



# OCTAGONAL NEWS

July 2023

## MORE OUT AND ABOUT!



[www.epsommgoc.org.uk](http://www.epsommgoc.org.uk)  
[info@epsommgoc.org.uk](mailto:info@epsommgoc.org.uk)

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# 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

JULY		
Thursday 6	From 7pm	Club Night – Pride of Ownership
Saturday 15	Onsite by 11.30am	Club stand - Whiteley Village <a href="#">contact Paul Colman</a>
Sunday 16		Surrey Run to Chiddingstone Castle
Sunday 23	Onsite between 8 & 10 am	Club Stand – Purley Sports Club, The Ridge, Purley CR8 3PF <a href="#">contact Paul Colman</a>

AUGUST		
Thursday 3	From 7.30pm	Club Night
Sunday 6	12 noon	Club BBQ at Gatwick Aviation Museum, Vallance By Ways, Lowfield Heath Road, Charlwood, Gatwick RH6 0BT <a href="#">contact Paul Colman</a>
Sunday 13		Club Stand – Cranleigh <a href="#">contact Paul Colman</a> booking details are in Club Stands entry
Sunday 20		Cordles' Run to Denmans Gardens <a href="http://www.denmans.org">www.denmans.org</a>

UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS	
Saturday 24 September	Club stand – The Diamond Centre for Disabled Riders, Carshalton
Sunday 29 October	Autumn Leaves Run

OTHER EVENTS	
Sunday 9 July	MGCC Summer Event to the Bluebell Railway <a href="#">click here for more info</a> <i>Also see flyer attached to the email that included this newsletter</i>
Sunday 9 July	Sutton Green Community Fayre. Book through <a href="mailto:edward.protheroe@tiscali.co.uk">edward.protheroe@tiscali.co.uk</a>
Sunday 6 August (TBC)	BBQ at the Gatwick Aviation Museum <a href="#">contact Paul Colman</a>
Weekend 25-27 August	Silverstone Festival <a href="#">click for more info</a>
Monday 28 August	Bexhill 100 <a href="#">click for more info</a>
Sunday 3 September	WSMGOC South Downs Run – more info <a href="#">here</a>
Weekend 8-10 Sept	Goodwood Revival
Saturday 30 September	MG100 at Beaulieu – the Big Birthday Bash <a href="#">click here for info</a>
18-19 May 2024	Car Club MG Centenary Event at Brooklands

*All events are undertaken at Members' own risk*

CUT-OFF FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER IS SATURDAY 22 JULY

Send any entries or photos to [kimshros@gmail.com](mailto: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. Phew, hasn't it been hot, but I've actually been driving my TF around all by myself! Am preparing for the ULEZ extension where I shall have to trust Noodle to get me to Committee Meeting as the Vauxhall is too unclean to be able to venture 3 miles north from our front door!

Lots going on this month, I hope members enjoy going to the Bluebell Railway with the Car Club – unfortunately, it's the day after the night before – a new beer festival at Epsom Downs Racecourse and we are planning to be still over the limit first thing in the morning so can't join you! Ted and Cleo are very much looking forward to Whitely Village where they will happily Hoover up anything anyone drops!

Hope all members have booked their place on the Surrey Run and don't forget to order your stunning photo from under the start banner!

Kim

## SOCIAL SCENE

This is to let you know the events to be arranged in due course:

- Visit and Guided Tours of Fulham Palace and Gardens.
- Guided London walk around the Bloomsbury area
- Guided tours of St. Paul's Cathedral
- Guided tour of Charter House
- The visits to the Battersea Power Station and the Post Office Museum and Mail Train experience will be hosted by members
- I have prepared written information about visiting the Churchill War Rooms, underground bunker and museum should anyone wish to have it. The tour does not need to be prebooked.
- Visit to Brooklands Museum, with Tony Bryant - date TBA.

Happy socialising, Margaret.

## CHAIRMAN'S CHATTERINGS

### June Monthly Meeting – Auction Night

Thanks are due to all the members who brought along items for auctioning and did not want a return from their sale, as well as all those members who bid for items. The total sum raised on the evening was £190 which will go into the Club's charity fund.

### July Monthly Meeting

I do hope that we will have a dry evening, as, on this Thursday's Club Night, we will be holding our annual Pride of Ownership Competition. It is the one time in the year that many members' MGs are on display. Members will be judging the cars and the winner will be made public at the August monthly meeting. Thanks go to John 'Foggy' Brooke for providing the voting papers and co-ordinating the results to arrive at the eventual winner.

### Atlantic Balloon Challenge

Some of you may remember one of our founding members, Mike Scholes, who lost his sight some years ago. However, this has not stopped Mike following his passion as a qualified balloon pilot and he is about to attempt a transatlantic challenge. As I write, Mike and his wife Deborah, are still awaiting a change in the weather across the Atlantic Ocean before launching their balloon. They will launch in New Brunswick, Canada and the flight will take about 6 days with a landing somewhere on the East coast of the Atlantic. You can follow Mike and his Team's progress on the [challenge website here](#) and follow the challenge on [Facebook here](#). We all wish him the very best of luck.

That's all from me this month, keep well and keep safe. Eric

# SECRETARY'S SCRIBBLINGS

June was a very busy month, with lots of car shows and social events, all combined with some scorching weather. We really started our June events in May, because a lot of members were in Warwick on 1st June as part of the Spring Rally and MG 100 at Gaydon. Linda and I decided to give the MGB a run out as there were just the two of us and decided to potter along avoiding the motorways. We started getting strange noises on the A3, but by the time we were near Aldershot made the decision to turn round and go home. We swapped cars and went off again and made it to Warwick in the MGZT just in time for dinner. A big thank you to Nigel Taylor for planning the weekend. I wonder what he has got planned for next year?

With all the concerns about the 'B', whether it was the gearbox, back axle etc, I was quite relieved to discover it was only the prop shaft. After a quick internet order and several hours underneath the car propped up on axle stands, I managed to fit the prop shaft. I also managed to make every bone and muscle in my back and shoulder ache, a reminder that old age isn't a bonus when crawling around old cars. Thankfully it was done in plenty of time, so I did manage to get to the stand at Victor Seymour School. This was the first time I have been there, but it was a very pleasant show in the scorching sun. We were parked in a shaded spot under the trees, which gave us some welcome shelter from the heat.

We also got to the June lunchtime natter at the Red Lion & Cellar Rooms in Betchworth. My only problem with this venue, is their homemade steak & ale pie is to die for, so whenever I go there I always eat the same meal.

Margaret Billinge had a small group with her at the Elvis tribute night, and she also led a group of 8 on an interesting walk around Belgravia. At the time of writing this we still have the evening natter at the Mint to look forward to.

July looks like being as busy as June. We started on the 2nd with our annual run to the Peacock at Henton for lunch, with desserts very kindly provided by John & Alexis Brook at their nearby home. There is always a big attendance for one of the highlights of our yearly calendar. Our monthly meet is the Pride of Ownership at Sutton United, so put a bit of polish on the car. come and join us there and place your vote for the car you think deserves to be the winner.

Due to family commitments in August, Linda and I are on holiday earlier than normal, so are going to sadly miss three great events, Whitely village, The Surrey Run, and what looks like being a great show at Purley Sports Club.

We should also hear in July whether or not Sadiq Khan will be able to go ahead with his ULEZ scheme at the end of August. As our ZT doesn't comply we are keeping our fingers crossed it at least gets delayed as we need the ZT to pull our caravan, there is no later model of MG that would be suitable for this purpose. Some figures produced last month state unequivocally that the worst place for pollution in London, is not the streets but the underground, where pollution can be 100-fold what it is on the streets. Whether these figures can be used to undermine Khan's claims that car pollution is the major cause of the increase in asthma victims in London, we will have to wait and see.

Happy Motoring, Richard

## NATTERS NEWS

We either will have or did have a super time at the Brookes' depending on when you're reading this edition! There are no more natters planned for July so watch this space next month!

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

I am pleased to say that we are now standing at 109 Memberships paid for 2023, plus 26 Life Memberships. We gained 3 new memberships at the last meeting:

Roger and Beverly Perry from Leatherhead who have an MGC Roadster from 1968 in British Racing Green in good condition. John Smith and Andrea Eckhardt-Smith from Carshalton who own a MGTF 135 from 2010 in red in good condition. Lastly, we welcome Brian McKenzie from Ewell as a social member. Welcome to you all.

Please remember to keep promoting our successful Club to any prospective MG Owners.

Malcolm

## CLUB STAND

### **Saturday 15th July - Whiteley Village Fete**

Once again we are attending this very popular event. We do need to be on site no later than 11 30 am, thus allowing time to set up. The public are allowed entry at 12.30pm when movement becomes restricted, finishing at 4pm. As most of you know it is a very good day out.

Directions are down the A3 to Cobham then to Seven Hills Road. At the traffic lights, turn right and continue to first roundabout. (St Georges Hill). Turn right to Hersham, past car park entrance, to main entrance to Whiteley Village, turn right into it and you will be directed to us hopefully. At first right turn. Turn right follow road past church Bearing left until you come to exit road(closed) on right you will find us on the left-hand side where you need to crossover grass verge to reach the stand.

### **Sunday 23rd July - Purley Sports Club, The Ridge, Purley CR8 3PF**

We have been invited to attend this event in aid of the Royal Marsden Hospital along with the Jaguar Club and quite a few solo entrants. The only requirements are you need to be onsite between 8am-10 am, and the Organiser requests you buy a program on the day. There will be no tea and coffee available as they have an agreement with the Sports Club on beverages as part of their use of the area, we are obliged to concur with this.

### **Sunday 13th August - Cranleigh Car Show**

Please let me know if you are booked in as they no longer update me on numbers. there is no longer a code needed to book but the price is reduced from £15 to £10 if you book in advance. These are the steps:

1. Go to [www.cranleightlions.org/events/classic-car-show/](http://www.cranleightlions.org/events/classic-car-show/)
2. Under the Classic Car Registration heading, click the Eventbrite link
3. On the right, select the number of tickets and click Checkout
4. Enter your details and the details of the car you will be taking
5. Select MG Owners Club (Epsom area) under car club
6. Complete your payment details and accept the Terms of Service
7. Click Place Order

### **Sunday 6th August - Club barbecue Gatwick Aviation Museum**

Vallance By Ways, Lowfield Heath Rd, Charlwood, Gatwick RH6 0BT.

The day will kick off at 12 noon with Chernobyl due to be ready to cook WITH YOUR OWN BURNABLES or picnic if so desired around 1pm. You may arrive any time from museum opening time 10am.

Due to the fact we are required to hire the field there will be a charge of £5 per person to attend. Entry to Museum interior is extra at your discretion.

Paul

# CAR EVENTS

Having just returned from Guernsey on holiday, where we saw Runnymede MGOC on their Guernsey trip for 2023. It shows that the Events season for 2023 is now in full swing.

Following on from the MG 100 Centenary in late May, June saw many MG events with both The New Forest Run and MGs in the Park on the 4th and both Bromley Pageant and MG and Triumph 100 over the weekend of 10th/11th. I know that various members attended these events. I hope everyone enjoyed their days out. 7 cars attended Victor Seymour School Fete on 10th June, and we put on a good display.

July holds many events for our Club. Starting with our Pride of Ownership at Club Night on Thursday 6th at Gander Green Lane. We will be on site from 7pm to receive those who wish to bring their MGs out on this important night in the Club's calendar.

Following on from our Club Night, we have a busy month with Sutton Green Community Fair on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup>, the MG Car Club Summer Event to the Bluebell Railway on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup>, the Surrey Run on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> and Club Stands at Whiteley Village on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> and Purley Sports Club on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup>. Many of these events are worth attending and supporting the Club, especially, The Surrey Run, so do get your bookings in as required. It is great news that we have over 140 entries so far. Having tested the route for the Run I am sure members will enjoy their day out to Chiddingstone Castle.

Member, Alan Palmer, is running the Purley Sports Club event and this event in support of the Royal Marsden Cancer Charity which looks an event not to miss! Do let Paul Coleman know if you can help the Club on the day by attending.

Please do support the Club at our various Club Stands and other events. It is now confirmed that our Summer Barbecue will take place at Gatwick Aviation Museum on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> August. This event will have a small fee of £5 per person, for use of their field and members need to bring their own food to put on the Club barbecue.

A little further forward we have Cranleigh Show on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> August, the famous Cordles' Run on Sunday

20<sup>th</sup> August to Denmans Gardens in West Sussex and I have heard that entries can now be made for the South Downs Run on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> September. All in all a busy summer so let us hope that the weather remains kind to us all when we use our cars.

Malcolm, Membership Secretary

# SURREY RUN 2023

We are now at the beginning of July with just a few days to go before our Surrey Run event, due to take place on the 16<sup>th</sup>, where the final destination is Chiddingstone Castle near Edenbridge in Kent. As you are all aware, the price of our Run also includes free entry for both the driver and passenger to the Castle. In order to seal this rather attractive deal, we do guarantee a minimum of at least 150 cars and pay the total entry sum up front prior to the event. I am very pleased, and somewhat relieved, to let you all know that we have passed this magic number of entries. Malcolm Childs and I have also tested the route that Foggy has devised for this year. As the navigator, I generally avoid studying this in detail prior to setting off, on the basis that our participants will also have only seen the route an hour before starting their journey. This plan gives me the confidence that nobody should get lost. The scenery, as ever, is quite beautiful and the route does include a couple of narrow junctions. Any areas of caution are all indicated in the route instructions. Also indicated are any areas where a natural break may be helpful.



Becky Hildrey, the family Owner and Director of Bocketts Farm is off on maternity leave at the moment, so has left us in the capable hands of her staff who normally look after us on the day of our event each year. I am sure that we all wish Becky well. Our teams, including registration, will all be on site from about 8am on the morning of Sunday 16th ready to receive our first visitors. The 60-mile journey will take about two hours. The gathering at Bocketts Farm is always a good social event and I hope that most will be on their way by 11am leaving plenty of time to enjoy the day. My last concern is always the weather. In years past I have hoped for a fine day with no rain. The last couple of years however have given us unbearable temperatures reaching 40 degrees centigrade. If this is the case, then please, if you are participating or working on the day, make sure that you have sunscreen, a hat and plenty to drink.



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](http://www.epsommgoc.org.uk).

My very best regards to you all.

Nigel

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## 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](mailto:patricia@watsonkt9.f9.co.uk)

Name ..... Telephone .....

Address .....

..... Postcode .....

Email .....

MG Type ..... Reg No .....

Cheque for £22 enclosed payable to EPSOM AREA MGOC

# 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](mailto:anthony2444@tiscali.co.uk) or hand it to Tony at a Club Nights.

## CLOTHING



Now that summer is upon us and we're out and about driving our MGs, why not treat yourself to a cap adorned with our Club log to keep the sun off your head and keep glare out of your eyes. Great value at only £12.50. Caps come in a range of 8 colours – see the details on the next page.

Our most popular items are still 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

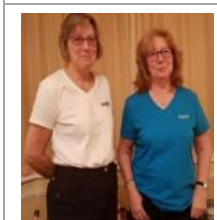
Colours: Black, heather grey, navy, white, ash, bottle green, burgundy, classic olive, deep navy, light graphite, red, royal blue, zinc, chocolate

#### 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

	<b>CAPS £12.50</b> 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	
	<b>MUMBLES BEAR £15</b> 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"> <li>Jumper: Cream, baby pink, baby blue, navy, white, red</li> <li>Hoodie: Fuchsia, navy, red, white</li> <li>T-shirt: Fuchsia, navy, red, white, sublimation white, baby blue, bottle green, burgundy, pink</li> </ul>	
	<b>METAL KEYRING £1.50</b> Keyring with domed decal fob featuring the Epsom Club logo	<b>CREDIT CARD HOLDER £2</b> Plastic credit card holder with Epsom Club Logo
	<b>CAR WINDOW STICKERS 50p</b> Not just for the car – why not buy one for home, shed, caravan or camper!	
	<b>PENS £1</b> 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				

We have received an email from a chap called Alistair, the son of David Smith, who was a member many years ago. Alistair says:

My father is sadly not too well these days, his driving is very limited, and he can't do the work on his cars as he used to. He also can't really type or hear to talk on the well, which is why I'm dealing with this. So, I'm trying to find a new home for his MG TF - modern type - that's been garaged for a few years (*note from Editor, I've checked and it is not ULEZ compliant*).

I need the space for something small-engined and affordable to insure that my son could learn to drive on, as it's not really practical for that, and the garage roof also needs repairing and that would be easier without a car inside!

It would probably need a trailer to take away as it's not got a current MOT and would need some TLC but is basically sound. I know he'd be happier for a club member to take it on, rather than it going on Autotrader or eBay.

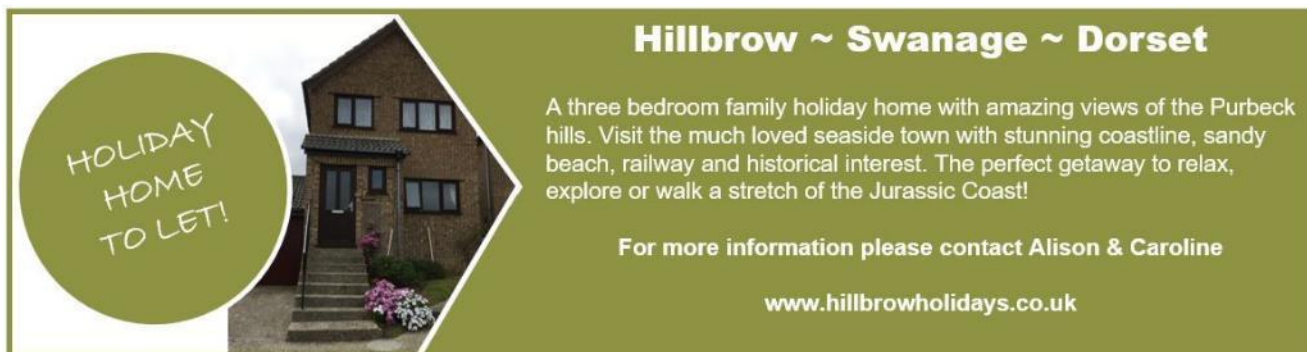
The slightly awkward issue is that I can't currently get at it to take any pictures easily, but if anyone were interested, we could open up the garage to let them take a look. We're just outside Dorking and anyone interested could visit on an evening or weekend when I'm there.

We are looking for a bit of money for it, as we don't just want scrap dealers stripping it, but would be open to very low offers if someone came our way via the club. It would be wonderful if this were something you could help with.

You can get hold of Alistair by email [alistair.pulling@gmail.com](mailto:alistair.pulling@gmail.com)

## 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](mailto:kimshros@gmail.com) for entry in the next issue. Inclusion of an advert does not indicate Club endorsement



### 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

## CHAIRMAN

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## CLUB STAND

Paul Coleman

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💻 [paaablo@talktalk.net](mailto:paaablo@talktalk.net)

## REGALIA

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## SPECIAL EVENTS

Nigel Swann

☎ 01932 247140/07946 262630

💻 [sueni15@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:sueni15@yahoo.co.uk)

## WEBSITE/FACEBOOK

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💻 [adam.dom@virgin.net](mailto:adam.dom@virgin.net)

## SOCIAL SECRETARY (Natters)

Nigel Taylor

☎ 07584 575 695

💻 [nigetaylor39@gmail.com](mailto:nigetaylor39@gmail.com)

## CAR EVENTS

Please contact Membership Secretary