



# WESSEX MG CAR CLUB

## THE OLD BEAR INN STAVERTON



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#### NEXT CLUB NIGHT

23rd October Start Time

8:00pm

<http://www.wessexmgclub.org.uk>

## CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

Hi, everyone,

As I write we are enjoying a late summer and let's hope that it continues for a while.

The last month has been a busy month with a weekend at Sywell Props and Pistons, where we were joined by some members of the Peterborough MG Club; it is always good to meet fellow enthusiasts, many thanks to Vic for organising this.

Once again Tom gave an excellent and interesting presentation on the role of Dunkirk in World War 2. He is certainly very passionate about the subject and on behalf of all present I would like to thank him for the time and effort spent on producing this for the club.

The weather held for our visit to the Bicester Sunday Scramble, this was the last of three events held at the venue, and I feel that due to the weather forecast the attendance was lower than anticipated.

By the time you read this we will have had a Sunday lunch run

organised by Pat and Malcolm at the Egypt Mill, I am certain that this will be a fantastic meal.

Also coming up this month I am looking forward to our next club night on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup>, which will be a talk from Paul Warn on the Life and times of Jim Clark, Paul is very enthusiastic and knowledgeable about F1 and this will be an evening not to be missed.

The final event of October on the 29<sup>th</sup>, is a Sunday Lunch followed by a visit to Haynes Motor Museum at Sparkford, we will leave the local area at 10.30 to arrive at a venue for lunch at 12.00 and then drive to Haynes to spend the afternoon there, if you have not already put your name on the list and wish to join us, please let me know as soon as possible.

Hope to see you at the next club night on the 23<sup>rd</sup>

**Martyn**





## WESSEX MG AGM

**AGM**

Please be advised that in accordance with the Club's rules, two month's notice is given for our Annual General Meeting.

**Wessex MG Club****2017 Annual General Meeting**

Notice is hereby given that the above meeting will take place on the

**27th November**  
at  
**The Bear Inn Staverton**

commencing at

**8:00 pm**

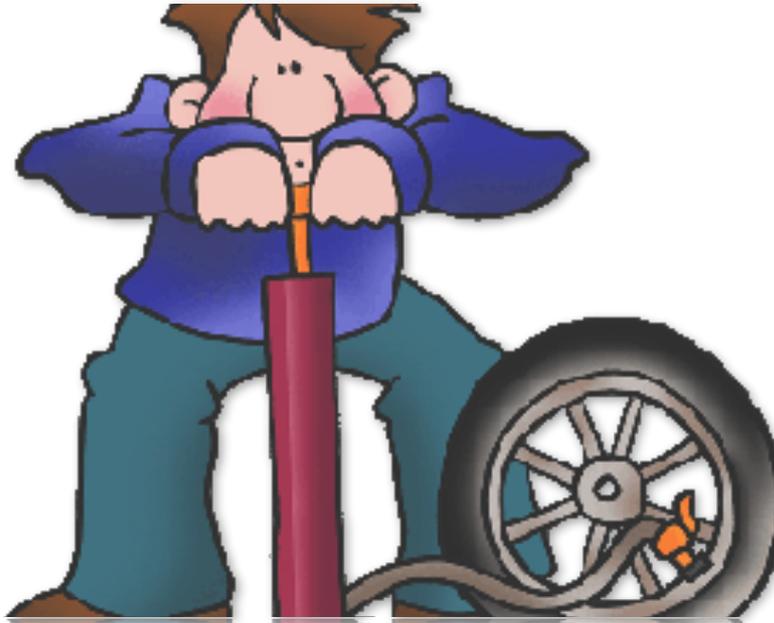
Preceded from 7.30 onwards by the payment of subscriptions for the 2018 season.

Notice of any resolution to be proposed at the meeting should be given in writing to the Secretary before the 1<sup>st</sup> November.

The proceedings of the meeting shall be as follows:

**Agenda for AGM**

1. Apologies for absence.
  2. Approval of minutes of 2016 AGM.
  3. Chairman's Report.
  4. Treasurer's Report.
  5. Consideration of any motions received.
- Break**
- **Photo competition**
  - **Voting for awards**
6. Election of Committee for 2018.
  7. Presentation of Awards.
  8. Arrangements for 2019 AGM.
  9. Any other business.



## A Deflating Story

Rick Meopham

Part I

We have had membership of various vehicle relay/recovery companies for as long as we can remember, fortunately without the need of their services. Until recently that is, when we were forced to use them twice in three weeks.

While driving south on the M5 in our recently acquired new day car, (the first incidentally without a spare wheel but with the quick fix inflation repair kit oh, oh!) I suddenly heard a change in the road noise accompanied by the tyre pressure warning system alerting me to the fact that the off side rear tyre had totally deflated. After putting on the hazard warning lights plus rear fog lights my first reaction on stopping on the hard shoulder of the motorway was to get out and have a look at the tyre. Mistake number one. Offside wheel, inches from the inside lane with 20 ton trucks in decapitation mode. Not one of my best ideas. "For goodness sake" said the memsahib, "At least put on a high visibility jacket". "Great idea", I concurred. It was then I realised that while I had them, they were stowed under the boot floor cover on top of which was our luggage etc. As of course was the tyre inflation repair kit, locking wheel nut and safety warning triangle. Mistake number two.

Millie the Westie was not impressed as the boot luggage was rapidly transferred around her back seat domain while the safety kit and pump were located.. Now I don't know how many of you have experienced a motorway breakdown on a busy Saturday bank holiday but it is a terrifying experience on the hard shoulder expecting to be rear ended at any minute by a distracted texting half wit to whom the law and common sense do not apply. Any thoughts of using the aforementioned tyre inflation repair kit were quickly dismissed at this point and I began to hope that my bank had not inadvertently cancelled my life insurance direct debit payments.

The memsahib meanwhile had located the number of the rescue service and was quickly in contact. "Where exactly are you"? the operative asked. " M5, heading south close to junction 26", she replied.

"Great, I will call you back ASAP. In the meantime, for your safety, get out of the vehicle, and take refuge over the other side of the hard shoulder crash barrier just in case the vehicle is hit by a truck".

"Great advice", she replied, "But we forgot to pack a machete and the nettles and undergrowth are ten foot high and there could well be Japanese snipers left over from WW2 hiding in this bit of jungle".

"Mmmm - stay in vehicle then". She almost added " And hope for the best".

While waiting, the memsahib, ever the organiser, broke open the on board rations. Being of the old school, we avoid motorway service coffee, which, despite grand sounding descriptions, often tastes like diseased Yak droppings as does the food. Not to mention the cost which far exceeds my credit card limit.

" The mobile is getting low on charge", she said while pouring the coffee... Mistake number three. We did not have a charger in the car.

Fortunately, just then, the rescue control centre called with the news that someone would be with us within 30 minutes.

"That means an hour at least ", I said . "Ye of little faith", came the retort and sure enough, a mere 20 minutes later man and van arrived on scene.

"We will have you on you way in no time at all", said the cheery rescue chappie after the introductions. Off with the wheel, small hole in the tyre crown identified, temporary plug repair to hole effected and bingo we were indeed ready to go.

"What would have happened if the tyre was so badly damaged and could not be repaired on the hard shoulder", I asked. "A tow off to the nearest tyre centre"?

" No my friend. Come and see this".

In his van were three different size temporary spare wheels with universal fixings. The idea being that they would have loaned me one to get me on my way.

"Brilliant idea. So why do most of us lug around either a spare wheel or a tyre inflation repair kit when if it is an off side wheel that is affected we haven't a hope of sorting out on a motorway"?

"Good question", replied cheery rescue chappie.

And off he shot to carry out his next good deed for the day. But before he left he also told us that the reason why we had been taken care of so quickly was that we had called our insurance company nominated rescue centre which uses whichever rescue organisation has a vehicle available the closest. It seems that if we were with certain other rescue companies our only option would have been to wait until their man is free. And on a busy bank holiday weekend that could have taken hours.

Part 2 next month ED



## Haynes Museum Visit - Sunday October 29th.

I am planning a club visit to the Haynes Motor Museum at Sparkford on Sunday October 29<sup>th</sup>, the plan will be to leave Trowbridge area at 10.30 am and arrive at a pub in Somerset for Sunday lunch and then take a short drive to the Museum to arrive around 2.00pm..

If there are at least 15 of us attending I can book in advance and get a £2 reduction per ticket and if desired a guided tour.

If you have not already put your name on list and would like to join this event please let me know on our club night on October 23<sup>rd</sup> or by email [martyn.lucas2@btinternet.com](mailto:martyn.lucas2@btinternet.com) or phone 01373 859583. As I need to book table for lunch.

**Martyn**

## A Man of Mystery

Who is this rascal lurking behind the disguise?





# Christmas Menu

## Christmas at The Old Bear Inn



**£22 for two  
courses**

**£27 for three  
courses**

### Starters

Wild mushroom soup  
with mini brioche roll and truffle oil (v) (g/f)

Prawn and crab cocktail served with a lemon and  
dill mayo and granary bread (g/f)

Duck liver and Cointreau parfait  
with bruschetta and  
an orange and chicory salad

Baby baked brie  
with rocket salad, crispy prosciutto and croutons

### Mains

Traditional roast turkey with all the seasonal  
trimmings

Roast sirloin of beef, Yorkshire pudding and a red  
wine jus

Pan roasted goose breast with roasted winter  
vegetables and a Madeira and port gravy

Braised lamb shank served with a rosemary, thyme  
and sage butter and creamy mashed potato

Oven baked salmon fillet served with Prosecco and  
crayfish sauce on a bed of sautéed potatoes and  
leeks

Walnut and camembert wellington with seasonal  
trimmings (v)

Celeriac boulangère layered with nutty celeriac,  
woody mushrooms and rich chestnuts (vegan)

### Desserts

Traditional Christmas pudding with a  
brandy sauce

Mulled poached pears served with vanilla  
ice-cream

Chocolate and orange torte

Lemon and rum cheesecake with a strawberry  
compote

A selection of English cheeses  
**(£2 surcharge)**

Filter coffee and mince pies to follow

the old bear inn

staverton

t: 01225 782487

e: enquiries@theoldbearinn.co.uk

You will remember in the September edition, I included a promo for our 2017 Christmas Party. In order to secure your booking, I asked for a deposit of £5/person payable to Peter Hine, and a request that you send your menu choices to Peter.

On Peter's behalf, at the September club night I collected deposits - a record of which is on the next page. During the October meeting I will once again be collecting deposits in order to secure the 30 places available for our Christmas party at The Old Bear Inn.

In the meantime, please be sure to email your menu choices to Peter.

ED



<b>2017 WESSEX MG CHRISTMAS PARTY - THE OLD BEAR INN</b>		
<b>NAME</b>	<b>DEPOSIT PAID</b>	<b>MENU CHOICES SENT TO PETER HINE</b>
ANNE & RON	£10.00	
PAT & MALCOLM	£10.00	YES
SARA & PAUL	£10.00	
ANNE & PAUL	£10.00	YES
SUE & TERRY	£10.00	
LYNNE & ROGER	£10.00	
JANE & GRAHAM	£10.00	
MARTYN	£5.00	
NANCY & TOM		
SUE & PETER		

## Mystery Motorcycle

Not unexpectedly Terry Warder replied to the mystery motorcycle - and wasn't very impressed! and has included a pic of his project for this winter.

"I immediately recognised the Manx Norton engine but had never heard of a Fredder Norton before. It is a special motorbike by Norton engine tuner Fred Walmsley. It wouldn't be my choice of frame for such an amazing engine - what a waste!"



The image below shows this coming winter's project!

Most 1950's teenagers/telegram boys will recognise this bike it's a 1948/49 rigid framed BSA Bantam D1 125cc. Anyone who has any bits lying in their shed **PHONE ME!**

**Terry Warder**



## Secretary's Scribbles

I can honestly say that the work we did over the summer has transformed the Magnette. We went on the trip to Sywell with Vic and co and the car drove a dream! In fact they insisted on us leading in the 'slow car' and as we cruised serenely up the A34 (without Nancy's hair even twitching in a breeze I might add) at 70mph with MGBs scrabbling to keep up.... Every time I set off from a busy roundabout or junction they of course had to go faster to catch me up. We made such good time that we required an elongated coffee break to avoid arriving too early.

It was a great weekend and all the cars behaved well. The show turned out to be quite quiet with the result that not once did we have to queue or fight through a crowd to see anything. It was also great to have a quiet weekend sans children - we returned totally relaxed. Kevin was definitely not 'a stupid boy'

in his period outfit! Thanks Vic for a great weekend!

John eventually arrived having got confused between days..... I take it this is what happens when you retire.... Not only that but he forgot his MG.....John also asked me a question about Enjoying MG... Well John wait and see! (keep an eye on our column for the next few months....) Thank you for the many kind comments about my presentation last month.... What would you like next year?

Tom





## The Racing Life and Times of Jim Clark

Paul Warn

This is a synopsis of my talk at our October club night.

As with all sports when a champion's career comes to an end there is always someone to take their place. Sadly in the earlier days of motorsport it was usually a premature end.

For those of you who came to listen to last year's talk, Stirling Moss' career came to a premature conclusion in 1962. It was around this time that two of the greatest talents the sport has ever seen came together. Colin Chapman the founder of Lotus and Jim Clark.



Chapman was ready to design the radical Lotus 25 racing car and Clark was ready to race at the pinnacle of the sport. They were as Siamese twins yet their approach to life and their actions couldn't have been more different. Chapman ever on the move, gregarious and full of action and

Clark, thoughtful, shy and often incapable of making even the simplest of decisions. Yet together they would have a major influence on the direction of Grand Prix racing and the American Indianapolis 500.

Come and find out more next Monday.





# Piston and Props - Sywell Aerodrome





## Club Diary

2017 EVENTS DIARY				
Date	Event	Club Event	Venue	Contact Details & Start Point/Time
23-Oct	Club night - Talk Grand Prix Racing	Yes	The Old Bear Inn	Paul Warn - The Racing Life and Times of Jim Clark
29th Oct	Haynes Motor Museum	Yes		Martyn Lucas
<b>30th Oct</b>	<b>Pre AGM Committee Meeting</b>	No	Tom's House	
27-Nov	<b>Club night - AGM</b>	Yes	The Old Bear Inn	
9th Dec	Christmas Party	Yes	The Old Bear Inn	7:30 for 8:00pm

## Club Asset List

CLUB ASSET LIST			
ASSET	CURRENT HOLDER	CONTACT DETAILS	
Engine Hoist	Nigel Fowler	01380 840031	erchfonte@gmail.com
Club Sail Banner	Vic Wright	01225 704685	vic@devizes-domestic.co.uk
Event Shelter + Sides	Vic Wright	01225 704685	vic@devizes-domestic.co.uk
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
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.