

Newbury



**Owners
Club 1023**

NEWSLETTER NO. 362 – November 2024

SECRETARY'S SUMMARY NOVEMBER 2024

First an important notice. As many of you know, I announced a few months ago that I plan to resign from being secretary at the end of the year. I was pleased to announce at our October Club Night that Paul Atkin has agreed to take over from me. He will join the committee and will work alongside me for the rest of the year.

The October meeting was also an opportunity for members to let the committee know what went well or otherwise this year and to make suggestions for next year. So thank you all for your inputs. The following is a sort of annual report that I gave to at the meeting as a memory jogger and thought it worthwhile using as the base for my report this month.

As usual the year started with our traditional Pasta Bake night which was excellent in both quality and service that went some way in mitigating the lack of a traditional Christmas dinner on the menu of last year's final event hopefully to be rectified this year.

Lunch Bunch walks have been a challenge this year partly due to poor weather and lack of walk leaders. However, we had a few very well attended walks such as the Marlborough Blue Plaque walk.

Our Club nights as requested at last year's meeting have been a mixture of simple chat nights and specific actives such as Shove MG, a fantastic talk on traditional Coach horns, A treasure hunt along the Lambourn Valley and celebrating Penny and Barry's diamond wedding anniversary.

We have had a couple of interesting factory visits to the Bremont Watch Factory and to KWSP a company specialising in 3D printing and assembly of bespoke Super cars followed by a visit to the Silverstone Museum. These were much more interesting than one might have imagined compared to the traditional walk around noisy machines that none of us understand, so a big thanks to those that organised them.

We have had quite a variety of driving days out our traditional and much loved visits to properties such as Chedworth Roman Villa, Mottisfont and Great Chalfield NT properties as well as a visit to a small specialist Coffee business. Mike also arranged a visit to MGCC's facilities in Abingdon taking his beloved Bella MG back to her birthplace after 70 years, followed by a Tulip run to Nuffield house. We also had a very pleasant run to the Bush Inn for an evening meal which we ate outside on one of the few gorgeous summer evenings this year.

In terms of car shows we only officially attended three. The first was our Shake down run when we joined Winchester at the Rural Life Living Museum near Farnham. The Pangbourne Classic car show Run by our own Tom Cheney and the MG South East show at Brooklands. The latter was preceded by a run from the Bush Inn to Brooklands the previous day, there were 4 other starting points around the South East all ending up in the same place.

Finally 6 cars ventured over to the Isle of Man for the Best of British Festival of Motoring run by Scenic Car Tours which all thoroughly enjoyed.

Many thanks to everyone that contributed to making it such a varied and enjoyable year.

Kevin

Newbury MGOC Diary 2024

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

Date	Event	Organiser
November		
Sat & Sun 2/3	London to Brighton Veteran Car Run – give tips but members self organise	Members
Mon 11 Nov	Club Night - Quiz	Roger
Thu 28 Nov	Lunch Bunch Walk 194	Trina
December		
Sat 7 Dec	Christmas Dinner	All
Mon 9 Dec	Club Night – Chat and Naff Christmas Pullovers	All

EVENTS TO LOOK FORWARD TO IN NOVEMBER

CLUB NIGHT – MONDAY 11TH NOVEMBER

You will all be aware that Pauline has done the quiz for a number of years and was looking for a break. Roger has stepped in and will run it for this year at the November meeting. He hopes to start at 7.45pm. So please arrive early if possible, three rounds this year are promised.

LUNCH BUNCH WALK 194 – THURSDAY 28TH NOVEMBER

Something a little different this time. We meet at the parking for the Roman Mosaic at Littlecote House, Hungerford in time for a set off about 10.30am. After a visit to the Roman Villa we follow a flat, easy, farm track along the side of the River Kennet to Ramsbury where we can have lunch or snack at The Bell Pub. There are extensive views along the way until we reach the road, crossing the river and making our way up to the Pub in the centre of Ramsbury, arriving for its opening at noon.

We can then have lunch, either in the Café or Bar but we cannot unfortunately book a table so may not be able to sit together. The food is good. See menu at [Welcome to The Bell at Ramsbury](#). After lunch we can make our way back to Littlecote by either the same shorter, flat route or a longer one with a short climb, as folks prefer on the day.

Please let us know if you intend to join us.

Richard A and Peter W

LUNCH BUNCH WALKS - 2025

We have always had awesome walks organized by you. BUT, I do need some more of you to come forward with some ideas. Richard & Jenny have been magnificent with their offerings; and our pavement plods around Marlborough and Hungerford were different but interesting and good. Peter (W) and Jenny are organizing our last walk for this year on Thursday 28th November. Look out for details in the Newsletter.

But I do need some more ideas. Admittedly we are not walking as far as we did – 4 miles is good – 5 O.K.!!! I have looked back in the records, but they are mostly quite a bit longer.

So, PLEASE dig around in your boots! Unearth forgotten paths and let us enjoy them with you.

Trina

EVENTS TO LOOK FORWARD TO IN DECEMBER/JANUARY

CHRISTMAS DINNER – SATURDAY 14TH DECEMBER THE BOWLERS ARMS

Just to remind you the Christmas Dinner is as above and Kelvin has sent round the invitation and menu. Hooray - Christmas Fare this year!

Please can you let me know ASAP if you will be coming **and** send me your **menu choices**, as I have to let the Bowler's Arms know in advance.

I will have copies of the menu available **on Club night – Monday 11th November when Roger will be asking us to rack our brains to answer quiz questions.**

Trina

Christmas Party Menu 2024

To Start

Chicken Liver Pate with crusty bread and red onion chutney

Curried Parsnip Soup with crusty bread (v)

Filo Wrapped King Prawns with a sweet chilli dipping sauce

To Follow

Roast Turkey Breast served with all the festive trimmings

Slow Cooked Thai Beef Curry served with steamed rice and Thai Crackers

Vegan Sausage Casserole filled with winter root vegetables

Served with crusty bread (vg)

To Finish

Sticky Toffee Christmas Pudding

Chocolate Brownie Trifle

Crème Brûlée Tartlet with winter berries

2 courses £22.50

3 courses £29.00



JANUARY CLUB NIGHT – MONDAY 13TH JANUARY 2025

As has been our tradition for 'years' our first meeting of the year has been 'Lasagne Night'. This has now transformed into 'Pasta Night' and again we shall be indulging in a Pasta supper at the Bowler's Arms.

The menu this year is:

*Mediterranean chicken pasta bake in a tomato and herb sauce
or*

*Roasted vegetable pasta in tomato and herb sauce
including salad and garlic bread*

Other dietary requirements can be accommodated on request.

Cost to members yet to be decided!

Again, I shall need to know in advance if you will be attending so Bowler's Arms can provide. Perhaps you can let me know on the next club night in November. I will have a list!!

Trina

UPDATE ON RECENT EVENTS

STONEHENGE VISIT – SATURDAY 12TH OCTOBER

OK there was not a lot of notice given for our planned trip to Stonehenge as we were desperately looking for a window of good weather. This has proved to be a difficult challenge in the summer of 2024 and so it proved to be for this adventure. With four days to go we decided on the 12th October; the invitation email to all members was duly sent out thanks to Colin.



On the morning we both agreed that we had got it wrong as we set out from home at 10.00, guess what it was raining! We are made of tough stuff and our tickets were booked, so with rain gear in the boot we set out to drive the pretty route via Marlborough. When we arrived at the car park the rain changed from light drizzle to heavy rain so we sat in the car. However the call of nature was too great and I had to venture to the loo. At this point I discovered that I had brought the wrong coat!! Armed with a tiny umbrella we set off and the rain was kind it eased back and then stopped just too late to save me from some sharp criticism from “her in charge”

When we got back to the car a watery sun could be seen and Peter and Liz arrived followed shortly by Colin and Janet, our only friends for the day. Out came the chairs and lunch was taken. Then it was time to wander and visit the stones. A walk down to the visitors centre saw us getting issued with our wrist bands to ensure



smooth access to the bus. It was busy as it always is with loads of tourists from all over the world keen to experience the World Heritage site of Stonehenge. English was the least common language on the bus. Ten minutes takes us to the stones and we begin our slow walk round the site. The roped off walkway allows visitors to see the stones and get close to them without loads of people spoiling the view by leaning or worse climbing

on them. Cameras start clicking immediately we see them, but if you wait until you get to the other side the views open up and some wonderful pictures can be taken without getting loads of tourists as well, enabling the full majesty of the area to be experienced. Peter and Liz had to get back home so they left the four remaining to complete the walk round. On the far side there are a couple of photographic challenges. We tried a couple!!



Janet, Colin and Nicky set off back to go to the museum while I wandered around again. I love the place so much. We all met up over a cup of tea in the cafe before setting out for home, the weather had continued to improve so it was roof down for our drive the pretty route home.

A most enjoyable day out thanks for sharing it with us. Shall we go again next year?

Roger & Nicky

LUNCH BUNCH WALK 193 – THURSDAY 24TH OCTOBER

On a beautiful autumn morning 11 of us gathered at the Carpenter's Arms in Burghclere to begin our October Walk, around the lovely Hampshire countryside. Some of us, however, were not actually walking but visiting the Sandham Memorial Chapel opposite the pub. This Chapel is a fascinating Chapel and well worth a visit if you haven't been there. It has the most amazing mural and other features cherished by the National Trust.

The Walkers – two legged and two four-legged - set off. Andy had walked the walk the day or so before and it was 'reasonable'. We followed the footpath across the fields and through wooded areas and encountered some wonderful rural views over the countryside, which we stopped to admire; the autumn colours were awesome, all colours of green, yellow, red, orange it was lovely with blue sky overhead and sunshine, we were very lucky. We spied Watership Down and the Hannington Radio mast. We walked along the track that once held the Didcot to Southampton railway line, and went through a village called Sydmonton where Brian (T) grew up as a young boy. This was on a high embankment and we had to divert from the original path as a tree had inconveniently fallen across our way. This did not matter one jot Andy simply found another way. We arrived back at the pub having walked the Oxdrove – so names do stick and get transformed into permanency. We also had two chocolate legged dogs with us! as the 'reasonable' condition of the paths was a little questionable (sorry Andy) it was a trifle muddy and wet! But it was a great walk nonetheless. At the Carpenter's Arms we joined the Sandham Chapel mob and Peter and Avril joined us for a lovely lunch.

Thank you Andy and Angela for organizing this lovely walk and lovely weather. We have had to cancel a few walks this year because of the weather and ground conditions. Let's hope 2025 is a little less waterlogged!

Trina

OTHER MATTERS

Roger and Nicky are attending the charitable event below, which is a few months away. An email was sent recently, to see if any of our members were interested in attending. All the booking details are included below.



MG CST 2025

Mini-Reunion for Some!



In aid of Helping Homeless Veterans UK

YES!

You read that right; it's back, just this once 😊

You and MG Car, Friends, Family and all Classic Car enthusiasts are invited to experience another fun-filled weekend!

MG Owners Club Southern Regional Secretaries, Tim Hipwell and Nigel Knowles, cordially invite you to come and join us at the famous home of **To the Manor Born**, the Warner Cricket St Thomas Hotel, near the historic town of Chard, Somerset

Friday 23rd to Monday 26th May 2025

Quality, comfortable accommodation, access to leisure facilities, a host of activities, AND at a fantastic, discounted price! This special weekend of treats has been arranged for your enjoyment. Do as much - or as little - as you want.

A long relaxing weekend, with a huge programme of events laid on for you!

- First Night Bucks Fizz Reception
- Comfortable ensuite accommodation
- Full English or Continental Style Breakfast
- 3-Course Evening Dinner Fri/Saturday
- 'Dress For Dinner' Sunday (Black Tie optional)
- Fundraising Raffle
- Road Run Mystery Tours
- Fitness Centre, Swimming Pool
- Spa & Beauty Treatments
- Petanque (Boules) competition
- Welly Wanging competition
- Archery & Rifle Shooting
- Music, Live Band, Showtime
- Treasure Hunt

Only £269 p/person (Standard Room); £294 p/person (Signature Room).

Prices quoted are for two sharing a Walled Garden Room, Single Rooms Available.

Additional charge for Courtyard Rooms and those with Patios. Upgrades to Royale and Historic Rooms also available. Specific room number/location can be requested (and reserved), subject to availability. Please contact Sue with all requests (NOT Warners).

Deposit: £20 per room to secure booking. Balance due 20th February 2025.

Payable direct to Warner Hotels*

Enquiries and Full Details on How to Book available from:

Sue Fenton: 07715 450711 Email: susiemg@yahoo.com

Tim Hipwell: 07967 691010 Email: tim@hipwells.co.uk

Nigel Knowles: 01722 714381 Email: knonig@gmail.com



*Warner Insurance available to purchase at time of reservation

www.HHVUK.org | Charity No. 1195521