890s and gained a reputation for fine bronzes and English pottery. In 1925 he moved to the Storrington area with a dream of creating "the perfect English Village". He built more than 30 cottages in an estate that became known as the Roundabouts - an English term for a spinner which is a thicket with underwood. The cottages on the estate were designed to look centuries old, our hotel was one of these cottages.

The county is quite familiar to us as we visit the Goodwood racing events two or three times a year. In fact only the week before this visit we attended the 80th Goodwood Members Meeting - separate story.

Gordon and Sandra provided a very comprehensive travel pack for our collective use throughout the visit.

Anne and I travelled down to West Sussex via Hinton Ampner where we stopped to have a coffee and cake - as you do - in the grounds of the National Trust house. The theme of this weekend was going to be tulips as of course April is the season for tulips. The gardens were full of these lovely flowers and of all types. Our next stop en route was to be Parham House and Gardens one of the country's finest Elizabethan houses set in the foot of the South Downs and too far from our destination. In addition to the tulips in the formal gardens there were also hundreds of bluebells and daffodils in amongst the blossoming trees around the grounds.

We arrived at our destination at around 4:00pm with plenty of time to settle into our very comfortable suite. The routine then for the weekend was to meet in the bar for around 7:00pm before a 7:30pm supper and a chance to catch up with everyone and swap stories.

We had two full days to explore the area and generally we all visited the same places but at different times, including the nearby coast. On Saturday we all seemed to descend on Arundel Castle - a restored and remodelled medieval castle established in the reign of Edward the Confessor. We have visited many places in our time not only in this country but in Europe - Arundel Castle is on a magnificent scale. And yes tulips were involved!

In fact the tulip festival was billed as the largest display of tulips in Europe and according to the Head Gardener this year's Tulip Festival featured 70,000 new tulips and over 130 different named tulips planted throughout the castle gardens and grounds. Apparently the castle boasts the world's first ever tulip & narcissi labyrinth, planted up with white Thalia Narcissi and the later flowering red Kingsblood tulips.

Do I sound as if I know what I'm talking about!

Afterwards we walked around the town and I picked up some Automobila in the antique shops.

We were greeted with rain on Sunday morning - National Drive It Day and of course St George's Day. Following breakfast and a few pics of the cars we made our way to West Dean Gardens just north of Chichester. We didn't need our broolly although we did carry it around the gardens - just in case - on a nice gentle walk.

West Dean is a nineteenth century Gothic house, designed by James Wyatt with a twentieth century Arts and Crafts garden, designed by Harold Peto in 1911. Edward James, who lived here, was a patron of surrealist art. The great feature of West Dean Gardens is a 300' stone pergola with timber beams - part of which is being restored. Following a good lunch, we made our way to Goodwood House for a mooch around. The grounds look a lot different without the paraphernalia of the Festival of Speed cluttering up the Duke's extensive estate. Although we have taken the tour around the house a few times before, it's usually with a different guide each time and a different slant on its history.

By mid afternoon the sun was shining and we were on tender hooks waiting for our mobile phone to announce the test of the 'National Emergency Alert'. With that over and done with, we made our way back in the direction of the hotel.

The weekend past very quickly and come Monday morning it was time to make tracks for home. Having said au revoir to our travelling companions - we were due to meet again in the evening for the April club night and Tom Strickland's talk - we made our way home via Fontwell and another stop at Hinton Ampner for refreshments.

On behalf of our fellow travellers, very many thanks to Gordon and Sandra for a well organised and memorable weekend including good food and good company.





The Spring Weekend Captured in Pictures







Fifth in my series of contemporary advertisements
for MG Sports Cars - this time courtesy of **Clive
Dorling**



Further, Further to...

Mike Mitchard's "1970 Triumph TR6 Winter Project" in the March edition and his Austin Pick-Up project in the April edition. Here are a few pics of Mike's Porsche Tractor project.



DIARY UPDATE

MONDAY MAY 22nd at THE TOLLGATE 7:30pm start- CLUB NIGHT BBQ & BRING YOUR CAR NIGHT

This will be our annual "Bring your MG or other British Car Event" and also the Club "BBQ" evening.

This year the Food will be subsidised by your club to £10 per person.

The Menu choices are-

Beef Burger

Chicken Burger

Vegetarian Burger



I need your menu choices by email by **Wednesday May 17th** as there will be a large number attending we need to pre order.

ON THE EVENING CAN YOU PLEASE BRING £10 per person CASH as I need to pay the Tollgate in one transaction.

Martyn

Annual Picnic



Sunday 23rd July 2023

at

Sculptures by the Lakes

Pallington Lakes, Dorchester, DT2 8QU



This tranquil area of Dorset countryside mingles with spectacular lakeside sculptures with the River Frome running alongside is an ideal spot for picnicking. We have secured an exclusive parking area for the Club and can choose to picnic adjacent to the cars or move into the park area next to the lakes.

Entry to the park and gardens is £14.50 less 10% (£13.05) for a group booking. Well behaved dogs are welcome except in the ornamental and kitchen gardens. www.sculpturesbythelakes.co.uk

Route details will be provided nearer the time.

Bring your own picnic. Toilet and café facilities on site.

Please let us know if you wish to join in with this "highlight of the summer" by emailing gornew@yahoo.co.uk



Payment To: Wessex MG Club 00392302 30-91-99

Please inform Peter Hind of any payments on peter_hine@btinternet.com

Sandra & Gordon

Coming up soon....

We have a Classic Car Evening Gathering coming up on Wednesday 17th May, from 4pm to 9pm. No booking needed, just turn up on the evening. Free entry to Museum Grounds and the gathering and reduced rates for museum entry. Light refreshments available. This is usually a very well attended event with a wide variety of vehicles.



ATWELL WILSON MOTOR MUSEUM

CLASSIC CAR EVENING GATHERING

Wednesday 17th May 2023 from 4pm - 9pm

- FREE ENTRY TO MUSEUM GROUNDS!
PARK UP - BROWSE - CHAT
- OPTIONAL ENTRY TO MUSEUM BUILDINGS FOR A REDUCED FEE OF £6 PER ADULT - CHECK OUT 90+ CAR AND MOTORCYCLE EXHIBITS - MOTORING MEMORABILIA - MODEL CAR AND LORRY DISPLAYS!
- LIGHT REFRESHMENTS
- ALL CLASSIC AND INTERESTING CARS, MOTORCYCLES AND LIGHT COMMERCIALS WELCOME, NO BOOKING, JUST TURN UP!

AN INFORMAL EVENT FOR THE ENTHUSIAST!

ATWELL WILSON MOTOR MUSEUM
STOCKLEY LANE - CALNE - WILTSHIRE - SN11 0NF
01249 813119 - www.atwellwilson.org.uk

A number of members have said they will be there...**ED**

SATURDAY MAY 27th -

MG Centenary Event at The British Motor Museum Gaydon.

For those who wish to travel in a group to this event there will be a meeting place at 8.00am at Morrisons Car Park, Chippenham.

After the show I am planning to go to Gilks Garage Café in Kineton, for food, this is a motoring themed café offering Pizza and Burgers, and is run by the family of the original owners of the garage.

I am planning on arriving there by 5.30pm and if anyone wishes to join me please let me know by **TUESDAY May 23rd** and then I can give Gilks an estimate of the number of

SUNDAY JUNE 18th -

THRUXTON Historic Race Meet-

I have reserved a club area at this race meeting and we have a 50% Discount code for tickets bought in advance.

To purchase tickets at 50% off the on the day price and supply vehicle details for a free club display vehicle pass visit the **dedicated car club ticket booking page via this link (this page is not visible on the website)**. Each order allows you to book one free vehicle display pass with the driver and any passenger tickets.

<https://thruptonracing.co.uk/tx-hist-car-clubs-2023>

Scroll down, select a ticket type, and click 'ADD TO BASKET'

Adjust the quantity required (to add a different ticket type go back one page)
Enter code WMGC423HT in the DISCOUNT CODE field (bottom left of the basket)
click **APPLY**

Repeat to apply the discount to each ticket type on the order

Please check the total before clicking
PROCEED TO CHECKOUT



Car Club tickets must be booked by **2pm Monday 12th June**. Tickets and display vehicle passes will be sent to club members by first class post on or before this date.

Our friends at Gloucester MG have asked that we include this flyer promoting their event...



Come and join us at the 17th Cotswold Caper

Date – Sunday 9th July 2023

A scenic drive through the glorious countryside of the Cotswolds

Supporting:

The Family Haven - A day centre for vulnerable families in Gloucester.

Price - £30/car

Start- Cheltenham Tigers Rugby Club, Cheltenham GL52 3PE

For further details contact – caper.admin@glosmgoc.co.uk

www.glosmgoc.co.uk

TIMES GONE BY...

Whilst away on the club's spring break we made an impulse buy of this Ford Model A. Not really, but it was in incredibly good condition.

This was the day before 'Drive It Day' and coming away from the Model A, we came up behind an even older car. I'm sure it's Model T. He must have been out practising for the Drive It Day.

Malcolm T



Whilst in West Sussex on "Drive it Day 2023" I took this photo.



Manor Road Garage, East Preston, Angmering, was I believe originally opened in the early 1920's, so there is a slight connection with the MG Centenary, and the art deco frontage was added in the 1930's.

This was a working garage with petrol pumps until 1973 and then closed and fell into disrepair and was fenced off until in either 2007 or 2008 the garage workshops were cleared and according to rumour a number of older MG and other premium cars were removed.

The building was then sold and the rear workshops were demolished and rebuilt to become luxury apartments.

The original 1930's façade and the original 1950's Shell Petrol Pumps have all been restored, but obviously no longer work and are purely decorative, and the frontage and petrol pumps are both Grade 2 listed.

Martyn

ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY TO OWN A GREAT CLASSIC CAR...THIS TIME TOM STRICKLAND's MG MAGNETTE.

1958 MG Magnette Baritone £8,000

Tom's contact details are: 07789 115523 Stricklandto@hotmail.com



1958 was the last year of these Magnettes - this one therefore has the two-toned paintwork, the larger rear window and the better geared rear diff.

This car was bought new from Bristol by an officer in the Royal Air Force (The original dealer sticker is still visible on the dashboard). The RAF officer kept the car, and it was garaged when he became too old to drive it. Apart from being rescued by a local mechanic the car essentially had one owner before me. I bought the car in 2009. The car should be steel and mineral blue, but at some point, the top was repainted in grey (I have a tin of the correct paint should a prospective owner wish to return it to the correct colour).

The car was very original when I took it on and the first job, I had done was to restore the bodywork - this included new sills, work to the front valence, wings and door bottoms and a respray of the bottom half of the car. Following this I redid the door seals, carpets and addressed the lighting so that the car would have clearly visible indicators. I also cleaned off the bottom of the car and painted it with POR Rust Preventative Paint system and injected the cavities with Dynax 550 (The Original owner had regularly poured oil into the box sections of the chassis)

Since then, I have steadily improved the car. Here are some of the bigger jobs I have done:

- Proper seatbelts
- Stainless exhaust.
- The Head gasket and water pump
- Brakes were overhauled with new flexipipes
- Clutch Hydraulics replaced including Master cylinder.
- The Radiator was refurbished.
- Conversion to negative Earth including adding an Alternator.
- Hi-Gear supplied reconditioned Ford Sierra Type 9 Gearbox
- Discreet 'behind dash' Blue tooth Sound system
- Carburettors overhauled.
- Front Suspension rebuilt using Poly bushes (modern rubber doesn't last!)
- Speedo repaired and geared to suit the new gearbox - still doesn't blinking work though!
- Electronic ignition
- Isofix child car seat fittings added discreetly into the rear seat.

Virtually all parts are still available and reasonably prices (<http://www.mgspecs.co.uk/>)

The car is owned by myself, and I have been a long-term member of the various MG Clubs and am currently Club Secretary to the 0716 Wessex MG Club. I currently own several other MGs and as the children have grown up I have found that the Magnette is used less and less and so should now find a new home. The car won the Pride of Ownership at the MG International Show and Spares Day in 2011 which led on to the car being featured in MG Enthusiast Magazine in June 2011. The car lives in a Veloce Carcoon inside my garage (This is the framed 'drive in/out' type) and the system also acts as a battery conditioner. The Car is not perfect and wouldn't win a concours competition - There are a few jobs to give a new owner small easy projects continuing from where I have go to. An example would be that the car would benefit from having the quarterlight window seals changed.

The car has Footman James agreed Valuation of £10,000



Tom



Secretary's Scribbles

This month I started to use the TF more again and I have also added a remote boot release. The TF is an unusual car in that to open the boot you have to use the key - there is no button. I have therefore taken a power supply through and wired up a simple ebay solenoid kit and hey presto I can now open the boot get stuff in and out without having to turn off the engine and use my key. I find this very useful as I want to unload the boot before putting her away in the garage for example. My next job will be to wire up a ctek battery conditioner socket in a

decent location so I don't need to open the bonnet each time I get home - remember that in a TF you have to open the boot to get at the bonnet opening catch... I still need to work on the seat bolts so that I can finish off the red T Bar trim and possibly swap over my donor red seats (not sure on these yet).

I have included an advert for the Magnette to Paul so that club members can have an opportunity to consider the car before she goes on sale to the public.

Tom



CLUB DIARY

2023 EVENTS DIARY				
Date	Event	Club Event	Venue	Contact Details & Start Point/Time
22nd May	Club night - BBQ Prod & Poke 7:30pm start	Yes	The Toll Gate Inn	Martyn and Peter
27th May	MG 100		The British Motor Museum Gaydon	
1st June	MG100 Celebration at the original Garage in Oxford		Oxford	
4th June	Chippenham Lions Cherished Vehicle Show		Chippenham	
4th June	MGs in the Park		Cotswold Wildlife Park	
10th - 11th June	MG Live Silverstone	For Info	Silverstone	
11th June	Classics on the Green		Chippenham	Devizes Lions Club
17th - 18th June	Thruxton Historic	Yes	Thruxton Circuit	Martyn Lucas
18th June	Bowood 'Masters in Motoring'	For Info		
26th June	Club night - Mystery Run	Yes		Steve Todd
9th July	Atwell Wilson Museum Open Day			
15th - 16th July	Post-Abingdon MG Show			



2023 EVENTS DIARY				
Date	Event	Club Event	Venue	Contact Details & Start Point/Time
23rd July	Club Annual Picnic	Yes	Dorchester Sculpture Lakes	Gordon and Sandra Newman
24th July	Club night - Boules	Yes	The Toll Gate Inn	Martyn & Terry
6th August	Gloucester Country & Vintage Extravaganza	Yes	South Cerney	Martyn Lucas
6th August	Haynes MG100 Breakfast Meeting			Martyn Lucas
21st August	Club Night - Casual Social Night	Yes	The Toll Gate Inn	
3rd September	White Horse Car Show	Yes	Westbury	
23rd September	Castle Combe Classic			
25th September	Club night - Quiz Night	Yes	The Toll Gate Inn	
30th September	Beaulieu MG Event	For Info		
22nd October	Visit to REME Museum		Lyneham	Martyn Lucas
23rd October	Club night - Theme Would I lie to You	Yes	The Toll Gate Inn	
TBA	COMMITTEE MEETING			Martyn Lucas
25th November	Carpet Bowls		Eddington Village Hall	Lynne and Roger Binney
27th November	Club night - AGM	Yes	The Toll Gate Inn	
9th December	Christmas Party	Yes	The Toll Gate Inn	



CLUB DIARY

2023 EVENTS DIARY				
Date	Event	Club Event	Venue	Contact Details & Start Point/Time

OTHER POTENTIAL EVENTS

Boat Trip on the Thames? (Martyn)

Abingdon and Nuffield Place? (Martyn)

RMA Sandhurst – Would be Weekday? (Peter)

Club Asset List

CLUB ASSET LIST			
ASSET	CURRENT HOLDER	CONTACT DETAILS	
Engine Hoist	Tom Strickland	012489 447125	stricklandto@hotmail.com
Club Sail Banner	Kevin Meakin	01380 727151	kevinmg1@live.com
Event Shelter + Sides	Kevin Meakin	01380 727151	kevinmg1@live.com
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
Set of Boules	Terry Warder	01225 766068	suewarder60@gmail.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.