



WESSEX MG CAR CLUB THE TOLLGATE INN- HOLT

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

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SECRETARY'S SCRIBBLES

Tom Strickland

NEXT CLUB NIGHT

February 24th

Talk

Start Time 8:00 pm

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

We are now in the 40th anniversary year of the Wessex MG Club and it looks like being a very busy one with many events and shows and the big anniversary picnic in July.

At the AGM it was good to welcome new faces onto the committee, with Chris McCormack, Graham Risdon and Michael Childs joining the new committee and David Collier stepping up to take the Vice Chair role vacated by Terry Warder who is remaining as a general committee member, I am certain that they will contribute to the future success of the club.

Thanks go to Roger and Lynne Binney and Gordon and Sandra Newman who after many years of service on the committee have decided to take a break but will still be organising some events for the club.

There are many new events in the calendar for this year so there should be something to interest most members, if anyone knows of any other events not listed on the club calendar that may interest fellow members please let a committee member know.

At the next club night on Monday 24th February at the Tollgate from 8.00pm Frank Bond will be giving a presentation about Donald Campbell, this promises to be a very interesting evening and when Frank has done previous presentations they have been well attended

Look forward to seeing you on the 24th.

Martyn



CLUB DIARY

2025 EVENTS DIARY				
Date	Event	Start Time	Venue	Additional Information
24th Feb	Club Night - Talk Donald Campbell by Frank Bond	8:00pm	The Toll Gate Inn	
2nd March	MG/Rover Day		Atwell-Wilson Motor Museum	
24th March	Club Night - Presentation Wessex 4x4 Response Team	8:00pm	The Toll Gate Inn	
6th April	MGB Register Spring Run		TBA	
18th - 21st April	Easter Bank Holiday			
27th April	Drive It Day	TBA	Classic Motor Hub	
27th April	Drive It Day		Atwell-Wilson Motor Museum	
28th April	Club night - Prod and Poke night	8:00pm	The Toll Gate Inn	
TBA	COMMITTEE MEETING	TBA		
18th May	Chippenham Rotary Club Run			Chris McCormack
19th May	Club Night - Mystery Run	TBA	TBA	
23rd -26th May	Club Spring Weekend Away		Ironbridge	
1st June	MGs in the Park			Celebrating Anniversary of the MGB
1st June	Chippenham Lions			
7th-8th June	Nick Mason Open Day		Middlewick House Corsham	Chris McCormack
8th June	Classic & Super Car Event		Bowood Park	
15th June	Steeple Ashton Classic Car Show		Steeple Ashton	Graham Risdon
23rd June	Club night - Boules	8:00pm	The Toll Gate Inn	
28/29 June	Charlton Park Classic		Charlton Park Nr Malmesbury	Inaugural event featuring Classic & Super Cars and Vintage Aircraft

2025 EVENTS DIARY				
Date	Event	Start Time	Venue	Additional Information
12th July	Wings and Wheels at Middle Wallop		Middle Wallop Flying Station	Historic Aircraft, Classic and Super Cars and Motor Bikes
13th July	Atwell Wilson Museum Show Open Day		Atwell Wilson Motor Museum	
20th July	WESSEX MG 40th Anniversary Picnic	TBA	Langford Lakes Nature Reserve	Given the importance of this occasion, the club will subsidise this event.
28th July	Club night -	8:00pm	The Toll Gate Inn	
1st - 3rd August	Gloucestershire Vintage & Country Show		South Cerney	
18th August	Club Night -	8:00pm	The Toll Gate Inn	
TBA	MGs in Tom's Field	TBA	Tom & Nancy's Home address	
22nd September	Club night -	8:00pm	The Toll Gate Inn	
27th October	Club night -	8:00pm	The Toll Gate Inn	
TBA	COMMITTEE MEETING			Martyn Lucas
24th November	Club night - AGM	8:00pm	The Toll Gate Inn	Club AGM
TBA	Christmas Party	Yes	The Toll Gate Inn	

NOTES ON 2024 AGM

ELECTION OF 2025 COMMITTEE

Position	Appointee	Proposed	Seconded
Chairperson	Martyn Lucas	Roger Binney	Mike Childs
Vice Chairperson	David Collier	Graham Bennett	Graham Risdon
Secretary	Tom Strickland	Lynn Binney	Martyn Lucas
Membership Secretary and Treasurer and Data Protection Officer	Peter Hine	Mike Childs	Kevin Meakin
Newsletter Editor	Paul Warn	Ken Scott	Dave Collier
General Committee Members	Chris McCormack	Paul Warn	Peter Oldale
	Graham Risdon		
	Steve Todd		
	Kevin Meakin		
	Graham Bennett		
	Terry Warder		
	Mike Childs		

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

The Vic Wright Memorial Trophy was awarded in August to Steve Todd for the Autotest in Tom and Nancy's Field

Boules Trophy: Kevin and Roger

Skittles Trophy: Tamara McConchie

Bottles of Wine for Members who have given Presentations: John Bishop, Tom Strickland

CLUB WhatsApp GROUP

Tom Strickland will ensure all members are added to the Wessex MG group chat by 1st February - also see Tom's related note below:

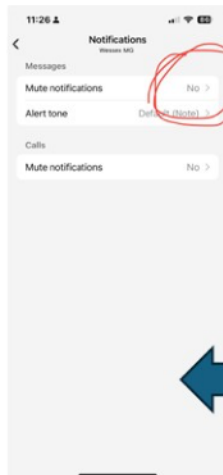


Wessex MG Club WhatsApp Group

The club is looking to improve its communication and as mentioned at recent meetings and in the last newsletter we are trying to connect all members in the group.

WhatsApp is an app on your phone that allows easy group conversations – ideal for communication about attending events or amongst members trying to communicate when going to events etc.

Tom has added the numbers that are listed in the club register – **if you want to add partners/wives that is great and we encourage this – please just send Tom the number (Tom = 07789115523)**



Opting out of the alerts (bings and bongs):

1. Click on the name at the top of the group
2. Select 'notification'
3. Change 'No' to 'Yes' where it says 'Mute notifications'

You will still get the messages – but, you will need to go and look rather than getting notified of a new message.

UP COMING EVENTS

March Club Night - Wessex 4X4 Response



Wessex 4x4 Response is a Registered Charity comprising unpaid volunteers dedicated to providing emergency logistics for the Category 1 & 2 organisations, in support of our communities. We operate within the Avon & Somerset, Dorset and Wiltshire & Swindon Police forces' areas. Our liaison team is active within the Local Resilience Forum in each force area and we can also support other regions under mutual aid.

Through the use of our volunteers' own 4x4 vehicles, we can provide those logistics regardless of weather, ground conditions and location. We have included some examples below.

Assist Police

Our partnership with the police enables their experts to focus on their vital roles during major incidents.

Support health and care sector

Providing essential transport for health and care professionals and their equipment during severe weather conditions.

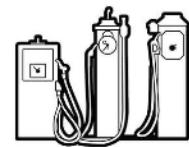
Provide disaster response

e.g. In severe flooding, we aid in evacuations, transport key workers, deliver supplies, and assist with road closures.

Hi All

A mate of mine is helping organise the Steeple Ashton Classic Car show on 15th June - <https://www.steepleashtonclassic.com/>

Looks to be a good event and nice and local for many. Entry for Classics is free but they're limited to 100 entries. I've registered. I guess we could have a club area if enough people are interested?



STEEPLE ASHTON
classic

A SHOW CELEBRATING OUR
AUTOMOTIVE HERITAGE

SUNDAY 15TH
JUNE 2025

REGISTER YOUR INTEREST AT
WWW.STEEPLEASHTONCLASSIC.COM



**Gloucester Vintage & Country
Extravaganza
South Cerney**

**This is a very large show, with
many different things to see**



This is a very large show, with many different things to see including Classic Cars, Steam Engines, Countryside and Animal displays, Live Music and Trade and Craft Stands, and it is certainly a very good day or two out.

Your club have been allocated space for 12 cars each day, and entry is free for those displaying cars.

I have forms which need to be filled in and returned to me by April 30th, please let me know either by email or at club night if you would like to join us at the show.

Martyn

Dementia UK was the club's chosen charity for 2024. Below is a reply from the charity thanking the club for its donation.

I recently received the enclosed letter of thanks and certificate from Dementia UK in recognition of our donation from the 23/24 club year. Details for how we came to this donation amount can be found in my treasures report. My particular thanks again to Malcolm Taylor and Graham & Nicola for their individual generosity, and also the club members who come along to the monthly club nights and dig deep to buy raffle tickets who's proceeds fund these donations.

Look out for an email from me soon where I will be asking you to vote for this year's charity.

Peter





7th floor, One Aldgate
London, EC3N 1RE
020 8036 5400
info@dementiauk.org
dementiauk.org

Wessex Mg Club
18 Dando Drive
United Kingdom
SN8 1TT

21 January 2025

Dear Everyone at Wessex Mg Club,

Thank you so much for holding your raffle for Dementia UK. We were delighted to receive the wonderful £333.54 you raised.

Dementia is a huge and growing health crisis. By 2025, it's predicted that over one million people in the UK will be living with the condition. But while there is currently no cure for dementia, there is care – and care can change lives. That's why we're so grateful for your support.

Every penny you've raised will help us grow the number of specialist Admiral Nurses so they can provide a lifeline to more families facing dementia – like Steve and his wife, Julie, who was diagnosed with young onset dementia.

"Meeting my Admiral Nurse, Amy, was a breath of fresh air. She's a great listener and I can bounce my ideas for caring for Julie off her. She has empowered me to be the best carer I can for my wife. Without Amy, coping would be a much greater challenge."

Once again, thank you for your donation. Because of you, our nurses can help more families face the future with confidence.

Best wishes,

India Hinsley
Community Fundraising Team
fundraising@dementiauk.org
020 8036 5440

PS if you, or anyone you know, would like to speak to an Admiral Nurse for advice or support, please call our free Dementia Helpline on 0800 888 6678 or email helpline@dementiauk.org



THE MORGAN 5TH COLUMN

Paul Warn

I've always encouraged new members to at least provide a photo of their classic MG for inclusion in the newsletter by way of an introduction into the club and as an added bonus, support their photo with a few words on their car and how they became interested in the MG marque.

Now, although both Peter Hine and I are long standing members of the club and have owned Morgans for some years - Peter longer than I - we have been somewhat reticent to do as bidden in case we are stoned at our next event! To be fair there is good hearted banter within the club and as I have pointed out on many occasions there is **MORGAN** in the name! However at the end of the day, we are 5th columnists within the club and potential disruptors...

So what is this about? Well we have both changed our Morgans recently and I was asked at the AGM to include a piece in the newsletter about my Morgan and by extension Peter's.

We both have had Plus 4 Morgans as I have said for some years with the Ford 2 litre Duratec engine mated in my case to a Mazda MX5 gearbox. Now without conferring, in Septemberish last year we both changed our cars - Peter sourced a Morgan Plus Six and I a Morgan Plus Four. (In the latter note the difference in the name from Plus 4 to Four.

Both my Plus four and Peter's Plus Six are of the new generation CX design - the biggest evolution in design in Morgan's history. In July 2020 following an 84 year production run, the Morgan Motor Company had built its last four wheeled car on a traditional steel framed ladder chassis, the end of an era for the company. - see **photo 1**. No more sliding pillar front suspension to keep topped-up with grease every 500 or so miles. In total 35,000 four-wheeled Morgan cars with the steel chassis have been made and exported to 65 countries around the world.

Morgan's current range of four-wheeled cars the Plus Four and Plus Six are based on a bonded aluminium CX-generation platform - see **photo 2** - Why CX? When the CX design was launched in 2019 it was 110 years since Morgan was founded in 1909 hence the Roman numeral nomenclature CX (110).

Oh and in passing, the new design retains the wooden ash frame for which Morgan is famous for. It's used to create a solid framework around the cockpit - see **photos 3 and 4** - over which the aluminium panels are attached.

Enough of the background now a little about our Morgans. Both our cars use the same CX structure and suspension, the Plus Four suspension is modified to give a 79mm narrower track ie the wishbone suspension arms are shorter and splined hubs are fitted suitable for wire wheels - the Plus Six doesn't have wire wheels. See **photo 5** for a comparison in size of the two cars. I took this pic whilst at the Morgan dealer in Bedfordshire, I looked at the Plus 6 on the left and the black Plus Four on the right eventually choosing the Plus Four.

The engine in the 'Four is the BMW B48 TwinPower Turbo - the four cylinder version of the Plus 6's B58 six cylinder unit. These are part of a modular engine family with three, four and six-cylinder versions with 500cc capacity per cylinder. Both the Morgan engines have Twin Scroll Turbochargers.

Plus Four top speed 149mph	0-62 mph 5.2 secs.
Plus Six top speed 166mph	0-62 mph 4.2 secs

Peter's Plus 6 has an 8 speed auto gearbox
My Plus Four a 6 speed manual box

With the chassis being fundamentally the same the cockpit and seats are the same on both models ie more room than in our old model Plus 4s.

All the interior and electronic features are the same on both cars ie remote locking, LED daytime running lights automatic headlights, puddle lighting, ABS, power steering and they both share the same digital dashboard system. The aluminium body panels are made at the Superform factory in Worcester as are the panels for Aston Martin, Bentley and Rolls Royce. The process starts with CAD

representations of stresses and thickness, this is used in the production of the male and female moulds. The sheets of aluminium at 500 degrees centigrade are 'blown' into the mould. When cool they are laser cut to size.

All Morgans have unique characteristics which are specified by the customer when being built, as I did when my last Morgan was built in late 2011.

Peter's Plus Six specifically is one of 50 'special editions' produced in Bentley emerald green with the numbers etc. to celebrate the launch of the model. Peter's is chassis build #87 and as far as Peter can tell, there are less than 200 Plus Six's registered in the UK which won't be going up as they have stopped production now. And in Peter's words it's stupidly quick... 😊



My Plus Four was specified in black, with black tipped exhaust pipes, Black Accent Pack, black Grille and Mesh, spot lamps and bespoke stainless engine-turned dash panels.



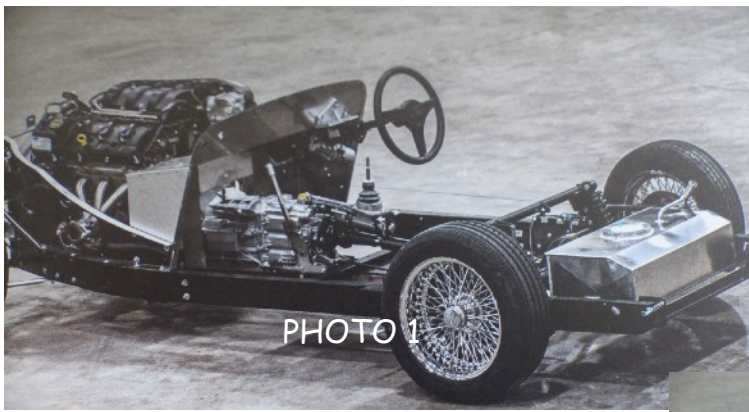


PHOTO 1

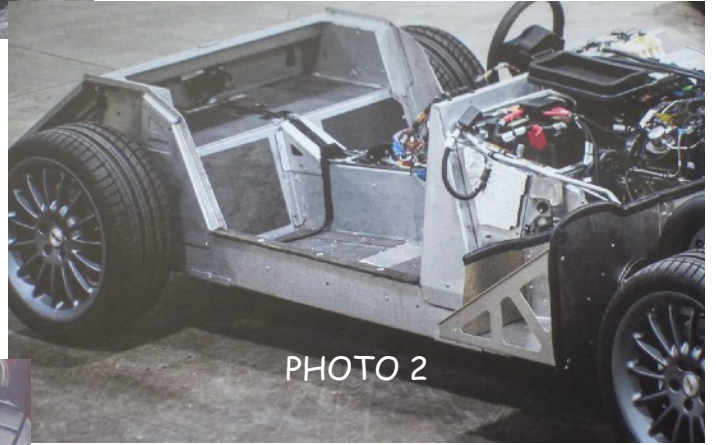


PHOTO 2

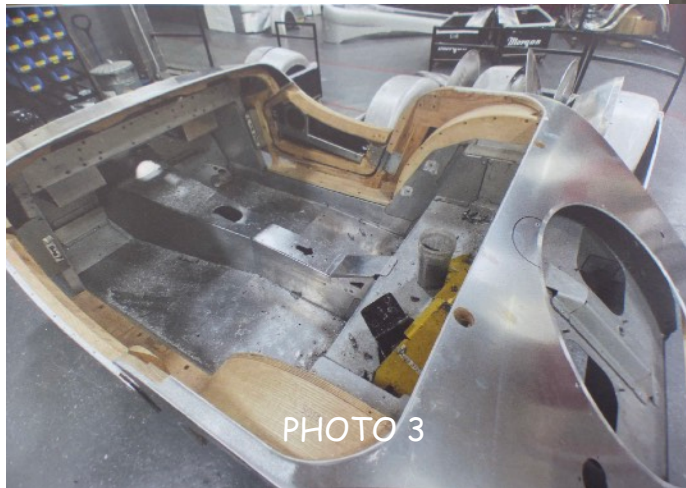


PHOTO 3

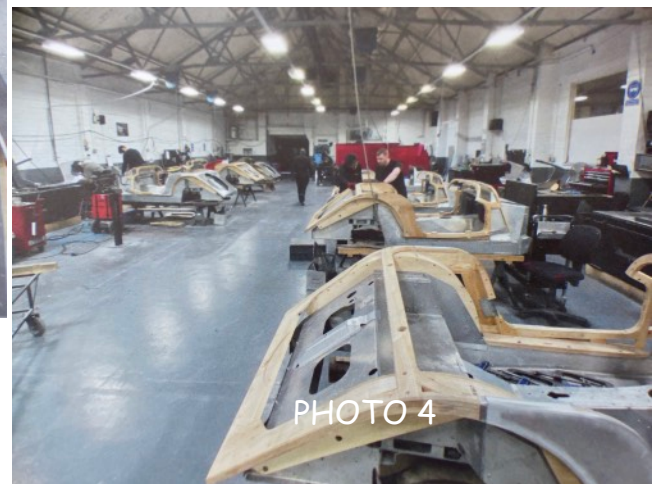


PHOTO 4



PHOTO 5

40th Anniversary Club Regalia



Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3

POLO SHIRT - £17.00 includes updated club Logo - **Photo 1**

POLO SHIRT - as photo 1 plus MGB GT Logo - **Photo 2** £24.00

FLEECE JACKET - £22.00 including updated club logo.

FLEECE JACKET - £29.00 with updated club logo and MGB GT Logo **Photo 3**

To have a new LOGO set up costs £10.00 - £20.00 depending on size and complexity - then £7.00 on each item

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For more information contact - Kevin Meakin - 01380 727151 kevinmg1@live.com



Secretary's Scribbles

Hi folks, by the time you read this the new committee will have met and ironed out the upcoming year. It is great to see the new blood coming through to the committee - it is the 'engine of the club' and new ideas are important. It has been too cold here for me to go and set up my TPMS system on the MG - maybe over February half term I will get a chance. I have though been doing some reflection - this year marks 25 years of my membership in the club and so much has happened in that time - not least the ownership of 10 different MGs.

(MGB, Midget 1275x2, Midget 1500, MGBGT, ZB Magnette, MGZR, MG3, MGZS, MGTF)

My brother-in-law asked me if I would buy another new MG yesterday - and despite the quality improvements since the MG3 I am not really sure... another classic MG - Yes, I think I will at some point. I loved all my classic MGs however, which would I

own again? The MGB I reckon - otherwise I would like to go for an A or even a earlier T Type.

The club hasn't changed much - indeed some of the members are still the bedrock of the club. I have seen phases where one model seem to dominate - we had a BGT phase, a Midget Phase then an MGB phase - But, now I think we are genuinely very varied in the cars that turn out to a run or club night. Friendship has been key - I couldn't have kept my cars on the road without the support of club members - I wouldn't have been able to afford to keep taking them to garages - I remember one weekend we did a whole Midget engine and gearbox swap on my drive. This spirit is still there and it is what makes us! In the Club's 40th Anniversary year - Long Live Wessex MG Club! Tom



Tom

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.