



NWMMOC NEWSLETTER

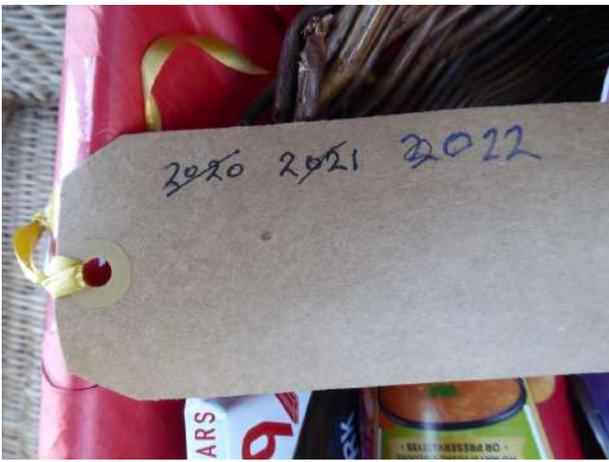


Christmas Hamper Special Edition December 2022

This was our biggest hamper yet for the Food Bank at Swindon Night Shelter. Many thanks to Mike Welsh for the idea, and to Jeff Hide for appearing again as Santa Claus. Thanks too of course to everyone who has contributed so generously.

James Welsh's photo (1) caught the atmosphere of a cold November evening starting the hamper off at Malmesbury Market Cross. It then travelled to Cotswold Airport, and to Standlake with Martin and Jenny Howard (2 - photo by Ash Holmes at Lechlade) before going to Cirencester with Steve & Georgie Chater (3), Painswick with Peter & Teresa Baddeley, then back to Malmesbury with them (4).





It then went to Castle Eaton on a snowy morning (5) to be at our Christmas picnic. Sarah Bracher's photo (6) shows North Wilts Branch members gathered around the now much-augmented hamper contents at Castle Eaton village hall.



On the morning of 16 December the hamper set off from Malmesbury (7 - photo by Sharon Nolan) in sub-zero temperatures through a beautiful frozen landscape to Swindon (8 - the road in the photo is a lay-by - the main road was clear).



Arriving at the Food Bank at Swindon Night Shelter, it was met by Santa Claus, Mike, Gill, Becca, Andy and Diana (9, 10 & 11). Hardly any snow in Swindon!





10



11



12



Mike had organised tea, coffee and biscuits, and while we enjoyed those Jeff (12) read us the poem he had composed specially for the occasion. See next page!

When I started the car at 9:30 this was showing -7°C but it had warmed up slightly by the time I got my camera out.

The Moggy's Christmas in Rhyming Couplets

The Moggy is a motor car built many years ago.
It meets with other moggies at rallies and at shows.
It's a bit like Father Christmas - it always brings a smile
And we all like Christmas for its music and its style.

Christmas comes but once a year as regular as clockwork
And Moggies too are regular, with very shiny coachwork.
But Christmas brings another thing – it's mainly very cold
here in midwinter, before the days unfold.

Now, Moggies are quite clever, they often know the truth
and when a child a question asks, Moggies have the proof.
“So, tell me truly,” says the child, “is Father Christmas real?”
“Well, yes, of course he is – he's part of life's great wheel.”

We all get born, at our spring's beginning and then, as all things grow
and seeds we sow; we reap as crops and then we reach the snow.
The plants don't die, their seeds live on
- as our soul's flight in endless light, life, likewise, carries on.

What we reaped is what we sowed and that's the real message
that Father Christmas brings to us - with that we must engage.
“Christmas should be all the time when we bring joy” says the old sage.
Be kind and help all people and the earth itself; its air and water do protect
or very soon we'll meet our doom; our planet will be wrecked.

At Christmastime's review,
the character from young you knew,
will ask you how your year was spent,
“Do you deserve a present”

You can say, “where there were needs your helpful deeds went all the
whole year through.
And then, if true,
your gifts succeed
in what you sowed with your own seeds.

HAPPY CHRISTMAS! (Jeff Hide Dec 2022)

Christmas wishes have been received from Susan Akrill, who is the Branch Liaison Officer at the MMOC head office. Thank you Susan.

What does the MMOC do for us? Well, every year our Treasurer Pam asks you to sign a form showing how many North Wilts Branch events you have attended. Every member attending at least 3 events in the year earns a £5 rebate from the MMOC for the Branch. In 2022, we held 16 events plus a Zoom meeting. Apart from the Zoom, twenty-two of our members took part in 3 or more of these, so we are expecting a rebate of £110. Your attendance at events helps to fund the Branch!

Christmas Puzzle part one

As a result of a suggestion at our "ideas session" run by Pam at the AGM, Steve and Bill visited the Classic Motor Hub near Bibury to discuss the possibility of a Branch visit in 2023. They came across this car.

What is it?

Where was it built?

Who originally designed it?

Christmas Puzzle part two

This figure is on the bonnet.

What is its name?

What powers does it symbolise?

Answers to bill@euclidvillas.co.uk

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The Classic Motor Hub

<http://classicmotorhub.com>

HAPPY CHRISTMAS!

