

Southampton & New Forest MGOC

NEWSLETTER



March 2012



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Branch 1009

Issue No. 168

Website: www.1009mg.org.uk

Events Calendar

2012

March

- 4th Sunday Cobweb Spin, IBM Club, Hursley, 11.00am to 2.30pm. [Click here for a map](#) (the club is in Hursley Park Road, at the bottom of the 'loop', below the pin!). Organised by [Winchester MGOC](#) - no need to book, just turn up. Contact David Marklew on 01962 883 148.
- 4th Sunday [Vintage Transport Day](#) at Bourne Aviation Museum, 10.00am - 4.00pm.
- 7th Wednesday **1009 Club Night** at the [Empress of Blandings](#), Romsey Road (A31), Copythorne, Cadnam.
- 21st Wednesday **Mid-month meeting** - the [House Martin](#), Barton-on-Sea.

April

- 1st Sunday **Chichester MGOC** are having their customary Arundel Picnic & Gathering at Arundel Castle. Full information on [their website](#).
- 4th Wednesday **1009 Club Night** at the [Empress of Blandings](#), Romsey Road (A31), Copythorne, Cadnam.
- 8th Sunday [MG Era](#) at [Brooklands Museum](#), Weybridge, Surrey, admission £9 on the day. MG gathering with traders, and selected MGs get to tackle the famous Brooklands test hill. No need to book, just turn up, the museum is open from 10.00am to 4.00pm. [Click here](#) for a map showing the exhibitors' entrance.
- 9th Monday 21st [Spring Vehicle Meet & Autojumble](#), at the [Wyke Down Caravan & Camping Park](#), Picket Piece, Andover, SP11 6LX. Exhibitors: £2 donation. Possible 1009 club stand, so don't forget to write "Southampton & New Forest MGOC" on your entry form! Enquiries to 01264 363295 or 07889 630544.
- 18th Wednesday **Mid-month meeting** at [The Pilgrim Inn](#) in Marchwood.
- 21st-22nd Sat-Sunday [Footman James Bristol Classic Car Show](#), Royal Bath and West Show Ground, Shepton Mallett, Saturday 10.00am-6.00pm, Sunday 10.00am-5.00pm.
- 22nd Sunday The [FBHVC's "Drive It Day"](#)

May

- 2nd Wednesday **1009 Club Night** at the [Empress of Blandings](#), Romsey Road (A31), Copythorne, Cadnam.
- 7th Monday Aero/Auto Jumble at [Popham Airfield](#), pre-1980 classic cars only. Entries via [Basingstoke Classic Car Club](#).
- 16th Wednesday **Mid-month meeting** - venue TBA.
- 19th-20th Sat-Sunday [Spring Autojumble](#) at the [National Motor Museum](#), Beaulieu, Hampshire, SO42 7ZN.
- TBA Sunday MGs at [Kingston Lacy House](#), [Dorset Area Midget & Sprite Club](#).

A complete list of club events can be found on our website under 'events calendar'. Meetings and events may be added throughout the year and some venue options may be subject to change. All members are welcome to add events to the list at monthly meetings.

Other MG Owners Club and car events in 2012

March

- 4th Sunday **Cobweb Spin – Winchester MGOC** – Gathering at IBM Hursley Park

April

- 15th Sunday **MGB 50 – MGOC** - Birthday Run to Gaydon Heritage Museum

May

- 20th Sunday **Exeter Area Owners Club** – Moor 2 Sea Run 2012

Secretary's Notes

The Cobweb Spin on Sunday March 4th finishing at IBM Hursley provided the springboard to our season proper. It was nice to see so many members there as well as some old faces. Things from now on will really kick off.

MGB50 undoubtedly has the spotlight this year and I know many of you are as eager to participate in the celebrations as I am. We mustn't forget the MG-TF introduced in 2002 is 10 years old this year and the MG Metro making its debut in 1972 is 30. What with the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations also occurring it will be one fun packed summer ahead.

There is a trilogy of national events organised by the MG Car Club and Owners Club throughout the summer. MG Live on 23-24 June at Silverstone will pay tribute to the MGB by hosting a street party with all MGB owners invited to attend.

On 20-22 July we return for the Silverstone Classic where the backdrop for the famous 'B' will be a festival of classic motor racing with over 800 historic race cars competing and 7000 classic display cars over the weekend. It promises to be a memorable 3 day celebration with music, retail village, demos and a host of other attractions.

It is expected the biggest gathering of MGBs will be at Blenheim Palace on Sunday 23rd September. All other MG cars are invited to come together to help celebrate 50 years of this Great British Sports Car. Each event offers something different and many of us will want to visit all three. We have started signing a Special MGB 50th Anniversary Birthday Book that will be combined in a national tribute to this famous sports car. If you have not already signed it will be available over the next few club nights.

Preparations for the NFR are now gathering pace. You will be pleased to hear Malcolm Rumsey has secured the services of a 5 piece band for the afternoon giving us one more box to tick. We will also be visiting Braemore House on March 3rd to reacquaint ourselves with the facilities. The final designs for the Rally and Finishers plaques has still to be decided.

Coming up on April 1st is the Chichester MGOC Annual Gathering at Arundel Castle. There is no need to book you simply pay at the gate (£5per car). Let me know if you would like to go as we can meet at the EoB and travel together or you can make your own way there if you prefer.

Sunday 15th April we have been invited to take our cars along to the Bursledon Brickwork Museum for their Big Spring Steam Up so names of those interested to me on club night please. This could be a good local fun day.

Drive it Day is on Sunday April 22nd. It has been suggested we organise our own run to incorporate a pub lunch somewhere. Anyone got any suggestions?

Finally 27-30th April sees the bi-annual MGOC Southern Area Gathering at Cricket St Thomas conclude these early spring activities.

Roy

Stop Press – New Forest Run

Please remember to provide contributions for the Hampshire Hamper and the Raffle.

To follow Roy's notes, I include here a submission from Collete. Well done and many thanks.

I bought some Speckled Hen beer some months ago and asked Ian what was the connection between the beer and the MG. I looked it up and please see the explanation below.

Colette

P.S you have to be of drinking age to look at the website!

'Speckled Hen'

I am sure most members are aware of the history of 'The Old Speckled Hen', but here is an opportunity to refresh our memories, or add to the grey matter for that rainy day.



Background / History

The story of "Old Speckled Hen"

"Old Speckled Hen" was first brewed to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the MG car factory in Abingdon, Oxfordshire. Named after an old MG car which was used as the factory run around, they would park the old MG Featherweight Fabric Saloon outside the paint shop where it would normally get spattered in paint and so it became known as the 'Owld Speckl'd Un'. This turned into "Old Speckled Hen" when the beer was unveiled.

Since then the finely balanced beer with a distinctive rich malty taste and fruity aroma has attracted many fans, including the fox, who is always on the hunt for his Hen.

New Forest and Southampton MGOC

AGM 1 February 2012

1. Minutes of AGM 2011 were not available to circulate but were agreed correct.
2. Election of Officials: All existing officials were proposed and seconded to serve another year.

Roy Sneddon – Secretary

Linda Taylor – Treasurer

John Anderson/Robin Plumley – Editors for Newsletter

3. Account sheet for Southampton & New Forest MGOC January – December 2011 was approved.

Tania said that the New Forest Run Account (this is a separate account from the general club account) currently has a credit balance of approx. £1600. She suggested that more could be spent on this year's New Forest Run as it takes place on the weekend of Queen's Jubilee celebrations and there would be many other events taking place. The possibility of having a marquee at Breamore and possibly musical entertainment was discussed.

4. Inventory of Equipment

There is currently one events shelter. It was agreed to buy another shelter and also sides for both shelters (4 sides in total). Jon Holt will purchase on behalf of the club when they become available. Roy will find out costs for purchasing upright banners for the club also. When last investigated they were approx. £160 each.

5. New Forest Run 3 June 2012

Jon Holt has offered to plan the route with help from Malcolm Rumsey.

The following Charities were suggested:

Fortune Centre – riding for the disabled

Honeypot

Sniffer Dogs

Hampshire Air Ambulance

Naomi House

Sailability

Jubilee Sail Trust

Basics

Jane Kettle will devise a voting slip for the March meeting at the Empress. Members would be asked to vote for three charities in total.

6. Subscriptions

It was agreed to keep subs at £1.50 per person. The biggest expense for the club was the production of the newsletter. It was suggested that members could opt in for email to cut down on the number of copies needed. Roy will look into this.

7. Secret Santa

The decision to support the Shirley Women's Shelter with the purchase of toiletries rather than a Secret Santa gift for Christmas 2011 has been very well received.

8. A.O.B.

Lionel suggested the club might like to have short runs for members at the weekend. He explained that his motorbike club regularly does this and it works very well. There would be an agreed meeting place, a sign on form to complete plus a small fee of £2 per head (£4 a car). They would then be given a route sheet to follow. The finish would be a pub for drinks or lunch. The money raised could go towards having a guest speaker for the club using the upstairs room at the Empress. Roy will discuss possible speakers with Lionel.

9. Next New Forest Run meeting – 29 February at the Empress at 8 p.m.

Minutes kindly recorded by Pauline Holt.

The VIN (Vehicle Identification Number).

Keeping the theme of MGB and modern MGTF, the information that follows I acknowledge from the website pages:

<http://www.mgexperience.net/article/mgb-vin.html> and
http://www.mgfcars.de/vin/emgf_vin.htm

The MGB

What does my VIN mean?: ex: GHN 5UC 54321

This information may not be applicable to VIN numbers for Mark IV (1980) MGBs.

1. Make	G	MG
2. Engine Type	H	BMC B-Series engine, 1.8L (MGB)
	A	BMC A-Series engine (Midget)
3. Body Type	N	2 seated Roadster
	D	GT or Coupe
4. Series	3	Mk1 (1962-1967)
	4	Mk2 (1968-1969)
	5	Mk3 (1970-1979)
5. Market	U	USA (left-hand drive)
	L	Left-hand drive
	R	Right-hand drive

6. Model Year	none	1968-69
	A	1969-70
	B	1971
	C	1972
	D	1973
	E	1974
	F	1975
	G	1976
	H	1977
	J	1978
	L	1979
7. Car Number	54321	

The modern MGF and TF

S|A|R|R|D|W|B|G/T|B/M/J|A/W/D|D|000251

Fixed values

- 1/2/3 world make identifier
SAR = MG Rover UK
SDP = NAC MG UK Ltd
LNP = Nanjing MG China
- 4/5. Marque/Model
..... **RD** = MGF & MG TF
..... **EF** = Nanjing MG TF

Variable values

- 6. **W/M/Z** = Model variant/Trim Level
 - **W** = Standard
 - **M** = 1600 TF 115
 - **L** = VVC 160
 - **Z** = Trophy 160 Trim
 - **3** = VVC 150 Mexico
 - **2** = Nanjing MG design
- 7. **B** = Body Style (2 door convertible) / 6
- 8. Engine type **G/T/P/E/K/P/N**
 - **E** = K1.6i Trophy Engine (16K4 F...) 115PS / 85kW
 - **G** = K1.8 MPi (MPi is Multi Point injection) (18K4 F...) 120PS / 88kW
 - **K** = K1,8i 2002 ECD3 compliant OBD (18K4 F...) 136PS / 100kW
 - **T** = K1.8 VVC (VVC is Variable Valve Control) (18K4 K...) 145PS/107kW
 - **P** = K1.8i 2002 ECD3 compliant OBD (18K4 K...) 160PS / 118kW
 - **N** = K1.8i 2002 ECD3 compliant OBD (18K4 K30) 150PS / 110kW Mexican low compression
 - **H** = K1.8i China Nanjing MG
- 9. **B/C/D/J/N/M/X** = Steering, Transmission, Engine
 - **B** = 1600 RHD manual 5 speed
 - **C** = 1800 RHD manual 5 speed (VVC gearbox final drive)
 - **X** = 1800 LHD CVT Steptronic
 - **J** = 1800 RHD CVT Steptronic
 - **N** = 1800 LHD manual 5 speed (VVC gearbox final drive)
 - **M** = 1600 LHD manual 5 speed
 - **8** = 1800 LHD manual 5 speed (VVC gearbox final drive) Mexico Version
 - **1** = 1800 LHD manual 5 speed (VVC gearbox final drive) (NAC MG)
 - **3** = 1800 LHD CVT Steptronic (NAC MG)

- 10. **A/W/X** = Model Changes (only the significant indicated by a new letter)
 - **A** = Production start August 27th, 1995 with serial number AD000251 to April 1997
 - **W** = Model year 1998 important part changes (starting April 1997) with serial number WD024605 **appears already with VIN 23915**
 - **X** = Model year 1999 new production line begins in May 1998 **appears already with VIN 038935 ?**
 - Change of production line
 - Cab2 closed with VIN XD041975 (Tahiti Blue) in August 1998
 - Cab1 started with VIN XD500001 and ended at about VIN XD511000
 - **Y** = MGF Mark 2 started app VIN YD 511xxx
 - **1** = MGF Mark 2 started app. VIN 1D 522xxx (may be 523xxx)
 - **2** = Model year 2002 started app July 2001
 - **3** = Model year 2003 started app July 2002
 - **4** = Model year 2004 started app July 2003
 - **5** = Model year 2005 started app July 2004
 - **7** = Model year 2007
 - **8** = Model year 2008
 - **9** = Model year 2009
- 11. D/G Assembly Plant
 - **D** = Longbridge UK
 -**G** = China Nanjing Pukou
- 12.-18. **xxxxxx** 6 figures=serial number
- (19) one blank sign and than a suffix check number

Here is one I prepared earlier!!!!

VIN/Chassis/Frame No. **SARRDLBPC2D608233**

First MG TF had VIN 2D600101

1/2/3	World Market Identifier	SAR	MG Rover UK
4/5	Marque/Model	RD	MGF & MG TF
6	Model variant/Trim level	L	VVC 160
7	Body style	B	2 door convertible
8	Engine type	P	K1.8i 2002 ECD3 compliant OBD (18K4 K...) 160PS / 118kW
9	Steering, Transmission, Engine	C	1800 RHD manual 5 speed (VVC gearbox final drive)
10	Model changes	2	Model year 2002 started app July 2001
11	Assembly Plant	D	Longbridge UK
12	6 figure serial number	608233	Range c)

Editor's Notes

I write this as John and Linda Anderson are hopefully enjoying the balmy azure seas of the Pacific Ocean as they sail their luxurious way to New Zealand and Australia. Many apologies for the last issue which I was planning to edit but I was called away to the wilds of southern Mexico for an unscheduled call by one of our vessels. Many thanks to Roy for standing in at last minute.

I have received a copy of the minutes from the AGM held 1st February and these are replicated within this newsletter.

Acknowledgements for front page photo's.

For the MGB - MG Car Company

http://www.mg.co.uk/about-mg/history-heritage.aspx#/?page=HISTORY_VEHICLES

For the MG TF

<http://www.mgcar.de/mgtf/index1.htm>

I know Roy has already highlighted this in his notes but just in case you have forgotten already, this year has two anniversaries associated with our cars. Firstly, it is fifty years since the launch of the MGB and ten years since the launch of the MG TF. The MGOC, in conjunction with the MGCC have a number of events through the summer period, culminating in the MGB 50th Birthday Party at Blenheim Palace on 23rd September 2012. This event is open to all MG's and tickets are available from both clubs.

Our own club has a number of events identified for the year which can be found on the 1009 website but other ideas are always welcome from members.

The annual New Forest Run planning is well underway and will embrace the weekend of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations. There is another planning meeting on Wednesday 29 February at the Empress of Blandings.

Robin Plumley

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Please remember we volunteer to fill these posts, so if you wish to speak to one of us PLEASE ring before 9pm or at weekends, thank you,

Classified Ads