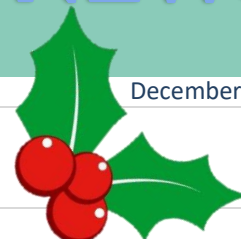




OCTAGONAL NEWS

December 2025

HAPPY CHRISTMAS!



The end to another
great year of MGing



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

DECEMBER

Thursday 4	From 7.30pm	Club night – mulled wine & mince pies
Christmas meals at The Star, Kingston Road, Malden Rushett KT22 0DP		
Note: both events are now fully booked		
Thursday 11	12 noon	Lunch natter info from Nigel Taylor
Thursday 18	6.30 for 7pm	Club Christmas dinner info from Kim Shrosbree

JANUARY

Thursday 8	From 7.30pm	Monthly meeting – Kim's 2024 News Quiz
Saturday 25	10am	Mothballs Run from The Pheasant, Reigate Rd, Buckland RH3 7BG to The Plough at Leigh contact - Malcolm Childs
Saturday 31	6.45 for 7pm	Dinner Dance & Annual Awards – for info see entry later in this newsletter

UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

10 and 17 March	St Paul's tours
20 March	Skittles (note Friday not Saturday)
19 July	Surrey Run

OTHER EVENTS

Sunday 8 th February	MG & Triumph Spares Day at the NAEC, Stoneleigh, Kenilworth CV8 2LZ Click here for info and tickets
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All events are undertaken at Members' own risk

CUT-OFF FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER IS SATURDAY 27 DECEMBER

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



JOIN OUR MEMBERS ONLY FACEBOOK GROUP

We 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, [click here](#) and let [Kim](#) know if you have any problems joining

EPSOM MGOC SUPPLIER DIRECTORY

Don't forget that Harry Cassar maintains an informal supplier directory for your personal recommendations of suppliers of MG bits and services such as parts, servicing, or bodywork. There is a form which you can access by [clicking here](#) – this will allow Harry to add your recommendations.

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!

Don't forget that it's the 500th edition of this newsletter in January so I am planning a special celebration issue. If any of you have memories, anecdotes or photos you can share with me it would be brill – pop them over to kimshros@gmail.com

Just a note that the Christmas dinner on 18th December is full (over-subscribed in fact). Thanks so much to everyone who will be joining us, I am sure it will be a lovely evening.

As usual, I will be donating to various charities rather than sending Christmas cards but Tom, Teddy, Cleo and I would like to send love and sloppy licks to members and their families for the festive season.

Kim

2025 Charity Donations

At this time of year, we invite member to nominate a local charity to be considered for a small donation from the Club/

Simply drop an email to our Secretary, Richard Cordle, on ZZRJC@hotmail.com giving details of the charity and how a donation would be used if they were successful. Nominations must be with Richard, by the close of the January 2025 monthly meeting.

SOCIAL SCENE

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, Limsfield RH8 0SJ. Cost £20, maximum number 30 persons. Note, the club has stopped doing skittles on a Saturday.

I wish all members a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, here's to socialising together in 2026, Margaret

CHAIRMAN'S CHATTERINGS

We enjoyed a very good presentation by Peter Stammers on "Those Magnificent Women in their Flying Machines" at last month's Monthly Meeting. At the meeting on Thursday 4th, we will have a social evening with mulled wine and mince pies and the exchange of Christmas cards by members.

If a member wishes to nominate a local charity for a small donation This should be made by the end of the January Monthly Meeting. We are still looking for members to join the Committee and get more involved in in the operation of the Club.

With best wishes to members and their families for Christmas and a happy New Year. Keep safe and well, Eric

CHRISTMAS GREETING

Ted and Sue would like to send their best wishes to all Club Members for a very
Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

They will be making their usual charity donation rather than sending cards.

SECRETARY'S SCRIBBLINGS

Dear All

We had a fairly quite month in November with no car events taking place which is not unusual for this time of year. Our club night was an interesting talk looking at women flying aircraft from the early days of their development. We also had our annual darts night at Wallington, organised by Margaret Billinge. As always it was a great night, which was won by team C after a play off. A special mention to some stars of the evening, Kevin who top scored with 140, Kim (Kent) with the top women's score of 126, and Ray who went out on three matches. Thanks to Margaret for organising the evening

Charity Donations

At the end of each year Epsom MGOC makes donations to local charities working in our area. Each year we ask you, the members, to nominate a charity that you think may be worthy of a donation. If you would like to propose a charity please email me on zzrjc@hotmail.com giving me details of the charity, what the money would be used for, and perhaps a link to their website or page. Please get these to me ASAP. We will consider proposals up to the January meeting, but would prefer them far sooner than that if possible

December Club Night is our traditional mulled wine and mince pies night, and a chance to natter to friends. There are also two Christmas meals, one lunch time and one in the evening. Don't forget that club night in January is a week later than normal on the 8th, and the first car run of the year, the Mothballs run is on the 25th. You still have time to join us for our annual dinner/dance at Kingswood on Saturday 31st.

Happy Christmas to you all, Richard

NATTERS NEWS

The lunchtime natter on 11th December is now fully booked but contact me if you have any questions.

CLUB TRIPS 2026

I am hoping to arrange two trips away next year - a Spring visit from 29th May to 1st June to Torquay and a September weekend in the New Forest. If anyone is interested let me know either at a Club night or by [email](mailto:zzrjc@hotmail.com).

Happy nattering Nige T

JOIN OUR COMMITTEE!

We're looking for members to join our club's committee! This is a great opportunity to get more involved, help shape the future of our activities, and bring your ideas to life. Being on the committee is a rewarding way to:

- Contribute to the club's growth and success
- Connect with other passionate members
- Have fun while making a difference!

No prior experience is required—just a willingness to contribute and collaborate. We have different roles available - if you are interested (or even just curious), we'd love to hear from you!

To learn more or express your interest, please contact our secretary, Richard Cordle. [Click here](#) for his details.

TOGETHER, WE CAN MAKE OUR CLUB STRONGER THAN EVER

MEMBERSHIP MUSINGS

Our membership now stands at 109 paid for 2025, plus 26 Life Members.

We were delighted to meet Peter Ahlas at our Autumn Leaves Run and he has since joined as a new member. Peter has a 1973MGB GT in Teal blue in lovely condition, which he has owned since new.

In this month's Newsletter you will find a blank 2026 Membership Form for members to renew for the year ahead. If your details are not changed, I am happy to receive your £10 annual membership fee direct, in cash, by cheque or by Bank transfer. The latter details will be on the form, together with my address. Please advise me if you pay direct to the Club.

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

Malcolm

CAR EVENTS

The Autumn Leaves Run in October ended our programme of events for 2025, but our Mothballs Run will be on Sunday 25th January and our Hunt the Valentine Run on Sunday 15th February.

For those wishing to take their MGs out on New Year's Day, Brooklands will be hosting its annual Classic Car Meet and tickets are available from their website. The MG & Triumph Spares Day is now confirmed as Sunday 8th February 2026 at the NAEC, Stoneleigh, Kenilworth CV8 2LZ. Tickets are now available for this event on their website www.mgandtriumphsparesday.co.uk.

I will look to keep Members informed of MG Runs and Events as they come in during 2026, and National Drive it Day is confirmed for Sunday 26th April.

Lastly, should any member be looking to take on the role of Car Events Secretary for 2026 and wishes to know more, please [contact me](#) so I can help you settle in to this important part of our Club programme.

Malcolm Childs Membership Secretary

Light Up a Life - St Raphael's Hospice

Epsom MGOC has been approached by Ali Linwood, Memory Giving Manager, at St Raphael's Hospice to see if we could assist with car parking at their Light Up a Life events on Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th December. This would be from 5 to 6.30pm each day and they require 6 people over the 2 days. Tea/coffee and snacks will be provided.

I have agreed to help, and the Club will receive recognition and if any other members are interested in helping, please contact Malcolm on mrchilds9@gmail.com to help at this worthwhile event.

Christmas Decorations – How Long Are Yours Up For?

By Kev Watson

According to modern tradition, most people would consider putting up their Christmas decorations around the beginning of December and taking them down on Twelfth Night in January. However, there are some that believe festive adornments should be erected for the duration of the traditional medieval mid-winter festivities, which starts sooner and finishes later.

Modern dates for putting up decorations:

- **Advent Sunday:** This is the traditional start date for many, marking the beginning of the liturgical Christmas season. It is always the fourth Sunday before Christmas (which falls between November 27 – December 3).
- **Late November/Early December:** Many families and communities start decorating during this period, sometimes right after American Thanksgiving (4th Thursday in November (23rd – 29th)), or as soon as December 1st arrives.
- **Mid-November:** Some places, like certain London streets, have their Christmas lights switched on and decorations up in early November.

Modern dates for taking down decorations:

- **New Year's Day:** Many people take down decorations after New Year's Day to signal the start of a fresh New Year.
- **Twelfth Night (January 5th):** The Eve of The Feast of Epiphany; this is a traditional date, marking the end of the 12 days of Christmas, according to many Christian traditions.

Medieval dates for putting up decorations:

- **Martinmas:** St. Martin's Day falls on November 11th, and, during the Middle Ages, coincided with the gathering of the harvest. It was also the start of feasting to celebrate the end of autumn, and the start of preparations for winter. Jams and dried fruits, along with preserves and pickles, were prepared so as to last throughout the season. Dwellings were also decorated with holly, mistletoe and evergreens as part of the celebrations. Advent used to be a seven-week period (like Easter's Lent) and known as St. Martin's Lent.

Medieval dates for taking down decorations:

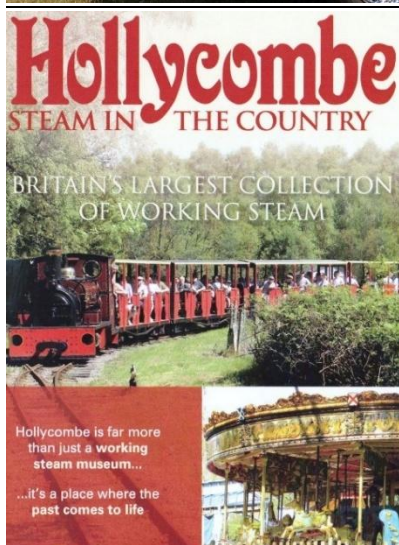
- **Candlemas (February 2nd):** Is the 40th day after Christmas (the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary) and marks the official end of the Christmas-Epiphany season for some denominations and is seen by some as the last day to keep decorations up. The date itself was a great feast day and is so called because candles to be used in churches through the coming year would be blessed on that day. There were also candlelit processions honouring the feast.
- **Leaving decorations up beyond Candlemas** is considered inauspicious by some.

So, depending on which camp you fall into, you are likely to be either a modern follower, and have your decorations up from early December until January 5th (around 25 days), or a traditionalist, having your decorations up from as early as Martinmas on November 11th all the way to Candlemas on February 2nd (a full 84 days). This will also depend on your personal religious observances.

There are many websites that have more detailed information regarding this topic, namely [English Heritage Christmas Decorations](https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/what-to-see/Christmas-decorations/), aroundtheyear.org/martinmas/ and others.

SURREY RUN 2026

25TH ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY 19 JULY



Join the Epsom area MGOC for their annual charity fundraising event starting at Bocketts Farm, Leatherhead, Surrey with a scenic route covering a distance of approx. 60 miles finishing at the Hollycombe Steam Museum Liphook.

On arrival, you and your MG will be received by our marshals and provided with special parking in the museum complex.

The "Early Bird" fee of £25 includes a rally plate, route instructions and entry into the prize draw for those who complete the run.

The fee includes museum entry and free train ride for the driver and a passenger. To find out about more about Hollycombe see their website:

www.hollycombe.co.uk

Epsom Members booking form is below - please return to Pat with a **self-addressed envelope**.



SURREY RUN 2026 BOOKING FORM Send with SAE to Pat Watson: 47 Newlands Way, Chessington, Surrey, KT9 2RW
Tel 020 8397 2008 or patricia@watsonkt9.f9.co.uk

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

Address.....

.....Postcode.....

MG Type.....Reg.....Email.....

Cheque for £25 enclosed payable to Epsom Area MGOC

Paid £25 by bank transfer

Account name Epsom Area MG Owners Club

Account Number 20466565

Sort Code 20 24 61

Ref Surrey Run 26

DINNER DANCE & ANNUAL AWARDS

Saturday 31 January

The Dinner Dance and Annual Awards will again be held at the Kingswood Golf and Country Club on Saturday 31st January 2025 at 6.45 for 7.15pm, with carriages at midnight. 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 £43 per head.

For new members, we meet in the bar where you can purchase a pre-dinner drink if you wish and order wine to be delivered to your table. We move to the function room for a super 3-course meal and follow this with our awards, a raffle and then dancing to music played by a great DJ.

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

Smoked salmon and crème fraiche terrine with mango chilli salsa,
cider pepper dressing and garlic croute

Brie and avocado tart with quinoa salad and citrus herb cream

Main Courses

Smoke glazed braised beef in real ale served with
caramelised onion mash potato and rosemary gravy

Baked cod tail with crushed root vegetables and plum tomato sauce

Mushroom Bourguignonne pie with crushed root vegetables and red wine sauce (v)

Desserts

White chocolate and raspberry tart with blood orange sorbet

Cherry Bakewell tart with clotted cream ice cream

Selection of cheese and biscuits

Freshly brewed tea and coffee

Please make your menu choices on the below slip. Payment of £43 per person can be made by cash, cheque payable to Epsom Area MGOC or bank transfer to Account Name Epsom MG Owners' Club, Account Number 20466565, Sort Code 20-24-61 putting Dinner/Dance as the reference.

Hand the slip to Paul Colman at a monthly meeting, email your choices to paaablo@talktalk.net or send to 126 Ockford Ridge, Godalming GU7 2NQ

✂

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

Name	Terrine/Tart	Beef/Cod/Vegetarian	Chocolate/Cherry/Cheese

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL/APPLICATION 2026

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 mrmrchilds9@gmail.com and, for receipt of the newsletter, kimshros@gmail.com to your safe senders list.

Newsletters are usually sent by email containing 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 - 2026				
Model	Type	Year	Colour	Condition*

*Poor / Average / Excellent / Competition

Please tick if you are willing to join club displays or be put forward for 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 to mrmrchilds9@gmail.com or 4 Elgin Road, Sutton, SM1 3SN.







For Membership Secretary use but please tick Bank Transfer if paying this way:


Receipt sent ☐ Sub Paid ☐ Database ☐ Bank Transfer ☐

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.

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, Polartharm™ 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 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 (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, 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	
	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: <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	CREDIT CARD HOLDER £2
	Keyring with domed decal fob featuring the Epsom Club logo	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

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

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



1973 MGB GT Teal Blue

1800 manual with overdrive

53,000 miles in good working order

This is a tidy car with a black leather interior.

New clutch in 2024. 3-1 Stainless steel manifold and exhaust.

Recent head gasket and exhaust manifold Gasket.

Minator (minilight rep) wheels. Changed front valance.

There are a couple of electrical quirks, and the bonnet could use a little paint as age is showing

£7000 ONO

Any questions please ask and contact Jamie on

07725991452/jamie.vance.jv12@gmail.com

(car is local)

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

COMMITTEE LISTINGS

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Adam Domaingue

☎ 07801 497279

💻 adam.dom@virgin.net

NATTERS

Nigel Taylor

☎ 07584 575 695

💻 nigetaylor39@gmail.com

CAR EVENTS

Currently vacant

Please contact Membership Secretary

If you would like to take on this role, please let us know