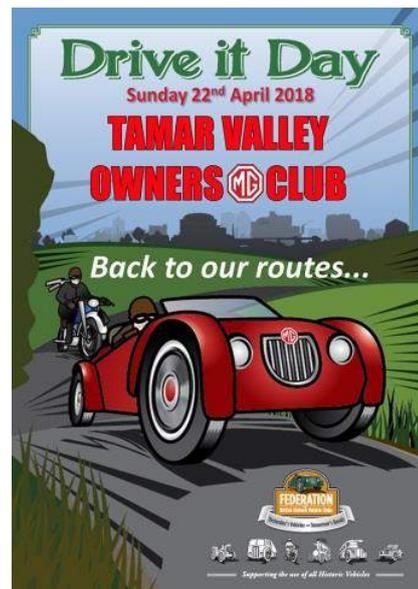


NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2018 EDITION



This Month:

- FBHVC Survey highlights
- Drive It Day preview
- How to use our website
- MOT Exemption changes
- How to wash your car
- Car insurance claims



ENJOY YOUR MG MORE WITH TVMGOC



Secretary's Report



Hello Everyone,

Sorry to have missed the AGM in March, Neil & I had a lovely time in Egypt, the Nile cruise was fabulous, we visited lots of beautiful temples & tombs, the weather was gorgeous, I stuffed myself merrily with all the lovely food on offer, and we met up with Neil's sister & family who live in Hurgahada on the Red Sea. It was a marvellous holiday, but it's always nice to get home.

There were a couple of changes at the AGM, Ade has decided to have a well-earned rest from Committee duties after five years, many thanks to Ade and Val for all their hard work for the club, I am sure we are all very grateful to them both for all the effort they have put in. Howard is continuing as Events Secretary & is also organising the website & newsletter, Janis has been elevated to Vice Chair and Nigel has joined the Committee as Members Rep 2, welcome Nigel. Myself, Sonia, Alan and Noel are staying the same.

What a shame we had to cancel the March Sunday Lunch due to the adverse weather conditions, it was a very good decision made by Alan, otherwise we could have all been snowed in at the Boringdon Golf Club.

Our first event of the Spring is the national Drive it Day & Treasure Hunt run on the 22nd April which is being organised by Peter & Jan, it will commence at Finla coffee at Mudge Way car park, moving on to Tavistock, & finishing with a cream tea at the Louis Tearooms at Kit Hill Nr Callington, if anyone is interested in joining this run, contact Peter & Jan or any member of the Committee & we will pass your message on.

I would just like to remind anyone who has not yet paid their subscription that it is now due, also we do need the completed & signed membership application forms returned to comply with the new data regulations that are coming in to force this year. The Committee has agreed that anyone who has not paid their subscription by the May meeting will be taken off the mailing list. Looking forward to seeing you all at the March meeting.

Best Wishes & Happy Driving

Pam



Notes from your Chairman



Hello everyone,

Hooray! Spring has arrived and with it the chance of better weather and lighter evenings. Have you sorted out all the winter jobs on the MG yet? Of course you haven't and you cannot say I didn't remind you a few months ago to do so.

The March Sunday lunch and run had to be cancelled due to the threat of the 'mini beast from the East' arriving. I did feel a bit of an idiot when I phoned Boringdon Golf club to cancel on the morning as Alison and I were basking in the sunshine at the time.

Fortunately, the mini beast put on a bit of a show to vindicate my decision just at the time we would have been arriving for lunch, and the blizzard that ensued would have caused a bit of a panic amongst our ranks and definitely spoil the lunch and also the run home.

The Drive It Day and Treasure Hunt on Sunday 22nd April is a chance for us to get together as a club and display our MGs in Bedford Square, Tavistock and have a bit of fun. It should be a fantastic sight to see us all parked up in front of the market buildings. With a cream tea to end the day this should be a really good event. Please do try and come along to let the public see our lovely cars.

We now have our supper runs to look forward to and they kick off with the Cuddy Shack run on Friday 11th May. This is always a superb evening so get your names down as soon as you can.

We have a new member on the committee and I know you will all join me in welcoming Nigel V. as one of your Members' Representatives.

I am looking forward to another fantastic MG year with Tamar Valley and I hope to see you all coming along for the drives and sharing in the fun.

Happy MG motoring,

Alan



Editorial Note



Dear all,

I sent my apologies for missing the AGM. A family health crisis needed me in Cambridge, so I missed all the action. I'd like to add my welcome to Nigel onto the committee. Clubs like ours simply cannot function without people who have at least basic computer skills and Nigel will, I'm sure, be able to support the club's activities admirably. Everything that has been set up – the website, email systems, newsletter production etc, - has been done in such a way that no one person is needed to run the show. Currently I'm doing most of this stuff, but the club is not reliant on me, which is as it should be.

Now, with signs of spring around, we must live in the hope that we can look forward to some wonderful sunny months of MGing. I know that's not a proper word but who says I'm not allowed to make up new ones? Language is ever evolving, and if new words like *mansplain* [a man explaining, typically to a woman, in a manner regarded as condescending or patronizing] and *a-tittup* [to move with jerky or exaggerated movements] can be added to the OED, why not MGing?

April is one of the most important months of the year for us as it includes National Drive It Day. Peter and Jan S. have written an introduction to this year's event which promises to be terrific. I can't wait, and if you have not put your name down for this run please do so if you possibly can, and soon!

Escaping for a few hours from family duties in Cambridge, your roving reporter visited the Practical Classics Show at the NEC. One of the talks was by David Whale, Chairman of the Federation of British Historic Vehicle Clubs. Every five years they conduct a survey into the size, value and impact of the classic car scene. This data is used to lobby Government on issues affecting the status and freedom of the movement. Here are a few highlights you may be interested to see – facts worth remembering to bandy about!

The number of people interested in historic vehicles in Britain	8.2 million
Number of historic vehicles registered for road use	1,039,950
Annual spending on historic vehicle related activity	£5.5bn
Average number of miles driven annually by each historic vehicle	1,124
Number of owners of historic vehicles in Britain	500,000
Estimated value of all historic vehicles in Britain	£17.7bn
Annual spend by historic vehicle owners in Britain	£662m
Number of people employed in historic vehicles industry in Britain	32.900

And MG is still the most popular marque un the UK comprising 6% of all historic vehicles.

Happy MGing!

Howard, Event Secretary & newsletter hack

Send submissions to mediatvmgoc@gmail.com



UPCOMING EVENTS

The most up to date and more detailed information on all 2018 events can be found and downloaded on the Event Diary Page and the Entry Forms page. See: www.tvmgoc.org.uk

APRIL 2018

4	Monthly meeting	Moorland Garden Hotel.
22	DRIVE IT DAY	The cars to be displayed from approx. 09:30 to 10:30 at Mudge Way Car Park, Plympton, and in front of Tavistock market between 11:30 to 13:30. Then drive to Louis Tea Room, Kit Hill, Callington PL17 8AX for tea. Organised by Peter & Jan.

May 2018

2	Monthly meeting	Moorland Garden Hotel. Meet in the bar for 8pm with the meeting to commence shortly after.
4 – 6		Bristol MGOC Bluebell Run. Closed for entries
6	Keat's bluebell woods open day for charities	(this was really spectacular last year) at Foxhams House, Horrabridge, PL20 7QT. 2pm to 5pm – just turn up.
11	Club Friday evening run	John and Paddie organising to Cuddy Shack nr. Looe PL13 1NX 01503 263091 Meeting point: Travel Lodge, Saltash, just off new A38 roundabout at 1845 for 1900. Meal served 8pm
13	Devon & Cornwall event	Killerton House Classic Car Day. Cars under 25 years old can only attend if part of a club stand. Closing date 24 April
13	Devon & Cornwall event	Boconnoc Gardens & Classics in aid of Marie Curie. Date confirmed. No forms yet. Clashes with Killerton
13	Other event of interest outside of local area	The Mendip Vintage & Classic Tour organized by the Classic & Historic Motor Club. No closing date given.
20	Devon & Cornwall event	Atlantic Coast Express (ACE) Run D&C MGCC. Closing date 30 April.
25 – 29	Club Weekend away	Llanerchindda Farm in Mid Wales.
26 to 28	Devon & Cornwall event	Launceston Steam & Vintage Rally. Forms available for cars over 30 years old. Closing date 1 May.
27	Devon & Cornwall event	Moor 2 Sea Run (Exeter MGOC) Entry forms available. No closing date given.

JUNE 2018

2 - 3		MG Live At Silverstone
3	Devon & Cornwall event	Saltram Rotary Classic Car Show 11.00 to 17.00 Lyneham Estate, Yealmpton
3	Devon & Cornwall event	Tavistock Steam & Vintage Fair - Entry form available
6	Monthly meeting	Moorland Garden Hotel.
10	Other event of interest outside of local area	Cwm 2 Coast Bridgend MGOC Starting and finishing in the Bridgend area of South Wales.
15	Club Friday supper run	Alan & Alison organising to The Royal Oak, Meavy. Meeting on Roborough Down for the run at 6.30 pm and depart on the run by 6.45pm. Supper: 19:30 for 20.00
17	Devon & Cornwall event	Morwellham Quay Father's Day Classic Car Day. Cars under 25 years must be in a club entry with more older cars.
17	Other event of interest outside of local area	MGs in the Park - Oxfordshire MGOC – over 500 MGs

DRIVE IT DAY PREVIEW

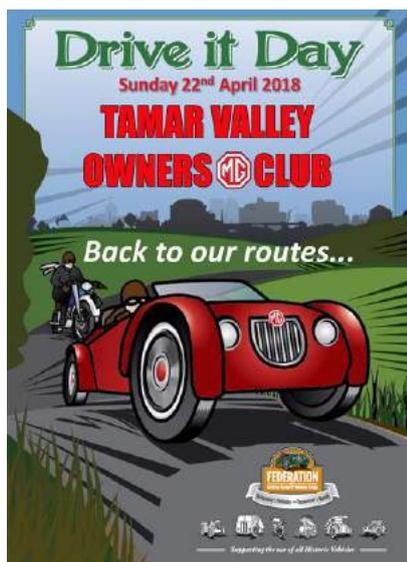
National Drive It Day is an annual event co-ordinated by the Federation of British Historic Vehicle Clubs (to which the MG Owners Club is affiliated). The idea is for as many clubs as possible to take to the roads to raise national awareness of the classic car scene with the Government and general public. It also serves to kick off the new driving season.



Peter and Jan S. (last year's trophy winners and this year's organisers) said, "Drive it Day 2017 was our first Club event, we were made to feel very welcome and had a great day meeting club members and navigating through the Dartmoor lanes. We met members of the local scooter club and narrowly avoided a head-on encounter with members of the Devon Vintage Car Club – all enjoying their own drive it days. We hope this year's event will be just as successful."

Tamar Valley MG Owners Club Plan for the day

The day will give all members a chance to show off their cars whilst taking part in an integrated 3-part treasure hunt through South Dartmoor, Tavistock and the Tamar Valley to compete for the Club's perpetual shield.



An early morning start (timings below) at Mudge Way Car Park, Plympton, to pick up the route book and treasure hunt clues at Finla Coffee (thanks to Mike and Deanna for opening early!). A leisurely drive to Tavistock cracking the first part of the treasure hunt followed by time at Tavistock Town Hall (courtesy of Tavistock Town Council) to park up, shine up and display your pride and joy. A short walking element of the treasure hunt will comprise the second part ("Plot & Plod" - with *apologies to Ade & Val*). This will guide you round the town to pick up clues about its history. The day will continue with an afternoon drive through the middle Tamar Valley to complete the treasure hunt and end near Callington at the Louis Tea Rooms (Cath and Rich) on Kit Hill with a magnificent view of the lower Tamar Valley, in good time for a well-earned cream tea (is it cream or jam first in Cornwall?) and presentation of shield and prizes.

(Club members not wishing to take part in the treasure hunt may join in at any point - Plympton, Tavistock or Callington - but must book for their cream tea)

Timings:

- Arrival at start point from 09.30 to 10.00
- Tavistock Town Hall static display from 11.30 to 13.30 (approx)
- Cream Tea from 15.30 to 17.00

Price: £5.00 per person payable on booking or at the start. (In order to take part in the Treasure Hunt safely all cars should have a minimum of driver plus navigator)



Organisers: Peter & Jan driving a green 1975 Jubilee MGB GT
pstabb@gmail.com 07805362465

Food & refreshments: An opportunity for coffee and cakes at the start (at own cost).

Lunch will be available in a number of venues in Tavistock (at own cost) or bring a picnic to eat in Tavistock's lovely riverside park.

Cream Tea with a choice of plain, fruit or gluten free scones and tea or coffee at Louis Tea Room, Kit Hill, Callington (included in cost but please indicate choice of scone when booking).

Booking: Booking is essential at the Club's April meeting or by contacting the organisers by email or text.

Kit and Equipment: No special kit or equipment will be required for the treasure hunt, but it is advisable that all drivers and passengers have access to high visibility vests in case of breakdown.



Murray and Mary have volunteered to act as marshals at Tavistock, but members should be prepared to self-marshall parking at the start and finish.

Club feather flags will be assigned to cars and displayed at all venues.

Tavistock's impressive Town Hall, built by the Duke of Bedford in 1864. By courtesy of Tavistock Town Council, Tamar Valley MG Owners Club cars will be on display on the front forecourt on Sunday 22 April 2018.

(Photo: Tavistock Town Council)



HOW TO USE OUR WEBSITE

I have been asked for another reminder of how to use our website. The website address is: <http://www.tvmgoc.org.uk/>. However, it will help keep us at the top of Google's search list if instead of bookmarking the site you do a search for it by typing Tamar Valley MGOC or Tamar Valley MG Owners Club.

There is no password needed as we do not have a Member's Area - we don't need one.

The Entry Form tab is where all the practical information is about that's happening, when, and how to enter. Do scroll down this list – not everything can be put at the top! – and you'll find events in date order.

This and other tabs include files that can be downloaded – entry forms for runs and our Event Diary are the main ones. Downloading these PDF documents is very easy. Using the example on the Event Diary tab, click **Download PDF**. The document now opens in Adobe (this should be installed on your computer already) here it can be read.

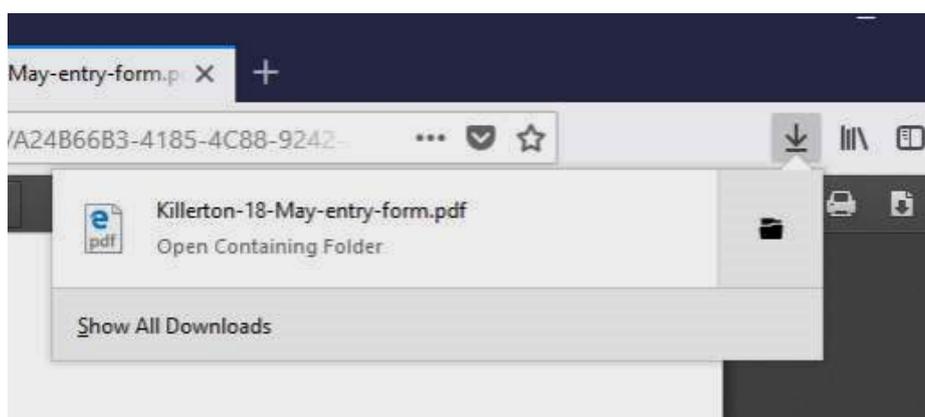
To print this document, click the printer icon which should look like this (also shown in the screengrab below).



To download and save this document, click the icon which should look like this (also shown in the screengrab below). Now click **Save** and it will go into your Downloads folder.



“But where is my Downloads folder?” I hear you cry. Actually, it’s not always that easy to find. However, it is easily accessible following a download. After completing the steps above, look for the down arrow as in this picture. It may be blue. Click this and the name of the file will be displayed. To the right of this is a folder icon. Click the icon and your Downloads folder will open (Yaaaayyyy!!!). Find and highlight the downloaded file, and then copy or cut and paste it into whatever folder you usually use to save entry forms, or wherever you’ll be able to find it again.



To download a photo, on the Gallery page click the **TVMGOC Flickr photo page** link. This will take you to Flickr, a photo-sharing site. Now find the relevant Album – click on the photo you want to download. Click the download icon like the one on the right. Select the size (go for the biggest if it is to be printed). Click **Save**.



Finally make a note of which newsletter these instructions are in, so you can find them again in the future!
Howard

 **SNIPPETS** 

MOT EXEMPTION EXPLAINED

From 20 May 2018 the DfT will exempt most vehicles over 40 years old from an annual MOT test. This decision has been controversial with many motoring organisations and classic car owners saying it is folly. However, the decision has been made, and this is what it might mean for you. For full details of the changes see the DfT guidelines*, but that follows are the main points likely to affect TVMGOC members.

What classics will become exempt?

Any pre-1978 vehicle, then after that on a 40-year rolling basis unless it has been "substantially modified".

What does "substantially modified" mean?

If any vehicle parts are changed to parts made to the same pattern as the original, then that would not be seen as a substantial change. Changes away from the original - chassis, suspension, steering or fitting a different type of engine - are classed as substantial changes. However, alternative cubic capacities of the same basic engine as the car's original are not considered substantial.

The chamois died in vain

The use of a chamois can damage your paintwork (it says 'ere - who knew?!). PVDM say get a proper microfibre drying towel (more kit) instead. Pat, don't rub, and if it's a jaguar take care not to stroke its fur the wrong way.

The wash that comes before the wash

Fill the buckets with warm or cold water depending on how delicate your hands are. Into the wash and wheel buckets, add some auto shampoo (more kit). Don't use domestic shampoo or washing up liquid (PVDM say this needs a chemistry lesson to explain why so we'll just take that at face value). For the pre-wash use the lance and spray foam liberally all over - wait a few minutes and then rinse.



A snow foam lance to fit to a pressure washer costs £35 on Amazon. Hand pressure pumps, much like garden sprayers, are cheaper.

Rims 'n' rubber

Now we are told that in addition to the shampoo that's already in the wheel bucket, we should also employ wheel cleaner liquid (more kit) and wheel brushes (more kit) for the inside and outside rims. Clean the brush in your wheels bucket as required. Then rinse carefully with the clean water and, if you have a pressure washer, use that inside the wheel arches. If there's lots of brake dust you might want to employ Fallout remover (more kit). * #

Get in a lather

Although PVDM says you can clean a car without touching it, it now tells you to do just that! The snow foam should loosen the worst of the dirt so you don't have to rub so hard. After dipping in the wash bucket, use your mitt to gently wipe the body from the top and work down in straight lines covering the whole bodywork, chrome and glass. In dirty areas like bumpers and sills, rinse more often. In theory your rinse bucket should be full of dirty water and your wash bucket still nice and clean by the end. Rinse again using DI or RO (no, I don't understand this either but I presume one of them means distilled water – more kit) to reduce water spotting. In a hard water area, water spots can be removed with Quick Detailer (yet more kit).

I presume polishing comes next and wonder what kit you need for that. However, at this point the advice stops. PVDM say you have only just begun as detailing comes next, but to find out more about that you'll just have to buy the magazine. I'll borrow it after you've finished with it please.

In the meantime, pass me the Pledge.

* This is all well and good, but I'll also have to jack up each chrome wire wheel in turn and spend at least half an hour polishing the damned things in all their tiny nooks & crannies. I've tried lots of spray-on wire wheel cleaners (kit) and none are much good. They get the muck off, but a good hand polishing is very much needed to make them shine. They do look great afterwards though!

Alternatively



Howard



Last month's picture:



Thanks for a fine crop of entries this month	From
<i>As George Orwell might have said... '4 wheels good but 2 x 2 legs better...'</i>	Peter S.
<i>In the 60s, a mini with PVC boots was all the rage. A men's version with trousers never really caught on.</i>	Jan P.
<i>"These boots are made for walking!" (with apologies to Nancy Sinatra)</i>	Murray
<i>"I told you not to park it in Swilly"</i>	Murray
<i>"When you said I liked to wear a mini I meant a mini skirt!"</i>	Janis
<i>'He may have lost his wheels- but my God - how could you blame him for rushing home with a pair of legs like that'.</i>	Keat
<i>'Nice legs shame about the body!'</i>	Clive
<i>"When you said that you wanted to see me wearing a mini, this wasn't what I had in mind!"</i>	Alan
<i>Fred and Freda couldn't afford an umbrella so they took the Mini instead!!</i>	Ade
<i>Wilma and Bert didn't want to be recognised at the knobbly knee competition but their number plate was a bit of a giveaway!</i>	Val
<i>Good to see Fred & Wilma Flintstone keeping with the times ...</i>	Tim S.
<i>She – "Are you sure Car SOS will take this on?"</i>	Howard
<i>He – "If they don't, one look at those boots and Pimp Your Ride are bound to be interested!"</i>	
<i>"This must be the most eco "Friendly" mini to date."</i>	Noel
<i>The salesman said you can actually stretch your legs in this model !!</i>	Noel
<i>"Darling, when you said I should wear my mini to the car club's fancy dress party, this is not quite what I had in mind!"</i>	John & Paddie

This month's winner is chosen by Howard's son-in-law Tom, who is at home in Cambridge recovering from pneumonia. Tom's favourite is, "I told you not to park it in Swilly" sent in by Murray. Well done!

The picture for March is of an MGF taken in Geneva:
Your entries by email to: mediatvmgoc@gmail.com by 23 April please





AND FINALLY...



CAR INSURANCE CLAIMS

These are actual statements found on insurance forms where car drivers attempted to summarize the details of an accident in the fewest words. These instances of faulty writing serve to confirm that even incompetent writing may be highly entertaining.

Coming home I drove into the wrong house and collided with a tree I don't have.

The other car collided with mine without giving warning of its intentions.

I collided with a stationary truck coming the other way.

The guy was all over the road. I had to swerve a number of times before I hit him.

I pulled away from the side of the road, glanced at my mother-in-law and headed over the embankment.

I had been shopping for plants all day and was on my way home. As I reached an intersection, a hedge sprang up obscuring my vision and I did not see the other car.

I had been driving for 40 years when I fell asleep at the wheel and had an accident.

I was on my way to the doctor with rear end trouble when my universal joint gave way causing me to have an accident.

As I approached the intersection, a sign suddenly appeared in a place where no stop sign had ever appeared before. I was unable to stop in time to avoid the accident.

To avoid hitting the bumper of the car in front, I struck the pedestrian.

My car was legally parked as it backed into the other vehicle.

An invisible car came out of nowhere, struck my car and vanished.

I told the police that I was not injured but on removing my hat, I found that I had a fractured skull.

I was sure the old fellow would never make it to the other side of the road when I struck him.

The pedestrian had no idea which direction to run so I ran over him.

I saw a slow moving, sad faced old gentlemen as he bounced off the hood of my car.

The indirect cause of the accident was a little guy in a small car with a big mouth.

I was thrown from my car as it left the road. I was later found in a ditch by some stray cows.

The telephone pole was approaching. I was attempting to swerve out of its way when it struck my front end.

Going to work at 7am this morning I drove out of my drive straight into a bus. The bus was 5 minutes early.

I had one eye on a parked car, another on approaching lorries, and another on the woman behind.

The accident was caused by me waving to the man I hit last week.

And finally, from down under...

I was driving along when I saw two kangaroos copulating in the middle of the road, causing me to ejaculate through the sun roof.