

**Newsletter  
September  
2024**



**This Month**  
Committee reports  
Upcoming events  
MoTs

**Reports:**  
Supper run to Forest Inn  
Harrowbeer  
Taunton Motor Museum  
Fowey Classic Car Show & Parade  
Great Trethew



**Get more smiles to the gallon  
with TVMGOC**



## Secretary's Report



This has been another busy month for us in the verdant and picturesque Tamar Valley. We are well into the show season of course, and despite a few downpours between the sunshine, we appear to have been lucky on the days which we have attended. I think that the general consensus will be that the highlight was again the Fowey Classic Car show, which is growing year by year thanks to Dennis Espley and his team of organisers. The show was on the Thursday of the Fowey Regatta week this year and started with an afternoon showing the cars off at the Fowey Riverside Academy at the top of the town. You may recall that what makes this show special, and so different, is that it completes with a classic car cavalcade through the closed off streets of Fowey, hopefully captured by Howard's special rotating camera.\*



Residents and visitors alike throng the route, often with tables set out at the roadside featuring the odd glass or two, and the cars are cheered and waved through the town, and I was delighted that this year I did not break down! This year the organisers had arranged a trip through a privately owned tunnel out of Fowey – originally a single-track railway tunnel and an unforgettable experience as V8s and of course B series echoed from the walls.

Another highlight was the 1940s festival at RAF Harrowbeer on the site of the old airfield at Yelverton, where the cars got lots of attention and there was also much to see. 1940s memorabilia together with a number of wartime re-enactors and attendees in period correct clothes generates something of a mini-Goodwood atmosphere, with a number of military vehicles and a static Rolls Royce Merlin engine which is run up many times during the day. This event is so local to us that those attending suggested that it may become one of the club events in the future, not least as it appears to be going from strength to strength, and we will take that to the Committee. As ever – do feed your views in.

Elsewhere the vintage rally at Great Trethew in Cornwall also attracted a number of our cars on the late Aug Bank Holiday and was also a splendid day out. I thought that our new 'home' for our monthly meetings of the Hunting Lodge worked pretty well, and I have received a lot of good feedback, which is always a relief! I am afraid that Charlie and I are away on the 9<sup>th</sup>, but back for the run on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of course, so we will see you then!

Warmest Regards,

*Simon*

*\*There's a link to the video in the report later which has also been emailed to all members. Ed.*

Should you need to contact our club secretary, for example to send in club subscriptions, first call or email.

01822 852843

[clubsecretarytvmgoc@gmail.com](mailto:clubsecretarytvmgoc@gmail.com)



## Notes from your Chairman



Hello everyone,

August's club meeting seemed to be a resounding success with a very good turn out by our membership. Plenty of them also enjoyed a pre-meeting meal too. An evening spent amongst friends with no cooking involved would appear to be a winner. We certainly blasted past the £100.00 expenditure target set by the Hunting Lodge on our first club visit. Please ensure that you mention membership of Tamar Valley when you next buy a drink or food at future club meetings. This will ensure that we clear the £100 target each month.

The midweek trip by a few club stalwarts to the County Classics Motor Museum at Taunton was a really good outing, if you ever get the opportunity, then a visit is highly recommended. You will not be disappointed!

The following day Alison and I took part in the Friday Night Supper Run to the Forest Inn at Hexworthy. The route from Lee Mill to the venue was a very pleasant top-down trip and mostly across Dartmoor. The meal was good and the company excellent. Thank you to David and Teresa for giving us a great evening. The run back home afterwards was still with the roof down. I did try and put the heater on but instead of the normal experience of toasty warmth...nothing happened. Something to investigate when I get a moment, hopefully it is just a stuck heater valve. As if it is going to be that easy!

Well, I am pleased to say our twelve day trip to the New Forest with our two eldest granddaughters was a complete success and the weather was mostly warm and dry. We are now home for a couple of days before heading into Cornwall for a short camping holiday with our two youngest grandchildren. Fortunately mum and dad are also going to be there, as we wouldn't cope too well with the breast feeding of baby Harry. Our caravan is going to become the basecamp for the duration and provide all the home comforts, well that is the plan.

Just as a reminder to you all, our November Sunday Lunch Run to the Dartmoor Halfway Inn at Bickington still has a few spaces left, please refer to our email that we sent out if you wish to be included. In addition, we are still awaiting quite a few of your menu selections.

Please accept our apologies, as we will unfortunately miss the September club meeting and more importantly John's eagerly anticipated talk on bugs. If the last two talks by him are anything to go by, then you will be in for a treat.

Happy MG motoring,

*Alan*



## Event Secretary - keeping it wheel

Dear Motorneers,

The weather has played a significant part in our recent activities, here and abroad. First, Jan and I took our two granddaughters from Cambridge to spend a week in the sunshine and sea in Mallorca with their cousin who lives there. However, the trip didn't start out as expected.

The first day saw one of the horrendous water spout tornados in Mallorca which reeked chaos, particularly amongst boaters across the Balearics. This has been widely reported in the media, and it really was extraordinary weather, powered by abnormally high sea temperatures across the Mediterranean. This is a still from a video made by someone boating off the eastern side of Majorca. It shows four separate water spouts.



Next day it was still cloudy but that didn't stop the girls (and us!) from playing in the pool. Eventually the storms past, the skies cleared, and we enjoyed glorious hot (but not too hot) weather for the rest of our stay.

Then last week there were more water tornados over the island. What have we done to the climate?!

Typically, we were greeted by torrential rain when we returned home the day before Fowey show. On the morning of the show it was still pouring down, making some participants doubt the wisdom of attending. All we could do was hope that the Met Office forecast for a decent afternoon was correct, but it required an act of faith to believe them.

This summer, Jan and I have missed quite a few club meetings, lunch runs and local shows. In addition to the aforementioned week in Mallorca, we have not been around much because we have been on long trips in our MGA, so much so that I have had to up my annual insurance mileage allowance from 5,000 to 7,000.

I have a small list of jobs to do on it over the winter including fitting new padding in the seats, but the top task is to replace the manifold and exhaust. Many of you have pointed out over the years that the exhaust on my car hangs down very low, and it has been scraped and bashed numerous times. Compared with Roy's MGA, my exhaust is perhaps an inch or two lower and frankly, nothing looks right about it. Time for a replacement three branch manifold which I'll wrap (ceramic coating is very expensive and apparently will eventually wear off and need reapplying every few years) and new pipes.

Jan and I will be missing the November run and The Rut this year as she's (hopefully!) scheduled to have a replacement hip operation. I'll have no excuse for missing any more meetings through! Also, there's still plenty of time to take a smashing photo of your car for next year's photo competition.

Happy MGing!  
*Howard*



Upcoming events The most up to date and detailed information on all 2024 events can be found and downloaded on the Event Diary Page and the Entry Forms page. See: [www.tvmgoc.org.uk](http://www.tvmgoc.org.uk)

**TVMGOC LOCAL & CLUB DATES 2024**

Run start times and other details are here & on our website when available. Contact:  
 Howard re runs by other clubs, mini-break & Fowey Show & Parade: [eventsecretartvmgoc@gmail.com](mailto:eventsecretartvmgoc@gmail.com)  
 Andy re all other shows: [reptvmgoc@gmail.com](mailto:reptvmgoc@gmail.com)  
 Janis who helps the organisers of Sunday lunches, picnics + Xmas lunch:  
[socialsecretarytvmgoc@gmail.com](mailto:socialsecretarytvmgoc@gmail.com)

<b>Sept</b>	<b>Club 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday meeting at The Hunting Lodge – talk by John I. on bugs</b>	<b>9 Sept</b>
	<b>Re-run of 2023 People &amp; Places (a shortened route) hopefully in better weather – organised by Simon. Likely to be called PP7½ To Church House Inn, Stokenham TQ7 2SZ Tel: 01548 580253 Meeting point: Yelverton Golf Club Golf Links Rd, Yelverton PL20 6BN Coffee and Tea available 10-15 to 11-15am</b>	<b>22 Sept</b>
<b>Oct</b>	<b>Annual Tulip Trophy Run organised by Gavin &amp; Rachel The Royal Inn, Horsebridge, Devon PL19 8PJ Meeting point: The car park, Saltash Travel Lodge, PL12 6LD at 09.45 for departure at 10.15</b>	<b>13 Oct</b>
	<b>Club 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday meeting at Hunting Lodge - Chat &amp; Chill or Howard’s talk on their trip to Norway if he can get it together in time (or November)</b>	<b>14 Oct</b>
<b>Nov</b>	<b>Club 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday meeting at The Hunting Lodge</b>	<b>11 Nov</b>
	<b>Sunday lunch run to Dartmoor Halfway Inn, Ashburton Road, Bickington, TQ12 6JW - Tel. 01626 824011 Event organiser: Alan &amp; Alison Meeting point: Tesco Car Park at Lee Mill, departing promptly at 10.45 The Tesco Café is open for business and toilets are available.</b>	<b>17 Nov</b>
<b>Dec</b>	<b>Christmas Lunch at Yelverton Golf Club (no club meeting this month)</b>	<b>Thurs 19 Dec</b>

## News snippets

**Dangerous faults on 3000 classics**

So read a headline in CCW. Increasing numbers of older classics are failing MoT tests. The DVSA says of the 48,848 vehicles over 40 years old that were tested, almost 4,000 failed the MoT and 3,018 had at least one ‘dangerous’ defect, a 35% increase on 2022. However, many owners of historic vehicles do not get them examined annually because they are MoT exempt, so the numbers of unsafe cars on the road is likely to be much higher.

Some of these failures may be because modern testing standards cannot be met by older vehicles. Historic vehicle campaigner Sir Greg Knight points out that “Statistics show that historic vehicles make up about 0.6% of the total number of licenced vehicles in Britain but are only involved in 0.003% of road accidents.”

Car SOS presenter has this advice, “Having a second set of eyes check over your car is hugely valuable, and if we can’t have a test that reflects the standards that classics were manufactured to, then give your classic car garage an hour’s worth of business to give your car a once-over.”



## Supper Run to the Forest Inn at Hexworthy

Hurray, the weather was warm and the sun was shining when 12 MGs and 22 TVMGOC members met at the Tesco Lee Mill car park, all looking forward to David and Teresa's run to the Forest Inn. From Tesco the route went through Cornwood and on to the moor which was looking fabulous in the sunshine. You could see for miles. There were lots of families enjoying the scenery, playing games and picnicking (we even spotted some people barbecuing). The moorland ponies seemed to be enjoying hanging around in the hope of getting a few treats.

There were traffic lights on Cadover bridge (we were pre-warned) but there wasn't much of a queue. Neil and I missed the turn off for Meavy, but we realised what we had done when the car behind us turned off, so we quickly turned around, and our route mileage was only slightly out at the end. The route then briefly skirted Burrator reservoir, which was quite busy with people enjoying the sunshine.

Neil and I were the last to arrive at the Forest Inn, everyone was enjoying a drink and a chat whilst waiting for the food to be served. The staff were very well organised and we found the food hot and tasty. We were seated over two areas of the pub which meant it wasn't too noisy when everyone was chatting and we could easily hear our table companions.

It was a very enjoyable run and meal. Many thanks to David and Teresa for all their efforts in organising it for us.



New members  
Bob & Chris's  
lovely MGB



*Pam & Neil*



## RAF Harrowbeer 1940s Weekend

Simon has already written about this show and here is a gallery of photos taken by Treasurer Nigel that really capture the atmosphere of the event.



*The good guys...*



*..and the baddies*








Club day out to Taunton

Excitement for the day ahead started (thanks to Andy Slapp organising) with a few of us meeting-up at 10am in the car park of the Hunting Lodge at Lee Mill and car sharing to Taunton’s County Classic Motor Museum, having arranged to meet others in a car park near the venue itself. The weather, to be honest, didn’t look too promising for mid-August, but we knew we’d be inside and protected from the nasty ‘wet stuff’ if it was to arrive! As it happened we needn’t have worried unduly.

Part of the enjoyment of these days out is not knowing exactly what to expect, then being quite pleasantly surprised when you get there, and that is exactly what happened when we got to the museum itself, which was virtually under the shadow of Taunton Minster. The entrance was from a façade along one of the main, semi pedestrianised streets in the town centre which was easily walked past! However, once inside it seemed to open up into Dr. Who’s proverbial Tardis!!



The Museum itself was opened on 20th November 2023 by none other than BBC’s Top Gear pundit Richard Hammond, with the focus on cars & motorcycles from our youth. On entry, to the left was a period gift shop/reception desk, then to the right were a couple of vehicles, one being a narrow three wheeled Messerschmidt. Our route took us to the back of the room and up a wide curved staircase past wall recesses containing classic model cars & lorries that we’d have been proud to have owned as youngsters.

Arriving upstairs in the middle of the first floor, our guide Russ directed us to turn right into the motorcycle display room. To the right was the coffee/tea shop & restaurant. There were fine examples such as ‘AJS,’ Triumph; (two Tigers), BSA, Yamaha, Suzuki, Honda, Harley Davidson, and even a James to drool over!!



Then through into an adjacent connecting room into the car section, where an original Austin Mini Cooper 'S,' Jensen Healey, Mk.1 Ford Capri, Ford Anglia, Triumph Herald 1200 and Ford Consul, amongst many others, were waiting to shine! Soon a break was required, and we all headed for the restaurant area. There were many tempting displays of cakes that were, quite frankly, irresistible!



Having suitably refreshed ourselves, a second, more extensive viewing was undertaken, and our guide provided much interesting information. An original AC Cobra, a yellow Mk.1 Ford Escort valued at virtually £1,000,000\*, an early 'E' Type Jaguar (on a rotating platform) and a restored 1972 'K' Reg. round wheel-arched MG Midget in BRG were also there to delight us, as well as a rare Hillman Avenger Tiger, Jaguar XK120, Fiat X 1/9 and an Austin Allegro Police car. Noel & Kate highly recommended the coffee cheese cake, and I



seriously regret not having a piece, but most of us did stop for another cup of tea or coffee before the drive home, praising the fine display of cars, the helpful staff, the good food, and feeling happy to have spent the day in good company yet again.

*Nigel S.*

*\*Apparently this is not a typo. It really is the figure quoted by the museum. Ed*



## Fowey Classic Car Show & Parade and the drive though Pinnock Tunnel

After the rain, the Met Office forecast for a decent afternoon was thankfully correct. Clive and I, followed by Andy with Gavin, arrived early to ensure we had our designated space to ourselves. Last year two cars had parked in the middle of our pitch and refused to move. The marshals had been unwilling to make a fuss and ask them to go elsewhere.



However, after having previously had a bit of a moan to the organisers about this, on arrival this year I was delighted to see our club space was properly marked and even cordoned off by tape. Because of this there had been no need for us to arrive early.

Yet again, TVMGOC were the biggest single club attending, even though a few of our members had dropped out for a variety of reasons.

The team had had fun erecting the gazebo. Usually, Alan is there to direct this complex operation but he was away with his family and so we muddled through on our own initiative. Soon it was up, and we also had our four feather flags fluttering. (*Soon? You mean eventually! Ed*).

On the day, I counted 21 of our cars including an old TD. Fairly early on the driver had reversed into one of our spaces. I didn't recognise him or the car. I have missed a few meetings so I assumed he might be a new member I hadn't met yet. We only want TVMGOC cars in our space for insurance reasons. I greeted him and asked if he was a member of "Tamar Valley." He replied in the affirmative and said he had only recently joined so I welcomed him into the fold. Later on, when Simon arrived, he checked the latest membership list, and that car was not there. It turned out that the chap had recently joined Tamar Valley Historic Transport Club, not us! However, he was also a member of MGOC and so was covered by our insurance, so we all had a bit of a giggle over the confusion.

It's unsurprising that the Fowey Show gets bigger each year. This time over 300 vehicles were in attendance, no doubt attracted by the appeal of the parade through the town. The Met Office had been right. The sun came out, quickly drying the grass, and it turned out to be a very pleasant afternoon for us and the crowds who came out to see and watch.



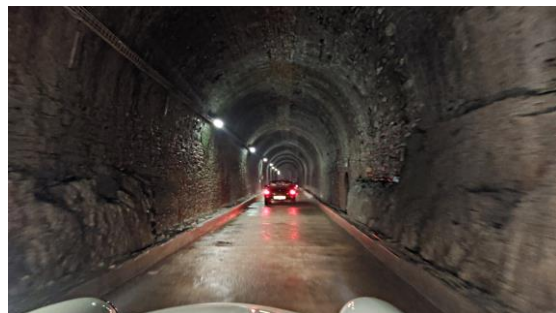
I have already shared this, but here's a link to the 360-degree video I made of the parade: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EybcAidAm68>

Due to space in this newsletter, below is a greatly reduced selection of scenes that caught my eye and Nigel's.

*Howard*



*Boys and their Toys  
(see also this month's caption comp photo)*





I'll keep this short as this has been a busy month for shows. In spite of happening just four days after Fowey, and it being Bank Holiday Monday, we had eight cars attending Great Trethew. There's not much to say, though it was a lovely day out. The weather was nice, there were lots of classic cars and lots more tractors which paraded and pulled great weights over a field. Most of the day was filled by club members having a good old natter and there's nowt wrong with that. Here are a few interesting items on show and you'll see there was something for everyone.



1958 Ford Anglia 100e powered by a 4.6 ltr TVR V8, just one of many mods. It sounded fantastic!



A rare 1924 Crossley Tourer said to have been used by the Duke & Dutchess of York on their tour of New Zealand in 1927



GMC Hydramatic c.1965



TVMGOC flying the flags at Great Trethew



MG Maestro



*Tractors galore*



*Tractor pulling*



*Just needs a bit of T-cut and a polish*



*BSA trike c.1932*



*From Liskeard a Field Marshall steamer & a McCormick International tractor*



*Riley 2.6 c.1958*



*1973 Bedford Dormobile for sale at £12,000*



## Tempting

1934 MG NE Magnette Sports-Racing Two-Seater  
Bonhams sale with an estimate of £225,000 - £275,000



### MGOC Promo video

Why You Should Join The MG Owners' Club.  
For over 50 years The MG Owners' Club has concentrated on making it easier, cheaper and more enjoyable for you to own an MG. Want to know more about what we do and how we can help? This video explains it all.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gEEJ3if1lsg&t=32s>



The club also held an MG SV day and have produced another video about that here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aP6btBhGwzI>





Received entries	From
<i>Wally wondered why Norah had gone so quiet.....</i>	John I.
<i>"Howard, Howard, wait for me!"</i>	Richard
<i>The best way to cure an itchy bum!</i>	Howard
<i>I told you to use the torque wrench!!!</i>	Roger
<i>'I'm sure this will go quicker with wheels on'.</i>	Peter A.
<i>"Wait for meeeee!"</i>	Andrew H.
<i>Geoff named his motorcycle 'The Rocket,' but didn't realise 'first-stage separation' would happen due to a mechanical malfunction !!</i>	Nigel S.
<i>"Hey Bill, I don't want sound ungrateful, but my trousers are on fire!"</i>	John H.
<i>So that's what the red button does!</i>	Gavin
<i>We celebrate the fact that Chinese manufactured MGs are far superior due to the quality of their nuts and bolts!</i>	Andy S.
<i>♪ "Don't leave me this way..." ♪</i>	Jan
<i>Due to the budget restraints the new Bond film recreation of the ejector seat in the Aston Martin was not so impressive as when Sean Connery did it</i>	John I.
<i>To misquote George Orwell...3 wheels good...No wheels bad</i>	Peter S.
<i>Perhaps Maggie should have been clearer when she agreed to a trial separation</i>	Jan
<b>Someone's got a screw loose</b>	<b>Howard</b>
<i>Richard must have missed those bolts on the risk assessment!</i>	Richard
<i>"What happens if I pull this little lever thing at the back?"</i>	Simon
<i>"Bill, you know that precious bolt you lost on the garage floor before we left. I think I've found it!"</i>	John H.
<i>The British bobsleigh team practising out of season</i>	Howard

**And the winner of last month's competition chosen blindly by Jill is Howard. Well done!  
He will choose next month's winner**

Here's next month's photo of Howard, but what on earth is he doing? (Be as rude as you like! Ed.) (Oi! I'm judging this one matey. Do you mind?! Howard)  
Please send your entries by the end of the month and title your email **September Caption Competition\*** to: [eventsecretarytvmgoc@gmail.com](mailto:eventsecretarytvmgoc@gmail.com)  
\*Then I can find them more easily amongst a load of other club stuff.  
Thanks. Ed.







## And finally...



### MG HEAVEN

*Two 90-year-old men, Mike and Joe, have been friends all of their lives.*

*When it's clear that Joe is dying, Mike visits him every day.*

*One day Mike says, "Joe, we both loved driving our old MGs all our lives, and we have attended countless classic car shows over the years. Please do me one favour. When you get to heaven, somehow you must let me know if there are any MG enthusiasts up there."*

*Joe looks up at Mike from his death bed. "Mike, you've been my best friend for many years. If it's at all possible, I'll do this favour for you."*

*Shortly after that, Joe passes on.*

*At midnight a couple of nights later, Mike is awakened from a sound sleep by a blinding flash of white light and a voice calling out to him, "Mike, Mike."*

*"Who is it?" asks Mike sitting up suddenly. "Who is it?"*

*"Mike--it's me, Joe."*

*"You're not Joe. Joe just died."*

*"I'm telling you, it's me, Joe," insists the voice.*

*"Joe! Where are you?"*

*"In heaven," replies Joe. "I have some really good news and a little bad news."*

*"Tell me the good news first," says Mike.*

*"The good news," Joe says, "is that there ARE MGs in heaven. Better yet, all of our old friends who died before us are here, too attending classic car shows. Better even than that, we're all young again and the cars never break down. Better still, it's always sunny and we never have to put the hoods up. And best of all, we can drive as much as we like and never run out of petrol."*

*"That's fantastic," says Mike. "It's beyond my wildest dreams!"*

*"So, what's the bad news?"*

*"You and your MG are booked in for a show up here this Saturday."*



*I told a customer I had developed his pictures. When he asked for the negatives... I said he had a double chin and blue wasn't his colour.*