



# OCTAGONAL NEWS

October 2023

## ANOTHER GREAT CORDLES RUN!



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

OCTOBER		
Thursday 5	From 7pm	Club Night – Flag Quiz
Thursday 12	From 12.30pm	Lunchtime Natter at Skimmington Castle, Bonnys Lane, Reigate, RH2 8RL <a href="#">contact Nigel Taylor</a>
Saturday 14	10.45 for 11am	Bloomsbury Walk meet at High Holborn exit from Holborn tube <a href="#">contact Margaret Billinge</a>
Saturday 14		MGOC 50 <sup>th</sup> celebration at Swavesey <a href="#">click here for info</a>
Thursday 26	From 6.30pm	Evening Natter at The Woodman, 238 Barnett Wood Lane, Ashted, Surrey KT21 2DA <a href="#">contact Nigel Taylor</a>
Sunday 29		Autumn Leaves run from Pheasant at Buckland RH3 7BG to Plough at Leigh RH2 8NJ <a href="#">Contact Malcolm Childs</a>
NOVEMBER		
Thursday 2	From 7pm	Club Night – Flag Quiz
DECEMBER		
Thursday 2	From 7pm	Club Night – Flag Quiz
Thursday 14	7pm sharp	Christmas natter at The Star, Kingston Road, Malden Rushett, KT22 0DP <b>Booking is essential</b> <a href="#">contact Nigel Taylor</a>
UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS		
Thursday 7 December		Monthly meeting
Saturday 27 January 2024		Dinner Dance and Annual Awards – booking information <a href="#">here</a>
OTHER EVENTS		
Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup> October		MGOC 50 <sup>th</sup> birthday event <a href="#">more info here</a>
Weekend 10-12 November		Classic Car Show at Birmingham NEC. <a href="#">Click for more info</a>
2024		
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 21 OCTOBER

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

I am writing this quite early in September as Tom and I are planning on escaping in our caravan for a bit of a break at the end of September. Nowhere far, we have discovered that the dog walks are just as good and the beer tastes just as nice without several hours of towing down a motorway!

We are now having to using the TF for journeys into the ULEZ although, interestingly, when we came to the last monthly meeting, the ULEZ signs were not until the Cheam traffic lights on the A217 – curious. When I can muster up the will I might investigate further!

Finally, thanks to everyone who has sent photos through the summer, I will use them when events quieten down a bit.

Kim

## SOCIAL SCENE

### **Wednesday 27th September - Visit to Brooklands Museum guided by Tony Briant.**

We will meet outside the entrance ticket office at 11am. Payment to be made AFTER the trip when the numbers are known, and member/volunteer benefits can be applied across the group. Members and volunteers of Brooklands do not need to pay. You are invited to bring your classic MG and park inside the Museum in the Outer Paddock (use the Campbell Gate off Brooklands Rd), but I need to know in advance how many MGs are likely. For non-MG arrivals, use the public car park (via Mercedes Benz World) in the usual way. For anyone wishing to do the "Concorde Experience" (½ hour) there is an additional charge of £6 and you should pre-book a time slot with Brooklands. Food and refreshments are available in the café, or you can bring your own. Any queries, please contact Tony Briant on 07836 294 245 or email: [tgb.ashcroft@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:tgb.ashcroft@yahoo.co.uk)

### **Saturday 14th October – 'A stroll through Bloomsbury' Walk with guides Marion and John.**

Cost £15pp. Meet at 10.45 for 11am start at Holborn Tube Station by the High Holborn exit. The route will be in two parts either side of a coffee break.

The Tour will end close to Russell Square Tube Station. For those planning lunch at the end of the walk there are several restaurants in Marchmont Street or the adjacent Brunswick Centre..

### **Other events**

Guided tours of St Paul's Cathedral with guide John Morgan – it has been decided to postpone this until the spring and I will also be arranging visits to Charterhouse and Fulham Palace and Gardens next year.

Please continue to let me have your suggestions for outings. Thank you.

Happy socialising, Margaret.

## MEMBERSHIP MUSINGS

Membership increased this month with 139 memberships paid for 2023. This includes 26 Life Memberships. We received 2 new memberships in September from Andrew Pinder from Sutton who has a MGB GT 1978 in Nightfire Red in average condition and John Fowle from Sutton with a MGB Roadster 1966 in Black in excellent condition. Welcome to you both.

The Committee have agreed to issue Business Cards to members as required, to highlight the Club, and we are working to produce these for those who want them.

Malcolm

# CHAIRMAN'S CHATTERINGS

## September Monthly Meeting

This was the first monthly meeting with the UKEZ restrictions affecting all of the London Boroughs and it was good to see a good turnout of Epsom members present. So thank you to you all for attending.

## Dinner Dance & Annual Awards 27 January 2024

Elsewhere in this newsletter you will find details of the Dinner Dance & Annual Awards with a slip to fill out with your menu choices or they can be emailed to Paul. The event is again being held at Kingswood Golf & Country Club, our 23rd time at this venue. If you book for the Dinner Dance and wish to stay at The Lodge overnight, you should ring 01737 832188 as soon as possible and tell them you are attending the Dinner Dance and you will receive a discount.

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

# SECRETARY'S SCRIBBLINGS

The club night in September was a fascinating Tabletop Rally, great fun and well organised by Kim Shrosbree. Thanks Kim. Paul Coleman organised the club stand at The Diamond Centre for Disabled Riders and we had a good turnout for the club visit to Brooklands, with thanks to Tony Briant.

This month sees Malcolm Childs organising the ever-popular Autumn Leaves run, ending at The Plough in Leigh. On the social side Margaret Billinge has organised a guided walk around Bloomsbury and please don't forget the Natters and informal coffee mornings run by Nigel Taylor.

If this looks like a bit of name dropping, that was the intention. Throughout the year members help, organise and support the club in countless ways. Every event, car or social, every trip, every outing is run because of the work not only by the committee, but by the efforts of ALL the members. Thanks to everyone for all you do for the club, it wouldn't work without you.

After a disastrous summer with the 'B', having to turn back on the way to Warwick in May, and not even getting to the starting line on our own run due to ignition problems, we eventually got over to the Isle of Wight Classic Car Show in September, an event we attend every year. The car ran like a dream although we unfortunately got a puncture on the way to the ferry. The previous weekend we took the ZT up to Leicestershire for the weekend, so should have incurred ULEZ charges on two days. I am registered online for automatic payment, but, two weeks later my account is still not showing any charge. We are only 200 yards inside the ULEZ boundary, so possibly our local camera was not yet working. Because of ULEZ, Linda and I have bought another car, a MG3, so I am planning to take the ZT of the road for the winter.

Thank you again for those who attended the Cordles' Run this year. As promised, the answers to our simple quiz have been included in the magazine. Congratulation to the Wilkinson family who were outright winners this year AND also won the sweets for getting within 2½ biscuits on the 'How Many Dog Biscuits in the Jar' challenge! The answers to the questions are attached to the email that accompanied this newsletter.

Happy Motoring, Richard

# NATTERS NEWS

Following another very busy month of September, we enjoyed a very good Natter at The Onslow Arms, West Clandon, after an eventful preamble (we started with 7 participants, increased numbers to 13, and then on the day, numbers dropped back to 7, and finally increased to 8).

We have yet to have our 2nd Natter at The Star in Malden Rushett, (so I will report on that next month).

And now we look forward to more outings in October, with:

A Lunchtime Natter at the now reopened Skimmington Castle, Bonnys Road, Reigate RH2 8RL (following their problems with Food Safety), on Thursday 12th October, commencing at 12.30pm.

and then

An Evening Natter on Thursday 26th October at The Woodman, 238 Barnett Wood Lane, Ashted KT21 2DA commencing at 7.30pm.

Contact me to book on either.

**Christmas Natter** - I have decided to book the Christmas Natter at The Star, Kingston Road, Malden Rushett, KT22 0DP this year as the price is much better than that at The Woolpack and the food is very good. Attached to the email that sent this newsletter is the menu and I need your bookings and menu choices ASAP, please. Note that we will need to arrive at 6.30pm and a £10 non-refundable deposit is required when booking with me. See me at the Club Night or you will find my contact details [here](#).

Happy nattering Nige T

## EPSOM MGOE 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.

# CAR EVENTS

Following on from a busy August, September has been similar. There were many events in which our members took part: The first weekend saw the West Sussex MGOc hold its South Downs Run. Some 202 cars took part in an excellent route with 9 cars from Epsom MGOc. The weather was superb, and Eastbourne looked a picture.

September 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> saw The Goodwood Revival and I enjoyed an excellent day on the Friday of this event. The display of pre-1966 cars parked up in the car park was mouth watering, as usual.

On Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> the MG Car Club SE Centre held their Autumn Meeting at Penshurst Place and I am sure some members attended this event.

Dave and Chris Gill and myself and Marlene were away on 15<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> on the MG Car Club T Register weekend based in Ashford in Kent.

Although I am writing this before the event, I am hoping our last Club Stand of the year took place on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> at The Diamond Riding Centre Autumn Fair at Carshalton Beeches, where the Club regularly have a good display.

Lastly, on 30<sup>th</sup> September the Southern MGOc Clubs Centenary event is taking place and attended by some Club members.

In October, Car Events start to quieten down as the nights draw-in but the route for the Autumn Leaves Run on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> has now been tested and booked. The run will start from The Pheasant on the A25 at Buckland RH3 7BG and end at the Plough at Leigh RH2 8NJ for those who wish to enjoy lunch and the route will be around 30 Miles. Coffee will be available at the start from 10 am and we must be at The Plough, if having lunch, by 1.15pm at the latest. Although you can turn up on the day, if you know in advance that you will be attending, could you let me know in advance so that I have an idea of numbers. You will find my [contact details here](#).

Also in October, on the 14<sup>th</sup>, the MG Owners' Club will be celebrating 50 years of the Club with a 50<sup>th</sup> event, details are below.

In November, the Classic Car Show is on at Birmingham NEC over the weekend of 10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>.

Whatever you are doing in your cars, do enjoy them and let us hope the weather stays reasonable in the run-up to Christmas, so if you wish to use your cars you can.

Finally, do remember that the Centenary year for MG cars runs through until May 2024 so do keep an eye out for future events.

Malcolm, Membership Secretary

# MGOc 50th EVENT

The MG Owners' Club will be celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> birthday by offering a road run and throwing open the doors of Octagon House, Swavesey on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October.

This is a free of charge event and you can register your interest in attending on their website. More details can be found by [clicking here](#).



# DINNER DANCE & ANNUAL AWARDS

## Saturday 27 January

The Dinner Dance and Annual Awards will again be held at the Kingswood Golf and Country Club on Saturday 27th January 2024 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 £40 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).

<b>MENU</b>			
<b>Starters</b>			
Sundried tomato tapenade with prawns, pearl couscous and lime yogurt dressing			
Roasted root vegetable soup with pesto drizzle			
<b>Main Courses</b>			
Tender beef brisket with horseradish mash, roasted carrots, fine beans, and confit of onion sauce			
Lemon and garlic roasted salmon with dauphinoise potatoes, baby carrots, fine beans and tomato basil sauce			
Cauliflower and chickpea roulade with gratin potato, baby carrots and tomato basil sauce (v)			
<b>Desserts</b>			
Chocolate and caramel tart with vanilla ice cream			
Apple and frangipane tart with strawberry ice cream			
Cheese and biscuits			
Freshly brewed tea and coffee			

Please make your menu choices on the below slip. Payment of £40 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 2046656, Sort code Sort Code 20-24-61 and put Dinner/Dance as the reference.

Hand the slip to Paul Colman at a monthly meeting, email your choices to [paaablo@talktalk.net](mailto: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	Prawns/Soup	Beef/Salmon/Vegetarian	Chocolate/Apple/Cheese

# 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 logo 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

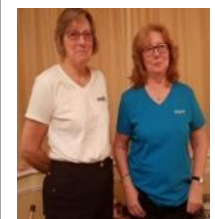
Colours: Black, heather grey, navy, white, ash, bottle green, burgundy, classic olive, deep navy, light graphite, red, royal blue, zinc, chocolate

#### 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 (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 £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>	
<p>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</p>		
	<b>MUMBLES BEAR £15</b>	
<p>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:</p> <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>	<b>CREDIT CARD HOLDER £2</b>
<p>Keyring with domed decal fob featuring the Epsom Club logo</p> <p>Plastic credit card holder with Epsom Club Logo</p>		
	<b>CAR WINDOW STICKERS 50p</b>	
<p>Not just for the car – why not buy one for home, shed, caravan or camper!</p>		
	<b>PENS £1</b>	
<p>Wow your friends and family when you sign your autograph with a stylish club pen!</p>		



## REGALIA ORDER FORM

NAME:

TELEPHONE:

EMAIL:

ITEM	REFERENCE	SIZE	COLOUR	PRICE
<b>TOTAL TO PAY</b>				

# 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

## FOR SALE

Derek Edward's MGA Twin Cam



Complete recommission and now for sale through Stone Cold Classics

[Click here for full details](#)

## FOR SALE

MG TF 135 TROPHY BLUE  
2003 in great condition



New head gasket, new water pump and new timing belt. Recent clutch slave cylinder. Fitted with rear parking sensors, glass rear heated screen in soft top. Driving lights and puddle lights. Current MOT

Lovely and very reliable car, I am only selling as it is sadly not ULEZ compliant and I have bought a replacement.

£800

Les Harvey [lesdharvery@gmail.com](mailto:lesdharvery@gmail.com) 07958 686137



## 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](http://www.hillbrowholidays.co.uk)

HOLIDAY  
HOME  
TO LET!



### **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

Eric Nicholls

☎ 020 8669 1793/07960 089009

💻 [w.ericnicholls@btinternet.com](mailto:w.ericnicholls@btinternet.com)

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💻 [ZZRJC@hotmail.com](mailto:ZZRJC@hotmail.com)

## MEMBERSHIP

Malcolm Childs

☎ 020 8715 3738/07814 988337

💻 [mrmrchilds9@gmail.com](mailto:mrmrchilds9@gmail.com)

## TREASURER

Ted Oughton

☎ 01372 462515/07742 397107

💻 [ted.oughton@gmail.com](mailto:ted.oughton@gmail.com)

## SOCIAL SECRETARY

Margaret Billinge

☎ 01892 610117/0778 3017905

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## CLUB STAND

Paul Coleman

☎ 01483 423169

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

## REGALIA

Tony Pearse

☎ 020 8643 4703/07592 885 554

💻 [anthony2444@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:anthony2444@tiscali.co.uk)

## SPECIAL EVENTS

Nigel Swann

☎ 01932 247140/07946 262630

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

## WEBSITE/FACEBOOK

Adam Domaingue

☎ 07801 497279

💻 [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