



Edinburgh, Lothians and Borders MG CLUB

www.MG-Edinburgh.co.uk



February 2024



David receives the Harvey Cooke cup for his work on the website

Credits: Helen, Steve L, Fraser, Neil Mac, Emo, Karen

MEMBERS' CARS

New member Steve Lyon's rather tidy MGB



INTERESTING CAR

Spotted by Fraser





Mrs Grumpy's Grumble

Bicyclists again. Now I know that most of them are sensible, law abiding and considerate - but there is the minority that seems to think normal rules don't apply to them.

You have to give them 1.5m when passing in a car as they are the more vulnerable road user. So, why do some think it's OK to whizz past you as a pedestrian on a walk/cycleway brushing your elbow as they pass? They are coming from behind without a warning bell natch. Surely a pedestrian is the most vulnerable road user here, so why don't I merit a safe passing distance of a metre at least?

I was walking along the pavement in Wallace Crescent (a quiet residential street in Roslin) and a female bicyclist was riding on the pavement, coming towards me. She had a kid in one of those seats behind her - perhaps the reason she was on the pavement as it would be too dangerous to ride on the quiet residential road?

I kept my position and she kept riding towards me - perhaps I was expected to step into the road and risk my life in the hotbed of speeding motorists that is Wallace Crescent? She gave me the evil eye as she had to squeeze between me and the fence (she was still cycling) so I gave her a dirty look right back and said she shouldn't be on the pavement.

Now, back in the days that I was young enough for "active travel" ie riding a bike, I did go on the pavement - but only when I was out of the village, on a fast main road (it was safer) and there were no pedestrians. If I did come upon a pedestrian, I always stopped and let them pass safely as they were the ones entitled to use the pavement.

And don't start me on red lights - I've lost count of the number of times I've been waiting at a red light (either on the bus or in the car) and a bicyclist heads through the red light - not even pretending to be a pedestrian.

Finally, as ever, it is the inconsiderate few who spoil things for the decent majority as unfortunately people tend to tar all bicyclists with the same brush.

INTERESTING CAR VW Corrado 16v

MEMBERSHIP SUBS ARE DUE - PLEASE CONTACT ANDREW

It is £15 per household including children up to 18. You can pay by cash, cheque or bank transfer The details are: Edinburgh MG Club, 80-22-60, 14185469.

INTERESTING FOLLOW ON



We were careful to keep the roll-up door open at all times when dry-laying a paving slab floor in my new Clarke garage. We also pushed the MG in, so it was cold.

The garage is now DRIPPING WITH CONDENSATION and there appears to be no ventilation built into the Clarke garage.

I know the weather has been cold, but this is far worse than I was expecting. I am now using a loose insulated car cover to protect and preserve "Ma Baby" until I solve the problem.

I've got Brian's old dehumidifier from Helen (for a donation to MND Scotland if it's all working) and I'll see if that improves things.

Not impressed! [Neil Macaulay](#)

QUIZ NIGHT

We had four teams of four for our annual quiz, with challenging questions set by Allan (topical general knowledge), myself (Acronyms), Craig (fiendish 12 days of Christmas) and Martin's feely bag (car & caravan items in extra thick bag!).

In spite of the difficult questions, two teams scored so highly we discovered that our score cards only went up to 99!!



I've added some photos and the quizzes are reproduced at the end of the newsletter for those who missed this intellectual event! **Mrs Grumpy**





CARVERY LUNCH

Martin had visited Westgate carvery at the Gyle and been distinctly unimpressed, so after a confab with the committee, it was decided to revisit Lauriston Farm. We had left there about 5 years ago as it had gone downhill - but it is now in the ascendent!

Martin organised a nice private room that could sit 30 comfortably - we were 23 on the day as 4 people had to call off for various reasons. The food was good and the staff friendly and cheerful - so a good call by Martin. Having our own room meant we could be relaxed and chat for a while after the meal - which everyone did.

Allan did the presentations before the lunch - thanking David Turner for his work on the website and presenting him with the Harvey Cooke cup. I'd had plenty of time to get it engraved before the presentation, but an extended senior moment (I put the cup in my study and forgot about it!) meant it hadn't been done. However, I offered to take it to Dalkeith and get it done for David.

Allan then did the retirement speech and presentation for Tony - I think we managed to get Tony to the carvery lunch without any inkling about what was going to happen as Dave Mac steered Tony to the loo while I got the hamper in. Tony, being Tony, asked why I was behaving like a cat on a hot tin roof - I could hardly say "I'm getting people to sign your Thank You card before your presentation"!! Anyway, I've done a separate article for Tony's retirement.

We then had lunch - most opted for the regular carvery, apart from Martin who had three starters. I thought the meat was fresh, the portions generous and there was a huge array of veggies that you could go back to and have an extra helping if you so wished.

After, the meal we sat around chatting before heading home in the rain and high wind. I've added some photos - but as ever, I haven't printed the awful ones - so if you're not there, that's the reason! Finally, many thanks to Martin for organising it all so well. **Mrs Grumpy.**





TONY'S PRESENTATION

Tony Woods joined the MG club in 1992 - at least, that's the earliest he appears in club photos! He and Iris were active members and organised events with Tony joining the committee and becoming Membership Secretary - a post he's held for nearly 30 years. In that time, he's been a hard working committee member, doing his Tony's Talk at meetings, farewell speeches for people leaving and always a source of wise counsel.

In his 32 years in the MG club, Tony has had a blue MGB, a harvest gold GT, a red MGF, a metallic blue go-faster MGB, a green TF, a citron GT, a pewter TF, a silver TF and his silver MG3.

We decided to give him a hamper of foods that we know he liked - full marks to the Portuguese shop in Roslin who did a beautiful hamper. Belatedly, I had the bright idea of doing a "This Is Your MG Life" folder for him and spent an enjoyable week tracking down incriminating photos and assembling the folder. I tried to get in as many people as I could, while picking nice photos of Tony. I even managed to name everyone, apart from someone's girlfriend from 1994 - but Craig supplied the missing name!

Karen took a pic of Tony licking his lips when he realised what was in his hamper!

Mrs Grumpy



THE TALE OF A DERBY BENTLEY

An old Uni friend (Bernie of the Bentleys) has a couple of Bentleys and a Rolls or two. His first one was a 1930s Derby Bentley of dubious reliability. Living up to its reputation, it failed to start outside my flat in Roslin - this was waaay back in the 1980s and before I met Brian. Bernie, being into old cars, is a reasonable DIY mechanic - but he couldn't get it to fire up.

He suggested I tow him into where the Bentley was garaged near Holy Corner. I feebly suggested the black GT didn't have the power to tow something the size of the Derby Bentley - this was before I had bought the V8. I was persuaded to give it a try and we hitched Boris the black 'B up to the Bentley and set off, with me driving Boris and Bernie steering the Bentley. I have to say the old GT coped admirably - until we got to the hill at Mayfield Road, just after you turn off at the bottom of Liberton Brae. Faced with this hill, after towing the Bentley for some time, the old GT was getting rather hot and bothered. So I decided to stop before he had steam coming out of every orifice and blew a head gasket - his weakness at the time.

A quick conflagration, resulted in me driving Bernie to his flat in Morningside and collecting his Rover 213 so it could tow the Bentley. Naturally, I wasn't insured to drive the Rover so I'd have to steer the old Bentley - OMG!! You know that Derby Bentleys have a mile of bonnet and are rather long!

OK, back to the Bentley, hitch up the Rover and off we go - having an interesting slalom through some roadwork cones on the way. We got to that funny junction at Strathearn Place, where you have to turn right at the wee one-way square. We had stopped and Bernie moved off when the road was clear - the Rover had got to the other side of the road, the tow rope was taut as the Bentley slowly started to roll her long bonnet into the road, when a scruffy wee hatchback came hammering round the corner!!

I had vision of the scruffy hatchback embedded in the Bentley's very expensive, hand made, aluminium wing, decided a broken tow rope was preferable and slammed on the brakes. The tow rope snapped, nearly catapulting the Rover into a nearby garden - but importantly, the scruffy hatchback missed the Bentley and the Rover and sped off.

We got the old Bentley to its garage and adjourned for a stiff drink - and amazingly the GT didn't blow his head gasket! **Mrs Grumpy**

ALLAN'S QUIZ: GENERAL & TOPICAL KNOWLEDGE

1. Which company celebrated its 100th anniversary on October 16, 2023?
2. What country drinks the most coffee per capita? (Clue: it was also the 31st country to join NATO)
3. What is the smallest planet in our solar system?
4. The King's Coronation was planned using which secret code name?
5. The second series of *Clarkson's Farm* was released in early 2023. What is the name of this farm?
6. Who was the only Red Bull F1 driver to win a Grand Prix race in 2023 Formula One World Championship?
7. What city hosted Eurovision in 2023?
8. Which guest couldn't find her seat at the coronation?
9. Who won Best Actress in the 2023 Oscars?
10. What month did Nicola Sturgeon resign as Scottish First Minister?
11. NASA astronauts dropped what into orbit on November 1st?
12. What was the top-selling book in 2023?
13. Which blockbuster action franchise starring Keanu Reeves came out in 2023 after a two-year delay?
14. The PGA Tour announced in June it would merge with LIV golf, a league backed by which country?
15. Can you remember what artefacts reignited a long-standing disagreement between the governments of the UK and Greece?
16. More than 50 years after the Beatles broke up, the band released their "last song". What is it called?
17. Jockey Frankie Dettori wrapped up a 37-year career in British horse racing with a win on King of Steel in his last race - but at which racecourse?
18. Which Edinburgh school did the new Dr Who attend?
19. Which operatic superstar performed the song used in this year's John Lewis Christmas advert?
20. US President Joe Biden celebrated his 81st birthday this year, making him the country's oldest leader ever. Which former President was the next oldest by the time they left office?

11. A tool bag
12. Spare by Prince Harry
13. John Wick
14. Saudi Arabia
15. The Elgin Marbles
16. Now and Then
17. Ascot
18. Borroughmuir
19. Andrea Bocelli
20. Ronald Regan

1. The Walt Disney company
2. Finland
3. Mercury
4. Operation Golden Orb
5. Diddly Squat Farm
6. Carlos Sainz
7. Liverpool
8. Katy Perry
9. Michelle Yeoh
10. February

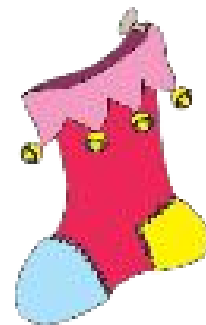
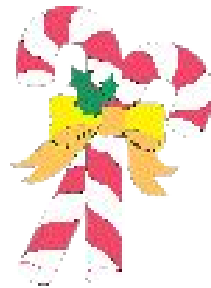
Answers:

CRAIG'S FIENDISH TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

Answers on next page

1. WHAT IS THE CAR RESTORATION SHOW PRESENTED BY TIM SHAW AND FUZZ TOWNSEND
2. NAME THE TWO OFFICIAL COLOURS OF CRAIGS MG'S
3. NAME THE THREE HOSTS OF UNIVERSITY CHALLENGE
4. NAME THE FOUR HUMAN CHARACTERS IN THE FLINTSTONES.
5. WHAT ARE THE FIVE COLOURS ON THE OLYMPIC RINGS
6. WHO ARE THE SIX CHARACTERS IN CLUEDO
7. WHAT COLOURS FORM A RAINBOW
8. NAME THE EIGHT PLANETS
9. NAME THE NINE COUNTRIES THAT BORDER GERMANY.
10. NAME THE TEN ENGLISH NATIONAL PARKS
11. IDENTIFY THE CHARCTERS PLAYED BY THE FOLLOWING ACTORS IN M.A.S.H. - ALAN ALDA, WAYNE ROGERS, MCLEAN STEVENSON, LORETTA SWIT, LARRY LINVILLE, GARY BURGHOFF, MIKE FARRELL. HARRY MORGAN. JAMIE FARR. WILLIAM CHRISTOPHER. DAVID OGDEN STEIRS.

B.J. HUNNICUTT
BENJAMIN FRANKLIN 'HAWKEYE' PEIRCE
CHARLES EMERSON WINCHESTER
COLONEL HENRY BLAKE
COLONEL SHERMAN POTTER
CORPORAL MAX KLINGER
MAJOR FRANK BURNS
MARGARET 'HOTLIPS' HOULIHAN
REVERAND FATHER MULCAHY
'TRAPPER' JOHN MCINTYRE
WALTER 'RADAR' O'REILLY



12. NAME THE 12 ITEMS IN THE SONG 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS



1. CAR S.O.S.
2. HARVEST GOLD AND AQUA.
3. BAMBER GASGOINE, JEREMY PAXMAN, AMOL RAJAN.
4. FRED, BARNEY, WILMA, BETTY.
5. YELLOW, RED, BLUE, GREEN, BLACK
6. PROFESSOR PLUM, MISS SCARLETT, MRS WHITE, REVEREND GREEN, MRS PEACOCK, COLONEL MUSTARD.
7. RED, ORANGE, YELLOW, GREEN, BLUE, INDIGO, VIOLET
8. MERCURY, VENUS, EARTH, MARS, JUPITER, SATURN, URANUS, NEPTUNE.
9. AUSTRIA, NETHERLANDS, CZECH REPUBLIC, FRANCE, LUXEMBOURG, DENMARK, POLAND, SWITZERLAND, BELGUIM.
10. THE BROADS, DARTMOOR, EXMOOR, LAKE DISTRICT, NEW FOREST, NORTHUMBERLAND, NORTH YORK MOORS, PEAK DISTRICT, SOUTH DOWNS, YORKSHIRE DALES.

B.J. HUNNICUTT	MIKE FARRELL
BENJAMIN FRANKLIN 'HAWKEYE' PEIRCE	ALAN ALDA
CHARLES EMERSON WINCHESTER	DAVID OGDEN STEIRS
COLONEL HENRY BLAKE	MCLEAN STEVENSON
COLONEL SHERMAN POTTER	HARRY MORGAN
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REVERAND FATHER MULCAHY	WILLIAM CHRISTOPHER
'TRAPPER' JOHN MCINTYRE	WAYNE ROGERS
WALTER 'RADAR' O'REILLY	GARY BURGHOFF

12. PARTRIDGE, TURTLE DOVES, FRENCH HENS, CALLING BIRDS, GOLD RINGS, GEESE, SWANS, MAIDS, DANCERS, LORDS, PIPERS, DRUMMERS.

HELEN's QUIZ: ACRONYMS - SOME MODERN, SOME EASY & SOME NOT SO

Answers on next page

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 LOL | 21 NATO |
| 2 BTW | 22 SWAT |
| 3 SNAFU | 23 OPEC |
| 4 GIF | 24 SCUBA |
| 5 BFF | 25 LASER |
| 6 LMAO | 26 SUV |
| 7 TGIF | 27 SIM (as in card) |
| 8 TBH | 28 DERV |
| 9 WTF | 29 IQ |
| 10 FFS | 30 TASER |
| 11 TWATs (as in workers) | 31 FUBAR |
| 12 CAPTCHA | 32 ABS |
| 13 YOLO | 33 ESPN |
| 14 JPEG | 34 QED |
| 15 RADAR | 35 HSBC |
| 16 NASA | 36 ADHD |
| 17 AIDS | 37 ATM |
| 18 CSI | 38 M&M (as in sweets) |
| 19 URL | 39 SMART (as in car) |
| 20 MO | 40 CFC |

- 1 Laugh Out Loud
- 2 By The Way
- 3 Situation Normal; All F***** Up
- 4 Graphics Interchange Format
- 5 Best Friends Forever
- 6 Laugh My Ass Off
- 7 Thank God It's Friday
- 8 To Be Honest
- 9 What The F****
- 10 For F**** Sake
- 11 Tuesday Wednesday and Thursdays
- 12 Completely Automated Public Turing Test To Tell Computers & Humans Apart
- 13 You Only Live Once
- 14 Joint Photographic Experts Group
- 15 Radio Detecting and Ranging
- 16 National Aeronautics & Space Administration
- 17 Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
- 18 Crime Scene Investigation
- 19 Uniform Resource Locator
- 20 Modus Operandi
- 21 Northern Atlantic Treaty Organisation
- 22 Special Weapons and Tactics
- 23 Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries
- 24 Self Contained Underwater Breathing Apparatus
- 25 Light Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation
- 26 Sports Utility Vehicle
- 27 Subscriber Identity Module
- 28 Diesel Engined Road Vehicle
- 29 Intelligence Quotient
- 30 Thomas A Swift Electric Rifle
- 31 F***** Up Beyond All Recognition
- 32 Anti-Lock Braking System
- 33 Entertainment & Sports Programming Network
- 34 Quod Erat Demonstrandum
- 35 Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation
- 36 Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder
- 37 Automated Teller Machine
- 38 Mars & Murray
- 39 Swatch Mercedes Art
- 40 Chlorofluorocarbon

MANY MOONS AGO

Ten pin bowling with Kingdom Club in 2015



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Please feel free to contact the committee if you have any queries.

Monthly meetings have resumed at the rugby club, second Thursday 7.30 for 8pm

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

All provisional

February 8 **AGM**

February 14 **Skittles evening cancelled.**

March 8 **Monthly meeting**

March tbc **Technical Day. Please contact Allan**

April 11 **Monthly meeting**

April 21 **Drive It Day Run. Please contact Helen**

May 9 **Monthly meeting**

May 12 **Stirling Show, Bridge of Allan. Please contact Steve**

May 26th **Scenic Run to East Neuk of Fife. Please contact Allan**

June 2

Thirlestane Castle Show - please contact Steve

June 13

Monthly Meeting

June 22/23

Weekend Away to the Gathering of the Clans, Grampian Museum, Alford

July 11

Monthly meeting

July 14

SVVC Glamis Castle Show

July 20

RNLI Day at Dunbar

August 8

Monthly meeting