Southampton and New Forest, MGOC

# Newsletter
# August 2025

## What's 25 in 25?
## The Millenium Bridge



***Area: 1009*** ***Issue Number: xxx***

***Website: 1009MG.org.uk***

# The Millenium Bridge

| | |
|---|---|
| **Carries** | Pedestrians |
| **Crosses** | River Thames |
| **Locale** | London, England |
| **Official name** | London Millennium Footbridge |
| **Maintained by** | Bridge House Estates, City of London Corporation |
| **Preceded by** | Blackfriars Railway Bridge |
| **Followed by** | Southwark Bridge |
| **Characteristics** | |
| **Design** | Suspension bridge |
| | 325 metres (1,066 ft) |
| **Width** | 4 metres (13 ft) |
| **Longest span** | 144 metres (472 ft) |
| **History** | |
| **Engineering design by** | Arup |
| **Constructed by** | Monberg & Thorsen<br>Sir Robert McAlpine |
| **Opened** | 10 June 2000; 25 years ago |
| **Location** | |

# Editor's Notes



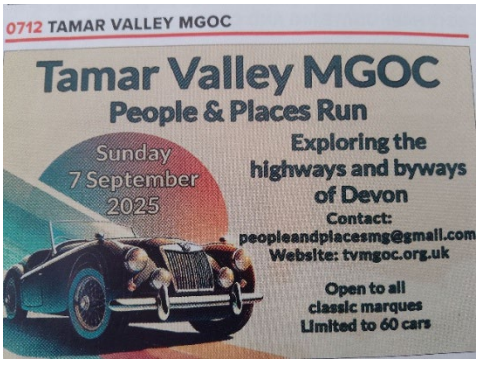
Hello Everyone

July was a busy month with many events taking place, in both great sunny weather and massive downpours. Martin Charles drove up to Gaydon for the MGF30 negotiating a diversion on the A34 and it rained nearly all day. I would like to thank Martin for his endeavors in compiling an article for this months Newsletter. I hope you have dried out by now.

Thank you to all Club Members who have sent articles in to me this month along with some fabulous photos.

I would like to bring to your attention, that there will be a Part 2 Newsletter which will be with you in a couple of days. This will include some lovely cocktails for you to try, and article from Paul and Jane on their Cotswold visit. Also, the first part of The Plumley and Brown road trip to Spain and Portugal.

Yvonne








# Secretary's Scribbles

July seems to have come and gone very quickly.  Unfortunately, I have been laid up for most of the month with ill health however, I notice that members have been holding the fort and attended many events.

Well done to those who attended MGF30 and the Classic Car Show in Bransgore.

Congratulations to Jane & Paul for putting on a great breakfast run for us all.

Also, we had a good number at the Rocking Arms for the Mid Monthly.

August Mid Monthly hosted by Kim & Kevin Wassell is at

**THE WHITE HART**
Old Romsey Road, Cadnam SO40 2NP

https://www.brunningandprice.co.uk/whitehartcadnam/contact/

we have our own room from 6pm onwards.

This month I am pleased to welcome new member Elizabeth Lloyd from Highcliffe who has a blue MGF.

*Fiona*

# Welcome to Elizabeth Lloyd
# a New MG Club Member






Name and Nearest Town: Highcliffe, Dorset.
Member Since: July 2025.
Current Vehicle: MGF 2001 Furgus, owned for 24 years.
Memorable Moment with the Vehicle: Receiving the delivery in 2001 and the numerous adventures since then.
Desired Vehicle to Own: This one.



# FOR SALE

MK1 1967 MGBGT Condition 2 in Tartan Red with Heritage Cert.2018/5876

Vehicle was built 21/22 September 1967, first registered 16th October 1967.

Bare metal restoration 2002/3 and large set of restoration photographs and Invoices have been kept as part of vehicles history.

Owned since 2007 always garaged and only 16100 miles since purchased.

Professionally services each year and Webasto Roof and interior headlining Renewed in 2017.  MOT until March 2026.

Unfortunately, health problems reason for disposal.

Offers in region of £8500  (Insured Value £10,000)

For further information contact Dudley Broom on 02380734055



# Hands On Driving by Anne-Marie Stone

I never thought at the age of seventy, I'd be learning to drive again.

But here I am putting my hands rather than my feet to the metal.

When we moved to Dorset, I didn't feel too well and later discovered a nasty little disease called amyloidosis happily weaving its way into my heart, gut, legs and hands. I was having dizzy spells and felt a bit reluctant to drive on the famously narrow lanes in Dorset, with 16 year old tractor drivers using them as racetracks. Hence for the next two years, Jeff did most, if not all, of the driving. It's a good job he loves it!

But once diagnosed and with my wonder drug at my side, I was ready to claim back some independence.
But there was another barrier to this newfound confidence. A chat with my neurologist and a driving assessment in Yeovil revealed that my feet were slow to react and were slipping on the pedals. So, they suggested I should stop driving while they looked for an alternative way forward.



Never give up as they say, so I didn't, and soon I was to discover a whole new world of alternative driving. I was humbled to learn of people with horrendous disabilities, finding a way round their challenging lives and I was happy to join the club.

So "hand-controlled driving" became my new hobby.
I chatted with Jeff, and we decided the best plan would be to buy a new car with lots of automatic features and then get it. Having done that, I could then take driving lessons and get back on the road.



Unbelieveably and thankfully, there was a specialist driving instructor in Blandford, with a car already adapted for the purpose…phew!!!
So, the lessons began.

Getting used to using a ball on the steering wheel and trying to turn corners and go round roundabouts one-handedly was weird to say the least, but it was necessary to free my right hand for controlling the accelerator and brake pedal by lever.

The first important piece of tuition was "push the lever forward to brake" and "pull the lever towards you to accelerate."





The next lesson was learning how to use the indicators, by flicking a tiny switch on the lever with my thumb. All in all, there was an awful lot of unlearning to do, as well as learning.

My feet danced about and slid forward looking for the pedals and my thumb refused to flick the indicator switch, but soon my muscle memory began working and starting to adapt to the new system. Another difficulty was trying to find a third hand to adjust the wing mirrors or fold them in when necessary, or to put the windscreen wipers on or the main beam on.



Thankfully the new car does all of this automatically, but anything else (like the heater/AC controls) can only be done in slow traffic or at a standstill. I dread getting an itchy nose or having to adjust the sun visor.

Backing out of a parking space and getting into a tight one is my bête noir but I'm working on that!! And although I've driven to Weymouth, Poole and Dorchester and back, I still haven't ventured out on my own.

Having said all this and nervous as I still am, it's quite pleasant to drive using hand controls. And thinking of the future might be the best way to go. Especially for people who have bad hips or walking difficulties, as well as the many who are permanently wheelchair bound.

So, wish me luck and if ever you think you might need to change your driving style let me know.
I know a good assessment centre and a lovely driving instructor!

In the meantime, HAPPY MOTORING!

# MGF 30, British Motor Museum, Gaydon, Warwickshire
# Sunday 6th July

## *By Martin Charles*

I've been looking forward to this event ever since it was announced in 2024, I went to MGF 25 and had a brilliant day, on top of which the BMM is such an interesting venue in its own right. I suppose after the weeks of fine weather it was perhaps inevitable it would break on this day, indeed the forecast for the Midlands was less than promising Then to compound matters I found out on Saturday morning the A34 North bound was shut completely between Chievely and Clinton, just about the worst bit to close with no easy short diversion around it.

Undaunted I arose Sunday morning and set off at 06:45 with heavy, overcast skies, I decided top-down motoring wasn't an option. A clear run up to Speen on A34, and off onto the B4494 to Wantage, what a brilliant B road, a real driver's road that can be safely taken at 60MPH with due caution, with wonderful vista's that open up as you approach Wantage. Then onto A338 through Grove, past Williams F1 entrance, appropriate I thought it being British GP Sunday. Then finally onto A420 to Oxford where I picked up A34 again and onto M40 to Gaydon.

Just as I left the M40 the drizzle started, little did I realise during the rest of the day we would encounter almost the four seasons in the next 8 hours. I had a priority parking pass and was early enough to be in the front row almost right outside the main museum entrance, Yippee!










After looking around the car park and chatting to friends I went into the museum to lecture room 1. Here the MG F Register were giving a presentation on the launch of MG F in 1995, this comprised a video presentation covering the material put out by the factory, contemporary road test reports, motor show footage, etc. lasting about an hour. It was entertaining, a very young Jeremy Clarkson raved about the F, Tiff Needel was highly critical, the suspension was too soft for tearing around the track, not something your average owner was going to do. The biggest laugh was given to MG promo film of the benefits of the matching hard top, it turns your summer cruiser into an effective winter coupe, complete with heated rear screen. It is so easy to fit, fold the hood down, fit the hard top and plug in the heated rear screen and away you go, simple. It showed the hood being positioned as if by magic, no sign of the minimum of two people to do it, how we all roared with laughter.

After that and checking out the MG Exhibits in the museum, I spent the rest of my day outside, touring the car parks, checking out the traders, Rimmer Brothers, Mike Satur MG, Trophy Cars and Martin Smith and various others selling all sorts not directly car related. Some of my selection of F's and TF's follow.







A lovely very early production F and the earliest known surviving Production TF







An early F, the note in the windscreen states For Sale, 29,000 miles, FSH, for £17,995, the sign was still in the window when I left. A lovely Pearlescent Monogram early TF.

There were a number of competition F's and TF's in a special display area, the one that caught my eye was the jacked-up F which takes part in Production Car trials and has been very successful in its class. Then there was the pre-production press fleet car of Mr. & Mrs. Legrys, you may even recognise it, it was awarded the car of the show, so two awards in a month, they won the Best modern MG post 1982 at this year's New Forest Run.







On the left is Matt Tomkins from Practical Classics magazine and on the right Craig Cheetham editor of Enjoying MG magazine. At the beginning of this year, they took on these two un-roadworthy MG F's with the aim of recommissioning them to road worthy condition to bring them to MGF30. They gave a presentation on the work they had to do to achieve their goal; in fact, Matt's only gained its MoT a few days before. I spent a very interesting half an hour talking to Matt about his F and his competition Austin 7, which he campaigns in VSCC races.




I had a wonderful day out, although it is fair to say that numbers were down on MGF25. However, there must have been in excess of 500/600 F's and TF's on display and it took me all day to just get around these.

I also managed to lighten my wallet by a significant amount; there were two things about my new to me, TF Spark I was less than entirely happy about. On Martin Smith's stand, who I have dealt with for about 10 years for F and TF bits, he had a mint Spark steering wheel; mine the silver section has scuffs and fading. My wheels had been rattle can sprayed in Anthracite and had cheap new tyres on whose name I couldn't even pronounce. He also had a set of wheels, freshly restored completely powder coated in Anthracite, with matching centre caps and brand new Falken tyres. So a very fair deal was done. and I'm one happy bunny.

Oh! As to the four seasons, well as I said it started with drizzle, then around 10:00 a major thunderstorm with heavy rain for a couple of hours I guess, in the afternoon a couple of heavy showers and we finished in glorious sunshine.

# Wings and Wheels, Army Flying Museum
# Saturday 12th July

*By Martin Charles*




My first time at this event, where I met up with fellow members John and Stephen Lakin as well as Keith and Jenny Child, although they were in a different area of the show to me. This show must be unique in that it is held on the live and active MoD grass airfield, but it does mean you cannot get much closer to the action with the flying displays.





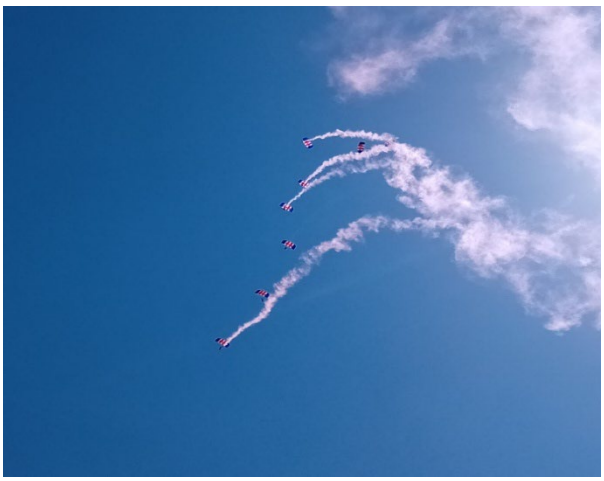
The car show was made up mostly of club displays, although there were quite a few individual exhibitors like me with my ZT.






I loved the two gentleman enjoying a proper lunch with wine, well if you arrive in a Bentley it is the only way to do it I guess!

It is such a packed day, I believe the Red Arrows put in an appearance around 10:00 o'clock, we didn't see them because we were in the Museum, free entry to which is part of the ticket. But we enjoyed the RAF Parachute Display team, the amazing wing walkers, two lady gymnasts who performed various tricks including sitting on the front edge of the wing. A wonderful display by the Royals Royce Heritage Flight Mk19 photo reconnaissance Spitfire including low level passes. The finally was a display by the Army Air Corp with a Wildcat and two Apache attack helicopters putting on a truly explosive display that not only made the ground shake, but left the grass airfield smoldering, quickly put out by the airfield fire tenders.





Well worth a visit next year, Saturday 11th July 2026.

# Bransgore Classic Car Show
# Sunday 13th July 2025

Organized by Bransgore Rotary

*By Jon Holt*

Although this event had been listed in the 1009 diary for some time, I hadn't entered as I thought I would be looking after my daughter's family dog, Ottis. As it turned out the weather was too hot for an ageing Cava/Poo and Pauline said she would happily stay with him at home. It was only later that I realized the Wimbledon Men's final would be on television.

Anyway, at the last minute I tried to book an entry and to my surprise I was able to get a ticket. I duly arrived at about 9.30 not knowing if other members from 1009 would be there so I parked where directed by the marshals. I then had a wander along the row of cars when I was greeted by Keith and Jenny Child resplendent in their 25th anniversary polo shirts, they had arrived early and managed to save enough space for three cars. I was invited to move my MGB and park next to their very shiny MG Midget. A short time later Linda (Miss Money Penny) arrived and filled the remaining space, perfect.

I didn't count them but there must have been between 150 and 200 cars by the time 11o'clock arrived and the public were let in. One thing I did notice was that in spite of the entry form stipulating only pre 1994 cars could enter there were in fact a number of much newer vehicles present, if only we knew there was a way around this I am sure 1009 would have had a larger presence and maybe even the use of a gazebo to protect us from the sun. It was so hot!

Stephen Dennison had arrived very early, parked his MGB and left, walking all the way home to spend the day with his grandchildren and their parents. This might sound like a gallant effort, but Stephen and Ruth live just round the corner in Bransgore. I hope you enjoyed the family BBQ!

As membership secretary I was able to recruit a new member. Elizabeth was there with her camera club but had arrived in her MGF, I hope we see her very soon at a club night. Jon Holt



# Breakfast run from Beaulieu 17 July

## *By Jane Wallaker*

26 of us met at Steffs kitchen at Fairweathers Garden Centre on a rather cloudy but humid morning.







Paul found a great spot to park right in front of the Gents loo but was politely asked to move in case of a delivery…didn't stop you though, did it?!!

We sat in a large horseshoe and enjoyed an excellent breakfast served by such willing staff who battled against the barrage of conversation to take the drinks orders and then to find the rightful owners of the scalding hot plates they were carrying. Definitely worth a tip afterwards.











A few of us then followed a very pleasant 20 mile meander through the back lanes around Beaulieu and on to Norleywood, Pilley and finally Lymington. We had plenty of animal company along the way!








We then enjoyed a little refreshment in a shady corner of the café at Shallowmead Nurseries whilst watching the very relaxing water feature in the gardens.





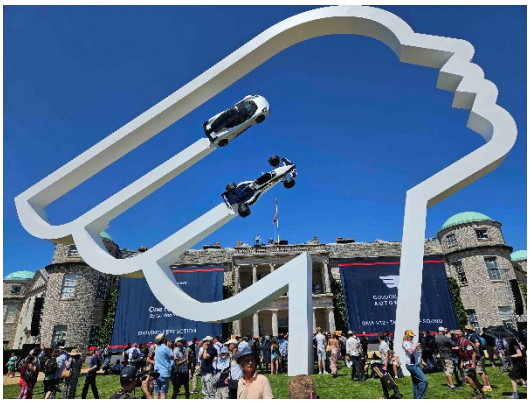




# Goodwood Festival of Speed

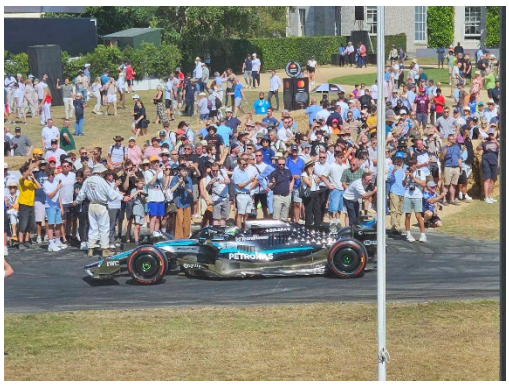
*By Jeff Stone*

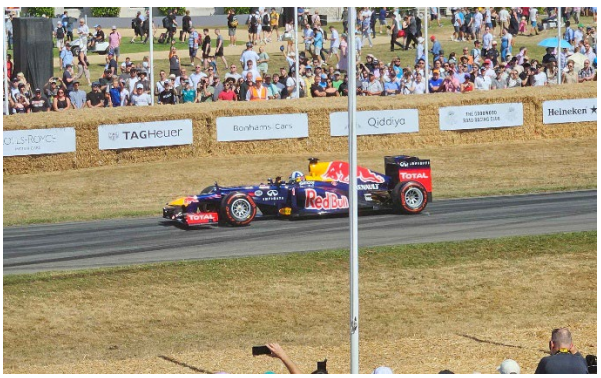
Here are some impressions and photos from last Friday's visit with my neighbours to the Goodwood Festival of Speed (FOS). Weather was fantastic – brilliant sunshine, blue sky, very hot.



The main installation in front of Goodwood House was celebrating the work of Gordon Murray, featuring his first Formula One car and the latest car from his car company GMA (Gordon Murray Automotive). This last uses a Cosworth V12 engine and a rear-mounted fan to suck the car down onto the road. Price? Don't ask. OK, but you will need deep pockets – expect with options to spend close to £2.9 million.

The FOS also featured 75 years of Formula One, and there were quite a few F1 cars that raced up the hill. Notably present were a few of the "current" cars (actually last year's), from Red Bull, Mercedes and Kick Sauber. There were also many recognisable names on the list of drivers who went up the hill, including Nigel Mansell, Mario Andretti, Jacques Villeneuve and Mika Hakkinen.





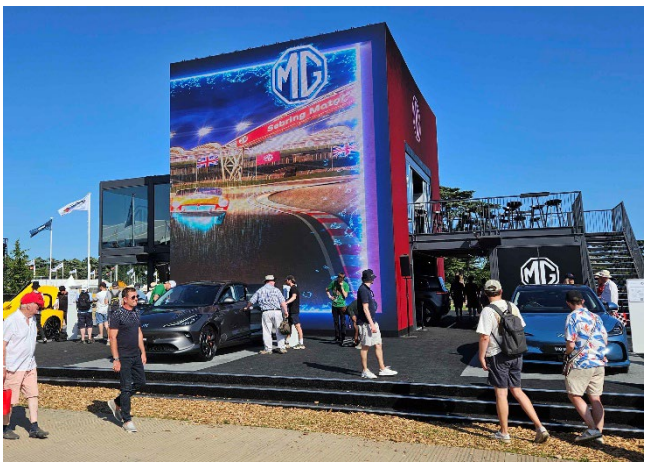
A company called Analogue Automotive had a stand in amongst the many exhibitors with their version of a Lotus Elise that they call the SuperSport. It's noted here because they use an enhanced version of the Rover 1.8 litre K series engine. However their version produces 200BHP. Quite fancy that engine in our TF.



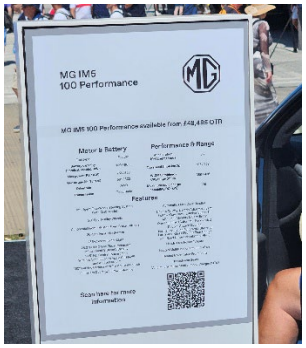


The Chinese company SAIC marketing in the UK as MG Motor UK were trading on the heritage of the brand again this year. Towering above the stand was a large structure with a wrap-around video screen on two of its walls. We take these things for granted these days but when you stop to think about – how on earth do you do a display screen that seamlessly wraps around a large tower and is visible in bright sunlight, with no apparent gaps between any sections? I watched it for a while. On one part of the video a Sebring MGB races around a circuit and morphs into a Cyberster.

On the stand was their Cyberster GT, with metal folding roof, a chunky brutal (IMHO) design concept for a large grey SUV (hope this one doesn't go any further), and something called the IM5. I've highlighted this car amongst many because of the badge. It's not an Octagonal MG, but a logo comprising 2 dots and 3 diagonal lines. I asked a representative on the stand if this was the logo SAIC would be using in the future. She said not, but it begs the question why have they done it. Testing consumer reaction to a possible change perhaps?





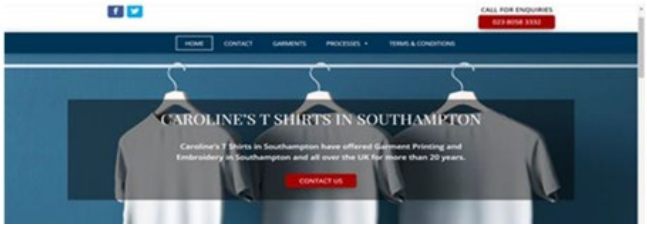












## Club Regalia

Call 023 8058 3332 - www.carolinestshirts.com Our club logo is already on their system

# S&NFMGOC, Runs, Shows and Events 2025

*Martin Charles*

Hi Everyone

Following a hectic July with so many varied events for us to enjoy, things are starting to slow down now as the summer winds down.

We have in August,

Sunday 3rd - Pride and Joy meet, The Cuckoo Inn, Hampworth from Mid-Day, Pre Year 2000 only. Just turn up.

Wednesday 6th – Club night at the Walhampton Arms, Lymington – We will be presenting to representatives from both the charities with their cheques following this year's NF Run. We hope as many of you as possible will be in attendance and it would be great if those who have 25th Anniversary Polo shirts could wear them, please.

Sunday 10th August, MG Garden Party & Picnic, Athelhampton House, Puddletown, Dorset, DT2 7LG, Bournemouth MGOC annual gathering, **IMPORTANT**, if you have booked a place and haven't let me know please do. We have to inform Bournemouth how many cars are coming so they can allocate a space big enough. Also please note if you turn up and haven't informed us you are coming you will not get a space on the club stand, you will have to park in the general MG area.
A convoy will **depart at 09:15** from the Furlong Short Stay Car Park, Ringwood, BH24 1AH. NOTE: NFDC parking charges apply if you don't have a clock. **If you would like to join this convoy, please drop me an e-mail so we don't depart without you!** mg1009events@btintenet.com

Sunday 10th August - Pride and Joy meet, Exbury Club from 1030, Pre Year 2000 only – Just turn up.

Thursday 14th August – Breakfast Run **SOLD OUT**, The Potting Shed, Hyde, Fordingbridge, SO6 2QB, If you would like to go on the reserve list please e-mail Linda Taylor at ltaylor48@btinternet.com

Wednesday 20th – Mid-Monthly, White Hart Inn, Cadnam, room booked from 6PM.

Saturday 30th – DMGRS Show, Gangwarily Recreation Centre, Newlands Road, Blackfield, SO45 1GA – Our 2025 NFR Sponsors Free show, ALL MG'S or Classic Cars welcome from 10:30 – Just turn up.
Sunday 31st – Classic Car Show, Hythe Marina Village, SO45 6DY from Mid-Day, Pre Year 2000 only, and Parking will be free for all display vehicles - Just turn up.
So whatever you are up to this month, enjoy and drive safely.

Any questions about any event then please contact me at mg1009events@btintenet.com or give me a bell on home 023 8084 4699 or mobile 07304 094 867

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**NEW FOREST RUN ENTRIES HANDLER (2026)**
Eric Moore

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Please note that all these roles are volunteers and we are happy to help and offer advice but please contact us before 9pm – *thank you*