

Newbury



Owners Club 1023

NEWSLETTER NO. 365 – February 2025

SECRETARY'S SUMMARY FEBRUARY 2025

I would like to introduce myself as the New NMGOC secretary. I have been in the Motor trade for 52 years. Having owned and run garages in the past. I still work within the trade in a smaller capacity. This allows my interest on Cars in general to be satisfied, I have a wealth of knowledge on all makes and models old and new.

I started my career in the early seventies working on MG and Austin models, this would also include Austin Healy, Wolseley and Riley. The trade was very different in those days. Real repairs were carried out not just replacing parts.

My interest in MG still carries on after all these years, we have a 50-year-old MGB roadster, Blaze in colour. I like to keep my hands on and carry out all my own repairs. This includes bodywork. My wife and I are both very active, and hope to serve the club well.

For those members wishing to join the Basingstoke MG Club on their Cobweb Run on 27th April (a flyer for this event was in December's Newsletter) please find the registration form and further information on pages 8-10 of the newsletter.

Could I please remind all members that subs are now due.

Paul Atkin

CHARITABLE DONATIONS 2024

As a Club, we have supported the charities below, and in 2024 collected and donated the following amounts:

Myloma	£933.45 (In celebration of the life of Andy Wood)
Prostate	£360.00

Obituary

Brian Hay 1937 – 2025

It was sad to hear that longstanding member Brian had died on the 7th January 2025, at Basingstoke Hospital after a short illness, he was 87. He led an interesting life, which he often shared with us. He had been a bar owner, ice hockey player, speed skater, rally driver, rally navigator and worked in TV, among many other things.

Brian had been a member since 2004 we believe, and was very active for many years, joining in on many of the events organised for members. He was happy to drive on his own following others on the Tulip Routes. It was always a pleasure to have Brian behind you as he was a skilled driver in his little Red Midget and followed without being a nuisance and you were always confident he would be there. When the walks were introduced Brian, who was a keen walker, was happy to organise and lead these for us. Taking us to unknown areas and interesting pubs, from my records he contributed about 21 walks on our behalf. There were also numerous road runs. In latter years Jan Cover became his navigator and often assisted him in the organising of the tulip routes that were produced for us all to enjoy.



We recall that on his 70th birthday he organised an interesting Tulip Route for us in the local area for about 40 miles, finishing at the Jack Russell Pub in Facombe, a pub that we used for many years as the venue for our Christmas Party, the landlord here became a friend and put on a splendid buffet lunch to celebrate this milestone for Brian. There are lots of memories that come to mind with Brian. I recall that a number of us entered the New Forest Run which on this occasion started from the seafront in New Milton, in a car park next to a café. We arrived at about 10 o'clock in the most dreadful weather conditions only to be told that when the organisers arrived at 8.00 there was one car parked up in the corner, it was Brian goodness knows what time he had set out to be there so early, he would not let on!! We enjoyed a bacon sandwich and a steaming hot cup of tea before starting the run proper; yes the sun did break through.

He organised one of the most memorable road runs that the club has put on, taking us from our house to Stourhead in Wiltshire. The drive was about 80 miles through some wonderful scenery on Salisbury Plain using some truly wonderful roads, including a tank road used by the Army during exercises on the plain; this road is often closed but was accessible on our day. We all met up in the carpark and formed the circle before setting out to explore this fascinating location. I believe the last to leave were Mike and Carol along with Nicky and I at 6 p.m. a fabulous day. As a tribute to



Brian we will try and find the original route and invite you all to do it again. The BRIAN HAY MEMORIAL RUN, watch this space to see if it proves possible.

Last memory was the demonstration of his skills as a driver. We found a location in Oxford that had a number of Motor Racing Track Simulators about 8 I believe. This hi-tech system allowed you to select a track and the type of cars to drive and whether they should be automatic or manual transmission. We took the advice of the organiser for the cars and track and were offered the opportunity to select preferred type of transmission, their advice was go auto as the race is fast and furious, hence the majority drove auto but it was Brian who selected manual. Practice was exciting as it proved to be incredibly realistic driving the cars. In fact some could not handle it becoming disorientated. When the racing started it was brilliant fun, some of us struggled and quickly fell away from the lead but not Brian he was simply amazing fast and very smooth. It proved to be a wonderful experience, which was enjoyed by us for three years. Brian won twice but did not compete on the third occasion when Malcolm or his son Ed took the trophy. Sadly the venue closed due to Covid.

We will remember Brian as a supportive member of our club and good friend.

Roger

Newbury MGOC Diary 2025

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

Date	Event	Organiser
February		
Mon 10 Feb	Club Night - Shove MG	All
Sat 22 Feb	The Living Rain Forest - POSTPONED	All
March		
Fri 1 Mar*	Breakfast meet up date to be announced at short notice	Roger
Fri 7 Mar	Newbury College Lunch	Janet
Mon 10 Mar	Club Night – Chat	Kelvin
Thur 13 Mar	Army Flying Museum - Middle Wallop	Peter & Liz
Thu 27 Mar	^Lunch Bunch Walk	Trina

EVENTS TO LOOK FORWARD TO IN FEBRUARY

FEBRUARY CLUB NIGHT – MONDAY 10TH FEBRUARY

As already circulated, please may I remind you that Shove MG has been moved from March to our next club meeting on Monday 10th February.

As our MG is 50 years old (built at the end of 1974 but first registered in March 1975) Judith and I will be pleased to offer everyone a drink from the bar in celebration and “possibly” improve your MG aiming!!!

See you then.

Kelvin and Judith

POSTPONED - THE LIVING RAIN FOREST – SATURDAY 22ND FEBRUARY

This visit was originally planned for 22nd February, however we have been advised that this is one of their busiest weekends as it is half-term and mainly indoors. They are expecting it to be extremely crowded. The committee will be meeting on the 8th February and so will consider an alternative date that will be less hectic.

Kelvin and Judith

LUNCH BUNCH WALKS

My lips are sealed - but officially there is no walk in February.

Trina

EVENTS TO LOOK FORWARD TO IN MARCH

NEWBURY COLLEGE RESTAURANT – FRIDAY 7TH MARCH

I have again made a booking for the club at the Newbury College Training Restaurant. It is for 12 noon on Friday 7th March. As before it will be a package arrangement comprising a three-course meal, a glass of wine or soft drink with the meal and coffee or tea afterwards. The price for all this will be £21.95.

Hopefully, you will have replied to register your interest, if not, please let me know as soon as possible if you plan to join the group on that day. This is so I can either confirm the estimate of numbers I have given to the college or try to amend it.

The menu will be available early February and I will need to send our choices back soon after this become available. I will therefore be writing again asking for pre-payment and menu choices in 2-3 weeks.

This will be our third college lunch and if anyone has not attended one before do try to speak to someone who has, as it has proved a popular event. The quality of food preparation and presentation is excellent and we always enjoy the silver service given by the students.

Janet

ARMY FLYING MUSEUM, MIDDLE WALLOP – THURSDAY 13TH MARCH

The plan is to arrive at the museum at 10.30 am on Thursday the 13th March and meet up in the reception area to enter as a group.

We can then spend our own time looking round this very interesting air museum and then meet up again around 12.00 for a snack or light lunch in the museum cafe.

Could you please let me know by the beginning of March if you can come along so that I can confirm favourable prices for entry.

The post code is SO20 8FB

Web site ; armyflying.com

Peter Derbyshire

UPDATE ON RECENT EVENTS

PASTA NIGHT

Our first meeting of the New Year was traditionally Lasagne Night, but now is Pasta Night - what's the difference you might say!! Well..... you work it out!! But we try to keep some semblance of tradition.

We had a good turn out for a January evening, although some did not make it for the usual winter ailments that hang around at this time of year. 33 of us sat down to drinks and a lovely chicken and pasta in a tomato sauce (which I thoroughly enjoyed!) with some salad and garlic bread – and a few to a vege pasta! The conversations around the tables appeared to be varied and enthusiastic and causing occasional outbursts of maniacal



laughter!! After supper places were exchanged and news brought up to date, drinks consumed and then at a appropriate hour members said it was time to go and the bar staff seemed to agree!! So, a good time was had by all – except those who were not there – they missed out!!

We should also like to say a huge THANK YOU TO JANET AND COLIN! for their extremely generous subsidization of this evening to commemorate their birthdays with a '0' on the end!

– not sure what went before!! 4: 5: 6: 7: ???

The evening was only marred by the sad news that Brian Hay had died the previous week. See Roger's tribute.

Trina

FORTHCOMING EVENTS & EVENTS OF INTEREST

Ramble to Hambledon – Sunday 18 May

You will probably have seen that Sue and I are planning a run in May starting at the Woodpecker in Wash Water. Our “Ramble to Hambledon”. We planned to programme this run to coincide with the annual Jaguar Enthusiast’s Sports Car Day on Sunday 18th May which they hold on the local sports field. They welcome all makes of classics and the cricket pavilion is usually open for those connoisseurs of lovely cake and tea.

The lovely village will take you back in time which has been featured in many TV shows and films, namely Poirot and Midsomer Murders.

Further details will be included in the newsletter nearer the time.

Ian & Sue

Day and Evening at Newbury Racecourse

At the pasta night I informed everyone that Nicky and I were planning to go to Newbury Racecourse for an afternoon of flat horse racing, followed by a concert featuring the hits of ABBA performed by the acclaimed tribute band BJORN AGAIN on Friday 15th August.

Below you will see the link to the booking site, should you be interested, where you will find all the information required including the discounts and early bird entry charges.

We have booked two places in the Premium- concessions area at a cost of £23 each. Here you can watch the racing, place your bets with the Tote or the on Track Bookies, obtain drinks and food if required. Then at approximately 6.45 enjoy the concert. The ticket price covers us for the afternoon racing and the evening concert and includes on site parking at no extra cost.

It would be good if you can join us as it’s more fun in a group. You never know if you are lucky on the horses it could be a free day out!!!

Please let us know if you decide to join us.

<https://newburyracecourse.co.uk/racing/news-and-information/bjorn-again-to-play-at-newbury-racecourse/>

Roger & Nicky



Cobweb Spin 2025

on Sunday 27th April

Supported by Howden

Incorporating

“Drive it Day”

To be held at:

Dorset Heavy Horse Farm Park (DHHFP)

Edmondsham Road Verwood BH21 5RJ

Please complete one application form per car. **Closing date 23/3/2025**

Name	
Post Code	
E-mail	
Telephone	
Make: (MG, Austin, Rover etc.)	
Model: (TA, BGT, MGF/TF etc.)	
Body: Convertible, Saloon etc.	
Year	
Registration Number	

Important! We are aiming to have sole use of the venue subject to meeting the requirements set out by the venue. Entries will be limited to 300 people. Please note closing date as entries will be on a first come first served basis. **No late entries or on the day turn ups accepted. Pre-booking essential.**

A free raffle subject to T&C's and a goody bag per car entry.

<p>Registration fee of £14 per person (No concessions) includes entry to DHHFP at reduced rate. Occupant Number per car</p> <p>Normal rates are displayed on museum website. Total</p> <p>Smokey Joe's café. Please indicate the number of persons in your entry who will use the café for food</p>	<p>£</p>
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<p>Payment by direct transfer only to: Sort code 30 99 71 Account No: 57512560 Reference: Cobweb 2025</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Total Payment</p>	<p>£</p>
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I have read and agree to the conditions of entry.	
Signed	Date

Please send.....

Completed entry form by e-mail to stevenfavell@btinternet.com

Your full fee by bank transfer as above.

We look forward to seeing you at our event.

Dogs are allowed within DHHPF but must be kept on a lead.

Important information and Conditions of Entry

Registration & refunds

This event is supporting Dorset Heavy Horses Farm Park which is a self-funded on entry tickets to keep it running. It is not a charity but relies on all the support it can get to keep these horses protected.

Registration is only accepted on receipt of the registration fee and completed entry form.

Please note closing date as any entry received after this date will not be accepted.

The registration fee is non-refundable. Registration fees provide you entry to the DHHPF at a reduced rate and cover event expenses.

Should the event be cancelled outside the control of WMGOC, a donation will be made to DHHPF. A vehicle pass will be issued for parking prior to event.

Timings

Participants can arrive from 11am not before.

DHHPF is open until 4pm

Entry ticket collection point will be informed with final information.

You can leave at any time as there are no restrictions. Please take care is taking when leaving the parking area. There will be a free raffle. The draw will take place at 2pm. You must be present to be a lucky winner.

Parking area

Please follow WMGOC marshal's instructions.

Stewards & Marshals will direct you to your parking position once checked in.

Vehicles should travel no more than 2 mph on site.

Vehicles must not leak excessive oil and action should be taken by owners not to pollute the area where it is parked should the vehicle do so.

Hopefully you carry a fire extinguisher onboard, its is not compulsory as extinguishers will be placed at various locations on site.

Club Flags.

Car club sail display flags must be secured by a vehicle wheel and not a driven stake. Flags may be requested to be taken down in the event of adverse conditions to ensure public safety.

Vehicles and conduct

By completing the entry form individuals confirm that they are the driver of the vehicle referred to on the entry form and that they have a valid driving licence. Vehicles must be in a roadworthy condition and covered by Third Party Liability Insurance.

Drivers and passengers must abide by all Rules and Regulations for the Event laid down by the Organisers and their Stewards. There should be no unnecessary running of engines on site. Participants must conduct themselves in such a manner so as not to cause nuisance to other participants and the public whilst on site and observe good road behaviour to and from the event.

Smokey Joe's Café.

Country and Western themed café offers a delicious seasonal menu within a rustic setting! You will find a selection of homemade food using locally sourced, quality produce. From brunches to lunches and afternoon tea. Enjoy sampling fresh coffee, scrumptious handmade cakes as well as a full menu. Their menu caters for those who are Gluten Free, Vegan and Vegetarian. For any additional dietary requirements please speak to them, they are always happy to help. The café is open from 11am – 3.30pm.

Data protection

Cobweb Spin entry details will be held securely by the WMGOC in paper form or on computer system file(s) for the sole purposes of running and administering their annual Cobweb event. WMGOC may publish images from the event and vehicle ownership details given on this form when reporting the event in its club newsletter, press reports and the MGOC magazine "Enjoying MG". WMGOC will hold given e-mail addresses to communicate with participants regarding current and future Cobweb events. Apart from as described above, the WMGOC will not disclose any information to any 3rd Party.