

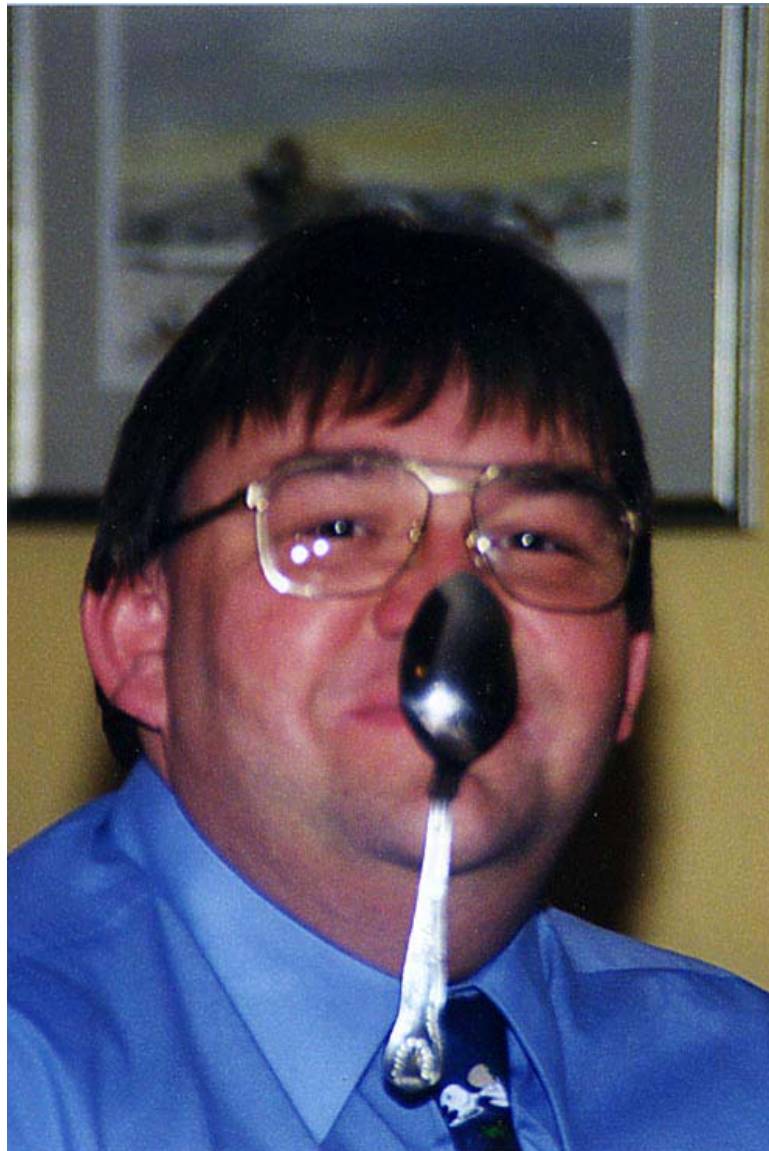


WAMGOC



The "Wycombe Area MG Owners Club" Newsletter - sponsored by Summit Motors

Issue No 170 February 2006



A previously unpublished photo of Ian, showing that even when young, he had those special skills required to rebuild a MGC to a high standard, and with lots of horses.

WAMGOC Website

www.wamgoc.org

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Keith's Bit

Looking through some old photos the other day, I came across some shots taken at the second of our charity Wamdays in 1995 in Stoke Poges. That year we were raising money for the Teenage Cancer Trust and the picture shows many WAMGOC original members.

Our Special Guest that day was Chris Goofy from the old 'Top Gear' and we'd also managed to arrange the loan of one of the very first MGFs for the day.

Also there are pictures of Derek Parks and his Twin Cam MGA giving people rides to raise more for the charity.

Hairstyles have changed and waistlines have got bigger, but the fun was and is still the same.

Look out your old photos from WAMGOC events and bring them along to the club meeting then we can all play name the member.

WAMGOC's twentieth anniversary Barn Dance takes place on Saturday 17th June 2006 at Hazlemere Community Centre.

Now is the time to get your tickets, which are £10 each for the evening, this also includes a Fish and Chip Supper. Chris is making us a special Birthday Cake and we have book a well known local barn dance 'Caller' and his Band, who will entertain and talk us through the various steps needed for the evening. They promise us a great evening which even the most flat footed of us will enjoy. The community centre has a subsidised bar, so drink prices will be very reasonable. Please invite your family and friends. We are inviting all past WAMGOC members, local MG clubs, MG Friends to help us celebrate this great achievement.

We wanted to do something special and a little different for all the membership, so we asked for suggestions and you came up with this idea.

The MG Show & Spares Day will take place at Stoneleigh on the 19th February 2006 from 10am till 4pm.

Autojumble, trade stands, club displays and cars for sale, make this event a must for every MG owner.

Price £10 on the door or £8 in advance on 01568 797881 or @ www.mgshow.co.uk

Get your MG out and blow away the cobwebs on Winchester MGOC's Cobweb Spin!

An informal MG gathering at Hursley Park, the home of the IBM Research Laboratories on Sunday 5th March from 11am. There is a bar and hot food is also available and there's no need to book. Venue is found on the A3090 4 miles southwest of Winchester. This is a favourite event with WAMGOC members, so why not it a try!

The annual MG Era Day at Brooklands takes place on Sunday 9th April.

The traditional MG Car Club season opener at the ancestral home of British motor sport. Drive test hill and visit the hallowed banking and restored team sheds. For tickets contact: 01932 857381 or book on line @ www.brooklandsmuseum.com WAMGOC members always turn out in force for this event. If you'd like to meet up on route and conveyed to the museum to be parked together, meet at The Bells of Ouseley Harvester, Straight Road, Old Windsor, SL4 2SH, to leave at 9.30am.

As you may know it has been decided that our charity for 2006 will be the Berkshire Air Ambulance Service. A representative has agreed to attend our April 5th meeting to tell us a little about their work and how we can help. He will be bringing with him items for sale which help to raise funds for this much needed local service.

It was decided that this years Octagonal Run would take place on Sunday 20th August 2006. This is the 10th running of this our premier WAMGOC event, so please make a note of this in your diaries, as it is important that you're there to help us have a good day and raise a good sum for our charity. Suggestions and offers of help will always be well received. Watch this space for more details.

The WAMGOC Treasure Hunt will take place on Sunday 21st May. Graham Cooper is organising this year's event, so please put the date in your diary and watch for more details which will follow soon.

Southampton & New Forest Run MGOC will again be holding their New Forest Run on Sunday 4th June. The programme starts with an informal get together on the evening of Saturday the 3rd from

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7pm at The East Close Hotel, before the runs starts on Sunday morning. I have some entry form, which will give you full details.

Gloucestershire MGOC have invited WAMGOC members to join them on Sunday 11th June for their 30 year Celebration by entering their Cotswold Caper Charity Run. Starting in Stroud, drive through 90 miles of Cotswold scenery, on roads and lanes off busy highways, suitable for even the oldest MG's, ending at the Wildfowl & Wetland Centre at Slimbridge.

Entry fee £16 per car.

I have some booking forms and a list of hotel accommodation if you are interested or you could give Graham Bignell a call 01452 330892 or online by emailing graham.bignell@lineone.net

Sue has "offered" to organise another Thornborough Run with lunch at their other 'local'. The date we are looking at is Sunday 30th July. Please include this in your dairy, full information will be found in this Newsletter.

Home Counties South Regional Secretary Nigel Hedges and South West Regional Secretary Tim Hipwell are organizing an Inter-Regional National/International MG Weekend at Cricket St.Thomas.

This will be a three-night stay with bed, breakfast and evening meal in five star accommodation.

The Hotel, where the BBC TV series "To The Manor Born" was filmed, is exceptional with stunning scenery, high quality rooms, all set in rolling Somerset parkland.

The food is exceptional too from the full English breakfast to the 3/4 course evening meal, all included in the price.

A full programme has already been planned, including a trip to the Haynes Museum and a Gala Dinner with special guest Terry Waite planned for the Sunday night.

Dates are Friday 12th May to Monday 15th May 2006.

Cost is £199 per person.

Prompt booking is especially encouraged, quoting "MG Event" to Hazel

Malcolm at Warner's, Cricket St Thomas no: 01460

30111 or fax 01460 30817

or www.warnerbreaks.co.uk

Or call Nigel Hedges for more details at his work number (daytime only Mon-Sat) on 01202 555922.

Six WAMGOC members have already expressed and interest so you won't be alone if you book!

You have to be part of this great event!!!!

Club members have been asked to visit the Chinnor and Princes Risborough Railway Vintage Vehicle Weekend, anytime over the Bank Holiday weekend 26th/28th August. Loads to see and do, free train ride for drivers of classic cars. Bring your MG along and enjoy the day.

WAMGOC DIARY DATES

February

Wed 1st *Monthly Meeting, WAMGOC Photo Competition 2006, The Gate*

Sum 19th MG Show & Spares Day, Stoneleigh.

March

Wed 1st *Monthly Meeting, The Gate*

Sun 5th Winchester MGOC's Cobweb Spin.

Sun 26th Spring Restoration Show. Stoneleigh

April

Wed 5th *Monthly Meeting & Visit from the Berkshire Air Ambulance Service @ The Gate.*

Sun 9th MG Era Day, Brooklands.

Kimber Run Bakewell

Thurs 20th – 22nd Manx Classic. Isle of Man

May

Wed 3rd *Monthly Meeting, The Gate*

12th/15th Inter-Regional MG Weekend at Cricket St.Thomas.

Sun 14th Regency Run

New Forest Run

Sun 21st *WAMGOC Treasure Hunt.*

June

Wed 7th *Monthly Meeting, The Gate*

Sun 11th Historic House Run

Cotswold Caper

Sat 17th *WAMGOC Twentieth Anniversary Calibration, Hazlemere Community Centre.*

23rd/25th MGCC Silverstone International.

July

Wed 5th *Monthly Meeting, The Gate*

Fri 7th - 9th Goodwood Festival of Speed

Sun 30th Brooklands British Sports Car Day

August

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Wed 2nd *Monthly Meeting, The Gate*
Sun 20th *WAMGOC Octagonal Run*
26th/28th Chinnor and Princes Risborough Railway
Vintage Vehicle Weekend.
September
Fri 1st – 3rd Goodwood Revival
Wed 6th *Monthly Meeting The Gate*
Sun 24th Totally MGs Epsom

WAMGOC CROSS-COUNTY RUN SUNDAY 30TH JULY 2006

Following on from the success of last year's event, and as we are not now moving from leafy Bucks, Keith has persuaded me to organise a second scenic run to Thornborough in the north of the County.

This year's run will take place on Sunday 30th July, again starting from outside the shops at Park Parade in Hazlemere, with the first car leaving around 10.30am for a two hour amble across Bucks (avoiding Aylesbury!), arriving at The Two Brewers in Thornborough around 12.30pm in time for another of Val's excellent buffet lunches and a glass or two of Andy's well-kept ale.

I am sure those of you who came along in 2005 will agree that the buffet alone was worth the trip and even at the slightly increased price of £7.00 per person is still great value for money.

If you would like to come along, please complete the attached slip and return it to me at 8 Ilex Close, Hazlemere, High Wycombe, Bucks HP15 7RT by 31st May at the latest, together with your cheque for £7.00 per person, payable to Sue Knowles. Any queries, please give me a call on 01494 815280 or 07880 702608.

Here's to a turnout to equal, if not exceed, that of 2005!
See back page for application form

Sue Knowles

Whats on in Slough???????

Sunday 19th February 7.30 pm at
The West Wing Arts Centre Slough

Songbook

A gala evening of songs from Stage and Screen, performed by 60 members of CAST, past and present, and representing 15 years of CAST musicals.

The concert is being staged in honour of founder member Ken Howard, who is fighting cancer. Any profits will go to the Thames Hospicecare. Do go and support Chris, who will be singing. Tickets £10 from Chris Darbon Ring 01753 546362 asap to order your ticket.

FORMULA ONE WILLIAMS' AUCTION

I hope nobody went to the Formula One Williams' auction previously mentioned in the WAMGOC newsletter, as the cars were all sold prior to auction, sadly not to Pauline Whiffin for Terry's retirement gift but to, I understand, possibly Bernie Ecclestone as his retirement gift to himself from himself!

John Martin

Summit Motors

I called in on Summit last week, to find that all was calm, and Gary was in charge!
He was very keen to tell me that they were now designated as MG/Rover Specialists, to embrace modern MG/Rovers, or as I call them Honda/BMW MG/Rovers if you see what I mean.

They are also now known as X-part Dealers. Good news for Mike, Gary and the team, so racing does pay, and good news for owners of more recent MGs.

In this edition of the **Newsletter** I have provided you with a list of committee members, their rolls where appropriate, and a picture for recognition purposes only. (Most pics taken after the last committee meeting, hence the casual dress).

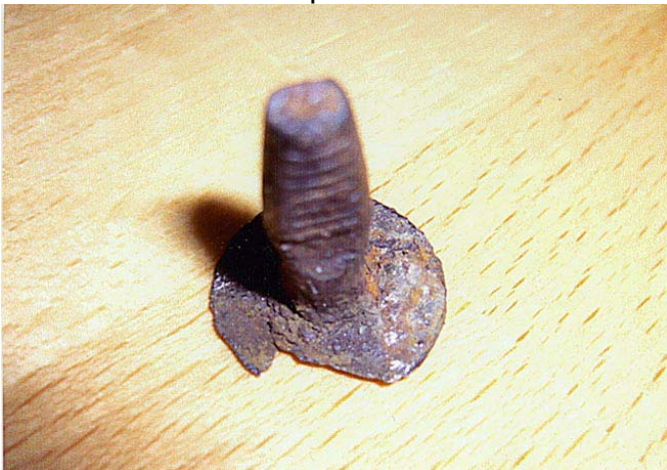
If you wish to e mail us then there is an easy link on the website www.wamgoc.org
Arf

A STUDED TYRE FOR WINTER MOTORING?

Prior to our Christmas trip to Ashbourne in Derbyshire in the Jag, I checked the tyres and found that there was certainly some slight variation from one to another, although one of the rear tyres appeared to be down to about 20lbs instead of the 32lbs that it should be. I inspected the tyre as far as one could see on the car, and checked it again a day or two later, prior to inflating them all to the correct pressure. With the tyres inflated, we set off on Christmas Day for Ashbourne, encountering relatively little traffic and a good journey for the 132 miles.

After enjoying a smashing (not literally!) Christmas with my splendid granddaughters, on the 27th we set off back to Lynbrook. A short while after starting, I noticed on the dual carriageway linking us to the M1, a very slight movement in the car, much like a sidewind. This disappeared in a very short space of time and I assume this, presumably, must have been the road surface or some outside influence. Having arrived home, I noticed the offside rear tyre, which is of the low-profile variety, appeared to be lacking in air.

As the car was going into my local garage, Prestwood Motors, for slight adjustment to the dipped headlight beams, I asked them to check all the tyres and make sure they were all inflated to the correct pressure.



On collecting the car later that day, I was presented with a large, flat-topped, roofing-type nail which had penetrated the middle of the treaded part of the tyre. Fortunately, as this part of the tyre was repairable, the necessary actions had been taken. I was, to say the least, most relieved that this was the happy outcome of what could have been an extremely inconvenient, not to say hazardous, situation which could have occurred.

Perhaps this is a rather more unusual Christmas story with a happy ending!

John Martin

...a..ry names names.

I was extremely well known to a great many members of the cargo departments of all the airlines at Heathrow. An unflattering anecdote naming an airline could not happily be followed by my name.

Pan Am ceased to exist several years ago but there are many of the ex staff still about Heathrow and other airports. If by accident one of them came across a copy of the WAMGOC report, (some of them were into MGs) they might not be pleased to note a derogative article, naming Pan Am about a past event. On the other hand, if Pan Am is not identified and it was read by an ex member, he could secretly smile about a piece of little known history.

I have adjusted the wording to avoid any unwanted reaction (however unlikely) and would ask went the time comes, if you would substitute the following for that which was previously sent.

HEATHROW ACCOMMODATION

During the period at Heathrow prior to the building of the Cargo Area, office and warehouse space was in very short supply. As each new shed or office block was completed and the tenant took possession, the unit that had been vacated, was occupied by a new desperate tenant within days, if not hours.

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In the late 1960s B.O.A.C. being the National Carrier were the first to move into new larger premises. This move triggered a domino affect with the next largest carrier taking the vacated premises, then the next largest taking that one and so on across the airport. Another airline moved into the vacated B.O.A.C. shed in a great hurry. There was an immense amount of equipment and furniture to move in addition to all the import cargo awaiting collection.

Off duty staff, had been called in to help speed the move and by mid afternoon signs of fatigue were quite pronounced, so a brief halt was called for mugs of tea to be consumed. All present pulled forward sundry boxes on which to sit but there was nowhere to place the mugs. A bit of enterprise on someone's part located a heavy cardboard drum about 18 inches across and about two foot six high. This was placed in the centre of the group and the lid of a packing case was fixed on top. When the lads resumed the work, this 'table' remained in position.

That tenant airline remained in that warehouse for several years and the "table" served the staff well for all of that time. When at last the airline moved to their final shed in the new Cargo Area, almost the last items to be removed from the warehouse were the lid of a packing case and a heavy cardboard drum about 18 inches across.

Cricket St Thomas.

You should by now be aware that MGs are to invade Somerset in May. Quite by accident Angela had a weekend break there two weeks ago.

"It was better than I expected" she said.

A better contact if you wish to go is Honor , 0146030111 Mondays and Fridays 9 – 5, Tues, Wed,Thurs, 9 – 3. Talk to Angela for details.

Genuine extracts from letters of complaint received by various councils.

I wish to report that tiles are missing from the outside toilet roof I think it was bad wind the other night that blew them off.

My lavatory seat is cracked, where do I stand?

I am writing on behalf of my sink, which is coming away from the wall.

Will you please send someone to mend the garden path. My wife tripped and fell on it yesterday and now she is pregnant.

I request permission to remove my drawers in the kitchen 50% of the walls are damp, 50% have crumbling plaster and 50% are plain filthy.

It's the dog's mess that I find hard to swallow.

I want some repairs done to my cooker as it has backfired and burnt my knob off.

I wish to complain that my father hurt his ankle very badly when he put his foot in the hole in his back passage.

And their 18 year old son is continually banging his balls against my fence. Tapner Snr.

Technical Support

Quite a few years ago it was agreed that a "technical book" should be put together, with the aim of providing help to members who have problems, or wish to carryout servicing and repairs on their MGs.

This sounds a fine idea, but in real life it didn't work out. Firstly it became clear that a huge amount of information was available from the three Club Magazines, and that it would take a massive amount of effort to convert this data into a useful form.

I inherited the roll of keeping this "book" when I joined the committee last year, and while I have so far failed to actually take possession of the "book", I have not had any request for help following this route.

The usual route within the club is where possible to identify a member who has the same model, and/or has experienced the problem first hand. This approach yields good results when troubleshooting, or for simple mechanical operations.

If this or reading an article in a mag, once you have found it, does not help, then I suggest you do what I do and ask Summit.

They have all the data on parts and settings, instruments to measure things etc., and they have almost certainly seen it before.

Nothing is simple with old MGs, so getting the correct advice and the right parts is vital. Whether you do it yourself, or ask them to do it for you is an easier decision to make when you have a real idea of what is involved. Finally Summit are on your side, they advise you with your interest at heart, not their profit.

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