

NEWSLETTER



JANUARY 2010



1928 MG 1880 at the Bristol Restoration Show in November 2009

Exeter MGOC 58 Branch 0708

Newsletter available at extermgoc.co.uk, the week-end before the monthly meeting.

Club Committee

Area Secretary	Tim Hallam	01803 326294
Treasurer	Trish Room-Doubleday	01626 834824
Chairman	Bob Featherstone	01392 670283
Membership Secretaries	Colin and Pat Hughes	01395 277537
Social Secretary	Barbara Wooster	01395 514446
Regalia & Archives	Paul Wooster	01395 514446
Quartermasters	Bob & Lorraine Featherstone	01392 670283
Event Co-ordinator's	Derrick & Hazel Layzell	01404 43058
Non-portfolio	Graham & Brenda Booker	01395 578866
Newsletter Editor	Brian Howitt (brianhowitt@hotmail.com)	01884 34109

CHAPTER TWO – PART THREE

A FAREWELL TO 2009

Dear reader

In these days of over worked and underpaid societal behaviour I find myself sitting down to write up the month of December on Christmas days 'hangover break' otherwise known as Boxing day. I had intended taking down the decorations to preserve their longevity but the wife talked me into leaving them a few more days, Ah well! It's Christmas after all. It strikes as odd that after the main event of gathering material goods for our own pleasure that the following day, though as old as Christmas itself in this England, should be forgotten along with the woman who used to do the Kenco advert. The Boxing Day tradition of packaging up presents for the poor in, yes! You guessed it – boxes, then storing to one side until the day after Christmas before distribution was first applied by that generous, kind hearted bunch the Anglo Saxons. Whilst you all knew this it is still worth sparing a thought even though poor people do seem a lot harder to come by these days and the tradition is not so widely supported. I thought it was named Boxing Day because the leftover food we blend together and serve up under the oddly named 'bubble and squeak' always tastes like a cardboard box! But I'm just silly.

December is often quiet as the time of year tends to lend itself to the preparation stages of Christmas but it was great to see a good amount of you at the annual Christmas dinner. The event was a great evening as we enjoyed good company, good food and the opportunity to let our hair down on the dance floor. Some, myself included, found the idea of dancing the night away a little more than our energy levels could stretch to but still enjoyed watching others 'strut their stuff' whilst gently exercising other important muscles like the jaw and drinking arm. Many thanks to Barbara for organising the bash and let's start the plans early for next Christmas and prepare another do to remember.

As, like December, the year comes to a more seasonal close and the rainy days slowly turn to cool frosty ones, we should find the time to cast our minds back to the past year.

The chance to blow out the cobwebs from the car began with the great Handyside-treasure hunt, which under their supervision started the year off in fine style, then followed a wonderful trip to the New Forest, a sunny south Devon trip with Heidi and I. Tim & Georgie's amazing Easter Treasure Hunt, Brian & Dee's entertaining chauffeuring Shropshire run, Roger & Pat's fantastic France trip, the Moor 2 Sea Exeter event, the Smashing Smeatharpe static show, Paul and Barbara's Sunday extravaganza, Powderham car show, Derrick and Hazel's fab day out, Neil & Trish's ever-decreasing circle but never decreasing enjoyment run, Bob & Loraine's brilliant 'virgin' run and finally culminating in Roger and Pat's impromptu end of year run all of which saw a good following of members getting a great day out.

Oh! By the way, it is great to see that despite standing down as committee members for a little rest Roger and Pat still play a massive roll in entertaining this club and for that we are all very thankful (gold star and big kiss for both).

Club nights have been as popular as ever with the age old recipe being slightly seasoned with a couple of speakers and the occasional skittles match which seems a good balance. The committee will look for more ideas over the coming months of ways we can amuse you all so please keep coming and any ideas will, as always be gratefully received.

The weather over the last 12 months played a big part in the cancellation of a few events, but on the whole those mentioned above had some pretty glorious weather giving us joy and something to build on and take into 2010. Although we all hope the sun will show itself a little more often, I mean, is that not what global warming is all about! This coming year is showing promise but your committee needs your support and ideas so please let us know if there is anything you would like to see added to the list of things the club will take part in over the next twelve months.

So, as we bid a fond farewell to 2009 and it exits stage left, it is with some regret we let it slip away into the past but let it be said that we had fun and the best memories will linger for some time yet. The year was a success in many ways for the club, the events were well organised and keenly followed, also as many of you know the committee pulled together to help

organise the Moor 2 Sea. The club replied by attending the event in large numbers to ensure its success, so many thanks go out to those who sacrificed precious time to serve their club. Nic & Lyn, Roger L, Tony & Gloria and to both club and committee in making the 2009 event so enjoyable – top banana and Thank You again Committee.

2010 will be starting for the MG calendar on the 3rd of January with the traditional New Year Treasure Hunt, this like last year will be the run that sets the standards we will all expect and enjoy over the coming 12 months. Nic and Lyn are sure to impress as organisers and with the help of the weather it should be a life defining moment and who can afford to miss out on that. Club night will have a talk from the Devon Air Ambulance, this will commence at 8 pm on the 12th. A great reason to give the TV a rest and get to the Ley Arms at Kenn in time to grab yourself a drink and a good seat, as this is looking like a real cracker. The idea of having occasional speakers has been widely accepted, we are due to have the infamous Tim Hipwell next month, a suitably non-technical but informative look at road schemes, though he will balance the talk with his usual precision to make it fun for all the family there may be the need for a parental guidance certificate but no animals will be hurt in the making of his talk.

Sorry to go on a bit, but could not let the past year go without a big thank you to everybody involved with the club on all levels as without ALL your support it would not be the Exeter MGOc we have come to love – Happy New Year!

Tim.

Dates for the Diary:-

Organisers of the Sunday/ evening Runs for 2010:-

January – Nic & Lyn
February – Isle of Wight trip
March – Steve & Dee
April – Roger & Pat
May – Keith & Judith
June – Neil & Trish
July – Graham & Brenda
August – Derrick & Hazel
September – Bob & Loraine
October – David & Susie

Thanks to all you volunteers and we look forward to these coming events.

The New Year Treasure Hunt - 2010

A Big thank-you to the 6 cars (and hardy people of course) who turned up for the Treasure Hunt on Sunday 3rd Jan. Neil & Trish were the winners and have the honour of setting the summer Treasure Hunt.

Lyn & Nic Drew.

To anyone of these hardy people, could you please send me a report and photo's of the run ?

Ed.

Road Fund Licence

If you are unlucky enough to have to pay - most of us are - and your road tax is coming up for renewal soon, it may prove cheaper to buy 2 x 6 months than a 12 month licence. This is because the licence band charges are changing again on April 1st 2010 and many low band cars will be cheaper to tax. Have a look at www.roadtaxprices.co.uk and do your own sums. If you own a Bentley - sell it!

Roger L

P.S. Thankyou all who gave me support when I crashed my B. It is lurking at Tamar Valley MG and I am confident it will come back as good as new. I had been saving a pair of OE wide-gap front wings and an alloy bonnet for more than 20 years for just such an event.....

Speaker at the February club night.

There will be a talk from our own Regional Secretary, Tim Hipwell. Tim has been leading on a major £1.5m road safety project in Devon, The Devon Countrymile. This 3 year project which ends in the middle of 2010 has been funded by The Department for Transport and Tim will outline some of the innovative measures which have been introduced and could save not just your life but may save your licence as well"

Ed.

Club and Barbara's landmark Birthday's

During the November meeting we celebrated our club's 30th birthday with the cutting of a sweet gooey cake by an equally sweet (but not gooey) committee member Barbara, who also just happened to be celebrating a landmark birthday - but if I told you which birthday . . . I'd have to kill you!





If any members are planning to go to other MG club's annual runs please email the editor, because it can encourage others to go and it is always better to travel along with others. On that very subject, apart from our own winter weekend on the Isle of Wight in February, Lorraine and I are going to the New Forest run at the beginning of June and the MGOC long weekend to Brittany in October. Any others want to join us?

Cheers from Bob & Lorraine

CLUB REGALIA

DEVON GREEN (CLUB COLOUR) POLO SHIRT AVAILABLE IN ALL SIZES AND IN MALE OR FEMALE CUT	£10.00
VARIOUS COLOURS OF POLO SHIRT AVAILABLE IN ALL SIZES AND IN MALE OR FEMALE CUT SHIRTS CAN ALSO HAVE YOUR NAME ADDED FOR A SMALL FEE	£15.00 £ 3.00
ASSORTED BASEBALL CAPS IN VARIOUS COLOURS	£ 7.50
LAPEL BUTTON BADGES	£ 3.00
SPARE WINDSCREEN STICKERS	£1.00
MANY OTHER ARTICLES AVAILABLE SO FOR DETAILS SEE	

PAUL WOOSTER – REGALIA SECRETARY.