



WESSEX MG CAR CLUB THE TOLLGATE INN- HOLT

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

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NEXT CLUB NIGHT

24th July - Boules
Start time 7:30pm

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

The event season is now in full swing and since MG Triumph 100 and the last newsletter myself along with several other Wessex members went to the Poulshot Classic car evening, this was followed a few days later by the Thruxton Historic race day,

The mystery run on our June Club night took us through the Wiltshire countryside and later we arrived at The Barge Inn near Seend for an enjoyable evening meal, many thanks to Steve Todd for organising this and also to all who participated.

Coming up on Sunday 23rd July we have the club summer picnic in Dorset which is then followed the next day by our monthly club night at The Tollgate, and following this there are many more events to

come, with many events on the same day it is hard to choose which to go to.

As I write these notes I am preparing for the drive to Leicester for the MG Post Abingdon Weekend show, hopefully the weather forecast is wrong!

By next month I will be able to confirm a date in late September or October for our annual skittles challenge.

Our next club night at the Tollgate on Monday July 24th will start at the earlier time of 7.30 as it is the Boules evening, this is a fun game played to the Wessex MG rules, with the opportunity to win the Newman Trophy, hope to see you there.

Martyn





West Sussex Revisited

Malcolm Taylor

If you want somewhere to relax after a day at the 'Festival of Speed' at Goodwood (look out for Paul's article) you could do worse than a stay in 'The Hayloft'. Pat and I enjoyed the club Spring Weekend away and decided to return to West Sussex for a week's break in June. Well, we missed Arundel Castle that everyone else went to.

After combing the holiday cottage websites, we came up with the Hayloft in Chidham. Chidham is an intriguing village as it's spread out over a peninsular that sticks out into Chichester Harbour.

The Hayloft is the newly converted top floor of a brick-built stable block. Letting only commenced in May, so everything is brand new and it is beautifully appointed. The ground floor is under conversion at this time, by host Neil.

The ground floor also incorporates Neil's garage. Here's the motoring connection. Neil is a car enthusiast. As shown in the pic, Neil's keeper is a 1990 Lotus Esprit. One of his projects is the Marlin. This was apparently built in 1986 with a 1700 'O' series engine from a Marina. It later had a 2200 'O' series engine slotted in. Then the chap before Neil converted this from Carburettor to fuel injection.

This was not very successful and Neil is in the process of converting it back to carburettor.

The single injector was based on a modified throttle body from an MGF/TF.

I now learn that he has acquired a 1977 MG Midget, which was a garage find, having been stored unused for 18 years.

The accommodation is ideal for your treasured classic as the parking is inside electrically operated gates, a hosepipe for cleaning and Neil's well equipped garage is available for emergencies.

Neil and Jo are an industrious pair. The car projects seem to advance in between converting the stable block into apartments. Jo also runs her own holiday letting business, with their own properties and others. Website for Hayloft www.finishingtouch.co.uk/destinations/west-sussex/chidham

The Hayloft is situated on an equestrian smallholding. There were two horses there when we stayed.

There is also abundant wild life. We saw rabbits, squirrels, foxes and deer. Also with almost constant birdsong and swifts nesting in the tack-room next door. The balcony was a lovely peaceful place for an evening tippie with views over the paddocks, the surrounding countryside and as far as the sea.

We visited Goodwood and I have to admit that I have never been there before. I was surprised that you could drive straight in to the centre of the track under the tunnel and access the cafe and the Spitfire. We also went up onto one of the rooftop viewing areas and watched the track day that was in progress.

Neither of us has a personalised registration plate but Pat came across this personalised road name. (See title pic ED).





The 30th Edition of the Festival of Speed

Paul Warn

Most folk will be aware of the two major motoring events held at Goodwood, that is to say the Festival of Speed and the Revival. The former is held within the Goodwood estate with Goodwood House as the backdrop and the Revival on the Goodwood race circuit. Over recent years the Members' Meeting has been added. I mention most folk as Malcolm in his piece this month explains that he has never been to the circuit.

As I mentioned in the calling notice to this edition of the newsletter, as this year is the 30th edition, then we have been going to the event since 1993! - very difficult to believe. As you can probably imagine the event has changed out of all recognition. From small acorns... those first few years to my mind were the most memorable, from an early age I have been interested in motor sport but the images in magazines of the cars that raced were just that images. The festival brought my childhood sketches of racing cars to life. Coincidentally the 1994 event was a celebration of 100 years of Motor Sport ie 1894 - 1994.

Originally a 2 day event- on a Saturday and Sunday - we would motor down on the Friday and stay B&B in a local village within walking distance of the event. On the Friday we would drive the car through the main gate of the estate and park in front of Goodwood house on the grass verge - as nice as you like - and mooch around watching the cars arrive for the event and if we were lucky a few of my racing heroes would also be looking around.

Now of course there is a ring of steel around the ticket only event with over 200,000 advanced tickets being sold over what is now a 4 day event. The event has morphed into not only a uniquely world famous motoring occasion, the go to place for racing cars and

drivers from all over the world to be invited, but also where all the major car manufacturers launch their new cars and demonstrate them up the hill. For example in 2010 I managed to arrange a drive up the Goodwood hill when the MG6 was launched.

This year Sebastian Vettel will be the "guest of honour".

Our plan was to attend on Thursday 13th July and on Saturday 15th - the best laid plans etc. etc. Thursday was a terrific day of which more in a moment, however the Saturday was cancelled owing to a severe weather warning coming in from the channel. Nowadays the car manufacturers seem to compete to build the largest temporary structures - up to 3 storeys high, to show their cars and it would seem these were in danger of being brought down in the gales that were forecast - hence no Saturday event...

Thursday began early with breakfast on arrival and then a look at some of the new cars that will be hitting the streets in the next year or so, mostly electric of course. Then up to the BMW showrooms, they had their own grandstand overlooking the upper part of the circuit - where we planned to be on Saturday... We picked up an event programme there - £20 on the gate - and started to look around the huge site full of racing cars of all periods. Talk about a sweet shop!

This year there were a number of themed celebrations with cars representing the following occasions including:

Seventy Five years of racing and testing at Goodwood 1948 - 2023

Thirty years of the Festival of Speed 1993 - 2023

The centenary of the first Le Mans 1923 - 2023.

The 60th anniversary of McLaren Racing 1963 - 2023

The 75th anniversary of Porsche 1948 - 2023

Historically motor bikes have only raced in anger once on the Goodwood circuit. And for the first time in 17 years the Moto GP calendar didn't clash with the FoS. So the leading teams in this year's Moto GP series were also in attendance along with their riders.

Suffice to say we had a great day particularly after lunch in the Veuve Clicquot marquee and finally a preview look at this year's Bonham's car auction. Here are some pics, including the centre spread of my 1994 programme with many autographs of drivers, designers and team owners including George Harrison the Beatle who was a great friend of Gordon Murray. One of many memorable occasions.





Programme from the 1994 Event - just above the word "events" you'll see George Harrison's signature



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Delage



Seventh in my series of contemporary advertisements for MG Sports Cars

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A Perfect Sunny Day

Steve Todd

On a perfect sunny Thursday, the Toddster was called into action to actually do something useful. With more chrome polish used than fuel, she travelled to Frome to collect Natalie and then in to Stourhead. My most nervous part of the day was entrusting the Toddster into the hands of the groom to drive the car back after the ceremony. In fairness Adrian probably treated the car with a great deal more respect than I ever do, as those who have been to Tom's Field events will no doubt be able to vouch for.

High mileage, with many former owners, she does leak a bit and rattles too. But she was still really happy to be seen in my MGB and I was honoured to be the chauffeur!



Secretary's Scribbles

I still haven't sold the Magnette and YES that may be because I have only advertised her in one place so far. I have had some interest, but only one visitor. I loved driving her on the Mystery Run a few weeks back and one always feels special when driving her and it is becoming a more painful idea to actually try and sell her. Anyway, I have bitten the bullet and put adverts both in Safety Fast and Enjoying MG - we shall wait and see, I am after all not in a hurry.

The turnout at the Mystery Run was very good, probably helped by the glorious weather no doubt. It is always a good event, and I am sorry that young Millie and I had to leave early - she is still a bit young

to be out on a school night.

I have been prepping my TF to do a punitive expedition to France and Belgium with Nancy. We are going to Mons and then to trace the 1914 Great Retreat towards Paris from there. I have wanted to do this particular trip for a while, and it took a negotiated 'day in Paris' as part of the itinerary to finally get the 'Yes' from the boss. It won't be long before it is MGs in Tom and Nancy's field so get practising your reversing.



Tom

PS see also below



Members may be interested in the 'hot' version of the MG4 . They are going to use the XPower badging. Pretty fast 0-60 in 3 secs

<https://www.mg.co.uk/new-cars/mg4-ev-xpower>

Above is a spy photo of a real one..



Tom



CLUB DIARY

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 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.