



Newsletter February 2016

Introduction.

The January Natter at the Five Arrows was taken up with the Annual General Meeting. This was quite well attended, and the minutes of the meeting, together with the Secretary's Report are attached to this newsletter for information. This coming year will see some changes to the personnel on the committee: Peter Mansfield has stepped down from the post of Treasurer after many years of excellent service, and is being replaced by Jack Martin. Dave Barton has taken charge of the Club website, and he plans to keep this more up to date – John Plant has been doing this, but his work commitments and remoteness (he moved to Lincolnshire a few years ago) have made this difficult for him. The committee expressed its thanks to Peter and John for all the work they have put in over the years. The rest of the committee has remained in post, but we are still without a Chairman, a post that other committee members are filling on a rotational basis as and when required. If anyone would be prepared to stand for this vacancy, we would be most grateful and welcoming!!

Annual Subscriptions

Annual subscriptions for members are now due. The rate remains at £8 for single membership and £12 for a couple. You can pay in one of three ways:

- Cash at the February Natter on 1st February
- By a bank transfer direct to the Club account -

NatWest, Sort Code 60-01-31, A/C No 69656940 (preferred method)

If you use this method, please drop me an e-mail to say you have done so, for me to update my list of current members

- By cheque to the Treasurer -

Jack Martin, Rosemundy, School End, Chetwode, Bucks, MK18 4LA

(cheque made out to Aylesbury MG Club please).

Annual Dinner and Prizegiving

The Annual Dinner is nearly upon us, the date for this being 5th February in the Coachhouse at the Five Arrows in Waddesdon (our usual haunt). The arrangements for this are:

Coachhouse available from 19.00

Guest to arrive at 19.30

Dinner served from 20.00

Carriages at 23.00.

Dress is as previous years, Dinner Jackets and Posh Frocks, (although no-one is going to turn you away if you turn up in a lounge suit ...).

Important Events

Apart from the PoO in July, two other important dates for your diary are:

15th May, - Chiltern Hills Rally

17th/18th September - Kop Hill Climb

We want to arrange a Club stand at both these events, and to do this we need good support from our members. So earmark these dates in your diary and attend these two great events.

For the Chiltern Hills Rally, this is the response to my query about reserving a Club stand -

'You need to get your members to fill in their forms and return them to YOU. You then need to send them in all together. If you have any idea of how many to expect I will book you a space in advance. Only approx figure needed.'

So I need to know in advance who will be attending. I will have a bunch of forms to distribute at the February Natter for those that know they will be attending, and I have attached a copy to this newsletter. When completed, let me have the forms and the entry fee, and I will then



arrange the stand. Entries have to be in by **31st March**. Make sure you note on the form that you will be exhibiting on the Aylesbury MG Club Stand in the box provided.

To see the delights awaiting you at both events, visit:

www.chilternhillsrally.org.uk and
www.kophillclimb.org.uk

There are other important events in the pipeline for 2016, such as the Club's 30th Anniversary celebrations in April and the September weekend away, and I will publish more details of these in the newsletter when arrangements are more advanced. Meanwhile, we are arranging a programme of speakers for some of the Natter nights, and when these are confirmed, I will circulate details as they come to hand. And, of course, there is the Quiz night in December.

Other Matters

So with lots of events scheduled, you had better take advantage of the closed season to prepare your cars and get them ready for the warmer weather. I have started – the first job was to sort out the temperature gauge on my BGT V8, which, according to the gauge, was running cooler and cooler until, just before Christmas, it was measuring no discernable temperature at all. So, clearly the gauge was faulty, which I proved by draining the coolant system, removing the sensor from the inlet manifold and immersing it in a bowl of (very) hot water. The needle just moved off its stop, but stayed in the starting zone. The gauge had to come out, and I had forgotten what a miserable job this is – to get at the back of the gauge the speedo has first to come out, and this gives just enough room for my small hand to get at the back of the gauge to undo everything. Except, of course, this is a dual gauge, and the oil pipeline has to be unfastened with a very small spanner – and it wouldn't budge. So I had to find and undo all the fastenings along the length of the pipe from the dashboard to the oil pump on the front of the engine so that I could pull enough of the pipe through to pull the gauge out of the dash and get behind it with a longer spanner. When it finally gave, the reason for it being so tight was obvious – the little leather washer that should have been there was absent. With the gauge now out – no easy job as the armoured pipe for the temp gauge has to be fed through the bulkhead from the engine compartment with much bruising of knuckles and choice oaths - I confirmed it was u/s by immersing the sensor in a kettle of boiling water and watching the needle's stubborn refusal to move. The gauge looked comparatively new, but it was presumably a modern repro, which are not the same quality as the originals. I tried to find a V8 replacement (the V8 runs at a lower oil pressure than the 'B' series engine, so the range is 0 – 80 psi, but there are none out there, so I drove over to Wisbech and bought a new 0-100 psi gauge from The MGB Hive (I also bought a set of their seat belt guides which fit on the headrest post to save you from scrabbling behind you for the seatbelt – brilliant accessory, highly recommended). Fitting the new gauge was more straightforward than removing it, although I struggled with screwing the oil pipeline back on, since the leather washer was just too big to fit in the captive nut on the end of the pipe. I rummaged through my big tin of seals and found a nylon one of the right size, and fitted this instead. Now the gauge reads the correct temperature, always a relief with an older car

Next on the list was to look at a muted clanking noise from the rear of the MGA when driving over deep potholes and big bumps. I have looked for this before and found nothing much, so I reasoned that it might be the shock absorbers or their links, so decided to have these off and inspect and test them on the bench. With the rear of the car on axle stands this is pretty straightforward – three nuts to undo and the shock and its link are off (but typically much more difficult to put back on). Both shocks turned out to be fine and the bushes were pretty much new too, but it wasn't a wasted job because they both needed topping up, and that can't be done with them on the car. I pulled and pushed everything underneath the rear of the car, and



nothing was loose except the handbrake cable, which I fastened more securely with tie wraps (what did we do before these useful little blighters were invented?) and bits of rubber tubing around the cable it could possibly come into contact with other bits of car. What is causing the noise is still inconclusive, so I posted a thread about it on the MG Enthusiast's MGA Bulletin Board, and now have many suggestions from other owners as to what might be the cause to work through (including one to turn up the radio....). These Bulletin Boards are a very useful resource, so I recommend their use if you have a problem. Next task is to change the brake fluid in both cars, but this can wait until the weather warms up a bit!

Upcoming Events

Friday 5th Feb – Our Annual Dinner and Prize giving, see above for details.

Sat 13th & Sun 14th Feb - Great Western Auto Jumble at the Bath & West Showground, Shepton Mallet BA4 6QN

Sunday 21st February - International MG and Triumph Spares Day at Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire, CV8 2LZ See web site at: www.mgandtriumphsparesday.co.uk

Thur 18th to Sun 21st February - London Classic Car Show at the ExCel Centre, London.E16 1XL More information from: www.thelondonclassiccarshow.co.uk

Sunday 10th April - Brooklands Museum MG Era. Events include timed runs up the test hill, A cavalcade on the Mercedes Circuit and a Concours d'Elegance. More details at: www.brooklandsmuseum.com/brooklands-mg-era2/

Sunday 24 April – Bicester Heritage Sunday Scramble. Don't forget that Clive has arranged with BH that we can attend as a club, so remember this when you buy your tickets, available from: www.bicesterheritage.co.uk .

Adrian Bennett

(adrian.mg@hotmail.co.uk)

Club Secretary



Aylesbury MG Club – Annual General Meeting 2016

Minutes of Meeting

The following members attended the meeting:

Dave & Heather Barton	Adrian Bennett
John Brewer	Brian Deacon
Bill McMeekin	Peter & Jill Mansfield
Jack & Debbie Martin	Mary Skinner
Pete & Lesley Thomas	Clive Wayland

Apologies were received from:

Jackie Bennett	Helen Wayland
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2. The President, Clive Wayland (CW) opened the meeting at 20.10, welcoming those present and thanking them for their attendance at this important meeting. In the absence of a chairman (the post had been vacant throughout the year) he handed over to the Club Secretary (Adrian Bennett (AB)) to conduct the meeting.
3. There had been no minutes of the previous AGM due to the absence of the Secretary on holiday, so this item was passed over.
4. The Treasurer (Peter Mansfield (PM)) handed round copies of the Statement of Account for the year. He explained that the balance on the account, whilst this was healthy, represented a small loss of £50 over the previous year's balance. Income was down from last year, due to fewer member subscriptions and lower income from the Annual Pride of Ownership event, presumably due to weather conditions on the day. Expenditure was higher than last year, and this was because of the purchase of flowers and a wreath occasioned by the death of one previous and one serving member during the year – expenditure duly authorised by in advance the Committee. The Accounts were accepted, and PM indicated that he wished to stand down from the post of Treasurer after 8 years in post. All present agreed that he had done a fine job, and thanked him warmly for all his efforts.
5. The Secretary then gave a brief account of the activities and events run by the Club over the past year, and a copy of this is attached. It was agreed that, whilst the events had often been affected by the wet weather conditions, these activities had generally been very successful and enjoyed by the participants, and those who were responsible for organising them were thanked for the work they had put in.
6. The following officers were elected:
Chairman – no volunteers, so this post will be filled on an ad-hoc basis as required
Treasurer – Jack Martin (JaM) (proposed by CW, seconded by PM)
Secretary – Adrian Bennett (proposed by CW, seconded by PM)

The following Committee members were elected:

MGOC Rep – Clive Wayland
MGCC Rep – Adrian Bennett
Octagon Rep – Jack Martin
Members Reps – Dave Barton (DB), Heather Barton (HB), Mary Skinner (MS)



The first Committee Meeting was arranged for Tuesday January 19th, The Bartons to host. Subsequent meeting dates will be agreed at this time.

7. The Annual Dinner and Prize giving, scheduled for Friday 5th February, was discussed. The dinner is being held in the Coachhouse at the Five Arrows, and the schedule for this occasion is:
Coachhouse available from 19.00
Guests arrive from 19.30 onwards
Dinner served from 20.00
Carriages at 23.00

The layout will be round tables seating 6 persons, with the Club providing a bottle each of white and red wine per table, and there will be a cash bar at 10% discount, either in the Coachhouse or in the hotel.

It was decided to invite a number of previous members – Roy Talbot-Smith, Bernard Hines and John Plant.

8. The assembled members discussed what events the club might stage in the coming year. A couple of members – John Brewer and Brian Deacon - whilst they had commitments that prevented them taking on complete events, nevertheless volunteered to help out the organisers of some of the major events as and when needed. The events provisionally agreed were as follows:
 - Breakfast run sometime in April
 - Chiltern Hills Rally on 15 May
 - Pride of Ownership on 4 July
 - Grand Prix BBQ on 10 July – Debbie and Jack Martin volunteered to host
 - Kop Hill Climb on 17 and 18 September
 - Weekend away in late September – suggestions for destinations are sought for this
 - Quiz in the December Natter – Pete and Lesley Thomas volunteered themselves as Quizmasters for this.

2016 is the Club's 30th Anniversary year, and it was felt that a special event should be staged to commemorate this. DB had previously volunteered to undertake the organisation of such an event, with help from other members as needed. It was decided that the first step is to agree a date around which to plan, so provisionally this was set for 23rd April. It was suggested that this event might possibly be combined with the Breakfast run already envisaged.

9. Also discussed was the possibility of obtaining one or two guest speakers for Natter Nights. Suggestions for this were – Terry Bracey-Wright to talk on his involvement as support for a Mille Miglia team, the chap who runs Aylesbury Classic Oils has an interesting tale to tell, and a retired PC who is involved in solving Classic Car crimes. These suggestions will be progressed throughout the year. CW reminded the meeting that the club has not in the past been in a position to pay a fee for guest speakers, but expenses would be possible.

10. There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 21.20.

Adrian Bennett
Club Secretary
adrian.mg@hotmail.co.uk



Aylesbury MG Club – Annual General Meeting 2016

Annual Report for 2015

1. 2015 was rather dominated by the weather, which influenced many of our arranged activities.
2. We were offered the Dairy in Waddesdon Manor as the venue for our Annual Dinner and Prizegiving, with catering provided by Alex McEwen and the team at the Five Arrows. This turned out to be a superb venue, and an enjoyable evening was had by the attendees, with the catering up to its usual high standard. We hope to make use of this venue for other major events in the coming years.
3. April saw a very entertaining and well-attended visit from Fuzz Townshend of Channel 4's 'Car SOS' and Carole Nash Insurance, held in the Dairy at Waddesdon Manor, with catering by The 5 Arrows. We had advertised this event widely and we had quite a few visitors on the night.
4. We held a start of season Breakfast and Road Run at the end of April. Weather was dry but cold for the run from the Sow and Pigs pub in Poundon, through the lanes of Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Northants to finish at the Canal Museum at Stoke Bruerne. This was our second breakfast run, and these have proved to be a popular start to the season, and I have been asked to arrange another for next year.
5. A number of members attended the special MG gathering at the Bicester Heritage Sunday Scramble in late April. Again, the weather was dry but cold, and there was an enormous gathering of assorted classics (somewhere around 1,000) at this fascinating venue. Clive has now registered our club with BH, so we can claim a discount on the entrance fee, and have privileged parking.
6. Peter and Jill Mansfield hosted the Grand Prix BBQ this year. I am told that numbers were slightly down on previous years, but that all who attended had a thoroughly enjoyable day – so big thanks to Peter and Jill.
7. Our POO was again held at the Dairy in Waddesdon Manor with catering by the Five Arrows. I was away in Madeira for this event, but I gather it was well attended despite dodging the inevitable showers. Pete Thomas stood in for me as scribe for this event – so thanks for that Pete - and his report showed that everyone enjoyed themselves at one of our major events of the year. We throw this event open to other clubs, and we had entrants from the MGCC Natters from Chesham and Milton Keynes.
8. The saddest event of the year was losing our dear friend Roger Skinner, who passed away in August following a short stay in hospital. His Funeral at Amersham Crematorium was extremely well-attended – no surprise, as he was very popular and had crammed a lot into his time – with a good turnout from our club. He will be sorely missed.
9. The traditional August meeting at Bicester Avenue arranged by the MGCC and supported by us, was cancelled at the last minute because the management at Bicester Avenue had forgotten all about the event, and had done no advanced publicity. This was a great shame, because this event is well attended by the general public, and is a good recruitment tool for



both ourselves and the MGCC – better luck next year?

9. The weather turned for the better for our September weekend away in Somerset, where we basked in the late summer sunshine. Roger Skinner had done a fine job of organising our trip to visit the Haynes Museum in Sparkford, but he fell ill before the event and sadly passed away a few weeks before we went. Dave Barton took up the reins, and between the two of them, everything went off very smoothly, so a big thanks due to Roger, who was with us in spirit, and Dave for a very memorable weekend. Haynes Museum has a great collection of interesting and unusual cars of a variety of types, including at least 12 MGs from the M type Midget to the MGF.
10. A neighbour of Clive's, Captain Tim Orchard, was for many years a Concorde pilot for BA. He came to the November Natter and gave a very interesting and entertaining talk on a typical Concorde flight, and signed copies of the Concorde Lectures authored by his colleague, Senior Flight Engineer Pete Finlay. This talk was very well received.
11. We had decided to defer the Quiz night from November to December, and this year Brian Deacon and Karen Hall volunteered to be our Quizmasters. This event was better attended than previous quizzes, and we were treated to subjects as diverse as chasing the Kate and tasting potato crisps (you had to be there to appreciate this!) and identifying rer ends – of cars, of course! The result was very close, with Team BV8 just piiping Linnet Drivers by three points, with The Maps Red taking the wooden spoon. Highly enjoyable event, a big thank you to Brian and Karen.
11. Membership currently stands at 36, with a number of new members joining during the year – John and Linda Brewer, Simon and Rosalind Eccles, Adrian Fell and Donna Stevens, Graham and Janet King, Diane an Kevin Morgan, Roger and Beverley Swan and Roger and Patricia Withers. Membership Subscriptions remained at 2014 levels, ie £12 per couple, £8 single.

Adrian Bennett

Adrian Bennett
Secretary, AMGC
adrian.mg@hotmail.co.uk



The Chiltern Hills Vintage Vehicle Rally

The Game Club

Organised by "The Game Club"

www.chilternhillsrally.org.uk

The 22nd Chiltern Hills Vintage Vehicle Rally – Sunday 15th May 2016.

Weedon Park, Weedon Hill, near Aylesbury

Location Postcode for Sat Naps is HP22 4NN

Between Aylesbury and Whitchurch on the A413 Buckingham Road

Anyone who did not make it to the 21st Rally missed an amazing day, the second year at Weedon Hill proved to be a great success.

An entry form for 22nd Rally is included.

As you will see, we have kept the vehicle entry fee at £5.00 provided a Stamped Addressed Envelope is included with the form.

If you would like to enter a second vehicle, please copy the form.

Entries on the day are welcome at £10.00; however, they do not qualify for the memorabilia and space is limited so pre-booking is advisable as we may find ourselves having to impose a cut off point.

Exhibitors are welcome to camp/caravan over the weekend (Sat-Sun) at no extra cost but please let us know in advance.

There is a "Road Run" for you to enter. It takes place through the local countryside. Starting times are between 8.00 and 9.30am from Aylesbury's "Tuck Café". Should you decide to enter you will receive a map with all the relevant details. The café will be open for refreshments and toilet facilities.

As usual, we will be producing a programme, if you would like your entry to be listed we need your form returned to us by the 31st March. We will again be including a "For Sale" section where for just £2.00 you can advertise vehicles for sale etc. please include payment and copy with your entry form by the 31st of March.

We do have a stock of models available from previous years; these will be available on the day at £5.00 each.

You will receive your entry card and information pack in time for the rally.

PLEASE DISPLAY THE CARD CLEARLY ON YOUR WINDSCREEN PRIOR TO ARRIVAL AT THE SITE.

The Rally keeps growing which makes it increasingly difficult to plan the layout. Therefore, any entry received after 25th April may have to be placed in the LATE ENTRY AREA!

For health and safety reasons we request entrants not to leave the show site until 4pm

We would like to appeal to volunteers to help with judging, many thanks to all those who assisted previously. If you or someone you know would be interested in judging a class, please let us know.

A detailed list of contacts for Trade Stands, Auto-jumble, Catering, Entertainments etc. is available on our website.

The Committee very much hope you will be able to attend our 22nd event and we look forward to seeing you.

Yours sincerely

John Masters,
Rally Chairman
Phone 01296 681530 Mobile 07850 887183



The Chiltern Hills Vintage Vehicle Rally

www.chilternhillsrally.org.uk

Vehicle Entry Form for 15th May 2016

This form is for a single vehicle only, please copy it if you have multiple entries.

PERSONAL DETAILS		PLEASE NOTE THERE ARE SOME CHANGES TO CATEGORIES.	VEHICLE DETAILS	
Name			Make	
Address			Model	
			Year of Manufacture	
			Reg Number	
Postcode			CATEGORY tick one box	
Phone			A Pre 1947 Commercials	
Mobile			B Post 1946 Commercials	
email			C Buses & coaches	
OTHER INFORMATION tick appropriate boxes			D 1900 - 1930 cars	
		E 1947 - 1960 cars		
Will you be entering the road run?		F 1971 - 1986 cars		
Will your entry include a trailer / transporter?		G Tractors & Stationary Engines		
Do you want the vehicle entered for judging?		H American Cars		
Will your arrive Saturday caravan/camping?		I Special Entries		
Do you need a location map?		J1 Motor cycles		
Are you aged 25 years or under?		J2 Scooters		
Help us to reduce postage costs and tick the "Yes" box if you are happy for us to email next year's form to you.		K Military vehicles		
		L 1961 - 1970 cars		
FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY		M 1931 - 1946 cars		
Class		N 1987 - 1995 cars		
Number		S Emergency Vehicles		

CLUB STANDS: If you are a member of a club with a stand at the rally and wish to exhibit on that stand please specify which.	Club Stand
INSURANCE: vehicles attending the rally must be properly insured for use on the public highway and driver/s must be properly licensed. By signing below you acknowledge that these conditions are complied with.	
I would like to enter a vehicle for the 2016 rally and enclose a stamped, self addressed A5 (9" x 6") envelope and payment of	£5 Signature
I would like to enter a vehicle for the 2016 rally but do not have an envelope available so I enclose payment of	£8 Signature

Please return this form and your cheque made payable to "The Chiltern Hills Rally"

PLEASE NOTE: Entries received after 25th April may be placed in THE LATE ENTRY AREA!



The Chiltern Hills Rally, 63 Summers House, Coxhill Way
Aylesbury, Bucks, HP21 8FN

Tel. 07795 372414 Email: entry@chilternhillsrally.org.uk



NO CALLERS PLEASE, POSTAL ENTRIES ONLY!