



OCTAGONAL NEWS

January 2012

WISHING FOR A GREAT 2012



www.epsommgoc.org.uk
info@epsommgoc.org.uk



TONIGHT'S PROGRAMME

7:30pm	Welcome
8:30pm	Classic Car Quiz
9:45pm	Raffle
9:55pm	Night night, drive safely

**CUT-OFF FOR THE FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER
IS SATURDAY 21 JANUARY**

WHAT'S PLANNED

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

JANUARY		
Wednesday 4	7.30 for 8pm	Monthly Meeting – Classic Car Quiz NESCOT Sports & Social, Banstead Road, Ewell KT17 3HG
Saturday 14	7 for 7.45 to 12.45am	Dinner/Dance Kingswood Golf & Country Club, Sandy Lane, Kingswood NOTE: Don't use postcode - see here for directions http://www.kingswood-golf.co.uk/contactus/default.aspx <i>Contact Paul Coleman</i>
Tuesday 24	7.30pm on	Natter – Kingswood Arms, Waterhouse Lane, Kingswood KT20 6EB <i>Contact Foggy Brooke</i>
Sunday 29	10.30am Lunch at noon	Mothballs Run from Jolly Farmers, Reigate Road Betchworth RH3 7BG to The Lamb Inn, Lambs Green, Rusper RH12 4RG <i>Contact Derek Edwards</i>
FEBRUARY		
Wednesday 1	7.30 for 8pm	Monthly Meeting – Bingo Evening NESCOT Sports & Social, 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>
Sunday 19		MG Spares, Stoneleigh
Saturday 25		Skittles at Oxted
APRIL		
Sunday 15		MGB 50 runs from Abingdon, Burton on Trent, Corby and Dunstable finishing at Gaydon
JULY		
Weekend 5-9		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 www.mgcc.se <i>Contact Derek Edwards</i>
SEPTEMBER		
Sunday 23		MGB 50 at Blenheim Palace http://www.mgb50.com/MGB50/MGB_50_Home.html

All events are undertaken at Members' own risk

EDITOR'S ETCHINGS

Happy 2012. You might notice a slight change in the newsletter! I thought it was time for a revamp and to try to make it a bit more efficient for me and quicker for you to download – well done to you those of you who are saving the planet and meaning we have more money left to donate at the end of the year. Apart from the layout, I am no longer going to put maps in the newsletter. I will put postcodes and websites in the What's On listings so I am sure you will all find your way to the many events we will plan for 2012.

Sorry I can't be with you tonight. Actually, to be honest, I'm not sorry as I'm probably in a bar in the mountains as you read this. As I write, the snow's not great so I hope it is proving better in real life, fingers crossed. Although following on from my mountain bike mishap, I'm still suffering so might be spending most of the time in the bar!

I have to say that I very much enjoyed the gift wrapping demonstration by Caroline at the December meeting. I particularly liked the tip of putting confetti inside cellophane and I look forward to seeing my friends' faces when it dumps all over the carpet! It was very amusing to see all the guys getting stuck in there wrapping DVDs and so on. I was going to say that I hope I had lots of nice Christmas presents from them but I am suspecting that, although it's the week before Christmas as I write, I will not have been lucky!

The Christmas natter at the Star was excellent. I really enjoyed myself and thought the food was yummy. I also very much enjoyed the Doombar with thanks to Nige T for driving!

The latest Stop Press news is the arrival of the New Della (to be renamed when I think of one!). As everyone knows I had been looking for a replacement since Della's demise in the summer. She was taken away on the back of a truck in the middle of December and, yes, I did shed a tear or two as well as remembering to remove everything that could be removed including the aerial! The insurance company wouldn't let me buy her back and, in retrospect, it was probably a good thing given the state of the head gasket (which I felt too much information for the insurance company) but the chocolate milk that was in the sump cannot have been a good sign!

Tom took it on himself to regularly trawl eBay and Autotrader and, apart from having to ignore the people who have a very over-inflated view of the value of their TFs, there were quite a few around. I just missed John Leach's which went the same day as I phoned the guy which was the same day I got the letter confirming Della was to be written off. We went to see one which, on paper, sounded like a great deal but the guy had done masses of unnecessary work which I hated – blue MG badges, blue lights under the pedals, loads of chrome and goodness knows what else. We also saw a very dodgy Trophy Yellow model in an equally dodgy dealer in Tulse Hill, it was like driving a crab when we took it round the block!

I was getting disappointed but then Tom found a gold 04 TF 135 with only 10,000 miles on the clock. Slight snag – it was in Manchester! However, after thinking about it a plan was hatched involving Tom driving from Scotland to Manchester (he would be on his way here anyway) and me getting the train up (£39.50 first class on Virgin Trains all the way from Epsom including the tube – bargain!). I have a very old friend in Chorlton-cum-Hardy so it was a good excuse for a pre-Christmas celebration! I was a little disappointed when we got there as, despite Tom having asked and asked about any faults as we were coming a long way, the door didn't sit right and there was a bit of rust on the front corner. I was worried that, if he hadn't been honest about this, what else had he not been honest about.



However, we had a backup plan! I'd seen an ad on a couple of days before on Gumtree for another one which turned out to be in Wakefield which was achievable as we were in North Manchester by this time. We turned up to the house of a lovely couple who were the reluctant sellers of an 05 plate TF 135 Spark in Firefrost Red, one owner, with only 14,500 miles on the clock, windstop and colour-coded hardtop. We test drove it and nearly bit their hand off with the price! Best of all I had that "I have to have this car" feeling when I first saw Della and had the same feeling with this one. Welcome to new Della (Noodle?!) and a very happy Editor!

Despite having written almost as much as Bryan does this month (!), I can't write about Christmas as I've had to do the newsletter well in advance because of my holiday, I expect I had a good time and I hope all the members did too and I look forward to seeing you all out and about with your hoods down (and Wyatt with a new one) in 2012.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'K. M.' or similar, written in a cursive style.

CHAIRMAN'S CHATTERINGS

On behalf of Doreen and myself, may I take this opportunity to wish all members and their families a Happy and Healthy New Year.

St. Raphael's Hospice – Christmas cards and 'Light up a Life'

Thanks are due to Linda Young for organising the sale of Christmas cards and novelties to members at monthly meetings. The sum raised was £300. Thank you to all the members who purchased cards and novelties, all proceeds going towards the £3 million that the Hospice has to find each year from legacies, donations and fundraising, in order to continue to offer palliative care at the Hospice and in the community.

May I also thank the 22 Epsom Area members who helped out at this year's 'Light up a Life' service. There was a very good attendance and the event raised well in excess of £100,000 from donations. Sale of refreshments brought in £376, and the bucket collection £978. The sale of merchandise and raffle tickets by our ladies raised £1,020; this was slightly down on last year's takings of £1,134, probably due to the lack of children's items and novelties. Well done to everyone.

Dinner Dance and Annual Awards

Tonight is your last opportunity to purchase tickets for the Dinner Dance and Annual Awards to be held at the Kingswood Golf and Country Club, on Saturday, 14 January 2012. The cost, to include a reception drink, is £27.50 per person. We already have 102 members and guests who have booked, so please see Paul Coleman this evening with your menu choice, seating preference if required and of course your payment if you wish to attend. Cheques should be made payable to the Epsom Area MGOC.

We wish to be seated for dinner by 7.45pm, so I would ask all members to arrive in plenty of time to enjoy their free drink on arrival and to order wine for your meal, so that we can achieve a prompt start. I look forward to welcoming you all to what is always an enjoyable evening.

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

SOCIAL SCENE

I would like to wish Members a Happy New Year and I hope you look forward to all our social events in 2012. Margaret.

MEMBERSHIP MUSINGS

I'd like to start by wishing everyone a very happy New Year. We have left 2011 with a BANG!!! Three new members arrived in December – a good omen for the New Year.

Tony and Gillian Cutbush have a 1998 Brooklands Green MG F VVC and a 2003 Silver MG ZS+

Richard Barrett has a 1971 British Racing Green MG B

Paul Short & Jane Jenkins have a 1974 Maroon MG B GT.

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 December, the Natter was at The Star, Malden Rushett, where 47 members sat down for a Christmas meal. I was unable to be there as I had a prior engagement. But I understand that the food was good and a good time was had by all.

The January natter will be on Tuesday 24th January from 7.30pm at the Kingswood Arms, Waterhouse Lane, Kingswood KT20 6EB. 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 web site at www.epsommgoc.org.uk/Natters.htm and click the link to email me. 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 Sunday 22nd January.

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. Awards and further details will be given out this evening.

Mothballs Run – Sunday, 29th January

The first car event of the coming year, namely the original Mothballs Run, takes place on Sunday, 29th January. The run will be through the Surrey countryside and will finish at The Lamb Inn, Lambs Green, near Rusper. We should arrive for lunch 12-12.15pm, so for those of you who are still finding it difficult to rise these dark mornings we will be pleased to see you at The Lamb Inn for lunch.

For those of you who intend to make the run we will meet at The Jolly Farmers on the A25 a mile west of Reigate at 10.30am, departing on a 35 mile run reaching The Lamb Inn for lunch at 12pm. Names and lunch numbers to Derek Edwards on 01737 765891 prior to the event please.

Hunt the Valentine – Sunday, 12th 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. The run will start this year at The Jolly Farmers on the A25 a mile west of Reigate at 10am for departure by 10.30am. Coffee and toilets are available there. The run will finish at a pub in Surrey where lunch will be available. More details to follow next month.

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

Next 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 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.

Happy New Year to you all.
Derek Edwards

SECRETARY'S SCRIBBLINGS

Hello everyone and welcome to 2012. I would like to start by wishing you all a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year. I have been asked to keep my Scribblings extremely short this month because our illustrious editor has to prepare for her annual skiing trip, so I have only written four pages!

Linda raised £300 from the sales of St Raphael's Christmas cards, seasonal toys and diaries, at the October, November and December meetings. I would like to thank you all for contributing to the sales which is always gratefully received by the Hospice.

Following my plea in last month's newsletter, I finally received eight nominations from members for a small donation to be made by the club to their chosen charity. The Committee has selected a number of these to receive an award and the presentations will be made by our Chairman, Eric Nicholls, at the Dinner Dance & Annual awards. Tonight is your last chance to purchase tickets for the evening at the Kingswood Golf & Country Club on Saturday 14 January. Over 100 members and guests have already booked but there are still a few places left; so if you see Paul Coleman tonight, he will take your booking, seating preferences, menu choice and of course your payment.

35 members came to the darts night in November, which was another great success. Somehow my team won all of our matches again this year, and I give special thanks to Lindy Seymour who had the unique ability to obtain a Double 1 to finish and win the first two matches and then I somehow managed to finish the last match with a Double 1. All in all, not bad for a collection of non-players! Second, third and fourth places went to Ted, Ray and Eric. I would like to thank you all for coming and making it another enjoyable evening. I have already made a booking for next year, so make a provisional note in your diaries for 24 November 2012.

I would like to thank Caroline Feltham for her presentation about present wrapping at last month's meeting, and for bringing the wrapping materials, together with a selection of Martin's favourite DVDs, so that everyone could have a go at wrapping something. There were well over 100 member at the meeting and loads had a go with some excellent results. Alan Bradley was singled out for the best wrapped present in the "with eyes closed" category!

A number of members have been making enquiries about any events or runs leading up to the main MGB50 birthday event at Blenheim Palace on Sunday 23 September. The first of these is on Sunday 15th April. Four starting points have been selected at Abingdon, Burton-on-Trent, Corby and Dunstable, all finishing at the British Motor Heritage Centre at Gaydon. Individuals or a club group can also go directly there. Entry numbers are limited to 251 MGs (you all know why) and the event is open to any model of MG and not just "Bs". Full details of this event and an application form, as well as other events, can be seen on the special website at www.mgb50.com

Early booking forms are now available for our SURREY RUN on Sunday 15th July to Hollycombe Steam Museum. Just ask and I will email you one or they can be downloaded from our website.

Now it is time for the joke, thank you again to the source:

A man wakes up in the hospital, bandaged from head to foot. The doctor comes in and says, "Ah, I see you've regained consciousness. Now, you probably won't remember, but you were in a pile-up on the motorway. You're going to be okay, you'll walk again and everything, but..... Something happened. I'm trying to break this gently, but the fact is, your willy was chopped off in the crash and we were unable to find it."

The man groans, but the doctor goes on, "You've got £9,000 in insurance compensation coming and we have the technology now to build you a new willy that will work as well as your old one did - better in fact! But the thing is, it doesn't come cheap. It's £1,000 an inch." The man perks up at this. "So," the doctor says, "It's for you to decide how many inches you want. But it's something you'd better discuss with your wife. I mean, if you had a five inch one before, and you decide to go for a nine incher, she might be a bit put out. But if you had a nine inch one before, and you decide only to invest in a five incher this time, she might be disappointed. So it's important that she plays a role in helping you make the decision." The man agrees to talk with his wife.

The doctor comes back the next day. "So," says the doctor, "have you spoken with your wife?" "I have," says the man. "And what is the decision?" asks the doctor.

"We're having granite worktops."

That's enough for this month, Kind regards BRYAN

DINNER DANCE & ANNUAL AWARDS

Saturday 14 January 2012

The Dinner Dance and Annual Awards will again be held at the Kingswood Golf and Country Club on Saturday 14 January at 7 for 7.45pm, with carriages at 12.45am. Members, please note that dinner will start at 7.45pm SHARP. Whilst the majority choose black tie, jacket and tie is quite OK if preferred.

The ticket price is £27.50 per head, which includes an arrival drink of sparkling wine or bucks fizz.

Malcolm Kimberley will be making the arrangements with the Golf Club and organising the disco. Paul Coleman will be taking bookings, menu selection and, most importantly, your preferred seating arrangements. Whilst it is possible to have tables to seat 12, it is much more comfortable to keep tables to 8 or 10. It also makes life a lot easier if one of your party jots the names down and passes this on to Paul (his contact details are in the Committee section or on the form below).

Here is the menu:

Starters			
<i>Prawn cocktail with a savoury tuille Marie Rose sauce</i>			
<i>Winter vegetable soup</i>			

Main Courses			
<i>Pan seared fillet of beef served with dauphinoise potatoes, carrots, buttered green beans, tart tartin of caramelised shallot and finished in a rich Rioja jus</i>			
<i>Supreme of salmon on spinach served with new potatoes, buttered green beans and a saffron and dill cream sauce</i>			
<i>Mushroom brulee served with dauphinoise potatoes, and veg of the day</i>			

Desserts			
<i>Peach tart tartin served with vanilla ice cream</i>			
<i>Cointreau and Chocolate Tart with whipped cream and fruit coulis</i>			
<i>British and continental cheeses, Kingswood chutney and biscuits</i>			

<i>Coffee and Mints</i>			

Please make your choices on the following slip, and pass it on to Paul. For those receiving the newsletter through the post, please forward the slip to Paul Coleman, 126, Ockford Ridge, Godalming, Surrey, GU7 2NQ, or email paaablo@talktalk.net

✂

I/we wish to attend the Annual Awards Dinner Dance. Details and choices are as follows:

Name	Prawn/Soup	Beef/Salmon/Vegetarian	Peach/Chocolate/Cheese

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.



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FAX: 01483 211 882 24 hrs ansa)

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

WANTED

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

Phone John 01844 274541

For more information

2/3

WANTED

Wheelchair in good condition

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

(Thanks to all for the hire info, We have one from the Red Cross at moment but want a permanent one too!

1/3

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