

April 2026



ARDEN CLUB

 ardenmgclub.co.uk/

 [Arden MG Club](#)

Arden Matters Newsletter April 2026

Editorial team David Pitt and Graham Robson. Please send contributions, 500 words maximum, for the newsletter by the 10th of the Month. Send to dpitt@btinternet.com



World War II saw thousands of American servicemen head to Great Britain and Europe as part of the war effort – during their time in the UK they came across the MG T Type sports cars and many took them home to America. Britain's export drive saw huge numbers and the USA became MG's most important export market.

Over 100,000 MGAs were produced, with almost 95,000 of these exported from the UK.

Picture taken from <https://www.mg.co.uk/mg-centenary>

Inside this issue:	
Breakfast meeting & club night speaker reports	2
March Madness run report	3
Club events list	4
Graham's cartoon time & NT Packwood House visit	5
Asparagus Festival & car parade	6
Aldon Motorsport offering	7
Regional review notes & message from David R & Dorridge Day flyer	8
New Tech Matters articles and another Graham's cartoon time	9
Tech Matters page	10

Breakfast Meeting March 2026 Report, by Paul

What lovely weather we had for the March Meeting with the sun making an appearance, although it was cold in the wind. It was great to see no less than 11 MGs were brought out to share the sunshine, with 2 MGAs, a couple of TFs & Midgets, an MG Z Magnette, a modern ZT and of course 3 MGBs.

20 of us, the best attendance this year so far, sat down for our breakfasts on the Gallery to enjoy lots of good conversations.

I raised the topic of completing the talk I didn't have time to finish at the Festive Lunch (The Rover Story) at the April meeting and there was strong agreement, so I will try and prepare this for that day. Hope to see lots of you there.



Club Night Guest Speaker Report, by Paul

For the March Club Night I had arranged a speaker, Ian Pogson, who had been to the Club previously to give a presentation about the MG TF for which he was involved with the engineering. This time he talked about his time in China after the collapse of MG Rover and subsequent take over by Nanning Automotive (NAIC) and very interesting and entertaining it was too. Ian showed some slides to explain the difficulties of communicating and understanding for 2 very different cultures, his final offerings were a couple of videos showing the standard they originally had when sending test cars to Alice Springs which were in a terrible state and not really safe to be driving, this would not have happened with a UK test vehicle! The contrast between MG Rover and NAIC was vast with the latter able to clear a large swamp area and layout a brand new purpose built factory, even though they installed all the original assembly track including a 'dog leg' installed at Longbridge to miss a support stanchion! The Ladies & anyone else were offered the chance to leave the room but none did and the feedback Ian said was positive.

After the talk we passed round a glass for donations which will go towards Ian's chosen charity (RNLI) and he has reported back stating he received over £74, so well done and thank you to everyone for their generosity.

Ian said that he enjoyed presenting his talk to us and would be happy to return in the future as he has several other topics which we might be interested in, such as: "a 'Chinese life' one, with more silly signs and photos of impending or past doom for hapless citizens. I can also regale folk with stories of how a car comes into being, or a canter through my career with the vehicles (e.g. MGRV8) and projects (such as Hams Hall BMW engine factory) with which I have been involved".

Sorry I forgot to take photos, I was too busy listening to what was being said!

March Madness Report Sunday 29th March, by Richard

Mick & Margy Walker took on the challenge to organise their first event for the Club.

We all assembled at The View for pre run drinks and lively chat with some 25 MG's spread around The View's carpark. The friendly staff at the View were very accommodating taking orders and then trying to deliver them to a very noisy packed room – not an easy task!



Mick gave us all an introduction to the 31 mile run to The Kings Head, Aston Cantlow and handed out extremely detailed run sheets – I don't think anyone could have got lost along the way.

The run took us along many unfamiliar country lanes skirting Kites Green, Lawsonford, Tanworth in Arden, Ullenhall, Great Alne and on to Aston Cantlow and the Kings Head.

The Kings Head looked after us well and served up lovely food.

David Smith had organised a motoring related quiz and Fiona and I attempted a 'feely bag' quiz, though some of the bags contents got destroyed through the heavy feeling – the poor chocolate Easter Bunny was just chocolate paste by the end – point learned for any future attempts. Eddie & Pam Hollier took the crown. The prize of a basket of easter Eggs was distributed around the room.

Well done and many thanks to Mick and Margy for organising a lovely and very successful event, which was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone!!!



Message from Mick and Margy

We just want to say how much we appreciated your kind words, ideas and support. We really are a 'nice bunch' aren't we...? Margy ❤️

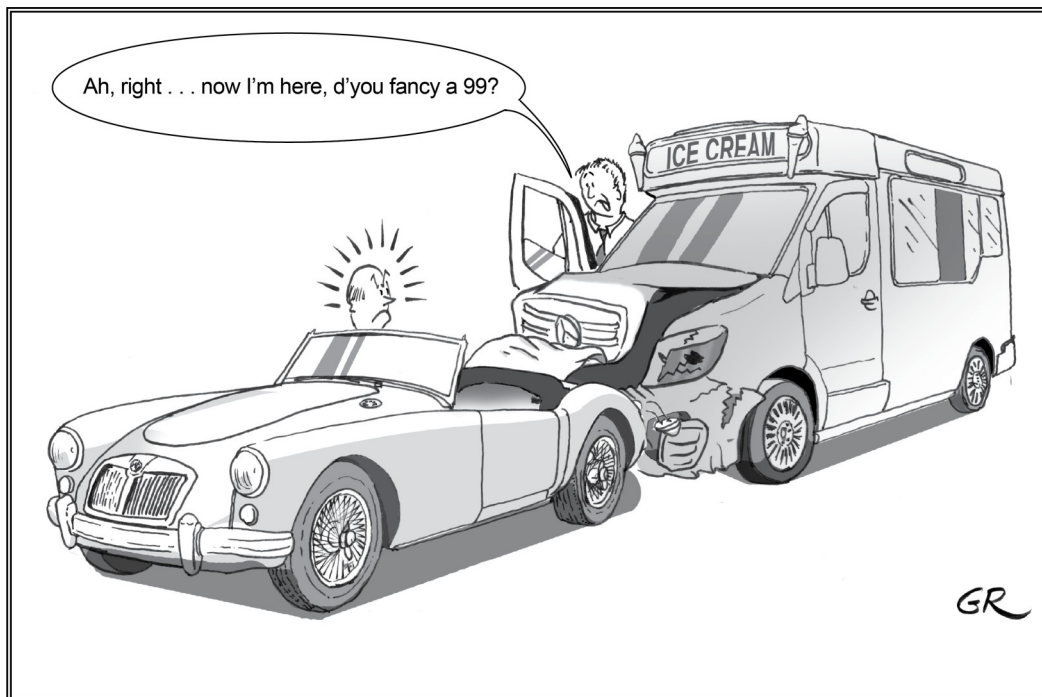
Club Events. What's on in 2026.

The table below shows Arden MG Club events that have an organiser plus any other local events which may be of interest but have no specific AMGC Organiser.

If anyone wishes to take responsibility for any of those other events listed for the Club, or have any other events they wish to organise, please contact me – Richard Avery rich.avery186@gmail.com

Date	Event	AMGC	Organiser/ Coordinator
Thu 23rd Apr	Asparagus Festival Launch at the Fleece Brettforton. See Page 6 for details	No	Paul Dunster
Sun 26 th Apr	Drive-It Day Run & Lunch Meeting at The Valley, Evesham ready to leave at 11:00	Yes	Nick & Philippa Godfrey
Sun 3 rd May	Stratford & Henley Classic Meet Durham Ox, Shrewley CV35 7AY	No	10.00 till 12.00 Just turn up
Mon 4 th May	Kineton Classic Meet – Sports & Social Club	No	16:30-18:30 Just turn up
Tue 5 th May	CLUB NIGHT – GOLDEN CROSS	Yes	Just turn up
Fri 8 th to Sun 10 th May	MG Car Club Y Type Register Spring Weekend – Wroxton, Banbury	No	Mick & Jo Breare mgbreare@gmail.com
Tue 12 th May	Gaydon Gathering 2 nd Tuesday of the month 17:00 – 20:30	No	Book Free Tickets at Britishmotormuseum.co.uk Go to What's On then Gaydon Gathering
Tue 19 th May	BMM Breakfast Gathering—10.30	Yes	Just turn up
Sat/Sun 23-24 th May	Stratford-upon-Avon Festival of Motoring	No	Register car at stratforduponavonbid.co.uk
Mon 1 st June	Kineton Classic Meet – Sports & Social Club	No	18:00-20:00 Just turn up
Tue 2 nd June	CLUB NIGHT – GOLDEN CROSS (Note—most people will be away on the Arden Adventures holiday)	Yes	Just turn up
Sun 7 th June	Stratford & Henley Classic Meet Durham Ox, Shrewley CV35 7AY	No	10.00 till 12.00 Just turn up
Tues 8 th June	Gaydon Gathering 2 nd Tuesday of the month 17:00 – 20:30	No	Book Free Tickets at Britishmotormuseum.co.uk Go to What's On then Gaydon Gathering
Mon 15 th June	Visit to National Trust - Packwood House See Page 5	Yes	David Smith davandali@hotmail.co.uk
Tue 16 th June	BMM Breakfast Gathering—10.30	Yes	Just turn up
Sun 21 st June	Ragley Hall – Father's Day Motor Show	Not currently	Book Tickets at Classicshows.org Displaying £5.91 Driver + 1 or £15/person on the day

Graham's Cartoon Time



Visit to National Trust - Packwood House, Monday 15th June



David Smith has been trying to plan a Club visit to Packwood House for a while, where he is a volunteer, but it has been complicated by significant staff changes. He has now arranged a date for us as Monday 15th of June.

There is plenty of parking, a very good café and areas for picnics.

- There is no charge for NT members
- Non Members are £18 on the day (or £17 if there a 15 or more booked & paid in advance)
- David will give guided walks around the outside of the building at 10:00; 11:30 & 1:00 pm
- There will the opportunity for at least one specialist Tapestry tour/talk
- Also, the possibility of a Garden tour, though David has no influence over the garden team.
- Entrance to the House is by Timed Tickets, issued at the Ticket Office on the day – they'll be no preference given to the Club over the general public.
- The volunteers in the house on the day will be those that are good friends and colleagues to David.

I am planning to organise a short run from The View to Packwood House so we can make a grand arrival at Packwood House.

If you would like to join the visit please email David at davandali@hotmail.co.uk and copy to me at rich.avery186@gmail.com indicating if you are a National Trust Member or not.

Thank You,

Richard Avery

Asparagus Festival Launch at the Fleece Bretforton, by Paul

The Landlord at the Fleece has sent the following information. In the past the timetable has been a little fluid but this is the first time they have sent details, so it looks more promising:

We're sticking to a much more local event this year, to celebrate both the Fleece Inn and the National Trust winning tourism awards in the recent Visit Worcestershire finals.

Draft Running Order 23rd

9am Cars arrive and breakfast rolls served until approx. 9.30am

9.10 Nigel – Welcome

9.15 / 9.30 Bret School

9.35 Mayor tbc, followed by ode

9.40 Pebworth & Asum Gras dance

9.50 Billy & Trudy perform a couple of songs

10 Pebworth & Asum Gras dance

10.10 Car Parade out of Fleece waved off by school children

Treasure hunt with final destination of Croome Park

11.45 Light early lunch at Croome Park cafe

Entry to Croome park for participants at reduced or f.o.c. rate – to be confirmed

I very much hope this will be of interest to your members

Please note these timings are draft and the event may start slightly earlier. I will confirm asap.

There is usually tea & coffee to make yourself in the barn and the breakfast rolls usually contain some asparagus and pork or bacon and are complimentary. At some point the bar is usually open as well.

Please let me (paul.dunster@talktalk.net) know as soon as possible with a copy to Richard (rich.avery186@gmail.com) if you want to take part, so I can let the Landlord know the numbers he will be catering for, it's usually good fun. At present I have half a dozen cars, so plenty of space available.



Aldon Motorsport Offering, by Mike G



For those at the March Madness Run—and what a run it was— you'll remember a plug by Kerry for Aldon Motorsport <https://www.aldonauto.co.uk/> , a company now owned by her husband Julian Crossley. We've known him for a number of years as an Engineer and Classic Car Racer - Mini Cooper S, A30, Jowett Javelin and Jowett Jupiter - Donnington, Silverstone, Goodwood and Le Mans Classic etc.

Having bought Aldon Motorsport last year from its founder, Alan Goodwin, Julian also bought a 1960 Aston Martin DB4 Project car from Bangers & Cash. He has engaged with young aspiring student engineers, to restore it.

I mailed Julian to follow up on Kerry's pitch and his reply is below is self explanatory. Whilst we can't make Goodwood, he may be at the Donnington Classic, in which case, having contacted his GM Paul, I'll have a chat about what's next.

Finally, some of you will know that Aldon were one of the first operators in the region to offer Rolling Road tuning - decades ago. In fact in 1986 they built the Ford Kent Race Engine for the Westfield (Pre-Litigation Narrow Body) we bought in 2004 (but could hardly fit in). They also tinkered with the V8 B Roadster I bought from Fred in 2012 and by fitting one of their own ignition systems, it thankfully reduced the V8 rumble on the overrun - to the delight of the local farmers and their livestock

Julian's reply:

"Hello Mike,

Nice to hear from you again. Thank you for your offer of promoting Aldon within the AMGC. Any help getting the name back out there is always gratefully appreciated.

We have held a couple of open days at Aldon recently for car clubs, including the MG owners club where members can bring their cars along for the day. We do a quick power run on the rolling road and some basic tweaking if necessary. We provide the refreshments and everyone gets to compare notes and dare I say a little friendly rivalry creeps in between the owners. These days do seem to go down well, and we often get to resolve a few gremlins for the owners if not always on the day but sometimes with a booking thereafter.

If this is something the Arden group would be interested in either, please contact Paul our General Manager who would be delighted to provide you further details.

We're only too happy to support MG owners with technical advice or servicing / repairs/ performance upgrades on their MGs. British Classics are very much our forte, again please let us know how we can help. Perhaps it may be an idea if I dropped into one of your club meets one evening to introduce Aldon and perhaps go from there.

Incidentally, if you happen to be going to the Goodwood Members Meeting later in April, please come and say hello, we'll be in the paddock with the Jowett Jupiter competing in the Peter Collins Trophy."

Regional Review that would have gone in the latest edition of Enjoying MG if the appointed officer of the Arden MG HAD REMEMBERED in time . . .

This comes from Cornwall where there is some sunshine but also blustery winds. The latter brings about its own issues, of course, known to us all: SAND in your Important Little Places. Not only at risk are the lesser areas, like toes, eyelids, nostrils, private parts, sausage rolls, children . . . but the far more IMPORTANT ones. Yes, dear reader – we're talking about brake calipers, steering joints, door hinges, bearings of all denominations. There are also those charming little Cornish lanes, where you can't see over the top of the hedges in an ordinary car, so there's no bloody 'ope in your Classic MG. PLUS the risk of SCRATCHING THE PAINTWORK.

To those in the know, there is, actually, an additional sign on the southern reaches of the A30 shortly after the one that says "Welcome to Cornwall" that says "Classic Cars – Turn Back Now!".

As if that wasn't enough. Anybody familiar with staying in rental properties on the Cornish Coast will also be aware of the other common enemy: Sea Air. Hinges, door locks, window latches - any exposed item made of anything other than stainless steel, brass or gold is doomed to oxidation. You can see a rusty old tractor on a farm and think "that'd be an interesting thing to restore" and discover it's about four years old.

There is another side to this; just spotted a chap over the road who has come FULLY PREPARED for Anything the Cornish Elements can sling at him. Smugly, he's got a Land Rover Discovery on a nice new plate. Unfortunately for him I just caught him as he'd worked out how to pop the bonnet and was furtively running his fingers from side to side under the edge desperately trying to work out how the hell to open it the rest of the way.



Message from David R

Haselor Church are having their very popular annual plant sale on Saturday 9th MAY , between 10.30 & 12.30.

Held in Walcote (B49 6LZ), this event is very popular because of the huge array of plants, at very reasonable prices. Be early as this sale is very popular.

For further information, contact me on: davidnrayner@gmail.com



Dorridge Day flyer from Knowle and Dorridge Round Table



Dorridge Day

Classic Car Show

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.

6th September 2026
Sunday, @ Dorridge Park

Therefore if you have a **25 year old classic vehicle** or older (pre-2002) and are prepared to show it at Dorridge Day, register your interest by sending us an email.

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

New MGB Articles Now Published in the Tech Matters Page of our Website

Nick Godfrey recently visited Frontline Developments and met John Howard who has had articles published in the EMG magazine. We have permission from MGOC to use these articles in our Tech Matters page of our website. More details on Page 10.

Below are images of parts of these so that you know what to look for. They cover the following:

- Fitting daylight running lights.
- Quieten down MGB tappets.
- Updating MGB heater with MGOC kit.

DAYLIGHT RUNNING LIGHTS
John Howard

Some folk view this as an annoying task... but it's a simple job that can be done in an afternoon.

QUIETEN DOWN!
John Howard

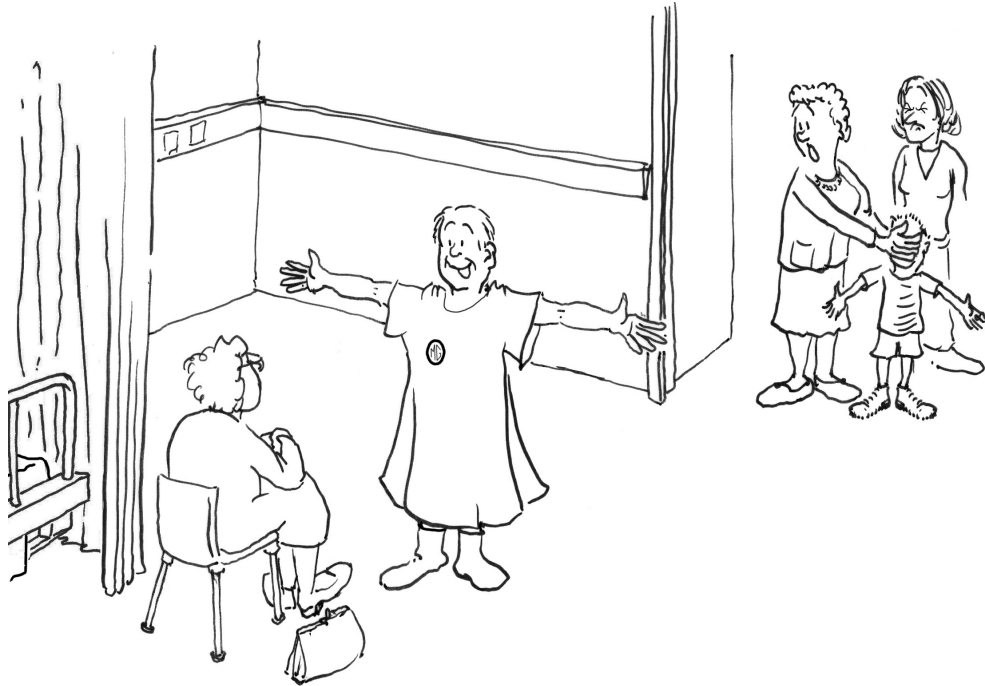
Anyone trying to rid their engine of the clacking valve gear of an MGB will probably have installed a cast aluminium rocker cover and, whilst these adjusted the tappets to the correct gap using the well-known sum of nine rule - adjust 1 whilst 8 is down and so on.

UPDATING MGB HEATER WITH MGOC KIT
John Howard, MGB owner since 1971

First tip: obtain rubber gasket kit and the twin barrel rubber block. It's unlikely originals can be salvaged if they are older than 10 years.

Another Graham's Cartoon Time!

A discussion recently among some MG folk brought about the unlikely conversational gambit "who wears pyjamas?" . . . and then the idea came about that perhaps MGOC could sell monogrammed ones . . . and THEN, for some reason (age, presumably), the idea descended into the horrors of hospital gowns and their associated exposure. So the caption for this cartoon is "so how does my new MGOC monogrammed look?"



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Articles kindly written and shared by members.

- [If At First You Don't Succeed](#)
 - [Modifying an MGB with a Mazda Duratec engine](#)
- [MGB Parabolic Springs Upgrade](#)
 - [Installing the Parabolic spring kit on an MGB](#)
- [Directory Of Services](#) **See example below**
 - [A Directory of suppliers and services recommended by members](#)
- [MGB Daylight Running Lights](#) **New April 2026**
 - [An MGOC article about daylight running lights on an MGB. Shared with permission from MGOC.](#)
- [MBG Quiter Tappets](#) **New April 2026**
 - [An MGOC article about quiter tappets on an MGB. Shared with permission from MGOC.](#)
- [MGB Heater Upgrade](#) **New April 2026**
 - [An MGOC article about upgrading the heater on an MGB. Shared with permission from MGOC.](#)



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Directory Of Services

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Arden MG Club, Directory of Services. V4 110925									
Trading name and personal contact, (latter not essential but useful)	Address & contact details, tel, email www.	Vehicle types eg MGs, all classics, moderns	Type of service						Proposer and Notes, (anonymous if you wish but would be useful to know who's used them)
			MOTs	Mechanical	Electrics	Body	Restoration	Parts	
A. C. F. Howell Chrome plating	Croft St, Walsall WS2 8JR 01922 649992	All					Yes		Colin H Specialists in nickle and chrome plating as well as other metal finishing
Aldon Automotive	Breener Ind. Est. Station Drive, Brierley Hill DYS 3JZ 01384 572553 www.aldonauto.co.uk	MG Midget MG B		Yes	Yes				Mike G Electronic ignition etc
Avon Auto Centre	95 High Street, Bidford, Warks, B50 4BD 01789 773363	All	Yes	Yes					Fred B
Bill Moore	Studley 07773 247730	**		Yes **					Steve F **SU specialist
CBH Fasteners	Unit 16 Bartleef Rd, Redditch B96 0DG 01527 500866 www.cbhfasteners.co.uk	All						Yes	Colin H Suppliers of nuts, bolts, fasteners, screws and tools
College Motors	Unit 4, Sturt Farm Ind. Est. Bluford, Oxon., OX18 4ET 01993 823560 www.rovermgspecialist.co.uk	MG Rover MG F, MG TF		Yes				Yes	Steve E
Compton Auto Repairs	01760 8684714	All				Yes **			Dusty M, 'excellent job, reasonable price' Paul A ** Accident repair specialist
Cotswold Motor Co.	Unit 5, Springfield Farm, Welford Rd. Long Marston, CV37 8RA 07514 698101 01789 720054, 07514 698101	All				Yes			Graham R, 'good spraying co.' Body, trim, paint, welding
Custom Coach Trimming Co. Chris	Unit 19, Honeybourne Airfield Trading Est. Evesham, WR11 7QF 01386 834454 www.customcoachtrimming.co.uk	All					Yes **		Martin P **Custom coach trimming.
Dave's Engineering Dave	Unit 3, Royal Victoria Works, Birmingham Road, Studley B80 7AS 01527 854968	All		Yes					Colin H Engineering services, rebores, head skimming, valve guide replacement, etc