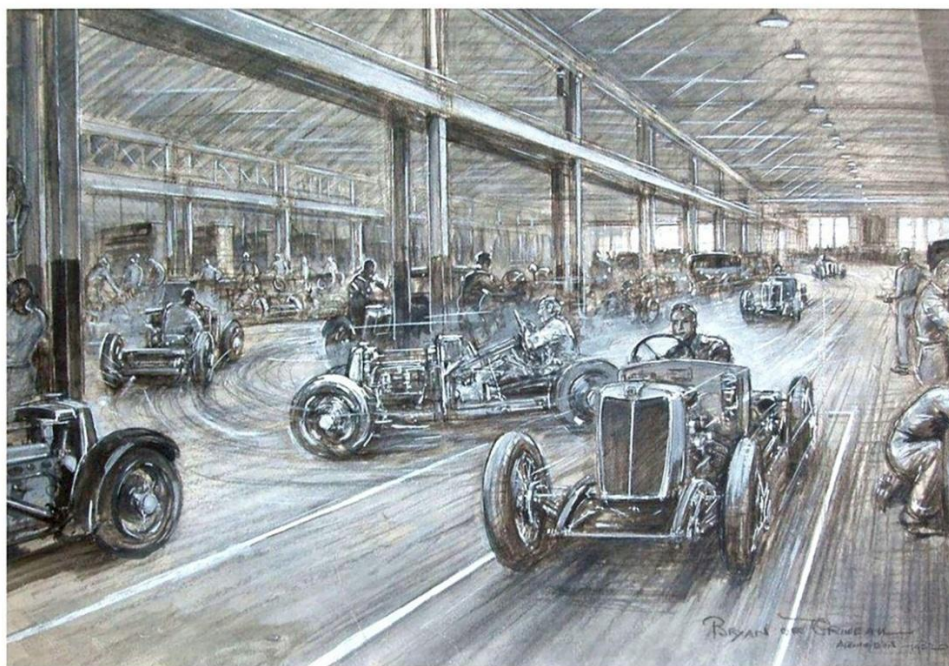


Newsletter August 2025



**We still have
8 places left
so it's not
too late to
enter.**



1932 Brake testing at the MG factory.
Illustrator Charles William Grineau a.k.a John Bryan.

This Month

**Committee reports + Upcoming events
Children's Hospice South West thank you
Powderham Classic Car Show
RHS Rosemoor Vintage Weekend
Sunday lunch run report
An MGB for sale + an MGB GT car cover + a gear box
Possible Portsmouth Docks visit**



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



Secretary's Report



Dear Motorneers,

If you are lucky enough to have your health and a bit of spare money, retirement can be a gift that just keeps on giving. One of those gifts (I say gift, but it was pretty expensive!) arrived ten years ago this summer when a van pulled up outside our house. On the trailer behind was a rather lovely car, and it was all mine. Little did I know then what an incredibly positive effect that MGA would have on mine and Jan's life after retirement.

It's a long story as to why and how I came to choose this particular MG but suffice to say on my post-work to-do list was to have a hobby and join a club. I hoped that buying this car would open new horizons, teach me new skills, take us to lovely places near and perhaps far and introduce us to a new circle of friends. To say it has delivered all that and more is an understatement. Owning this car has been one of the best non-family or work things I've done.



And, incredibly, it has never seriously let us down. I put that down to buying a good 'un in the first place, regular maintenance and inspection, and especially regular use. It's no garage or show queen afraid to go out in the rain. These cars were built for road adventures and that's how we've used ours over the last ten years. In all weathers, it's taken us around the Scottish NC500, to Northern Spain twice, to France, much of England and Wales, and last year all the way to Norway and back without complaint. And I've loved every mile that's passed under our wheels, be they on hot, fast motorways or climbing mountainous hairpin bends above the snowline, so you'll understand that I hope to continue that way for the next decade or more. Next month, we embark on another ambitious foreign trip, this time to a warm climate, but more on that another time. If me and the MGA end our driving days a bit knackered, worn and world-weary from a life well lived then that's OK by me.

But of equal importance has been membership of this fine club of ours. Suffice to say thanks for all the lovely friendships, memories and experiences over the last decade and I look forward to many, many more!

That's enough about me and my car! On with the newsletter and a celebration of all the pleasure we've all had in the last month or so, highlighting many more delights to come.

Happy MGing!
Howard

To contact our club secretary,
call +44 7801 055128 or email
clubsecretarytvmgoc@gmail.com



Chairman's Report



It's great to see the sunshine, and with it so much opportunity to use our cars. There is an obvious bonus for the soft top community, but also for those who prefer not to get their cars wet! It's also good to see that attendance at meetings remains strong as they are a great way to get together and discuss important stuff such as where we can go and enjoy ourselves!

Speaking of that, Howard's proposals for next year look really good, and I for one am looking forward to the Fat Lamb visit and a chance to enjoy some new scenery in a wonderful spot.

I see that the People and Places preparations are well under way, and I am struck by how much work the committee put into the event for us and for the wider MG and Classic Car community. I will be sorry to miss the run itself this year (although I will be helping to produce the route books) as I am abroad on duty for St John, but I know that it will be great fun. For any of you wavering - sign up pronto as it will be worth it! I look forward to seeing you at the meeting, and again at RAF Harrowbeer if you are going.

Simon



Event Secretary – the show must go on

Another summer month over and many car shows visited. On July 6th I was the sole member of TVMGOC to visit the Truro car show. Held around the area of Lemon Quay there were over 250 classics of many marques and was a good two hours viewing, never mind all the people interested in my RV8.

12th-13th saw a good club turn out at Powderham. I was not amongst them but maybe that's why you all enjoyed it once again!

Sherborne show on 20th was attended by me, Andrew H and a friend of his. Leaving Sourton in the middle of the night (5.30 am) we arrived at 7.30 am, the first exhibitors, and we had a great day either walking around viewing the hundreds of cars on show or extolling the virtues of our own cars. I took my MGCGT. The servo let me down on the way there and I limped back home with virtually no brakes.

RHS Rosemoor took place on 26th-27th and five cars from TVMGOC attended on the Saturday. We erected our small gazebo with much bad advice (by me!) and enjoyed both the show and the gardens. The highlight for me is always the Punch and Judy show on the Cafe lawn. (Will I ever grow up?)

So, we are into August. On the 3rd I went to the Grade Ruan car show, just outside Ruan Minor, south of Helston. Although the weather was not too kind, everyone there enjoyed the day.

Coming up this month:

16th-17th is RAF Harrowbeer. I now have 13 club members coming on Saturday and 12 on Sunday. Overall there are over 40 cars booked in on both days and, as is usual at this show, more just turn up hoping for a space. It is a great day out even if you are just visiting and not exhibiting.

21st is Fowey show with which Howard has kept you up to date.

23rd -25th is Great Trethew which I have applied for and paid £5 entry fee but have had no reply. This happened last year but I turned up on the day and had no problem getting in. The club normally go on the 25th, Bank Holiday Monday.

Please do not forget September 7th is our PP8 run this year.

After our recent committee meeting last Wednesday, it has been decided that next year we shall attend Paignton car show. More info will be in the new year.

Portsmouth Dockyard Museums

We have been thinking about a visit to Portsmouth Dockyard Museums. The suggestion has already been enthusiastically received. However, this would take some organising and if we went this year, it would be at a time when the committee is very busy with the extensive planning required for People & Places and the October Tulip Trophy Run as well as other things. Consequently, we have decided to postpone a Portsmouth visit until spring next year, perhaps in May when the weather generally starts to improve.

I can say that your chairman is very enthusiastic and will attend if possible, bearing in mind his busy schedule. Full details will be announced as soon as possible.

Andy

<div>2025</div> <div>Upcoming events – for the most up to date and detailed information see: www.tvmgoc.org.uk OTHER SHOWS YOU MAY WISH TO ENTER AS AN INDIVIDUAL ARE ALSO LISTED ON OUR WEBSITE</div>		
	New items are highlighted	
Aug	Club 2 nd Monday meeting at The Hunting Lodge	11
	Friday – bring your own picnic and chairs to Dartmoor Gliding Society near Brentor. We can picnic inside the hangar if the weather is inclement. Meet at Coypool Retail Park, 71 Coypool Road, PL7 4FB Meet 2pm to leave at 2-15pm for a leisurely drive to the gliding club at Burnford Common, Tavistock PL19 0LB –	Friday 15
	RAF Harrowbeer, Yelverton. Suggest club go on Saturday 16th as Sunday is manic! Enter free here: https://form.jotform.com/250797361540359 See over page	16 & 17
	Rover P4 Drivers' Guild CCS at S. Devon Railway, Buckfastleigh. Entry £5 ian.hartnell@gmail.com	17
	Fowey Classic Car Show & Parade. Now closed for entries. Howard is looking after the list. Meet at the Carkeel Saltash Travelodge car park at 11 am to depart 11:15 to arrive Fowey at noon. We have 20 cars going. Let me know if you are going directly to Fowey	Thurs 21
	Lizard Car Show. https://www.facebook.com/groups/198422308748324?locale=en_GB	24
	Great Trethew – enter: https://www.trethew-rally.co.uk/application-forms-2025	24 – 26

Sept	People & Places – organised by the committee	7
	Saltram CC Show	7
	Club 2nd Monday meeting at The Hunting Lodge	8
	Lanlivery Show https://www.steamheritage.co.uk/steam-rallies-and-events/event/lanlivery-vintage-rally	13 & 14
Oct	The Exmoor Rut – D&C MGCC. Entry forms available soon. Looks like the usual arrangements and route. Starting at Betty Cottles Inn, Tavistock Road, Okehampton, EX20 4LR, the run will take us on a leisurely drive ending at the Lynton & Barnstaple Railway's Tea Room at Woody Bay Station, Martinhoe Cross, Parracombe, Barnstaple, EX31 4RA.	5
	Club 2nd Monday meeting at The Hunting Lodge	13
	The John Hunt Tulip Trophy Run – organised by Nick Clegg	19 or 26
Nov	Club 2nd Monday meeting at The Hunting Lodge	10

News snippets

On Saturday 16 August we hope members of TVMGOC will visit the car show at RAF Harrowbeer to put on a club display. Contact Andy if you haven't already done so. Here is a famous photo of the airfield taken in 1943 by Flt. Lt. Piper, an official RAF photographer, to show what was required for Air Sea Rescue work. The road behind the hangar is still in use today as the road from Pound to Yelverton.



These aircraft are an Avro Anson, a Supermarine Spitfire MkI and Supermarine Walrus. Fuel bowser and tractor on the left, and 'trolley-ac' by the wing of the Spitfire. This was used to start aircraft to save the battery.

One further fact: The Walrus and the Spitfire were both designed by the famous R.J. Mitchell, who worked for the Southampton aviation company Supermarine from 1916 until 1936. He is best known for designing racing seaplanes such as the Supermarine S.6B, and for leading the team that designed the Supermarine Spitfire.



Following our recent Cream Tea Run to Iain & Helen's barn, the cake stall raised a significant amount. Helen received this letter and it's great that our little MG adventures can do a bit of good now and then:

Dear Helen,

Thank you for your gift of £411.50 raised from your cream tea, it really is appreciated by every family who receives our care. It is because of your generosity and kindness that we can continue to support babies, children and young people living with life-limiting conditions and their families across the Southwest.

A family who visits one of our hospices said, "Last time we left the hospice, Grace bawled her eyes out saying, 'I don't want to leave, I want to go back'. For her to say that about a place that cares about the children and the families and have that reaction was so special."

Your donation really does mean so much. We would like to invite you to attend either Little Bridge House, Charlton Farm or Little Harbour on one of our open days, where you can see first-hand the difference your donation makes to the families we support. Please visit www.chsw.org.uk/hospicetours or call your local hospice for more information.

Thank you for continuing to raise smiles for babies, children, young people and their families across the Southwest.

With sincere thanks,

Sarah Stott – Head of Fundraising, Little Harbour
Children's Hospice South West

If we get an invite, I'm sure some of us would be delighted to visit. Perhaps we could put on a little car show as we do at Flete House. Anything for a good cause. Watch this space.

Howard



Historic Vehicle Gathering run by the Crash Box & Classic Car Club at Powderham Castle

Hosting 1,800 vehicles, this event is the largest classic car show in the southwest and is often called the "Glastonbury" of classic car shows. 70 clubs took part and the event costs over £100,000 to stage due to insurance and equipment hire. Any leftover monies go to charities.

Expectations were high as all five cars met at Tesco's, Lee Mill. Weather conditions were perfect with nothing but blue skies above us. We'd also been joined by John (a friend of Andrew Haigh) in his immaculate red Lotus Esprit S3. Of course, I couldn't resist the reference to 'Bond' about being 'shaken, not stirred,' etc. The car has had a first-class professional 'nut & bolt' restoration! Anyway, I digress!



We left Tesco's car park slightly ahead of schedule to allow us ample time to reach Powderham by 10am, the time that all entrants should be on-site prior to the public being allowed in, and as Alan S. had a slight over-heating problem with his MGA, our average speed was between 55 and 60 mph. We all arrived together as planned and were directed to virtually the same place we were last year.

The new smaller gazebo had never been assembled before, but proved to be quite straightforward, especially with 'beefier' securing pegs kindly supplied by Alan C. This meant it could be left on-site overnight for Sunday as well!

It wasn't long before we all had our chairs, food and drink installed under cover of the gazebo, and 'Barney' was sprawled out, but quite happy in the shade, as a cooling breeze was welcomed by all !





We all started dispersing in pairs, and individually, to investigate the autojumbles, craft tents, Classic cars & steam engines/machinery within the extensive site! There are always quirky aspects to 'Crash Box' Car Shows which bring a smile to my face, and this year was no exception, as you can tell from the photos.



Fortunately, this year the cooling breeze meant the hot sunshine wasn't over-powering, and we all had a very relaxing, enjoyable time. Just as we were preparing to leave, a representative from 'Crash Box' came around handing-out free metal plaques to those attending to mark the 50th anniversary of Historic Vehicle Gathering at Powderham. We had 5 x cars on the Saturday, and 8 were expected to attend on the Sunday. Powderham is now a firm favourite as an annual club event.

Nigel S.



Sunday Lunch Run to Lanhydrock Hotel & Golf Club

The forecast for today was 95% rain, so it was no surprise that many MGs had a rest day inside their respective garages. For those of us who risked the chance of getting wet, we were not disappointed at our meeting point in the car park of the Travel Lodge in Saltash. While we all huddled together under umbrellas, the non-MG drivers were looking smug.



Simon has a hankering for an MGA but wanted to see if he could actually get in and out of one. He fitted into Howard's car nicely and his huge grin reveals how delighted he was, but Charlie says something else has to go first before he gets another car!

Sally gave out the instructions for the run and explained a few tricky spots to look out for, and despite a few

drops of rain smudging the print, Dave and I set off in the MG TD. Being the last to leave, we were definitely not racing to keep up or causing any concern on the road.



As the rain fell gently, I was tasked with operating the windscreen wipers by a switch on the passenger side as and when required and also giving directions as per the sheet. Occasionally I was operating when I should have been directing, and vice versa. Not knowing my left from my right didn't help.

We knew the road to Pillaton as we had delivered Dave's Sunbeam to a welder at Bush Farm, wild camping on Friday. Past the Weary Friar Pub where the club met recently, and down some roads with grass in the middle to the Clapper Bridge. The MG TD was happy, as it knew only these roads when it was built in 1951.

A Land Rover coming towards us meant a long reverse drive uphill in a narrow road to get out of the way. I was impressed by Dave's skill but sadly there were no other witnesses to verify this (Land Rover not bothered).

Almost took a left turn after Alan Gimblet cars as I was multi-tasking. Next, spotted the white cottage, turned left and caught sight of other MG members ahead. Onto the A38, past Trago (no, don't need anything today!), Bodmin Parkway, past Lanhydrock NT and we were the last to arrive at our destination.

We all met up again safe and sound at this lovely golf club and hotel. Inside they had set out tables for us in a room overlooking the golf course and we all settled down to a chat and a carvery.

The rain had held off for most of the run, and the drive home was sunny all the way.

Those of us who brought our MGs were pleased we took the risk.
Thank you to Sally and Keith for a very pleasant run.

Dave and Teresa



Neil and I were quite disappointed when Flete House was cancelled, but we decided to make the best of things and visit RHS Rosemoor instead. We have been a few times before, by ourselves and with TVMGOC, but there is always something different to see. Sadly, the cake selection is not up to the Flete House/St. Lukes Hospice standard, but it is still good (unless you accidentally buy the vegan flapjack as Neil did!).

The Saturday morning was quite grey and drizzly, we met Andy & his sister Jane in the car park opposite Sourton services at 0815 and had a damp journey to Rosemoor. The other attendees were meeting us there. (Howard and Jan had a slight exhaust problem but they weren't too far behind us [*The problem was with the car's exhaust not ours and had nothing to do with toilet visits! Howard*]).



We had taken the new (smaller) gazebo with us, and it was erected with no help from the instructions, because the men refused to look at them! The coloured tape that Janis had applied at Powderham was helpful though, and luckily the rain had stopped by then and didn't re-start.

Rosemoor had rearranged the parking areas in the field, and we were situated very conveniently between the toilets and the ice cream van. There were only five vehicles from the TVMGOC, but they were a fine selection. The 'yellow peril' wasn't looking quite her best as she had had quite a bit of underneath welding and underseal the previous day, but they all looked resplendent in the sunshine when it came out.

All the TVMGOC vehicles had plenty of attention from the visitors, and Howard & Jan even let someone sit in the MGA to have their picture taken.



The gardens, as usual, were looking gorgeous, there was an assortment of stalls selling 'vintage' items, music, jive dancing and the 'Garden Room' housed a display of models: cars, trains, planes, Star Wars etc. It was well worth a visit.

Before we knew it, it was time to pack up and go home. The gazebo came down a lot quicker than it went up, and as everyone fired up their engines, Maxine and Ed's Midget wouldn't start. A crowd soon gathered (as it does when a bonnet is up), different remedies were offered and tried, but it still refused to go.



After much pushing and rocking, defeat was conceded* and the recovery service was called. We felt a bit mean leaving them there to wait, but at least the sun was shining, and hopefully they didn't have too long to wait.** It was a lovely day out with a jolly group of vintage car owners and hopefully we will all have many more like it.

Neil & Pam

**The midget had a seized starter motor which had locked the engine up it wouldn't bump start.*

*** For once the AA were pretty prompt. They were called to Rosemoor at 5pm and Ed & Maxine were home in Plymouth by 8pm.*



At any show it's fun to consider which, apart from your own MG of course, of all the cars on display you would like to take home. For me the choice is usually an early E-Type but at Rosemoor both Andrew H. and I were drooling over this stunning '56 Corvette.

I'm not really into American muscle cars but this model is the exception. It is interesting to compare its design to that of modern cars.

The Corvette has been crafted, no, sculpted with ornamentation and character. It oozes period style, confidence and glamour. Where's the character in the blue car behind? No doubt that slips through the air more efficiently than the Corvette and is more frugal with fuel, but it presents no sense of occasion, no interest. It's not cool while the Corvette most definitely is!

Howard

MGB for sale

Nan has persuaded Nick to part with one of his collection. He's looking for £9,500.

Nick's number is 07802408083.

**MGB GT car cover - free to a good home!**

Peter S has been clearing out his garage and no longer needs this well-used but still serviceable outdoor MGB GT car cover. It is designed to fit rubber bumper models but should fit all roadsters and earlier GTs.

Call: 01752 302506

Collect from: 5 Plymtree Drive PL7 4LX.

**Free Overdrive Box**

Jim emailed us with this offer:

When I renovated my 1971 MGB GT I replaced the gearbox with an overdrive unit.

It was in good working order when removed, and since then I've had a few attempts to sell on eBay without success.

I can't bring myself to scrap it, but it is taking up space in the garage. I'd like it to go to a good home, so if any members want it Free of Charge (to collect from Donderry, Cornwall) can you ask them to get in contact.

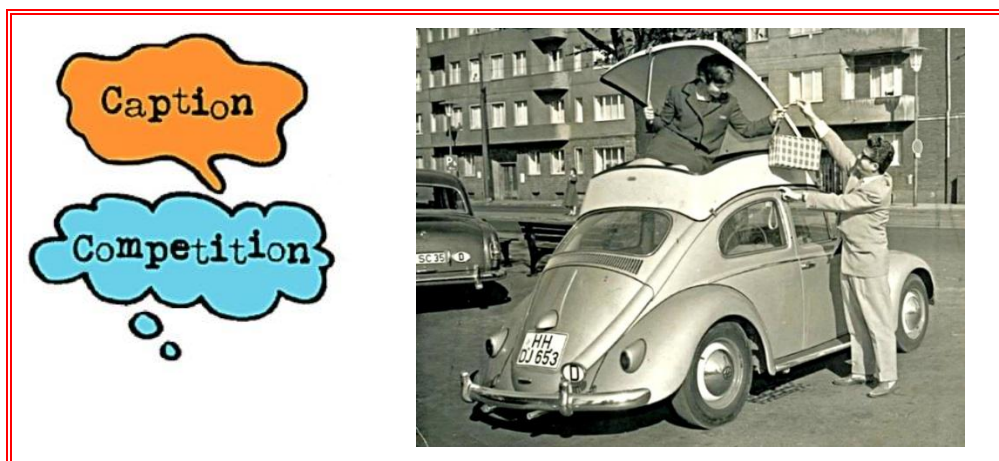
Don't know if it will work but a link to eBay below:

<https://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/286747479861?mkevt=1&mkpid=0&emsid=e12000.m113256.l116967&mkcid=7&ch=osgood&euclid=2581dff5631b4c3f8a3d2747d17ef426&bu=43057472665&exe=0&ext=0&osub=-1%7E1&crd=20250804023430&segname=12000&mkevt=1&mkpid=0&emsid=e12000.m113256.l116967&mkcid=7&ch=osgood&euclid=2581dff5631b4c3f8a3d2747d17ef426&bu=43057472665&exe=0&ext=0&osub=-1%7E1&crd=20250804023430&segname=12000>

Many thanks

Jim Lockyer

07850 142860



Received entries	From
<i>Ya, ya. Zis time ve vill get through der East German Border!</i>	John I.
<i>Here are some sandwiches for the journey. Perhaps this will teach you to stop moaning about my driving!</i>	John I.
<i>It's a bloomin' odd place for a picnic!</i>	Howard
<i>I know you like the Beetle, but when you said you were getting a Camper, I wasn't expecting this !!</i>	Nigel S
<i>Thankfully, the tin opener worked.....it's back in the basket!</i>	Tony S
<i>When people-smuggling was a far more civilized affair...</i>	Tim P
<i>It's not my fault, you forgot the keys".</i>	Andrew H
<i>The lengths she goes to bring his lunch to him on time!</i>	Theresa
<i>Yes, I will try to remember not to go under low bridges, darling.</i>	John I.
<i>Sure beats crossing the Channel in a rubber dinghy!</i>	Howard
<i>Don't worry darling, the wife will never find you up there.</i>	Richard
<i>Due to weight restrictions it's deemed too dangerous to carry handbags on the roof of a car in Germany!</i>	Clive
<i>Howard's s VW Beetle Camper van project wasn't working out quite as Jan had envisaged.</i>	Gavin
<i>Arghh, there's some dead beetles up here.</i>	Andrew H
<i>Early German police 'wailing siren' testing was very positive!!</i>	Clive
<i>Roy Orbison starts first Deliveroo service in Germany</i>	Peter A.

**And the winner chosen by Jan P., last month's winner, is Richard. Well done!
He will choose next month's winning caption.**

**Here's a picture that needs a funny caption.
Please send your entries by the end of
the month and title your email
August Caption Competition
to:
eventsecretarytvmgoc@gmail.com**





And finally...a bit of a miscellany of jokes this month



THE TRUTH ABOUT ELECTRIC CARS

I'm fed up with people ridiculing EVs. They don't know what there're talking about! Personally, I drive two top-of-the-range EVs, a Jaguar and a Porsche. Their acceleration and handling is fantastic. They look brilliant and they're really cheap to run. They need hardly any maintenance and haven't depreciated since I bought them. Literally the only criticism I could make of them is sometimes, if I push them really hard into a corner, they can fly off the track and get stuck under the sofa.



A National Geographic Photographer captures the rarely seen birth of a bass player.



Man who kept his boat beside his house was ordered by the city to put up a fence to hide the boat from view.



What happens when Old Car Guys get sent to a nursing home ...

My wife sent me an email yesterday which said "Your my reason for living".

I replied "No, you're my reason for living".

She has been really nice to me today. I don't think she realises I was only correcting her grammar!