



Newsletter December 2016

AMGC Quiz

The Quiz this year was held in the back room of the Five Arrows, and was well attended - eighteen members turning up for what was a very entertaining evening ably hosted by Pete Thomas and his glamorous assistant, Lesley. The 'Smelly Socks' made a welcome return, and our quizmasters were able to set the washing line up in the little conservatory area off the main room, which allowed each team to feel the contents of the socks in private without other teams benefitting from their experience! There were nine rounds altogether, with eight rounds of questions on a variety of topics, and the socks ound.



Our genial Quizmaster and Assistant

At the halfway point the three teams were very close indeed, with only three points separating them.



Rods & Ben's discuss a tricky answer



BSMs fill in another answer – but is it right?



T'Committee in relaxed mood



Jack 'Santa' Martin admires his team's wooden spoon



Clive accepts the 1st prize for T'Committee



However, T'committee were able to pull away slightly from the pack on the Transport, General Knowledge and Pictures rounds to become eventual winners, with Rod & Ben's coming second and the BSMs taking a worthy wooden spoon.

The evening was greatly enjoyed by all, and the concensus was that Pete and Lesley had done a fine job, and deserved the big vote of thanks they received.

Other Matters

Annual Subscriptions are now due. The Committee is proposing to increase the rate slightly after being static for the last 5 or 6 years, to £15 for a couple and £10 single. This increase is to cover the cost of running some of our activities such as the Pride of Ownership which this year showed a slight loss, and to help to fund proposed improvements to our website. Subs will be collected either:

In cash at the AGM or a subsequent Club Night

By bank transfer direct to the Club Account, details are:

NatWest, Sort Code 60-01-31, A/C No. 69656940 (preferred method)

By cheque made out to the club sent to our Treasurer, Jack Martin, at

Rosemundy, School End, Chetwode, Bucks, MK18 4LA

Another reminder that the January Club Night is taken up with our Annual General Meeting. This is a particularly important event, since not only do you have a chance to vote in the committee for the next twelve months (and stand for election to one or other of the posts yourself if you wish to), but you can have your say on the way that the club is run, as well as coming up with suggestions for future activities that we can all enjoy. The Agenda for this is attached to this Newsletter, so please glance at this before you come. And make sure to make a note in your diary to make a point of coming along in January.

Please note that the first Monday in January is a Bank Holiday, so the AGM will be held on **January 9th 2017 at 20.00** in the Five Arrows.

... And a last call for the Annual Dinner, which is being held this year on Friday 3rd February at The Five Arrows, our normal haunt. The food is always excellent, Alex and the staff at the Arrows look after us well. A great social occasion, and a nice one to get dressed up for (The dress code is evening suits or DJs for the gentlemen and best frocks for the ladies, although no-one will turn you away if you turn up in a lounge suit!). Clive is organising this, so let him or myself know that you will be coming if you haven't already done so, as Hollie Barr at the Arrows needs to know numbers now.

I have attached a copy of the menu to this newsletter again this month – you will need to pre-order your food choices, so please let either me or Clive know your selections by **13th January** at the latest.

The Skinner Trophy. You will all have seen the now completed trophy as featured in the December Newsletter. The trophy will be awarded each year to the Club member who has accumulated the most points, which are awarded on the basis of supporting qualifying Club activities. These activities for 2017 will be as follows:



Attending a Club Night will earn 1 point, with an extra point if you arrive in an MG
Attending the Club Pride of Ownership earns double Club Night points
Attending neighbouring POOs (Chesham and Little Horwood) earns the same as our POO
Attending a Club-supported qualifying event will earn 5 points – these events are:

- MG Era Day at Brooklands
- MG Live!
- Chiltern Hills Rally
- MG Spares Day at the NAC
- Kop Hill Climb
- Sunday Brunch Scramble at Bicester Heritage
- Flywheel Festival at Bicester Heritage
- Club Grand Prix Barbecue
- Club Weekend Away

...But you will be allowed points for a maximum of 4 events each year, so that all members can compete on an equal basis no matter what family or social commitments they may have.

The more numerically-inclined of you will have calculated that you could earn a maximum of 54 points in the year. However, we may decide to add new events to the list in-year, and to adjust the number of such events that will qualify for points, and you will have advanced notice of any such changes. It will be up to members to notify the Secretary (me!) that you have attended an event, and I will keep the up-to-date record of points awarded and will make this available at each Club Night. It would be helpful if you could take and submit some photos of the events you attend – you never know, they may well end up in the Newsletter! In the event of a tie at the end of the year, Mary Skinner will be asked to cast a final vote to decide who will hold the trophy for the next twelve months.

In 2016 we started awarding points from the May Club Night onwards, and agreed a number of qualifying events during the year. The member who accumulated the most points during the year, by a very small margin was me. The result has been audited, and it seems I just beat off the challenge by Dave Barton and Clive by a couple of points. So it looks like I shall be the holder of the trophy for the coming year. It truly is an honour to hold the trophy for the year in memory of our dear friend Roger.

Upcoming Events

You will have noticed that I now refer to the Natters as Club Nights. This was agreed at the recent Committee meeting to emphasise that, whilst we are proud to be closely aligned with the major MG Clubs – the MG Car Club, the MG Owners Club and the Octagon Club, and support their activities to the full – we wish to emphasise our identity as an independent local MG club.

Tuesday 27 December - Classic Cars on the Market Place, Brackley on from 10.00 to 2.00pm. This is a free event – no need to book.

Sunday 1st January 2017 - Vintage Stony.

Stony Stratford town centre, from 10.30 to 2.00pm. Never been, but it looks really good.



Sunday 8th January 2017 - Bicester Heritage Sunday Scramble

This is a good opportunity to get some fresh air after the excesses of Christmas and the New Year, once the hangovers have abated Clive has registered our club with the organisers of this, so that we will have a reserved area for our vehicles. When you visit the website to purchase tickets and arrive at the booking page, you select the 'Buy Club Member Vehicle tickets' option. This not only enables you to purchase advance discounted tickets but allows BH to see how many club vehicles to expect when planning the space for our club parking display area. See you there!

Monday 9th January 2017 – Annual General Meeting

January Club Night at The Five Arrows – the Club's Annual General Meeting, mentioned above, during which the Committee members are elected and policy discussed. It is important for members to attend and give their views on the way the club is run. Starts at 20.00.

Friday 3rd February – Annual Dinner and Prizegiving.

See above. Put this in your diary!!! Nuff Said.

Monday 6th February – Club Night.

At our usual haunt, the Five Arrows in Waddesdon at 20.00

Sunday 19th February – MG Spares Day at the NAC.

The annual pilgrimage to purchase those hard-to-find greasy and oily bits for your MG.

Adrian Bennett

adrian.mg@hotmail.co.uk,

Club Secretary



THE FIVE ARROWS
Waddesdon

MG Club Dinner

£30.50 per person

Balsamic roasted tomato soup, homemade ricotta, pesto

Confit rabbit and hazelnut terrine, foie gras butter, quail eggs & pickled red cabbage

Pan seared scallops, sweet potato & papaya puree, crisp pancetta, cumin oil



Grilled Hake, mustard & herb butter, salt baked celeriac, pomme anna

Slow cooked blade of beef & roasted sirloin, smoked mash, pearl onions, bacon lardons, savoy cabbage & thyme jus

Beetroot risotto, oxford blue cheese, roasted hazelnuts, wild rocket



Honey iced parfait, cinnamon granola, salted caramel popcorn ice cream

Chocolate delice, banana ice cream, glazed banana, griottine cherries soaked in kirsch

Selection of British Cheeses, Five Arrows chutney, oat biscuits



Tea and coffee

All prices include VAT. A 10% Discretionary Service Charge will be added to your bill





Annual General Meeting 2017

Agenda - January 9th January at 20.00

- Item 1. Welcome and apologies
- Item 2. Minutes of the previous AGM in January 2016
- Item 3. Chairman's Report
- Item 4. Secretary's Report
- Item 5. Treasurer's Report
- Item 6. Election of Officers for 2017
- Item 7. Annual Subscriptions for 2017
- Item 8. Club Web Site Project
- Item 9. Weekend Away
- Item 10. Annual Dinner and Prize giving – Arrangements
- Item 11. Club-branded Clothing – purchase arrangements
- Item 12. Discussion on Future Activities and Events
- Item 13. Any Other Business