



# OCTAGONAL NEWS

February 2012

# CONGRATULATIONS



and well done to him!



# TONIGHT'S PROGRAMME

7:30pm	Welcome
8:30pm	Bingo
9:45pm	Raffle
9:55pm	Night night, drive safely

CUT-OFF FOR THE MARCH NEWSLETTER IS SATURDAY 25 FEBRUARY

## WHAT'S PLANNED

If not given, contact details are in Committee Listings at the end of the newsletter

FEBRUARY		
Wednesday 1	7.30 for 8pm	Monthly Meeting – Bingo Evening NESCOT Sports & Social Club, Banstead Road, Ewell KT17 3HG
Sunday 12	10 am	Hunt the Valentine from Jolly Farmers, Reigate Road Betchworth RH3 7BG <i>Contact Derek Edwards</i>
Thursday 16	7.30 pm	Natter – Black Horse, 93 West Street, Reigate RH2 9JZ. <i>Contact Foggy Brooke</i>
Sunday 19		MG Spares, Stoneleigh
Saturday 25	7pm	Skittles - The Haycutter, Tanhouse Road, Oxted RH8 9PE <i>Contact Margaret Billinge</i>
MARCH		
Wednesday 7	7.30 for 8pm	Monthly Meeting NESCOT Sports & Social, Banstead Road, Ewell KT17 3HG
Tuesday 20	7.30 pm	Natter – Rising Sun, Epsom <i>Contact Foggy Brooke</i>
Saturday 24		Fish & Chip Quiz – NESCOT Sports & Social Club <i>Contact Margaret Billinge</i>
APRIL		
Sunday 1		Chichester MGOE Annual Gathering and Picnic - Arundel Either go direct or meet at Berry Hill Car Park <i>Contact Bryan Young</i>
Sunday 15		MGB 50 runs from Abingdon, Burton on Trent, Corby and Dunstable finishing at Gaydon – <i>details from Bryan Young</i>
MAY		
Sunday 13		Regency Run – <i>contact Derek Edwards</i>
Saturday 19		Real Ale Train – <i>contact Nigel Swann</i>
JUNE		
Sunday 17		River Wey Trip
Sunday 24		St Raphaels Hospice Fun Day
JULY		
Sunday 1		Club Stand – Loseley Park
Weekend 7-9		Classic Le Mans
Sunday 15		Surrey Run to Hollycombe Steam Collection <i>Contact Nigel Swann</i>
AUGUST		
Weekend 1-5		MG European Event of the Year, Ronneby, Sweden <a href="http://www.mgcc.se">www.mgcc.se</a> <i>Contact Derek Edwards</i>
SEPTEMBER		
Sunday 23		MGB 50 at Blenheim Palace <a href="http://www.mgb50.com/MGB50/MGB_50_Home.html">http://www.mgb50.com/MGB50/MGB_50_Home.html</a>

All events are undertaken at Members' own risk

# EDITOR'S ETCHINGS

Well, I hope you all like the new newsletter format, the feedback has been good so I'm sticking with it! Not too much to report from me this month you'll be pleased to know!

We had an uneventful trip to Austria. We drove out in Tom's company car, a Fiesta. I'm very impressed with it; it's very roomy and, as it's a diesel, it's also economical. The snow was great but because of my rib injury I wasn't able to do as much skiing as I would have hoped; I did more than I thought I would be able to though so that was a bonus. We had a lovely Christmas day out there, skiing in the day and a few beverages for après ski. Then, not feeling much like going out for the sake of going out we had a nice meal, a bottle of bubbly and watched the first Star Wars movie – we know how to live it up on holiday! We made up for it at New Year of course!

As I write, I am enjoying my first weekend at home since October although there's not much on TV! Now the dinner's over, I'm looking forward to the natter and then getting Noodle out for the Mothballs run. We had a lovely time at the dinner; everyone, as usual, scrubbed up really well and Tom and I both had a lovely evening. Congratulations to the worthy award winners although how none of my cars qualified for car of the year is entirely beyond me; still there's always this year's Pride of Ownership- VOTE FOR ME!

Anyway, Noodle having a hardtop means that I can't get her hood down until Tom is back down to help me out. He's up in Scotland for 3 weeks but you'll see him on the Valentine's!



## SOCIAL SCENE

### **Skittles – Saturday, 25 February**

The Annual Skittles Night will be held at The Haycutter, Tanhouse Road, Oxted, RH8 9PE on Saturday, 25 February from 7m. A hot and cold buffet will be served at 8.45pm and the cost is £13.50 per person. Full payment is required at the February Monthly Meeting or contact Margaret Billinge by 1 February.

### **Quiz Night – Saturday, 24 March**

We are holding another Quiz Night with a fish and chips supper at the Nescot Sports & Social Club on Saturday, 24 March at 7 for 7.30pm start.

The quiz will be of 10 rounds with an interval for the fish and chips, (vegetarian option available on request). It is suggested that you make up teams of 8 and family and friends are invited to take part. The price is yet to be confirmed but should be around £8 per person to cover the cost of the food, room hire and bar staff. This is a fun but competitive evening, so do make up a team and take part.

### **Future Events**

London Walk – We hope to arrange another guided London Walk in April. The price will be £8 per person (£6 concession). More details will follow.

Real Ale Train – A trip on the Real Ale Train will take place on Saturday, 19 May, there is a whole article about this later in this newsletter and many of you will have received an email with details.

River Wey Trip – This is planned for Sunday, 17 June and more details will follow at a later date.

Margaret

# CHAIRMAN'S CHATTERINGS

First of all, I wish to thank all members for the warm response and messages of congratulations I have received on being awarded an MBE in the New Year Honours List; it is very much appreciated.

## **Dinner Dance and Annual Awards**

107 members and guests attended this year's Dinner Dance and Annual Awards at the Kingswood Golf and Country Club. There were many compliments about the quality of the food, particularly the beef medallions, and also the friendly and courteous service. I do hope that you all had an enjoyable evening. I wish to thank Malcolm Kimberley and Paul Coleman for all their help with the organisation of the evening, John 'Foggy' Brooke for being our Master of Ceremonies and to Geoff Trigger who gave the Members' Reply speech.

## **ANNUAL AWARDS**

### **The Trevor Taylor Memorial Trophy – Car of the Year**

MG MIDGET JRE 591F  
Owned by Stuart Seymour

### **The Tony Cox Memorial Trophy – Members of the Year**

Les and Sue Harvey

### **The Chairman's Cup**

Jonathan and Annabel Kiely

Many congratulations to all the winners.

## **CHARITABLE DONATIONS**

### **Beaver Water World**

[www.beaverwaterworld.com](http://www.beaverwaterworld.com)  
Sponsored by Richard and Linda Cordle

### **Milestone Special Needs School**

[www.milestone.kent.sch.uk](http://www.milestone.kent.sch.uk)  
Sponsored by Margaret Fisher

### **Protection Against Stalking**

[www.protectionagainststalking.org/](http://www.protectionagainststalking.org/)  
Sponsored by Caroline Feltham

### **Stubs**

[www.stubs.org.uk](http://www.stubs.org.uk)  
Sponsored by Ted Law

### **Heathrow Special Needs Farm**

[www.heathrowspecialneedsfarm.co.uk](http://www.heathrowspecialneedsfarm.co.uk)  
Sponsored by Sue Oughton

### **Orchard Hill College**

[www.orchardhill.ac.uk](http://www.orchardhill.ac.uk)  
Sponsored by Doreen Nicholls

### **The Meath Epilepsy Trust**

[www.meath.org.uk/](http://www.meath.org.uk/)  
Sponsored by Rita Coleman

### **The Oliver Curd Trust**

[www.theolivercurdtrust.co.uk](http://www.theolivercurdtrust.co.uk)  
Sponsored by Marion Rose

All the above charities received a cheque for £250.

## **Future Events**

There are a number of interesting events being planned for 2012. Please review the 'What's Planned' page in the newsletter and make a note in your diaries of those that you wish to attend. Some may have a limitation on the number of people who can be accommodated, so ensure that you book early to avoid disappointment.

## **Regalia**

This is to advise members that we will continue to make the 30th Anniversary logo regalia available to order until May this year. Our normal logo is of course always available should members wish to place an order. We have stocks of Caps, Key rings, Windscreen Stickers and Valvemaster Plus. If anyone is looking for a special item, we do have a catalogue at the meetings from which you can select the product and the colour. When ordering regalia, please specify the size, colour and required logo, in order for us to procure the right item.

That's all from me this month. Safe motoring. Eric

# MEMBERSHIP MUSINGS

We seem to be off to a good start in 2012. Following on from the 3 new members I introduced last month, we have since had another two:

Robert Hubbard & Karen McBride have a collection of 3 MGBs, each special in its own way

Colin Ferguson, who has a Tartan Red 1974 MGB.

I'm sure that everyone will make them all feel welcome and we look forward to seeing them at some of our future events this year.

In January, the Natter was at The Kingswood Arms, where, as I write this a few days before the event, 29 members are due to enjoy, what promises to be, an excellent meal. The February natter will be on Thursday 16 February from 7.30pm at the Black Horse, 93 West Street, Reigate RH2 9JZ. If you wish to come and join us for this, and any future natters, you will need to register your intention with me. The simplest way to do this is to visit the Natters page on our website at [www.epsommgoc.org.uk/Natters.htm](http://www.epsommgoc.org.uk/Natters.htm) and follow the instructions there. Full details of all our forthcoming Natters also appear on this page as soon as the details are available. If you don't have access to the Internet, please phone me instead. Either way, I need to know as soon as possible, but not later than Tuesday 14th February for this month's Natter.

That's all for this month. Keep on enjoying those MGs and I look forward to seeing you out and about during the coming months. Foggy

## CAR EVENTS

### **One Day Continental Tresor Hunt Saturday, 12th November 2011**

A good turnout of members attended this event with a selection of vehicles going by both boat and the tunnel. Lunch was enjoyed at St. Omer after the event for those who were not quite so keen to win. I am pleased to announce that with a very closely fought battle the winners this year are:-

Ray & Joyce Reeves 20 points

They were closely followed by:

Linda & Richard Cordle 17 points

Terry Smith & Dave Chapman 14 points

Tony/Sally Simmonds & David & Sue 13 points

Foggy & Alexis 12 points

etc. etc.

Awards will be given out this evening. Thanks to all who took part.

### **Hunt the Valentine – Sunday, 12 February**

This year once again we are joining forces with the South East Centre of the MG Car Club. This is a good opportunity for you to dust down your car and partake with your valentine in some light hearted fun in and around Surrey. This start will be at The Jolly Farmers on the A25 a mile west of Reigate at 10am for departure by 10.30. Coffee and toilets are available there. The run will finish at the Plough at Leigh where lunch will be available from 12 noon onwards. Names and lunch numbers to Derek Edwards prior to the event start please – 01737 765891.

### **MG European Event of the Year – 1st – 5th August**

This year's European Event of the Year is being organised by the MG Car Club of Sweden to be held at Ronneby, Sweden. Application forms can be obtained from [www.mgcc.se](http://www.mgcc.se) and will be limited to 200 cars. The event consists of a varied programme over the 5 days. Further information can be obtained from me.

I hope you have enjoyed the various car events during 2011, including the continental trips, which we have organised. If you have any ideas for future events please do not hesitate to let me know.

Derek Edwards

# SECRETARY'S SCRIBBLINGS

On behalf of all of the Epsom Area MG Owners Club members, I would like to congratulate Eric Nicholls, our chairman, on receiving a Member of the British Empire award in the New Year Honours list for services to the Sainsbury's Veterans Association and other charities, Tadworth Court Children's Trust, St Raphael's Hospice and many more that he has been involved with for many years. CONGRATULATIONS William Eric Nicholls MBE.

Yet another wonderful evening was enjoyed by 107 members and their guests at our Annual Awards and Dinner Dance on Saturday 14 January at the Kingswood Golf & Country Club. The food and service was superb and up to their normal exceptionally high standards; the whole evening went like clockwork, due entirely to the meticulous planning by a few club members. Special thanks must go to Malcolm & Beryl Kimberley, Eric Nicholls and Paul Coleman for their tireless efforts to make this night a success, and to Foggy for the wonderful job he did as Master of Ceremonies. I would also like to thank Geoff Trigger for his excellent members' response speech. I know that Geoff was very pleased to have been asked to make this response and I thought his opening line was superb (after congratulating Eric on his MBE) in fact his whole speech was exceptionally well presented and reiterated the camaraderie amongst all Epsom members.

My congratulations go to Stuart Seymour, Les and Sue Harvey and Jon and Annabel Kiely for their awards; their photographs can be viewed on the Epsom Facebook page. These were excellent choices by our Chairman and all were well deserved. Congratulations also to the eight recipients of the £250 donations to their selected charities, all of which had a special significance to their sponsors.

Last, but not least, special thanks also to Rita Coleman and Doreen Nicholls for working their arm-twisting magic on the raffle ticket sales, which were exceptional and to Caroline Feltham for donating the lovely fragrance gift sets.

I would also like to thank Ted Law for bringing his Classic Car quiz (and the answers) to the January meeting. It was a great quiz, dusted the cobwebs off and got everyone up and talking. If Kim had been there she would have said I would have got more correct answers if I stopped talking; however, I did manage to get about half of them. Congratulations to the consortium that managed to get 96 out of 100!!

I thought I should tell everyone that John Olding treated himself to an early Christmas present in buying the Inca Yellow MGB GT from Simon Goldsworthy, Editor of MG Enthusiast. A copy of the Saying Goodbye article can be seen on our noticeboard or on page 73 of the February 2012 edition of MGE; I have also been mentioned as the "fixer".

Chichester's annual gathering and picnic at Arundel Castle is to be held this year on Sunday 1st April commencing at 10am when the castle grounds open. Entry to the event will be £5 per person which all goes to Chichester's selected charity; in addition, a special entry fee to the castle is normally arranged. Epsom Area was the single largest club there last year with over 20 MGs; let's see if we can better it this year. Please let me know if you are planning to go as we usually meet at the Berry Hill car park and then travel in convoy to our special designated area on the castle lawns (weather permitting).

As part of the celebration of 50 years of the MGB the joint organising committee is collating an MGB Birthday Book for presentation at Blenheim Palace on 23rd September. Due to the logistics of getting MG owners throughout the country to sign the book, loose leaf pages have been produced and sent to every regional area. I will bring these to monthly meetings, natters and various events over the coming six months and hope you will all be able to complete an entry. It is hoped that all MG owners will complete an entry in the birthday book and not just those with MGBs.

The MG Owners Club is arranging an exclusive Hospitality weekend at Le Mans Classic between 6th and 8th July to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the MGB. A special parking area inside the main circuit adjacent to the Bugatti circuit has been reserved. There will be an evening celebration on the Friday and the Hospitality Marquee will provide a base for guests on the Saturday and Sunday. The cost is £185 per person. This price does not include, travel, accommodation, circuit entrance, paddock or grandstand tickets. Full details and bookings can be obtained from the MGOC Travel Club - telephone 01707 329988 or email [mgtravel@mgownersclub.co.uk](mailto:mgtravel@mgownersclub.co.uk). Several members are going independently of this so let me know if you would like me to put you in touch with them.

Could I urge all Epsom members to submit an early application for our SURREY RUN 2012 on Sunday 15th July to Hollycombe Steam Museum. We anticipate that the run is going to be oversubscribed again this year and a number of bookings have already been submitted. I can supply you with a booking form or one can be downloaded from our website.

Now it is time for the joke, very funny, I think and thank you again to the source:

As a woman passed her daughter's closed bedroom door, she heard a strange buzzing noise coming from within. Opening the door, she observed her daughter with a vibrator. Shocked, she asked: 'what in the world are you doing?' The daughter replied: 'Mum, I'm thirty-five years old, unmarried, and this thing is about as close as I'll ever get to a husband. Please, go away and leave me alone.'

The next day, the girl's father heard the same buzz coming from the other side of the closed bedroom door. Upon entering the room, he observed his daughter making passionate love to her vibrator. To his query as to what she was doing, the daughter said: 'Dad I'm thirty-five, unmarried, and this thing is about as close as I'll ever get to a husband. Please, go away and leave me alone.'

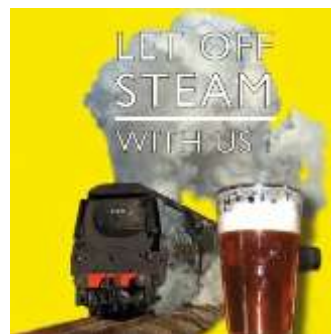
A couple days later, the wife came home from a shopping trip, placed the groceries on the kitchen counter, and heard that buzzing noise coming from, of all places, the living room. She entered that area and observed her husband sitting on the couch, downing a cold beer, and staring at the TV. The vibrator was next to him on the couch, buzzing like crazy. The wife asked: 'What the f... are you doing?' The husband replied: 'I'm watching football with my Son-in-Law.'

That's enough for this month, Kind regards BRYAN

# EVENT INFORMATION

## REAL ALE TRAIN SATURDAY 19 MAY

A week or so ago we sent an email regarding an evening out on the Watercress Line Real Ale steam train or "the RAT" as it is fondly called. This involves travelling on a preserved railway with the added attraction that one of the railway coaches has a bar containing a number of barrels of real ale. Following a positive response from the membership, I have managed to secure a number of tickets for **Saturday 19 May at a price of £14** each, and each ticket includes a free pint. In my experience this has always proved to be a popular event, attracting both real ale and train buffs and the tickets sell very fast. In view of the interest shown, the tickets that I have bought can only be sold (with payment) on a first come first served basis. This is why we sent you the email in plenty of time to check your diaries. If you wish to join us, then fill in the form below and give it to me with your money at the February monthly meeting or post it as soon as you possibly can.



Brief details of the evening are that the train leaves Alton station at 7.20pm for a very scenic journey through Hampshire and returns at about 10.30 in time to meet the mainline service back in the London direction. During the journey there will be a wide range of real ales available at just £2 per pint. There are also other drinks on board together with very reasonably priced hot food. I did try to reserve a complete carriage, but this was not possible. In order that we are all together, the suggestion is that we meet on the station at about 6.45pm giving us plenty of time to be seated as there is no specific allocation. I have taken this trip a number of times before and it really is a good fun night out. NIGEL

✂ .....

REAL ALE TRAIN Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2012 - PLEASE RESERVE me ..... tickets at a cost of £14 each

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

.....

TELEPHONE .....

EMAIL .....

Hand to Nigel Swann at the February monthly meeting or send to 15 Elland Road, Walton on Thames, Surrey KT12 3JT.

If paying by cheque then please make it payable to Epsom Area MG Owners Club.

# REGALIA

Welcome to our regalia page. We want you to be as proud of your club as you are of your cars and nothing looks better at an event or on a run than Epsom members wearing the club colours. Don't forget that we can also offer you Castrol Valvemaster Plus - the MGOC approved additive for leaded engines at a price less than the high street retailers.



We now have a fantastic new range and many of you have been seen out and about in our 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary regalia.

## YOU CAN ORDER

T-  
Shirts

Polo  
Shirts

Rugby  
Shirts

Shell  
Jackets

Scarves

**SPEAK TO (OR EMAIL) KIM OR ERIC**

**FOR MORE DETAILS**

Private Ads are free to members and will stay in the newsletter for 3 issues unless you request an extension. Contact the Editor for entry in the next issue

## SURREY SPORTS & CLASSICS

**FOR ALL YOUR CLASSIC MG & OTHER CLASSIC CAR REQUIREMENTS**

COURTESY CAR SUPPLIED (IF REQUIRED)  
LIFT TO LOCAL STATION ON WATERLOOLINE

Old Land Field, Portsmouth Road,  
Ripley, GUILDFORD, GU23 6EL  
(near Mitsubishi Garage)

*Easy access from A3/M25 - No parking problems*

**New Parts Specialist**  
Servicing & Tuning  
Restorations (part or whole)  
Inspections for Purchasers





MOTs, Accident repairs, Welding  
Engines, Clutches, Mechanicals  
Free Estimates and Friendly Advice

**HIGH QUALITY CARS FOR SALE**

Pre 1973 tax free historic vehicles. Bare metal respray - choice of colour. All new interior & hood, recon gearbox & OD, fast road engine  
CONTINENTAL LHD MODELS AVAILABLE.

**TEL: 01483 223 830 (24 hrs ansa)**  
**FAX: 01483 211 882 24 hrs ansa)**

**WANTED**

'B' series engine heads  
I will pay cash for your unwanted cylinder head

**Phone John 01844 274541**  
For more information

3/3

**WANTED**

Wheelchair in good condition

**Kim 07831 427 515 or  
kimshros@gmail.com**

2/3

**FOR SALE**

MGB Front O/S Wing (for Chrome Bumper) – New.  
Also Bonnet (used).

Gearbox ex MAGNETTE – Suit MGA? Believed to be in good condition – removed from running car.  
Needs inspection as was kept as a spare

Acceptable offers will be donated to an animal charity.

**Please contact Malcolm on 01737 813340**

1/3

## MG Rover Solutions



The mobile cylinder head gasket replacement specialist you can trust.

I also offer the following work:-

- Servicing
- Cam belts and tensioners
- Water pumps, radiators & under floor coolant pipes
- Full diagnostics using T4 including key remote programming

Russell Walsh  
Tel: 07515539894  
Email: [gasketrepairs@aol.com](mailto:gasketrepairs@aol.com)  
Web: [www.mgroversolutions.com](http://www.mgroversolutions.com)

MG Rover Solutions

# COMMITTEE LISTINGS

## CHAIRMAN

Eric Nicholls  
'Franklyn'  
Rectory Lane  
Wallington SM6 8DX

☎ 020 8669 1793  
💻 [w.ericnicholls@btinternet.com](mailto:w.ericnicholls@btinternet.com)

## CAR EVENTS

Derek Edwards  
143 Carlton Road  
Reigate RH2 0JG

☎ 01737 765891  
💻 [edwards.mgmadness@ntlworld.com](mailto:edwards.mgmadness@ntlworld.com)

## SECRETARY

Bryan Young  
39 Wolsey Crescent  
Morden SM4 4TB

☎ 020 8337 1734/07976 729 102  
💻 [bryan.young@planet-y.co.uk](mailto:bryan.young@planet-y.co.uk)

## EDITOR

Kim Shrosbree  
23 Rosebery Road  
Langley Vale KT18 6AF

☎ 01372 802481/07831 427 515  
💻 [kimshros@gmail.com](mailto:kimshros@gmail.com)

## Treasurer

Ted Oughton  
The Croft  
71 Esher Road  
Hersham KT12 4LW

☎ 01372 462515/07742 397 107  
💻 [ted.oughton@btinternet.com](mailto:ted.oughton@btinternet.com)

## Membership

John 'Foggy' Brooke  
Dene Croft  
Oddley Lane  
Saunderton

Princes Risborough HP27 9NQ  
☎ 01844 274 541/07760 256 564  
💻 [mg\\_foggy@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mg_foggy@yahoo.co.uk)

## Club Stand

Paul Coleman  
126 Ockford Ridge  
Godalming GU7 2NQ  
☎ 01483 423169

## Social

Margaret Billinge  
95 Millbrook Road  
Crowborough TN6 2SB  
☎ 01892 610 117

## Special Events

Nigel Swann  
15 Elland Road  
Walton on Thames KT12 3JT  
☎ 01932 247140/07946 262 630  
💻 [nigel.swann@npl.co.uk](mailto:nigel.swann@npl.co.uk)

## HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION TO LET IN SWANAGE, DORSET

**SWANAGE**  
*and Purbeck*



Modern 3 bedroom house near sandy beach and with views of the Purbeck Hills for ideal family holiday .

**For more information contact  
Sue Swann on 01932 247140  
or [sueni15@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:sueni15@yahoo.co.uk)**