



# WESSEX MG CAR CLUB THE TOLLGATE INN-HOLT

## CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

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**CLUB DIARY**

**NEXT CLUB NIGHT**

24th June Start Time  
7:00pm

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

I find it hard to believe that we are almost half way through another year, doesn't time fly!

Our first event since the last newsletter was the Prodn n Poke. On a dry and sunny evening we had the opportunity to see in the metal the bike restored by Terry and also there was a 1930's Morris visiting the Tollgate.

At The Bowood Classic Car Show on Bank Holiday Monday your Club won the best club stand award. Congratulations to all who made this another success for the club.

Our Club Spring Break to Mid Wales was very successful despite the mixed weather and a few road closures on the route up to our hotel. We managed to enjoy both the mountain scenery and the coast, and I for one will certainly make a return trip to the area in the future to explore further.

The Mystery Run this year was a Charity Run in aid of Dorothy House, in memory of Jeff and June Rattle. After following a very interesting route devised

by Steve we finally finished at Derry Hill where we enjoyed a pub meal. Congratulations and thanks to Steve on organising this event for your club.

We have a busy month in June. Some of us will be attending the Chippenham Lions Cherished Vehicle Show on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. The following Sunday we make the trip to MG's in the Park at Burford. A week later is the Bath Festival of Transport, and then the Bristol Classic Car Show at Shepton Mallet,

On the last Sunday of June, the 30<sup>th</sup>, we have our annual Club Summer Picnic. This year we are visiting the Downland Museum near Chichester,

It certainly looks like a very busy month for us.

**Our next club night on the 24<sup>th</sup> June is our Boules Evening. Held at our new regular venue The Tollgate, starting at the earlier time of 7.00pm.**

**Martyn**





## MGB Starting Problems - Part 2

Rick Meopham

"Could be that your new starter is duff" he said. " I met a bloke in the Lamb and Lion a few months back who said his mate's brother in laws cousin had been sold a duff new starter once", he continued.

A check of the new starter motor box revealed the "Made in China" sticker. Had Mr Ling of the Wang Sang starter motor assembly line factory in Beijing been short changed on the lunchtime noodles front in the works canteen and taken his wrath out on my starter?

Now it should be understood that by this time I was willing to believe anything. Had the Vicar suggested MGB exorcism would do the trick I'd have had him round in a heart beat. So off with the new starter, a quick bench check, and I was forced to concede that Mr Ling had in fact received his full ration of noodles.

What was obvious was that that while the old starter was indeed the primary cause of the problem I now had a further "wiggly amp" issue to resolve. So what had I missed?

Ah, the ignition switch, which was so badly worn that often when I encountered a speed bump the key would fall out. ( Another one on my "to be sorted" list)

**Step 19.** Fit new ignition switch. Result - starter still inoperative.

**Step 20.** Out with the trusty Haynes Manual once more to review yet again the "electric string" diagram. ( I always knew that my BSc - Wiring of three Pin Plugs - University of Trowbridge would come in handy one day)

**Step 21.** Although I had carried out a voltage supply check at the relay to starter spay connection at Step 9 and found it OK, I felt it wise to check again. Result- No power supply this time and total confusion on my part.

**Step 22.** Given that by now I am desperate and that since I had achieved gold card membership status with Moss of Bristol, I elected to replace the relay, a relatively inexpensive and easy task. Result - Still no power supply at relevant starter connector.

**Step 23.** By now all starter system components have been replaced. The only thing remaining was the electric string which on this vehicle are all new wiring looms. It then occurred to me that when removing/refitting the starter motor could I have inadvertently damaged a terminal connection? (For the uninitiated there are four electrical connections to the MGB starter. Three together on a single post and the fourth, a single brown/white spay connector.) They all appeared OK but when I carried out a further electrical supply check on the single spay connector from the relay to the starter motor I discovered my "wiggly amp" problem. When the spay connector outer insulation was removed I found the wiring had come partially adrift, perhaps due to my activities, or perhaps due to it's exposed and vulnerable proximity close to ground where it may have been whacked by something in the road at some time or perhaps a combination of both

**Step 24.** New spay connector fitted, ignition "on" - Result - engine fired up immediately. Euphoria and finally a good nights sleep without pondering the delights of the MGB starter system.

Moral of the Story?

**Step 1** Should you encounter a similar problem, lay in a few bottles of good scotch.

**Step 2** Commence work on your "to be sorted list" as a matter of urgency.

**Step 3** Should steps 1 & 2 have no appeal, sell the car.



## Fancy a Delivery Mileage MGB GT

Paul Warn

It's that MGB GT again. Remember this 37 years old, 106 mile 1 owner MGB GT sold at auction for **£14,062.50** including fees?

Well it has now turned up at a car dealer in Spalding, Lincolnshire. Its yours for **£24,750**. You had your chance....



"Now this is just overt posing. Cruising the quayside on Ile de Re in April. Almost made me spill my beer!"

**Roger**

Why was the hood up? **ED**

These odd cars drove past our house this morning and parked up for lunch at a nearby village for lunch. Was too late to catch a pic myself.

[https://www.facebook.com/  
406224839499011/videos/  
2352759268147126?  
s=1108372015&v=e&sfns=mo](https://www.facebook.com/406224839499011/videos/2352759268147126?_s=1108372015&v=e&sfns=mo)



## Lulworth Castle Motor Show Gordon Newman

We recently visited this annual show which is held in the grounds of Lulworth Castle in aid of Dorset Blind Association. The show-ground is open to the public and is free (but you will be asked for a donation) with an eclectic display of motor cars, some examples of which can be seen in the pics. It is a family day out with craft stalls and childrens' amusements as well as a band and of course burger and hot dog stalls.



For those who wish, at the start of the day you can take part in a scenic drive around the Dorset countryside for which there is an entry charge of £10 per person. Details of this year's show can be found at <http://dorsetblind.org.uk/2019/03/01/lulworth-castle-motor-show-returns-for-its-5th-year/> After the drive, cars then assemble on the show-ground, but you can just turn up and join in the display.

A number of clubs were represented.

Obviously this event has now gone but maybe it is worth considering for next year.





# Travelling Europe Without a Car

Malcolm Taylor

In order to shorten Pat's bucket list, we took a cruise up the Rhine from Amsterdam to Switzerland. We arrived in Amsterdam on King's Day. They celebrate the King's birthday by careering around the waterways, overcrowded onto workboats all drinking themselves silly. What elf-n-safety??

All the large commercial boats plying the Rhine carry at least one car on the rear deck, with a crane to offload it, to provide crew transport when in dock. I missed a photo opportunity when we passed a boat called Kevin with a nice Porsche on deck.



Neuf-Brisach seems to have a town plan that would have suited Abingdon, in it's heyday?



We saw this nice BGT with personalised number in Strasbourg.



It seems that Morgan are following a different route to less polluting and sustainable transport, by producing wooden bicycles??



And no, the clogs are not the reason Pat tripped in the airport on the way home and broke her arm.

A memorable holiday for the wrong reason.



PS.

Talking about wooden two wheel vehicles, I received this picture via a friend who lived in Vietnam. I don't think wooden windscreens for motor scooters will catch on?



## ANSWERS TO APRIL CAPTION



I included this caption last month, courtesy of Steve Todd. Steve was hoping that his caption would throw up all kinds of responses....

I included:

"Say Ahh"

And Steve replied with this...

"Madam, it looks like this hole has not been dealt with properly in the past. I'll have to strip it back to take a full look at the situation"





## EVENTS UP-DATE

### **BATH FESTIVAL OF MOTORING - JUNE 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>**

I have booked a Club Stand on Sunday June 16<sup>th</sup> at this event for the Wessex MG Club, if you wish to attend you need to register at the web address below and state Wessex MG.

The organisers are asking for a voluntary donation of £5 per car for entries on the Sunday, if you wish to go on the Saturday there is no charge.

**Please could you ensure that all Club Members participating in the event let us have an Individual Entry Form <http://www.bathfestivalofmotoring.com/individual-entries/> for their vehicle(s)**

I believe that the booking deadline is Friday May 31<sup>st</sup>, if you are attending please email me so that we can meet at the event.

**Martyn**

[martyn.lucas2@btinternet.com](mailto:martyn.lucas2@btinternet.com)

### **BRISTOL CLASSIC CAR SHOW.**

Please note that this show is on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> and Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June this year.

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# PHOTO GALLERY

Steve Todd's memories of another winning occasion at the Bowood Classic Car Show



And one from Tom....



## Secretary's Scribbles

Last month I was moaning about spark plugs. Well before I changed them I tested that they were all working by removing a lead in turn and listening for the change in engine note. I should explain that she hadn't been driving very well recently. The No3 plug turned out not to be working and with a complete change of plugs the car was running much better and firing on all cylinders.

We then had a big run on Sunday when we went to Norchard in the Forest of Dean to meet up with other MG Magnettes for the 'Magnettes and Steam' event. On returning home I checked the colour of the plugs and found that Nos 1&2 were fine but 3&4 were covered in black stuff. I was therefore running rich on one carb.

I have developed a fear of carburettors. Two years ago I got in such a muddle that they were so badly wrong that the car wouldn't run. I had to be 'bailed out!' I had previously worked on my Midgets and MGBGT fairly straightforwardly so this was a new issue for me....

So I read the manual and very bravely turned the back carb one flat on the adjustment screw. I am not convinced that it is as simple as turning one adjustment screw as the carbs are linked and I get the feeling I needed to take

some bits off etc before attempting this sort of thing. Well I now need another decent run to see if things have improved. I will let you know. I have also ordered a book on SU Carbs!

Anyway I may have been quick to cast judgment on the quality of plugs last month (although I still think they are overpriced from some MG websites). The result of plugs failing in my case is probably the self-inflicted over carbonation.

When in the past I have dealt with carbs, I have just used a tube and got the hisses the same and then used a colour tune to check that the carburation was the same (slightly yellow was normally best as I found blue was too lean). Then it is just a case of adjusting the idle speed and hey presto.

Maybe my H type carbs are the same and I need to forget last time and 'man up' or maybe my carbs are the devil and need more formal action. Nigel helped me to do various rebuilding after the last debacle so they should be more manageable now, right?

Toodlepipps.

Tom



## Club Diary

2019 EVENTS DIARY				
Date	Event	Club Event	Venue	Contact Details & Start Point/Time
2nd June	Chippenham Lions Cherished Vehicle Show		Langley Burrell SN15 4LW	<b>Martyn Lucas</b>
9th June	MGs in the Park	No		
15th - 16th June	Bath Pageant of Motoring	For Info	Landsdown	Saturday is free, but Sunday is £5/car. You will need to apply for a pass personally
19th June	Poulshot Green 'turn up' show	For Info	Poulshot Green	
22nd -23rd June	Bristol Classic Car Show	For Info	Shepton Mallet	
<b>24th June</b>	<b>Club night - Boules</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>The Toll Gate Inn</b>	
30th June	Summer Picnic - Wealds and Downland Living Museum - Chichester	Yes		Malcolm Taylor
7th July	BMC & BL Show at The British Motor Museum	No	Gaydon, Warwickshire	<b>Martyn Lucas</b>
14th July	Atwell Wilson Friends Car Show			
<b>22nd July</b>	<b>Club night - BBQ</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>The Toll Gate Inn</b>	
4th August	South Cerney Gloucester Steam Fayre	Yes		
18th August	Bowood Classic Car Show No 2	Yes	Bowood House	



2019 EVENTS DIARY				
Date	Event	Club Event	Venue	Contact Details & Start Point/Time
19th August	Club Night - Name that tune	Yes	The Toll Gate Inn	Tony Neale
25th August	Tom's Action Day	Yes	Tom's House	
26th August	Corsley Show	For Info		<b>NB If the 25th August is too wet then the 26th will act as the reserve day</b>
1st September	White Horse Car Show	For Info	Westbury	
23rd September	Club night - Talk	Yes	The Toll Gate Inn	Talk by Tom Strickland
<b>TBA</b>	Club Skittles Event	Yes	<b>TBA</b>	<b>VIC</b>
5th October	Autumn Classic	Yes	Castle Combe	
28th October	Club night - Talk	Yes	The Toll Gate Inn	Talk by Paul Warn
8th,9th,10th November	NEC Classic Car Show	For Info		
25th November	Club night - AGM	Yes	The Toll Gate Inn	Club AGM
14th December	Christmas Party	Yes	The Toll Gate Inn	



## 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	Tom Strickland	012489 447125	<a href="mailto:stricklandto@hotmail.com">stricklandto@hotmail.com</a>
Projector	Peter Hine	01672 512847	peter_hine@btinternet.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.