

# Newsletter May 2022 Edition



## **This Month:**

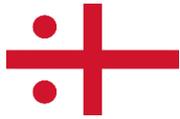
**Committee reports**  
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**MG's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday?**  
**BMC 70th anniversary**

**The UK's best road trip**  
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**The Beatles MGBs**

**Ear and nose hair - nature's way of telling you to buy a sports car.**



**ENJOY YOUR MG MORE WITH TVMGOC**



## Secretary's Report



Greetings from the Lord Lucan of the Tamar Valley MGOC. In semi-retirement I determined that I would stay active, but be careful what you wish for.

As many of you will know I Chair a couple of Naval Charities, and I am a Trustee of another. I am also the Registrar of the Priory of England and the Islands of the Order of St John, and I even have paid work as a Reserve Admiral judging Service Complaints. It was, however, another role which kept me away from Drive it Day and our excellent Treasure Hunt organised by Alan and Alison, as I was up at Windsor Castle as the Naval Vice Patron of the Gallantry Medallist's League – a genuine League of Extraordinary Ladies and Gentlemen. I sat next to the policeman who tackled the murderer of Jo Cox and, like all of them, a nicer, more humble man you could not hope to meet.

This absence will I fear continue at our meeting today, as I will be up in Sheffield for the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Falklands. I commanded the third HMS SHEFFIELD, F96, hastily renamed (her sister ships all began with a 'B' and she would have been HMS BLOODHOUND) after D80 was sunk. After 21 months in command, 17 of which were deployed, I took her into refit when she was sold to the Chilean Navy (who named her 'Almirante Williams' (not me – Juan Williams – but probably a Great Great Uncle...)). This makes me the last Royal Naval Captain of an HMS SHEFFIELD, hence I will be in Sheffield Cathedral. I will be taking the MG however, and after the ceremonial bit Charlie and I are going to tour the Peak District, the Dales and the North Yorkshire Moors, having been inspired by Howard and Jan's trip after the MGA Register gathering last year. I will report back!

If I had been with you, I would have been thanking you for the excellent response to the Cuddy Shack run, which is shaping up to be great fun. Also, I am grateful to most of you for sending your subscriptions in, but there are a couple who have yet to do so. If you are thinking of leaving, please tell me and I won't badger you but if not, please could you pay your £20 by BACS with your name and AS (SPWilliamsAS) as a reference. Nigel would be delighted to receive your subs! If you want to send a cheque to Nigel his address is TVMGOC Treasurer, 164, Churchway, Weston Mill, PL5 1AJ.

Looking slightly further ahead, the Powderham Show (10 Jul) list will close on 24 May. The cost of this is £17 per car and payment, again by BACS, is to the Treasurer with your name and PM (SPWilliamsPM) as a reference. Despite organising this I will be at a friend's wedding (I know – excuses, excuses) and so the Chairman will lead the run, starting at 0830 at Lee Mill Tesco Car Park and aiming to arrive at Powderham at 0930.

I look forward to seeing you for the Cuddy Shack run! (I will be there, promise!)

*Simon*

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,

Alison and I have spent most of April away in our touring caravan. We are obviously a bit rusty from going away like this as we had packed mostly warm clothing. Who would have thought that W. Sussex would have such dry and warm weather in April?

It was also lovely to have two of our granddaughters to stay over for a few nights and it gave their parents a break at the same time.

Barney our 8-month (at the time) puppy took to caravanning and from the start was like a seasoned camper. He was so well behaved and obviously enjoyed having his mummy and daddy in such close proximity, as he got on with his training of us.

It was nice to get home again, and we got on with the last minute arrangements for the club's Treasure Hunt and Drive It Day Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> April.

It was so typical that after all the dry weather, Sunday dawned rather overcast and with rain threatening. As we prepared to head to Mountbatten for our meeting point we kept the hood up and stayed nice and warm as the heater cut in. Fortunately, the weather improved as the day wore on and we even saw sunshine.

It was so good to be able to get the Treasure Hunt under way this year, as Alison and I have been sitting on this for two years since the start of the pandemic.

A fair few members had to endure traffic delays getting to the meeting point and it turned out that those who came via Plympton got caught in roadworks, and as it turned out a set of traffic lights stuck on red. However, all planned attendees got to Mountbatten in plenty of time to do the walking part of the Treasure Hunt. It was so nice to see many of our new members getting involved and getting to know us all a bit better.

Just in case you are not aware, there is a website you can use to check out your intended routes on or before the day of travel. I actually used it to check our run route prior to the day - visit '[roadworks.org](http://roadworks.org)'. There is nothing worse than planning a run route and then finding out on the day of the run that roads have either been closed or have long delays due to roadworks.

This year's Treasure Hunt Trophy worthy winners were John and Sylvia driving their Nightfire Red RV8, who won on a tie-break question against four other couples. Well done both of you! I hope you enjoy displaying the rather lovely glass trophy.

I believe that we have seven club cars booked in for the ACE Run on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May. It always makes for a more pleasing day, sharing the experience with other club members.

This year is shaping up nicely with lots of events to tempt you. Please visit the club's website and check out the Events page. It would be a shame to miss out due to not being aware of what is coming up.

*Alan*



## Event Secretary - keeping it wheel

Dear Motorneers,

I hope you all had a wonderful Easter, as we did. Both our daughters and their families visited us – Emily from Cambridge with her broken leg (which is a more serious injury than we initially hoped for) and Katie and Sophia flew over from Mallorca. It looks as though their year-long experiment living and schooling Sophia there has worked so well they probably won't come back. Ho hum.

I want to encourage you to **come to tonight's club meeting** where I'll be unveiling a new club competition. I'm not revealing all now, but will tempt you by saying that the PowerPoint presentation contains lots and lots of lovely pictures. Hopefully you will find it interesting and inspiring.

Happy MGing!

*Howard*



## Upcoming events

The most up to date and detailed information on all 2022 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)

From what we can gather, the new format local event list, complete with the names of which members are taking part in various events, has proved popular. This list will be emailed to you along with each monthly newsletter. The more complete Event Diary is on our club website but for data protection reasons does not list event participants. You'll also find entry forms there.

We will not be having a club stand at the **English Riviera Show** as there is not enough interest this year. Members can enter as individuals. Numbers for **Rosemoor on July 30th** are still low with just seven of our cars having entered so far. It would also be good if more cars joined us at **Flete House Garden Open Day on 3 July**. They have room for 20 MGs but we currently have just eight going.

### EVENT PARTICIPANT LISTS & DETAILS TO BE CIRCULATED AT THE MAY MEETING AND BY EMAIL

- 1) **June 12th Sunday lunch run** from the Dartmoor Diner to the Dartmoor Lodge
- 2) **Friday 24th June National Cream Tea Day run** finishing in Iain & Helen's barn near Launceston. I&H will provide cream teas, cakes, coffee and tea, cordial etc. in exchange for a donation to the Children's Hospice South West Charity. A list will be provided as we need to know how many routes to print and how many teas to provide.
- 3) **TVMGOS car show at Fleet House RHS Garden Open Day fundraiser**
- 4) **TVMGOC 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary River Cruise – Friday 15 July** – see over page

## **TVMGOC 40<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY RIVER CRUISE – FRIDAY 15 JULY**

### ***“Enjoying MG with friends”***

**Tamar Valley MG Owners’ Club presents their 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration;  
a sunset Calstock cruise along the River Tamar.**



The Plymouth Venturer has been reserved for exclusive use by the TVMGOC and their friends. The vessel can accommodate up to 200 so there will be plenty of room for TVMGOC members and their friends on board.

A cold buffet will be served during the latter part of the outbound leg.

**MG** **Tamar Valley** **MGOC** **40**  
**40th anniversary**  
**sunset cruise to Calstock**  
**See the Tamar Valley in all its glory**  
**with your friends and family**  
**15 July 2022**  
**£45 per head to include a cold buffet**  
**There will be a licenced bar, music and dancing**  
**Depart the Barbican 16:30 to return by 21:30**  
**Contact 01579 351475 or email [reptvmgoc@gmail.com](mailto:reptvmgoc@gmail.com)**

There is a licenced bar available, and a resident DJ will entice those who wish to “strut their stuff” on to the dance floor. Upper deck seating is available for those who wish to enjoy the Tamar Valley at its finest.

Presented in conjunction with Plymouth Boat Trips and the Boathouse Café, The Barbican, Plymouth. Price: £45 per head. If you have any dietary restrictions please indicate when booking.

### **Boconnoc has moved**

An insider tip-off to John H & Vanessa telling them that Boconnoc Steam and Vintage Fair is moving to Port Eliot in St Germans later this year led me to do a bit of frustrating Googling and phone calling to find out what is going on.

A week last Monday, I looked on the official website <https://www.boconnocsteamfair.org/> and it said nothing about the move, stating that it was still to be held on 22 – 24 July at Boconnoc (by now it may have been updated). However, further searching led John and me to <https://www.steamheritage.co.uk/steam-rallies-and-events/event/boconnoc-steam-fair> This clearly states that the fair will indeed be held at Port Eliot on the original dates.

Eventually I got a call back from the event organiser, who was confused and amazed that the word was already out, as the decision, caused by a careless double booking, had only been made the previous Friday!

I suggested that their website should be updated with some urgency. I also said that the many people who had already entered were unlikely to look at the website again before the event. How those people and all the other members of the public will be informed of the news is fortunately not my problem, but I can tell you at least.

So, to be clear, Boconnoc will be held this year at Port Eliot, St Germans on 22-24 July.



## **News snippets**



### **BMC 70th anniversary**

It was around this time in 1952 that the Austin and Morris businesses merged to form a single colossal car manufacturing company, BMC. Morris Motors, the holding company of the Nuffield Organisation, owned MG, Riley, and Wolseley. The first chairman was Lord Nuffield (William Morris) but in the autumn BMC came under the wing of Leonard Lord and drastic and unpopular changes were in the air.



The following 14 years until the company imploded in 1966 did not run smoothly from any point of view, and neither did some of the cars BMC made. There are many histories available on-line about BMC, its financial troubles, industrial relations, management woes and its numerous vehicle models and makes, too many in fact. For example the grown-up mini that was the ADO6 range was available as an Austin, Morris, Vanden Plas, Riley, Wolseley and MG, and all were basically the same car.

Worth a watch is this video that talks of the hopes for BMC. It has shots of various cars being made, including Healeys and MGs. Also worth reading are the comments below the video, some of which have a rather different and less complimentary slant on the BMC story.

See: <https://youtu.be/QJ6wgLqwDYY>

### The UK's best road trip

The Jurassic Coast is England's only natural World Heritage Site and is valued for its rocks and fossils. It stretches from Exmouth in East Devon to Old Harry Rocks near Swanage in Dorset, and the 95-mile stretch has just been named the best road trip in the UK.

Car finance business Moneybarn analysed the top 40 recognised scenic drives in the UK on Tripadvisor, looking at reviews, the number of searches on Google, the volume of hashtags on Instagram, the number of sunlight hours in the location's sunniest month, accident data and the number of attractions available in the nearest towns or cities.



In the top five UK routes the North Coast 500 came in second (*it should have been top! Ed.*), followed by Glen Lyon in the Highlands, the Horseshoe Pass near Llangollen and the Wrynose Pass in the Lake District.

In seventh place is Gospel Pass in the Brecon Beacons and perhaps this will be one of the routes those visiting Llanerchindda soon will do.

For the full list see: <https://www.moneybarn.com/road-trip-recommendations/>

### South West 600

But there's more. *The Telegraph*, amongst others, ran a feature on the South West 600 which encompasses the Jurassic Coast route.



The idea is to boost parts of the South West that don't already get hordes of tourists. The strictly coastal drive means shunning Totnes, Dartmoor, Bodmin Moor and other inland delights. It starts at Poole in Dorset and circumnavigates our peninsula to Watchet in Somerset, following the beautiful coastline. With 12 unique sections, each around 50 miles long, the idea is to experience the diversity and splendour of the four counties that make up this corner of the UK.

It does, of course, have its own website: <https://southwest660.com/>

## MG's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary?

An announcement has been made by MGOC that the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of MG will be held next May 2023 at Gaydon. "Hmm," thinks I, "Is that the correct date?"

A bit of Googling confirmed my doubts. Wikipedia says:

**THE CENTENARY OF MG**

In 1923, Cecil Kimber designed, built, advertised, and sold the first MG sports car, the MG Super Sports Morris.

To celebrate the Centenary of MG cars, The MG Owners' Club, the Early MG Society, the MG Octagon Car Club, the MG 'T' Society, and the MG Car Club are organising an MG Centenary event on 27th May 2023 at the British Motor Museum, Gaydon.

There will be full range of attractions to and an optional Centenary dinner in the early evening in the Sky Suite at the Museum.

Further details to be released soon

Logos: mg society, EARLY MG SOCIETY, MG, OCTAGON Car Club, MG

Reference to MG with the octagon badge appears in an Oxford newspaper from November 1923, and the MG Octagon was registered as a trademark by Morris Garages on 1 May 1924.

According to: <https://www.mgabingdon.org.uk/mg-timeline/> The Super Sports 14/28, based on the 'Bullnose' Morris Oxford Tourer, was first advertised in the May 1924 issue of The Morris Owner – the MG octagon logo appeared for the first time in this advertisement.

It's said that Old Number One is the car that started the MG legend, but technically many say it's not an MG and that was built in 1925.

The MGOC announcement also gave Technical Advisor to MGOC Jonathan Kimber's (surely related to Cecil?) email address, so I asked him what relevance May 2023 has, or is it just a convenient free date at Gaydon?

He replied:

*There has been a great deal of research and discussions over the past few years between 1923 & 1924. All of the Clubs now agree that 1923 is the start of MG, when Cecil Kimber designed, built, advertised and sold his first MG sports cars. He called them the 'MG Super Sports Morris', with sporting coachwork by Charles Raworth. The first fully documented sale was to Oliver Arkell, of the Arkell Brewing dynasty, in August 1923.*

*As you quite rightly assume the month is due to availability of Gaydon.*

On a roll, I also asked Jonathan if it true that there is no record of MG actually being an abbreviation of Morris Garages, rather it is just assumed as such. In other words, MG is just MG?

He says:

*I would agree that MG is just MG. There are images showing M.G. which also led to the majority of people assuming MG stand alone. However, it is/was convenient that it is also the initials of Morris Garages.*

So, May 2023 is a date to note, and plain old MG it is then. Autocar has just published a really well illustrated history of MG (further fuelling date doubts). Read it here and click the picture arrows to change pages: <https://www.autocar.co.uk/slideshow/mg-celebrating-century-british-legend>

*Howard*



## MGs by the Beach

Perhaps one of the slightly odd things about car clubs in general is that neighbouring clubs rarely have much to do with each other. Yes, we bump into fellow MG enthusiasts on the odd run or show and compare cars and stories, but there's not much inter-club intercourse, so to speak.

So it was delightful when TVMGOC was invited by Cornwall MGOC to join them at the seaside for a get together.

From the TVMGOC catchment area the drive to Hayle is a bit of a trek and not the most interesting of routes, but a 70mph blast down the A30 blows the cobwebs away (if you have the roof down!) and is great to get those pistons pumping - four in my car and four more than is strictly necessary in Simon's. Jan & I in our MGA and Simon & Charlie in their RV8 were travelling together, but also en route were Bill & Sue and Andy S.

The event was being held at Beachside Holiday Park, which literally overlooks the 3-mile beach at Hayle with views across to Carbis Bay and St Ives. None of us knew quite what to expect as there was no run organised. Neither had we any idea of who might turn up, but my guess is that there must have been 50 MGs there of various types. This was literally just a meet-up, in the style of cars and coffee events held up and down the land, and there's nothing wrong with that because as you can imagine wherever MG owners meet there is plenty to natter about.



There were a number of cars of note including an MBG roadster that had been fitted with a V8, a Toyota powered MGTC and a 1953 YB, the interior of which had rather lovely patina. At such gatherings it pays to strike up conversations with fellow enthusiasts. Here one person and his car *really* stood out, even drawing attention away from the Babe Magnet (*Surely not?! Ed.*)

It was owned and had been built in the 70s by an extraordinary character (a roll of the drums please) - the one and only FREDDIE ZAPP! (*Er. Who he? Ed.*)

Who he? I'll tell you who he! Redruth resident Freddy Zapp is an entertainer and was/is well known across the Duchy as one of the most popular presenters on Radio Cornwall. He is also a fire-eater,

escapologist, DJ and has been in Glam Rock and Rock & Roll tribute bands. He was a leading light in the Official Raving Loony Party alongside Screaming Lord Sutch and stood, unsuccessfully, in three general elections and five town elections. So now you know.

Back in the day, more conventionally Freddy worked on classic cars as a coach builder in America and his skills are demonstrated in his car pictured below. Freddy's favourite American muscle car was an AC Cobra but as he couldn't afford one he decided to make his MGA into a Cobra homage. It's stunning!

MGAs look wonderful painted black, and see how those flared wheel arches frame the beautiful custom wheels. I fully expected a V8 to be hidden beneath the bonnet, but it's powered by a B engine bored-out to 1800cc.



I asked Freddy if he ever gets sniffy comments from MG aficionados for whom any divergence from originality is an outrage. "\*\*\*\* 'em!" he replied with a grin, and I have to say I admire how he meets scorn with scorn.

Worryingly though, I swear I saw the Babe Magnet making eyes at Freddy's flashy motor – the hussy!

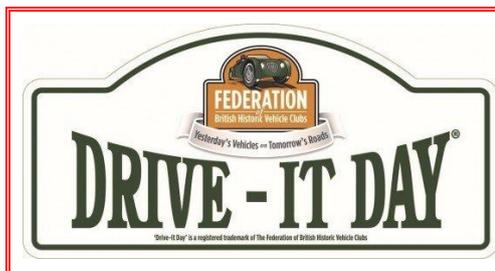
After covering up the number plate and with no mention of the owner's name, I posted these two photos on the MGA Fan Club Facebook page and received a few hundred likes for them. As a further endorsement of the changes Freddie made to this car, all the comments approved and a couple of posts from America talked about the possibility of fitting a V8 into an MGA.

After a good look around in rather windy and cool conditions, we were glad to retire to the warmth of the clubhouse for an excellent roast lunch, though Bill & Sue picnicked on the sands with friends. They didn't say if they had had a "Post Pandemic Paddle" but there were plenty of brave souls enjoying a dip.

In the restaurant we bumped into Jim & Margaret who are also members of Cornwall MGOC. Sadly, they have relinquished their membership of TVMGOC because the drive up from their home at St Austell has become too much for Jim. As enthusiastic club members for some years they will be missed. However, they do plan to attend our Friday supper run to the Cuddy Shack.

In a way it was a shame that a short run hadn't been organised around the far southwest of Cornwall, and the weather might have been a bit kinder, but as far as I am concerned, as long as we get home safe and sound, any day out in the MGs is a good one.

*Howard*



## DRIVE IT DAY TREASURE HUNT AND SUNDAY LUNCH 24th APRIL 2022

It had started to rain as we left the house to drive to Mountbatten Breakwater for the Drive It Day Treasure Hunt and lunch outing. Our hearts sank as we envisaged ourselves trudging round in the pouring rain getting wetter and wetter whilst looking for answers to the treasure hunt questions. However, our worst fears were not realised, as when we arrived at Mountbatten the rain turned to a slight drizzle and was soon to stop.



We were greeted by the sight of lots of lovely classic MG's AND loads of very jolly and chatty TVMGOC members. It was enough to brighten anyone's day.



We were given our question and direction sheets by Alison and off we went, in search of answers on our walking treasure hunt. It was very pleasant wandering around looking for information whilst stopping for a chat and admiring the view and the various sailing vessels. Neil and I answered most of the questions without too much trouble, but we could not find the telegraphic codeword (quite a few people had trouble with that one).

*[The question was, "What was the telegraphic code word for "We are about to leave Plymouth"?. The answer, inscribed on a paving slab, was 'Deep'. Ed.]*

We left Mountbatten at about noon and were the last to leave as Neil and I did a second circuit of Mountbatten trying to find the codeword. There were a few more questions during the run.



Nineteen vehicles navigated Alan and Alison's very pleasant route through the glorious South Hams countryside. We are very lucky to live in such a lovely part of the country. I love to see the lambs in the fields and colourful wild flowers in the hedgerows at this time of year. The trees also look amazing with the fabulous colours of camellias & magnolias and the brilliant greens & reds of the new leaves, particularly of the Japanese maple.

Neil and I arrived at Boringdon Park Golf Club at about 13.30, where another four members joined us, making our numbers up to forty for a very enjoyable carvery lunch, a very good turnout.



Alan & Alison checked everyone's treasure hunt answers. Five couples had got them all right, so some tie break questions were asked, and the eventual winners were John & Sylvia\*\*, who were presented with the Drive it Day/ Treasure Hunt Trophy to much applause.

Howard thanked Alison & Alan for organising such a very enjoyable run and lunch. We had a great time. It was nice to catch up with friends old and new, and we're looking forward to the Cuddy Shack next month.



*Pam*

### **DID Postscript**

On our way through Ugborough, a large yellow AA Van pulled over to let us past. As I crept alongside I saw the driver's window was open and said, "Glad you're here. We might need you!" He grinned and yelled back, "Rotor Arm!"

Now this was interesting because in his undoubtedly numerous years' experience of fixing classic cars in distress at the roadside, his instant thought was the likely need of a replacement rotor arm. I replied, "Got one thanks\*...and a spare," and received a thumbs up in reply.

So, of all the spares we should all carry, we now know what the most important one is.

*Howard*

(\*Of course I had a rotor arm. The bloomin' car wouldn't run without one. Even I know that!)

\*\* John and Sylvia – I don't have a photo of your red RV8 to go onto our website gallery. Please send one or nag me to take one. Anyone else missing from the gallery?



### **Baby you can drive my car – who knew this about The Beatles?**

In interviews, members of the Beatles talked about their recollection of their first trip to the US in February of 1964, to play in the Ed Sullivan show and make some appearances in Miami.

Paul McCartney, said that "As a promotional angle, the MG Motor Car company gave each Beatle an MG of their own to zip around South Florida with for a week".

These pictures show Brian Epstein [Manager] and George Martin [Producer] in Miami in 1964 in what looks like an early British registered car. We can assume it was the same week, but oddly pictures have never surfaced of the Fab Four during their time in MG's.





Received entries	From
<i>I'm fed up with these caption competitions – they are just a wind-up.</i>	John I.
<i>Postman Pat's van on steroids.</i>	John I.
<i>After complaints about delays, Postman Pat pimps up his van to make the Greendale delivery run like clockwork.</i>	Howard
<i>This is the new climate control car of the future!!</i>	Libby
<i>All fired up and running like clockwork.</i>	Paul L.
<i>Did the clocks go forward or back this month?</i>	Peter S.
<i>The ideal car for Devon's "winding" lanes...</i>	Peter S.
<i>ROLEX breaks into the car business with a neat Swiss made movement that also chimes on the quarters...</i>	Peter S.
<i>Postman Pat in his day driver.</i>	Peter A.
<i>0-60 mph really took a lot of winding up.</i>	Alan
<i>The 'key' moment for the driver was when he realised the cause of his chronic health issues. Namely: A burning sensation in his nether regions and a stiff neck.</i>	Alan
<b><i>The latest MG model, WUW 'Wind up Wonder' (made in China).</i></b>	<b>Neil M.</b>
<i>Flaming economy transport.</i>	Richard M.
<i>I hope the spring lasts - till summer at least.</i>	Richard M.
<i>Must have been a Turnkey Project.</i>	Charles H.
<i>Postman Pat's mid-life crisis winds him up so much he become a key member of the Greendale Chapter of Hell's Angels.</i>	Howard
<i>Test Run goes like clockwork.</i>	Andrew L
<i>Stick a key up my back and I'll go like a bat out of hell.</i>	Andrew L
<i>Back to childhood clockworks when fossil fuels run out.</i>	Andrew L
<i>Gerald's attempt to prove key worker status just got the Police wound up</i>	Simon
<i>"Cedric, you know those new ceramic brakes you recommended, that work regardless of how hot they get? I think they are beginning to work!"</i>	John H.
<i>With insufficient generation and distribution capacity of the national grid planned to support the transition to EVs to achieve net zero by 2050, the Government's Plan B was revealed today.</i>	Gavin

**And the winner of last month's competition chosen by Janis is Neil M. Well done!**

**He will choose next month's winner.**

Go nowhere, as here's next month's photo that requires a caption.  
Send in your entries by the 23<sup>rd</sup> of the month by email to:  
[mediatvmgoc@gmail.com](mailto:mediatvmgoc@gmail.com)





**And finally...**



**Car and vehicle terms from the Uxbridge English Dictionary**

*(With credit to Radio 4's I'm Sorry I Haven't a Clue on its 50th anniversary)*

Autobiography - a car book  
Autocue - a traffic jam  
Bustard - a very angry omnibus driver  
Cabbage - nonsense spoken by a taxi driver  
Cantankerous - a chain of shops that sells tanks  
Cataract - Japanese for Cadillac  
Charabancs - the cleaning lady's a goer  
Circumnavigation - a Bar Mitzvah on a cruise liner  
Con allegro - a second hand car salesman  
Copulate - the time it takes for the Police to turn up to a road traffic accident  
Crèche - a car accident in Woking (say 'crash' in a posh accident)  
Delight - to turn the headlights off  
Demistifier - a retired magician  
Explain - Concorde  
Flatulence - an emergency vehicle that picks you up after you have been run over by a steam roller  
Grand Prix - Piers Morgan  
In loco parentis - my dad's a train driver  
Insolent - to fall off the Isle of Wight ferry  
Khaki - a device for starting an automobile  
Macadam - a Scottish brothel-keeper  
Manifold - another word for origami  
Navigator - road-building crocodile  
Piano - a musical shipping line  
Piston - one who is taken advantage of  
Porsche - someone who is really, really posh  
Renovate - to restore a French car  
Revolt - to charge a battery  
Retread - very red in Yorkshire  
Somersault - substance for de-icing west country roads in winter  
Star-struck - Amanda Holden's lorry  
Truculent - your kind loan of a Ford Transit  
Vanish - rather like a van  
Vespa - evensong on a scooter  
Wench - a spanner belonging to Jonathan Ross  
Vin ordinaire - Ford Transit