

NEWSLETTER

WESSEX
MG CLUB
AT THE BELL INN SEEND



CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

Firstly I would like to thank Tom and Nancy for the use of their field at the end of last month. We all had a bit of fun and a good chat with our BBQ. Our newest and youngest member Steve was the overall winner. We were really lucky with the weather that day after a cold preceding week.

The weather held for Martyn`s run to the New Forest and Bournemouth. The day started well, all of us arriving on time and setting off for our first stop at a garden centre in Plaitford. It wasn't long before we realised that we had lost Vic! He had ignition problems with his car and we all pulled over and waited for him to catch up. (A good start to the day). We arrived at the Sammy Miller museum later than we originally intended but we were all safe.

In Bournemouth we parked our cars for a couple of hours having booked our cars in for Classics on the Prom. Leaving around 1800 we set off for a meal before return-

ing home. This time it was my turn to get problems with my car. The ignition warning light came on so I pulled over. Luckily Vic was behind me and when we looked we found that the fan belt had slipped off. After replacing it we travelled about another mile and the same problem was indicated inside the car. On looking we found that the belt had snapped. We contacted the RAC who were with us within 15 minutes. As he arrived Kevin also arrived with a spare fan belt which Martyn had been carrying. We were soon on our way. An eventful day which started and ended with minor problems. I am about to get a spare belt which will be kept in the boot of the car.

My thanks to Martyn for organising the outing and, on a personal note, for letting me have his spare belt.

Hope to see you all for the talk by Ian Brooks on Road Pilots.

Graham

For your diary in the coming month:

September

22nd - Club Night - Talk.

October

15th - Devizes Ghost Walk

27th - Club Night - Talk

See page 7 and ads in this edition for more details.

Club Night start time 8:00pm unless otherwise stated



Excerpt from the Diary of Joyce aged 53 & 5/6th

Bonjour to all my friends and fellow travellers. Firstly, I should like to thank all of the cousins that sent me words of encouragement after my last diary excerpt. It is great to know that you are having as many adventures as me.

I am once again on a ferry, but this time returning from Caen in France to Portsmouth. This is my fourth ferry trip in just over 6 weeks. Fortunately, all of the crossings have been fairly smooth so I haven't experienced something the owners call sea-sickness.

After returning home from my adventures in Scotland & Ireland, Nigel, my owner, had a few small jobs to do to me before we could contemplate another long adventure. He was planning to go to Le Mans Classic, but via Lausanne in Switzerland to see his son. He told me that it was a long but that the roads would be a lot smoother than those in Ireland, although there would be some very steep hills to conqueror.



He started by changing my engine oil & filter and this made me feel very fresh and full of vitality. He also replaced my points and added that nice new red rotor arm that he had promised me. He reminded me that it should be more reliable, so I must try not to break it. His next more major job was to replace my front brake discs as my original once were a little wobbly. Whilst he was doing this he had noticed that I was wetting myself on the inside of one of my back wheels and told me that it was because I

was getting old. I took umbrage at this comment as he is older than me! Anyway, he used a strong puller to take off my rear hub (didn't hurt as much as the dentist) and replaced a rubber seal thingy. This has cured my dribble and I hope that the other side doesn't start to do the same. At least I know that he can fix it if it does start to leak and that I won't have to resort to those Tenna pad things!

Finally, he removed my engine top hat (rocker cover) so that he could adjust my rockers. (I'm not sure that this is the way it should be done?). I used to do a lot of rock & roll when I was younger. After he had made a couple of adjustments I could rock & roll much quieter. He now told Sue his wife that I was ready for the trip. I was now feeling really good but was concerned about those steep hills that he kept calling mountains.



Two days before we were due to leave, I heard Nigel & Sue talking to their son, who informed them that, due to business reasons, he would not be in Switzerland during our planned stay.

They decided to cancel all their travel arrangements to Switzerland and instead, spend more time touring northern France before ending up in Le Mans. I was quietly pleased that I wouldn't have to experience the mountains, but I am sure that one day will have to prove that I can do it.

The morning arrived for our departure, and we set off early for Portsmouth to catch a ferry to Caen. It was a very early start and it took me a while to wake up. However, the sun was shining, my roof was down, and I was buzzing along. Before I knew it, we were on the



ferry and out to sea. The crossing was smooth, and while Nigel & Sue left me to get some breakfast, I had a chance to chat with some of the newer cars parked close to me. We didn't have a lot in common, and I looked forward to getting to Le Mans so that I could spend time with those of my own age.

We arrive in Caen to the heaviest rain that I have ever seen. The hood went up before we left the ferry and my new roll-bag strapped on my carrier, got the best testing

that any bag could get; everything stayed perfectly dry. The hotel just outside Honfleur was perfect and I had two nights here. I spent the next two days pottering around the country lanes and showing myself off to lots of friendly French people who seemed to like my curvaceous body and bright red paintwork. I also realised that, unlike in Great Britain where there are lots of hedgerows that I can't see over, the roads in France are more open and I could see for miles. This meant that I shouldn't have to 'engineer' the need for a flatbed recovery vehicle like I did on my previous trip in Cumbria and Ireland!



After Honfleur, we moved further south to near Chantres where I spent four days exploring the lesser, but prettier Loir valley. Its big brother, the Loire, is the one that most of the tourists go to see. This was great fun with magnificent scenery and lots of people smiled and waved at me. The weather remained fine during the daytime and it was great to have my roof down and the wind in the hair of my owners.



We eventually reached Le Mans and we had booked to stay in an old chateau in a place called Chateau Du Loir. I was parked in the beautiful gardens overnight but was quite lonely as I was the only classic car staying. We eventually arrived in Le Mans racetrack and Nigel & Sue spent the next three days watching the racing.

Me; well I had three wonderful days in the Rouge car park meeting so many cousins from my early days. They

had all found good owners who had looked after them as well as I had been. What stories we had to tell each other and most of us had used the 'flatbed' ploy from time to time!

Our adventure was nearly over, but we still had one more night at the chateau before stopping off in the very beautiful old town in Le Mans. Not many people venture from the racetrack into the old centre of the city and they miss so much. One further day of roof down motoring got us to Caen into a last night at a hotel before catching the ferry home. That night there were lots of my cousins to talk to in the car park, and even more on the ferry home the next day.



Did I behave myself - well, yes I did. Not once did Nigel have to open his tool box. He told Sue that the gremlins that had accumulated during my extended period of inactivity had now all been sorted and that I was running as he expected. I'm sure that I can keep him checking me out from time to time, just so I that I won't let him down again in the future.

Nigel

MGF - A Very Considerate Car

On driving to the action day in Tom's field, I noticed that I had a warning light come up on the dashboard. It was (SRS) which is something to do with the air bag system. It came on for a while last year but cured itself before I could get it fixed.

Talking to people subsequently, the consensus of opinion is that it is usually caused by a dodgy wiring connection somewhere under one of the seats. I had moved the driving seat forwards and backwards to store the new picnic table behind the driver's seat. After an enjoyable and sociable day at Tom's, I drive home thinking vaguely that I would have to do something about the warning light in the not too distant future. I had forgotten that the car was booked for an MOT on the following Tuesday. However, talking to my brother on the phone late on Monday night and telling him about the light, the penny suddenly dropped that the car would fail its MOT the following day due to the light. I resolved to get up early the next morning and try to resolve the problem before taking the car for its test.

I duly got up early (for me) and get the car out of the garage. Lo and behold, the warning light does not come on. I decided to leave well alone as fiddling with the wiring may bring the light back on. The car duly passed its MOT with flying colours and no advisories.

I know this is tempting fate but this is the third MOT I have successfully put the car through since buying it and it has not even had a single advisory.

On collecting the car, I started the engine and there was the warning light glowing on the dashboard?

So, it had self-cured itself just long enough for the MOT. Pretty considerate, eh?

Malcolm

Hi All,

The sun may be shining and the days warm (well it is as I write this), but it's time for me to start sorting out the Christmas dinner arrangements.

This year, the club Christmas dinner will be at the Bell on Saturday 13th December. As in previous years, club funds will provide a subsidy to the cost of each meal, so this year 3 courses followed by Coffee / tea and mince pies is the very palatable cost of just £14 per head.



The deadline for letting me know your coming is the 24th October (by email only please to both my work and home emails peter.hine@sharp.eu & peter_hine@btinternet.com). However places are limited to 35 this year so please reserve your place early to avoid disappointment. Please note that if you book and then cancel after the 24th Oct, you will be liable for a £5 per person cancellation fee (sorry but I have to pay non-refundable deposits to the pub by the 1st November out of club funds).

Also as per previous years, if you want to email me your menu choices with your booking confirmation that's fine (for couples, please indicate who wants what). However I will be collecting full payment and menu choices at the AGM in November (along with your sub's for next year) so you can wait until the weather turns cooler before making winter food choices. **The menu can be found on page 10.**

Peter

PS - Don't forget secret santa, £5 - £8 per person.

Club News

2014 EVENTS LIST				
Date	Event	Club Event	Venue	Contact Details & Start Point/Time
22-Sep	Club Night (Talk by Ian Brooks - Road Pilot Heavy Loads)	Yes	The Bell	Graham Bennett 01380 723872 graham.bennett1945@yahoo.com
15-Oct	Devizes Ghost Walk	Yes		Meet Market Cross Car Park Devizes Jane Bennett 01380 723872 janexbennett@btinternet.com
27-Oct	Club Night (Talk Part 4 - 1980-89 GP Seasons)	Yes	The Bell	Paul Warn 01225 768676 paul.william.warn@gmail.com
6-Nov	Committee Meeting	No	The Bell	<i>Tom Strickland</i>
24-Nov	Club AGM	Yes	The Bell	Formal notification will be included in the Sept & Oct newsletter.
13-Dec	Christmas Party	Yes	The Bell	Peter Hine 01672 512847 peter_hine@btinternet.com

Secretary's Scribbles

Thank you to everyone who attended the fun day I our field and thank you for taking so much fruit away. Nancy has had me pressing apples today to make our own cider and indeed we had apple and raspberry crumble for lunch - hopefully this has been replicated across the county.... I thought I had another problem with my MG3 this month when a warning light came on on the way home from Bournemouth. I looked the light up and it is for low tyre pressure - I checked them and they were a little down so this has been a positive experience!!! I have also spent some time working on my clock in the Magnette- this hasn't worked since I got the car- it is up in the roof above the rear view mirror so quite prominent. I have converted to negative earth and I am told this is no good anyway for the clock so I have gutted the internals and mounted a battery alarm clock behind the dial face. The hands don't look great but it will be working..... When I put it back in the car. I am looking forward to the Road Pilot lecture this month - I will see you all there.

Tom



GHOST WALK

Where? Devizes Meet in the Market Square by the Market Cross for a 7:30 start.

When? Wednesday 15 October

Leader: John Girvan a well known local historian who has a reputation for lively and fun evenings.

Cost: £5.50 50 pence goes to Devizes Museum

Having worked up a thirst we shall end the evening in a local hostelry.

Would those joining in please let me know at janexbennett@btinternet.com so that I can let John know how many to expect.



THE BELL INN



CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION MENU

24th November – 23rd December 2014

– Roasted Red Pepper & Tomato Soup
Topped with garlic and herb croutons

–Sun–Blushed Tomato & Goats Cheese Tart
Served on a bed of mixed leaves with a balsamic glaze drizzle

–Game Terrine
Served with granary toast, fruit chutney and side salad

–Stilton Stuffed Mushrooms in Breadcrumbs
Served on a bed of salad & Tangy red onion relish

–Smoked Salmon Parfait with a Wholegrain & Honey Glaze
Served with Melba toast, garnish & fruit chutney



– Traditional Roast Turkey

Roast turkey breast served with all the traditional trimmings

– Roast Topside of Beef

Slow cooked roast topside of beef, served with Yorkshire pudding & the trimmings

– Slow Cooked Individual Lamb Shoulder

Slowed cooked in a rich onion & mushroom Gravy with a hint of mint

– Vegetarian Nut Roast Pie with Cranberries

In-cased in a short-crust pastry served with a rich vegetable gravy

– Salmon En Croute with Watercress & Tarragon Butter

Salmon supreme topped with watercress & tarragon butter in-cased in puff pastry

ALL SERVED WITH ROAST POTATOES, HONEY GLAZED ROAST PARSNIPS AND SEASONAL VEGETABLES



–Traditional Christmas pudding with Brandy Sauce

– Rich Sticky Toffee Pudding, Topped with Very Vanilla Ice Cream

– Boozy Trifle Topped with Whipped Cream & Strawberries

–Salted Caramel Cheesecake with Caramel Ice Cream

– Selection of Cheese and Biscuits

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

2014 Annual General Meeting

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

24th November

at

The Bell Inn, Seend

commencing at

8:00 pm

Preceded from 7.30 onwards by the payment of subscriptions for the 2015 season.

Notice of any resolution to be proposed at the meeting should be given in writing to the Secretary before the 1st October.

The proceedings of the meeting shall be as follows:

Agenda for AGM

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Approval of minutes of 2013 AGM.
3. Chairman's Report.
4. Treasurer's Report.
5. Consideration of any motions received.

Break

6. Election of Committee for 2015.
7. Presentation of Awards.
8. Arrangements for 2015 AGM.
9. Any other business.

Club Asset List

Club Asset List (Version 5)			
Asset	Current Holder	Contact Details	
Engine Hoist	David Whiteley	01380 828806	david@whiteley0.plus.com
Club Sail Banner	Vic Wright	01225 704685	devizesdomestic@gmail.com
Club Fence Banner	Tom Strickland	01249 447125	stricklandto@hotmail.com
Event Shelter	Vic Wright	01225 704685	devizesdomestic@gmail.com
Gazebo	Tom Strickland	01249 447125	stricklandto@hotmail.com
Projector	Vic Wright	01225 704685	devizesdomestic@gmail.com
Projector Stand	Roger Binney	01380 830524	roger.binney@btopenworld.com
Projector Screen & Cover	Tom Strickland	01249 447125	stricklandto@hotmail.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 Peter Hine by email to ensure the asset list is kept up-to-date.