

# ARDEN CLUB



## Newsletter September 2021

Hello All

I'm sure some of you will have been wondering about the future for the Club and I can say that the recent situation has been resolved, however this has meant that one of our group has unfortunately felt it was necessary to remove himself from our database. This now means that we can revert to my original idea of getting more people involved with the organising of Club events, so I am now putting together a plan which will allow me to continue as the Club Chairman, this however is subject to agreement at the AGM in January. If anyone is interested in getting more involved with the running of the Club or would indeed like to become the Chairman, this is now the time to come forward and I will be more than happy to stand aside but equally if we can spread the workload around I would be prepared to continue as the Chairman, if that is agreed.

### Reports:

I have received reports that the Club Night went well with 39 people in attendance and that the weather was very good allowing people to stay outside and mingle amongst the cars, just as well as I also understand it was 'quite' warm in the room!!

David was kind enough to take the meeting in my absence (I've not had many holidays this year!!) and was able to report on Alan's Mystery Run, which was not a mystery by the time you started and a good day was had by one and all, this is the report from Alan & Liz:

"The Mystery run organised by Alan and Liz was held on Sunday 5th September. The only Mystery was that Alan and Liz had a problem where to end up as so many venues were not prepared to either cater for us all or were working to COVID rules! . In the end they managed to book Hillers new Garden Room at the cafe at Dunnington Heath Farm which worked out very well.

The run started at the Golden Cross and Matt opened up for coffee and bacon rolls for those wishing to indulge themselves.

The run went West and then south over the Avon at Fladbury before turning East through Pershore before going North



exploring many unexplored lanes and villages. In all the run covered 38.5 miles When we reached Hillers the cars lined up in the overflow car park, ideal for the occasion.

Hillers were prepared to offer meals from the full menu and service was excellent.

Alan and Liz organised a silly option quiz which was won with 8 points by Jill and John Philps. Alan Cleobury also had 8 points but was awarded a runners up prize as his was a cheeky team sheet!

Also awarded was a prize to Marg and Mick for their efforts in taking notice of the diversion signs that taxed Marg's brain to

the limit in recalculating the miles!!

A good day was had by all."

Thanks Alan & Liz for all the effort taken to arrange such a grand day out but hopefully this also illustrates that organising an event can be fun and there is plenty of help about to allow anyone to have a go.

At the run Norman took his usual selection of excellent photos which can be viewed at:

<http://normanlarge.com/ArdenMGAlanRun/>

Thanks Norman.

There were 2 other events since the last Newsletter, starting with the Show Night which was well attended considering the weather forecast for the evening and that due to the ongoing CoronaVirus situation we did not have the restaurant available to us. Despite the worsening conditions the girls (thanks Pam & Caroline) did a sterling job in collecting the voting slips and collating the results, which were:

Best Early MG - 2<sup>nd</sup> Runner Up: Graham Smith MGA Roadster, Runner Up: Paul Adams TC Midget and Winner: Mike Brown YT.

Best Modern MG - 2<sup>nd</sup> Runner Up: Steve Entwistle MGF, Runner Up: Peter Cooper MG Maestro Turbo and Winner: John Hale MG RV8.

Best MGB/C or Midget: 2<sup>nd</sup> Runner Up: Lex Browning MGC Roadster, Runner Up: Lech MG Midget and Winner: Colin Howes University Motors MGC GT.

Favourite Steering Wheel: Fred Bury MG Magnette.

Pot Luck: John Draper MGB Roadster (when he eventually remembered his registration number!!).

Thanks to everyone for coming and to Mike & Helen for the raffle.



Later than originally planned we had the Chairman's Picnic and although it didn't look to be promising weather, before we arrived at Mike & Jane's wonderful 'New' house the sun had appeared and we had a great afternoon enjoying the sunshine in their garden. There were lots of games to try but there was also some competition in the form of Boules, this took a bit longer than I expected, so the last rounds were curtailed but we managed to find a winning couple from the final rounds, well done Roger & Caroline.

Unbeknown to me, 'MG Friends' had arranged a

presentation to me in recognition of my 10 (plus) years as the Chairman of the Arden MG Club, this included a serenade by Graham on the balcony (most embarrassing, although very amusing) and a presentation of a photo collage. This was fantastic to receive, however the life-like resemblance of the caricature of me is scarily close to reality!! Of course they would not leave out the lady who puts up with all the time I spend on 'Arden MG Club business', so Caroline was presented with a lovely bouquet of flowers. Very grateful thanks to my MG Friends from both of us.



## Future Events:

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> October - Club Night:** Social evening at the Golden Cross. As the nights are now drawing in and the evenings are getting colder the meetings will now be indoors and we can revert to our normal start time of 7.30pm. I did suggest I was going to arrange a guest speaker and this has moved on to an external event but is not yet finalised, so more details soon.

**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November - Club Night:** Social evening at the Golden Cross

**Friday TBA November – Skittles Night:** At the Club Night David asked about the interest in having a skittles evening this year and it looked like there was sufficient interest, so I'm in the process of setting this up.

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

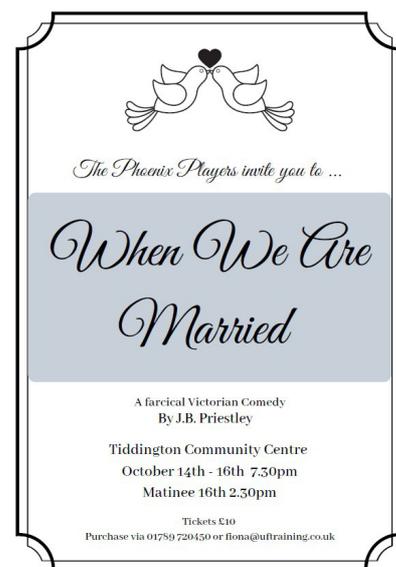
**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December – Xmas Meal**

## Other Events:

**Saturday 9th October - MGCC Social at British Motor Museum, Gaydon.**

**October 14th, 15th 16th - When We Are Married (J B Priestley):**

This is not a motoring event, however Graham & Fiona are our amateur Thespians and are very involved with the production of this play and we should support local ventures, so I make no apology for promoting it for them. It is at the Tiddington Community Centre at 7:30 plus a Matinée on the 16th at 2:30. Tickets £10:00 available from Fiona on 01789 720450 or [info@uftraining.co.uk](mailto:info@uftraining.co.uk)



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

Dusty has sent me an update on the progress with his MG TD Restoration; Well the TD is still fighting us but there is some progress - two steps forward one step back! But at least the car is at last recognisable as an MGTD.



The wiring loom is fitted and is being connected to the relevant components including the new walnut veneer dashboard. This is where we find out that the horn is broken and connectors on the back of the ignition switch don't quite match the book. The sidelights have now twin LEDs to include indicators while stand alone bullet shape rears fitted to the bumper brackets avoid drilling the bodywork.

The wheels are now back from the powder coating people in Banbury. Much of the work now to be done is fettling and fitting the interior trim, although the vinyl is quite usable the

hard panels that it was covering was some sort of thin wood grained chipboard that had disintegrated. Why is it that when things are replaced with identical shapes they don't fit? and talking of not fitting you'd think that the doors are off a totally different car. Lots of shimming to try to get them to line up but I fear they'll never be perfect. Next will be new seat coverings which are a rather unpleasant dark brown the book says beige! And then re-timing the ignition and hopefully starting the engine but that could be quite some weeks away.



Thanks Dusty, I'm sure all the hard work will be worth it when you get to the end and I'm looking forward to seeing the finished car.

Graham has been busy as usual with his Midget and sent this warning story:

After a patch of decent weather, uncertainty returned, so the roof went up on the Midget. Now, they're tricky enough to get into at the best of times, being 60% planning and 40% gravity, but having the roof up makes it even more of a challenge because the gravity aspect is removed from the equation.

Went somewhere recently and was aware after a while of the smell of "something hot". Nothing actually burst into flame. Got back into the car later and the same again – "something hot". Back to base and, on getting out of the car, clouted the cigarette lighter knob. They never were a good fit even when they were new (we made some of them), so it was a case of screwing it back on. Firmly. It was at about the "Firmly" point that two things happened simultaneously. ONE – the realisation that the cigarette lighter actually WORKED and the "something hot" smell must have been it working after I had clouted it . . . and TWO - the entirely new "something hot" smell was burning flesh where I was holding the base to tighten the knob up.

You have been warned, thanks for the advice Graham.

To close, Graham gets the last word again with another amusing cartoon (keep them coming Graham, thanks you). I think this was inspired by a conversation at the Cross!!



Made all the difference to Geoffrey having the new parabolics . . .

Stay safe, stay well

Paul

## Proposed Events 2022

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Organiser</b>
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