



WESSEX MG CAR CLUB THE TOLLGATE INN- HOLT

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

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SECRETARY's

SCRIBBLES

Tom Strickland

NEXT CLUB NIGHT

28th September

Tom Strickland

Talk

Start Time

8:00pm



Well, here we are in September.

I am writing this months newsletter article while I watch the Goodwood Revival on Sky.

Its giving me lots of inspiration, and there's some great racing.

I'd love to go to Goodwood - but have always been put off by just how expensive it is.

Maybe I'll go one year, maybe a group of us potentially from Wessex MG could go?

Its also made me think about potential cars, of course in addition to the MGBGT, not a replacement!

Rest easy Margot!

I think a Ferrari 250 GTO SWB/C is well and truly out of my budget, but potentially the little Lotus Elite that managed to get 2nd in the Stirling Moss Trophy could potentially be in reach... if I sell a kidney! :-)

Continued...

Since the last newsletter we have had some awesome events at Wessex MG.

Firstly, the bank holiday weekend saw a number of us visit Tom & Nancy's field for a bit of an Autotest.

I've never done anything like this before, and I really enjoyed it, especially giving Margot a bit of extra welly and getting the rear end out... what's not to like!

Honestly, it was great - and it would be nice to see more people come and give it a try. (I know its holiday time and bank holiday weekend, so makes it difficult sometimes)

Planks Farm gathering on the 4th September was also well attended by the group, I'm yet to make it to one of these events this year - hopefully I'll make one before too long!

Then, on the 12th September it was the DumbPost Revival - what a fantastic event. Again my first time, great pub with good beers, and a wide variety of cars and characters/outfits on display.

The winning car was a fabulous looking Lotus replica, which was stunning.

Oh and some very dodgy looking fella with an MGB GT Jubilee won best dressed..... strange folk MG drivers lol

Great event, raising money for the British Heart Foundation, so a great cause too - congratulations Macca for a fabulous event.

Events coming up include a talk by Tom Strickland at our next club night, these are always excellent so looking forward to that.

Mike Childs is organising a trip to Thatchers on Thursday 15th October - as a dedicated Thatchers drinker, I have no doubt this will be awesome!

Then its the annual skittles battle on the 24th October.

One point of order from me this month, is the Christmas meal at the Tollgate. (Saturday 5th December)

You would have seen an email from Peter Hine asking for numbers attending, please get back to Peter as a matter of urgency, so as to avoid disappointment.

Hopefully we can get out in our cars in these last days/weeks before the end of British Summer Time, and I look forward to seeing and speaking to you all soon.

Take care,

David



CALLING NOTICE - WESSEX MG CLUB AGM- 2026

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

2026 Annual General Meeting

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

23rd 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 1st November

The proceedings of the meeting shall be as follows:

Agenda for AGM

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Approval of minutes of 2025 AGM.
3. Chairman's Report.
4. Treasurer's Report.
5. Consideration of any motions received.
- Break**
- **Photo competition. With a Morgan/MG Theme taken during the year**
- **Voting for awards**
6. Election of Committee for 2027.
7. Presentation of Awards.
8. Arrangements for 2027 AGM.
9. Any other business.

CLUB DIARY -

Note: In the date column, where the **DATE** of an event has been highlighted in **RED** the sponsor has included additional promotional details in the newsletter also highlighted in **RED**

2026 EVENTS DIARY				
Date	Event	Start Time	Venue	Additional Information
28th September	Club Night - Talk by Tom Strickland	8:00pm	The Toll Gate Inn	Tom Strickland
15th October (Details September Edition)	Tour of Thatchers Cider	TBA	Myrtle Farm, Sandford	Mike Childs
24th October (Details August Edition)	Skittles Evening	7:00pm	The White Hart Atworth	Martyn Lucas
26th October	Club Night - Quiz	8:00pm	The Toll Gate Inn	
13/14th November	NEC Classic Motor Show			
23rd November	Club Night - AGM	7:30pm	The Toll Gate Inn	David Collier
5th December	Christmas Party		The Toll Gate Inn	

DETAILS OF UP COMING EVENTS

Tour of Thatcher's Cider Company 15th October



I am planning to arrange a tour of Thatchers very large Cider factory at Myrtle Farm, Sandford in North Somerset for club members (and friends if they wish) if I can get sufficient interest.

I did a tour a couple of weeks ago and it was very interesting and enjoyable. It takes about two hours or so and would be followed by lunch at Thatchers on site Railway Inn pub and restaurant. Finally there is the cider shop where you can make purchases of cider including some that are produced solely for sale in the shop.

The cost of the tour is £18 plus lunch of course.

Mike Childs

Skittles Evening 24th October



The poster is for the Wessex MG Club Skittles Evening. It features a red and white color scheme. At the top, there's a Wessex MG Club logo. Below it, the text 'WESSEX MG CLUB SKITTLES EVENING' is prominently displayed. The poster includes details about the date (Saturday 24th October 2026), time (from 7:00 PM), and location (The White Hart, Bath Road, Atworth, Melksham, SN12 8JR). It also lists activities: Traditional Skittles, Friendly Competition, Drinks & Refreshments Available, and Great Company and MG Chat. A section titled 'PLEASE RSVP' asks for confirmation by Saturday 17th October 2026. Another section titled 'EVERYONE WELCOME' encourages both seasoned players and beginners to attend. At the bottom, there's a photo of a red MG convertible and the text 'Wessex MG Club KEEPING THE MG SPIRIT ALIVE ON AND OFF THE ROAD'.

WESSEX MG CLUB
SKITTLES EVENING

*An enjoyable social evening for
Wessex MG Club members and friends*

SATURDAY
24TH OCTOBER 2026

FROM 7:00 PM

THE WHITE HART
Bath Road, Atworth
Melksham
SN12 8JR

JOIN US FOR:

- Traditional Skittles
- Friendly Competition
- Drinks & Refreshments Available
- Great Company and MG Chat

★ PLEASE RSVP ★
To help us confirm numbers with the venue,
please let us know if you'll be attending.
RSVP BY SATURDAY 17TH OCTOBER 2026

EVERYONE WELCOME
Whether you're a seasoned
skittles player or a complete
beginner, come along for a
fun social evening with fellow
Wessex MG Club
members and friends.

Wessex MG Club
KEEPING THE MG SPIRIT ALIVE ON AND OFF THE ROAD

The annual Club Skittles Evening will be held at the White Hart, Atworth, Melksham SN12 8JR from 7.00pm

Basket Meals will be available the menu will be available at the beginning of October.

This is a fun evening and no previous skittles playing experience is needed

If you wish to join us please email me at martyn.lucas2@btinternet.com before Saturday 17th October.

Martyn



Christmas Party - 5th December

THE TOLLGATE INN

CHRISTMAS MENU 2026

2 COURSES 32 • 3 COURSES 38

Starters

Roasted spiced cauliflower soup, *homemade bread* **

Beetroot tartar, *whipped feta, pistachio crumb, crispy cavolo nero* *

Smoked mackerel pâté, *roasted apple puree, sourdough crostini, pickled fennel* **

Braised Wiltshire Venison Bon Bon, *blackberry gel, parsnip crisp*

Mains

Turkey ballotine with *apricot & rosemary stuffing, pigs in blankets* **

Braised beef shin, *bordelaise sauce* *
(£2.50 supplement)

Wild mushroom and tarragon Pithiver, *red currant sauce*

Salmon Wellington, *white wine and caper sauce*

All mains served with roast potatoes, Pancetta sprouts, braised red cabbage and honey roast carrots and parsnips

Desserts

Mint chocolate torte, *vanilla ice cream, chocolate soil* *

Sticky toffee pudding, *vanilla ice cream* **

Christmas pudding, *brandy custard*

Cheese board (2.00 supplement)

Gluten free and vegan options available on request
Please let us know if you have any dietary requirements

A discretionary 10% service charge added to tables of 6 or over
If you have enjoyed your visit and fancy £10 off your next visit then why not become a Loyalty Member,
please ask for details

Our club Christmas dinner is, as previous years, at the Tollgate on Saturday 5th December. The menu with costs is as above. At the moment I just need to know who would like to go (I don't need menu choices yet or deposits) so I can advise the Tollgate of numbers. Places are limited, so if you'd like to go, please reply to me as soon as possible (please don't 'reply all') so I can get you on the list. Many thanks

Peter Hine

RECENT EVENTS -

AUGUST CLUB NIGHT



They look as though they know what they're talking about...

Gary and Jacy Weston
with their Jeep -
Potential new members



Malcolm Barrington's
fabulous looking Fraser
Nash. See page 12 for his
story.



The Dumb Post Revival

Macca

Saturday 12th Sept saw a day dawn brightly and remain so for the Dumb Post Revival. A small classic car show organised in support of the British Heart Foundation. A number of members joined the 45 cars booked in to the show, and enjoyed a fabulous day. The Pub was dressed with flags and hay bales giving a proper village feel, with cars starting to arrive around 11oclock and continuing till lunchtime. We had 30 cars parked out front in the "Pit Lane" with Many MG's, Jags, Mini's, Moggy's, sinclair Imp and even a Bently. More modern classics included escorts and a very rare and impressive Subaru Impreza 40th anniversary model built to celebrate winning the World Rally Championship, brought along by Nick Mason from his collection. Many drivers and crew did come dressed in period attire which added to the "Goodwood Vibe". The owners and staff of the Dumb Post where amazing hosts and enjoyed picking our car of the day, which was a replica Lotus, and best dressed drivers, our very own Dave Collier in his high heels ! (See pics) visitors and enthusiasts alike enjoyed some great live music from "Splat the Rat" and The Dumb Post Ukey Collective. All in all a good day was had by all and the very best bit is we raised £1041 for the British Heart Foundation. Thanks to everyone who came to support.







My Fraser Nash

Malcolm
Barrington

Whilst chatting to long standing member Malcolm Barrington during the August Club meeting I asked if he would provide information on his fabulous Fraser Nash for the newsletter - here is his story.

Before I start Gary, Jacy and I have just returned from a lovely weekend in France where we formed part of the Pas de Calais Libere convoy in and around the town of Haillicourt the first day we covered 110 kilometre's, Gary and Jacy in their jeep (see page 8) and me on my Harley Davison. - **Malcolm**

Vehicle History

'A nickname as evocative as the "chain gang" is guaranteed to raise the eyebrows of and fast-car enthusiast not too conversant with the intimacies of the pre-war Frazer Nash.'

Bruce Hudson, British Light Cars 1930-1939.

The Frazer Nash cars evolved from a GN cycle car - and as such used the GN-type transmission. Instead of conventional gears, a separate chain is used for each speed, the drive sprockets being engaged by dog clutches.

In many ways this system represented the sporting motorist's ideal; it was lighter and absorbed less power than a conventional gearbox, while the sprockets could be changed quickly to suit different types of event: trials, sprints, hill climbs, circuit races, etc. Once mastered, the Frazer Nash's chain-drive transmission can be operated as swiftly as any conventional 'box.

Although the chain drive was highly unusual, at least for a motor car of the period, a chain is more efficient than almost any other form of transmission and Frazer Nash's system was one of the best. With their unique form of drive, Frazer Nashes over-steered dramatically under power and it was said at the time

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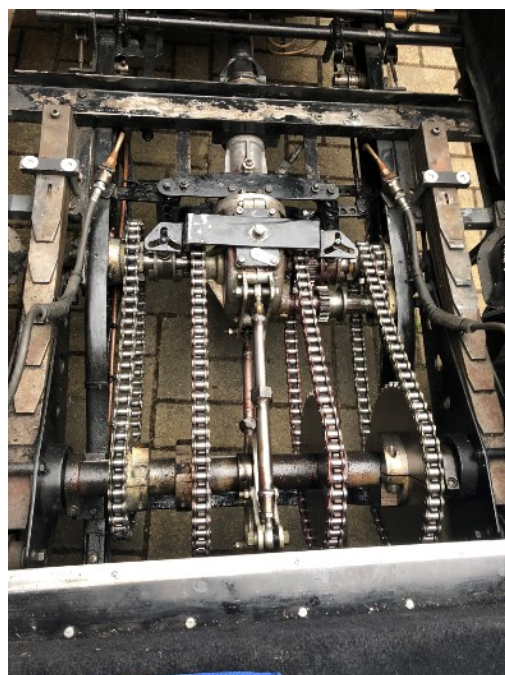
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As first conceived, the Frazer Nash chassis employed quarter-elliptic springing, rack-and-pinion steering and cable-operated brakes on the rear axle only, though four-wheel braking was soon standardised. Both four and six cylinder engines were used. This wonderful example of a "special" was put together by a noted marque expert in 1946, using all factory parts. In the search for performance and reliability, a period correct BMW 6 cylinder engine (Bristol type) was used.

In order for the rest of the car to cope with the huge increase in power and torque, the rear suspension, and the entire drive train was re-manufactured to a higher strength. The final drive was re damped to minimise the chance of mechanical fatigue in racing, springs and hill-climb use.

This car comes with a long and illustrious competition history. Used in multiple VSCC and clubman events since new, this car is well known in racing circles.

I have attached a photo of the gearbox - see below.





The Dumb Post Revival

John Bishop

The weather gods looked kindly on this year's Dumb Post Revival and blessed it with early autumn warmth and afternoon sunshine. If you haven't discovered this lovely old pub near Calne yet, it is certainly worth a trip out with its wonderful views over the countryside. On offer at the event were great company, an impressive collection of classic cars and, inevitably, plenty of opportunities for MG owners to admire everyone else's cars while quietly deciding that their own is still the best! I did, however, rather like a splendid Jaguar replica SS100 from 1938!

Chris had done a wonderful job organising the event and Kevin did a stout job of marshalling, keeping everything moving smoothly and helping to ensure that the day ran like a well-tuned classic. There was an interesting selection of classic machinery on display, with MGs naturally being well represented, but with particularly strong representation from the ever-popular Minis and Morris Minors. There were also a couple of immaculate Norton motorbikes. From gleaming sports cars to beautifully preserved everyday classics, there was something to tempt every enthusiast.

The atmosphere was enhanced by some excellent live music. Splat the Rat and The Dumb Post Ukey Collective provided the entertainment, adding plenty of energy to an already lively occasion. There was certainly no shortage of foot-tapping and head-nodding among the assembled classic car enthusiasts, most of whom were happily munching their way through a bacon butty.

One of the highlights was the competition for the Best Period Dress, which produced some pleasingly imaginative outfits. Congratulations to David Collier, who deservedly took the prize with some platform shoes and fancy trousers (See below). Clearly, owning a classic car is not enough these days - apparently, the driver has to look as though he or she has just stepped out of the same decade!

Most importantly the event was supporting a very worthwhile cause with a target of raising £300 for the British Heart Foundation. It was good to see classic car enthusiasm being combined with fundraising and community spirit.

All in all it was an excellent gathering and a great advert for the continuing appeal of classic cars. Whether your preference is an MG, a Hillman Imp or another treasured survivor from motoring's past, days like this remind us why we enjoy keeping these cars on the road.

Note: if Kevin goes on adding stickers to his windscreen he isn't actually going to be able to see anything....





Secretary's Scribbles

Hard to believe that a month ago I was sat sweating at 46 degrees in the Loire. Back to earth with a bump and it feels like I have never been away from the classroom! We had an excellent Driving test day at the end of August here in our field. The forecast wasn't great and there had been a lot of rain leading up to the event and I did dither at one point over whether I needed to cancel but, fortunately I pressed on with the setup and on the day it was dry and at times decently warm. Peter in his Morgan came in 3rd losing out on the blindfold driving, Chris came 2nd missing out thinking his car was rather wider than it is and in 1st place was Kevin who scored consistently well across the events to clinch the title.

I went to help a chap called Nick with an MGB in Hulluvington - he is new to old cars and I arranged to go and give him a hand. He turned out to be a serving Officer on the base and

we had a good morning doing some jobs on the car and setting him up to get some other jobs done. He has access to proper bays with pits etc and is keen to get a classic car club going on the base allowing people access to the facilities. I am hoping Nick will keep in touch and even join us so we can find out more.

This month's clubnight is due to be a presentation from myself and I am going to talk to you about War Artists. I shall link, where I can, the artists to Wiltshire and I will also look at the home front and also a few other ways that artists were used during the wars in unexpected ways. Hopefully you will all find it interesting.

If any members are not on the WhatsApp group please let David or myself know and we will get you sorted.

Tom





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	Kevin Meakin	01380 727151	kevinmg1@live.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	Kevin Meakin	01380 727151	kevinmg1@live.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.