

This Month

Committee reports Upcoming events New venue for club meetings Membership News Club mini breaks 2025 Fowey Classic Car Show & Parade Morwellham Quay Father's Classic Car Day Totnes Vintage & Classic Show Snowdonia photos

Do not look for happiness in watches or bracelets, do not look for happiness in forks or sails. Happiness is laughter and friends, rain on your face, hugs and kisses. Don't look for happiness in shops, don't look for it in gifts, don't look for it at parties. Happiness is being loved by people, being respected, having parents alive, being able to play with your grandchildren. Happiness is what money can't buy... but you can buy an MG, and that will surely make you happy and do you no end of good!



TVMGOC cars overlook the lake on which our hotel was situated in Snowdonia

Get more smiles to the gallon with TVMGOC



Secretary's Report



The first part of my monthly comes to you from the foothills of Snowdonia, or Eryri for our Welsh speaking readers. While weather in these parts can be decidedly active, the Tamar Valley Club happened upon our idyllic location in glorious weather – which, while not exactly the heat wave promised by various weather gurus, was certainly hot enough. The driving experience was nothing short of splendid, with possibly the route to and from our hotel the Tyn y Cornel, via the A487 from Machynlleth, being a personal favourite.

The MGs were able to gather in the picturesque Portmeirion village, definitely something of a curate's egg but worth a visit, and also to conduct a grand circular tour via the Llanberis pass, through Betws-y-Coed and back to base. This fantastically scenic circuit was given depth by the brooding presence of the mountain itself, Mt Snowdon or Yr Wyddfa, providing a massive central backdrop to the relatively tiny MGs cruising around it. The club cars scrubbed up rather well I thought, with the flowing lines of the MGAs well matched by MGBs (and their V8 powered derivatives), while our K series powered contingent brought a slightly more modern touch to proceedings.



The hotel was, I felt, just right. Situated on a picturesque lake with boating available from July – it was right up there with the Italian Lakes for scenery and hospitality. Returning to the Tamar Valley, the feeling of the club was one of great satisfaction, as we consider a summer full of shows and interest.

Turning to club business, we have made the decision to change meeting venue. I have alerted 'Enjoying MG' so that passing MGOC members know where we are, and I reflect that while the Manadon Sports and Social Club was central, it was so busy with sporting events that car parking was always an issue, and the venue itself lacked character and soul. The Hunting Lodge in Cadleigh Lane, Ivybridge PL21 9JN is our new club home from Mon 12 Aug.

As this venue will allow members to dine as well as meet, I would like to encourage as many members as possible to 'commission' the new venue by joining for dinner before the meeting in August. We will check details and timings with the Hunting Lodge and confirm by email, but for the time being just 'save the date'!

Warmest Regards, *Símon*

Should you need to contact our club secretary, for example to send in club subscriptions, first call or email. 01822 852843 <u>clubsecretarytvmgoc@gmail.com</u>





Hello everyone,

At last month's club meeting, it was so nice to be able to meet our latest new members Andrew H (Aqua Blue MGBGT) & Clive R (Old English White MGB Roadster) and welcome them both to the club. In addition, it was good to meet another relatively new member, Tony S (Chariot Red MGA) once again, coming along to his second meeting. It appears that Andrew has quickly got his feet under the table and he joined up with Tamar Valley at the Father's Day Car Show at Morwellham Quay, so that was good.

The club trip to Snowdonia saw 19 cars taking to the road. Amazingly we enjoyed mainly dry weather for these few days away, the scenery was fantastic as we took full advantage to explore the area by road. Our hotel (the Gwesty TynyCornel), was situated beside a lake with the mountain ridge of Cader Idris providing a wonderful backdrop to feast our eyes upon each day. This latest trip away was a resounding success and our thanks go to Howard and Jan for organising.

I did wonder how the 20-mph default speed limit would affect us in Wales, and to be fair... it was a right pain in the neck. As we drove through the villages and towns, it was quite difficult to keep to the speed limit and you spent more time looking at the speed than the road ahead. Engaging 3rd gear was the only way I could be assured of staying somewhat legal!

In July, Alison and I are looking forward to attending the **Powderham Castle Classic Car Show**; I will be in touch with all participants to offer a meet-up at Lee Mill Tesco's and a convoy route to the show. I will need some help to transport the club's gazebo and feather flags, so if you have some room in your car, please let me know. That help will also be needed to get the equipment home after the show on Sunday.

At the moment, I am aware of two other couples going to the **Boconnoc Steam Fair** on Saturday 27th July. We will be meeting up for a convoy run to the show from the Route 38 Diner at Trerulefoot. If anyone else is also going on the Saturday and wishes to go in convoy, please let me know.

The upcoming club meeting in July will be the last one to be held at the Manadon Sports Hub. As you will be aware by now (see below for details) we are once again changing the meeting venue to The Hunting Lodge at Cadleigh near Ivybridge. Hopefully, you will be supportive of this change and understand why it is necessary. It will certainly be good to actually use our MGs once again on club meeting nights without fear of damage from the opening of car doors by the Hub's customers, and also to be able to enjoy a pub atmosphere once again. A monthly run up the A38 will also help to keep your MG running well!

Alison and I look forward to seeing all of you at the club meeting on Monday 8thJuly, where Nigel will entertain us with Part 2 of his talk on being a film 'extra'. Happy MG motoring,

Alan



Event Secretary - keeping it wheel

Dear Motorneers,

Sorry Jan and I are missing some club events. This is due to holidays and family ties that take us to Mallorca. (Shame innit! That's as bad as me saying we didn't have Sky TV when I was a kid. Even worse though, we didn't get a VCR until I was 15! It had no remote control, so we had to lie on the carpet and press buttons!) Also, what with the club's mini-break to Wales in June and then our third long holiday trip this year in the MG during July, we just aren't around much.

Talking of Wales, judging by the reaction to this holiday event, our venue and drives around Snowdonia were an unmitigated success, and Jan and I would like to thank those who attended for the bottle of craft gin we were presented with for organising the trip. We are really grateful to all who took part for making it such an enjoyable experience. I've written a report for *Enjoying MG* which they have said they'll publish, and when they do I'll share it with you. I'm including here a gallery showing some of our exploits, and in addition there's a report from Sally & Keith about their final day in the land of the red dragon.

While driving around Wales a few of you pointed out that my nearside brake light was much dimmer than the right. These are LEDs fitted just a few weeks ago. I checked the connections for rust and loose wires and all seemed ok. Then I swapped the bulbs over and oddly now the nearside was bright and the offside dim. Clearly it was a faulty bulb. Once home I emailed Classic Car LEDs about it and asked for a replacement. The chap there couldn't understand the problem either but sent me another bulb all the same. Since I fitted that, both sides are now equally nice and bright. Like the dealer, I have no idea how an LED can be faulty in this way.

Fingers crossed the weather is good for Powderham and Flete House etc. Remember that Flete is the only show that is exclusive to TVMGOC cars. We are invited to be an additional attraction to help raise funds for St Luke's Hospice. It's great that we now have the full complement of 20 cars, all that's allowed for our display. Those who are going please ensure you check your email before setting off as the event will be cancelled if it's raining as we park on their manicured lawns.

Fowey CC Show and Parade is on 22 August, and it looks like the drive through the Imerys tunnel is on. Please see the preview later in this newsletter as there may still be time for you to enter.

Happy MGing! Howard



Being social

New venue for club meetings -The Hunting Lodge, Cadleigh Lane, nr Ivybridge PL21 9JN

Our first meeting there is on Monday 12th August (all meetings will be on the second Monday of the month with the exception of December when there is no meeting).

Let's make it a celebration: bring your MG, the space for parking is plenty and safer than the Hub, and why not forget about cooking and come for a meal before the meeting. There's space to have a drink in the bar beforehand and, as the bar is next to the meeting room, popping out for a refill during the meeting easy. I intend to be there for a meal. The staff advise that if we are eating we should arrive between 6 and 6-30pm

Ok so the Sports Hub did not quite meet up to my expectations!! In practice the parking wasn't as good as I had been led to believe, the acoustics and lighting were dreadful although there was no way of testing them out before we started meeting there and then we were asked to pay for the hire and put £100 behind the bar. Enough was enough, so my hunt resumed.

I returned to the Hunting Lodge where previously I was told there would be a charge unless there were about 20 of us eating before the meeting.

At my recent visit, I was able to assure the owner that we had spent over £100 over the bar for the past 18 months, and so negotiated free use of the function room on that basis, the same as our original terms at the Sports Hub; any meals will also be counted into our total spend. Please tell the staff you are with the MG Club when ordering.

Having learnt from previous mistakes, some of the committee met there on a Monday evening to check out the parking, lighting and ambience:

The staff are very friendly. There is a bar so we can meet up and natter before the meeting. All good. The acoustics: well as there was only four people and a dog, that was difficult to test, but as the room has a cosier feel about it we think it will be ok.

The distance (a little further but an easy route and timewise quicker for most people). Ticked.

Directions - The Hunting Lodge is just off the A38, post code PL21 9JN.

From Plymouth, drive past the Lee Mill turn-off and then look for a sign Parking place ¼ mile followed by a sign for Cadleigh ¼ mile.

At this point, keep left and **slow down** - the slip road to Cadleigh is very short and takes you right past the pub car park.

From Ivybridge there are various routes depending on whether you want to go down the narrow lane for the last mile.

To return to Plymouth, go onto the A38 towards Ivybridge ¼ mile and take the next slip road to Ivybridge. **Stay in the RH lane...**

At the roundabout, follow signs for Plymouth, go over the A38 down past Endsleigh garden centre and rejoin to A 38 to Plymouth.

Janís - Socíal Secretary



The show must go on!

The car show season is now very much under way with some worthwhile events coming up.

The Father's Day show at Morwellham Quay was a great success and the 10 cars from our club were displayed together with our flags flying at either end of our pitch. An enjoyable day out.

I visited the St Merryn show on both Saturday and Sunday, 22nd and 23rd June. A good steam fair, well organised, around 30 classic cars of various models each day and worth a visit again next year.

Tamar Valley MGOC club shows still to come are: Powderham Historic Vehicle Gathering on 13th- 14th July.

Application for this event is now closed but we have a number of cars going each day.

Fowey Classic car show on Thursday August 22nd, 2pm to 6pm.

A half day show with a run through the town afterwards, culminating in a trip through the mining tunnel before heading home. At the last count we have 26 cars booked to go, so it should be a great afternoon with a certain "Babe Magnet" always competing for best MG!

Great Trethew Vintage Rally on August Bank Holiday weekend.

The club have decided to go on Monday 26th August and raise our flags and gazebo at our pitch. Please put your name on the form at our monthly meeting or email me if you wish to be there.

Flete House on Sunday 28th July.

This is our main charity event of the year. Our club have been asked to provide an attraction of MGs at their annual open day and I am pleased to say that we now have the full complement of 20 cars booked to attend.

The club trip to Taunton County Motor Museum on Thursday 15th August.

Will go ahead as most of us will be car sharing to make the event viable.

Details of all these events and other local shows are available in the events section of the club website, with links to the application addresses for each event.

Andy - Members Rep. 1



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: <u>www.tvmgoc.org.uk</u> OTHER SHOWS YOU MAY WISH TO ENTER AS AN INDIVIDUAL ARE ALSO LISTED ON OUR WEBSITE

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: <u>eventsecretarttvmgoc@gmail.com</u> Andy re all other shows: <u>reptvmgoc@gmail.com</u>

Janis who helps the organisers of Sunday lunches, picnics + Xmas lunch:

socialsecretarytvmgoc@gmail.com

	socialsecretarytymgoc@gmail.com	
July	Club 2 nd Monday meeting at Manadon	8 July
	Nigel S talk on being a TV Extra (Pt 2)	
	Powderham Historic Vehicle Gathering, organiser Andy – list closed	13 & 14 July
	Flete House Open Gardens for St Lukes – once again TVMGOC have	28 July
	been exclusively invited to put on a car show. Now full.	
	If wet this will be cancelled on the day so please check your emails	
	before setting off. Meet Tesco Lee Mill to depart 10:15.	
Aug	Club 2 nd Monday meeting at The Hunting Lodge.	12 Aug
VENUE	Friday supper run organised by David & Teresa to Forest Inn,	16 Aug
CHANGE	Hexworthy. Meet at 5pm to depart 5:30 at Tesco Lee Mill PL20 6SD	
	Club day out to County Classics Car Museum, Taunton.	Thurs 15 Aug
	Organised by Andy	
	Fowey Show and Parade. Entry link on our website	Thurs 22 Aug
	Great Trethew Vintage Rally. Entry link on our website	26 to <mark>28</mark> Aug
	We hope to put on a club group display on Monday 28 th	
Sept	Club 2 nd Monday meeting at Hunting Lodge – talk by John I. on	9 Sept
	Re-run of 2023 People & Places (a shortened route) hopefully in	22 Sept
	better weather – organised by Simon. Likely to be called PP71/2	
Oct	Club 2 nd Monday meeting at Hunting Lodge - Chat & Chill	14 Oct
	Annual Tulip Trophy Run organised by Gavin & Rachel	ТВА
Nov	Club 2 nd Monday meeting at Hunting Lodge	11 Nov
Dec	Christmas Lunch at Yelverton Golf Club	Thurs 19 Dec
	(no club meeting this month)	

Club mini-breaks 2025

Members were contacted about our holiday trip next year. You will appreciate that to block book multiple rooms in a hotel that caters for car clubs needs forward planning.

You were specifically asked if you wanted to go to Llanerchindda Farm on 30th May next year and/or go to Borrowdale Hotel in the Lake District sometime in September. I received just 11 replies. Eight wanted to go to Wales and 10 to the Lakes, and of these 5 would do both...so far.

On this basis, at this early stage both places seem viable for a group booking. I will try to get some suggested dates from Borrowdale and make a further announcement later in the year.

Howard





Moretonhampstead Motor Museum – yours for £1.5m As we noted in last month's newsletter, Frank Loft, owner

of the Moretonhampstead Motor Museum is retiring and is selling up. The museum could be sold as a going concern, and he puts a value on the cars alone at £1-£1.2m. The building, a 1930 former art deco bus garage, might be sold separately as it could have multiple other uses.



Fowey Classic Car Show & Parade Thursday 22 August – preview

We already have 27 club cars going to Fowey. That's a couple more than last year, when ours was the biggest stand at the show. This summer there will be 400 vehicles on display and over 300 taking part in the Parade.

You may already be aware of the tunnel that links Fowey to Par, but it is unlikely you have had the opportunity to drive through it, so it will make the Fowey event even more special. The organisers say with justification that it is becoming the premier CC event in Cornwall.



The Luxulyan Valley above St Austell was developed as an industrial site by Joseph Treffry (1782 – 1850). Treffry linked the massive copper mine of Fowey Consols to the port of Par by a combination of tramways and canal. The valley was also the site of granite quarries which shared the transport network. It was, however, the coming of the railway that catalysed the huge growth in China Clay production.

In 1874 the Cornwall Minerals railway was constructed, providing a network of lines that stretched from Fowey to Newquay. This included, on the line between Par and Fowey, the Pinnock Tunnel – at 1,173 yards the longest rail tunnel in Cornwall.

The Great Western Railway was nationalised in 1948, the line from Par to Fowey was closed to passenger traffic in 1965 and to freight in 1968. In an unusual move, the trackbed was converted to a roadway and it is used to this day to transport China Clay to the deep-water docks at Fowey. Currently around 90% of English China Clay's production is exported, most of it used to provide the coating on glossy paper. The route still includes the Pinnock Tunnel, now surfaced and lit. Controlled by traffic lights, it is accessible in one direction at a time and is operated today by ECC's successor, Imerys. In the past Imerys have allowed occasional visits to the tunnel, normally associated with charity fund-raising.

It may not be too late to enter this event and the details are on our website.



Father's Classic Car Day

The morning started with more than a hint of expectant rain hiding not too well in some rather threatening dark clouds overhead! Par for the course I suppose on a typical summer day in June, but not enough to warrant putting the hood back up as I defiantly, but excitedly, made my way over the Moor towards Morwellham Quay, enjoying the fresh air and mild temperature.



lovely Aqua MGBGT. We totalled nine cars in all and arranged ourselves three cars deep, three wide. Thoughts quickly turned to having a walk around to see the other classics exhibited, which were as diverse as ever! Andy, I and others wasted no time in doing this, and found an interesting mix of large 70's American cars, Triumphs, Rovers, Rootes Group, other MGs from local Clubs, Jaguars, a concept 'gull-wing VW' in metallic silver, which I'd seen before at Rosemoor, and various vintage Austins, Morris & Citroens - more than enough 'eye candy' to excite us!

A warm welcome awaited as I dropped down into familiar territory and joined a short queue past the stewards, who directed me to our allocated spot, which turned out to be more of a sheep pen, sandwiched between a large barn and wall, just past the large water wheel! Andy S. was there along with several others, including new member Andrew H. with his



In addition, the fact that Morwellham Quay is naturally quaint & contained, with its huge water wheel, olde worlde confectionery & coffee shops, pub and miniature train run to the copper mine (with discount given to exhibitors of the Classic car show), makes this venue a firm contender for future annual Club stands and a fixture in our Events Diary.



We set up our picnic chairs and tables in between the cars, pre-prepared food was produced and consumed, and convivial chatting made it a very pleasant day. We had several interested visitors, bonnets were opened, specifications discussed, and Club leaflets handed out! All in all, a very pleasant and relaxing day enjoyed by everyone, no doubt with many making a mental note to come again next year, with public attendance possibly boosted by the fact that it was Father's Day. *Nigel S*



As I can't go to Powderham this year, I thought I'd take myself off to visit this one. The main car park is situated a good half mile away from the showground, and signposts point pedestrians the way to go. After a pleasant walk along the bank of the river, you have to cross the Dart Valley Railway track, negotiate a boardwalk over a swamp, and finally climb some muddy woodland steps. It's not an easy walk if you are in anyway infirm. There is a shuttle bus for elderly and



Polly likes MGs

disabled people along a lane, and another time I'd walk that route. The car and motorcycle display was bigger than I'd imagined - there must have been a couple of hundred vehicles from a wide variety of marques. Compared to Saltram Rotary show I found this one more interesting, not least because it's bigger and has more stalls.



From one of the parts stalls, I bought a nice original Lucas oval fog light to rig up as a reversing light on my MGA. Talking of MGAs, what do we think about adding bonnet louvres? These cars do get hot and so I can see what function they might serve. This was an American import converted to RHD so perhaps that's where the louvres were added.





I was particularly impressed with this Daimler and its perfectly patinated interior.



A trio of Rovers on the Devon Vintage Car Club stand.



A Mini and a 1949 MGTC



The DeLorean was in need of a new flux capacitor. Sadly, none of the traders had one.



A rare Reliant Scimitar SC4 and an Aston. Choices, choices...





Wandering around the show ground, the air was filled with the smell of onions frying and 60s songs performed by a band of aging rockers who were very good – a heady mix! And it was good to see again this highly eccentric VW Camper which is a regular at many local shows. It always brings on a smile.

So, it's a thumbs up from me for the Totnes Vintage Car and Motor Cycle Show. I'm not sure I'd want to spend all day there but it's well worth a visit.

When I got home, after unclogging decomposing sealer to get inside my newly-bought light, I made a mounting bracket to fit the rear bumper, so perhaps one day I might even get around to fixing and wiring it...one day! Howard



TVMGOC Cars in Snowdonia



Tyn y Cornel Hotel



The hotel overlooks Llyn Mwyngil





On the Cader Idris Route



Paul & Sue cross Penmaenpool bridge



John & Sylvia lead Nick & Nan, Paul & Sue



Roy & Sonia, Alan & Alison, Chas



TVMGOC crews relax before dinner

Our Red Dragon Run



A huge and amazing knitted Welsh dragon

In 1807, the red dragon was adopted as the Royal Badge of Wales. In 1953, the motto Y Ddraig goch ddyry cychwyn ('The red dragon inspires action') was added, a line from the poem by Deio ab Ieuan Du.

That's not a bad motto for our own journeys around Wales. But, like the mountain roads themselves, the day bought a few twists and turns, as Sally & Keith now explain...

This was our last full day in Wales, so Keith and I decided to go to the Corris Craft Centre, then maybe a tour around the close mountains.

We set off along the very picturesque Tal-y-llyn lake with high mountains on either side. We took the Corris turning, then just as we turned, we heard what I can only describe as the loudest mechanical scream, crossed with thunder, that I had ever heard! I realised that a fighter jet had shot past us, at an altitude of about 20 feet (or so it seemed, I was terrified!). Simon said it was an American F15 Strike Eagle.

Keith was travelling up the hill at about 10 mph but I didn't say anything - I thought he was also in shock - but in the Corris Craft Centre carpark Keith got out and opened the bonnet, as he said that the accelerator cable had stopped working! Just then our knight in shining armour and his lady (Alan & Alison) also drew into the carpark, closely followed by Chas (*Presumably their squire. Ed*).

Alan walked over to us and asked if the Craft Centre sold underpants. I did wonder if this was the sort of outlet for such things, then he explained that he was also shocked rigid with the jet going over his car too! Anyway, Alan tightened our accelerator lead before informing us that they were going to Portmeirion, so they kindly let us join their convoy and off we went.



Portmeirion is a whimsical Italian-inspired village nestled in the heart of North Wales. Famously it was the location for the baffling cult 60s TV series *The Prisoner*.

It was a beautiful sunny day and upon reaching Portmeirion it wasn't too busy so we were able to have a good exploration of the village. We even had the opportunity to go inside one of the rented properties. The cleaners were just leaving and said we could have a look at the apartment and to shut the door when we left.



Since we were up that way, next we decided to take a drive to the Llyn peninsula and found ourselves in a small remote carpark, up high on a hill, where our boots were searched for any food. (*Presumably you searched your car boots? At least I hope that's what you mean! Ed.*) It was about 3pm and none of us had eaten since breakfast. Then we saw a sign for a café and Alan flagged down a driver who looked at him in a very suspicious way. Alan asked if the café was open, and to our delight it was.

So down we went to Nant Gwrtheyrn Café on the north coast, which was situated on the lower cliffs of an old disused granite quarry. When I say lower cliff, we didn't expect the road to be a 1:2 winding road that you literally had to take a run at, to get back up. But we had a well-deserved piece of chocolate cake and a drink, then back to our hotel for a drink and to catch up with the rest of the group. So, our day ended up far more exciting than we had anticipated, thanks to Alan, Alison and Chas.



Sally and Keith



Received entries	From
"Heck - my MG doesn't leak like this!"	<mark>Andrew H.</mark>
Roy and Howard poling for third to join them in "Three Men in a Boat"	Richard M.
My brain hurts	Neil
Roy in pole position (or, to be topical, on the way to the poling station)	Jan P.
Roy was performing the perfect lobotomy until he pushed too hard and the tube came out of Howard's ear!	Andy S.
"How difficult can this be Howard, just one more push and we will grab that old MGA side screen stuck in the mud over there".	Richard M.
"Quick Roy, pull out that pole It's doing my head in".	Neil
"I only asked for a Cornetto!"	Pam
"No life jacket Howard?"	Richard M.
"You don't need that, it's safer than being passenger in an MGA!"	
Roy demonstrates indefatigably what we all suspected that there is not much between Howard's ears!	John H.

And the winner of last month's competition chosen by Clive is new member Andrew H. Well done! He will choose next month's winner.

Get 'em young! Here's next month's photo that requires a caption. Send your entries by the end of the month to: <u>eventsecretarytvmgoc@gmail.com</u>





And finally...













Just found. Vintage MGB car aerial. Offers?

One cylinder for the car the other for the trailer and let's go camping.



As you can see, the larger trucks form a protective barrier around the infants of the herd. Nature is beautiful.

