

OCTAGONAL NEWS

September 2025

MORE SUMMER MGing!









And congratulations to the Jane for winning the Pride of Ownership

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



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

SEPTEMBER			
Thursday 3	From 7.30pm	Club Night – Bingo with Kim and Tom	
Sunday 28	Arrive by 10.30am	Club Stand at The Diamond Centre for Disabled People, Woodmansterne Road, Carshalton SM5 4DT - contact <u>Paul Coleman</u>	

OCTOBER			
Thursday 2	From 7.30pm	Club Night – Film night with Malcolm	
Sunday 26	10am	Autumn Leaves Run from The Pheasant, Reigate Rd, Buckland RH3 7BG to The Plough at Leigh contact - Malcolm Childs	

UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS		
Saturday 8 November	Darts night at Wallington Bowling Club, Grosvenor Road, SM6 0EN	
Note date change	Contact Margaret Billinge	
Thursday 6 November	Club night – Peter Stammers talk "Those Magnificent Women in their Flying Machines"	
Thursday 4 December	Club night – mulled wine & mince pies	
For the 2026 diary:		
Sunday 24 January	Mothballs Run	
Saturday 31 January	Dinner Dance & Annual Awards	
10 and 17 March	St Paul's tours	
20 March	Skittles (note Friday not Saturday)	

OTHER EVENTS		
Sunday 7 September	South Downs Run <u>click for info</u>	
Sunday 21 September	Chichester MGOC Arundel picnic click for info	
Sunday 21 September	MGCCSE Autumn Naviscat click for info	
Sunday 28 September	MGCC SE Autumn Gathering to Newhaven Fort click for info.	

All events are undertaken at Members' own risk

CUT-OFF FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER IS SATURDAY 13 SEPTEMBER (early as the Ed is going on her hols!)

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

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.

EDITOR'S ETCHINGS

Hello everyone!

Well, what a busy month for us August was! The monthly meeting was fun catching up with people and we enjoyed starting the day at Cranleigh with bacon rolls. I completely understand that Paul wanted to shove my TF behind all the gleaming cars – we were in the queue waiting to come in before we remembered we hadn't cleaned the car!

The following weekend we went to the Capel Show. Nothing like a wander round, a sausage in a bun and a couple of lovely pints of Firebird Brewing's best to make an afternoon out excellent. I was very pleased to see Derek Edward's MGA there – I immediately recognised it and went back when the new owners were there with whom I had a nice chat. Derek would be very pleased to know it's being shown off and I've emailed Anne to tell her.

The Cordles' Run was, as always, very brain testing following a super route with dastardly questions! It was great to see old members Mike and Sue Brown and to get them to put their hands in pockets to rejoin the Club! If only all runs could stop for coffee at a brewery



where it would have been rude not to follow a pattern and enjoy another pint of Firebird's output! Only downside was having to spend a small fortune on takeaway beer and cheese – support local industry, I say!

Tom and I are looking forward to entertaining you with the posh bingo machine at the September monthly meeting, I've ordered some proper bingo sheets so don't forget pens and/or bingo dibby-dabbers!

Kim



MEMBERS ONLY FACEBOOK GROUP

We now have a private Facebook group which is restricted to members of the Club. Feel free to post thoughts, requests, photos and anything else you think might be of interest.

To join the group, <u>click here</u> and let <u>Kim</u> know if you have any problems joining the group

SOCIAL SCENE

Saturday 8th November –Darts evening with a ham and/or a cheese Ploughman's at Wallington Bowling Club, Grosvenor Road, SM6 0EN. Cost £15 max 30 people (time TBA but it will be in the evening).

10 & 17 March 2026 Visit to, and tour of St Pauls Cathedral cost will be between £20 and £25 approx (costs not yet out) meeting point and time TBA. Tours are for a min of 10 persons and max 16 persons. Already many are booked on these tours but please do not panic we can arrange more dates to accommodate all.

Friday 20th March 2026 - Skittles Night with hot and cold buffet at the Royal British Legion, Grub St, Limpsfield RH8 0SJ. Cost £20, maximum number 30 persons. Note, the club has stopped doing skittles at the weekend.

Happy socialising, Margaret

CHAIRMAN'S CHATTERINGS

The attendance was down for the August Meeting, but members had a pleasant evening. 18 members' MGs filled the club stand at the Cranleigh Classic Car Show and the annual Cordles' Run was again a great success. The final club stand for the year will be held at the Diamond Centre for Disabled Riders on Sunday 28th September.

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

SECRETARY'S SCRIBBLINGS

Dear All

In recent months Kim has created a new private Facebook group for the Epsom MG Owners Club. This is the <u>link</u>. It is for members only, and you will be asked questions when you click to join. As so much happens with the Club throughout the year, I am trying to put as many reports as possible on the page so all our members can see what is going on, together with details and pictures of any event we have held or attended. I obviously don't manage to get to all events, so if you do attend an event, please think about putting a short report and a few pictures on the page. If you're not happy doing it yourself, just send a report and pictures to me and I will submit it. The intention is to get every event we attend, from car shows, social evenings, London walks and so in the Facebook group, to show a complete history of the club's involvement.

Our August club meeting was a social evening, once the meeting business had been completed there was a chance for members to have a natter amongst themselves. There was a great turn out of MGs for Cranleigh on the 10th of August, with 18 cars attending, and another beautiful day for members to show off their cars at this very popular event. We had our own run, The Cordles' Run' on Sunday 17th, and would like to thank all of those who attended. We had 27 cars complete the run to Ramster Gardens, which made a nice display at the end, and another sunny day with members sheltering from the heat in the shade of the trees. Full results for the Cordle's fun quiz will be given at the September meeting, and the answers will be printed in the next newsletter. Photographs of all these events are in the Facebook group mentioned above.

Club night on the 4th of September is bingo night, Kim and Tom again calling the numbers for us. The following Sunday West Sussex MGOC are holding their ever-popular South Downs run which a lot of our members regularly attend. We also have a large contingent booked into Arundel on the 21st, our first visit there since before Covid and Lockdown. Our final event of the month is the club stand at the Diamond Riding Centre in Carshalton.

Happy Motoring, Richard

CLUB STAND

Diamond Riding Centre Autumn Fair Sunday 28 September

We will have our usual Club stand at the Autumn Fare held by The Diamond Centre for Disabled Riders, Woodmansterne Road, Carshalton SM5 4DT. This is always a very enjoyable event with lots to see and do. Please arrive by 10.30. Also, just a note Please note, there will be no tea or coffee on the Club Stand and that the Centre is within the ULEZ.

For more information or to tell me you are coming along, either see me Club night or email me on paaablo@talktalk.net

Paul

NATTERS NEWS

I am hoping to schedule local natters again soon and am looking to slot in another coffee morning meeting up soon - keep your eye on the WhatsApp group for details (contact me if you would like to be added to the group).

Happy nattering Nige T

MEMBERSHIP MUSINGS

I am delighted to report that our membership has now risen to 108 paid for 2025, plus 26 Life Members.

Welcome to Andy Collins from Worcester Park who has a 1969 MGB GT Green in average condition. Andy would welcome support from any MGB member who has experience with these cars.

A welcome back to Mike and Sue Brown, from Reigate, who have a MG TF 2004 in Blue in good condition. Mike and Sue were members until the end of 2021.

If any member requires information to handout to any prospective members, please contact me as I have some information that you can give out.

I have visited the three MG Motors, dealerships, Dees of Croydon, Wilsons of Epsom and Richmond at Guildford and I was pleased to see that they were keen to continue the relationship we have built up.

Lastly, my thanks to Tony Briant for presenting my reports in August and September.

Malcolm (Please note I will not be at September Club Night)

CAR EVENTS

On August 17th the Club had our Cordles' Run to Ramster Gardens. Thanks to Richard and Linda Cordle for a lovely run with good weather, lovely finishing point and an interesting selection of clues on the run. 27 cars attended from the Club.

Marlene and I will be away for September Club Night as we will be participating in the MG Car Club T Register Autumn event, with other members from Epsom MGOC. The South Downs Run will be on 7th September which commences from Storrington Glider Club, as it did in 2024 and goes to Eastbourne. The West Sussex MGOC website has further information for booking click for info.

Arundel Castle makes a welcome return on 21st September this can be booked from the Chichester MGOC booking page <u>click</u> <u>for info</u>. Space is limited to 100 cars but, at the time of writing, spaces are still available. Entry is £18 for Grounds or, to include Castle, £28. Please note arrival by 9.45am and cars must stay until 5.30pm! On the same day, 21st September, the MG Car Club SE have invited Epsom members to join them at their Autumn Naviscat - a fun competitive event which combines some map reading and clue-busting followed by a country pub lunch – for more information and to book <u>click here</u>

I hope to see members at the Diamond Riding School Autumn Fair Club Stand on Sunday 28th September, however, for those wanting a run that day, the MG Car Club SE Centre will be going to Newhaven Fort for their Autumn Gathering. Further details can be found on their <u>website here</u>.

Our Autumn Leaves Run will be on Sunday 26th October, with a route organised by Tony Briant. My thanks to him for agreeing to do this for the Club. Please can you let Tony know on Club Night whether you will be on the Run or email me at mrmrchilds9@gmail.com as I need to have an idea of numbers for The Plough at Leigh, where we finish. Tony has devised a route of around 30 miles on behalf of the Club.

Malcolm Childs Membership Secretary

CHRIS AND SHIRLEY PECOVER'S TOUR OF SPAIN AND PORTUGAL

Our trip to Spain and Portugal this year started in June with us driving our MGB V8 Roadster to Portsmouth to catch a Brittany Ferries ship going to Santander. On this trip we were not in company with a large number of MGs, but were venturing onto the Iberian Peninsular with friends, Paul and Diane in their Jaguar XKR. The ferry that we were on is one of Brittany Ferries latest ships, the "Santona" that is powered by LNG and supposedly "eco-friendly"! We emerged from the ship onto the Santander dockside at about 8.30am on a Sunday morning with a longish drive planned (about 400KM) to get us to Cuidad Rodrigo and our first Parador hotel of the holiday.



The roads were empty, and we were able to make good progress all day and, with a couple of stops, comfortably arrived at the Parador de Cuidad Rodrigo about 4pm in time for a well-earned cold beer or two. A delightful dinner c/w some excellent local wine saw us retire with plans for a walking tour of the town the next day. Cuidad Rodrigo was heavily involved in the Peninsular Wars between Napoleon and England which saw the Duke of Wellington leading the forces against the French Napoleonic armies. We walked around the walls of the town and saw the fortifications and cannons that

dated from that period as well as lots of other historic buildings.



Our pattern was to stay at an hotel for 2 nights, which gave us easy travelling on one day and sightseeing/exploring on the second day before moving on again. We stayed off the motorways whenever possible to enjoy the countryside and towns more. Our next stop was a place called Merida and our Parador hotel was excellent and in the heart of the town. An early afternoon arrival enabled us to have the customary cold beer or two as well as a brief walk around the immediate environs. We didn't realise how old the town was but soon found out the next day during a tour of the Roman amphitheatre, some parts of which are being sympathetically restored. A couple of hours in the airconditioned museums saw us examining many items and scenarios from those Roman times.

Our next stop was Carmona (in the south and close to Seville) for 3 nights and it was now getting quite hot! The hotel car park and adjacent city wall was being restored by the Spanish Government, and normal parking was 150 metres away. However, when the hotel management saw our cars, they happily offered us parking right outside the hotel entrance, much to the annoyance of some other guests!! As the temperatures rose, our beer consumption seemed to rise for some strange reason!! Carmona was another ancient city which dates to pre-Roman times when the Phoenicians were living there. The streets are very narrow in places and present a challenge to anyone with a modern wide car. Having taken an extra day here to "chill out" and absorb the atmosphere we bade our farewells to the very helpful hotel staff and headed west towards Portugal.



It was very hot (43°C), and we were running with the hood up on our car with the rear window unzipped (open) and side windows down to create a form of natural "air conditioning" and avoid getting too sunburnt. Up to now my car had been working well and with the twin cooling fans performing well everything was apparently OK. However, as we climbed out of Aracina towards Portugal the red ignition warning light came on and my voltmeter went down to 11.5 volts. Oh B****r! I knew what that meant. We quickly turned around and went in search of a replacement alternator. A couple of visits to garages on an industrial estate on the edge of town, shrugs of shoulders but helpful comments lead us to an auto electrician (Paul), and we arrived at his workshop at about 12.15, just before lunch! He recognised the alternator fitted



to my car but said that he couldn't do anything for a couple of weeks. I convinced him that I could remove it and fit a replacement, all I needed was a good alternator and I could pay cash. He made some encouraging noises and promised to come back after lunch at 2pm to make some phone calls. He also recommended a very good place for us within walking distance to have some lunch as well. After lunch, and back at his workshop, I'd got the alternator off by 2 and we were waiting with trepidation!! By 2.20 I was getting a bit anxious, but Paul arrived in his van and emerged triumphant with a box containing my new alternator. We quickly reconfigured the alternator body to fit my engine and I was able to happily fit it. The engine burst into life, I had no red ignition light on the dash, and it was showing a healthy charge; absolutely blooming marvellous!! Lots of good words (Paul even offered me a job - jokingly I think!) and a reasonable amount of cash were exchanged, and we drove off just before 4pm to drive the remaining 120 miles to our next hotel; phew!!

Our next hotel was at Estremoz in Portugal and the first of three Pousada hotels that were booked into for the next phase of our holiday. Needless to say, a few well-earned beers went down that evening. The Pousadas of Portugal are similar to the Parador hotels in Spain but have still got a little way to go to match the Parador standards in terms of service and facilities. We stayed in Estremoz for 2 nights, then moved onto Estrella (2 nights) and then onto Alijo (2 nights without air conditioning!!) in northern Portugal. The temperatures remained high all this time, but we still managed to enjoy some spectacular drives including the Douro River valley.

We then went back into Spain on our way north towards the ferry port, stopping at a brilliant Parador in Tordesillas and another which we have used before in Cervera De Pisuerga which in the middle of the "Picos de Europe" mountain range. The temperatures had dropped a bit which made life somewhat more comfortable, and we enjoyed the local cuisine, beer and wine just as much.

Our last day in Spain dawned and we headed north for a short drive (2hr) to Santander port and our ferry which was to be our home for the 28-hour voyage home to Portsmouth. A smooth voyage across the Bay of Biscay saw us safely docking in Portsmouth and, after the inevitable delays in getting through Border control, we were happily driving towards home on the A3 and M25. Back on the overcrowded roads of the UK we reflected fondly at our holiday, driving on deserted roads and staying at some great hotels/towns. Our MG went well, apart from the alternator hiccup and returned about 28mpg on E5 97 octane fuel.

What will we do next year and where will we go?? We're thinking about that question.



REGALIA

Tony Pearse 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.

We have added a sweater to our range offered – the details are just below.

CLOTHING



LIGHTWEIGHT V NECK SWEATER £24.50

Henbury H720 made of cotton/acrylic with ribbed neck, cuffs and hem

Size: S/M/L/XL/XXL/3XL/4XL

Colours: Black, Dark Grey, Navy, Purple



RESULT CORE POLARTHERM QUILTED FLEECE WINTER JACKET £44

Luxury soft feel fleece, Polartherm™ polyester quilted lining. Windproof. Full length zip, two zip closing side pockets. Elasticated cuffs, Adjustable drawcord hem. 100% polyester, Super warm. Reference RS219X

Sizes: 38(S)/41(M)/44(L)/46(XL)/48(2XL)/50(3XL)/52(4XL)

Colours: Navy blue or black



FRUIT OF THE LOOM POLO SHIRTS £15

MENS (SS11)

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

(mid-green), Kelly (light green), orange, sunflower (yellow) or white. purple, red, royal blue, sky blue, sunflower

LADIES (SS86)

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

Colours: Black, heather grey, navy, white, Colours: Black, bottle green, burgundy, heather grey, bottle green, burgundy, deep navy, emerald purple, red, navy, deep navy, royal blue, sky blue,



MENS TSHIRTS

FRUIT OF THE LOOM (SS10) £12.50

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

bottle green, burgundy, classic olive, deep French navy, light Oxford, orange, white navy, light graphite, red, royal Blue, zinc, chocolate

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

Colours: Black, heather grey, navy, white, ash, Colours: Black, bottle green, bright royal, classic red,

RUSSELL HEAVYWEIGHT (010M) £17.50



WOMENS GILDAN V-NECK TSHIRTS £12.50

V-neck premium (GD91)

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

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



FRUIT OF THE LOOM HOODIES £27.50

MENS (SS16)

Size: S/M/L/XL/XXL

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

LADIES (SS82)

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

grey, red, white.

SWEATSHIRTS £17.50



FRUIT OF THE LOOM (SS120)

Size: S/M/L/XL/XXL and chest 35-37/38- Size: XS/S/M/L/XL/XXL/3XL/4XL or chest 34-36/36-40/41-43/44-46/47-49

Blue, White

RUSSELL (762M) (thicker version)

38/38-40/40-42/42-44/44-46, 46-48/48-50 Colours: Azure, black, bottle, burgundy, Deep Colours: Bottle green, bright royal blue, French navy, Navy, Fuchsia, Heather Grey, Kelly (green), black, bright red, burgundy, classic red, light Oxford Light Graphite, Orange, Purple, Red, Royal (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



BEECHFIELD CUFFED BEANIE £12

Colours: 57 – too many to show. Ask Tony for a colour chart!

One size embroidered with our logo. Reference BB45



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:

- 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

CREDIT CARD HOLDER £2

Epsom Club logo

Keyring with domed decal fob featuring the 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

N	Λ	м	Е.

EMAIL: TELEPHONE:

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

Two brown headrests from MGB (probably!) in very good condition

REDUCED TO £30



4 x rare design 5 Forked Spoke wheels in silver 2 size 185 x 55 x r15 and 2 size 205 x 50 x r15 All wheels have good tread tyres

£200

(might swap for an anti roll bar)

Contact Les on 07958686137/0208 393 3229 for both above items



FOR SALE



White MGBGT Automatic 1971 90,000 miles in excellent condition

Fully serviced in great condition. Looked after and cared for body and interior (black leather and red carpet).

Complete top loom rewire, new alternator and starter motor, new Kenlowe cooling fan, fitted new K&N air filters, new ignition switch with fitted electric power steering and central locking, stainless steel exhaust.



Starts every time and kept in my garage. I have owned this vehicle since 2022 and don't get the use I had hoped, selling so someone can use the vehicle more regularly. Original documentation and a box full of paperwork and photographs relating to restoration from previous owner. Everything about the history of this car is with it.

£7,500 ovno

Keith Mellor: 07889 083153 keith.mellor1@outlook.com

FOR SALE

MGTF 135 2002 Trophy Blue, black hood "limited edition" includes Sport pack, sports brakes

MOT May 2026 50,000 miles

Includes spare alloy wheel and new tyre

One lady owner since new

£3,000 ono

07976 327249 Norma Hermolle

FOR SALE



2 x match tickets for Jacksonville Jaguars v LA Rams NFL International Series 2025 Wembley Stadium Sunday, 19 October 2025, 14:30

2 tickets available @ £205 per digital ticket (to be forwarded by email) Available to members, friends, or anyone you may know

Contact - Kevin Watson on 01252 725310

FREE!

I am a former member of the MGOC when I owned a 1968 MGB GT for fifteen years until about six years ago when I sold it at auction. I have a number of parts relating to this car which should have gone with the car but the dealer who bought it wasn't interested. Since then, they have languished in my garage, but they must go now as I am moving house soon.

The parts include original prop-shaft (refurbished) to fit cars with overdrive, the original exhaust manifold stamped MG which I replaced with a three-branch manifold, throttle pedal, and other bits and pieces. Free to anyone who would like to collect from me in Thames Ditton.

Stephen Ennis 07981794888

FREE!

2004 MG TF hardtop in Nightfire red and a boot rack

We're moving hopefully to Wales and don't really want to take it with us and just want it to go to a good home.

Stefan (Fetcham KT22) stefan19812011@gmail.com

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10111	0.000
Nigel Taylor	Currently vacant
☎ 07584 575 695	Please contact Membership Secretary
■ nigetaylor39@gmail.com	If you would like to take on this role, please let

us know