



Edinburgh, Lothians and Borders MG CLUB

www.MG-Edinburgh.co.uk



MARCH 2026



Visit to Stewart Brewing

Credits: Helen, Emo, Ronald, Peter, Andrew, Tiny H, Craig

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Name: Emo

Occupation: Helpdesk specialist for a Supplier of Photocopiers

MGs and current state of repair: I have a British Racing Green 1500 Midget with an Overdrive gearbox fitted. The car is known as Smevil as it is **S**Small and **E**VIL. The current state is that it will not start as I have 130 psi on Cylinder 1, 135 psi on Cylinder 2 and NO pressure on Cylinders 3 and 4! Also the timing has jumped to 180 degrees out - again.



Mileage travelled in the last year in the MG: About 250 - I took the car to work and it clearly decided that 1 day of work was enough for it. If only I could get away with that.

Who are you insured with?: I am insured via the MG Club and due to limited mileage it doesn't cost that much.

Who does your repairs? I do. I had been looking for my first MG Midget and this one came up and as I went on my own to look at it - well you know the ending.

Favourite run? Only been on one with the club which was a very good drive it day in East Lothian, however I did make it to the Isle of Man the year before and driving over the mountain on a closed road was great even taking it easy I could get quite a good speed up going over the top and past the Cafe and not slowing up was great fun.

How did it all Start?: Well back in 1989 I wanted to change my car having had a Mini Metro for 2 years and being 19 I wanted something faster. I looked in Autotrader and found a Inca Yellow MG Midget 1500, So made an appointment to view it and took my Dad along. Yes I brought it - well said I would buy it and left a deposit and the owner said they would deliver it so why not, A couple of weeks later the car arrived and it was insured so I took it for a drive and was hooked by how it drove then I noticed the fuel gauge - low on fuel no problem into a petrol station and then it happened The fuel tank had a leak and so started the repairs of the Yellow peril.

What followed was Years of Fun - I came along to the Edinburgh Club and meet Craig and Eddie and the three daft lads was born. Yes the stories of me driving the car with more beer on the boot rack than clothes in the boot are all true. All I can say is thank goodness the diary from our holiday seems to have been lost in time and long may it stay like that.

Soon after I got the Yellow Midget the clutch went and I replaced it. However it seem to spit the clutch out every 6 months after that and it was always the pressure plate that went. My record 1 Friday night from walking into the Garage to walking out with the engine on the floor and the clutch in a plastic bag was/is 3 hours 45 minutes all done on my own!

I once went to SGL Leyland and on the way back the gearbox decided to leave the bearing on the M6, so that was the first Overdrive conversion I did and it made a big difference, how about 105 down the city bypass (Yes the bit going down hill!) and I did not hit the red line of the engine.

So what happened to the Yellow Peril? Well, I got sensible and after losing control one too many times and not in the snow, I decided that the car and I had to part company. I had also met a young lady so I decided to do something sensible and get rid of the car before it got rid of me. I sold the car and brought an engagement ring! (However I did say I would get another MG). I then got married to Mhairi, Matthew joined us a few years later.

So, after a 20 years I started to look for my old MG, then one night I got a call from Craig about a car, not my car but another MG Midget, and as Craig and Helen couldn't make the viewing I went on my own and brought it. However this was just a shell and boxes of parts.

The rebuild was done in time for the Isle of Man trip and since then I have been bug fixing until the current engine problem came along and due to an urgent family matter it had to get parked but I am starting to get back to it once more.

What plans do I have - this year I would like to get to the bottom of the timing jumping and fix the lack of pressure, my shopping list of bits is getting quite big but don't tell Mhairi. Luckily I can get the parts delivered to work so she won't know!

Once I have the car running smooth and reliable I would like to do more long runs so watch out the beer rack may reappear yet. Also Young Matthew as he is known in the club would like to drive the car - well it will happen and maybe he will write an article about it.

In summary, I have had a lot of fun with MG Midgets and plan to have even more, and if anybody says you won't do that with an MG Midget I may just give it a go.

Photos: My memory board - I had to get this out of the garage and clean it up. Also don't know why Eddie's 'B' is in it.

Photos on the next page - event badge from the 1992 Scottish National - I think that was the year that Craig & myself did the autotest in the Midget with no clutch!



Sadly our editor has vetoed the pics of us doing the autotest sans clutch due to poor quality, but she's added a couple of others - although she can't remember the year! There is one of myself receiving an award and for long standing club members, the other two people in the photo are Janis Wadge and Donald Logie - Donald was club secretary for many years back in the day. And of course, one of the Yellow Peril.



REPORT - AGM of ELBMG CLUB

<p>AGM Agenda</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ AGM Introduction - Steve Hastwell▪ AGM 2025 Approve Minutes - Steve Hastwell▪ Review of 2025 - Steve Hastwell▪ Treasurers Report for 2025 - Allan Digance▪ 2026 Subscriptions - Steve Hastwell▪ Membership Update - Andrew McGill▪ Committee Elections - Steve Hastwell▪ Plans & Events for 2026 - Steve Hastwell▪ AoB + Comments & Questions - All
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Date: Thursday 12th February 2026. Time: 20:00 h

Venue: Boroughmuir Rugby Football Club, Meggetland, Edinburgh EH14 1XN

Note: Slides were projected to display background information to each agenda item (copy of slides and full meeting minutes will be made available to all members)

1. Attendees

Present (24):

Apologies Received (5):

2. Introduction - Steve Hastwell

Steve H welcomed the attendees to the Edinburgh, Lothian & Borders MG Club (ELBMGC) 2026 AGM, and ran through the AGM agenda.

3. Approval of 2025 AGM Minutes - Steve Hastwell

Members present were asked to approve the minutes of ELBMGC AGM held on 13 Feb 2025 (by a show of hands)

Members vote result for ELBMGC 2025 AGM Minutes approval -

For 24

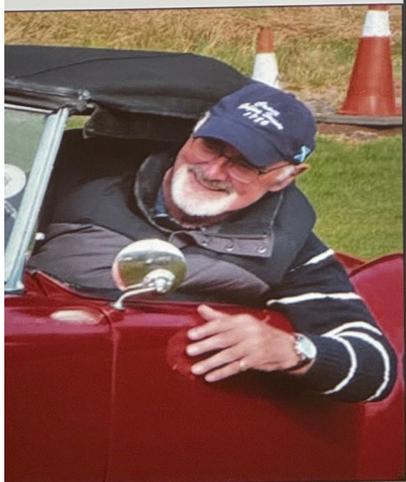
Against 0

Abstained 0

4. Review of 2025 - Steve Hastwell

Steve H presented a look back at the Club's 2025 activities, 19+ events (in addition to regular 2nd Thursday of month evening meetings) were identified .

Treasurers Report – 2025(1)



Edinburgh, Lothian & Borders MG Club Income & Expenditure Account to 31 Dec 2025

Income	2025 £	2024 £	Diff £
Membership fees	890.00	1000.00	(110.00)
Donations	89.00	150.00	(61.00)
Raffles	488.00	637.00	(149.00)
Event income	11.00	20.00	(9.00)
Calendar	250.00	230.00	20.00
Interest	28.32	39.89	(11.57)
Other	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL	1,756.32	2,076.89	(320.57)

5. Treasurers Report for 2025 - Allan Digance

A summary of club income & expenditure for 2025 was displayed.

More detailed tables of 2025 accounts prepared by the Treasurer had been previously distributed prior to the meeting.

Overall club accounts had a small surplus of £368 for the year. Cash in club bank accounts at 31 Dec 2025 is £7,348.

There had been no major expenditures on new equipment or services during 2025.

The Club 2025 accounts were independently checked/audited by both Steve Hastwell and Craig Fotheringham and in their opinion were found to correctly represent the club's incomes/expenditures and end of year bank balances for financial year 2025.

Members present were asked to vote to approve the accounts.

Members vote result for ELBMGC 2025 accounts approval -

For 24

Against 0

Abstained 0

Total Votes 24

Allan D pointed out that the present bank balances includes provision built-up over recent years in anticipation of needing to purchase a new large gazebo to replace the existing large/heavy lettered gazebo (the one used at big car shows, like Thirlestane). Since at most shows we now use our smaller 'Coleman Event Shelter', the committee currently has no plan for a new (expensive) gazebo.

The committee therefore suggest that the current bank balances are reduced by using some of those accumulated funds for the benefit of members. e.g. to pay entry fees for some classic car shows, to pay for a club summer BBQ to possibly be held at Meggettland venue.

Club members were asked to vote to approve that the committee could use existing funds, at their discretion, to subsidise member activities/events.

Members vote result for ELBMGC Committee to have discretion to decrease accumulated bank balance(s) by spending on items or activities to the benefit of fully paid up club members -

For 24
Against 0
Abstained 0
Total Votes 24

Members present were asked if they had ideas of how club excess funds might be used.

Suggestions were - a) Do replace large gazebo, with a lighter weight one

b) Purchase a portable defibrillator to take to shows & events, in recognition that several members have had heart conditions.

c) Comment was made suggesting that it could be a good idea to subsidise show entries to encourage members participation. (Glamis Extravaganza mentioned)

6. 2026 Subscriptions - Allan Digance

Club annual subscription for 2026 was discussed. The ELBMGC Committee has reviewed expected income and expenditures for 2026, and anticipate little change from 2025.

The committee therefore recommended that club 2026 annual subscription remains at the same level as 2025, at £15.

Members present were asked to vote to approve a 2026 subscription of £15.

Members vote result for ELBMGC 2026 £15 annual subscription approval -

For 24
Against 0
Abstained 0
Total Votes 24

Members were reminded that 2026 subscriptions are due to be paid by end of February 2026.

 <p>Membership Update</p>	<p>Membership at end of December 2024 –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">71 Club Members (inc 2 Honorary Members) <p>Membership During 2025 –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">55 Club Members renewed membership16 Club Members did not renew membership13 New members joinedTotal Members 2025 = 68 <p>Membership at the end of December 2025 –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">68 Club Members (inc 2 Honorary Members) <p>Membership at end of January 2026 –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">48 Club Members (inc 5 Honorary Members) <p>Reminder: Club subscription due by end February (or your membership will lapse!)</p>
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7. Membership Update - Andrew McGill

Andrew McGill briefly discussed club membership numbers

Membership numbers at the end of 2025 were a little down from the end of 2024.

At end 2025 the club had 68 members (including 5 honorary members)

At the date of this AGM, 43 members have paid their 2026 subscription, plus there are 5 honorary members. It is expected that many 2025 members will renew their membership before end Feb 2026, plus the club attracting new members through 2026. However it is anticipated that ELBMGC membership may be slightly lower at the end of 2026, compared with end 2025.

8. Committee Elections - Steve Hastwell

The club constitution (issued during 2024) requires $\frac{1}{3}$ of the committee to be elected or re-elected by the membership each year.

Nobody from the membership had volunteered to join the club committee prior this AGM.

Neither did a request at the AGM for volunteer(s) to join the committee find any willing candidates.

Three committee members that have agreed to stand for re-election this year. (Steve Hastwell, Andrew McGill & Fraser Watt). If elected they will remain on the committee for the shorter of either; for 3 years (when they would need to decide if they wish to be re-elected again), or choose to stand-down within 3 years.

Members vote result for elections or re-election of ELBMGC committee members -

		Steve Hastwell	Andrew McGill	Fraser Watt
For	24	24	24	24
Against	0	0	0	0
Abstained	0	0	0	0
Total Votes	24	24	24	24

Any club member willing to join the committee, or otherwise assist with event organisation or other club activities, was urged to approach a committee member to offer their services.

It was emphasised that it is not necessary to be part of the club committee to suggest ideas for new events, or help organise or run events.

Similarly, being part of the club committee is not an obligation to assist with organising or running events.

Any contribution is appreciated.

9. Plans & Events for 2026 - Steve Hastwell

A provisional club events & activities programme for 2026 has been drafted. It includes some of the old favourites (e.g. Sunday Runs, Dunbar RNLI Gala Day, Classic Car Shows, etc).

This programme is not fixed. Additional events are likely to be added, some may change or not take place.

In addition to the summary of possible events displayed Steve Hastwell also mentioned possibility for a two night 'Club Week-end Away Event' to the Dalemain Cumbria Classic Car Show (21-23 August 2026). A show-of-hands indicated interest from some members.

Look out for event details in the Club Newsletter and during announcements at Boroughmuir Thursday monthly meetings.

10. AoB + Comments & Questions - All

- a) Comment - Good to see how many club events are arranged each year.
- b) Question - Is the club attending Carhailes Show at Newhailes House this year (2026)?

Answer - There has been no announcement as yet that Carhailes will be taking place in 2026

- b) Comment - Would be good to have non-week-end events.

Steve Hastwell suggested maybe an evening 'Fish & Chip' run. Also any ideas or events suggested or organised from outside of club committee would be welcomed.

MEMBERS' CARS

New member Ronald Kerr's MGF 160 Trophy



STEWART BREWING VISIT

Ten enthusiastic ELBMG club members met up at Stewart Brewing in Loanhead for the 'Tour' at 4.30 on a sunny Sunday. I'd been going to get the bus but Dave Mac offered me a lift, which I accepted gladly so I could have a drink. We were last to arrive, the others were already in the on-site Pizza Shed and sampling the wares.



Once the Tour started wet were given a free drink and we could pick what we wanted from their Menu - I had the Edinburgh Gold and very nice it was too. Our Tour Guide then gave us a quick history of the company which started with the founder brewing beer in his house using a basic home brew kit - which they've kept on display!

We were taken through how the company expanded into a smaller premises in Loanhead before moving to the present location which had room for much bigger tanks - there were interesting tales of the required size of tank not fitting without a hole in the roof, which their landlord wouldn't allow! So, they had to buy the land and build their own large enough building.



The microbrewery has tried to name their beers in keeping with their Edinburgh location - with Edinburgh Gold, Radical Road, Hollyrood Pale Ale, Cauld Reekie, St Giles Scotch Ale, Embra and so on and they now produce a huge range of beers. The following photos show the development over the past 20 years.



The brewery has solar panels to produce electricity for them, they recycle the carbon dioxide produced by the fermentation and the waste grain goes to cattle feed - so reasonably environmentally friendly. After a comprehensive tour of the brewing vats, bottling/canning plant and labelling, we adjourned to the Pizza Shed. We were given a free can and a token which gave you a drink in the Shed. Four of us decided to stay and have a Pizza, which was delicious (if huge) and served by a friendly American who was doing a Vet qualification at Easter Bush and paying his way by serving Pizzas. Didn't get a decent photo of us tucking in - sorry! The Pizza Shed is open to the public and was therefore quite busy and it's well worth a visit if you are in the area - but last orders are 7pm. [Mrs Grumpy](#)





INTERESTING CAR

Spotted by Tony H

Hino Contessa Sedan
1965

MYSTERY CAR

Craig's dusted off his anorak and says "This is a 1972/73 RWA MG Midget, belonging to one of the Scottish MASC members. It has a flip from (possibly) Williams Pritchard. Think it has Triumph Spitfire bumpers.



FOR SALE

A member has sold his MGB and has the followings items available - he is open to offers.

1. Interior door handles
2. Tacho cable
3. Oil drip tray
4. Seal - door
5. Seal - ?

6. Under bonnet soundproof
 7. Adhesive
 8. Book - MGB 1962-82 owners workshop manual
 9. Book - MGB Guide to Purchase & DIY Restoration by Lindsay Porter
- Contact Peyman at
peyman.taheri1@googlemail.com

DONJA LUV V8s?

Found this while tidying up!



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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

March 12 *Monthly Meeting*

March 14 *Classic Restorations, visit Details on previous page.*

April 9 *Monthly Meeting & Raffle*

April 26 *Drive It Day with BVAC - contact Helen*

May 10 *Stirling Classic Car Show*

May 14 *Monthly Meeting*

May 16 *Fisherrow Harbour Day - let Martin know and we meet up at Fort Kinnaird at 9am*

May 24 tbc *Classics in the Park*

June 11 *Monthly Meeting & Raffle*

June 14 *Tayside Classic Car Show, Errol Airfield, please contact Steve*

June tbc *Joint Run with Glasgow MGOC*

July 9 *Monthly Meeting*

July 11 *Dunbar RNLI - contact Martin*

July 12 *SVVC Glamis Castle Show with Tayside MGOC*

August 13 *Monthly Meeting & Raffle*

August tba *Run to Bo'ness Motor Museum*

August 21-23 *Weekend away to Cumbria Classic show at Dalemain House, near Penrith*

September 10 *Monthly Meeting*

September 13 *Carhailes at Newhailes House*