



# OCTAGONAL NEWS

August 2017

## SOGGY BUT FUN!



[www.epsommgoc.org.uk](http://www.epsommgoc.org.uk)  
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# 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	Pride of Ownership
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

AUGUST		
Thursday 3	From 7.30pm	Monthly Meeting – Pride of Ownership
Sunday 13	From 12 noon	Cranleigh Classic Car Show - Club Stand <i>Contact Paul Coleman</i>
Sunday 20	9am to depart from 9.30am	Cordles' Run to the Lavender Line near Uckfield Meet at The Pheasant PH in Reigate Road, Buckland. RH3 7BG
Thursday 24	From 7.30pm	Natter at The Rubbing House, 34 Langley Vale Road, Epsom Downs KT18 5LJ <i>Contact Malcolm Childs</i>
SEPTEMBER		
Sunday 3		South Downs Run
Thursday 7	From 7.30pm	Monthly Meeting - Talk by Keith Weston
Saturday 16		Docklands Walk <i>Contact Margaret Billinge</i>
Sunday 24		MGCC Autumn Gathering – Chiddingstone Castle
Thursday 28		Natter - venue TBC <i>Contact Malcolm Childs</i>

Sunday 15 October      Autumn Leaves Run

All events are undertaken at Members' own risk

CUT-OFF FOR THE SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER IS SATURDAY 26 AUGUST

### 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.

## EDITOR'S ETCHINGS

Hello! Well, what a soggy Surrey Run - at least it stayed dry for the photography so I was all right! I really enjoyed the Weald & Downland museum despite the weather, although I think Teddy wondered why we were going in and out of so many houses and no-one offered us a cup of tea!

As I will shortly be reaching (leaving really!) middle age, Tom and I have bought a caravan. A great little home on wheels very cheap for us to experiment with - watch this space!

As I am still working very hard I have no time to write more but I do have the lid down on Noodle to and from work every day!



# CHAIRMAN'S CHATTERINGS

## July Monthly Meeting

I wish to thank Nigel and Paul for their excellent presentation on the theme 'Looking Back' at the July monthly meeting. I spoke with a number of members, both those who have been members for many years and those who have joined more recently. Everyone said that they enjoyed the evening and it was good to hear the laughter from some of the events on the video particularly the man doing stumps and the dress code, everyone in short shorts. Also members enjoyed looking at my photo albums from 1988 onwards. Something to do again in the future.

## August Monthly Meeting – Pride of Ownership

Just a reminder to members of the rules for the pride of Ownership Competition:

1. 50% Of the winning vote will come from the members votes and 50% awarded by the committee for the answers given to the questions below
2. We will be asking each entrant to complete the following details:
  - a. How many years have you owned your MG?
  - b. How many miles has the MG covered in the past 12 months?
  - c. How many Epsom Area events have you attended with your MG in the last 12 months?
3. As in previous years, if you have won our Pride of Ownership, you cannot win again for the next three years.

## Chairman's Fun Day

This is to advise members that the Annual Chairman's Fun Day will not take place this year.

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

# SOCIAL SCENE

## Saturday 16th September - Docklands Walk from Tower Bridge to Wapping and Shadwell Basin

This is a Guided London Walk with Blue Badge Guide Marion Clarke. Cost per head is £8. 'The Docklands Walk' is from Tower Bridge to Wapping and Shadwell Basin. The walk lasts 2hours and ends at Shadwell Basin, which is within walking distance of either Wapping or Shadwell stations, and near to the famous 'Prospect of Whitby Pub', a possible lunch stop. Booking is advised.

This is a very interesting part of London and this section of the Thames still has some very interesting historic sites tucked away that have survived the blitz of WW2 and modern development, that make a direct link to its Dockland heritage.

As I am not at the meeting in August, please send me your names and monies if you wish to go and have not already done so as Marion needs numbers by the middle of August. Many thanks. My address is 95, Millbrook Road ,Crowborough, East Sussex, TN6 2SB and cheques should be made payable to Epsom MGOC.

Please continue to let me have your great ideas. Happy Socialising, Margaret.

# CLUB STANDS

## Sunday 13th August - Cranleigh Classic Car Show

I now have a code for booking in; if you would like to attend please see or contact me and I will pass the code on to you. I have once again requested a block booking for the club but seems unlikely at this stage. I am awaiting response so you will probably have to book online and pay individually, but be on the Club Stand, hopefully combined with East Surrey. Should this change I will make it known ASAP.

If you would like to attend the above event, please contact me at the August Club Night, email me [paaablo@talktalk.net](mailto:paaablo@talktalk.net) or phone 01483 423169.

Paul Coleman

# SECRETARY'S SCRIBBLINGS

We had another great Club Stand this year at Whiteley Village on Saturday 15th July, with a good turnout of 27 lovely MGs ranging from a 1933 L2 Magna, Fifties TF, Sixties TD and two of Nigel's Midgets, (it was the first day out for the Old English White one after many years of restoration and great expense), also MGBs & GTs, Fs, TFs, MG6 and two MG3s. Even a stunning Rover 400 convertible and of course Martin's Inca Yellow Triumph Spitfire. Our cars were displayed adjacent to another 20 or so assorted classics from the Surrey Classic Car Club, overall creating a stunning display.

I would like to thank everyone for bringing their MGs to the Pride of Ownership competition tonight and for joining in with this event. Congratulations to the forthcoming winner, who will be announced at the September meeting.

I hope to see many of you at the various events during August. I understand that a majority of the spaces have been taken up at Cranleigh using their new 'direct booking system'. You must display your official passes on the car, otherwise you won't be allowed in – hopefully our Club stand will be adjacent to East Surrey MGOC.

The Cordles' Run on Sunday 20th August to the Lavender Line near Uckfield, East Sussex will be a lovely run to do, with lots of easy questions to answer on the way.

I have booked a place on the South Downs Run on Sunday 3rd September; I have been advised they will not be able to accept any entries on the day. The route will start from Bury Hill car park between 8.30 and 11am and tulip style route instructions will be provided. The entry fee is £22 and entry forms can be obtained or online booking made at <http://www.wsmgoc.co.uk>

Not really a joke this month, more instructions on how to exercise! Thank you to the source. It is titled Rigorous Exercise for the over 60s

Begin by standing on a comfortable surface, where you have plenty of room at each side. With a 5lb potato sack in each hand, extend your arms straight out from your sides and hold them there as long as you can. Try to reach a full minute, and then relax. Each day you'll find that you can hold this position for just a bit longer.

After a couple of weeks, move up to 10lb potato sacks. Then try 50lb potato sacks and then, eventually, try to get to where you can lift a 100lb potato sack in each hand and hold your arms straight for more than a full minute. (I'm at this level.)

After you feel confident at that level, put a potato in each of the sacks.

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

## CAR EVENTS

### **MGCC Autumn Gathering – 24 September**

The MGCC SE Centre Autumn Gathering will be held this year at Chiddingstone Castle, TN8 7AD where Concours and Pride of Ownership competitions plus much more will be organised. Further information from me or on the following website [www.mgcars.org.uk/mgccse/](http://www.mgcars.org.uk/mgccse/)

### **Autumn Leaves Run – Sunday 15 October**

This year's popular event will once again take place through the leafy Surrey countryside and will be approximately 30 miles in length. Please make a note in your diaries and full details will follow next month.

That's all from me this month, happy Motoring, Derek Edwards

# CORDLES RUN



**Sunday 20th August  
2017**

**The Lavender Line  
Isfield, East Sussex**

On Sunday 20th August, the Cordle Run will be heading to the Lavender Line at Isfield in East Sussex.

As normal we will keep off the main roads wherever possible and attempt to find some pretty lanes along the route. We will also provide details of places where both tea and toilets are available if you wish to have a break on the way, although as always we will also pass countless public houses.

There will be our normal 'fun quiz' for you to complete en route if you wish to try and see how observant you are.

The Lavender line is a small but attractively preserved steam railway, located between Lewes and Uckfield in East Sussex. The line was originally opened in 1858 as the Lewes and Uckfield Railway, but was soon absorbed into the London, Brighton and South Coast Railway. Over the years, traffic developed, and the double-track route offered an alternative line from London into Brighton and between Brighton and Tunbridge Wells.

In 1983 the station at Isfield was bought by a private concern, and a steam railway operation was established. In 1993, this was taken over by the present voluntary society, which continues to run the operation. Trains operate along a mile of track, alongside the wonderfully-named River Uck. Although the journey is short, the surrounding countryside is very attractive.

Facilities include the 'Cinder's' Buffet, which provides a range of very reasonably priced hot and cold snacks, a small shop on platform 2 selling books and gifts, and a restored signal box. One of the coaches houses a small museum (mostly photographs) of the line and another contains a delightful model railway layout. There is a large car-parking area. The rolling stock consists mostly of small tank engines and diesel shunters, although there is also a 'Thumper' diesel unit of the type which used to operate the line.



The starting point of the run will this year be The Pheasant PH in Reigate Road, Buckland. RH3 7BG. Meeting from 9am onwards for departure from 9.30am. Coffee available at the pub prior to departing if required.

<http://www.lavender-line.co.uk>



# MEMBERSHIP MUSINGS

Membership for 2017 now stands at 106 plus 22 life members. I was pleased to welcome 2 new members to the Club in July:

- Mark and Jamie Brown - Mark is the owner of a 1995 MGF Green Average condition and a 1999 MGF VVC Green in a similar condition. Jamie is his 14 year old son.
- Joy Anderson is the owner of a 1949 MG TC in Yellow in good condition.

Members are reminded if recruiting new members for the remainder of 2017 the fee is £5 only.

Malcolm

# NATTERS NEWS

Only 4 people went to the Fox Revived at Norwood Hill, where an excellent meal was served. I am hoping for a better response for our next Natter at The Rubbing House, 34 Langley Vale Road, Epsom Downs KT18 5LJ. This pub restaurant is situated just past the Winning Post on the Derby Course on the Downs. The date is Thursday 24th August and, as we have had to pay a deposit to book a larger table, please support this evening. KO will be at 7.30pm as we are a larger group.

At the present time no venue has been arranged for our September date of Thursday 28th as I need to see how many attend in August before choosing a venue.

Malcolm Childs



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# SURREY RUN 2017

Once again I have to say how pleased I was with the efforts shown by our Epsom Members on the 23rd July for this year's SURREY RUN. It is always the level of teamwork and commitment that makes this event so successful each year. Yet again we had many positive comments and emails from our participants. As usual I had been keeping a keen eye on the weather forecast for some days prior to the event. Sunday was originally predicted to be slightly mixed with the possibility of the odd shower. As time progressed there was a more positive certainty of rain in the afternoon from 3pm.

As you all know, we chose a new venue for this event. The final destination was at the Weald and Downland Living Museum at Singleton in West Sussex. The museum lies in the heart of the South Downs National Park. Here, in a site of over 40 acres, we saw over 50 historic buildings that had been rescued from destruction and painstakingly rebuilt, bringing to life the homes, farms and workplaces of the south east over the past 600 years. During the visit we hoped to see not only the buildings themselves, that originated from Kent, Sussex, Surrey and Hampshire, but also explore several recreated period gardens, woodland walks, coppice and a stable yard or to simply enjoy the peace and tranquillity of that part of rural Sussex.



This charity fund-raising event is still proving to be very popular. We exceeded my target with 210 entries pre booked and many more turning up on the day. At one point I was worried we would run short of rally plates. As in previous years, the start point was once again hosted by Bocketts Farm near Leatherhead in Surrey. They reported record sales of breakfast meals. The registration facilities were operational with route instructions and rally plates being handed out by about 8.30 with the first departures during the next hour. This left time for the possibility of a cooked breakfast or a vital trip to any other facilities that may be required before setting off under the official start banner. This moment was captured by our resident photographers Kim and Tom, who were ready to photograph each car as it set off. If you have not already ordered a copy of your special photo, then please contact Kim and, for a small sum, she can provide you with a memento of this occasion.

Once again Foggy had carefully planned the route covering a distance of 60 miles through picturesque Surrey and Sussex countryside. This year it presented itself as no real challenge as this part of the world is an absolute delight. After completion, the route was checked by Eric and Malcolm Childs and then rechecked by Foggy and Alexis two days before the Run date. All was reported good except for an old wooden sign post at mileage 8.1. Here the route instructions indicated a left turn following the sign to "Abinger". Unfortunately there was no sign for "Abinger" as the old wooden indicating arm had rotted off. This information was passed to Kevin who under took the final check, leaving at 8am on the Sunday morning. He did report deep puddles in places and a large tree branch that had separated from its host, a result from appalling weather conditions the previous day.

The entry fee for the Surrey Run also included admission to the Museum for both driver and passenger. On arrival, our Epsom marshalling team, headed up by Ray Reeves, had set up the welcoming arrangements with dedicated MG parking. Unfortunately the predicted rain had arrived by then. Despite this, there were some beautiful examples of MG models taking part in the Run this year. These covered a wide range of ages from early T Types to the very latest examples, newly registered this year.

At the start of the Run, each driver was given a Prize Draw ticket, containing their unique run number, to be handed in as they passed the finish post. When everyone had arrived, Maddy Mathews, representing the Weald and Downland Museum, conducted a prize draw with three winners. First prize was won by Michael Beswick, entry number 72 winning a voucher for £25. Peter Bolster entry number 21, won Second Prize, a voucher for £15. Mark and Claire Bacchus entry number 188, won Third Prize, a voucher for £10.

Once again and, despite the rain, this year we have received many favorable comments. I would like to thank everyone for their support in this event. I have now confirmed that with your valuable help we can pass the usual level of funding that we give to our chosen charities for yet another year. I am sorry about the rain but I do hope that you enjoyed the day. My job now is to start planning for the SURREY RUN 2018.

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](mailto: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 - GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY

MGF Mk II – Very good condition – Gold with full leather interior plus hardtop. MOT (no provisos) – 40,000 miles (only 800 in the last 4 years)

£1650 or near offer

Contact: Derek Edwards 01737 765891

## FOR SALE

MGF 160  
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£4,500

RING MICK 01932 785155



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## HOLIDAY HOMES

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Roger and Helen Bennett – 07818 077258 or [mg190plus@aol.com](mailto:mg190plus@aol.com)



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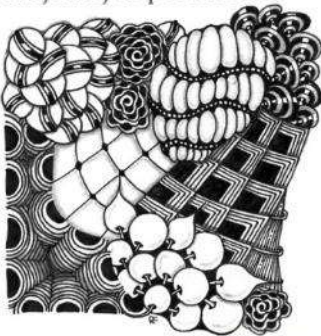
## MEMBERS' HOLIDAY HOME FOR RENT IN FRANCE

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