

MGCC SE Newsletter

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MGCC SE

April 2022 Newsletter

Editorial Note

We welcome you to the April Newsletter. This edition covers the first quarter 22 and expectations for following four months. See Pages 10-15 for events and 16-25 for local club meets.

Importantly, in your April copy of Safety Fast you will receive the latest SE Centre Events Calendar listing everything that's happening this year in your region so "go for it" and enjoy the MG in 2022.

If you or your fellow member are not receiving the quarterly SE newsletter via email it may be because your up-to-date email address is not held by the main administration at Abingdon. To update your details either go to the Members login area of MGCC web site, email mgcc@mgcc.co.uk or call 01235 555552.

Your Newsletter Editors / Scribes and their cars

Will Opie has been a member of the MGCC SE for over 40 years owning a multitude of MG variants and currently leads the North Downs Natter – pictured below left.

Ray Ruffels was introduced to MG motoring whilst working for Wadham Stringers in the late 1970's and now runs several classic MGs plus a ZT-T daily-driver - pictured below right.



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2022

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Chairman's
Report

Chairman's Spring Message – Tim Morris

The sun has finally put his hat on and it's time to come out and play. As we enter April those MGs will be coming off SORN and getting spruced up ready for the Summer season and what better way than to enjoy your MG by joining in with your Centre events?

April is a great start with no less than two events at the home of British Motorsport, Brooklands, a spot of culture with a visit to the Watts Gallery at Compton and a drive through the Kent countryside as we mark the Battle of Britain. The last one is actually on the 1st May but close enough to April to count and there are plenty more to come as we head into those Summer months – check the MGCCSE website for details of everything coming up.

Whilst you are there explore the site and discover the latest updates – some new pages and perhaps follow the links to our numerous social media pages. I am particularly interested in seeing some videos of this year (or in the past) that we can host on our new YouTube channel. You'll find the University Motors reunion that took place at the Fairmile Natter in February on there now as is the interesting talk we had on E10 petrol at the AGM towards the end of last year and some archive videos are beginning to appear too. Talking of the AGM we have an extra General Meeting on Thursday 28th April which will be held on Zoom principally to approve the 2021 club account but if you would like to join and ask another question or make some comments then you are welcome. Just email our secretary to let him know.

We have sadly said goodbye to our former treasurer Tony Atcheson and his funeral was well attended by MGCC members in March who recalled his life with the club with his family. It was on the same day as the funeral of John Inness, a former MGCC stalwart who ran the main club's events for 17 years and was very familiar to South East members. Both were sad occasions but also celebrations of lives well lived within our MG community. The Centre's condolences went out to both families.

It is looking as though we will be clear from Covid restrictions this Summer although, as you know, it hasn't one away so we will still be mindful when organising our events. One of the last events to be cancelled was the Brooklands New Year's Day meet but I still went along to find the gates firmly closed as you can see in my picture – where is everyone? It turned out they were a couple of miles up the road in Cobham at The Fairmile where there was a large classic gathering – that included many members of our Fairmile Natter – if only I had realised – doh!



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Competition
and Events
Update

SE Centre Centre and 2022 Events – John Morgan

The SE Centre 2022 printed Calendar is being circulated to members in the April Safety Fast, look out for your copy in the magazine wrapper, as well as being fully listed now on the SE Centre Website.

Recent events have included the Valentines Treasure Hunt, organised by Epsom MGOC, the Spring Naviscat and Spring Trial. Reports of the last two are included in this Newsletter.

The next event will be an **Autotest Taster Day event on Saturday May 8th** in Kent, again at the invite of MMKMC. The taster day is intended to give members a chance to have a go if new to autotesting, or practice their autotesting skills and it will be on grass, therefore, non-damaging. Autotesting is normally driver only, but this event will include a Production car class that allows drivers and passengers who can assist with test section route directions. The venue is in a field adjacent to the location of the recent trial near Otham, Kent. The event supplementary Regulations and entry form will be available shortly and downloadable from the SE Centre website. The photo below is of Philip Bayne Powell competing on asphalt in his C Type at NESCOL college in Surrey.



Additional events can be participated in during the summer as several local clubs organise Autotest series or Autosolos that SE Centre members can enter. Many of these are publicised by the Association of South Eastern Motor Clubs (ASEMC), and in addition to the MMKMC, includes amongst other Sevenoaks & District Motor Club and Farnborough and District Motor Club.



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On the same day as the Spring Navisact on 20th March, the MGCC ran a Race Meeting at **Brands Hatch on the Indy Circuit**. It was a glorious Spring Day with some interesting grids of cars and Brands Hatch is always a very good spectator's venue. The day included member's parade laps around the circuit at lunchtime.



If you would like information about competing, what is involved, wish to take part in any events, what events are being organised, or what invitations the SE Centre has received, then either email me on competitions@mgccse.co.uk or give me a call on 07802 770025.

John Morgan – Competition Secretary

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2022

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Notes

Obituary

Tony
Atcheson

Obituary of former MGCC South East Centre Treasurer

Tony Atcheson 1950-2022

The late Tony Atcheson was born in 1950 and grew up in the copper mining town of Mufulira in Northern Rhodesia which became Zambia after Independence in 1964. Tony's father, Roy, was well known as a local car enthusiast and passed much of his mechanical knowledge on to his son. Tony followed Jill over to the UK in 1971 and they were married in Sevenoaks in April 1975. Within three years they had bought their first sports car, a red frog-eyed Sprite and enjoyed the experience despite a bad case of dreaded tin-worm!

Tony retired in 2013 from his post as Financial Controller for the Ryder Haulage Company and immediately bought his first MG. He then became an active member of the MG Car Club and the MGB became very well known for being bright red and very shiny. The hidden secret was that the entire bodywork was built from glass fibre to avoid any repeat problems! Within a couple of years, Tony's helpfulness and accounting skills were recognised which led to him accept the demanding role of South East Centre Treasurer and the position of Club Officer. Tony's most recent MG acquisition dates to 2018 with the purchase of a beautiful silver MGBV8. This car had been barn-stored for 16 years and unfortunately regularly over-heated despite Tony's best efforts. This problem was finally resolved with the help of his neighbour Victor Smith.

We will always remember Tony for the hard work that he did as Centre Treasurer. He was a perfectionist, as his wife Jill acknowledges and if something was not perfect, he refused to sanction it. He and Jill helped to man the stall at events, whenever possible. He also constantly sought out more creative ways of improving the Centre's operation with a particular emphasis on membership statistics and the plotting of the locations of every one of our 1800+ members graphically using the IT skills of his son David. It was typical of Tony that, having operated diligently as SE Treasurer for nearly seven years, he had the patience to help find and carefully check-out a suitable successor. When he retired from the post at the AGM in November last year, he and Jill were really looking forward to having some time for themselves with their beloved MG.



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Obituary

Tony
Atcheson

Just before 10am on Tuesday 18 January, with the BV8 safely locked away in their garage at the end of the back garden, things took an unexpected turn. The video alarm on their mobile phones showed two men breaking through their garage door and lifting the cover on the MG! Despite the hard ground-frost Tony sprinted the full length of the garden and opened the garage door from the garden end. Upon seeing Tony, the two men fled and quickly slammed the broken garage door shut so that Tony could not follow them. The next thing we see on the security camera is Tony furiously trying to open the garage door but it was so broken he could not lift it. In his frustration, he was shouting at these men, unable to chase after them. The trauma of this event caused Tony to have a heart attack. Tony was lying dead on the garage steps when Jill found him, she alerted the neighbours but when the police arrived, they simply told her that in their view, no crime had been committed and no arrests would be made. The current situation is that an autopsy has confirmed the heart attack but the coroner is still awaiting the results of a new police investigation which is examining all of the factors leading to Tony's death and the subsequent actions of the police at the scene. Undoubtedly Tony would still be with us today, looking forward to a less restricted Summer in his MG had it not been for the attack on his garage!

Tony will be sorely missed by the South East Centre but our thoughts must now be for his wife Jill, their children and grandchildren.



Tony's funeral took place on March 7th with many SE Centre colleagues and cars in attendance headed by his beloved Silver MGB V8.

Chris Leigh

April
2022

Committee
Notes

SE Centre
Calendar
Summary
Next 4
Months
2022

See Safety Fast South-East notes for monthly updates, Social Media and the MGCCSE web site for information on planned events plus updates on past events. Events could be subject to change so keep up-to-date via contact with your local Natter and Wanderers leader/s and see the Full Calendar of Events via the South Eastern Centre web site at - <http://www.mgccse.co.uk>

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact</u>
Friday April 14 th John Morgan	Visit to the MG Factory Audio Visual Talk	Fairmile Natter Cobham KT11 1BW	Jon Glover 0780 2318950 Ian Ailes 01932 856960
Sunday April 16 th	<u>Easter Classic Car Event</u>	<u>Brooklands KT13 0QN</u>	<u>MGF Register -Tim Morris</u> <u>T Register – Alan Wakefield</u>
Saturday April 23 rd	Watts Gallery	Guildford GU3 1DQ	Andrew Mitchell 07703 138419/ Austin Banner
Sunday April 24 th	Brooklands British Marques Day	Brooklands KT13 0QN	John Davies 01737 241971 John Glover
Sunday May 1 st	Battle of Britain Run	East Kent	Ray Ruffels / Will Opie raywillmg@gmail.com
Sunday May 8 th	MMKCC Auto Test Taster Day	Mid-Kent	John Morgan 07802 770025
Sunday May 29 th	Filching Manor Motor Museum	Polegate East Sussex BN26 5QA	John Morgan 07802 770025
June 11/12 th Weekend	Silverstone Live	Silverstone Race Circuit	MGCC 01235 555552
Monday 20 th June	Alternative Pride of Ownership	Round 1 Sportsman PH Mogador	John Morgan 07802 770025
Sunday 3 rd July	Capel Military Show	Capel Surrey	John Morgan 07802 770025
Sunday July 3 rd	Bedgar & Wormshill Light Railway	Bredgar Sittingbourne ME9 8AT	Ian Russell 07590 498514
Saturday 9 th July at Lunchtime	Alternative Pride of Ownership	Round 2 Surrey Oaks Newdigate	John Morgan 07802 770025
Sunday 10 th July	South Downs Windmill Run and Picnic	South Downs start and finish TBC	John Morgan 07802 770025
Thursday 14 th July	Alternative Pride of Ownership	Round 3 Fairmile Natter Cobham	John Morgan 07802 770025

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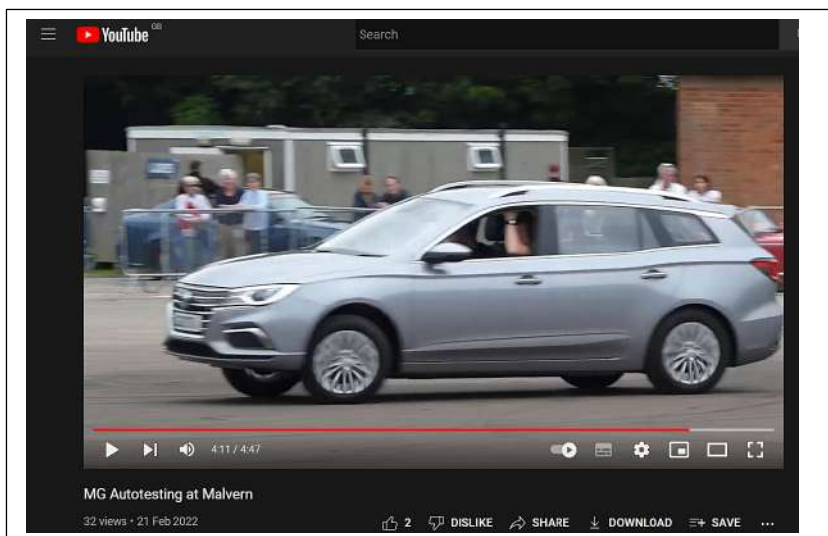
Committee
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Web &
Social
Media

The South East Online - Tim Morris

Now the figures are in we are delighted that 2021 was a record year for people visiting our website with over 12,000 views throughout the year. August is the most popular month for visitors with April and May a close second. That means we are in a peak period at the moment with the most popular pages being, perhaps unsurprisingly, the events list and details with members planning their MGCCSE activities. 2022 is looking similar in terms of number of views so do please keep visiting – more pages are being added and the latest is a complete list of all the trophies that the MGCCSE award and what they are for. Look out for an awards lunch later in the year when this year's trophies will be handed out to the worthy winners.

Our social media is still growing with the Facebook main page showing over 300 followers and the Instagram page just a few behind. Do take a look and follow both pages for all the latest MGCCSE news and a weekly SE MG Sundae picture where we delve into the SE archive for rare pictures of your MGs. If you want a more informal FaceBook page then the MGCCSE Chat group is for you – you need to be a member to join in and will be asked a couple of questions as it is a private group.



The new YouTube channel is developing with 10 videos on there now. The most popular with over 330 views is the University Motors Reunion event held in February at The Fairmile Natter followed by the talk on E10 fuel at last year's AGM. We are looking for more videos to showcase – even if you only have clips of an MG event we can stitch them together into a video. This can be seen with the MG Autotesting at Malvern video where Ian Russell had some phone clips of cars at the MG & Triumph show spinning around the cones and we put them together into one film. Take a look – it is the only time that I have seen an electric car autotesting! If you have some footage that may be suitable then please get in touch with me at webmaster@mgccsse.co.uk

You can find the YouTube channel here:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9dBJUbCdbFc0zpENkl2Y9w>

That is quite lengthy but to get a custom URL we need over 100 subscribers – at the moment we have just 15! So, if you view the channel please subscribe to it as well so that we can customise our identity and you can then easily get to the latest video updates.

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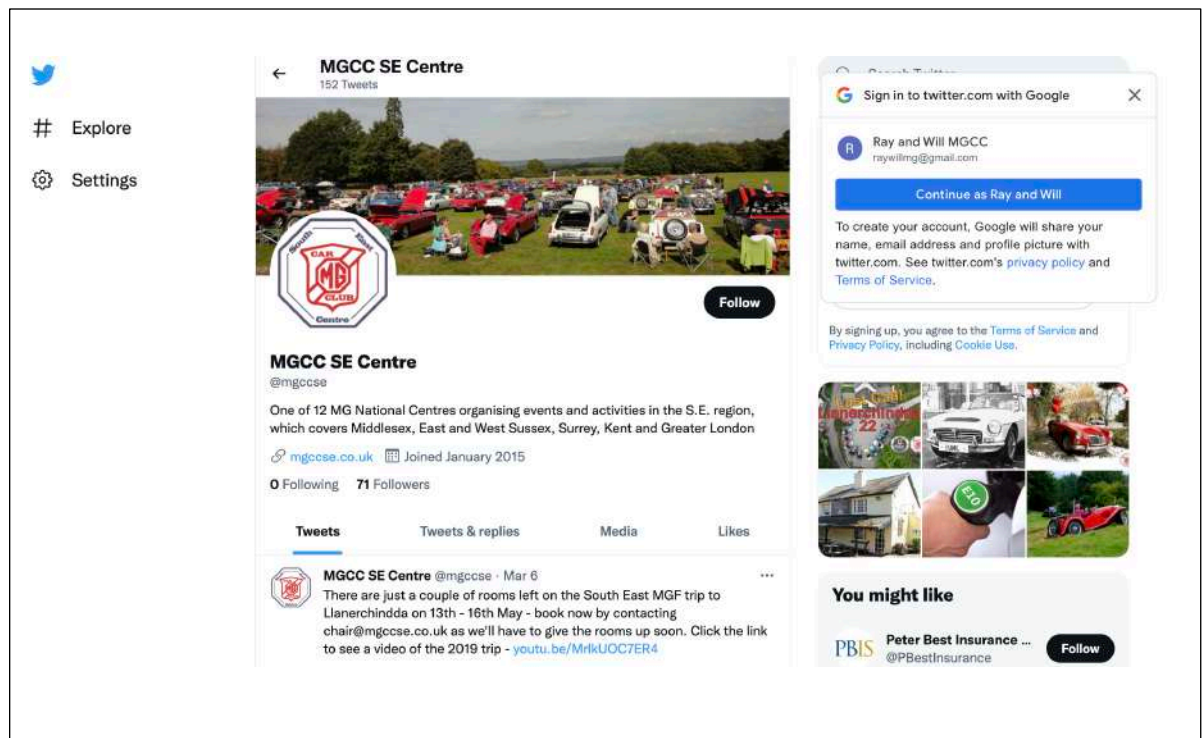
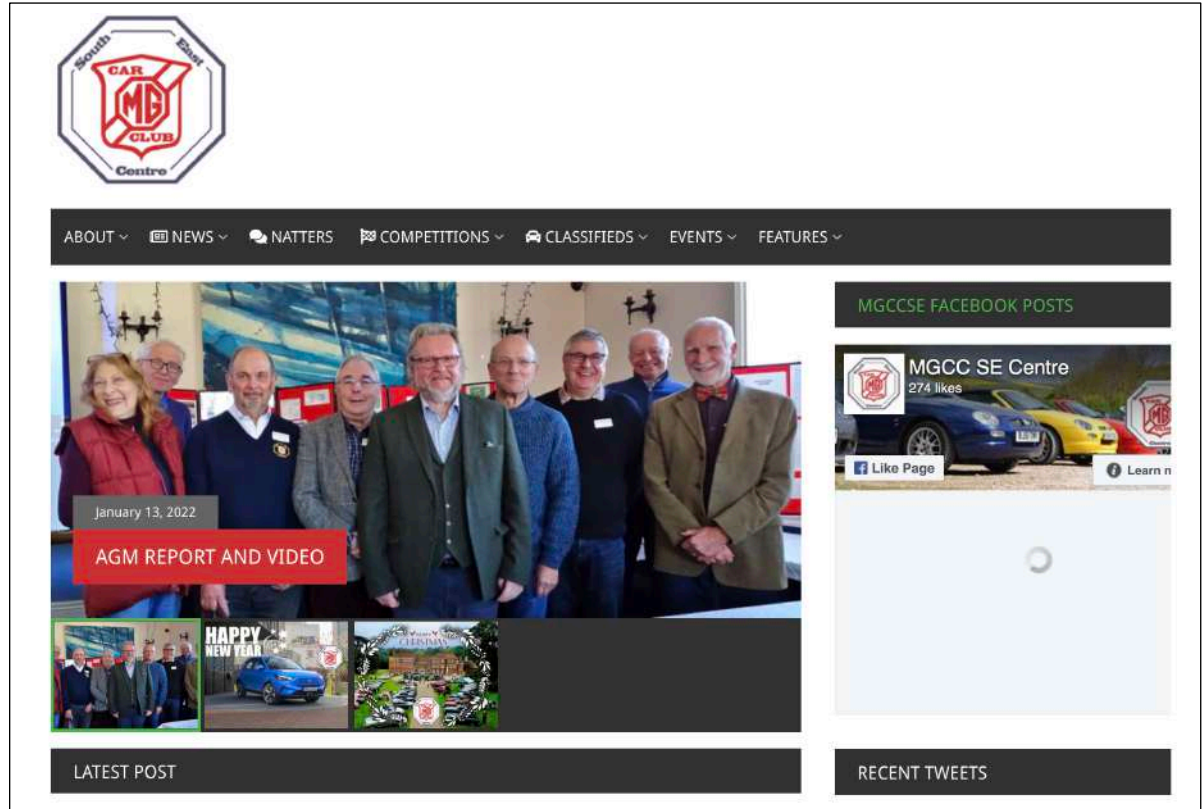
Committee Notes

Web & Social Media

Click here for website: www.mgccse.co.uk

Facebook Public Page: www.facebook.com/mgccse

Facebook Chat: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/259127225161827>



April
2022

Events

SE Centre

Spring
Naviscat
Sunday
March 20th

Spring Naviscat Report

What an amazing day it was! We were fortunate to hold our Spring Naviscat in a period of unseasonably beautiful March weather this year! The start and finish venue, The Sussex Oaks hostelry in the village of Warnham was delightful. A very friendly publican provided bacon baps and hot drinks before the start and really excellent food for our return some three and a half hours later. He also promptly hired Peter Little's Alvis for his own daughter's wedding. (This pretty car shares the same birthday and year with the Queen!)

The organisational details of the day remained unchanged but it should be noted that on this occasion no less than two dogs took an active role for the first time but neither of them were able to win any rosettes for their driving or navigation skills, only the occasional pat on the head for sniffing out the correct answers! John Morgan will now be checking this unusual method with the MSUK....



19 cars were entered for this year's Spring Naviscat which was ably organised by two experienced members, Stuart Manser and his partner Janina Downey. Although three of the competing cars were sadly withdrawn due to Covid we managed to attract four new novice teams to take part. It should be noted that a "Best Novice Award" is always given for each event but on the day, the visiting 1926 Humber novice team of Peter Little and Louis Cartledge would have been difficult to beat with their total score of 23 points! Only James and Tom Campbell suffered any mechanical issues with their MGB but they managed to soldier on to the finish.

This year's Spring Naviscat was organised in some wonderful Sussex countryside, well away from the main roads and using the beautiful country lanes that Sussex is famous for. The questions that we were asked were all very varied; house names, architectural features, signposts, wildlife and notice boards had to be checked in detail and recorded on the answer sheet before heading back to the pub no later than 2.30pm.

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SE Centre

Spring
Naviscat
Sunday
March 20th

On this occasion we almost came unstuck ourselves. I have to confess to not listening to the details of road closures as well as I should before the start and just when I thought that we would have an easy drive back to the pub, a few of us discovered that we were in for a rather slow detour through the centre of Horsham! Pleasingly our map showed us the best way through and we were amazed to get back on time. A couple of other cars that suffered the same misfortune lost 1 point for every minute that they were late back! That is the rule that makes sure that your Sunday dinner is hot and ready for you as soon as you have obtained your Dark Star ale or glass of fine wine!

Stuart and Janina had obviously put a great many hours into planning this event. Their organisation was a huge success and everyone was very happy with a wonderful day competing in the sunny Sussex countryside.

After a lovely dinner the MG Car Classes A, B & C were amalgamated for the rosette presentations with the real trophies to be presented later at the annual awards day. IRC members also received their own liquid trophies with the team prize won by the two aged Humbers.

If you take a close look at the Results table for the day, you should be able to make out that the best scores were generally obtained by older cars once again. A fast car does not ensure success in a Naviscat! It is pleasing to see the spread of results indicates that some teams were simply relaxing and enjoying the sunshine and it is also very gratifying to see that other clubs are now trying their hand and joining with us for the first time. We are now looking forward to 2nd October!

Chris & Janice Leigh



Above - Chris & Janice
Leigh Overall Winners

Below - Peter Little
and Louise Cartledge
IRC overall winners
and Novice Trophy
Winners



April
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MGCC SE Centre Spring Naviscat 20th March 2022 – Results

Classes – A, B and C

Events

SE
Centre

Spring
Naviscat

Driver	Navigator	Car Type	Club	Class	Penalties	Score	Novice	Prize
Janice Leigh	Chris Leigh	MGA	MGCC	C	0	35		1 st
Alex Lemon	Mike Chittenden	MGB	MGCC	B	0	26		2 nd
Robert Eames	Victoria Eames	MGB	MGCC	B	0	14	Novice	
George Homewood	Rose Carr	MGB	MGCC	B	-16	11		
Ian Russell	Paula Russell	MGB	MGCC	B	0	6		
Simon Gray	Sarah Parish & Peter Gray	MG Y Type	MGCC	A	10%	20.7		
James Campbell	Tom Campbell	MGB	IRC	B	1	23		

Class – Non-MG Class E

Driver	Navigator	Car Type	Club	Class	Penalties	Score	Novice	Prize
Richard Graham	Steve Thompson	Fiat 2005	Blackpal.	E	0	24		1 st
Georgina Begbey	Peter Begbey	Merc 2015	MGCC	E	0	19	Novice	
Toby Galbraith	Rob Holmons	Mazda 1991	S+DMC	E	0	15		
Mike Breare	Tina Tompson	DKW	MGCC	E	0	3		
Peter Little	Louise Cartledge	Humber	IRC	E	0	23	Novice	2 nd Novice
Richard Stubberfield	Peter Stubberfield	Alvis	IRC	E	0	20		
George Pitt	Caroline Pitt	Humber	IRC	E	0	9	Novice	
Adrian Ducker	Peter Hanna	Riley	IRC	E	-16	0		

IRC Awards only (Pre-1955)

Driver	Navigator	Car Type	Club	Class	Penalties	Score	Prize	Prize
Peter Little	Louise Cartledge	Humber	IRC	E	0	23	Team	1 st
Simon Gray	Sarah Parish	MG	MGCC	A	10%	20.7		2 nd
Richard Stubberfield	Peter Stubberfield	Alvis	IRC	E	0	20		
George Pitt	Caroline Pitt	Humber	IRC	E	0	9	Team	
Adrian Ducker	Peter Hanna	Riley	IRC	E	-16	0		

April
2022

Event

SE Centre

Brands
Hatch
March 20th

MGCC Club Championship – Ray Ruffels

Wonderful Spring weather greeted the first round of the 2022 Club Championship on the Indy circuit at Brands Hatch. With qualifying am and 8 races pm it was a very busy day where excitement was amplified due to a number of spectacular crashes on Paddock Hill Bend and Clearways. Thankfully no one was hurt but caused small delays to the itinerary as the track was checked and cleaned. Many visiting members signed up for and enjoyed the parade laps during the lunch break in their own MGs!

This is always an excellent day of MG Racing in the SE and below are some pictures of the day's events. Results are at <https://www.mgcc.co.uk/motorsport/race-results->



April
2022

Event

SE Centre

Spring Trial
March 27th

MGCC SE Centre – Spring Trial 2022

The SE Centre competitive activity has started for 2022. The first event was the Naviscat in East Sussex on 20th March, see event report in this Newsletter. This was rapidly followed by participation in the Tyrwhitt Drake Car Trial organised by Maidstone and Mid Kent Motor Club (MMKMC) at the same venue as the Autumn Trial at Otham, south east of Maidstone. The event location was again in the disused quarry that has now almost completely grassed over.

The event sections had been set up on the previous day with the weather dry and sunny, and consequently, had incorporated some relatively steep sections and tricky bends to compensate for the dry conditions. The overnight low cloud and mists, that was almost drizzle on the Sunday morning, meant that the ground had become somewhat slippery by the time of the start.



The MG entries included three T Types belonging to John Morgan, Peter Parker and Colin McKay together with Will Opie's MG NB. The event was Colin's first Trial and Peter was accompanied by his Grandson Oscar. The event included six sections with two attempts at each in the morning and afternoon. Section routes were adjusted after lunch to make it a little more difficult or accessible with the more slippery Sunday conditions.



April
2022

Event

SE Centre

Spring Trial
March 27th

The overall entry was 23 competitors, including the MGs, with some cars double entered with two drivers. There were 4 event classes depending on the degree of vehicle modification and specification. Some were the equivalent of the small shopping hatchbacks, other classics included an Austin Mini and Hillman Imp and modified cars included Mazda MX5, Trials Liege and a special buggy using the engine, transmission and suspension from an MGF.

The damp conditions in the morning made it very slippery and a couple of the MGs initially struggled to even get off the section start line. Having adjusted technique, it improved during the day and by the afternoon several sections were being completely cleared by the MGs.



Peter Parker and his Grandson Oscar ('the bouncer') Winners of the MG Award

The MGs struggled to be competitive against the other competitors but the MMKMC had again provided an award for the best performing MG and this was won by Peter Parker and 'bouncer' Oscar who came third in Class 1 for standard cars out of an entry of eight, and they also won the MG award.

For full results of the day contact myself

The next SE Centre competitive event will be the Taster Autotest on the 8th May taking place in a field close to the Trial venue.

John Morgan – March 2022

April
2022

Local Club
Meets

Fairmile
Natter
Update

Fairmile Natter – Update

So, what happens when the Brooklands New Year's Day event is cancelled?

Well, obviously all the MG aficionados decamp to the MGCC SE Centre's Fairmile Natter meeting at Cobham held on the same day ...

Many thanks to Christopher Runciman for the photos of the T Register Flying the Flag on New Year's Day at the Fairmile Natter!



We had an excellent meeting on 10th February with five former staff from **University Motors Epsom**, the MG specialists up to 1980. Parts guru Peter Beadle. Gary Ellis from bodyshop, Ray Mears from sales and Norman Marshall and Hugh Evens from workshop. We had well over 30 members attend and a video of the meeting is available on the MGCCSE web site.



The subject of the meeting was the University Motors MGC Specials – and a lot more! These comprised 146 MGCs we were told bought, in from the factory at the end of production and modified to customers' requirements. Here is an advert showing the spec but cars were often modified to customers specific requirements. Some say it was 176 and some say 200. Other cars may have come in from other dealers to be sold on or already in stock. The MGC was the fastest MG Abingdon built before the MGBGT V8 so the MGC roadster still holds that accolade. It was also available as an automatic!

The UM reunion was a pleasure to be part of and may become an annual event at the Fairmile!

Ian Ailes, Co-Leader of Fairmile Natter sent us a note to say that the **VSCC** has extended its membership to pre 1956 cars meaning that T Type MGs are now eligible to join – See Below

CLUBS & EVENTS
Edited by Richard Dredge

VSCC back to the future

Entry cut-off age extended in '22

The Vintage Sports Car Club has voted to allow post-war road-going sports cars into its ranks for the first time in its history. A proposal to admit selected cars, built before the end of 1955, was put to its 5500 members, and passed with a large majority. Club Secretary, Tania Brown, told us: 'The VSCC organises around 40 events a year, including race meetings, hillclimbs and sprints, which until now predominantly featured pre-war cars. Cars from the post-war period, of a type that competed in period, to factory specification – although light modifications made in period are also allowed – will now be invited to apply to compete in these events starting from the 2022 season. We expect cars such as the Jaguar XK120, Austin Healey 100M and MG T-types to feature, but owners of all models within the new parameters can apply.' Find out more at vsccl.co.uk.

CATCHING THE BUG
Thirty not out for BBC

In our September issue, we told you about the Bond Bug Club's intention to get 50 Bugs together for its national rally, to mark half a century of the orange wedge and 30 years of the club. Karl Russell dropped us a line to say: 'We achieved our goal, with 52 Bugs turning up. The rally was a huge success, with everyone enjoying drives out and a line-up of all the cars. Tom Karen and a few of his former colleagues from Ogle were also there, so it was a fabulous weekend that was well overdue after the disappointments of last year! More information can be found at bondbugs.co.uk.

EVENT OF THE MONTH

NEC show bounces back

All roads point to the big one in Birmingham!

It's back for 2021 and classic car clubs are pulling out all the stops! More than 200 clubs will be displaying 1500 cars of all ages on the weekend of November 12-14, with stands marking the show's theme 'The Journey continues'. The PC team will be there along with more than 600 trade stands and specialists. If you've got some cash burning a hole in your pocket, Silverstone Auctions will be selling off more than 100 classic vehicles, but there will be plenty of dealers displaying too, with something for every taste and pocket. The Live Stage will hold interviews and demonstrations throughout the weekend; the Restoration Theatre will help you to brush up on your skills, and the Lancaster Pride of Ownership display will showcase more than two dozen classics, with variety guaranteed – and you can vote for the winner.

Veterans head for Brighton

No red flags required anymore!

The London to Brighton Veteran Car Run is a great event for those driving, as well as those who line the streets to spectate. This year there are more than 300 pre-1904 cars taking part, and they will be setting off from Hyde Park at sunrise (7.06am) on the 60-mile route to Brighton, where the cars should start to assemble on Madeira Drive from 10am. This year is special as it's 125 years since the Emancipation Run of 1896, which marked the passing into law of the Locomotive on the Highway Act. This saw the speed limit for self-propelled carriages raised from 4mph to 14mph, and there was no longer a requirement for a man to walk in front of such vehicles, waving a red flag. veterancarrun.com

Veteran fun!

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April
2022

Local Club
Meets

Pinner
Natter

The Pinner Natter Update – Gerry Edwards

The Pinner Natter is gradually growing in size and on occasion we have struggled to find sufficient seats in our “home” pub which is the Queen’s Head in Pinner! I believe that one reason for the growth in membership is due to the very local MG dealership publicising the Natter and handing out our details to all purchasers. Long may this last!



During the year the Pinner Natter holds a number of events along with its monthly Natter meeting at the Queen’s Head. This is important for our Natter members as with Pinner being on the periphery of the Area there are few, if any, Area events that Pinner Natter members are willing or able to attend due to distances involved. From May to September we hold our own Pride of Ownership on Natter nights in the Queen’s Head large car park, regular Breakfast meetings which are becoming increasingly popular (15 cars at the January Breakfast) and midweek lunchtime meetings which are preceded by a short drive. In addition, at the end of January we hold our annual Post Christmas Dinner which was this year, as usual, very well attended. We are fortunate in being able to work closely with the Chesham Natter from Abingdon Works Centre and local MG Owners Club branches. During the various lockdowns our monthly Natter meetings were replaced with monthly Zoom meetings which were very well attended and often by members who are unable to attend in person. We even had one of our members living in California attending regularly!



April
2022

Local Club
Meets

Sportsman
Natter
Update

The Sportsman Natter Update – John Morgan

Our February Meeting was on Monday 21st at The Sportsman which included a table quiz and natter with the quiz being picture rounds on various topics.

At the March Natter on March 21st we held a photo show from the MG Archives. This included a look back into the archives with a slide show of interesting historic photographs from activities in the South East. As this newsletter is published we will be enjoying our popular Natter Spring Dinner on Monday 4th April at the Sportsman.

We have received an invite from East Surrey MGOC to any of our members who would like to take part on their Hepworth Brewery (South of Billingshurst) visit on 9th April. The event is a private tour to our members of approx. 2 hours and anyone interested should contact myself and I will pass names on to the organiser.

For anyone that missed my talk at The Pheasant I will be repeating the audio visual talk on the MG Factory/Abingdon at the Fairmile Natter on 14th April. The talk will include my slideshow of the factory taken in 1978.

Our next meeting is the Easter Monday Social on April 18th and on 16th May there will be a talk by Pilgrim Brewery – Brewing in Reigate, an update and being instrumental in the UK craft beer revolution.



April
2022

Local Club
Meets

North
Downs
Spring
Meets

North Downs Natter Spring Meets – Will Opie / Ray Ruffels

For 2022 the **Dering Arms, The Grove, Pluckley TN27 0RR** is now our evening Natter venue on the fourth Thursday monthly at 7.30pm. We also have an events calendar for monthly day meets either for pub lunch, breakfast or evening events so please contact raywillmg@gmail.com for further information.

Below are some of the images from 2021 events:



Ray and Will are also organizing the **Battle of Britain Run on Sunday May 1st 2022**

We will start at the Spitfire & Hurricane Memorial Museum at RAF Manston - (www.spitfiremuseum.org.uk) with an organized scenic run of circa 31 miles to the National Memorial to the Few at Capel-le-Ferne - (www.battleofbritainmemorial.org) Unique parking has been arranged at both venues so we hope you can join us. Please use the Registration / Entry Form <https://www.mgccse.co.uk/2022/03/16/spring-run-the-battle-of-britain/> to book your place.

April
2022

Local Club
Meets

Canterbury
Natter

The Canterbury "Natter" Brave the Elements! - John Clark

Our first outing of the year to **Brockhill Country Park on February 24th**

All ten of us met at the Folkestone Garden Centre on a rather 'wettish' day which may well have put the less hardy members off!

However, after copious amounts of coffee and some sossie rolls the sun came out so we reckon we all got that right so decided to set off with our Dave at the helm.

What a rather lovely route he took us on, with only a modicum of sloshy lanes and downed branches and according to Dave it was the "modified" route!

We had two MG's out and the rest were in tin tops as we said would be the case.

Finally arriving at Brockhill that was a tad empty so we pretty much had the place to ourselves. The majority of us had a lunch there which was rather tasty. Barry Grist complained that his Cottage pie did not have much meat in it until we pointed out that the Cafe was vegetarian only....Doh....

Then for a walk around the superb grounds until the hailstones started so rain did in fact stop play. Regrettably, Gary Churchyard had to have some serious counselling as he had seen the mucky state of his ZS.....but seemingly he gave it a massive wash when he got home even when the heavens opened again for another hailstorm.....Keen bloke that!

We have a pretty full Calendar for 2022, so hopefully something for everyone to enjoy.



April
2022

Local Club
Meets

Surrey
Wanderers

Surrey Wanderers Update – Sue Joel

The Surrey Wanderers did not meet in January for both weather and Covid reasons.

In February we just met for lunch at the Blue Ball in Tadworth. Unfortunately, the car park, which had been empty when I booked, was full of non-MG cars, so I only managed two photos! But everyone enjoyed their lunch both food and service. They even gave us complimentary coffee or tea.



In March we had the first full Wander with coffee at Denbies followed by a lovely run to The Black Horse in Hookwood. We all enjoyed our lunch and chat but by the time we left we found it had been raining Sahara dust and all our cars were covered with a pale yellow coating. The following day became 'car wash day' trying to get the sand out of all the little crevices that the sand had somehow found!



April
2022

Local Club
Meets

Sussex
Wanderers

Sussex Wanderers – David Griffiths

2022 seems to be passing quickly and the good news is Covid 19 restrictions are eased giving Ursula and I confidence to put together a programme of outings for the Sussex Wanderers in 2022. This started on the 9th March at the Blacksmiths Arms, Adversane and was very successful.



The pub is a traditional English pub, but is owned by Giuseppe Macarrone and his team and so all food has an Italian influence. We had a great turn out with some 50 people attending and the car park overflowing with some delightful examples of MGs. These included Paul Campbell's VA tourer, various models of Types and MGAs and included Mark Bacchus's immaculate two tone Z type. The more modern MGs encompassed most models from Midgets, MGBs, RVV8s, Fs, TFs to a lone MG3.

Lunch was greatly enjoyed by all and the Italian twist made the dishes a little different to the usual pub grub. Our first raffle of the year was won by Mark and Clare Bacchus, David and Pammy Adams and Phil and Rosemary Bayne Powell. Whilst the Government has relaxed the restrictions relating to Covid, the virus has not 'gone away' and in some areas it seems to be more virulent than ever, although the new Omicron BA2 strain appears to be less serious. Riding for the Disabled is the charity that we will be supporting in 2022. Thanks to the generosity of our members and their guests, our first collection, which took place at the lunch amassed the tremendous sum of £216.00.

The next run on 13th April starts at The Red Lion, Ashington with lunch at The Sussex Oak, Warnham.

Contact David Griffiths at 01403 264548 or SussexWanderers@mgcse.co.uk for details on Sussex Wanderer activity

April
2022

Local Club
Meets

Sussex
Wanderers

Riding for the Disabled 2021 Presentation

Thank you so much for your generosity over the years and especially 2021, for your charity fundraising for East Park Riding for the Disabled. After all, last year we only had five monthly meetings and yet on Thursday 10th February we were able to present a cheque for £1050.00 to James Baxter the Chairman and Sally O'Neill



A few Sussex Wanderers were able to join Ursula and myself at Little Brook Equestrian Centre, for the presentation. The photo shows the cheque being presented to Sally O'Neill, with Liquorice, one of the RDA ponies directly behind and being ridden by one of the visually impaired children. We are flanked by Stewart Penfound's MGBGT and Bob Devine's MGA. Additionally, Alan and Elaine Brooks joined us for the presentation. We were able to observe a lesson with a group of blind or partially sighted Primary aged children prior to the presentation. They were enjoying an exciting and adventurous ride over poles, round obstacles and having to collect various objects, whilst steering their ponies and using the reins correctly at all times. Where volunteer numbers allow, there are three adults to a rider - two side walkers, one who gives instruction and encouragement, and the third volunteer who leads the pony. All the children rode beautifully and were having a wonderful time. The atmosphere was calm and quiet with everyone concentrating hard, including the observers! It was interesting to hear how the children benefited physically, mentally and socially from the riding experience. The volunteers that day were supervising the morning group, plus another group coming in the afternoon. They currently have 60 volunteers, but ideally need 80, so if you are interested in volunteering, please contact either Ursula or me. As our RDA collections are mainly cash, this enables the treasurer of East Park RDA to claim a further 25% rebate back from the Government on the cash element making our donations even bigger! Thank you again for giving so generously, and please be assured that your donations are going to an excellent and worthy cause.

Contact David Griffiths at 01403 264548 or SussexWanderers@mgccse.co.uk for details on Sussex Wanderer activity

April
2022

Local Club
Meets

East Kent
Wanderers

EKW Update - John Bennett

March 2nd saw the ninth anniversary run of the East Kent Wanderers attended by 34, our largest number yet. As the Americans learned in the 20's, there's nothing like prohibition to boost demand!

The Dog and Bear in Lenham managed to squeeze us all in and look after us efficiently and well. Before we broke up to leave Dennis Cooke suggested that we held a collection to raise funds towards the purchase of humanitarian supplies for the displaced women and children now turning up in large numbers on the Polish border to escape the Russian invasion of their country.

The result of this initiative was that £161 was collected and the photos show some of the items that were purchased.



These have now been delivered to the collection point in Tenterden from where they will be shipped to the Polish/Ukrainian border shortly. An excellent result for a thoroughly deserving cause and a pleasing by-product of a thoroughly enjoyable day.

April
2022

Members
Corner

An MG
Musical
Adventure

An MG Musical Adventure – Simon Julliard

“Dad, can we borrow your MG – we want to use it in a video for the band”. “Of course son” I heard myself reply, “That’ll be fine”. Feeling somewhat faint I went down to the garage to apologise and beg forgiveness from my pride & joy.

Next came discussions about how this was all going to work, and I sensed an opportunity to wriggle out of my predicament. After all, there’s at least five of them in the band, and none of them drive. “No, it’ll just be three of us in the video, so it’ll be fine”. “Yes, but you’re all 6’3” so you’ll never all fit in” I pleaded, “and none of you can drive.” “Don’t worry Dad, we’ll green screen it”!



This is a technical term which was supposed to make me feel better. I realised I was running out of excuses, so turned my attention instead to drawing up a list of Do's and Don'ts. Come the day of the filming I would whittled three pages of rules down to a few simple instructions. *Sit here. Don't touch that. Be gentle with this switch. Don't lean on that!*



April
2022

Members Corner



Actually, I have to admit that the crew from TEA Films was very professional. They picked up on my nerves and allowed me to sit just out of camera shot ready to pounce should the opportunity arise. You'll see that the green screen was actually blue – this was because of the colour of the car, which I was not about to change. It was a full day's filming, and you can see the results on YouTube.

The band is called Honey Moon, and the track is called VIP. The video can be viewed through this link: <https://youtu.be/mtpNU9rAri0> or simply go to YouTube and search for "Honey Moon VIP"

A couple of credits: TEA Films (teafilms.com) for their care and professionalism. Honey Moon for coming up with such a crazy idea in the first place. And no MGs were harmed in the making of this film.

VIP a TEA films production Directed by - Dan Hipkin. Cinematography by - Oliver Bury. Produced by - Maria Pullicino. Lighting by - Pier Chirico. Edited by - Joey Jull.

Safety Fast Electric MGB Article

The February Safety Fast had an article (one could almost argue advert for the conversion company) about electrifying of an MGB.

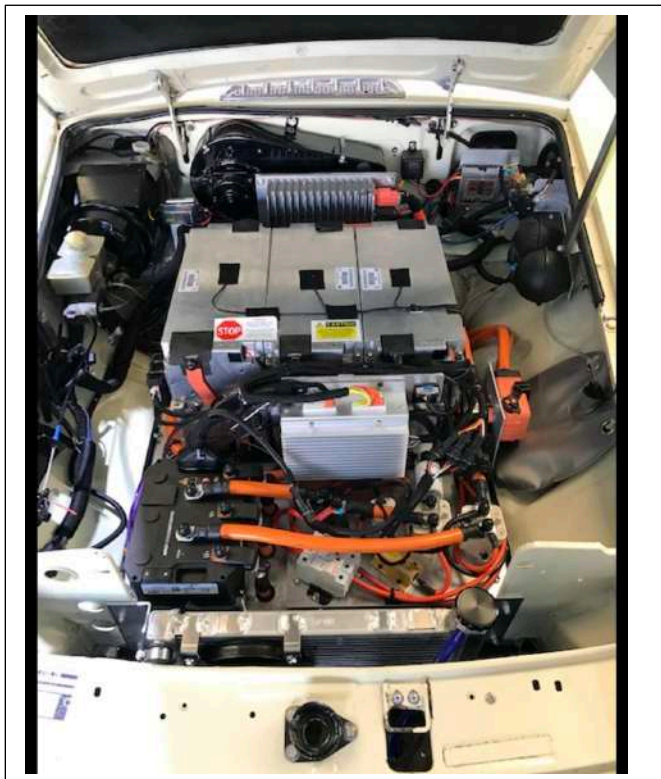
Very good article on the MGB but I do have a couple of observations that I think should have been in the article.

Any such electric conversion removes the historic car status and the MG would have to be submitted for MoT, etc. as any other modern car. It is highly likely electric cars will eventually be subject to Road Tax as conventional car numbers reduce. Are converted cars accepted within classic car insurance? My guess is it would need to be insured under conventional vehicle insurance.

The battery range at 100 to 120 miles is optimistic. I had a long discussion with Polestar at The Festival of Speed and more has come out in the motoring press since. To optimise battery life, the car battery charge should not be allowed to drop below 20% and charged above 80% (it seems this applies to most rechargeable batteries including mobile phones). This in effect means the range would reduce to 80 miles at best which would not be enough range to attend most MGCC events in the SE and get home. Even if the 120mile is attainable, many venues are out. For instance, it is 75 miles from Croydon to Portsmouth or Dover. I'm guessing the quoted range is without lights, wipers and heater running.

The cost of the conversion is very unlikely to be recovered in the value of the car.

John Morgan



Regalia

The following merchandise is available:

Sweatshirt	£21
Polo Shirt	£16
Umbrellas	£21
T-shirts	£10
Baseball Caps	£8
Beer Glasses	£2.50
Beer Glasses (pair)	£4
Windscreen Stickers	£1.60
MGCC Pens (blue or red)	£3.50 (special offer)
MGCCSE Mugs	£5



A recent audit has determined that there are stocks to clear. Please take a look at the above and see if there is anything of interest, in particular the polo shirts, t-shirts and sweatshirts. The clothing is unlikely to be restocked for a while as the committee decides on whether to continue with these items or not.

We are now able to take payments by Paypal, so if you wish to make a purchase please contact Alex Lemon at alex.lemon@mgccse.co.uk

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April
2022

For Sale

Parts For Sale

1976 Model MG Midget parts unused in a rebuild

Description	Part No / Ref	Value £	Note
NSF Outer Sill *	AHA5552	73.00	Free
Clutch Cover * (1500 engine)	TT 4011	264.00)
Clutch Plate *	GCP 212	44.50) Offer
Release Bearing *	GRB 207	20.00)
Engine Oil Pump * (1500 engine)	GLP118	73.00	Free
Hood Stowage Covers (black Vinyl)**	CHA95		Free

* Denotes all new parts. - The clutch was built by Borg & Beck the EO supplier
- The engine oil pump was made by Hobourn Eaton the OE supplier

Contact Brain Byers on 01634 669892 or 07930320440

JOB LOT OF 1970 MGB ROADSTER PARTS FOR SALE

Small bottle jack 5 spare Wheel Nuts Roll of Black Vinyl Air filter
A17283 Rear Lights clusters without lenses Blaupunkt Radio/Cassette
- Cambridge M23 Centre Console Small steering Wheel with MG Badge
MG Rostyle Wheel Spray Kit New Draper pistol type Grease Gun part no: A2 4,350 PSI
delivery pressure New complete passenger seat with black cover
Near-side Black Vinyl Door Panel Passenger front Black Carpet (used)
Assorted Small parts

£50-00 the lot - please phone Keith on 07831 655276

April
2022

Parts For Sale

For Sale

Pair of Late 1275 or 1500 Midget rear lamp assemblies with good plastic lenses and chrome. Complete with bulb holders and bolts etc.

£20.00

Smiths classic gauges all in superb condition and good chrome rings etc:
Ammeter with a -30 to +30 range and a red needle.

£20.00

Oil pressure (half gauge type) mechanical with 0 to 100psi and a red needle to match the one above. Complete with all pipes etc

£25.00

Oil pressure (full gauge type) mechanical with 0 to 100psi and a white full travel needle.

Complete with all pipes etc

£30.00

No silly offers please - **Call John Clark on 07940769225 (Canterbury area)**

Car Books For Sale

MG Sports cars	Malcolm Green	£10
MG Log	Peter Haining	£5
The Classic MG	Richard Aspden	£8
MG by McComb	Wilson McComb	£10
MG 1911 to 1978	Peter Filby	£8
Great Marques – MG	Chris Harvey	£8
MG Sports Cars – Autocar road tests		£10
Speed	John Surtees	£8
Specials	John Bolster	£8
Famous Motor Races	Rodney Walkerley	£6
The Other Bentley Boys	Elizabeth Nagle	£7
British Competition Cars	Cyril Posthumus	£6
Amateur racing Driver	T.P. Cholmondeley Tapper	£5
Motor Racing	Bruce Carter & Michael Frostick.	£4
Dancing with Death	Peter Lewis	£3
Haynes Workshop manual for the Mini (1969-87)		£6
Octagon Car Club Bulletins - No. 177 (August 1984) to 191 and No.302 (June 1995) to 435 (August 2006) (54 total)		£20

April
2022

For Sale

Road Racing	Prince Chula	£18
Road Star Hat Trick	Prince Chula	£18
Blue & Yellow	Prince Chula	£20
Famous Racing Cars (1962) -89pp	David Hodges	£8
Brookwood to Goodwood (1961)	Rodney Walkerley	£15
Wonderful World of the Automobile (1961) 252pp	K. Purdy	£8
Car Driving as an Art (1965) -160pp	S.C.H.Davis	£10
Automobile Steering, Braking & Suspension Overhaul (1961)		£4
Competition Cars of Europe (1970)	A. Pritchard	£5
Vintage Cars -92pp	Phil Drackett	£8
Bruce McLaren, From the Cockpit 278pp		£10
Private Entrant -194pp	Michael Cooper-Evans	£8
Practical Automobile Engineering Illustrated	S. Abbey	£5
Vintage Cars (1961) 70pp	Barron & Tubbs	£4
Profile Publications - Alvis Speed 20.25, 31/2 & 41/2 litre		£4
TD service Parts List (Copy)		£5
BMC Sprite & Midget Workshop Manual 1965 (soiled)		£5
BMC Mk 1 Midget service Parts List 1966 (soiled)		£5
BMC MGC Workshop Manual (soiled)		£10

**Telephone Philip Bayne-Powell on 01483 811428 or e-mail
1942mgman@gmail.com**

SE CENTRE COMMITTEE AND CONTACTS

President	Derek Edwards	01737 765891	President@mgccse.co.uk
Chairman	Tim Morris	01932 882467	Chair@mgccse.co.uk
Secretary	Austin Banner	07795 845312	Secretary@mgccse.co.uk
Events Secretary	Andrew Mitchell	07703 138419	events@mgccse.co.uk
Competition Secretary	John Morgan	07802 770025	competitions@mgccse.co.uk
Treasurer	Ron Kemp	01622 843536	Treasurer@mgccse.co.uk
Membership	Diana Calvert	01737 350489	membership@mgccse.co.uk
Scribe / Newsletter	Ray Ruffels	07970 640219	scribe@mgccse.co.uk
Scribe / Newsletter	Will Opie.	07768 022044	scribe@mgccse.co.uk
Webmaster	Tim Morris.	01932 882467	webmaster@mgccse.co.uk
Social Media			youth@mgccse.co.uk
Trophies	John Davies	01737 241971	trophies@mgccse.co.uk
Regalia	Alex Lemon	07802 621116	alex.lemon@mgccse.co.uk
Regalia	Mike Chittenden.	02084 678 0022	regalia@mgccse.co.uk
Member	Ian Russell	0208 304 1037	mgashnatter@gmail.com
Member	Gwen Davies.	01737 241971	gwen.davies@mgccse.co.uk

Natter Leaders

Queen's Head Pinner	Gerry Edwards	07768 657797	Pinner@mgccse.co.uk
The Ship, Mortlake &	Danny Byrne	01932 829814	Mortlake@mgccse.co.uk
Brooklands Museum	"	"	Brooklands@mgccse.co.uk
The Sportsman, Mogador	John Morgan	0208 6572714	Buckland@mgccse.co.uk
The Fairmile, nr Cobham	Ian Ailes & John Glover	01932 856960 07802 770025	Cobham@mgccse.co.uk Cobham@mgccse.co.uk
Tunbridge Wells Area - position vacant. If interested please contact			Chair@mgccse.co.uk
The Dering Arms, Pluckley	William Opie & Ray Ruffels	01795 521846	Faversham@mgccse.co.uk
The George Inn, Trottiscliffe	Ian Russell	0208 304 1037	Ashnatter@mgccse.co.uk
The Black Horse, Nuthurst	David Griffiths	01403 264548	Nuthurst@mgccse.co.uk
The Golden Lion, Broadoak	John Clark	07940 769225	Broadoak@mgccse.co.uk
Canterbury.			
The British Queen, Eastbourne	Dennis Webb	07885 485255	SouthDowns@mgccse.co.uk

Various locations

Ashdown Adventurers	Richard Clark	07818 420921	AshdownAdventurers@mgccse.co.uk
Sussex Wanderers	David Griffiths	01403 264548	SussexWanderers@mgccse.co.uk
Surrey Wanderers	Su Joel	0208 660 7266	Surreywanderers@mgccse.co.uk
East Kent Wanderers	John Bennett	01227 637813	Eastkentwanderers@mgccse.co.uk
Kent Nomads	Ian Russell	0208 304 1037	kentnomads@mgccse.co.uk

MG Car Club South East Centre web site – <http://www.mgccse.co.uk>

Register Office: Kimber House, PO Box 251, Abingdon, Oxfordshire, OX14 1FF

Phone: 01235 555552, Fax: 01235 533755, email: mgcc@mgcc.co.uk

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And finally, below is Will Opie's MGNB at the Hawkinge Kent Battle of Britain Museum

