



# WESSEX MG CAR CLUB THE TOLLGATE INN- HOLT

## CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

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Tom Strickland

#### NEXT CLUB NIGHT

September 22nd

TALK

Start Time 8:00pm  
pm

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

The last month has seen the decent weather continue and I have been to several events including the British Motor Show at Farnborough Airport, this is a different style of show to the old style motor shows which some of you may remember, in that it has brand new cars, classic cars and modified and super cars displaying along with auto tests.

The first weekend of September took me to Croft Circuit for MG Fest, a new two day event replacing the traditional MG event at Silverstone and combining racing on the circuit and an infield show with MG cars of all eras from the earliest 18/80 to the latest Cyberster and MG IM 5 and 6 cars. In the arena on both days there was a "Carkana" and pride of ownership contest, and also on Saturday evening a dinner and live music, this was well attended with visitors from all over the UK and Europe. It was a long drive to Croft but well worthwhile and the plans are to have future MG Fest events in the South, East & West so that MG owners will have an event in their region.

As we approach autumn there

are still many events in the club diary including a car display at Middlefields House Chippenham, a Sunday lunch, The Restoration Show at Stoneleigh, a visit to JPR Tuning at Yate and our annual Skittles Match.

Looking further ahead we have the Club AGM on November 24<sup>th</sup>, and all the current committee members stand down from their posts and this is the opportunity for new members to join the committee and drive the club forward.

Our Club Christmas Party will be at The Tollgate on Saturday December 6<sup>th</sup> and menu and prices will be available during October.

The next club night is on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> September at The Tollgate and will feature what I am certain will be a very interesting presentation by Tom Strickland.

**Martyn**



# CALLING NOTICE - WESSEX MG CLUB AGM- 2025

## 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

### 2025 Annual General Meeting

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

**24th November**

at

**The Tollgate Inn - Holt**

commencing at

**8:00 pm**

Preceded from 7.30 onwards by the payment of subscriptions for the 2026 season.

Notice of any resolution to be proposed at the AGM should be given in writing/email to the Secretary (Tom Strickland) 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 2024 AGM.
3. Chairman's Report.
4. Treasurer's Report.
5. Consideration of any motions received.

### **Break**

**- Photo competition. Photos taken at the Club's 40th anniversary celebrations.**

**- Voting for awards**

6. Election of Committee for 2026.
7. Presentation of Awards.
8. Arrangements for 2026 AGM.
9. Any other business.



## CLUB DIARY -

2025 EVENTS DIARY				
Date	Event	Start Time	Venue	Additional Information
22nd September	Club night - Talk by Tom Strickland	8:00pm	The Toll Gate Inn	Tom Strickland
27th September	Middlefield House Care Home	From 2:00pm	Middlefields House Chippenham SN14 6GA	Free tea and cakes
12th October	Restoration Show		Stoneleigh Warwickshire	
18th October	JPR Tuning Visit		YATE	Richard Turner
18th October	Club Skittles Match	7:00pm	The White Hart Atworth	
27th October	Club night - Quiz night	8:00pm	The Toll Gate Inn	Mike Childs
TBA	COMMITTEE MEETING			Martyn Lucas
24th November	Club night - AGM	8:00pm	The Toll Gate Inn	Club AGM
6th December	Christmas Party	Yes	The Toll Gate Inn	

## UP COMING EVENTS



MAJOR-GENERAL E. V. M. STRICKLAND CMG, DSO, OBE,  
MM, CSTJ, STAR OF JORDAN

**STRICK**  
**TANK HERO OF ARRAS**  
THE MAKING OF AN EXTRAORDINARY SOLDIER

### SEPTEMBER CLUB NIGHT Presentation by Tom Strickland

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Major-General Eugene Vincent Michael Strickland rose from penniless hardship to great military distinction. He was a tank man, a war hero who fought in France, North Africa and Italy during the Second World War, and whose name is revered even today in the regiments that he commanded.

In May 1940, he played a major part in the counterattack at Arras, where two British infantry tank battalions held up the German advance for three days, enabling the success of the Dunkirk evacuation – and perhaps saving Britain from ultimate defeat in the process.





## UP COMING EVENTS

### **SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 27<sup>th</sup> from 2.00pm MIDDLEFIELD HOUSE CARE HOME**

Middlefield House Care Home in Chippenham are holding a classic car show from 2.00pm and have asked if we can take some cars along, if you want to join us and have not already told me, please let me know.

They will be providing free tea and cakes, and the residents are looking forward to seeing some interesting cars.

The address is **MIDDLEFIELDS HOUSE, CORNFIELDS,  
CHIPPENHAM SN14 6GA**



## UP COMING EVENTS

### RESTORATION SHOW – SUNDAY OCTOBER 12<sup>th</sup> STONELEIGH WARWICKSHIRE

The Resto Show returns to Stoneleigh! 🎉

Restoration projects need real passion, whether you're restoring your own classic or just a weekend tinkerer, this show is for you!

- ✓ Discover tools, parts and services
- ✓ See rescued classics and immaculate rebuilds
- ✓ Good honest down-to-earth advice from the experts
- ✓ Huge autojumble
- ✓ Classic Car Clubs
- ✓ Meet the stars from tv's Bangers and Cash!

Visit 📱 <https://restoration-show.co.uk>  
to find out more!



**12<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2025**  
**STONELEIGH PARK**  
**RESTORATION SHOW AND SPARES MARKET**  
**WARWICKSHIRE**  
**12<sup>TH</sup> OCT 2025**

**MEET THE STARS FROM TV'S BANGERS & CASH**

**CLASSIC CAR DISPLAYS • LIVE RESTORATION DEMOS**  
**TRADE STANDS • SEMINARS & WORKSHOPS • AUTOJUMBLE**  
**TO BOOK IN ADVANCE VISIT [WWW.RESTORATION-SHOW.CO.UK](http://WWW.RESTORATION-SHOW.CO.UK)**





## UP COMING EVENTS

### WESSEX MG CLUB ANNUAL SKITTLES MATCH

**SATURDAY OCTOBER 18<sup>th</sup>**



**Our annual skittles match will be held at The White Hart, Bath Road, Atworth, Melksham SN12 8JR from 7.00pm**

**This is a fun evening and no experience of skittle playing is needed, and everyone stands a chance of becoming the Skittles trophy holder.**

**Basket Meals will be available at cost of £8.50 per person**

**Menu choices-**

**Scampi & Chips**

**Sausage & Chips**

**Battered Chicken & Chips**

**Veggie Sausage & Chips**

**Gluten Free options are available**

**Pre orders will be needed**

**Please let me know by email before October 13<sup>th</sup> if you wish to join us and also with your menu choices**



**Martyn**

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

## THE WAY IT WAS



During the 1973 Arab-Israeli War, Arab members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) imposed an embargo against the United States in retaliation for the U.S. decision to re-supply the Israeli military and to gain leverage in the post-war peace negotiations. As the crisis took hold, global oil prices quadrupled, and this had a direct and dramatic effect on petrol prices at the pump. By the end of the crisis, UK petrol prices had roughly doubled. By 1974, the price per litre was somewhere between 11 pence and 15 pence.







## When the Unexpected Happens

John Bishop

**B**ack in July Priscilla and I headed off to France in our Ford Mondeo with the caravan on the back for a couple of weeks in the company of our granddaughter and daughter who were travelling separately in their Discovery. All went well apart from their managing to miss the Portsmouth - Ouistreham ferry because of a traffic hold up. But we were all united at our delightful site in the Vendee and spent a happy week doing things for a five year old: our mini-golf skills improved no end and we are now experts at bouncy castle supervision.

After a week we decamped and headed south for our second site in the Dordogne with the caravan in tow. Priscilla was driving and we were heading towards Bordeaux on a lovely sunny day. We became aware that a Mini in front of us was being driven in a most erratic way - it was zooming off into the distance and then slowing down whilst all the time weaving erratically from side to side. Overtaking with the caravan on the back needs a bit of care at the best of times. We like to stick to approximately the UK limit of around 90 kph and nipping past didn't seem either possible or sensible.

At this point the Mini swerved left, clouted a van and then sharply veered right - so much so that it left the autoroute and shot up the angled grassy bank at the side. After a hundred yards or so it rolled onto its roof and then cartwheeled end to end down the bank and onto the slow lane where it landed on its roof just in front of us. Priscilla very wisely had been keeping her distance and was easily able to stop: we just hoped that the vehicles behind us had left enough braking distance - fortunately they had!

In fact several other vehicles stopped as well and a group of five or so burly young gentleman ran over to the car and began to rescue the occupant - as it turned out there was only one who was hanging upside-down in her seat belt - an elderly lady of about eighty.

Priscilla and I hastily donned our regulation hi -vis jackets. I grabbed our warning triangles and, feeling somewhat vulnerable, set off up the slow lane to place our warning triangles so that the rear of the caravan didn't get clouted.

The lady was rescued with just one tiny cut on her wrist - she was understandably dazed, could hardly speak and was clueless as to what had happened. Our main thought was to get her to safety in one of the parked vehicles so that she didn't wander off into the traffic. The pompiers and agents soon arrived and noticed half a dozen or so bottles of wine rolling around in the upturned car - maybe she had just been shopping!

We will never know what caused this to happen. We gave our details to the police but having taken the briefest of statements they didn't seem interested so I assume that under French law they had all the evidence that they needed. In fact once they had ascertained that nobody was injured, they became quite jovial and were very impressed that we had followed the letter of the law with our hi vis jackets and triangles.

I guess that all of us have witnessed poor driving in front of us and of course it usually doesn't lead to anything - but in this case it did and keeping well back from the Mini certainly saved us from what could have been a nasty collision. I'm pleased to report that the rest of the trip went smoothly, although I think that a couple of glasses of red wine at our Dordogne campsite that evening had a pleasingly calming influence.





## FOR SALE

'For sale to highest bidder;

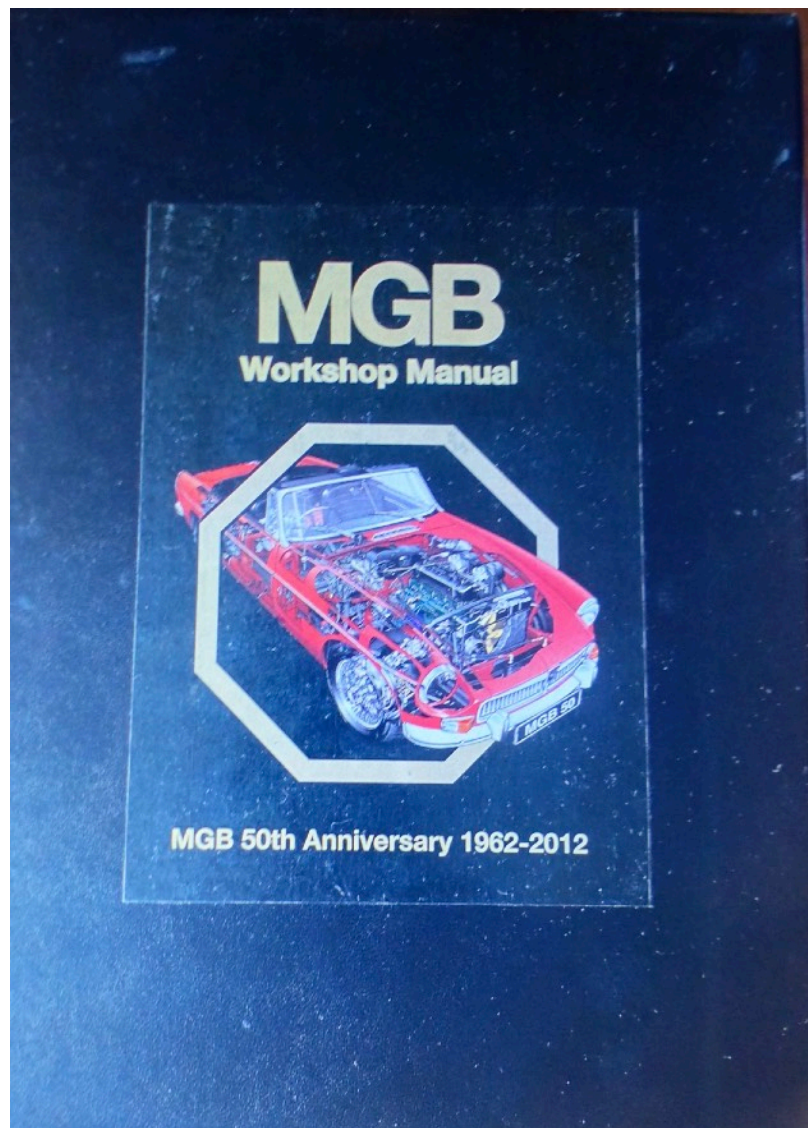
To all MGB owners, a chance of a lifetime!  
Special, Limited Edition, Haynes MGB  
Workshop Manual, in **full colour**. Boxed  
and unused. Limited to 251 copies, this is  
No. 75. Issued to commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary of the MGB in 2012.

Offers to Ken Scott

[kenscott@btinternet.com](mailto:kenscott@btinternet.com)

Tel :01249 750815

Mob : 07929543759





## Eve of the VSCC Prescott Hill Climb

Paul Warn

On the evening of the 1st August - the day before this year's VSCC Prescott Hill Climb - the Classic Motor Hub at Bibury held a Vintage themed evening to celebrate the period.

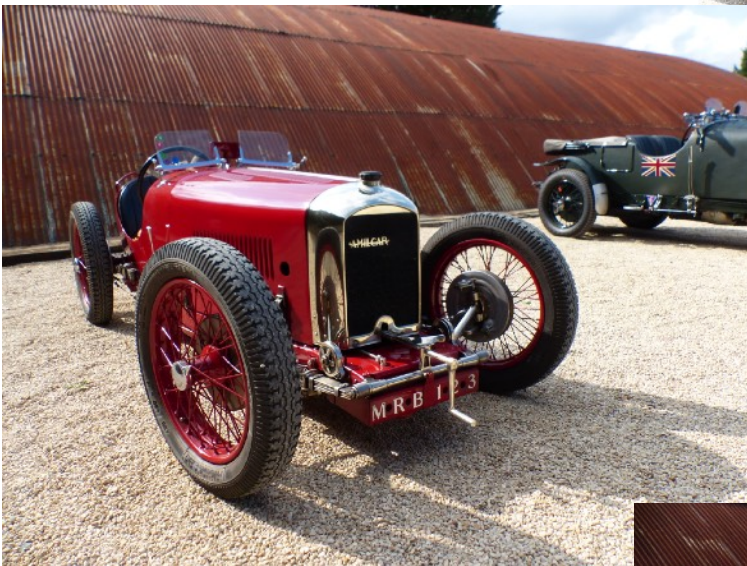
Attached are a few pics of the evening...











## Secretary's Scribbles

**T**his month I can report that the hardtop is still off the car! I feel like I have hardly been at home through the August - my school holiday. I have been to Tallinn and to North Wales since returning from France and this has all meant no access to my poor MG which has been rather neglected. This month is MOT month, so I need to get her out and given a good run. A young friend of mine took part in a challenge with a group of his friends where they bought super cheap cars then drove them to Le Mans - one of the group bought a MG TF - he didn't get on with the car very well and was really disappointed to not be able to fully put the hood down. I explained the known issue and the need to move the roof bar to let it flop back - I reflect that this had

me stumped when I first got the TF. On my car I haven't bothered with the anti-jam straps that you can purchase to solve the problem as I find the roof can sit nicely at the 'stuck point' whilst I unzip the glass window which I annoyingly have to do each time to put my hood down.

This month also sees my annual presentation which this year is about my own grandfather and the first part of his Second World War story - this is a story of moral courage, bravery in action and adventure as you will see ( I can't tell you more now for fear of ruining the presentation!).

**Tom**



## Club Asset List

CLUB ASSET LIST			
ASSET	CURRENT HOLDER	CONTACT DETAILS	
Engine Hoist	Tom Strickland	012489 447125	<a href="mailto:stricklandto@hotmail.com">stricklandto@hotmail.com</a>
Club Sail Banner	Kevin Meakin	01380 727151	<a href="mailto:kevinmg1@live.com">kevinmg1@live.com</a>
Event Shelter + Sides	Kevin Meakin	01380 727151	<a href="mailto:kevinmg1@live.com">kevinmg1@live.com</a>
Projector	Paul Warn	01225 768676	<a href="mailto:paul.william.warn@gmail.com">paul.william.warn@gmail.com</a>
Speakers	Paul Warn	01225 768676	<a href="mailto:paul.william.warn@gmail.com">paul.william.warn@gmail.com</a>
Projector Stand	Paul Warn	01225 768676	<a href="mailto:paul.william.warn@gmail.com">paul.william.warn@gmail.com</a>
Projector Screen & Cover	Paul Warn	01225 768676	<a href="mailto:paul.william.warn@gmail.com">paul.william.warn@gmail.com</a>
Set of Boules	Terry Warder	01225 766068	<a href="mailto:suewarder60@gmail.com">suewarder60@gmail.com</a>

### 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.