

Newbury



**Owners
Club 1023**

NEWSLETTER NO. 372 – September 2025

SECRETARY'S SUMMARY SEPTEMBER 2025

July and August, and the sun carries on shining.

A lot of birthday celebrations were announced, congrats to you all.

The club meeting held as usual, was a chat with a visit from a member of the main MG Cub trying to find the location of his father's racing MG. He gave many of us a brief history of life with his father, who sadly died in the vehicle during a race. Best of luck to him trying to find the car.

Many of us attended different events during the month, we seemed to be wide spread. Alison and I attended the Retro Festival, staying the whole weekend. Good music and loads of beautiful classic vehicles to be seen and heard. I may put this forward as an event for the schedule for next year, I am sure a lot of people would love it.

Some of our members went to the races to hear the ABBA Re Bjorn Group, all seemed to have a good time. Unable to attend ourselves due to family commitments, however, I could hear you all having a good time from our house.

Looking forward to events in September.

Paul

Newbury MGOC Diary 2025

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

| Date | Event | Organiser |
|--------------------------|--|---------------|
| September | | |
| Thu 4 th Sep | Fishbourne Roman Palace and Bosham drive out – CANCELLED | Brian |
| Mon 8 th Sep | Club Night | All |
| Thu 25 th Sep | Lunch Bunch Walk | Andy & Angela |
| October | | |
| Thu 9 th Oct | Silk Mill | Peter & Liz |
| Date TBC | Rawles Motor Sports Ltd open day – Date not confirmed yet | Ian |
| Mon 13 th Oct | Club Night - Members Evening | All |
| Thu 23 rd Oct | Lunch Bunch Walk – Blue plaque Salisbury (Originally Winchester) | Judith |

EVENTS TO LOOK FORWARD TO IN SEPTEMBER

CLUB NIGHT – MONDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER 7.30PM – GENERAL CHAT

Club night this month will be a general chat, looking forward to seeing you there.

LUNCH BUNCH WALK -THURSDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER

Richard and Jenny have kindly agreed to lead the September walk which will commence from the Bell at Aldworth. We have been there a couple of times before so we should all know where it is! There could be 2 walks!! A shorter walk or a longer walk for those with more stamina and enthusiasm!

Please arrive by 10.30.am. to choose and order rolls for lunch – they are really scrumptious rolls – and rolls is almost not quite the right word for these delicious delicacies.

Jenny needs to know how many are coming so space can be reserved for us; so, please let Jenny know at least by 19th September, if you are coming for the walk or simply for a good lunch!! so a booking can be made.

Hope to see you there

Trina

EVENTS TO LOOK FORWARD TO IN OCTOBER

WHITCHURCH SILK MILL VISIT – THURSDAY 9TH OCTOBER

We plan to meet at 10.30 - 10.45 am at the old working Silk Mill which can be found in Winchester Street approx 300 Mtrs from the roundabout in the centre of Whitchurch. It may be possible to park **MGs** in the limited space at the Mill otherwise car parking is plentiful a little further along on the right.

It may be possible to have a guide on our visit providing we have 20 members as a minimum otherwise it will be a self-guiding visit. Please let me know if you are interested in coming along to help raise the number.

A snack lunch can be bought at the Mill which we would aim to have at approximately 12.30am.

Peter Derbyshire

LUNCH BUNCH WALK -THURSDAY 23RD OCTOBER

So you think you know Salisbury? Can I tempt you to explore with Kelvin and myself a little history and fun facts – including a brothel, Turkish Baths, a mummified hand and Doom painting, amongst others. Details in next months newsletter.

Judith

WASH COMMON COMMUNITY FESTIVAL – SUNDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER

We have been asked if the club could join a classic car display at this festival and the committee has said they would like to do this. The show is at the Falkland Cricket Club where we have our monthly meetings so it is nice that we have become part of the community by doing this. The show will include traditional elements such as bakery and garden produce competitions (you may wish to enter those too!) plus a variety of live bands, free bouncy castle (for children!), community stalls, beer tent, barbecue, homemade cakes for sale, etc.

The show is 1:00-5:00, Saturday 27th September. The request is for cars have to arrive between 12:00 and 12:55 and leave after 5:00.

The organisers are not too bothered about getting exact numbers of cars but I think it would be useful if you could just drop me a line if you think you may be able to attend.

Sounds like a pleasant way to spend a Saturday afternoon and a chance to give a little back to the Wash Common community.

Janet

UPDATE ON RECENT EVENTS

RAF BENSON FAMILY DAY – THURSDAY 14TH AUGUST

Amid intense military security, and under an “only need to know” blanket, just three of the club’s MGs attempted to pierce the perimeter fence, surrounding RAF Benson, to celebrate their popular annual family fun-day. Requiring pre-registration and photographic identification, I was expecting a deep forensic search and had thoroughly hoovered the boot, clearing all traces of orange powder and empty red-rattle paint cans. But no such inspection occurred, and we rumbled swiftly through Queen’s Gate as the military personnel strove to clear the mass of classic cars that were all arriving within the narrow entry window and blocking the boundary road. We were directed through the buildings and at the entrance of a huge aircraft hanger, greeted by a flock of yellow jackets which methodically parked the mixed collection of classics in the ample space available

Teams Stone (MG TF), Price (MGB), and Matthews (MGR) re-grouped to discuss tactics. In case of alarm, we could commandeer the WW2 armoured rapid reconnaissance vehicle, which was amongst the display of old military hardware. Despite heavy armour, the straight six Jaguar petrol engine would propel its tracks to 40mph, but at a cost of only three to four miles each gallon.



While Chinook helicopters thumped in the distance we were able to browse around the classic vehicles which were now in position. Few pre-war models were on show, and amongst our marquee was a factory fresh “Cyberster”, delivered from China in red, but the lady didn’t like the colour and it had been expertly recovered in bright blue vinyl. Despite its shiny badge, it does not resemble an MG. It is big, bold and complicated. I don’t think it aligns with Cecil Kimber’s philosophy of affordable, exciting motoring. Aston Martins were well represented, although the difference between the various modern models is difficult to understand. Amongst the cars was a selection of machinery that resembled bicycles, and a Penny-Farthing occasionally circulated the hanger. Coffee, cake and cars aside there was still plenty to absorb, and tempting food to resist. Parked on the apron were many small planes and an open Chinook to explore. At Noon, in a blaze of red, white and blue the Red Arrows zoomed overhead, followed by a Lancaster bomber, announcing the start of the air displays. Parachutists descended from high above to land in an orderly queue in front of us.



All aircraft were flying antiques, long beyond present service, but still very impressive. A lightweight Spitfire, adapted for speedy photographic reconnaissance, circled and twisted above us. A Mustang, also impressed with its howling 12 cylinder Rolls Royce propulsion. The only jet was a Jet Provost, recently retired as an RAF trainer. The air-show concluded with a simulated attack by a pair of Chinook helicopters, which rapidly deployed troops and equipment on the ground and collected them on completion of their mission.

The Chinook is named after a warm dry wind, which blows east of the Rocky Mountains. We were in Oxfordshire, and the weather was perfect, warm with the occasional relief of a few clouds and gently breeze.

Derek Matthews



AUGUST LUNCH BUNCH WALK - ABBOTS MITRE, CHILBOLTON

Sixteen members, a couple of friends, and a dog joined us for the popular Test River Walk from the Abbots Mitre Pub, we kept the distance a bit shorter than usual due to the threat of rain (after two months of drought!) we had a heavy shower the previous day. We left the pub at 11.15 and planned to return for lunch at 12.30, as usual the Pub did not disappoint and a lively conversation was had around the lunch table. The River levels seemed up to usual heights despite reports of large amounts of water being extracted down stream, lets hope the drought is now broken. Heavy rain came as we were finishing lunch ,and we congratulated ourselves on the timing. We did see a few trout in the stream, a herd of cattle apparently sheltering from forecast rain, but the Kingfishers remained elusive! We were surprised to find the car park almost full upon arrival and were told another large walking group were out returning at 1.30, good job we got our orders in promptly!



Thanks to everyone who came to support The Lunch Bunch, despite the PM weather forecasts, we all had a great day.

Barry and Penny

CHARITY RIDE – HELPING HOMELESS VETERANS – UPDATE

In a previous newsletter you may have read about my planned LEJOG (Land's End to John O'Groats) trip starting on the 20 May 25, well tick done and what a good time I had in my space at my pace on my 23' Royal Enfield Himalayan motorcycle (all 411 cc). My days went as follows, mileage's approximate:



Day 1. Harwell to St Just via the Land's End sign, 280 miles, 5.5 hrs.

Day 2. St Just to Hereford, 280 miles, 8.5 hrs.

Day 3. Hereford to Dumfries, 260 miles, 5 hrs.

Day 4. Dumfries to Hopeman, 250 miles, 4.5 hrs.

Day 5. Hopeman to Lairg, 260 miles, 7 hrs.

Day 6. Lairg to Berwick upon Tweed, 300 miles, 6 hrs.

Day 7 & 8, rest days in Berwick.

Day 9. Berwick to Harwell, 330 miles, 8 hrs.

So 3.5 days end to end and a round trip of about 1980 miles, the Himi didn't miss a beat and I was quite comfortable mind you I lost count of the number of times I filled up, sometimes 3 times a day. To be honest a couple of long dull sessions on motorways but off of those the Himi was in it's element, what wonderful scenery to enjoy, such extremes of landscape as you travel through our beautiful land and some terrific roads too, a few I remember are the northcoast road of Cornwall from St Just through Devon to Bridgewater, the A6 from Kendal up over Shap, the B9007 from Carrbridge to the A940 and the A836 from Tongue via Altnaharra and Crask to Lairg.

Reaching JOG was interesting, I rode down the hill to the harbour, swung left and directly up onto the gravel mound where the sign is, got off the bike and had a few minutes of contemplation thinking "well that's it" before badgering a guy to take a few photo's for me. I then sat in the cafe for an hour staring at the sea and sent a few messages. One reply I got said congrats on completing the task ie LEJOG but then my reply said, thankyou but I have 625 miles still to do !

I had decided to use my trip as a fundraiser for Helping Homeless Veterans UK <https://www.hhvuk.org/> and so far managed to raise £1336.00 for them. Further donations on my page are now closed but you can still make a donation via the web link above.



Thank you to those that have kindly donated already.
Cheers all

Phil Winning