

Southampton & New Forest MGOC April 2026 Newsletter

Main features this month:

- Beaulieu Breakfast Meet ~ Martin Charles
- Bacon Butty Club – Linda Taylor
- Mid Monthly lunch meet ~ Chris Parkins
- Headline on a TF 160 ~ Robin Plumley
- Car for Sale – Terry Titheridge
- Future Events



SOUTHAMPTON & NEW FOREST
MG OWNERS CLUB
AREA 1009

Edition No. 347

Editors Notes:

Hi Everyone

Please accept my apologies for the late arrival of the April newsletter. My laptop went decidedly wonky and shut me out of everything. With the help of Fiona, I am now back up and running.

April Club night saw Annie and Lauren from Elsies Rose, our nominated New Forest Run Charity, attend and give a lovely and very moving insight into their charity. The ladies stayed on for an hour chatting to Fiona, Julie, Karen Brown and myself. They joked that they need to get an MG and join the club as the events out sounded fun. They will be attending the New Forest Run with their families, so please, if you see them, please go and have a chat.

I would like to thank everyone who have sent articles and photos in to me for the April edition. Please keep them coming in.

Yvonne

Elsie's Rose
SUPPORTING BEREAVED PARENTS

Please take a look at the website

The events calendar as at todays date, does not have all the relevant email information. This will be updated and uploaded to the website in due course.

Secretary's Scribbles:

March has been a bit hit and miss; we were lucky to have a great mid monthly meet arranged by Keith & Chris Parkins at Sammy Millers and that was a good weather day too. With the clocks moving forward and the lighter evenings, hopefully we will be able to use our cars more.

April, we have our AGM on Wednesday 15th at The Exbury Club. It should be another good meeting with a view to the future of the Club.



26th is our Drive it Day arranged by Jon Holt – really looking forward to that and fingers crossed for some good weather. We start at Beaulieu and finish with lunch at the Sir Walter Tyrrell in Brook, Lyndhurst.



We were sad to learn that Winchester had to move their Cobweb Spin event from 12th April to 4th May – and can sympathise with Steve and his team with all the extra organisation. Although some have dropped out with it being a Bank Holiday, we still have a good number of cars attending and Robin has arranged the meet up location/time together with a route to Hollycombe for us all. Please contact Robin if you wish to meet up and travel together.

Finally, we are still recruiting an 'Events Coordinator' – if you are interested in the role, please let me know.

Fiona

Breakfast with Vintage Tyres at NMM, Beaulieu

By Martin Charles

Saturday 14th March saw the second breakfast and what a glorious morning was had by all that attended. I set off at 08:15 from Hythe, clear blue skies and a big orange ball in sky, top I couldn't help but wonder was this apocalypse? Nah! Just a wonderful day to be out enjoying a breakfast bap and coffee, a natter with friends and see some lovely motorbikes, cars and lorries.





There were only 2 new to the meet MG's on the day, this lovely late rubber bumper MG B GT complete with very nice condition interior, including the deck chair seats with no obvious wear.





You may remember that last month we had two Alvis models turn up, well surprise, surprise this time we had two new different models arrive. On the left a lovely TE 21 saloon, yes that is correct, to me I would class it as a Coupe, but it was listed in the catalogue as a saloon. This model was produced between 1963 and 1966, it had 2993cc straight six engines producing 135bhp, driving through either an automatic or 5 speed gear box, to the rear axle. Independent front suspension, leaf spring rear, disc brakes all round and power assisted steering with a claimed top speed 110mph. Sadly by this time there was no equivalent MG model, as had been the case in the pre-WW2 era. The sports model on the right was in equally stunning condition, but I didn't speal to the owner and try as I can't find it. Hardly surprising though. Alvis Car and Engineering was established in Coventry in 1919, in 1965 Rover took over the company and car production ceased in 1967 after Rover became of the British Leyland portfolio. Between 1919 and 1967 the company made 29 different models of car, and

in each of these model ranges there were a number of derivatives of each. So, if any of you know which model the silver car is, I would love to know.

Of course, Ford's from all eras are a popular choice for many classic car owners and there is always a good selection to see at these meets. This stunning mid !950's Zodiac convertible was exceptional, and its proud owner spent all morning talking to visitors. This is the straight six version of 2262cc, but this has period correct modifications, a tuned cylinder head with fuel being fed via triple SU carburettors by Alexander. Driving via a 3-speed gearbox to the rear axle, it had 9inch drum brakes all round with servo assistance. These Zodiac/Zepher models were the first to have the Macpherson strut front suspension fitted, a combined shock absorber and spring unit, with leaf springs and shock absorbers on the rear. The folding roof also was a first for Ford, to fold and raise the roof it was achieved by operating a switch that activated two electro/hydraulically rams, which meant it could be lowered or raised whilst the move.









It was nice to see that "Bertie" had come out of winter hibernation, but where had Fiona and Yvonne gone? I suppose I should have guessed, they'd beaten me to the breakfast roll and coffee van.





On the left a MG ZS180 just acquired by Max of DMGRS, in need of a good service and through clean, but at around £500 with current MoT, it shows bargain MG's are still out there. Finally, the Ford Sierra, they were everywhere back in the day. But this was the base model 1.6 L from the first year of production, if didn't even have a 5-speed gearbox! So much more interesting than all the RS models. The next meet will be on Saturday October 10th before the last in November to see this year out.

Exbury Butty Club
Exbury Club
By Linda Taylor



The Bacon Butty Club started at the beginning of February 2026 and runs every Tuesday from 9.30 to 11 a.m. It's a large roll filled with bacon with a tea or coffee for £6.00 and an extra £1 for an egg. Nick and I went to try it out and were not disappointed, well worth the money and there was cake too!! If you want an extra coffee its only £2.20.

Many made it an excuse for bringing their classic cars out, as it was a lovely sunny morning, which was a bonus to walk around the admire.

They are starting their pride and Joy events again on a Sunday from10.10 a.m. – next date is 24th May, then 12thJuly. See events page for further info and dates to be held at The Cuckoo Inn.

14th February Equipment Inventory

by Keith Parkins

In readiness for future Club events and in particular for this year's New Forest run, our new committee decided it was time to carry out a thorough audit of the Club Equipment. The objective was to check what is still serviceable and still required, to scrap any defective or un-needed items and then to identify any equipment shortfalls.

This year's Valentine's Day took on a new meaning for an enthusiastic group of club members this month. St Valentine was clearly on our side as it seemed to be the first day without rain so far this year!

Members: Steve Dennison, Malcolm Rumsey, Robin Plumley, Ray Amos, Peter Wallis, Kevin Wassel and I arrived bright and early at the business premises of Adam and Karen Brown, where the equipment is stored. It was a cold, bright morning and with Karen and Adam's help we soon had all the equipment out of the store.

Being a Saturday the empty parking area in front of Adam and Karen's premises enabled us to spread out the covers of the Gazebos and Shelters and examine their condition. All the frames were assed for condition and ease of assembly. In addition, the many smaller items of equipment were checked over and all redundant or unserviceable material identified.

With effective teamwork we were able to complete the whole task in 2 hours.

Identified equipment shortfalls and additional needs will be reviewed by the Club Committee and a decision made on necessary new purchases.

Many thanks to all participants on this successful mission. Our early start and early finish ensured there were no compromises to any Valentine's Day celebrations!





Mid Monthly at Sammy Millers Museum

By Chirs and Keith Parkins



Our mid-monthly in March, organised by Keith and Chris Parkins, was held at lunchtime in the Sammy Millers Motorcycle Museum and Pit Stop Café. A beautiful spring day, blue sky and sunshine, provided the perfect conditions for a drive in our MG's, for many of us the first outing of the year. We lined the cars up alongside the old petrol pumps for a great photo opportunity of 11 MG's. The Pit Stop café provided us with an excellent lunch, 25 of us in total, and the service was friendly and efficient. It's a lovely, bright and airy café with an outside terrace, great for a cuppa whether you're visiting the museum or not. About half the group then went into the museum. Some people had visited it many times in the past but still found it an interesting place to wander around. Sammy Miller himself was spotted in the workshop bent over a machine of some sort. The little craft shop and jewellery store in the grounds, along with the fishpond, the aviary, the geese and cockerel, and the field of alpacas all added to the enjoyment of the visit to the motorcycle museum. It proved to be a great venue for the club's mid-monthly meet.














MUSEUM

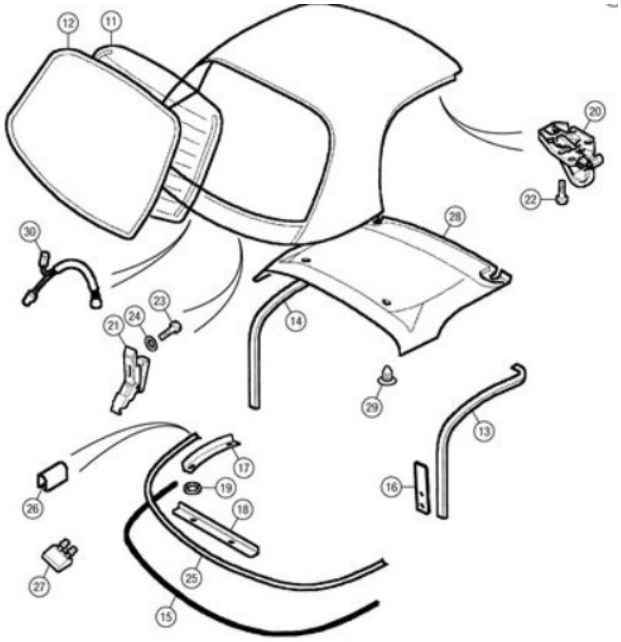
MG TF160 – Hardtop Headlining Renewal

By Robin Plumley

I have had my car since June 2003 and bought a hardtop at the same time. Although it was in Alcantara black I had it sprayed to match the X-Power Grey of the car.



I bought some brackets and a cover to hang it in the garage. The car is garaged but would put the top on for the winter and hang it up in the spring. Over time, I was using the car less so left the top on the hanger in its bag. Last year, I noticed the lining had dropped but it was only this year when I had to take the top down we decided to renew. Looked through the various, and numerous MG TF forum sites, (MG-Rover, Ultimate MG, etc), to look at videos and notes of other people's experiences. With the roof on its back on a duvet in the kitchen, it was easy to remove the fittings.



The foam-backed headlining material is stuck to what is called a ‘biscuit’, basically a pressed composite material (board), shaped to the interior of the roof with cut outs for the roof securing clips. The rear is secured to a brace with two plastic ‘fir-tree’ clips.





General view (L) and ‘fir-tree’ clips.

Care is needed and a proper tool in removing the plastic clips DYC101460 as they can break or deform. They are no longer available, but I am sure equivalents are around. I managed to remove mine ok.

The lining assembly used to be supplied as one piece EDB000400LUM but is no longer available. Thus, the lining has to be removed with the foam backing. Some of the foam remained stuck to the ‘biscuit’ which needed to be removed. It is suggested using a stiff yard brush to brush it off but even after leaving the ‘biscuit’ to dry the remaining foam remains sticky. I tried using white spirit on a small area but no difference. Also, some hot water and a cloth applied sparingly did help.







The original material is quite thin and backed with about 3mm of foam. One of the forums used a cloth headlining material from BAS International. They had a grey colour which matched very well, and they sent a sample of material with 5mm foam and without foam. Decided to go with the foam backed material and ordered a can of high-temperature contact adhesive. Items arrived next day.

We used the old headlining as a template to mark out the new material and following the instructions, applied the material to the now clean biscuit.

We still need to check the fit of the roof to the car.

Observations if I had to do it again!!! Go for less foam – it’s easier to handle.

Otherwise, a satisfying result for warmer winter motoring in the MG if needed.

MAY Mid Monthly – Note for your Diary

From Chris and Carolyn Guest



Hi All

Chris popped into the Bear at Burton recently and they will welcome us on Wednesday 20th May at 6.30 ish for those wishing to eat.

The menu will be available nearer the time as there could be a change to the one published currently on their website.

Chris has agreed to confirm numbers, etc, 10 days before so I will make sure we have sent out the info with sufficient thinking time before then!

Hope you all had a good Easter weekend.

CAR FOR SALE

From Terry Titheridge

Description:
2000 silver MGF 1796 VVI 76500 milage.
Have owned the car for 8.5 years.
Bodywork needs a little attention but mechanically in very good condition.
Head gasket replaced by MJS and serviced by him @ 74900 miles.
All 4 spheres replaced. Receipts for lots of other bits & works.
Engine tweaks - S/S sports exhaust.
52mm throttle body and cold air induction kit.
MOT until Oct 26.
£1800



EVENTS CALENDAR APRIL – JUNE 2026

Date	Event	Organisation	Details
April			
12th	Farnham Classic Car Show,	Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice	Herman Frost 01252 320439
12th	Cobweb Spin - Hollycombe, Liphook	Winchester MGOC	www.winchestermgoc.com
15th	AGM Meeting - 7pm Exbury Club	S&NF MGOC	www.1009mg.org.uk/
19th	Mow & Motor Event	The Barley Mow, Hook, RG27 8DE	www.nicecarmate.com
22nd	Mid-Monthly - TBC	S&NF MGOC	www.1009mg.org.uk/
26th	Drive-it-Day - from Beaulieu Motor Museun	S&NF MGOC	www.1009mg.org.uk/
26th	Swanage Classic Carnival Show	Swanage Carnival	www.swanagecarnival.com
May			
3rd	Classic Cars at Compton	Compton Abbas Airfield	www.comptonairfield.com
6th	Club Night - Walhampton Arms, Lymington	S&NF MGOC	www.1009mg.org.uk/
9/10th	Yester Years Classic Vehicle Show, Thruxton	Stockbridge Vintage Club	info@stockbridgevintageclub.uk
10th	Basingstoke Festival of Transport, RG21 4BY	Basingstoke Deane Rotary	www.rotary-ribi.org
10th	More2See, Clyst st Mary, EX5 1AA	Exeter MGOC	exeter.mgoc.secretary@gmail.com
10th	Rose of the Shires	Northamptonshire	
13th	Rainbow on the Lake Lunch, Steeple Langford	Robin -S&NF MGOC	mgtf160mg02@yahoo.co.uk
16/17th	Spring Auto Jumble, Beaulieu	Beaulieu Motor Museum	www.britishmotormuseum.co.uk
17th	MG's in the Park, Rowlands Castle, PO9 6DX	Solent MGOC	rosemary@aevans.co.uk
17th	Dorset Blind Association Car Show	Lulworth Castle	
20th	Simply VW, Beaulieu	Beaulieu Motor Museum	www.britishmotormuseum.co.uk
20th	Mid-Monthly - TBC	S&NF MGOC	www.1009mg.org.uk/
23-26th	MGOC Cricket St. Thomas	Somerset MGOC	
24th	Pride and Joy Meet	Exbury Club	
25th	Brooklands Best of British Car Show	Brooklands Museum	www.brooklandsmuseum.com
30th	Pangbourne Car Show		
31st	Simply Porshe, Beaulieu	Beaulieu Motor Museum	www.britishmotormuseum.co.uk
June			
3rd	Club Night - Walhampton Arms, Lymington	S&NF MGOC	www.1009mg.org.uk/
7th	New Forest Run, Exbury	S&NF MGOC	www.1009mg.org.uk/
7th	Simply Ford	Beaulieu Motor Museum	www.britishmotormuseum.co.uk
7th	MG's in the Park, Cotswold Wildlife Park, OX18 4JP	Oxfordshire MGOC	www.oxfordshiremgoc.co.uk/
7th	Pride and Joy Meet	Cuckoo Inn	
13-14th	Brooklads Relived - Festival of Mototsport		
14th	Dales Trail, Boltons Castle, Wensleydale	YDCC Club	ydccc.co.uk
14th	Ratae Run	South Leicestershire	
17th	Mid-Monthly - TBC	S&NF MGOC	www.1009mg.org.uk/
20th	Whiteparish Village Fete and Car Show	Whiteparish Village	
21st	Hollycombe Classic Car Show, Liphook	Hollycombe House	www.whatsonhampshire.co.uk
27rh	Armed Forces Day and fawley Show	Gang Warily, SO45 1GA	
28th	National Austin 7 Rally	Beaulieu Motor Museum	www.britishmotormuseum.co.uk
28th	Simply French	Beaulieu Motor Museum	www.britishmotormuseum.co.uk

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