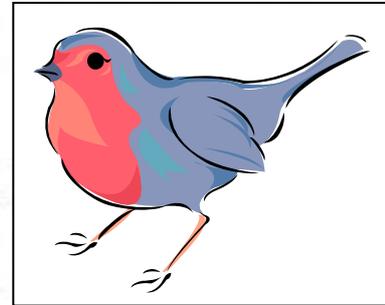


Southampton & New Forest MGOC

NEWSLETTER



December 2013



A late summer MG car gymkhana. Concentration required!!!!

Branch 1009

Issue No. 189

Website: www.1009mg.org.uk

Events Calendar 2013

December

- 4th Wednesday **1009 Club Night** at the [Empress of Blandings](#), Romsey Road (A31), Copythorne, Cadnam.
- 14th Saturday Club Christmas Dinner Dance
- 18th Wednesday **Mid-month meeting** at the [Waterloo Arms](#), Pikes Hill, Lyndhurst, off the A337 Lyndhurst to Cadnam road, behind the Police Station. Mince Pies will be available at a small cost.

January

- 8th Wednesday **1009 Club Night** at the [Empress of Blandings](#), Romsey Road (A31), Copythorne, Cadnam.
- 22nd Wednesday **Annual General Meeting** at the [Empress of Blandings](#), Romsey Road (A31), Copythorne, Cadnam.

February

- 5th Wednesday **1009 Club Night** at the [Empress of Blandings](#), Romsey Road (A31), Copythorne, Cadnam.
- 19th Wednesday **Photo Night 8pm** at the [Empress of Blandings](#), Romsey Road (A31), Copythorne, Cadnam.

A complete list of club events will be found on our website for 2014 following the AGM. Select 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.

Secretary's Notes

Merry Christmas to everyone here at Southampton and New forest MG Owners Club. Our Annual Dinner and Disco at the Sway Manor Hotel looks to be as popular as ever and will complete the events calendar for 2013. Can I just remind all the members who have booked to join us that dinner will be served at 7.30pm so please be sure to arrive well in advance. I believe some have even taken advantage of the excellent discounted rates for an overnight stay at the hotel. The meal will be followed by a short pause for the Club Person 2013 award and the draw for the magnificent MG Quilt. The dance floor is then open until 1130pm, look out you disco divas. After last year's event it seems the club has adopted a new theme tune.

Almost Heaven, West Virginia, Blue Ridge Mountains, Shenandoah River
Life is old there, older than the trees
Younger than the mountains growing like the breeze

Country roads, take me home
to a place I belong
West Virginia, Mountain Mama
Take me home country roads.

All my memories gather round her,
Miner's lady, stranger than Blue water
Dark and Dusty painted on the sky,
Misty taste of moonshine, teardrops on my eye

Country roads.....

I hear a voice in the morning now she calls
Radio reminds me of my house far away
Driving down the road I get the feeling
that I should have been home yesterday, yesterday.

Country roads.....

Remember to get your Secret Santa gifts, which this year are being donated to the homeless via the Salvation Army, to Collette before the 14th with appropriate labels. Our final mid-monthly meeting will be held at the Waterloo Arms in Lyndhurst, as it was last year and where mine hosts have agreed to provide some festive treats. Everyone is welcome but I would like to know numbers as there will be a small cost involved – more details club night.

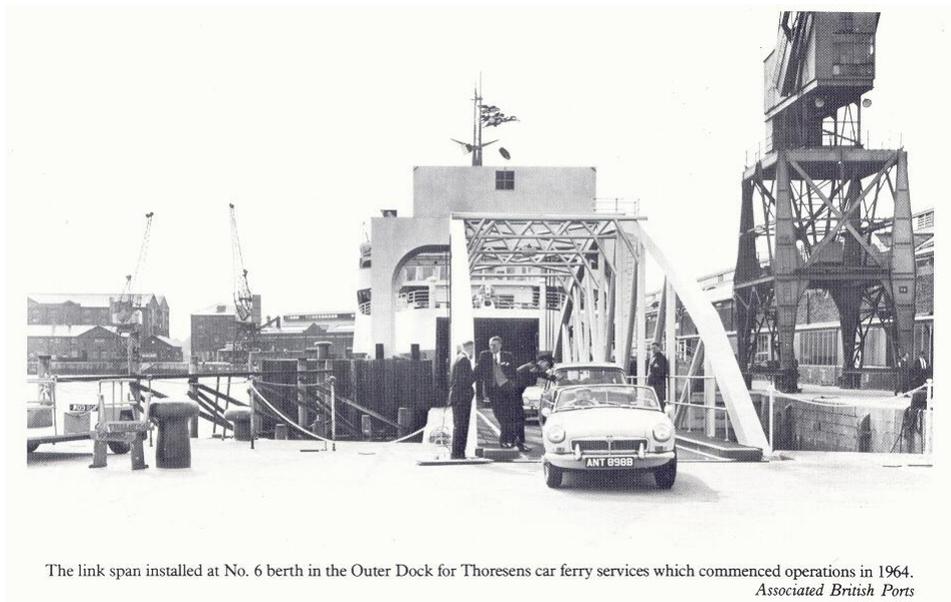
We now start planning for the year ahead so thinking caps on and let's see what new ideas you can come up with.

January 16th will be devoted to our AGM 8.00pm upstairs.

Roy

Southampton Port

The image below, among a host of others of the port history came my way recently. It shows an MGB coming off the ferry in Princess Alexandra Dock (Ocean Village) in 1964.



The link span installed at No. 6 berth in the Outer Dock for Thoresens car ferry services which commenced operations in 1964.
Associated British Ports

Editor's Notes

I have stepped in for John this month as he and Linda are off cruising yet again!!! Bon voyage and have a great time.

November has gone past quietly but frosts are beginning to show themselves. To cheer things up I have included a cover image from our revised gymkhana afternoon at the Scout field which captures the competitive spirit and concentration required during the event!

Included this month is a report and pictures from the Basingstoke Doughnut Run by Colin. Not many activities through November but we look forward to Christmas festivities at Sway Manor for our annual Dinner and Disco which also brings our year to an end with the draw for the MG Quilt and the Member of the year award. Please remember the secret Santa present.

Jane and Andrew have offered to organise the New Year's Day walk so see the information below.

Robin Plumley

Taking MG forward

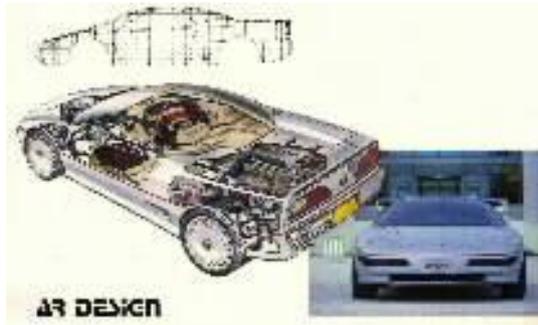
From the significant revamp of the MGF to the MGTF in 2002, the Phoenix Group were looking forward to new models, primarily aimed at a sports car. A number of artistic impressions did appear although generally in a way that the primary motoring media considered what might appear, rather than the reality from MG. Examples included the concept of a front engine V6 model.



Thanks to Auto Express

Unfortunately these never appeared and, despite the resurrection of MG through SAIC in China, we have yet to see any indication of a sports car. I understand the desire and business sense to develop the brand along with design and reliability but we have only seen mediocre saloons and now a concept SUV? The market is saturated with SUV's. Apart from the MX5 which Mazda continue to refine and develop there is no other equivalent small sports car on the market. Come on MG Motors, get moving and reinvigorate the brand and the cars for what it always was.

What might have been?



Images from MG

Robin

Mid-Monthly at the Forest Inn, Ashurst

There was a good turnout of more than twenty members to the Forest Inn at Ashurst, managed by Mark, one of our members. I understand that some longer term members may have had a tear in their eye as this pub was a meeting place for the club in earlier years!

Christmas Dinner and Disco

I have four couples who need to pay their remaining money for the night. This should be no later than the first meeting in December (4th) or before as I have to pay the hotel the final amount the following day.

The evening will start from 1900 with a glass of Prosecco for sit down at 1930. We will be in the conservatory area again and sharing the evening with other guests. Unfortunately the disco will end at 1130pm due to licensing restrictions. Dress will be as previous nights with black tie and decorations for the gentlemen and evening dress/trousers for the ladies. We look forward to seeing you there.

Robin

Secret Santa

Last Tuesday, I met the lady from the **Salvation Army** who organises the Christmas meal and she told me that she already has 39 people on her list. She has more ladies than gentlemen and suggested scarves as a gift.

I offered her my bag of toiletries (from hotels) for the Salvation Army hostel (Oxford Street) but she said that she will send them to a branch of the Salvation Army dealing with **Anti-Human Trafficking Victim Support**.

They have several hostels in the Midlands. They would like our group **Shirley Quilters** to donate one flannel and a deodorant stick to help these women/young girls. I should rephrase that "I have volunteered my group to give a small bag with a flannel and a deodorant" instead of giving each other a Christmas card.

I will start collecting on Wednesday 4th December.

Colette

Basingstoke Doughnut run

Six cars from Southampton and New Forest met at Rownham's Services for our run to Basingstoke, we decided that rather than follow the M3 we would take the old A30, it was a nice meander with hardly any traffic.

It was a different story when we reached the Basingstoke ring rd, and lost a couple of cars, every one caught up was we took the A31 to Sherfield-on-Lodden where the run was due to start, a table had been booked at the Longbridge Mill thanks to Roy and Kris and we all sat down to a nice lunch and a natter.

We met up with 2 more club cars and all started off together with Nick and Lin leading the convoy, we soon found a few discrepancies in the route details and ended up at a road junction with MGs trying to go all different ways.

After sorting ourselves out we ended back on route, but soon got split up again at a junction with no sign, Jen and I waited for everyone to regroup at Frensham Pond and after 10 minutes were on our way again, the rest of the run ended without any further mishaps and ended back at the Longbridge Mill for a quick beer and a catch up.

We don't know how, but Roy and Kris started after everyone else but ended up back at the start before us, I believe Chris and Jan found the most clues so well done to them.

All in all a very nice day was had by all and our thanks go to Basingstoke MG club for an interesting (but sometimes confusing route).

Colin

New Year's Day Walk

Jane Kettle has organised a lovely New Years Day walk followed by hot food and refreshments back at the Kettle household.

The walk will start at Hatchet Pond Car Park. Crossing the main Brockenhurst Road (B3054), we will go down Furzey Lane to Rans Wood. We will then walk through lovely pine woodland eventually emerging back onto the Brockenhurst road again. Underfoot is fine, 95% on tracks. Some muddy patches so would advise wet weather footwear. One small incline, the rest is reasonably flat.

Depending on the weather, when we emerge from the forest, we have a choice of two routes back to the car park. Bad weather route – will be straight along the edge of the forest back to the car park making the walk 1 hour in length. Good weather route – will takes across the road, across the heath and follow the edge of Hatchet Pond back to the car park making this walk 1 ½ hours in length.

20 minutes drive will see us back home.

Meeting time – 10.45 at the car park.

Start time – 11.00.

Back at the Kettle household for 13.00 (for those who don't want to walk please join us then).

Please could you let me know numbers in advance?

Jane

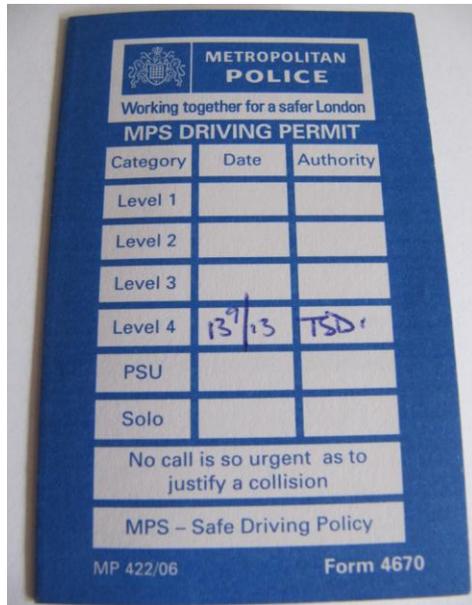
Email – ejk1jane@talktalk.net

Mobile – 07772825503

Address – 15, Charnwood Way, Blackfield, Southampton. SO45 1ZL

She's behind you!

Sadly I seemed to have missed quite a few events this year together with nearly all of the 1009 Club Nights. You will be pleased to hear that I have not been off the road and have recently passed my Metropolitan Police Driving Test.



Taking a driving test nearly 30 years after passing my DVLA Test was not a walk in the park. There was certainly no written part when I took my original test and trying to remember the meaning of each road sign (not what your navigator commonly calls it!), used up some grey matter. Part of the written test was policy and procedure for MET Driving throughout the UK, keeping safe on the road, avoiding collisions and being able to justify your decisions. The actual driving part of the test was different; especially through London on a Friday afternoon with a Metropolitan Police Traffic Officer in the passenger seat.

So, with a MET Driving Permit that clearly states a very important message “No call is so urgent as to justify a collision” – where do I put my blue light when my hood is down?

Fiona Sommerville. MGTF 135 SY55 AOW

Excellent news Fiona and well done. I will think twice before I cruise past you in future!!!!!!

Robin

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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.