



WESSEX MG CAR CLUB THE TOLLGATE INN-HOLT

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

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NEXT CLUB NIGHT

23rd September

Start Time 8:00pm

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

This month we welcome another new member, Chris Nixon, who I am certain will enjoy being a member of our friendly club.

The last month has been a busy one. Firstly with members attending the Bowood Classic Show and then for our August Club night I would like to thank Tony and Jenny for testing our music knowledge with their Name That Tune Quiz. This was something different for our club nights and for those members who missed the evening, Jenny and Tony have promised to run another event next year.

The Action Day in Tom's Field was held on possibly the hottest day of the year. In a close contest we had a guest winner Andy Littler, who was slightly ahead of Kevin with our host Tom following very closely. Many thanks to Nancy and Tom for hosting this event again.

We have also attended 2 shows. Firstly the Corsley Show, which is a traditional village show offering something for most tastes with a selection of classic cars attending as well. The following Sunday we were at the White Horse Car Show, in Westbury, which had

over 400 cars on display, so really a car show but with the added attraction of a live music stage and a few other attractions.

We have a club run taking us into the Dorset Countryside on Sunday 22nd September. On the next day, Monday, we have our Club Night which this month will feature a presentation on D Day by our resident historian Tom, whose talks are one of the highlights of the year.

Coming up in October we have a club visit to The Castle Combe Classic on Saturday October 5th.

Our away skittles match against Gloucester MG is on Thursday 24th October at Stroud and we need more members to volunteer to help your club retain the trophy.

If you have not already put your name on the list for the club Christmas Party, please do soon as we need to confirm numbers with the Tollgate.

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**2019 Annual General Meeting**

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

25th November
at
The Tollgate Inn - Holt

commencing at

8:00 pm

Preceded from 7.30 onwards by the payment of subscriptions for the 2020 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 2018 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 2020.
7. Presentation of Awards.
8. Arrangements for 2020 AGM.
9. Any other business.



Boys on Tour

Paul Warn

A tale of déjà vu - as I remember it!

In 2010 Roger Binney - 2nd from right for newer members - hosted a trip to the Le Mans Classic staying at Roger and Lynne's house in deepest France near a village called Cussay.

In July of this year, the group you see above - from the left

Vic 'Go faster Roger' Wright,

Paul 'The airfield must be here somewhere' Wheal,

Roger 'I could better understand you if you spoke English' Binney and

Paul 'I have to put my eye drops in now' Warn -

reenacted that trip but without the Le Mans bit. Nine years older but sadly none the wiser...

Blery eyed and very quiet, we met at Roger's house for a 6:00am start on a Tuesday morning for the 8:00am ferry from Portsmouth to Caen. Now Roger makes this trip numerous times during the year and knows exactly when to arrive for the best place on the ferry for disembarking in the first batch on the other side. Roger booked a sea-view cabin for four, where we deposited our stuff before a hearty breakfast in the upper restaurant - now, where else?

We whiled away the time mooching around Das Boot while Roger grabbed a few zzzz as he was driving the 3 hours to Cussay. And yes we were in the perfect position for disembarking with strict instructions from Roger - as we were exiting the ferry - not to make eye contact with the crew and not to look too smug incase we were stopped and another line allowed off.

With more comfort stops than I seem to remember nine years ago, we eventually arrived at Roger's house in time for supper at the local Auberge in Cussay.



As we all know each other quite well, it didn't take us long to fall into a routine. Roger had a few things that needed doing around the house which I will come back to. Times change even in



some of the remotest parts of France. I am talking now about the local boulangerie or bakery. Every French village has a boulangerie yes? no, not anymore. Bread is dispensed in vending machines in each village - one euro will buy you a bread stick. So each morning using Roger's little Hyundai which he keeps in France, we visit the "boulangerie" and after a breakfast of coffee, bread, cheese and fruit we would decide on what to do. Some things had been planned others had to be decided upon. Oh, I should mention the sunflowers. The fields surrounding the house are filled with sunflowers, sadly in July the flowers have finished and the

seeds are setting ready for harvesting.

Using the Hyundai, each day's adventure would at some point involve either the purchase of wine or a visit to a vineyard, for educational reasons you understand... We would generally have lunch locally in one of the villages and eat again in the evening at the house, this time involving a few bottles of the local wine and even something stronger.

During one of our days out Paul Wheel decided to locate a couple of airfields which he new were in the area. Paul has a part share in a 4 seat aircraft. One seemed decidedly ominous. Located in a remote part of the region, the landing strip was exactly that, a strip of tarmac between trees! When we eventually found someone to "talk" to, it turned out that we were in the middle



of a wild boar forest. The owner would invite his mates over for a shoot, they would land their aircraft have a day's sport and no doubt a few wines and bugger off again! Now I'm not saying it was dubious but we found one aircraft with a tree growing through it! And all the while the hounds were eying us up as they barked and growled in a compound adjacent to the buried aircraft...



One of the planned events was a visit to a local village for a classic car gathering, as you see in the heading photo. Vic was keen to search out Fiat 500s - and was successful. There was an eclectic mix of

primarily French cars as you would expect, but also other European cars including British sports cars. The car of most interest to me was this red Amilcar, more on which next month.

After spending time around the collection of cars, we wandered further into the village proper and came across their annual Brocante or bric a brac event. There were many, many stalls selling everything from fruit, vegetables, toys, books to some quite nice furniture - therein lies another story, however moving along. I found quite a nice display cabinet ideal for my model cars. Inevitably there was space set aside as a coffee shop, so we slipped into French coffee drinker mode, watching the world go by.

Another highlight was a trip into the picturesque, fortified, medieval town of Chinon in the Touraine part of the Loire Valley. Roger pre-booked lunch in one of the restaurants he and Lynne patronise. A superb lunch. Its as well he booked, people were being turned away throughout the lunch period. The wine - a Chinon of course - was spectacular and sourced locally. We decided to hunt down the vineyard and make a purchase of a few bottles. I suppose it came as no surprise that the vineyard was closed, presumably as we were in the middle of the French holiday season. After lunch its never easy to find the small vineyards open, however perseverance has its rewards.



Another planned event was an annual firework display, in a village some 45 minutes drive from Cussay. Now, regular visitors to France will be as puzzled as I as to the absence of the general population as you drive through the small towns and villages. Well there were hundreds of people milling around this village in anticipation of the big event. We managed to get the car parked, the downside was that the display didn't start until 10:30

that evening and we arrived at around 6:00pm... We managed to find a table in a local cafe and generally wiled away the few hours before the big event. Again, how this event was financed is a puzzle, it was a spectacular firework display for such a small village situated as it was on a river with a bridge over to where many families sat on the river bank to watch the show. Well worth the wait.

One of Roger's French neighbours has a place across the field of sunflowers. He spends some months of the year here - you can see it in the distance over the sunflowers above and the rest in his apartment in Paris. He invited us over for a glass of wine, whilst looking over his large model railway layout, his billiard room and wine cellar. The billiard table was unusual in that it didn't have any pockets ie it was used to play Carom billiards or French billiards. Its a game played with three balls two white and one red - no space to explain.





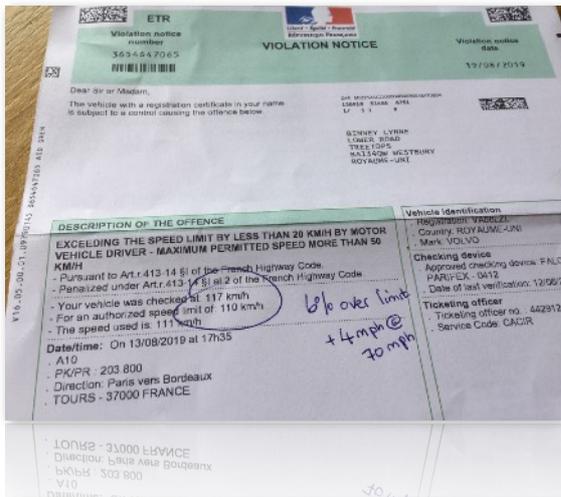
Finally over the weekend before we came back we hosted an evening with another of Roger and Lynne's neighbour's who have become very good friends of theirs - Michelle and Eaves. An evening that will be always remembered - for the food and the power-cut! Yes the whole area was plunged into darkness.

And on that note I will conclude this 2019 story of "Boys on Tour". Very many thanks to Roger and Lynne for the use of their home.



PS

Oh, I almost forgot. Roger received in the post a speeding violation, caused by Vic saying "go faster". 74 mph on a 70 mph dual carriageway! Fortunately as you can see "Lynne was driving at the time!"



It seems that the French also have to put up with unscrupulous garages...

**INTER MG CLUB SKITTLES MATCH - THURSDAY OCTOBER 24th**

We need more volunteers for the away Skittles match organised by the Gloucester MG Club at

The Beacon Inn,
Haresfield,
Stonehouse,
Gloucestershire.
GL10 3DX.

On Thursday October 24th 2019

The menu is as below and they need our choices by Tuesday October 8th please.

This is the same venue as last year and promises to be a good night if we can get together a strong team

THE HARESFIELD BEACON BASKET/JACKET MENU FOR THE SKITTLES MATCH ON THE 24th OCTOBER 2019

Basket Meals all £5.95

Choice of:

1/4 Chicken

Scampi

Beef Burger

Chicken Burger

Sausages x 2

Jacket Potatoes

with

Cheese £4.75

Cheese & Beans £5.25

Tuna £5.50

Chilli Con Carne £5.95

served with Salad Garnish

MARTYN

Tom's September Club Night Talk

Heads up on the subject matter to look forward to for September Club night....

I am going to look at D Day 1944 and hopefully if time is ok at some of the following Normandy break out. It was the 75th Anniversary in June so I think this is an appropriate topic.

Tom

On a related topic, Malcolm replied to Tom with the following:

Amazingly I have been asked to take part in the 75th Anniversary D Day parade at the Goodwood Revival.

Recently the Military Vehicle Trust have verified that my Ford GPW is an early May 1942 build and I have also had my Cushman model 53 airborne scooter verified as 15th December 1944. The DVLA have also given me a number plate to enable me to ride the scooter on the road.

I will be riding the scooter in the parade on both Saturday and Sunday.

Should be great fun and I look forward to catching up following the event.



A helpful piece of advice from Graham Bennett:

I had a slight accident with an tin of paint falling, or being pushed from my garage roof onto my car door.

There were three dents in the door and luckily the paint from the tin went onto the floor. I have since had the dents removed and would highly recommend

Dent Wise Removal Ltd

07473444504

Matthew Scott.

If anyone in the club has any minor dents etc he is definitely worth looking at.

Hope nobody needs him but if they do all the info need is there.

Graham

Secretary's Scribbles

I would like to start by thanking all those who attended the MG autotest event in our field. It was a great event and the weather was glorious. I have had a chat with Vic about how we can change the final test so that the event doesn't become stale - you will have to wait and see next year for the details.

I am looking forward to the September clubnight where I shall be giving a talk on D Day in WW2. It has been the 75th Anniversary of the event this year so I think it is a timely commemoration for us to look at.

I am now looking forward to my October Half term when I am off to Gallipoli in Turkey to spend 5 days exploring the battlefields of the ill-fated mission to try and knock out Turkey (Germany's ally) from the First World War. I actually have an ancestor who went to Australia just before the war and fought in the ANZAC force at Gallipoli, so I need to get the research done to link my trip to him as much as I can.

Another Wiltshire story that I want to investigate is where the Wiltshires were massacred near ANZAC cove. The Wiltshires arrived on the beach at night and were guided into position by a New Zealand Officer in the pitch black. When they awoke the next morning the gully was surrounded on three sides by Turks setting up machine guns. The men had 3 choices in the chaos - run away downhill in the open, or hide in the bushes and scrub in the area that they were in, or lastly try and break through the Turks that were firing at them. In the chaos all of these ideas were tried by various groups of Wiltshires. The Wiltshires were effectively wiped out and amazingly some survivors who had hidden appeared back in British lines up to a fortnight later.



Tom



Club Diary

2019 EVENTS DIARY				
Date	Event	Club Event	Venue	Contact Details & Start Point/Time
22nd September	Social Run into Dorset			Martyn Lucas
23rd September	Club night - Talk	Yes	The Toll Gate Inn	Talk by Tom Strickland
5th October	Autumn Classic	Yes	Castle Combe	Vic Wright
22nd October	Pre AGM Committee Meeting		The Toll Gate Inn	Start Time 8:00pm
24th October	Club Skittles Event against Gloucester MG	Yes	Stroud	Martyn Lucas
28th October	Club night - Talk	Yes	The Toll Gate Inn	Talk by Paul Warn
8th,9th,10th November	NEC Classic Car Show	For Ino		
25th November	Club night - AGM	Yes	The Toll Gate Inn	Club AGM
14th December	Christmas Party	Yes	The Toll Gate Inn	See details in the July issue of the newsletter



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	stricklandto@hotmail.com
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.