

Southampton & New Forest MGOC

Newsletter



April 2021

Branch 1009

Issue No. 277

Website: www.1009mg.org.uk

Events Calendar 2021

Month	Date(s)	Event	1009
Apr	4, 11, 18, 25	Southampton & New Forest 'Polish it Day' (Sunday)	✓
May	27	MG Midget 60 th Anniversary Celebration, Macclesfield, Cheshire	
	30	Solent MGOC – Mg's in the Park	

Please check the calendar on the Website for latest updates

Welcome to our April Newsletter.

Editors Notes:



Weather improving, longer days, warmer weather and the chance to get out if only to wash your cars on the driveway, so much to look forward too.

It is a shame that the NFR has been cancelled for 2021 but hopefully, a club only run could be possible for later in the year. I will leave the club secretary to advise on the plans for a non-run rerun.

Hopefully, we may be allowed to have small group runs out, along with club nights and mid-monthly meetings that could be held in the Forest or at venues that have sufficient outdoor space to accommodate us, let's see what the future holds.

This month we include an interesting article from Steven and Ruth Dennison. As last month, not MG related but none the less, very interesting.

With Robins photographs of Southampton Railways, there is a Black and White theme to this month's Newsletter. Super.

Please keep these coming, as there is next to nothing occurring at present, these articles make for a good read. I am sure you could all regale stories of past adventures, so send them over.

I for one am looking forward to meeting up with you all again in the months to come.

Robin have just had a call from a Mr & Mrs Girdy from Fawley. They have had to sell their MG TF and have some items for sale and were asking could we help. See items at the end of the Newsletter.

This month's crossword theme is cars and motoring. I will probably do one more for May but include a picture quiz for the summer months Newsletters as I am sure that you will all want to be outside enjoying the summer sunshine.

Eric



Secretary's Scribbles

I cannot say how devastated I was that the New Forest Run was cancelled for the second time. Such a shame but certainly the right thing to have done. The date of the run would have meant that we were still in Step 3 of the lockdown easing and numbers would have had to have been restricted. It would not have been fair to our Charities, venues, or participants. So, 2022 should be our year to get back into it – that is if we have not forgotten how to put on the New Forest Run. Sunday 5th June 2022 – put it in your diary now.

Welcome to our new Club Treasurer – Keith Parkins

Keith and his wife Chris joined the Club approximately 2 years ago with their MGA. Both have been supportive of Club Nights and also various club events. Last seen out in their MGA on the non-run re-run of the New Forest Run last year – White MGA with a rather large picnic hamper on the boot. I believe it blocked the rear-view mirror!



It is not compulsory to do the role for 25 years as your predecessor did however, I am Sure that you will get the support from the members as did Linda. We will of course find a better name than 'Miss Money Penny' for you. My thanks to Linda for a smooth handover. We now have 2 accounts 1 for the Club and 1 for the Run. Both are digital and fully online which will make things easier going forward. As I said in an email recently, we are looking at trying to set up direct debits for membership fees however, if that does not happen for year, we will get out the new bank account details for you to BACS your fees.

To contact Keith – you can do so via treasurer@1009mq.org.uk (this email address will transfer over from Linda very shortly).

Talking of Membership – just a reminder that if you do change your car, your registration, contact details or where you live – please update your records with Ray Lock on membership@1009mq.org.uk

The Spring Quiz for the March Mid Monthly was excellent and I am not just saying that because Linda and I won. It really was a fun evening and thanks again to Robin for keeping us all in check.

Finally, continue to stay safe and

Happy Easter

Fiona

Drive Polish it Day

April usually brings the FBHVC Drive it Day and with the uncertainty of being able to meet up during April to do that event, it has been decided that we will do a 'Polish it Day' instead. The clock starts ticking from Easter Weekend and all photographic entries must be in by Sunday 25th April. An email will be sent out with competition categories - please do not rush into getting your soapy water and polish all over the car and forget to take the 'before' photo!! Good luck to you all; pick a sunny day.

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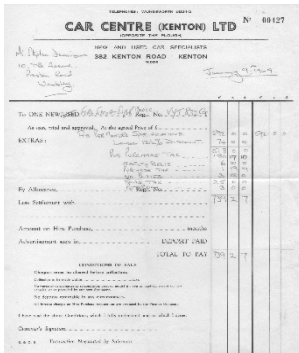
New banner photo this month – not really new as I have used it before; was taken a few years ago now at Arundel Castle for the annual picnic and gathering. This was usually in April and one of our first outings of the year. Although we do not go to Arundel Castle anymore – we still miss this gathering as it is a lovely day out and good to meet other clubs too.

Don't forget – if you do have a photo that you think would be suitable for a banner – please let me have it and I can adjust if necessary to fit on to the banner.

There are no changes to the website for this month although I did have to put a cancellation notice on the New Forest Run page. I will be updating this very shortly and also when I get the photos in from the Polish it Day.

MEMBERS MEMORIES

Driving with my Escort



On 9th January 1969 I picked up my brand new Ford Escort Super. It was brilliant white, had rectangular headlamps, bullet shaped wing mirrors, tan 'leather' interior, a 1300 engine and turned heads as this version had only been launched a year earlier. It drove like a dream and it was fast. In summer 1970, with the addition of a globe shaped compass on the

dashboard; a map from the RAC, chrome GB badge, Green Card and my wallet containing the

restricted the amount of currency that British

holidaymakers could take out of the country (£50)

plus £15 in sterling cash, we headed to Dover. This

is where we boarded our flight to the continent on

a Hovercraft, Dover to Boulogne in luxury and in

only 30 minutes. On landing, we checked the map

and headed on clear roads to Bruges. The advice at

the time was always to use a travel agent but we decided that we would begin looking for



somewhere to stay at 4pm every day

therefore giving us the maximum freedom to

go where we want, what could possibly go

wrong? The first evening we stayed in an

ancient Belgian hotel and strolled through the

streets of Bruges stopping off to try the local

beers; eating at Jan Musselman (huge red pots

of mussels cooked in wine and crusty bread) and savouring the excellent chocolates that were sold

in every other shop along the road.



We did have the most amazing holiday, meeting up with locals (we spoke reasonable German and French), wandering through beautiful countryside and speeding along the autobahns. Cologne cathedral was stunning; the Black Forest scenic and Heidelberg idyllic. Arriving in

the Rhine university town we started looking for a place to stay but it wasn't so easy and popped into a small convenience shop. The owner smiled, asked us where we were from, made a phone call, shut his shop and asked us to follow him. He had kindly arranged accommodation for us in a Pension overlooking the river, it cost 16 shillings for bed and breakfast for the two of us. The sunny days that followed included visiting fairy-tale castles with spectacular views along the river



Rhine and Moselle; sampling lots of chilled white wine and enjoying driving along in our car.

Did anything go wrong? The weather changed and enormous storms spread across from Italy,



flooding Venice other parts of Europe.

The sky was black at 8am so we jumped into the car, headed north and tried to outrun the clouds. All seemed fine until one of the rear tyres 'blew'; not a good experience when bombing along the autobahn in heavy rain, just pleased we

had seat belts fitted. The spare wheel was under the suitcases and all the paraphernalia we had taken, it all had to come out so I could change the tyre one the side of the autobahn.

After two weeks of exploring, we headed back to Great Britain with many happy memories.



Thanks to Ruth and Steven for this interesting article. Did you all notice the MGB Roadster in the queue for the Hovercraft?

My first driving lessons took place in a tangerine Ford Escort like this (L Registration) A long time ago now!

Please, please, keep them coming. I have received favourable reports that members like this section of the Newsletter. It is an excellent way for all our members to put faces to names and hopefully, when we are able to meet up again will allow us to talk about each-others experiences to members that we don't usually talk to.

We all have a tendency to stick with people we know but the club is only as good as its members and we should all make the effort to engage with others. It helps to bond the club together. I am not preaching to you all as I am the biggest culprit in this regard but if we can gain anything from the last twelve months of virtually no interaction with others let us come out of this by getting to know each other better.

Old Southampton Railways

Further to the article with the MG's on a train in the docks in a previous newsletter, here are two views, one looking east, the other west, of the railway when it used to link the Eastern and Western Docks in the area of Mayflower Park and the Royal Pier. Images from Facebook.



The following information was supplied by Colin Bendall and I am sure that it is relevant to all members. Unfortunately, it arrived just as the last months Newsletter was issued so missed being included.

FBHVC clarifies the introduction of E10 petrol for historic vehicle owners
Published: 26/02/2021

After an extensive consultation process, the Department for Transport has announced that they will legislate to introduce E10 petrol as the standard 95-octane petrol grade by 1 September 2021. They will also require the higher-octane 97+ 'Super' grades to remain E5 to provide protection for owners of older vehicles. This product will be designated as the 'Protection' grade.

The introduction of the 95-octane E10 grade and the maintenance of the Super E5 protection grade will be reviewed by the Government after 5 years to ensure they remain appropriate to the needs of the market. In relation to the E5 protection grade, such a review will examine market developments over the period. HM Government have sought to reassure FBHVC members and historic vehicle owners that, without a suitable alternative becoming available, it is highly likely the Super E5 protection grade would continue to be available.

Filling stations that stock 2 grades of petrol and supply at least one million litres of fuel in total each year, will need to ensure one product is the Super E5 protection grade. While not all filling stations meet these criteria, almost all towns across the UK will have a filling station that supplies the 'Super' grade and currently one major retailer, a national supermarket group, has committed to offer the product. The main exception to this is in certain parts of the Highlands, north and west coast of Scotland, which will be covered by an exemption process and allowed to continue to market the 95-octane E5 grade.

The Federation therefore recommends that all vehicles produced before 2000 and some vehicles from the early 2000s that are considered non-compatible with E10 - should use the Super E5 Protection grade where the Ethanol content is limited to a maximum of 5%. To check compatibility of vehicles produced since 2000, we recommend using the new online E10 compatibility checker: <https://www.gov.uk/check-vehicle-e10-petrol>

It should be noted that some Super E5 Protection grade products do not contain Ethanol as the E5 designation is for fuels containing up to 5% Ethanol. Product availability varies by manufacturer and geographical location and enthusiasts should check the situation in their location.

Thank you, Colin.

Items for sale. If interested contact Robin please.



MG TF Silver Hard Top £150.00.



MG TF Car Cover £20.00.

MG TF Car Mats £15.00.



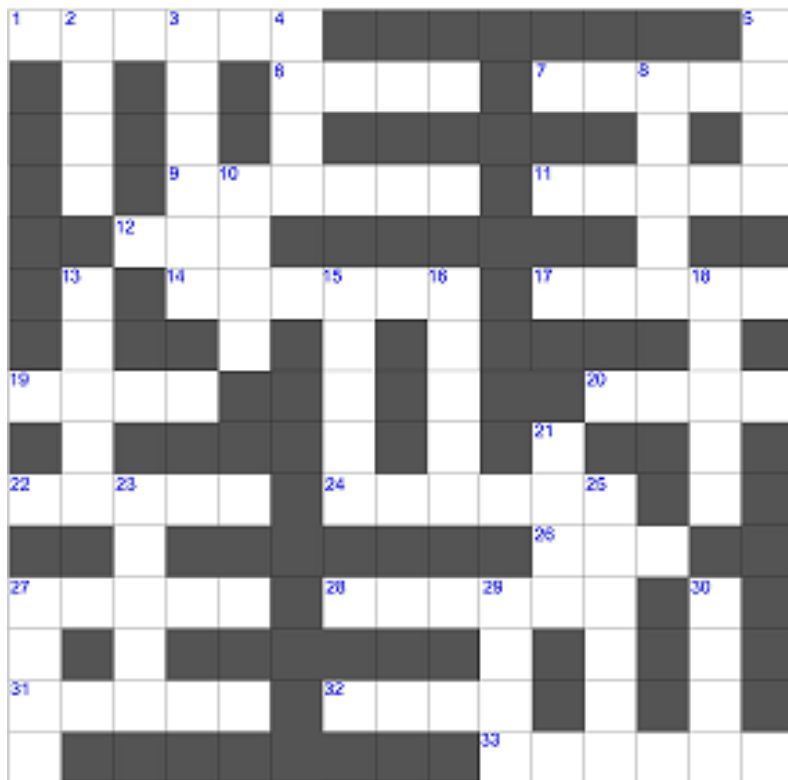
MG TF Boot Rack £50.00.



MG TF Jack Set £10.00.

April Crossword.

This month's crossword has a theme of cars and motoring.



Across.

- 1) An official appointed by a sovereign state and made by the Ford Motor Company. (6).
- 6) Vauxhall's partner to Eve. (4).
- 7) On the 14th of December 1921 Geoffrey DeFreville renamed this car company. (5).
- 9) And 18 down. A big point is made of this car. (6 & 5).
- 11) A titan in Greek mythology and a SUV manufactured by VW. (5).
- 12) A belt of victory. (3).
- 14) Sunbeam with a long narrow two-edged blade and guarded hilt. (6).
- 17) A collection of vehicles by the Willys Overland. (5).
- 19) A sunbeam that occurs first thing in the morning. (4).
- 20) This marque formed from Austin and Morris became a small, big seller. (4).
- 22) Stanley Edge, an 18-year-old draftsman designed this car for Austin in a billiard room. (5).
- 24) Honda's European and Japanese MPV like a flow of water. (6).
- 26) The peripheral part of a wheel. (3).
- 27) "I Roll" with a Swedish car manufacturer. (5).
- 28) Honda's "story handed down from earlier times". (6).
- 31) TVR created this quarrelsome and spiteful woman. (5).
- 32) You cannot fly even with two of these. (4).
- 33) A car with a rear door and a large piece of landed property. (6).

Down.

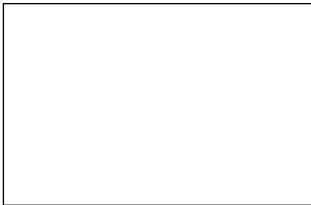
- 2) This German car maker developed from a sewing machine manufacturer. (4).
- 3) A UK car manufacturer that has a Vogue for making sounds with voice. (6).
- 4) Formerly Russian but now a sister company to Dacia under the Renault umbrella. (4).
- 5) This Morris model was no terrorist. (4).
- 8) Controls fluids or gasses in a one-way direction. (5).
- 10) To bring up the hind part which normally takes a shunt from behind. (4).
- 13) Toyota's flying hero at a lofty altitude. (5).
- 15) Jim Ratcliffe's automotive and chemical company. (5).
- 16) A random stroller names this premier UK car brand. (5).
- 18) See 9 across.
- 21) A rare find in a farmyard. (4).
- 23) Vauxhall's Latin Swift. (5).
- 25) MG's politically incorrect diminutive model over the years. (6).
- 27) Long live Vauxhall. (4).

- 29) Fords large SUV used to have this but no more. (4).
30) A place to sit on this Spanish manufacturer. (4).

April Crossword Answers.



Club Contacts

Area Secretary & Webmaster - Fiona Sommerville Address: 3 Solent Court, Cornwallis Road, Milford on Sea, Lymington, Hants SO41 0NH T: 07979 856518 E: webmaster@1009mg.org.uk E: secretary@1009mg.org.uk	
Treasurer – Keith Parkins E: treasurer@1009mg.org.uk	
Membership Secretary – Ray Lock E: membership@1009mg.org.uk	
Newsletter Editor – Eric Moore E: editor@1009mg.org.uk	
New Forest Run Entries – Robin Plumley Address: 14 Applewood Place, Totton, Southampton. SO40 8WG T: 07932 648707 E: nfrun@1009mg.org.uk	

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. Further information can be found on our Website www.1009mg.org.uk