



OCTAGONAL NEWS

March 2023

VALENTINES WERE HUNTED



CONGRATULATIONS TO
THE WINNERS



WELL DONE &
THANK YOU TO THE QUESTION SETTERS



SUPER LUNCH
WAS EATEN



EXCEPT BY THE ONE WHO
COULDN'T PERSUADE
SOMEONE TO SHARE!!

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

Find us on
Facebook

EVENTS

Click a name or link for more information

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

MARCH		
Thursday 2	7.30pm	Club Night – Film Night
Thursday 9	12.30pm	Lunchtime natter at Onslow Arms, West Clandon, GU4 7TE contact Nigel Taylor
Thursday 23	7.30pm	Evening natter at The Mint, Park Road, Banstead, SM7 3DS contact Nigel Taylor

APRIL		
Thursday 6	7.30pm	Club Night
Saturday 15	6pm	Skittles at Royal British Legion, Grub Street, Limpsfield Chart RH80SJ contact Margaret Billinge

UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS	
Monday 1 May at 1pm	Mayday BBQ at Royal British Legion, Grub Street, Limpsfield Chart RH80SJ contact Margaret Billinge
Monday 8 May at 12 noon	Coronation BBQ at Royal British Legion, Grub Street, Limpsfield Chart RH80SJ contact Margaret Billinge
Friday 26-Monday 29 May	Spring weekend around the Centenary of MG cars contact Nigel Taylor
Sunday 11 June	Club stand – Bromley Pageant
Saturday 17 June	Elvis Tribute Night at Royal British Legion, Grub Street, Limpsfield Chart RH80SJ contact Margaret Billinge
Saturday 15 July	Club stand - Whiteley Village
Sunday 16 July	Surrey Run to Chiddingstone Castle
Sunday 20 August	Cordles' Run
Sunday 29 October	Autumn Leaves Run

OTHER MG EVENTS	
Sunday 26	Winchester MGOC Cobwebs Spin
Sunday 23 April	MG Car Club Spring Run to Lullingstone Castle, Kent
Sunday 23 April	National Drive It day www.driveitday.co.uk
Saturday 27 May	Centenary of MG cars at British Motor Museum at Gaydon – click for more info. Tickets from www.britishmotormuseum.co.uk .
Sunday 4 June	Oxfordshire MGOC MGs in the Park – more info here
Sunday 4 June	Southampton & New Forest MGOC New Forest Run
Weekend 10-11 June	MG & Triumph 100 at Silverstone www.mgtriumph100.co.uk
Sunday 9 July	MGCC Summer Event to the Bluebell Railway click here for more info
Weekend 25-27 August	Silverstone Festival click for more info
Sunday 3 September	WSMGOC South Downs Run – more info here
Weekend 8-10 September	Goodwood Revival
Saturday 30 September	MG100 at Beaulieu – the Big Birthday Bash click here for info
2024 - Weekend 18-19 May	Car Club MG Centenary Event at Brooklands

All events are undertaken at Members' own risk

CUT-OFF FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER IS SATURDAY 18 MARCH

Send any entries or photos to kimshros@gmail.com

Copies of this newsletter and back issues can be download from the [Newsletters section](#) of the website

EDITOR'S ETCHINGS

Hello everyone.

Firstly, I have made a change to the upcoming events page of the newsletter to separate our Club events from other MG events that members might be interested in. This will make the list of our events more specific to us and also mean that the amount of events that have to be read out at the monthly meeting much smaller – let me know what you think.

We got the lid down on Noodle this weekend – for the terrific Hunt the Valentine. Thanks to all those involved in the event and, most importantly, for arranging the sun to shine so beautifully all day!

Back to the ULEZ! Using the initial checking link on the TFL website, my 1979 B which now has historic taxation did not seem to be exempt. It seems that you have to register on the ULEZ site and then it can tell your historic vehicle is exempt! Being kind (although not sure I want to be kind to TFL), it may be that TFL have more access to your DVLA record if you've registered and have given address details. This is the registration link <https://tfl.gov.uk/modes/driving/compliance-registration/before-you-start> Eric has also covered more about registering for historic taxation class in his Chairman's Chatterings in this newsletter.

Kim

SOCIAL SCENE

Saturday 15th April - Skittles and buffet at the Royal British Legion, Grub Street, Limsfield Chart RH8 0SL

We will meet at 6pm for a 6.30 start with the hot and cold Buffet (including some vegetarian options) being served during a break at around 8pm. The cost is £17 per person. This event is now fully subscribed but have a waiting list in case any Members have to cancel.

The Royal British Legion has also invited us to some further events at which I will be pleased to host members:

- Monday 1st May at 1pm - Mayday BBQ with music from DJ, Cost £10
- Monday 8th May at noon - Coronation BBQ with live music on. The cost is £20
- Saturday 17th June at 8pm – Elvis Tribute Night. Cost is £8 (please note no food is serviced but the bar has crisp-type snacks). May I suggest, if you are attending, that you get there early to get parked as the event is likely to be popular so parking difficult (I will get there at 7ish).

Possible future events

- Visit to the London Postal Museum and mail train ride
- Visit to the London War Rooms
- Tour of Fulham Palace
- Visit to Budser Ancient Farm
- London Walks – visits to Charter House and to St Paul's Cathedral

Happy socialising, Margaret

CHAIRMAN'S CHATTERINGS

Car and Social Events

We are now entering a period of increased activity for car and social events, so make sure you read the newsletter to see what is available and put events in your diary that you wish to attend. Some are run by the Club and others are on offer from other areas, as well as major national events. Some events have limitations on numbers, so you need to book early.

Expansion of London ULEZ

As members probably know, the ULEZ is due to be expanded to all London Boroughs in August but vehicles with an historic taxation class are exempt from paying the charge of £12-50 per day.

If your vehicle was built more than 40 years ago, you can apply to the DVLA for Historic Taxation Class. [Click here](#) for the DVLA's website. Once you have the Historic Taxation class confirmed you will then need to register your vehicle with Transport for London, Kim has detailed the process in her Editors Etchings in this newsletter.

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

SECRETARY'S SCRIBBLINGS

Last month's club night featured Kim's 100 years of the BBC quiz. The quiz was in picture form, so members mingled as they worked their way around the room to ascertain the answers. Kim was in a 'soft' mood on the day and gave us a bit of leeway on the dates in our answers which certainly helped a bit with the results. It was a fun quiz because you could hear members trying to work out the dates and identify pictures of the people featured.

Margaret had arranged a visit to Westminster Abbey on the 7th that was very well supported and thoroughly enjoyed by our members. Linda and I are going on the next trip to Westminster at the end of February, but this is after the deadline for the magazine. We also got to the lunchtime natter at the Pheasant in Buckland, the pub we start a lot of our runs from. Twelve members were present for the very nice lunch.

Hunt the Valentine saw twenty plus MGs turn out for the run from The Pheasant to the Plough at Leigh. This involved a stop at Brockham and Reigate to gather clues. We had the B all cleaned up and were looking forward to this one, but unfortunately I have got another bout of the cold/flu I seem to keep getting, so couldn't make it

March club night is to be a film night, with a short historic car film. The lunchtime natter this month is at the very popular Onslow Arms in Clandon which I am hoping to get to. Full details of upcoming Natters are in Nigel's Natters News which is next in this newsletter.

Happy Motoring, Richard

NATTERS NEWS

Following two very enjoyable Natters in February - the Lunchtime Natter on the 9th, (where we had 11 attendees), and the Evening Natter on the 16th (where we had 5 attendees with some enjoying delicious pies), we now move onward to more plans:

On 9th March we have a Lunchtime Natter at The Onslow Arms, West Clandon, GU4 7TE, commencing at 12.30pm and then

On 23rd March we have an Evening Natter at The Mint, Park Road, Banstead, SM7 3DS, commencing at 7.30pm.

I'm also considering booking an All You Can Eat Curry night, at The Skimmington Castle, Bonnys Road, Reigate, RH2 8RL on a Friday evening at some point from April onwards. The Skim holds these events every Friday evening.

Happy nattering Nige T

EPSOM MGOC WHATSAPP GROUP

I also run our WhatsApp group which members use to keep in touch and to share information or funnies. Members of the group sometimes even meet up for coffee at a local garden centre or cafe.

If you want to join the WhatsApp Group, please text me on 07584 575695, giving your name(s) email-address and phone number, and I can add you to the group.

MEMBERSHIP MUSINGS

Membership has risen to 83 paid for 2023, in addition, we have 26 Life Members. These figures are the same as at the same date in 2022, so we must be doing something right!

However, of the 25 Memberships that have not yet renewed, it is disappointing that members who joined recently make up the majority of those who have not renewed. So if you know of any new members who have not renewed please contact them to let them know what the Club is up to!

I will send a gentle reminder in mid-March to those who have not yet renewed as this will be the last month when the membership form is included in the newsletter. Thanks to all those who have joined or re-joined for 2023.

Malcolm

CAR EVENTS

The MG and Triumph Spares Day was well supported by MG and Triumph people this year at Stoneleigh Park and it was good to see a number of Epsom Members at this event.

The Hunt the Valentine had numerous entries on Sunday 19th February. I was unable to attend the event, apart from booking people in, but I am told that everyone enjoyed the day from both Epsom MGOC and MG Car Club SE Centre. Harry Cassar has sent me the results:

Hunt the Valentine was a hotly contested event with tie breakers being needed for 1st and 2nd places in Epsom Club and the results are:

Epsom

- Debbie & Jeremy Sharpe 1st
- Fiona & Derek Dowle 2nd
- Jan & Ian Brice 3rd

MGCC SE

- Nigel & Miranda Smith 1st
- Anita & Louise Gilbey 2nd
- Chris & Janice Leigh 3rd

If anyone would like the full points details, drop me an email as I have the spreadsheet of these.

As you are all aware Kim, our Editor, does an excellent job of highlighting numerous MG and Classic Car Events in the months ahead and do check the appropriate websites should you be interested in attending any of these runs or shows, especially during the MG Centenary Year.

I have heard from the MG Car Club that their Spring event will go to Lullingstone Castle in Kent on National Drive it Day on 23rd April and they will have their Summer Event on 9th July at The Bluebell Railway.

The MG Centenary at Gaydon on Sunday 27th May now has 4 runs going from various starting points to Gaydon, the nearest for our members being from Abingdon in Oxfordshire. The Club is holding its weekend away over the 26th-29th May and we will be staying at nearby Warwick.

Our own Surrey Run on 16th July is highlighted separately in this Newsletter so do book up for this important part of our calendar of Club events for 2023. There will also be a number of Club Stands this year and Paul will report on these once they are finalised.

Finally, the combined MG Car Club SE Centre and local MG Owners Club end of Centenary event at Brooklands is confirmed for 18th-19th May 2024 and our Club has been approached to marshal at the Car Show on the Sunday. It is proposed to hold a car run and gala dinner to end the MG Centenary celebrations on the Saturday.

As usual I will look to keep members well informed of future events as they fall due.

Malcolm, Membership Secretary

SURREY RUN 2023

We are still making progress with our Surrey Run event, due to take place on the 16th July this year where the finishing venue is Chiddingstone Castle near Edenbridge in Kent. At present, we have a steady flow of applicants already registering to take part, which is encouraging.

Last month, I mentioned some facts about the history of the village of Chiddingstone and the strong links the area had during the reign of the Tudors. The origins of the castle date back to these early times when it was known as "High Street House" with Chiddingstone village high street running straight past it. During the 1700s, the early building was remodelled in the fashionable style of the time as a medieval castle. The building has had a number of different occupants since including Lord Astor of Hever. It was also used as a military base during the last world war and then as a school.



The castle was put up for sale again in the 1950s and was bought by its last permanent occupant, Denys Eyre Bower, for the sum of six thousand pounds with a bank loan. Denys was never a wealthy man, starting his career as a bank clerk. In his forties he decided to follow his true passion for art and collecting by opening an antiques shop in London. It is a well-known fact that we all seem to like collecting things, but Denys Bower took this to another level. He actually bought the castle just to house his vast range of artifacts. He struggled with finances and opened the castle up for visitors to view his collections for a small fee. His fortunes took an even worse turn when he went bankrupt and decided to fake the death of his mistress in order to claim the insurance money. Unfortunately, he did mistakenly shoot her and then failed to commit his own suicide. This all finished with a spell in Wormwood Scrubs prison, after which he lived in the castle until his death in 1977. Chiddingstone Castle is presently managed by a trust, with funds raised by the monies received from fee-paying public visitors. Fortunately, this has preserved its history and the rooms, with many of the artifacts, will be on display during our visit.

Once again, those members wishing to register for this event using cash or cheque can send the booking form below to Pat Watson. Please remember to include a stamped addressed envelope for your reply. Those of you wishing to book directly can now do so via our Surrey Run page on the website www.epsommgoc.org.uk/epsom-mgoc-surrey-run/.

My very best regards to you all Nigel

✂

SURREY RUN BOOKING FORM

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

Name Telephone

Address

..... Postcode

Email

MG Type Reg No

Cheque for £22 enclosed payable to EPSOM AREA MGOC

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL/APPLICATION

MEMBER (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms):	Address
First Name:	
Surname:	
PARTNER (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms):	Postcode:
First Name:	Phone:
Surname:	Mobile:
Primary email address:	
Additional email address(es):	

We sometimes send out urgent and relevant information by email, so please include your email address(es) and add mrmrchids9@gmail.com and, for receipt of the newsletter, kimshros@gmail.com to your safe senders list.

Newsletters are also distributed by email with a link to the file on our website. This keeps our distribution costs down and helps to keep the membership subscription low. If you do not wish to receive it this way, newsletters can be printed in black & white and posted. Tick here if you are unable to receive the newsletter by email. ☐

Register of members' MGs - 2023				
Model	Type	Year	Colour	Condition*

*Poor / Average / Excellent / Competition

Please tick if willing to be asked to join club displays or film / photographic work ☐

I understand and agree that all the above information will be stored digitally.

Signed Date

Please submit cash; a cheque (payable to 'Epsom Area MGOC'); or make a bank transfer in the sum of £10 for membership. This covers the member and their partner.

Bank Details

Sort Code	Account number	Account name
20-24-61	20466565	Epsom Area MGOC

Please enter your name and "membership" as the reference, tick the bank transfer box the bottom of the form and email a copy of the bank payment.

Hand your completed form to Malcolm Childs or send this to him by email or to 4 Elgin Road, Sutton, SM1 3SN.

For monitoring purposes (please tick Bank Transfer if paying using this method)

Receipt sent ☐ Sub Paid ☐ Database ☐ Bank Transfer ☐



CLUB SPRING WEEKEND 2023



Nigel Taylor is organising a weekend away for members to incorporate The Centenary of MG Cars at the British Motor Museum at Gaydon.

The trip is from Friday 26th to Monday 29th May with 3 nights' accommodation in the Delta by Marriott near Warwick. The hotel is central to Warwick, and perfect for Stratford and Birmingham. Spend a leisurely Friday driving to the hotel to start enjoying your weekend package which includes:

- 🚗 Ensuite room with flat screen TV, Wi-Fi, toiletries, tea & coffee making facilities
- 🚗 Breakfast each morning
- 🚗 Wine reception on Friday evening
- 🚗 Group dinner each evening in hotel with time for relaxing in the bar
- 🚗 Fitness centre in hotel
- 🚗 Free parking at hotel
- 🚗 Saturday Club Run to Gaydon (entrance ticket not included)

ALL THIS FOR ONLY £289 PER PERSON

To book, contact Nigel Taylor on 07584 575 695 or nigetaylor39@gmail.com with your name, contact telephone number and email address. He will send you a booking form with details of how to pay for your weekend.

Things to know:

- There is a £20 supplement for sole occupancy of double room
- BOOK EARLY to secure your place for the weekend
- Payment can be made by cheque, credit/debit card or bank transfer
- The weekend is being arranged through IOW Tours and is protected – for details check their [Travel Charter](#) and their [Financial Protection](#)
- An IOW tours representative will be available all weekend for any queries

THANK YOU FOR CHARITY DONATIONS



Dear Mr. Nicholls,

On behalf of the volunteer group Surrey Stands With Ukraine I thank you and your Club for such a generous donation.

SSWU started in Epsom and since the invasion has attracted at different times nearly 300 largely Epsom based volunteers. We also provide help to refugees in the Epsom area and house English classes run by Epsom Refugee Network.

You will also be pleased to hear that no one receives any remuneration for their involvement. 100% goes to victims and essential expenses.

SSWU operates under our charity.

Your donation will help us to provide essential aid to civilian victims of this tragic conflict.

Yours sincerely,

Lionel Blackman LLB MA Solicitor
Director
Harrop HR Missions Ltd
Charity 1117455
Upper Chambers
7 Waterloo Road
Epsom
Surrey
KT19 8AY
www.harropfund.org.uk



REGALIA

Tony Pearce is the Committee Member responsible for our fabulous Regalia. Sport your Club colours with pride or choose one of our lovely gifts for you, your family or friends. To buy any item, complete the order form below, including the reference number beside the item you want, and email it to anthony2444@tiscali.co.uk or hand it to Tony at a Club Nights.

CLOTHING



Our most popular items are the excellent quality polo shirts in both men's and ladies fits.

Apart from the usual colours these look great in red and orange as you can see here.

See below for more details



FRUIT OF THE LOOM POLO SHIRTS £15

MENS (SS11)

Size: S/M/L/XL/2XL/3XL/4XL/5XL

Colours: Black, heather grey, navy, white, bottle green, burgundy, deep navy, emerald (mid-green), Kelly (light green), orange, purple, red, royal blue, sky blue, sunflower

LADIES (SS86)

Sizes 8/10/12/14/16/18

Colours: Black, bottle green, burgundy, heather grey, purple, red, navy, deep navy, royal blue, sky blue, sunflower (yellow) or white.



MENS TSHIRTS

FRUIT OF THE LOOM (SS10) £12.50

Size: S/M/L/XL/2XL/3XL/4XL/5XL

Colours: Black, heather grey, navy, white, ash, bottle green, burgundy, classic olive, deep navy, light graphite, red, royal blue, zinc, chocolate

RUSSELL HEAVYWEIGHT (010M) £17.50

Size: XS/S/M/L/XL/2XL/3XL/4XL

Colours: Black, bottle green, bright royal, classic red, French navy, light Oxford, orange, white



WOMENS GILDAN V-NECK TSHIRTS £12.50

V-neck premium (GD91)

Size: 8-10/12-14/14-16/16-18 (S/M/L/XL/XXL)

Colours: Azalea, black, Cornsilk, Heliconia, light blue, navy, red, royal blue, sapphire blue, sport grey, white



FRUIT OF THE LOOM HOODIES £25

MENS (SS16)

Size: S/M/L/XL/XXL

Colours: Black, burgundy, olive, deep navy, heather grey, light graphite, red, royal blue

LADIES (SS82)

Size: 8/10/12/14/16/18 (XS/S/M/L/XL/XXL)

Colours: Azure, black, deep navy, fuchsia, heather grey, red, white.



SWEATSHIRTS £17.50

FRUIT OF THE LOOM (SS120)

Size: S/M/L/XL/XXL and chest 35-37/38-40/41-43/44-46/47-49






Colours: Azure, black, bottle, burgundy, Deep Navy, Fuchsia, Heather Grey, Kelly (green), Light Graphite, Orange, Purple, Red, Royal Blue, White

RUSSELL (762M) (thicker version)

Size: XS/S/M/L/XL/XXL/3XL/4XL or chest 34-36/36-38/38-40/40-42/42-44/44-46, 46-48/48-50

Colours: Bottle green, bright royal blue, French navy, black, bright red, burgundy, classic red, light Oxford (grey), purple, sky blue, winter emerald (green)

OTHER ITEMS

	CAPS £12.50 BEECHFIELD (BB58) heavy cotton drill with stitched ventilation eyelets, pre-curved peak, fabric strap with tri-glide buckle. Colours: Black, bottle green, bright royal, classic red, French navy, light grey, natural and white	
	MUMBLES BEAR £15 Bears (MM016) are light brown and 30cm (12") tall. They can be ordered beautifully dressed in a coloured jumper, hoodie or t-shirt, embroidered with the famous Epsom MGOC logo. Choose from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jumper: Cream, baby pink, baby blue, navy, white, red Hoodie: Fuchsia, navy, red, white T-shirt: Fuchsia, navy, red, white, sublimation white, baby blue, bottle green, burgundy, pink 	
	METAL KEYRING £1.50 Keyring with domed decal fob featuring the Epsom Club logo	CREDIT CARD HOLDER £2 Plastic credit card holder with Epsom Club Logo
	CAR WINDOW STICKERS 50p Not just for the car – why not buy one for home, shed, caravan or camper!	
	PENS £1 Wow your friends and family when you sign your autograph with a stylish club pen!	



REGALIA ORDER FORM

NAME:

TELEPHONE:

EMAIL:

ITEM	REFERENCE	SIZE	COLOUR	PRICE
TOTAL TO PAY				

ADS


Private Ads are free to members and will stay in the newsletter for 3 issues unless you request an extension. Contact the Editor - email kimshros@gmail.com for entry in the next issue. Inclusion of an advert does not indicate Club endorsement

FOR SALE

TF hardtop in very good condition, Ignition blue with replacement headliner
£200

Contact Larry Nicoll - larrynicoll@aol.com

3/3



Hillbrow ~ Swanage ~ Dorset

A three bedroom family holiday home with amazing views of the Purbeck hills. Visit the much loved seaside town with stunning coastline, sandy beach, railway and historical interest. The perfect getaway to relax, explore or walk a stretch of the Jurassic Coast!

For more information please contact Alison & Caroline

www.hillbrowholidays.co.uk

CANINE PARTNERS STAMP APPEAL

Canine Partners is running an ongoing Stamp Appeal to raise funds for the first year of puppy training (£5000 each). If Members would like to help them achieve their goals, Eric will take any postage stamps and send them to Canine Partners on behalf of Epsom Area MGOC or they can also be sent directly to Canine Partners – you can find more information on their website by [clicking here](#).

COMMITTEE LISTINGS

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SOCIAL SECRETARY (Natters)

Nigel Taylor

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💻 nigetaylor39@gmail.com

CAR EVENTS

Please contact Membership Secretary