



OCTAGONAL NEWS

January 2018

HAPPY NEW YEAR!



ENJOY THE REST OF THE WINTER!

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	New website presentation
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

JANUARY		
Thursday 4	From 7.30pm	Monthly Meeting – New website presentation
Saturday 20	6.45 for 7.15	Dinner Dance and Annual Awards Kingswood Golf and Country Club, Sandy Lane, Kingswood KT20 6NE <i>Contact Paul Coleman</i>
Sunday 28	10.30 for 11am	Mothballs Run, The Pheasant at Buckland, RH3 7BG <i>Contact Derek Edwards</i>
FEBRUARY		
Thursday 1	From 7.30pm	Monthly meeting – Talk by Justine John, author of “Gilding the Lily” on how she wrote and self-published this novel
Sunday 11		MG & Triumph show, Stoneleigh, Warwickshire
Sunday 18		Hunt the Valentine – finishing at The Plough, Leigh <i>Contact Derek Edwards</i>
Thursday 22	7 pm	Natter – The Greyhound, 2 High Street, Carshalton, Surrey SM5 3PE <i>Contact Malcolm Childs</i>

Forthcoming Events

Thursday 1 March	Monthly Meeting – Presentation from “Dave the Ranger”
Thursday 22 March	Natter – The Wheatsheaf, Esher Green.
Saturday 24 March	Royal Albert Hall – Guided tour and History – tbc.
Sunday 8 April	MG ERA Day at Brooklands
Sunday 15 April	Arundel Gathering, Arundel Castle
Weekend 4-7 May	Isle of Wight trip

All events are undertaken at Members' own risk

CUT-OFF FOR THE JANUARY NEWSLETTER IS SATURDAY 20 JANUARY

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

Happy New Year everyone and goodbye from me. As many of you know, I have decided to step back from the Committee and Malcolm Childs will be taking over as newsletter editor. I will finally be working part-time before winding down to full retirement so it is time to make space for me, Teddy, the caravan and Tom (in that order)!!! I hope I have served you well and I know the Committee will continue to do the great job it does.

We are, of course, not leaving the Club and hope to see many of you the great events which are planned for 2018.



CHAIRMAN'S CHATTERINGS

I do hope that everyone had a great Christmas and on behalf of Doreen and myself wish members and their families a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Committee Matters

This is to advise members that Bryan Young, Area Secretary will now produce the minutes of the committee meetings, Malcolm Childs, in addition to his membership duties, has taken over the responsibility for the production of the newsletter and we thank Tony Pearse who volunteered to take on Regalia and was duly co-opted onto the committee.

St Raphael's Hospice

Thanks are due to Linda Young for the sale of Christmas cards, diaries, puddings and novelties at monthly meetings for St Raphael's Hospice which raised £280. Also, thanks are due to those Epsom Area members who volunteered their help at the Light up a Life service in December, manning the merchandise and raffle stalls in St Bedes and carrying out marshalling duties. I have tried several times to get the figures for the takings but as yet they have not materialised.

Dinner Dance and Annual Awards

80 members and guests have so far booked for the Dinner Dance and Annual Awards at Kingswood Golf and Country Club on Saturday, 20 January at 6.45 for 7.15pm. Please try to arrive on time as we wish to serve dinner at 7.45pm, leaving time to enjoy dancing to the disco which must finish at midnight.

For those who have not yet paid for their tickets, the cost is £35 per person and Paul Coleman will take cash or cheques made payable to Epsom Area MGOc at tonight's monthly meeting.

That's all from me this month, safe motoring. Eric

SOCIAL SCENE

Saturday 24th March – Royal Albert Hall

Epsom MGOC Visit and guided grand tour giving the history of the Royal Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, London SW7 2AP. Meet at 11.15am outside the front of the Hall for tour commencing 11.30am. Tour lasts about an hour. Cost per head £10. Refreshments are available at the venue or in nearby cafes.

Saturday 19th May Visit and Guided Tour of the Langham Brewery

Langham Brewery is an independent craft brewer in Lodsworth, West Sussex GU28 9BU. Meet 1.45pm at venue for Tour commencing 2pm. Tours last 1.5-2 hours. Cost per head £12. There will be the chance to sample, and also purchase, some of the beers. Venue is 'dog friendly'. Soft drinks can be provided for those members who will not be sampling the beers.

Guided Postal Walk and Visit to Postal Museum

Provisional dates are Saturday 9th June or Saturday 16th June with guides John Morgan and Marion Clarke for Epsom MGOC's Guided London Postal Walk and visit to the London Postal Museum and ride on the Mail Train. Cost for London Walk is £7ph and the walk lasts approximately 2 hours. Meet at 10.45am for 11am start - venue to be confirmed. There will be a lunch break in Farringdon and possible suggestion for refreshments is 'The Sir John Old Castle' as the costs are reasonable and the service is usually fairly quick.

At 3pm we will hopefully visit to the London Postal Museum and Mail Train Ride. The visit to the Museum is unguided and takes approximately 45mins. The Mail Train Ride lasts 20mins. Cost for Museum and Mail Train ride is £12.50ph. I have registered for the visit to the Museum and mail train ride, but bookings are not yet currently being taken. Members may do either or both of these events.

Provisional date of Saturday 1st September for Epsom MGOC's guided visit to the Architectural Plant Centre at North Heath near Pulborough, West Sussex, RH20 1DJ. Café on site and venue is 'dog friendly'. I found this venue most interesting, it specialises in garden design, garden sculpting, evergreens and topiary. There are 8 plant tunnels to explore.

Just to let you know, following a Member's excellent suggestion, I have tried to contact 'Mane Chance' Horse Rescue Centre by email and phone several times but have received no response.

Thank you for your excellent suggestions, please do continue to let me have them.

I would like to wish you all a very Happy New Year and happy socialising, Margaret

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Having ended up with 113 annual members and 22 life members 2017 proved to be a good year for the Club.

2018 has started well with some 49 annual members having already completed their membership forms for 2018. Any member needing an application form can find one on the web page or ask/email me for an application form. Hopefully, if I have managed to send the correct emails this month, a second request will have reached members who receive their Newsletters that way.

NATTERS NEWS

Our Christmas natter was very successful at The Woolpack at Banstead in December with some 23 members attending.

There is no natter in January as the Club will be holding our Annual Dinner Dance on Saturday 20th January.

However, in February we will be going to The Greyhound, 2 High Street, Carshalton, Surrey SM5 3PE on Thursday 22nd February at 7pm (food ready by 7.30pm). This is a new venue for the Club. Full details can be found on the website.

In March, we will be returning to The Wheatsheaf on Esher Green on Thursday 22nd March and full details will follow in due course.

Happy New Year to all Members, Malcolm

SECRETARY'S SCRIBBLINGS

I would like to wish all our members and their families a happy and prosperous 2018. I would also like to welcome Tony Pearce, our new Regalia Secretary, into our fold.

We are planning an extensive programme of car-related and social events throughout the coming year and I will also endeavour to keep you informed of events being organised by other Clubs as they become available. However, if any member comes across an event that they think would be interesting, please let me, or any committee member have the details.

In brief, we have runs in January and February, the MG & Triumph show at Stoneleigh on Sunday 11th February, and the Annual MG Gathering and Picnic at Arundel Castle, which will be on Sunday 15th April; MG ERA day at Brooklands will take place a week earlier on 8th April. We have an invitation to display our MGs at Victor Seymour School on Saturday 12th May and at Green Lane School and Westbourne School Classic Car show in June, in addition to many club stands throughout the summer. Our own Surrey Run to Chiddingstone Castle, Edenbridge, Kent is on Sunday 15th July, and the MGCC Autumn gathering, which so many Epsom members enjoyed last year, is set for Sunday 23rd September 2018 at Michelham Priory, East Sussex. All these and many more will be listed in the Diary of Events.

The St Raphael's Hospice fundraising team has asked me to convey their thanks for the £280 raised from the sales of Christmas cards and seasonal toys. I am still collecting stamps for the Canine Partners Puppy Stamp appeal, and I hope you have been saving them over the Christmas period.

Thank you to my anonymous source for the following:

A judge was interviewing a woman regarding her pending divorce, and asked, "What are the grounds for your divorce?"

She replied, "About four acres and a nice little home in the middle of the property with a stream running by."

"No," he said, "I mean what is the foundation of this case?" "It is made of concrete, brick and mortar," she responded.

"I mean," he continued, "What are your relations like?" "I have an aunt and uncle living here in town, and so do my husband's parents." The judge said, "Do you have a real grudge?" "No," she replied, "We have a two-car carport and have never really needed one."

"Please," he tried again, "is there any infidelity in your marriage?" "Yes, both my son and daughter have stereo sets. We don't necessarily like the music, but the answer to your questions is yes." "Ma'am, does your husband ever beat you up?" "Yes," she responded, "about twice a week he gets up earlier than I do."

Finally, in frustration, the judge asked, "Lady, why do you want a divorce?" "Oh, I don't want a divorce," she replied. "I've never wanted a divorce. My husband does. He said he can't communicate with me."

Enough for this month!

Kind regards, Bryan and Piggy.

CAR EVENTS

Mothballs Run – Sunday 28 January 2018

The first car event of the coming year, namely the Original Mothballs Run, takes place on Sunday, 28th January. The run will be through the Surrey countryside and will finish at the 'Lamb Inn', Lambs Green near Rusper (RH12 4RG). We should arrive for lunch at 12-12.15 so for those of you are still finding it difficult to rise these dark mornings we will be pleased to see you. For those of you who intend to make the run the start time will be 10.30am for departure at 11am at 'The Pheasant' at Buckland, RH3 7BG, on the A25 west of Reigate. Tea, coffee and toilets will be available. Tin tops acceptable on this event! Names and lunch numbers to Derek Edwards on 01737 765891 prior to the event please. More details to follow next month.

MG & Triumph Show at Stoneleigh – Sunday 11th February 2018

This event is a good opportunity to meet old friends and to find those elusive spare parts from specialist traders and cars for sale etc.

Hunt the Valentine Run – Sunday 18 February 2018

This year once again we are joining forces with the SE Centre of the MG Car Club. This is a good opportunity to dust down your car and partake with your valentine in some light-hearted fun in and around Surrey. Full details to follow next month.

Isle of Wight Tour – 4th – 7th May 2018

Looking further ahead to next year's events it is planned to visit the Isle of Wight over the early May bank holiday weekend. Entry forms are available, those interested should speak to me at the next meeting or by phone on 01737 765891.

European Event of the Year 2018 – Flims, Switzerland – 8th – 12th August 2018

Next year's European Event of the Year is being organised by the Swiss MG Car Club and will be held in Flims, Switzerland. Applications opened on 1st September along with full programme information. However, we understand that this event is possibly now fully subscribed. If interested in a potential reserve list, website information can be found at www.mgcc.ch. If you are interested in participating there is a waiting list in operation.

I hope you have enjoyed the various car events during 2017 and a Happy New Year to you all, Derek Edwards

DINNER DANCE & ANNUAL AWARDS

Saturday 20 January

The Dinner Dance and Annual Awards will again be held at the Kingswood Golf and Country Club on Saturday 20 January 2018 at 6.45 for 7.15pm, with carriages at midnight. Members, please note that dinner will start at 7.15pm SHARP. Whilst the majority choose black tie, jacket and tie is quite OK if preferred. The ticket price is £35 per head.

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 below).

MENU
Starters
Sesame and fried basil dressed king prawns served with avocado puree, pepper cocktail, olive bread stick, lemon balm and mango vinaigrette
Winter vegetable soup
Main Courses
Grilled medallion of beef fillet with gratin dauphinoise potato, carrot hash, broccoli and confit onion sauce
Pepper and maple glazed salmon supreme with pommes Anna roasted courgette, pancetta & borliti casserole and seafood veloute
Mexican vegetable pithivier with chestnut cream béchamel sauce (V)
Desserts
Sea salted caramel and nutty milk chocolate tart with berries and green tea ice cream
Warm Granny Smith apples and frangipane tart with clotted cream ice cream and tropical fruit puree
A selection of British and continental cheese, served with a selection of biscuits and crackers, dried fruits and chutney
Freshly brewed tea/coffee and dark chocolate

Please make your menu choices on the following slip, and pass it to Paul. For those receiving the newsletter through the post, please forward the slip, together with your cheque for £35 per person made payable to **Epsom Area MGOC**, to Paul Coleman, 126, Ockford Ridge, Godalming, Surrey, GU7 2NQ, or email your choices to paablo@talktalk.net

✂

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

Name	Prawns/Soup	Beef/Salmon/Vegetarian	Chocolate/Apple Tart/Cheese

**PRE-ORDER WINE LIST
Dinner Dance and Annual Awards - 20 January**

Kingswood Golf and Country Club would appreciate it if you are able to pre-order your wines for the Dinner Dance. This will help them give you the best possible service.

Although you are pre-ordering, you still pay on the evening at the dedicated ordering table. Although you can still order at the bar on the evening, we are hoping that pre-ordering will speed up the process.

You can give your pre-order form to Eric Nicholls at either the December or January monthly meetings or email either the form or your choices to him at w.ericnicholls@btinternet.com.

NAME

TABLE (to be completed by Eric)

WINE SELECTION	PRICE	QUANTITY
Please note that all wines are subject to availability and the right is reserved to change prices where necessary		
WHITE		
Ca Luca Pinot Grigio - Italy	19.50	
Los Caminos Sauvignon Blanc - Chile	19.50	
Los Caminos Chardonnay (unoaked) - Chile	19.50	
Backsberg Estate Chenin Blanc – South Africa	19.95	
ROSÉ		
San Antini Pinot Grigio Blush - Italy	18.95	
RED		
Bodegas Azabache Rioja Tempranilla - Spain	18.75	
Los Caminos Merlot - Chile	18.95	
Tulbagh Shiraz Pinotage – South Africa	19.75	
Hamilton Heights Shiraz - Australia	20.95	

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

MGB GT (J Reg) Chrome Bumper
Original Condition - colour Bracken
Last Owner 35 Years

£1950 ovno

Contact: Derek Edwards 01737 765891
edwards.mgmadness@ntlworld.com



Brownridge Cottage
sleeps 4 - 6

HOLIDAY HOMES

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



Castle House Farm
sleeps 10



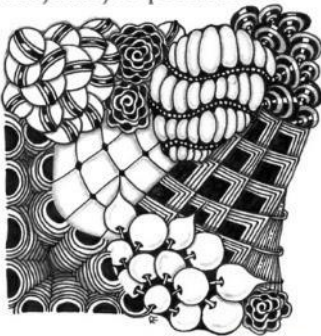
MEMBERS' HOLIDAY HOME FOR RENT IN FRANCE

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

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Sue Swann on 01932 247140
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