

Southampton & New Forest MGOC

NEWSLETTER



Oct 2010



Didn't we have a lovely time !!
S&NFMGOC members 2010 BBQ

Branch 1009

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Diary Dates 2010

October

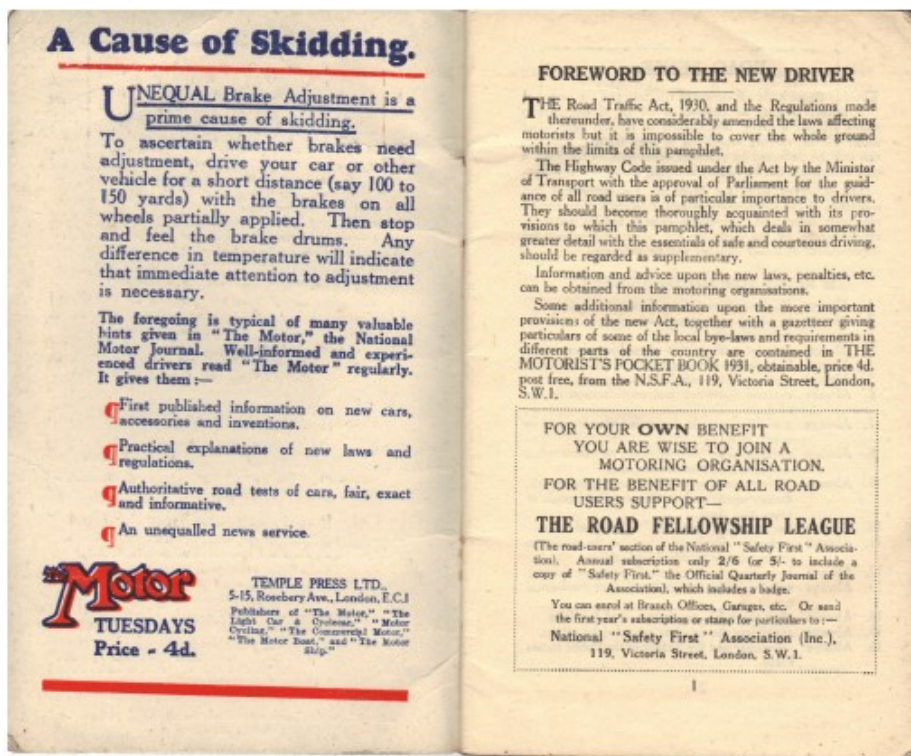
Wed 6th Club Night—Empress of Blandings
Wed 20th Mid Monthly—Waterloo Arms—Lyndhurst

November

Wed 3rd Club Night—Empress of Blandings
Wed 17th Mid Monthly—Mayflower Lymington

December

Wed 1st Club Night—Empress of Blandings
Fri 10th Christmas Dinner Dance—Walhampton Arms.



Above is a page from an AA & RAC publication dated from 1931, interesting info from the early days of motoring. More to come in future issues.

Secretary's Notes Oct 2010

One minute, it seems, I am writing about the season ahead and now the season is all but over, especially for those MG's on SORN, but what a way to finish (for some members anyway) with a long weekend visit to Reims and the Champagne region of NE France. Suffice to say the company, the weather, the hotel, the food and the hospitality were all top rate. I would certainly recommend a visit to this area to those who have never been before and if you time it right you will get to see the pickers bringing in the grape harvest. It all adds to the vibrancy of the region and the perfect setting for open top motoring.

Back to things more pressing, you will be pleased to know that the date for this year's Xmas Dinner/ Disco at the Walhampton Arms has been switched from Wednesday night the December 8th to Friday night December 10th. As a number of members felt the midweek date a bit off putting it was decided unanimously to go for a Friday night alternative in the hope that we can get numbers attending up on last year. At £18.50 per head the carvery is certainly value for money and remains the same price as last year.

The Disco will, however, cost a little more as it goes up from £150 to £200 for the Friday night making the total approximately £25pp depending on final figures. Once again we will have the function room all to ourselves (a definite advantage) and our hosts Julie, Paul and their staff are there to ensure we all enjoy the occasion. We would like to see as many members as possible this year at the Walhampton Arms so names and money to Malcolm or Julie Rumsey as soon as possible.

Most of you are also aware that the presentation of the shield for the member voted Club Person of the Year is made during the same evening as the Dinner Dance and over the next 2 months I shall be looking for your nominations for that award. Final date for your votes will be the December club night. For those unaware of the procedure I shall explain later.

The Scout Hut has been booked for Sunday June 5th 2011 the date of the New Forest Run next year. We are still looking for a suitable venue to finish the Run as it is felt after 3 years at Exbury Gardens a change is to be considered. Nothing is set in stone and we are happy to listen to all suggestions for an alternative venue. Time is of the essence so the quicker the decision is made the sooner the necessary bookings can be put in place. If you are prepared to volunteer your services for June 5th 2011 I shall arrange a meeting at the Empress for a suitable evening.

Roy

It could be me.....it was—Part 2!

Luckily for me I have never had a problem just getting into cars and driving them, whether right or left hand drive, a quick adjustment to the seat and I was off. As I gunned it away from the line I uttered the words “Oh dear”. “What is the matter” asked Guy? “Nothing”, I replied, “but you are right this is underpowered!” The gearbox had a nice positive feel, as I moved up through the gears for the first double apex right hander. A touch on the brakes, nice firm pedal with plenty of feel, and Guy giving advice on the line. As we straightened out and started the climb towards the bridge just past the house, the size of the car with three strapping six-footers and Guy in it, stated to tell. Whilst it was pulling OK there was no grunt, this MG wasn’t going to lift her skirts and go. Through the slight left after the bridge, Guy commented “you know where your going don’t you”, I have a rough idea I replied. He seemed a little nervous at how late I was leaving the braking for the difficult left hander of Molecomb that leads to the rise alongside the flint wall. Hard on the brakes as I enter, turn in and power on, the poise of the chassis is impressive, although the steering feel is a little light/vague. Guy tells us this is one of the areas they are improving for the British models. The rest of the climb as fairly straight, but we never manage to get out of fourth gear. At the top we turn left by the race course and then follow another estate road back down to the marquee hall. We catch an Alfa Romeo that is being rather sedately driven, but that leads to some conversation, the rear seat passengers are impressed by the room in the back, the comfort and ride they tell me are impressive and that despite me throwing the car around a bit.

So what was my impression, I like the shape, the interior is good, with an impressive list of standard kit promised. The ergonomics are very good with everything falling nicely to hand and foot. I was certainly comfortable and the driver’s seat felt a good fit with enough padding to keep me in place. Although a big car, the vision in all directions was very good, I always felt aware of its position on the road. But I have to say for me it was not an MG, it would be a very good Rover and although the handling and comfort were impressive it lacked the sparkle that an MG should have. It is the factor that puts the smile on my face every time I drive my ZS and, although Autocar magazine described it as “the MG6 is already borderline best in class to drive”, that was the turbo version. So I’m reserving my final judgement until I’ve tried one when they are launched.

My thanks go to Sarah Martin of Martins of Winchester for giving us all the chance to attend this terrific day out and to Malcolm Bailey who gave up his prize and made my day.

Martin Charles

Pembroke County Run

Bryan and I had been looking forward to getting both MGs out for the Wessex Classic Car show, particularly as it had moved back to Bovington this year. So it was bad planning on our part that we managed to book our week's holiday in Wales for the same week. Suffice to say the weather was typically Welsh for most of the week, so we saw a lot of the area from inside the car, managing a few walks on windy beaches in between showers.

A Horrocks holiday would not be complete without some sort of classic car event though, and we did stumble across the Pembroke County Run, which took place on Sunday 5th September. As we were heading back from a morning in St. Davids, we accidentally found ourselves in the middle of a small convoy including Morris Travellers and old army Jeeps. Passing a number of lay-bys where numerous other classic cars were parked up, we decided to follow our little convoy to see where they were all heading. The convoy brought us to Goodwick, near Fishguard, which turned out to be a lunch-time stop on a 100-mile route around Pembrokeshire.

The Pembroke run is in its thirteenth year, and there were over 600 cars taking part, with a huge variety of models represented, covering almost a century of motoring history. We spotted numerous MGs old and new, Jaguars, a Singer, Beetles, military vehicles, rally cars, a Morris police car and lots of Minis among others, as we wandered around the car park. The Morris Panda car is apparently well known locally, and had seen service with the Cardiff City Police force, prior to ending its operational life with the South Wales police. It was a huge display, and so nice to see so many different cars enjoying the roads around this beautiful part of the country.

In its first year, the event attracted 25 cars apparently, and has grown steadily over the years, although I understand this year was a record turnout, with entrants from all over the UK and abroad. It was free to enter, although money raised from the sale of programmes was donated to the British Heart Foundation and the Intensive Care Unit at the local Withybush General Hospital. The event seems to very popular with local residents all along the route, with people coming out of their houses and down to the main roads to wave to the cars as they passed.

We will definitely be looking out for this event next year, and hopefully arranging a long weekend to coincide. If any other members might be interested, please let me know so that we can start looking into accommodation (as apparently this tends to get booked up well in advance!).

Due lack of space this month
Photos of this and other events will
appear in next month's photo page.

Tania and Brian

Recipe Corner Returns !!

Julie's Chicken with Red Pesto (serves 4)

3 tbsp oil
4 chicken breasts
200ml carton crème fraiche
14 oz can chopped tomatoes
3 tbsp red pesto
Salt and black pepper
Basil leaves, shredded
Black olives, stoned

1. Heat oil and brown chicken quickly on both sides.
2. Mix together crème fraiche, chopped tomatoes and pesto and pour over chicken.
3. Cover and simmer for about 20 minutes or until chicken is cooked through.

Adverts continued from back page

For sale: 2 front seats from my 1973 MGB GT V8 (I bought a couple of seats to have them refurbished so I now have two spares). Obviously they need re-covering, the back of the driver's seat is quite badly worn on the door side, although the passenger seat just has a small area of something stuck in the fabric. I paid £25 for the seats I bought so that's what I'm asking for these seats. See Malcolm at the meeting, phone 01425 629443, or email malc@myimg.org.uk.

For Sale - MGB Roadster

1978 Roadster – was rubber bumpered (now removed), white with navy rally stripe, garaged, taxed and MOT, new seats, new tyres, anti roll bar, replacement engine 1500 miles ago, alloys, manual with overdrive. Comes with hard top, soft top (leaks a bit) and needs some bodywork TLC, but a good runner.

Pictures available for any interested party.

£1995 or near offer, any inspection welcomed
07980 698319 anytime, or 01202 257325

Editor's Notes

Whilst recovering from my broken wrist Linda and myself went for a long weekend at Cricket St Thomas, a venue that others have been to with the lo-cal MG club. A very nice time was had by all and we did some sightseeing and found some very small roads care of the satnav. On the way back home we stopped off at a farm shop not far from Wimbourne where I picked up a local paper and when I flicked through the pages what did I find? A write up on the meeting at Athelhampton care of the 1020 club.

Our New Forest run info and photos were put into our local papers over the last few months and although some of the details were printed incorrectly I would like to thank Julie for her help in putting our club into the press , I am sure this is where some of our new members have come from.

John

Down Syndrome Quiz—Correction

Answer to 1924 should read: - R in B written by GG (not GS)

Who is This?



The sixth in our “Who is this?” series. Can you guess which of our members this might be? Nice bonnet.

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Remember we volunteer to fill these posts, so if you wish to speak to one of us PLEASE ring before 9pm or at weekends, thank you.

Classified Ads

To advertise your for sale / wanted / news here, call John or Jane on 023 8089 3073 or email editor@1009mg.org.uk with details

FOR SALE – MG Maestro 2.0LTR EFI - White. Excellent mechanics, bodyworks. Needs TLC, MOT Aug - Tax Nov, One owner 22yrs ...OFFERS. Mr Peaty 023 8020 7655.

Who's Who Photo – Tania—What a lovely bonnet !