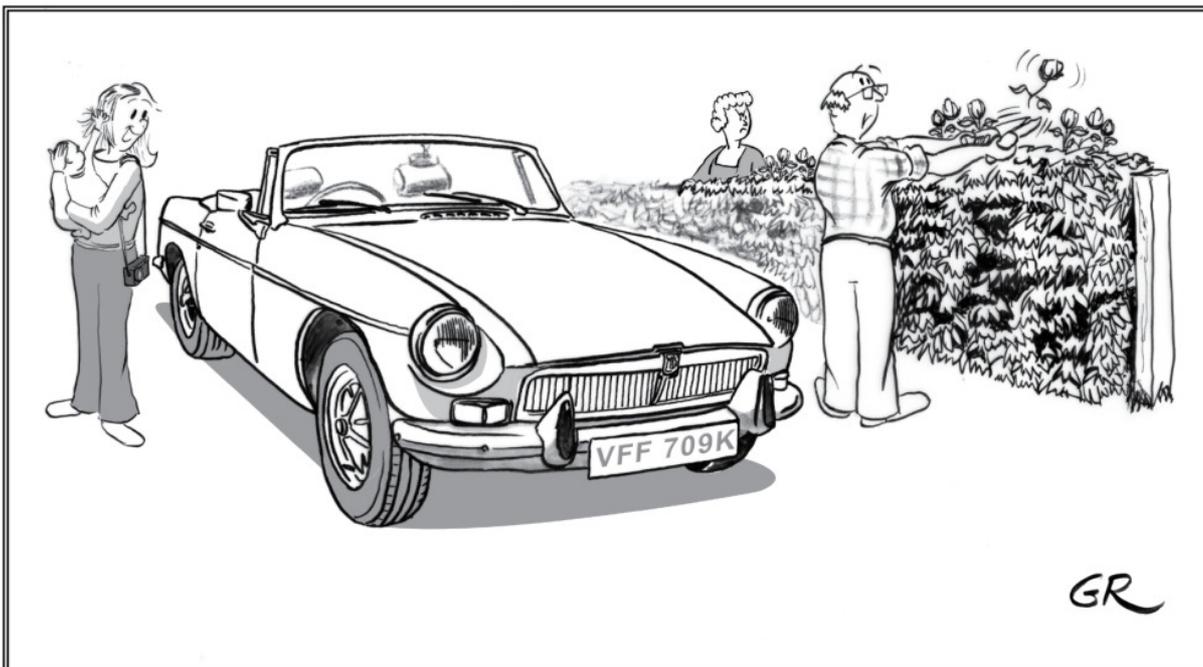


ARDEN CLUB



Newsletter July 2021

Hello All



I've taken one of those lovely "Baby in Grandad's MGB" pictures for the MG magazine.
..... you might want to wipe the seat



By pure coincidence I had taken this photo earlier today!!

Reports:

The Club Night was going to be an 'outside' meeting but Matt at the Cross was concerned that the weather forecast was not looking favourable for us, so he was kind enough to clear the bookings in the Restaurant to allow us to transfer inside but we still managed 29 people.

The British Motor Museum were able to hold their BMC & Leyland Show and we were again given the prime location just outside the Main entrance to the Museum, so thanks to Tom the Show's Manager for accommodating us there. We had plenty of space, so a couple of additional MGs joined us. It was a great show with both arenas full of display cars along with the upper car park, it must have been the largest gathering of Morris Marinas for a long time, to celebrate their 50th anniversary (I didn't think that many had survived!!). The sun was out making it a beautiful day.



Future Events:

Sunday 25th July – Aunt Sally Lunch - Butchers Arms, Shutford Road, Balscote OX15 6JQ:

Please arrive at 12:30pm. Situated midway between Stratford and Banbury, just off the A422. Please look out for the Parking Marshalls.

As an alternative to our popular skittles evenings this is the chance to do something completely different, that probably, nobody has had previous experience of.

Basically, you throw underarm, 6 wooden battens at a white object sat upon a steel ring from approx. 6m (18 feet for old school folk). There are 2 teams and whichever team knocks off the white dolly the most times over a set number of ends, wins.

There will be the Team Captain from this pubs Aunt Sally team to give tuition, guidance, whilst also acting as referee. This game is a bit unique to North Oxfordshire, and there is a strong inter pub league. They also have a Boules pit for those who may want to bring there own and have a game. Pre ordered basket meals are available at £7 each – Scampi & chips, Chicken & chips or Sausage & chips.

Tuesday 3rd 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. The restrictions have been lifted, so 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 8th August – Mad March Run - Happy Herefords:

Starting from the Golden Cross at 11am. A run through the lanes of Warwickshire, ending at the picturesque village of Tysoe. Still, plenty of places available.

Traditionally this has been in March, but of course Covid has turned most things upside down. And this is true for where we end our run. This I feel will be a unique dining experience that is under cover, but very Covid safe (they are a professional catering company).

Another benefit of this venue is that you can bring your own drink, free of charge, or even take an excellent pint of ale from the pub which is close by. It will be order and pay on the day. Meals at £10 or less, with desserts available also.

If you have not already booked in, please contact ardenmgclubevents3@gmail.com . Latest booking by 6th August please.

Sunday 22nd 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 Childswickham in good time for our picnic lunch. Of course the sun will be shining but some contingencies will be in place just in case it is not!!

I have got about 23 cars booked and all the names are listed on the 'Events 2021' page on the Club website, please check if you are there and if not let me know you would like to join us.



Sunday 5th 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 7th September - Club Night: Social evening at the Golden Cross.

Sunday 19th September - Dorridge Day Classic Car Show: Enjoy a day out at this classic car show and other attractions. We are hoping to have a stand to display our MGs. If you have not already booked in, please contact ardenmgclubevents3@gmail.com with your car Registration number. Please book in as soon as possible, so that they have an idea of numbers.



The Dorridge Day Classic Car Show is back again, so we are inviting owners with classic cars, lorries and bikes to display their vehicles. Dorridge Day, is a fun family day which attracts families from Dorridge, Knowle and the surrounding villages and is organised by Knowle and Dorridge Round Table annually.

19th September 2021
Sunday, @ Dorridge Park

Therefore if you have a **25 year old classic vehicle or older (pre-1997)** and are prepared to show it at Dorridge Day, register by sending us an email or sms with your details.

Details: Name, Make, Model, Year
Email: dorridgeday.classics@gmail.com
SMS: 07775 647 914




ROYAL LEAMINGTON SPA
CARS AT THE SPA
— CLASSIC CAR SHOW —

— 26TH SEPTEMBER 2021 —

SPONSORED BY
KIA **WARWICK** **NEWSLINE PR**

ROYAL PUMP ROOM GARDENS, ROYAL LEAMINGTON SPA
SUNDAY 26 SEPTEMBER 2021
FREE PUBLIC ENTRY 10.30AM TO 4.00PM

Organised by the Rotary Club of Royal Leamington Spa and supported by Leamington BID and British Motor Museum

Food & drink stands | Live entertainment | Picnic area
RAISING MONEY FOR LOCAL CHARITIES
Anyone wishing to enter a car should contact Cars at the Spa
www.carsatthespa.co.uk

Sunday 26th September - Cars at the SPA: Another classic car show which we hope to have a stand at. Parking in the heart of Leamington Spa at the bottom of the Parade. Look round the cars, go off shopping or enjoy a lunch as a picnic or visit the nearby food mall. Places are limited, only 200 cars total. Please book now by sending your car details and registration number.

ardenmgclubevents3@gmail.com is the place to send your booking. Please do so as soon as you know that you would like to go. Being a charity event, they would like a donation of £10 per car.

Other Events:

Saturday 11th September 2021 - The Hampton Ferry Car and Bike show: is now being advertised as follows:

Hampton Ferry, Evesham, WR11 4 BP.

11am till 4 pm Admission free for Classics others car park £2.00 all day.

There is always a great selection of vehicles including MGs and it does get very busy as the morning goes on and it's a narrow lane down to the river.

What Have You Done in your MG:

My 'B' is now back on the road again!! In last month's Newsletter there was still fuel coming out of the carb float chamber overflow despite having changed the needle valves, the fuel pump, the floats and installing a pressure regulator the problem was still not solved, so in desperation I put the original needles back in (into the new valve seats) and low and behold no leaking!!!! I took the car out for it's first proper trip to the BMC Show and have done several other trips and everything is fine (touch wood). Lets hope for some good weather for the Show Night. The work has not stopped there, I have ordered some more parts, to be continued next month.....



A cautionary tale from Graham:

What I did with my MG this month: Well, actually, it was LAST month, but who cares, eh? So, Open Air Motoring is what it is so often all about with an MG. Those of us to whom it is still applicable enjoy the wind-in-the-hair experience, whilst others just go with ear-flapping.

However, for quite a long time, Bumble has had the addition to the Open Top . . . the Seriously Shot Door Seal syndrome, resulting in wind in the hair AND . . . round your back and up your trouser leg.

“Really must get round to doing that” . . . so eventually a new roll of draught strip is purchased and The Big Day Comes. Started on the passenger side (it seemed the most courteous), which took about three quarters of an hour, then the driver’s side which, as one was by now an expert, about half an hour. Gone now are the days when the driver can glance nonchalantly across at the passenger door join by the footwell and see the world beyond.

Driving to Aston Cantlow a couple of days later I was very much disturbed by the feeling of a heavy metal object nudging the back of my clutch foot. Tentatively reaching down there was a split second of sheer horror at what appeared to be a vital and seriously structural part of Bumble’s anatomy no long connected to anything. Then I realized it was the hammer I’d forgotten to take out after completing the job.

You have all been warned!

And now the update you have all been waiting for from Trevor:

Restoration and Installation of a Ford 2litre Duratec into Our MGB – Part 6 Stormy days, Chilly cold fronts, despair and then Brilliant Sunshine.

I must apologise for the long delay in updating the Newsletter with progress on this project. But there is a very good reason for this – therapy, yes mental therapy. For the last six months I have been under a brilliant physician who specialises in treating people with Duratecitis. Because of my treatment, I can once again say Duratec engine and write it.

Stormy Days

The car sat there complete and ready to go to the rolling road, booked for 26th September 2020, or so I thought.

Although the engine is called a Ford 2 litre Duratec, it was designed by Mazda and is fitted to the MX5 MK3. It was the Mazda

engine that I chose to use because it had variable valve timing on the inlet cam. This gave it more power drivability and better fuel economy.

However, it soon became clear that there are many differences between the two engines when it came to all the 5 sensors required to give information to the Engine Management System. The trigger wheel on the crankshaft which tells the ECU everything is also very different. Needless to say, it was a long, frustrating and costly learning curve.

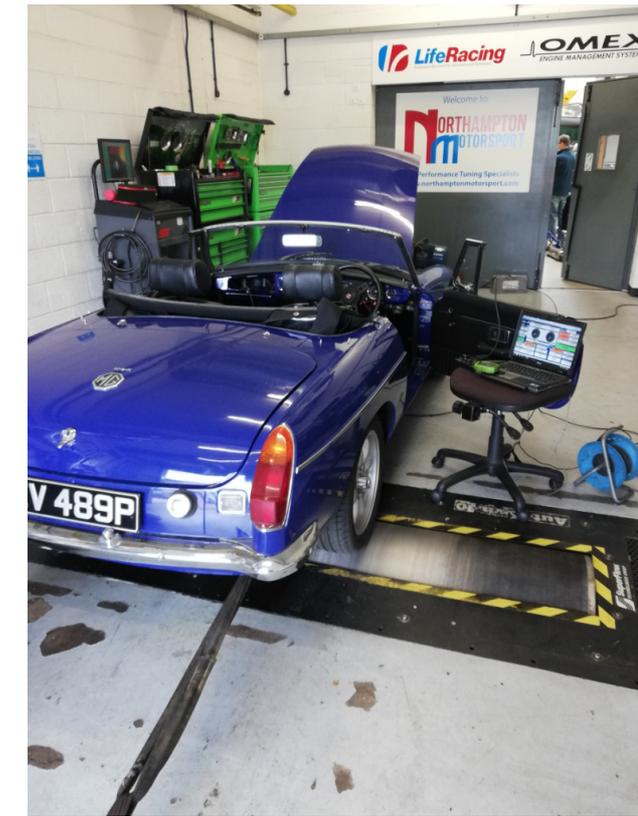
I was starting the engine for the first time, I was so excited I could hardly get the key in. I turned the key expecting the engine to roar into life, nothing, just engine spinning on starter motor. This was the beginning of the learning curve which lasted 2 months. (Anyone who would like to know why, please ask because I could bore you to tears and you would then also share my deep depression felt at this time, as I found out the hard way what every difference was).

Two Months Later

Enthusiasm had returned, (not by Angie or anyone else who would listen to my tale of woe). This was the day I was finally going to hear my MGB roar. Turned the key and had loud banging/flames coming out of the throttle bodies. The banging was so severe it dislodged years of dust from the timbers of my garage roof.



That's not right I thought, wiping the tears and dust from my eyes. After some adjustments, it did run – very badly. My son who was present, said don't worry Troy at the rolling road will sort it when he interrogates the ECU. I clung to this hopeful thought like a drowning man, as it turned out, clinging to a ton of lead.



September 26th, rolling road day, I was so excited I could hardly sleep. I took the B-Tech 200 on a trailer towed by my motorhome, as it would take at least 4 hours to map, and I could sit in comfort. I was sat like an expectant father waiting to hear news of my baby. This day had been 4 years in the making. Two hours passed and I had not heard a peep. At one point I had convinced myself that I could hear it, but it was a forklift truck at the premises next door, I was desperate. Curiosity got the better of me and I went to see what was happening. To my surprise it was running, and I thought it sounded OK, but no, we had a problem Troy informed me. One test he makes before stressing the engine at high revs is to check the exhaust temperature of each cylinder. Cylinders 1 and 3 were significantly lower than 2 and 4. He informed me that he thought the newly built engine had a mechanical problem, could be a compression failure on those two cylinders. He carried on seeing if he could be more specific. By this time 3 hours had passed at mega bucks per hour, and then it spewed engine oil all over the floor. Session stopped. We pushed it into the adjoining workshop to see if we could see where it was leaking. Found problem but was not an easy fix. So, 4 hours later, I was no closer to driving my creation on the road. As it turned out

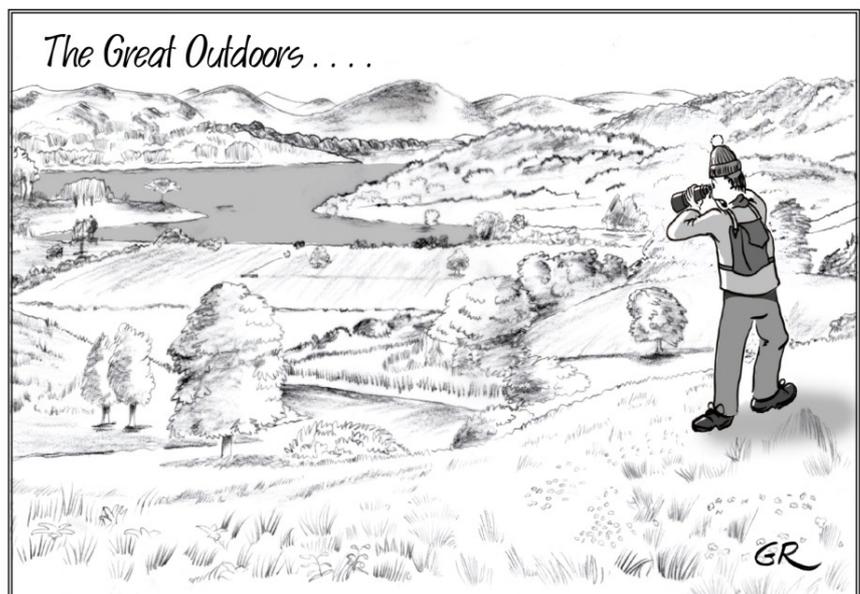
this was to be a long time in the future.

I am sure that they are making pages smaller, just like tins of chocolate at Christmas, as I was hoping to cover “chilly cold fronts” (Angie figures much in this) , “despair” and “brilliant sunshine” But I guess this will have to wait till next time!!!!!!

Stay Safe

Trevor and Angie.

We can't finish without another cartoon from Graham:



Stay safe, stay well

Paul

This is GREAT! Now, if I can just remember where I parked the the car

Proposed Events 2022

Date	Event	Organiser
01/01/22	Chilly Willy Run	Paul
24/04/22	Drive it Day	David Pitt
July	BMC & Leyland Show BMM	Paul
05/07/22	Show Night	Paul
Summer	Chairman's Picnic	Paul
Summer	Heritage Run Revisited	Paul
13/12/22	Xmas Meal	Paul