



OCTAGONAL NEWS

May 2017

SUMMER'S ALMOST HERE!



Hope we'll all need to find shade!

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



TONIGHT'S PROGRAMME

Monthly meetings are on the first Thursday in the month from 7.30pm in
The Times Square Room, Sutton United Football Club, Gander Green Lane, Sutton SM1 2EY

7:30pm	Welcome
8:30pm	Talk by Surrey Search and Rescue
9:45pm	Raffle
Any time until 11pm	Goodnight, drive safely

WHAT'S PLANNED

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

MAY		
Monday 1	On site by 10.30am	Beddington May Fayre – Club Stand <i>Contact Paul Coleman</i>
Thursday 4	From 7.30pm	Monthly Meeting – Talk by Surrey Search and Rescue
Saturday 13	On site no later than 8.30am	Victor Seymour Infants School – Classic Car show <i>Contact Bryan Young</i>
Wednesday 17	7pm sharp	Gourmet Evening at Brooklands College Restaurant, Heath Road, Weybridge, KT13 8TT. <i>Contact Kim Shroobree</i>
JUNE		
Thursday 1	From 7.30pm	Monthly Meeting – Wine tasting
Sunday 11	From 12 noon	Lunch at The Peacock Country Inn, Hinton Chinnor OX39 4AH and tea after at The Brookes'
Weekend 17-18		MG Live at Silverstone
Saturday 24	Meet at 2.15pm	Tower Bridge tour Tower Bridge Road, London SE1 2UP <i>Contact Margaret Billinge</i>

Saturday 1 July	Green Lane Primary/Nursery School Club Stand, Worcester Park KT4 8AF (on-site from 1030)
Saturday 15 July	Whiteley Village – Club Stand
Sunday 23 July	Surrey Run 2017 to the Weald & Downland Living Museum.
Saturday 29 July	Trip on Wey and Arun Canal
Sunday 30 July	MGCC Summer Gathering – Penshurst Place.
Thursday 3 August	Monthly meeting – Pride of Ownership
Sunday 20 August	Cordles' Run

All events are undertaken at Members' own risk

CUT-OFF FOR THE JUNE NEWSLETTER IS SATURDAY 20 MAY

CANINE PARTNERS STAMP APPEAL

Canine Partners is running an on-going Stamp Appeal to raise funds for the first year of puppy training (£5000 each). If Members would like to help them achieve their goals, Bryan will take any postage stamps and send them to Canine Partners on behalf of Epsom Area MGOC.

JAM JARS FOR KIM!

One of my lovely doggy friends makes jam and marmalade for the Dogs Trust. She donates all the ingredients and, of course, her time so all the profit goes to the Dogs Trust.

However, she is very short of jam jars so if members could keep empty jam jars and give them to me I can take them to her in Shoreham. If you'd like me to bring marmalade and/or jam back it is very yummy and very reasonably priced. Oh, and every time we go in the shop she fills Teddy full of biscuits!

Thanks loads from me and from Teddy's Auntie Shirley! Kim

EDITOR'S ETCHINGS

Hello! As you read this, we will have been in Scotland for 10 days – who knows how that will have gone! The trip is to try and sort Tom's house out once and for all!

Work has, yet again, been getting in the way of doing anything else. I am working 16 hour days again – to a cause – stashing away a load of cash for impending retirement!

Richard Cordle has told me that the date for this year's fantastic Cordles' Run is 20th August. As those at work are prone to saying, "put a placeholder in your diary"! More details will follow.

The summer tyres are now back on the Meriva so I guess the seasons are changing – if only I had time to see! Hopefully, we'll get the hardtop off Noodle and I can at least enjoy driving her to work!



BROOKLANDS COLLEGE GOURMET EVENING Wednesday 17 May

I have finally received the menu from Brooklands College and confirmation that the cost is £18.95 which is less than last time. I have emailed everyone and will have the menu with me this evening for those of you who would like to let me know your menu choices at the meeting. There are still a few spaces available if there are any last-minute attendees.

As a reminder, the address is Brooklands College Restaurant, Heath Road, Weybridge, KT13 8TT. For those of you who haven't been before the entrance to the college is near to Weybridge Station. When you drive in you go straight through and you are aiming for the far-left corner of the campus which, if I remember rightly, involves a right turn then two lefts but it's quite obvious when you get there. Don't forget we need to be there by 7pm sharp and there is a pay bar there for a pre-dinner drink and to order wine to have with the meal.

Do let me know if you'd still like to join us, or have any questions, by seeing me this evening, giving me a call on 07831 427 515 or sending me an email kimshros@gmail.com.

CHAIRMAN'S CHATTERINGS

Now is the time of year that we enter the busy period in our programme of events. Club Stands, the Surrey Run and others organised by MGOC Clubs, overseas trips, various social outings and of course the monthly natters are all available to members in the forthcoming programme of events. I always encourage new members to try and attend some of these events, as it is a good way to have an enjoyable day out and the opportunity to get to know some of the other members of the Epsom Area. You can be assured of a warm welcome and will soon make some new and lasting friendships.

If you have lost or do not keep your monthly newsletter, all the relevant information about future events can be found on the club web site at www.epsommgoc.org.uk

Monthly Meetings

The number of members attending monthly meetings remains high and we continue to have new members joining up throughout the year. Coming up we have a Surrey Search & Rescue talk in May, wine tasting in June, the annual Pride of Ownership Competition in August and, in September, a talk titled "A butcher's Tale of Woe" by a speaker who supports the charity Cardiac Risk in the Young.

Speakers at monthly meetings give very good presentations on their specific area or subject of interest. They are often from a charity that they work with and are always well received by the membership. In return for their attendance, we usually make a small donation to their charity. So, if you know of someone who would come along to a monthly meeting and give a talk of interest to members, please let one of the committee know, so that we can further the enquiry.

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

MEMBERSHIP MUSINGS

Some 101 members have signed up in 2017 in addition to our 22 Life members, showing the strength of the Club. Any previous members from 2016 can still renew in 2017 by emailing me at mrmrchilds9@gmail.com should they require a membership form or by accessing the website.

I am delighted to say we had 4 new members in April and they are as follows:

Ianthe Cox owner of a MG Midget 1977 in Chartreuse in Average/Good condition

Colin Stringer owner of a MGA Roadster 1960 in Iris Blue in Good condition

Robert & Carol Carysforth owners of a MGF 1.8 in red in Average condition

Adrian & Karen Hutchings owners of a MGTF 135 80th Anniversary Model in Pearl Black in Excellent condition.

Malcolm

SOCIAL SCENE

Tower Bridge - Saturday 24th June

Visit to and Guided Tour of the Tower Bridge Exhibition with Guides (not audio systems) - Tower Bridge Road, London SE1 2UP (020 7403 3761)

Tours, which are booked for 2.30pm, 2.45pm and 3pm, last 1½hrs with provision for 16 people on each tour. Meet at the venue at 2.15pm. Cost per head is £11. 36 persons have signed up to this visit; I will be collecting outstanding monies at the monthly meeting and also names and monies from anyone else who wishes to come. I have to collect the monies as the visit has to be prepaid.

Saturday 29th July - Wey and Arun Canal

Epsom MGOC Boat Trip - Guided private 2 hour cruise aboard the 27 Seater 'Zachariah Keppel' canal boat on the Wey and Arun Canal. Meet at 11.45am by the Onslow Arms Pub, High Street, Loxwood RH14 0RD, where there is parking. The trip is from 12 noon until 2pm and costs £11.50 per head to include tea/coffee. This trip is nearly full so if necessary I will operate a wait list. I will be collecting monies and names at the Monthly Meeting as this trip has to be prepaid.

You may take your own refreshments on board the vessel. Alternatively, food is available at the Onslow Arms (booking advised). Members may also wish to bring a cushion for the seats on the boats, as they are not padded.

Possible future events:

At the last Committee Meeting the Committee considered members suggestions for visits to the Poppy Factory, Richmond, and also the Silent Pool Gin Experience. It was decided not to pursue these venues.

I am in touch with my colleague re a 'Blitz Night' to discuss costings and also to visit some local village halls to see if this is a viable event.

That is all from me for now, Happy Socialising.

Margaret

CLUB STAND

Monday 1st May – Mayday Bank Holiday - Beddington Park May Fayre

We need to be on-site as usual by 10.30am as the Fayre opens to the public at 11 (movement of cars will be limited after this time, i.e. gate will be shut) and closes at 4pm. Entry will be in Church Road just off the Croydon Road close to the Carew Manor. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be available but if you wish more substantial food either buy at the Fayre or bring your own picnic.

Saturday 13th May - Victor Seymour Infants School Classic Car Show

Another event we support. If you would like to attend this event, please contact Bryan Young as he has taken it under his wing to manage.

Saturday 1st July - Green Lane Primary/Nursery School, Worcester Park

We have once again been requested to attend as the main feature of the School Fête, so please keep your day free. The fête takes place from 11am till 2pm so please arrive no later than 10.30, allowing time to be positioned on the stand. Bring your own food although there should be a barbeque running. Tea and essentials will once again be available.

If you would like to attend any of the above events please contact me on a Club Night, email me paaablo@talktalk.net or phone 01483 423169

Paul Coleman

SECRETARY'S SCRIBBLINGS

A big thank you to all the Epsom members and the MGWorldWide members that came to the Arundel Gathering on Sunday 9th April; there was an exceptional turnout that was greatly appreciated by Andy Harris (Chichester's Area Secretary), the event organiser. We were again the largest single club stand there, with over 40 cars filling a great part of the top lawns, and our guests appreciated being included as part of the group. 250 MGs attended in total, slightly less than last year, but Andy felt that promotion on social media and in the many MG forums helped to maintain the attendance. The weather was glorious and everyone that attended thoroughly enjoyed themselves. It was a thoroughly well organised event.

I would like to thank Ray Reeves for arranging the printing of a large batch of Surrey Run flyers and to Mick Loynes and Kevin Watson for placing these on all the cars at Arundel. I even had a few MG owners asking me for forms as I walked round, which bodes well for more entrants. Lots of people were very interested in the Weald and Downland Living Museum as the finish.

I currently have 10 Epsom members bringing their MGs (including a stunning TVR) to join me at the Victor Seymour School Classic Car Show in Carshalton on Saturday 13th May. We need to be on site no later than 8.30am (gates open at 8) and the show opens at 10am and closes at 2pm. It is always a great show and our attendance is always greatly appreciated and helps to raise £1800 - £2000 for the School PTA funds.

I was pleased to see so many Epsom members at the MG ERA day at Brooklands the previous Sunday, even though we were scattered all over the place. I know everyone enjoyed themselves. Mick Loynes even managed to 'trash' his MGB V8 on the test hill - or was it just an excuse to rebuild the engine?!

I know that many Epsom members have signed up for the MG event at Cowdray House on Sunday 7th May, so I will see you there as I have volunteered to help with the marshalling.

Thank you all for the stamps last month for the Canine Partners Puppy Stamp appeal; please keep them coming.

It's now time for the monthly joke which was sent to me by an anonymous club member. I thought it very funny.

Bryan received a parrot as a gift. The parrot had a bad attitude and an even worse vocabulary. Every word out of the bird's mouth was rude, obnoxious and laced with profanity. Bryan tried hard to change the bird's attitude by consistently saying only polite words, playing soft music and anything else he could think of to 'clean up' the bird's language.

Finally, Bryan was fed up and he yelled at the parrot. The parrot yelled back. Bryan shook the parrot by the neck and the parrot got angrier and even more rude. Bryan, in desperation, threw up his hands, then grabbed the bird and stuffed it in the freezer. For a few minutes the parrot screamed abuse, then suddenly there was total quiet.

Fearing that he'd hurt the parrot, Bryan quickly opened the freezer door. The parrot stepped out onto Bryan's outstretched arm and said, "I believe I may have offended you with my rude language and actions. I'm sincerely remorseful for my inappropriate transgressions and I fully intend to do everything I can to correct my vulgar and unforgivable behaviour".

Bryan was stunned at the change in the bird's attitude. Then the parrot spoke again and said, very softly, "May I ask what the Turkey did?"

I think that is quite enough from me for this month! Kind regards, Bryan and Piggy

CAR EVENTS

Jersey Tour – Friday 28th April – Monday 1st May

Report on this event to follow next month.

MG Live – 17-18 June– Silverstone Circuit

The biggest MG event of the year spanning over 90 years of heritage right up to the present day!

3000 MGs on Show – Racing on the GP Circuit – Live Action – Celebrity Guests – Live Entertainment – Cars for Sale – Specialist Traders – Pride of Ownership – Camping –

And more!

For more information and tickets visit the MGLive website – www.mglive.co.uk

European Event of the Year 2017 – Porto, Portugal – 3rd – 6th August

This year's European Event of the Year is being organised by the Porto MG Club, and will be held in Porto and the north. Applications can still be made. Information from Porto MG Club, European Event of the Year, Contact: Rua Gonçalves Zarco (+351) 913 825 051 or geral@portomgclube.pt

If you are interested in participating early registration is recommended.

Safe motoring. Derek Edwards

NATTERS NEWS

Some 19 persons attended the Natter on 20th April 2017 at The Pheasant at Buckland. Because of the lateness of some members advising their attendance, 2 members had to eat earlier as the pub could only take 16 at 7.30pm. As the pub is a regular starting point for many of our runs, I trust everyone enjoyed their evening.

In May Kim's trip to Brooklands College is taking place and in June we will be going to The Peacock at Henton in Oxfordshire for lunch and then on to the Brookes at their home for desserts and entertainment in the garden! Please note the date in What's Planned for this annual treat.



"a quality service for you and your car"

MOT collection and delivery service

Diagnostic equipment

Servicing and repairs to most makes and models of cars

Full air conditioning service

Summer and winter checks

Brakes □ Suspension □ Steering

Contact Richard on

07941 818179

www.rdgautomotive.co.uk

richard.gill.1@hotmail.co.uk

SPECIAL OFFER

FULL AIR CONDITIONING SERVICE

FROM £40

Includes FREE deodoriser

We are well into all the planning for the SURREY RUN 2017, due to take place on Sunday 23rd July. I am pleased to say that we are still on target for the number of entries so far and I am confident that, as in previous years, it will be a well supported event. I must thank all the members who have already given their completed forms to Pat. There always seem to be more entries at each monthly meeting from you all. I should say that, with the level of entries so far, we have covered our costs and, with the major bills already paid, we are now into profit. All funds from now on go directly towards our charity donations.

I did mention at the last monthly meeting that a TV program called "The Repair Shop" was being broadcast from the Museum and gave an idea of how a team of experts used their skills to restore a number of interesting articles. Unfortunately this series has now ended but I was pleased that many of you were following it. I am sure that with certain technology those of you that missed it can view it on "Catch Up".



Foggy is getting excited about planning the route for the 2017 Surrey Run. With the start being in the usual beautiful Surrey Hills and the finish in the Sussex Downs, I am sure that once again it will be excellent. It should be an easier task than the one we set him last year when we crossed two major motorways and finished in the middle of a large town. Even with that challenge it was a great success and we received many good comments.

I will keep you informed of progress but as you know details and a booking form can also be found on our Epsom web page and I have added a booking form at the end of this article for members as I am sure it will be a great day.

NIGEL

✂.....

SURREY RUN BOOKING FORM

Name Telephone

Address

..... Postcode

MG Type Reg No

Email

Cheque for £20 enclosed payable to EPSOM AREA MGO

Return with stamped self-addressed envelope to:

Pat Watson, 47 Newlands Way, Chessington, Surrey, KT9 2RW

Tel: 020 8397 2008 Email: patricia@watsonkt9.f9.co.uk

1965 MK 2 MIDGET REBUILD

PART 20 by Nigel Swann

It is some while since I wrote the last article regarding this project and I am sure that you all thought that I had given up. This has always been a significant project and target dates seem to move. Just to recap, this car was bought as a complete wreck and I have described the "journey" or adventures, of taking it completely apart such that every nut and bolt had been removed, I then started the complete restoration from scratch.

Following the Frogeye shape, the early MK1 and MK2 Midgets produced until 1966 were really the prototypes leading to the production of hundreds of thousands of popular little sports cars that followed and were successfully made until the factory closed in the early 1980's. This meant that the pre-1966 cars did have some significant differences in the body shell and components. This, together with the fact that very few still exist, has led to some difficulty in sourcing various parts. I explained these difficulties in previous articles relating to fabrication of certain areas of the body shell and I have described how this had eventually reached a stage where it was now painted in its original colour of "Old English White". I then told you how the engine was taken to pieces and I then sent the block off for a rebore and other components for some grinding work. All these were returned to me and I then re-assembled the engine including the head that was now lead free. I had a slightly better gearbox than the one I removed from the car, and after discussion with Neil Hardy of Hardy Engineering in Leatherhead, I let him have free range to apply his skills in giving it a clean bill of health. I have dealt with gearboxes before but it really is a specialist subject. I hope that my lady wife is not reading this article because this has always been a budget restoration. I hate to think what a non-budget restoration would cost.

In the background, I have also been working on the rear axle, steering and suspension. With a set of new tyres, I was then able to get the car back onto its four wheels. With the engine assembled and the gearbox returned from Hardy's, these were then bolted together with a new Borg and Beck clutch. One evening a small team of us persuaded these vital components back into the engine bay. The engine looked very smart against the "off white" body colour in its new coat of dark green that was the traditional BL colour for engines of that era. When fitting the suspension and rear axle, I had already dealt with the hand brake assembly and checked that was all refurbished and working.



The next job was to work on the master cylinder and pipe work to fit the hydraulics to both brakes and clutch. In most cars the cylinders are separate, but in this case it is a combined unit for both brake and clutch operation. A new device had been sourced following a period where they were unobtainable.

I have checked through the wiring and before this was reinstalled, I rectified all the additions that had been added to cope with 50 years of mishaps. Before the engine can be fired up, the heating and fuel system need to be in place. I have bought a new radiator and fuel tank with all the associated pipes and hoses but although the carbs have been cleaned up there is still some work to do in their refurbishment. One example of this is the excess spindle wear in the butterfly valves, which if not rectified will lead to great difficulty in smooth running. I feel that a trip to Burlen Fuel Systems in Salisbury may be in order to drill and rebush these items. Burlen are the specialists in SU carbs and have served me well in the past.

In the attached photo you can see that significant progress has been made. All the relevant body panels are stored in various bedrooms in our house, all painted and ready to be bolted on. This also applies to the new interior trim, carpets and hood. There are however, still a number of items that need attention as well as a few that still need to be sourced. One example of these is the rubber diaphragm in the breathing system that was used in this particular model. Unfortunately enquiries to Moss result in a vague answer. Another issue is the combined oil and temperature gauge. This item is with a company called Speedy Cables who seem to be one of the few that can repair such devices.

With some effort and good luck, who knows, it is possible that we may even take to the road this year.

Happy Motoring Nigel

ADS

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. Please note that inclusion of an advert does not indicate endorsement by the Club.

WANTED - Any unwanted OS maps

Tom and I are trying to build up a whole set of both the pink and the orange covers before paper copies finish. We will donate £1 to charity for each map

kimshros@gmail.com or 07831 427 515

WANTED

Any old fountain pens and related items
- I collect them

Mike 07976 204560 or 020 8942 0554

FOR SALE

MGF VVC 2001 - Gold - High Spec - 40000 miles - MOT to February 2018 with no provisos
(ex Church Square Autos car) Complete with hard-top
Low mileage for year - Excellent condition

£1650 ovno

01737 765891



Brownridge Cottage
sleeps 4 - 6

HOLIDAY HOMES HUNMANBY, 3 MILES NORTH YORKSHIRE COAST

Grade II listed Cottage: Period features (exposed beams, chalk walls) • Child friendly • fully-equipped kitchens • gas central heating • level access • parking • Wi-Fi • Smart TV • BT Sport • garden tables and chairs • dogs by arrangement • cottage has courtyard and farmhouse a garden with grass area

Roger and Helen Bennett - 07818 077258 or mg190plus@aol.com



Castle House Farm
sleeps 10



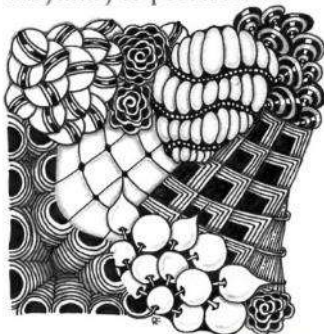
MEMBERS' HOLIDAY HOME FOR RENT IN FRANCE

Charentaise house in the popular village of Mortagne sur Gironde, SW France

Well equipped • 2 bedrooms (sleeps 4) • 2 bathrooms • solarium • ideal for exploring villages, vineyards and fields of sunflowers • 15 minutes from beautiful sandy beaches • short ferry ride to the Medoc from Royan or Blaye • 1 hour from Bordeaux or La Rochelle.

Roger or Helen Bennett - 07818 077258 or mg190plus@aol.com

Anything is possible...



...one stroke at a time.™



zentangle®

Looking for a great way to relax, be creative and help relieve to stress? Have fun with Zentangle®!

Zentangle® is an easy-to-learn, relaxing, and fun way to create beautiful, abstract images by drawing structured patterns in a peaceful manner.

Join us at class to experience this amazing and relaxing artform.

Rachel O'Callaghan 
Certified Zentangle Teacher

E: rachel@tangleroc.com
M: 07899 774 660

W: www.tangleroc.com
FB: www.facebook.com/tangleroc



TANGLEROC
from peace of mind
... to piece of art

HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION TO LET IN SWANAGE, DORSET

SWANAGE
and Poole



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

COMMITTEE LISTINGS

CHAIRMAN

Eric Nicholls

☎ 020 8669 1793/07960 089009

💻 w.ericnicholls@btinternet.com

CAR EVENTS

Derek Edwards

☎ 01737 765891

💻 edwards.mgmadness@ntlworld.com

SECRETARY

Bryan Young

☎ 020 8335 3267/07976 729102

💻 bryan.young@planet-y.co.uk

EDITOR

Kim Shrosbree

☎ 01372 802481/07831 427 515

💻 kimshros@gmail.com

TREASURER

Ted Oughton

☎ 01372 462515/07742 397107

💻 ted.oughton@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP

Malcolm Childs

☎ 020 8715 3738/07814 988337

💻 mrmrchilds9@gmail.com

CLUB STAND

Paul Coleman

☎ 01483 423169

💻 paaablo@talktalk.net

SOCIAL

Margaret Billinge

☎ 01892 610117/07784 771562

💻 m.billinge45@btinternet.com

SPECIAL EVENTS

Nigel Swann

☎ 01932 247140/07946 262630

💻 sueni15@yahoo.co.uk

REGALIA

Tom Pope

☎ 01372 802481/07832 326661

💻 tompope@gmail.com