

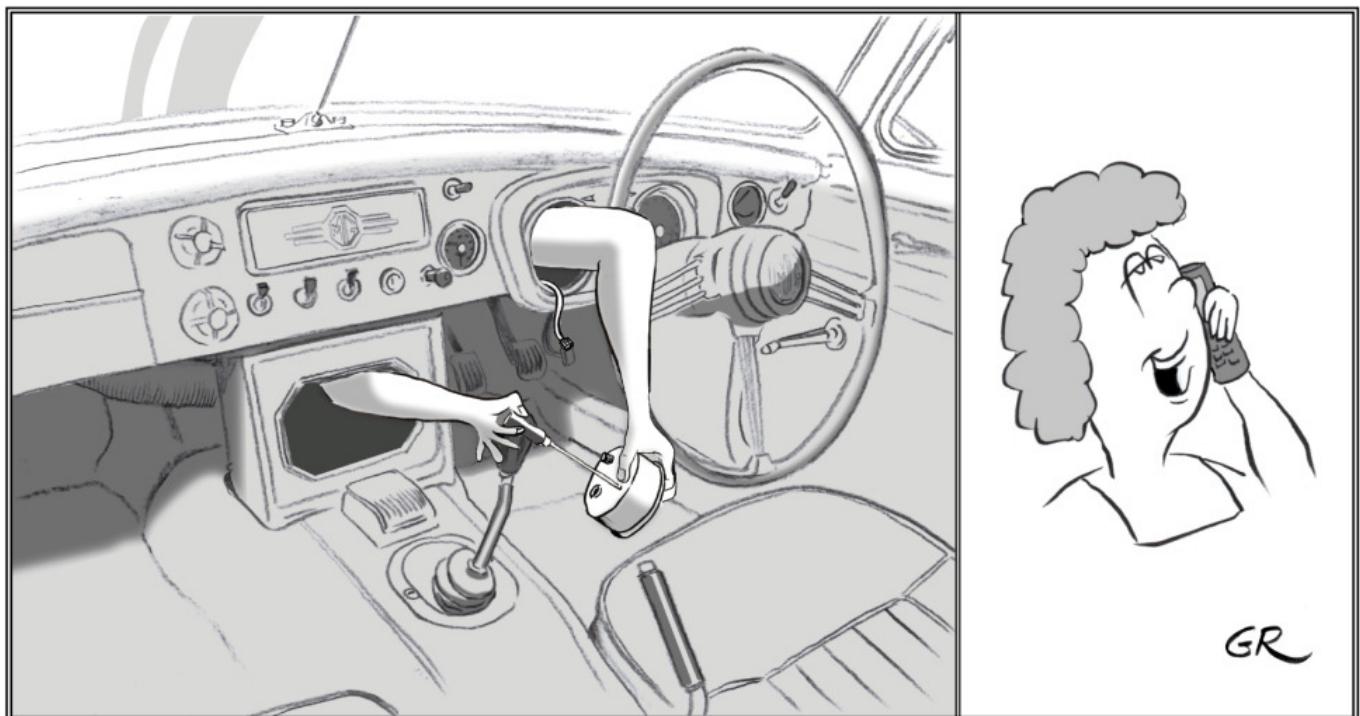
# ARDEN MG CLUB



## Newsletter June 2021

Hello All

Let's start with a cartoon from Graham. This is topical for me and quite close to reality. To get the fuel gauge to work on my car I have replaced the voltage stabiliser and to get at it I removed the rev counter and fed my arm through the hole!!



Terry can't get to the phone - he's doing a tricky bit re-wiring the MGB

### Reports:

It was good to be back at the Golden Cross for a Club Night and we were lucky with the weather and sat outside in the garden and thanks to everyone for sticking to the COVID rules with wearing masks and keeping to the tables of 6. It's a shame we are limited to a group of 30, however we could have had a second group but there was not enough demand. Part way through the evening we had a move round and a pair at each table moved onto another table to allow us to meet up with other people.



I was able to report (sat down of course) about the Run for the Lockdown opening of the British Motor Museum and 14 cars had the chance of a 'Run Out' and it was a fine sight with us lined up at the front of the Museum. Although the Museum was open for business quite a few decided to stay outside and socialise and the few showers didn't dampen the spirits too much for the picnics. Anyway we kept up the tradition of visiting the Museum for their opening.

## **Future Events:**

**Club Night – Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> July:** The Show Night originally planned for this evening has been postponed until next month due to the announcement that the COVID restrictions were not going to be eased on 21<sup>st</sup> June (being limited to 30 people, therefore only 15 cars would be somewhat under whelming). The Club Night will now be an 'Outside' meeting again (subject to weather conditions and availability in the restaurant) and limited to 30 people, however we can have a second separate group if there is sufficient interest, to date I have 24 booked for the evening. The idea of moving a pair around the tables worked well last month, so we will do this again and maybe more than once, what do you think?

**BMC & Leyland Show at BMM Gaydon – Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> July:** We have a reserved space for us to display our cars at the front of the Museum, in a prime spot and so far I have 12 cars booked, so will be able to accept more if you are interested. You will have access to the Show, the Museum and the Collections Centre and is usually a good day out. I will be getting the tickets on 25<sup>th</sup> June, to allow for distribution, so last day to book is Thursday 24<sup>th</sup>.



**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> July – Aunt Sally Lunch:** Trevor has arranged this for us at the Balscot Pub and will include enjoying a basket lunch. If you don't know what 'Aunt Sally' is then come along and find out. We do need to pre-order the lunch but pay on the day. Lunch choices are: Chicken & Chips, Sausage & Chips and Scampi & Chips, cost is £7.00 per person. Starting at 1pm. Please book with Trevor ([ardenmgclubevents3@gmail.com](mailto:ardenmgclubevents3@gmail.com)) stating your meal choices.



**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> August – Show Night:** The rescheduled evening, same idea as previous years, give your MG a good clean & polish and we will display them all in the Orchard Car Park at the Golden Cross. Everyone has a voting slip and there are prizes to be won. If the restrictions are lifted as scheduled we should be able to fill the Orchard, so dust off the cobwebs and bring your MG for some light hearted fun in the sun.

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> August – Mad March Run:** Well of course this is the rescheduled run from March 2020, postponed due to several 'Lockdowns'!! The new end venue is the Happy Hereford's in Tysoe for lunch and will be a run from the Golden Cross through some good Warwickshire countryside. Lunch can be ordered on the day but booking with Trevor ([ardenmgclubevents3@gmail.com](mailto:ardenmgclubevents3@gmail.com)) is essential.

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> August - Chairman's Picnic:** This is the rescheduled date for the Chairman's Picnic. Mike and Jane have kindly invited us to have our Picnic in the garden of their 'New' house, which looks fantastic and they have a large garden so we can spread out. Mike has agreement with his neighbour for us to park our MGs in the Orchard that overlooks their garden, which will look great.

For the picnic, I think it will be better in these COVID times not to be sharing food, so please bring your own picnic for you to enjoy and please bring your own refreshments, however Jane has offered to provide tea & coffee.

I have set a run starting from the Golden Cross and meandering through the lanes for 28 miles. We will meet at the Cross from 11am and bacon rolls (£2.50) & tea/coffee (£1.00) will be available to purchase to sustain you for the run. We will therefore arrive in Chidswichham in good time for our picnic lunch. Of course the sun will be shining by then but some contingencies will be in place just in case it is not!!

Please let me know as soon as you can if you would like to join in the fun.

I have got about 18 cars booked and I will add the names on the website when I get a chance.



**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> September - Alan's Mystery Run:** Another run that was postponed last year was the 'Drive-it-Day' run and Alan is rearranging this for September, however the Stratford Golf Club may not be possible but there will be a lunch venue. Book the date in your diary/calendar, I have started a list for bookings, let me know if you want to join in.

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> September - Club Night:** Social evening at the Golden Cross.

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> September - Dorridge Day Classic Car Show:** We have been invited to join in this show, so let's give it a try. Trevor is taking the bookings ([ardenmgclubevents3@gmail.com](mailto:ardenmgclubevents3@gmail.com) ).

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> September - Cars at the SPA:** Trevor has a Club display at this relatively new show for us and it is located on the Pump Room Gardens in Leamington Spa. It is a charity event, so the organisers are asking for a donation of at least £10 per car, however it is only a small show, so Trevor needs bookings NOW ([ardenmgclubevents3@gmail.com](mailto:ardenmgclubevents3@gmail.com)), so he can reserve the correct space.

## **Other Events:**

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> July – Warwick Healey CC21:** I was contacted by the MGOC about this event (they had in turn been contacted by the Healey Club) to promote this event as it is local to us at the British Motor Museum in Gaydon. It is a gathering of all the Healey Clubs and partly celebrating the Launch of the Mark II Sprite but as this also coincides with the launch of the MG Midget (Mk I) there will be a dedicated parking area for the Midget. Gift Aid tickets will be valid but booking is advised as the capacity number has been reduced due to the COVID restrictions. If you are interested, go to the Museum website to book your car pass and ticket.

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> July – Joint Natter:** West Midlands Members meet up with the Wye Valley Crowd. The location is The Rose and Crown, Church Lane, Severn Stoke, WR8 9JQ, just off the A38 between Worcester and Upton on Severn. The parking is in the playing field behind the car park opposite the front of the pub.

***Please confirm attendance in advance with the organisers***

Janet & Peter Chapman 01684 833337

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

I have not seen anything suggesting this has been cancelled, so you might want to check before travelling.

## **Other Matters:**

I have received the following request from John Philps:

One of the problems with this Covid stuff is the lack of meeting up and chatting about common problems etc. I have a problem which maybe could be a question for the Newsletter. I was wondering if anyone in the club with a T or TF has had a problem with the lining of their hardtop coming adrift and what they had done about it. Would like to know what they did and/or if they found someone locally to fix it.

He will be at the July Club Night if you have any suggestions or drop me an email and I will forward to him.

Nick Godfrey has sent me details of a BGT for sale:  
A man in the village is selling the car below. He was thinking about £15k I think. Looks a nice car. I'm not sure about the white dash personally.

Could you ask if anyone in the club is interested?  
(The ad at the bottom is when he bought it about 6 years ago I think).



There are plenty more photos, so if you are interested contact Nick in the first instance ([sales@central-scanning.co.uk](mailto:sales@central-scanning.co.uk) ).

## **What Have You Done in your MG:**

An update from Dusty with the progress on his USA import MG TD:

It's fighting us every way! Two steps forward and one back. Why doesn't it realise that we are trying to return it to a presentable condition? Must miss the Arizona sunshine I guess. We were set to bring the body tub back from the spray shop on Monday but then read on Shipston facebook forum that a trailer and pickup had been stolen from a local farm. Yes you've guessed it, so a friend's horse box was pressed into service. Previously, while we had access we removed the gearbox and replaced the clutch as in our brief try-out up the drive it had been very vicious. At the same time the rubber bushes under it were replaced but something didn't seem quite correct. There was no anchorage for the gearbox nor for the prop-shaft cover, which had an odd bulge as if it had hit the U/J, and floorboards not supported properly but with lack of



garage space it meant the body had to go on the chassis. A look on various forums disclosed that there should be a cast location tag on the underside of the g/box, also a bracket to support the floor. Both missing. Now with the body on and the lower bulkhead bolted in place, the box had to come out for the recommended mods for a common fault and replacement of a new floor support bracket. Not so easy with the tub on. The gearbox should have a cast in tag that protrudes from the base with a hole through which is a small shaft. A U shaped bracket with a

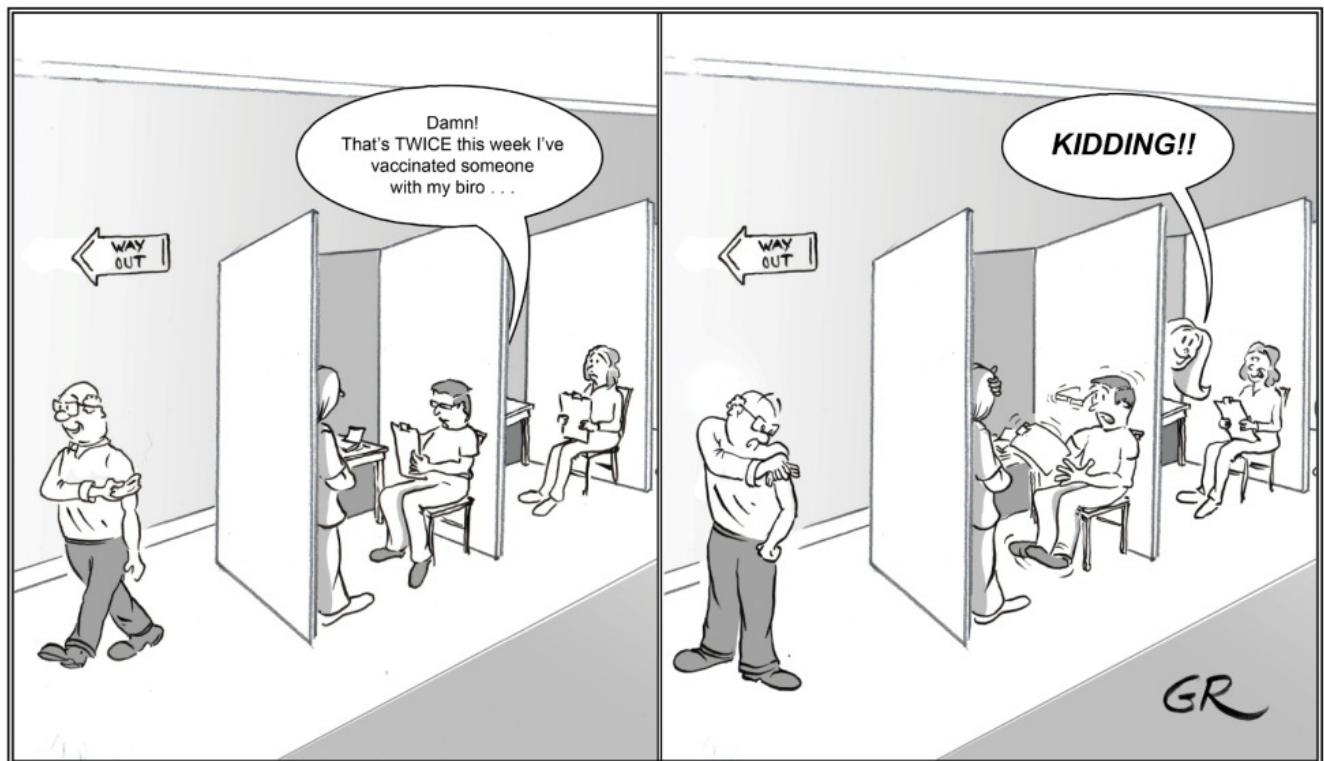
bolt going down through rubber mounts fixes to the mounting and to the chassis. This was all missing. It seems that the fracture of the tag is fairly commonplace as there were several remedies on TD forums. There are two more tags set at 90% to the original which we drilled to take a bar -tapped at each end - which could then be mated to replacement original spec parts. The fabricated mounting that holds all this and also supports the floor and prop shaft tunnel had been somewhat butchered and had to be replaced. The new wiring loom has been on order from the Octagon Club since November with no promises of a delivery date which is really holding up progress, as it will be easier to fit before the floors and the rest of the bodywork (still at the spray shop) is fitted. Brakes have been inspected and bled now that the pedal box is transferred left to right {hand drive} but the pedal movement is very stiff and doesn't readily return. - A weak spring in the Hydraulic pump perhaps? Another problem to overcome. In the meantime cleaned and refurbished parts are being re-fitted where possible together with a new fuel line and SU fuel pump - it had been fitted with an on-line pump and bits of rubber pipe under the floor protected by an old road sign!



A new RHD burr walnut dash has been made. I have enough veneer left for another one, should any member need it.

My 'B' is still not properly on the road again!! There is still fuel coming out of the float chamber overflow on the carbs!! I have changed the needle valves, the fuel pump back to the original, the floats and have installed a pressure regulator but still not fully solved.

To close we have another topical cartoon from Graham (he is thinking this might be the last of the COVID ones):



Stay safe, stay well

Paul