

# Newbury



# Owners Club 1023

## NEWSLETTER NO. 339 – December 2022

### SECRETARY'S SUMMARY December 2022

Only a couple of activities this month but both well attended. The highlight of our club night was a quiz devised by Pauline and delivered by Trina. Certainly the questions were quite challenging and ranged far and wide. The other activity was our regular lunch bunch walk on this occasion around the Roman ruins of Calleva Atrebatum (Silchester) with its impressive amphitheatre, also a visit en route to the lovely St Mary's Church. Of course, ending up at the Calleva Arms for a feast of a lunch. Many thanks to Richard and Jenny for organising it all. Our Committee's main activity has been drawing up next year's programme which is now as complete as can be expected at this stage and all ready to be revealed new month.

### NEWBURY MGOC YEAR HIGHLIGHTS 2022

In October we had a club night to consider our 2023 programme, as an Introduction I briefly summarised 2022 activities. I thought this may be an appropriate place to share that with you.

It's been a year of change, a year of adjustment, a mixture of the new and the familiar. A year ago we were beginning to come out of Covid, a change from meeting via Zoom to a year when we could start to get together again in person, albeit cautiously with our Christmas dinner and home grown pantomime. In the earlier part of the year we were conscious that many people preferred to meet outside or in small groups so tried to accommodate this as much as possible, such as the Photo Competition. But now it's great to be more or less back to normal.

Some of the familiar activities included Shove MG, the BBQ at Bob and Carolyn's and Scuttles. Beauty was a theme of another club evening with an Avon demonstration for some indoors and Paul showing us how to put a special shine on our cars outdoors.

Lunch Bunch walks were always well attended, some of them back to familiar ground, but a couple of different versions such as the fascinating walk around Harwell, combining two activities such as visiting Manor Garage and walking around at partly urban route in Wantage. Finally, we combined combining a Midweek Meander with a Lunch Bunch Walk at Bradford on Avon.

Ordinary Midweek Meanders were also generally popular, such as to Pendon Museum, Bowood Woodland Gardens and St Cross Winchester.

One thing we did consciously try, was to have more evening and weekend events to hopefully be more inclusive towards those that still work examples were the Shakedown run to Burford, the Drive-it day down to the Goodwood Motor track, The Hovercraft event near Oxford, Newbury Races Evening and the Art Challenge on Hungerford Common. We also had evening drives out to Vernham Green and the Mayfly at Stockbridge, the Pete Allan Jazz concert and a What3Words mystery tour.

One of the highlights of the year was undoubtedly our Trip to Chinon with 8 cars, two of whom were from guest clubs. We were very lucky that the Chinon Classic coincided with our visit adding an extra dimension to the trip.

Of course we can't leave out the Queen's Jubilee celebrated at Pangbourne College with a Gazebo Gathering. We had another Gazebo Gathering in Newbury with one more to come in Thatcham. A couple of the more significant changes were that sadly Andy has had to stand down from the committee due to ill health, but we are so pleased that Brian has stepped forward to strengthen the committee. Andy of course edited both the newsletter and managed the website. We have split this into two with Carol Stone editing the Newsletter and Colin looking after the website with support from Gordon. The domain on which our website is hosted has also changed although you may not have noticed as the change was been seamlessly achieved while also saving us lots of money. We are, of course, enjoying another major change, with a new location and meeting date. We were sorry to leave Deanwood but are delighted to be able to meet in the Bowlers Arms beautiful new facilities.

*Kelvin*

## **Newbury MGOC Diary 2022**

**Full details for all events will be published in the Newsletter near event date.**

December		
Sat 10 Dec	Christmas Party	Committee
Tue 13 Dec	Club Night – Christmas jumpers, Drink and a Natter	Kelvin

## **EVENTS TO LOOK FORWARD TO IN December**

### ***Christmas Dinner - 10th December, 2022 - Deanwood Golf Club***

Just a few days away and a little over 30 of us will be getting together for our annual Christmas Dinner. As usual the club will offer you your first drink, so make sure you get your voucher as you arrive. This year we have engaged a Magician, Nick Saunders to provide us with entertainment throughout the evening, so look forward to some fantastic prestidigitation!!!

### ***Club Members' Meeting MONDAY 12<sup>th</sup> December (Please note the change of day and location)***

As we will just have had our Christmas Dinner event a couple of days before we thought we would just have a quiet drink and a chat at the Bowlers Arms. Nothing special and we won't even ask the staff to pull the divider across, just mingle with their other guests.

However if you feel brave enough, why not wear that naff Christmas pullover lurking in a draw somewhere. Just a thought for any club night! As the Bowlers Arms

offers a wide range of food, why not have a meal there before our meeting. Here is their menu

<http://www.thebowlersarms.co.uk/menus/>



## UPDATES ON RECENT EVENTS

### *Lunch Bunch Walk #172 – 24<sup>th</sup> November 2022, Calleva Atrebatum*

14 walkers (and one dog) turned out for the walk(s) around the Roman settlement of Calleva Atrebatum on a chilly but thankfully dry morning. The group split into two walks – a longer 4+ mile walk led by Richard and a shorter 3 mile walk led by Jenny. The majority took the longer route, but I did the shorter walk with Jenny and 3 others and although a local resident, was led around a side of the settlement that I had never walked before and have to say that



the walls on that side (south, I think) were far bigger and more imposing than those I had previously seen. We went to the remains of the impressive Roman amphitheatre and then on to the delightful church of St Mary the Virgin, before returning down the Drove to Silchester, where we were joined by 2 others for a good lunch in the Calleva arms. We arrived back there at about 1215 and the rain started at about 1230! Over lunch, it transpired that those who did the longer walk vowed to do the shorter one next time, as they were fed up with wading through

slushy mud, hacking through brambles and trying to avoid the attentions of over-friendly sheep. (Our walk was fine!)

Many thanks to Richard and Jenny for organising and leading the walk.

Brian T

## LOOKING FURTHER AHEAD



Over the last few years we have been to a lovely little hotel in Wales at Llanerchindda, that specialises in hosting classic car clubs and day tours in that part of the world. As

much as people enjoyed Llanerchindda, several members have expressed a wish for a bit of a change. A hotel called the Fat Lamb Inn located in Cumbria between the Lake District and the Yorkshire Dales near Kirby Stephen promises to offer something similar. Please follow this link <https://www.fatlamb.co.uk/car-clubs>. They offer a choice of over 50 different local trip suggestions of varying lengths. It is about 280 miles away, so we felt that given that distance and the fantastic opportunities to explore the surroundings, we should consider a 4 night stay.

Not surprisingly, they are starting to get rather booked up, so we have provisionally booked 3<sup>rd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> July at a cost of approximately £684 per couple for bed, breakfast and evening meal. If you are interested in coming you will need to pay £100 before Christmas. Please let Kelvin know if you are interested.

Finally a message from Brian Hay, who is finding it increasing difficult to write cards

***TO EVERYONE IN 1023***

***MERRY XMAS & HAPPY NEW***

***CHEERS TO YOU ALL.....BRIAN.***

***Future Newsletters***

Carol and Mike will have returned from Australia about the time this newsletter is published having greeted and know doubt having many cuddles with their grandson Arthur who featured in last month's newsletter. No doubt refreshed from their break Carol will again take up the reins as editor of our newsletter in January.

Echoing Brian's wishes to everyone in our club, have a great Christmas, new year, with many snippets of joy to remember.

Kelvin and the committee