

Newbury



Owners Club 1023

NEWSLETTER NO. 350 – November 2023

SECRETARY'S SUMMARY NOVEMBER 2023

Last month we reported on the MG Centenary at Beaulieu, which got a write-up in Auto Express magazine [Pictures of the Auto Express long-term MG4 Trophy Long Range in Volcano Orange | Auto Express](#). Although this article focused on the MG4 if you scroll down some of the photos you should find our crew with our flag and gazebo clearly visible. Whilst talking about magazine articles, we had two mentions in the October Enjoying MG. Roger got mentioned for getting a prize in the Epson MGOC Surrey Run prize draw and I got an article on fuel gauges published

As the weather is turning colder and wetter, our activities are winding down a bit, our thoughts are turning to next year's programme. Indeed our October members meeting focused on reviewing what people had enjoyed this year and brainstorming potential activities for next year. A few of our well loved and traditional events are already in the diary and two or three more with specific dates are also there. All our members should have received an email with a summary of our discussions as well as a draft programme for next year, with lots of gaps. Accompanying these was a letter inviting you to offer to organise an event or two including a suggestion that involved very little effort and a final commitment at short notice. Please give this some serious thought and let Pauline or any committee member know if you are prepared to help.

We were very fortunate with our Lunch Bunch Walk finding a fairly sunny and dry couple of hours before 10 of us lunched at the Queens Arms in East Garston, but more about this elsewhere.

Can I remind members that we have a couple of WhatsApp groups, one is more general/social with an opportunity to share interesting places you have been, amusing items you have come across etc. The other one has a technical bias where technical questions can be asked and useful information shared. Of course both have an MG/car flavour but not exclusively so. If you are interested in joining either group, let me know.

Finally, the November club night will be a Quiz Night ably led as usual by Pauline. Please consider bringing along a prize for our Christmas Dinner Raffle, the proceeds of which will go to this year's charity, Alzheimer's UK.

Kelvin

Newbury MGOC Diary 2023

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

November		
Mon 13 Nov	Club Night – Quiz	Pauline
Thu 23 Nov	Lunch Bunch Walk 183 – Cancelled	Trina
December		
Sat 9 Dec	Christmas Party	Committee
Mon 11 Dec	Club Night – bar chat	

EVENTS TO LOOK FORWARD TO IN NOVEMBER

CLUB NIGHT – 13TH NOVEMBER

Just to remind everybody that the annual Quiz will take place on Club Night this November. It will consist of two rounds of general knowledge, and a very easy special round. Look forward to seeing you there.

Pauline

LUNCH BUNCH WALK 183 - THURSDAY 23 NOVEMBER - CANCELLED

Unfortunately, I have had to cancel the next Lunch Bunch Walk due to take place on Thursday 23rd November. I am very sorry about this as our walks are always enjoyable and this year we have had a few different walks along with our usual country rambles. This would have been our last Lunch Bunch Walk this year as I anticipate that it would get a bit mixed up with Christmas celebrations just after Christmas

However, as I am always asking - if you have a walk tucked into your boots that would give us an outing I should be extremely glad to hear about it and slot it into the appropriate month, I think we may already have one - the Snowdrop Walk at Welford Park (I hope) We did it this year and it was so beautiful.

Look through your local maps, or not so local, footpath guides etc. and let me know.

Many thanks.

Trina

CHRISTMAS DINNER – SATURDAY 9TH DECEMBER, 2023

BOWLER'S ARMS - 7.30 pm for 8.00 pm

Quick Reminder about the Christmas Dinner. I hope you all got the invitation with the menu.

PLEASE can you let me know your menu choices ASAP if you would like to come – and we would very much like you to come and join us to celebrate our Club, a successful year and the Spirit of being together at Christmas.

So, make your choices ASAP and let me know ASAP but by 17th November, 2023 at the very latest, and we shall look forward to welcoming you on 9th December, at the bowler's Arms.

Can I also remind you about the Christmas Dinner Raffle. Donations, please at the next Cub meeting. Thank you.

Trina

UPDATE ON RECENT EVENTS

Lunch Bunch Walk 182 - Thursday 26th October

We were fortunate with the weather for this month's Lunch Bunch Walk given all the stormy weather recently; we had a warmish sunny morning. As we have managed to do on several occasions recently, we offered two walks both starting and finishing at the Queens Arms in East Garston.

Judith's village amble – was a circular walk of about 1.5 miles around the outskirts of East Garston village, then back through the centre visiting 10 points of interest on the way. Our 'select' ambling group enjoyed some historical facts, whilst locating some fascinating places along our route. We marvelled at 'Mask Cottage', built with Oak trees planted at the time of the Norman Conquest. In the 12th century church of All Saints, we discovered the ancient coffin bier which had been used for every village funeral, until the last person to use it, was its maker – the local carpenter and undertaker. Playing 'hunt the



Doomsday Plaque', we eventually found it virtually obliterated by an overgrown hedge. Lastly, we reconnected by chance, with the 'Gallopers' and took the opportunity to have the obligatory group photo in front of 'Corn Baggers' - a chocolate box thatched cottage, used in the film 'A Quiet Weekend'. Great company, ambling in beautiful autumn sunshine and enjoying discovering more about this 'hidden gem' of a village.



Kelvin's gallop – well not really a gallop, but a footpath running parallel to a racehorse gallop at one point. A similar route to Judith's but with a detour up onto East Garston Down, a round trip of 3 miles. Five of us chose this route and having left Judith's group, circumnavigated the village to the North following a path that traced an old railway, long since gone. We then turned North past the "Old School" until we reached a narrow footpath running by the side of the gallop. It was quite steep and the wet chalky surface made it a little slippery in places. Once we reached the top we had some beautiful views across the Downs in all directions. We then made an acute left turn and headed back taking a short-cut down a bank and ditch to walk around a planted field that obscured the official right of way. We soon found our original path cutting a swathe through a field of sweet corn. We picked up a farm track that climbed steeply up yielding some more views before descending back down to the village where we met the amblers returning from the church.

We were certainly all ready for lunch at the Queens Arms where we were joined by two more members for lunch, making 10 of us in all. The menu offered a deliciously wide choice of dishes, including several that seemed to be a lighter option, but turned out to still be a challenge to finish. I suspect many of us headed home looking forward to an afternoon nap.

Judith