



Welcome to the MGC Register newsletter 4.

We hope to send these out at regular intervals to keep you up to date with MGC news and events.

If you have something to share with fellow MGC owners send it to me and I will include it.

We hope to see some of you at some of the following events, let us know if you are coming to any of them.

We had our AGM and the change on the committee is Mike Haughton is now Secretary, and Angie Haughton is the treasurer.

If you want the minutes please let us know & I will send them to you.

The next event is **14/15th September** when we will be having a get together in Lynmouth.

A few of us will be staying at the Blue Ball Inn Lynton from Friday to Sunday.

We hope all local MGC owners will be able to come and join in.

Full detail on the next pages, email me if you are coming along or need more details.

We have to mention the C word (no not MGC) but details of our Christmas meal are here. Please let us know if you are coming and send your meal choices to me, we look forward to seeing many of you.

We have 2 accounts of trips to Laon Classic weekend earlier in the year. Thank you to Graham Sharpe & Jonathan Graves-Morris for their write ups & photos.

Also a report on the MGC Day at The Great British Journey in Ambergate.

Let us know if you have been on any good trips or runs, send us your photos to share

Good driving Mike & Angie Haughton

C-Exmoor Weekend

Car Park Entrance

Saturday 14th September

Enjoy a 60 mile road run appreciating the best of Exmoor's exquisite scenery; fantastic pub for lunch and steam trains. The run starts and ends at the Blue Ball public house, Countisbury (EX35 6NE). Departing at 10.30. The planned route will be distributed on the day.

Sunday 15th September

Car meet at Lynmouth on the Manor Green from 10.15am. This is a grassed area on the foreshore which is also used as a car park. Please pay and display by using cash or the RingGo app. Please note that the machine **does not** take card payments. A sectioned area will be available for the C-Register. Access to the green is down a short driveway off the A39 at the bottom of Countisbury Hill. Those who approach down Countisbury Hill, slow at the bottom and turn right before the bridge. The white circle on the map below indicates where the parking is located. Please note that parking will be available from 10.15am.





MGC DAY 27TH JULY



The weather stayed dry for the event and it was good to see 30+ cars turn up.
It was great to see some cars that we have not seen before and to meet their owners.







This interesting ex police car was picked as car of the show.

It still has its police sign on the back, a police bell behind the grill and a police radio in the glove box.



On Sunday, after a scenic drive around the peaks & dales we ended at Heage Windmill.

The windmill is the only working six-sailed stone tower windmill in England





If you have not been to The Great British Car Journey Museum, it is well worth a visit. These are just some of the things to see.



Can anyone tell us what Princess Anne is thinking? Or what Cecil has just said to her!





You are invited to the

C Register Christmas Bash

Date- 23 November

Timing: Gather for drinks at the Avon Room from 6pm. Dinner at 7 30pm

Venue- Chesford Grange Hotel, B4115, Kenilworth, CV8 2LD

<https://www.chesfordgrange.com/>

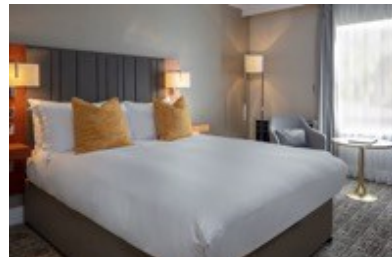


(Pictures courtesy of the hotel)

Introduction

The Chesford Grange Hotel is located near the charming town of Kenilworth. Situated close to the cultural delights of Warwick Castle and Shakespeare Country, the venue should be within easy reach of most of the Register. The hotel has been recently refurbished and has marvellous spa and pool facilities. It is a lovely combination of the original Tudor-style Manor House and the modern comforts of the contemporary wing – all set amongst the serenity of the quaint countryside and nearby River Avon. An event not to be missed!

We will have an allocated free parking area for our cars.



(Pictures courtesy of the hotel)

Costs

Festive dinner double occupancy package £219

(Accommodation for the night of the 23rd Nov and dinner/breakfast for 2 people)

Festive dinner single occupancy package £161

(Accommodation for the night of the 23rd Nov and dinner/breakfast for 1 person)

Dinner only £48

Festive dinner includes welcoming drink, three course festive meal, tea, coffee and mince pies.

Booking arrangements

If you would like to come, please follow the following steps-

1 Room booking - to book a room please call the Chesford Grange Hotel on 01926 515114, ask to speak to Emma Machin to book the room quoting the booking reference- MG Club 23rd November 2024. Make the booking. a £50 non-refundable deposit payment is required on initial booking with the full payment required by 1st October 2024.

Other nights are available, and rate will be confirmed by the hotel when the booking is made.

Rooms will be held until 1 October so please book as soon as you can.

2 Meal booking – to book places for the meal only please call the Chesford Grange Hotel on 01926 515114, ask to speak to Emma Machin to book the dinner quoting the booking reference- MG Club 23rd November 2024. Please book by 1 November 2024.

3 Christmas dinner choice – please review the menu attached with this email, make your choices and email them to Angie Haughton at- mgc_angie@btinternet.com

Note: If you sadly need to cancel your booking prior to 1st October, you will not be refunded the deposit but can transfer the booking to another club member who hasn't yet booked. Payment details would need to be organised via yourselves. If you need to cancel after 1st October cancellation terms and conditions apply whereby you may only receive part refund or none depending on when you cancel. Please speak with the hotel for further clarification.



CHRISTMAS FESTIVE 2024 & PARTY NIGHT

Prawn & smoked salmon mousse (GFA)
Marie Rose sauce, watercress, pickled cucumber, rye crisp

Pressing of ham hock (GF)
Golden beetroot piccalilli, sunflower seeds, rocket

Roasted parsnip soup (GFA) (VEA)
Crispy onion, chive cream & warm onion bread croutons



Sage & onion stuffed rolled turkey escalope (GF)
Roasted potatoes, honey roasted root vegetables, buttered sprouts & bacon wrapped chipolatas

Roast fillet of sea bass (GF)
Chargrilled courgette, crushed basil new potato, shellfish bisque sauce

Vegetable Wellington (GF) (VE)
Roasted potatoes, crushed root vegetables, fried brussel sprouts



Christmas plum pudding (VE) (GFA)
Double cream & brandy sauce

Chocolate & cherry pavé
Dark chocolate sauce, poached cherry, mascarpone & chocolate crumble

Raspberry frangipane tart (VE) (NGCI)
Honeycomb, raspberry sauce & coconut yogurt



Coffee & mince pies (GFA)

Allergen details: If you would like information on ingredients within our menu items in relation to allergies and food intolerance including GF, please ask a member of staff who will be able to assist you. Our food is prepared in a kitchen where nut, gluten and other known allergens/intolerances may be present.

Menu may be subject to small changes based on supply chain, however all information correct at time of going to print.



THE CIRCUIT HISTORIQUE DE LAON MAY 2024 *Graham Sharpe*

It was around Christmas last year when I received a message from a friend and fellow MGC owner, Simon Hill (primrose GT), to join him at the Circuit Historique de Laon on 18th-19th May.

This annual gathering of over 600 classic cars, from pre-War to modern, takes place in the medieval town of Laon, with its majestic cathedral standing on a rocky outcrop above the surrounding countryside.

A few days before the event, I posted an item on the Facebook MGC Register page and found other owners who would be attending: John Valentine (mineral blue GT); Simon Milner (primrose roadster); Jonathan Graves-Morris (red roadster); and Lindsay John Cox (white roadster) who was accompanied by his friend Paul Mount, owner of RMO but driving an E-type. I travelled on the ferry from Newhaven to Dieppe and enjoyed a drive of around 150

miles following a superb 1964 VW Type 34 Karmann Ghia owned by Neil and Lisa

Neil and Lisa Tindle own this 1964 VW Karmann Ghia, With my car behind



MGC GT owned by Simon Hill



Meanwhile, Simon and friends travelled from Cheshire, enjoying such a good dinner en route that they only just made the overnight ferry from Portsmouth to Caen!

Laon is a beautiful walled town, with narrow cobbled streets winding between its historic buildings, including the cathedral which was completed in 1235. The main street is covered with brightly coloured umbrellas suspended to form a canopy, while the ramparts around the old town give far-reaching views and are pierced by occasional gateways. On the Saturday, all of the participants assembled in the main park prior to a drive to the historic street motor racing circuit in Chimay, Belgium. To my great surprise, my first classic restoration drove into the park

as I was registering: a 1971 bright orange TVR Vixen, which I completed around 20 years ago. It was great to catch up with the owner, who was thankfully very complimentary about my work.



Simon Milner's MGC roadster



Roadster owned by Jonathan Graves-Morris



MGC GT (sadly, owner not known)



MGC roadster owned by Lindsay John Cox

TVR and Porsche were the celebrated marques this year, so there were many different examples on display. The cars were divided into two groups, one following the route clockwise and the other the opposite, all meeting at Chimay for lunch. Our drive was mapped with tulip diagrams, although I was fortunate to be able to follow Simon and his navigator. To be fair, some of the owners felt that the roads were at times rather narrow and poorly surfaced, and that there was no indication of fuel stops (top tip: fill up the night before) but I enjoyed the drive which was so well supported by the occupants of every village who clapped and waved us on. It was delightful to see the joy on their faces, especially the young children. Simon was even given a pair of lime green sunglasses as a free handout in one of the villages. After a baguette at Chimay, we returned to Laon where I joined him and his friends for an excellent meal in one of the town's many restaurants.



The Sunday was much more relaxed. The cars were assembled, either on the town square or the ramparts, for viewing by owners and the public. It gave us the opportunity to wander around Laon and to visit the cathedral, which is certainly impressive. At around 2.30pm, the cars parked in the town square started a parade through the old town, then down the hill to the new town and the station before returning to the historic centre. There were huge crowds of enthusiastic spectators, some egging on the more powerful cars to do burn outs along the ramparts.

John Velentine's MGC GT, alongside the MGB GT of his friend Nick Morrison



All too soon it was time to return home, but I stayed an extra night so that I could enjoy a relaxed drive back to Dieppe on the Monday. I wanted to visit Thiepval, where there is an imposing memorial to the missing of the Somme designed by my favourite architect, Sir Edwin Lutyens, who also designed the Cenotaph in Whitehall (I too am an architect). I arrived quite early in the morning and was alone to view the names of over 73,000 soldiers inscribed in its stonework who died in battle and whose remains were never found. As I did so, I looked up to the sky and said out loud "Well done Ned". In designing this memorial, he had huge responsibility, but he triumphed. If you are yet to visit the WW1 battlefields, I would encourage you to do so. My eyes were opened, firstly to the huge scale of the conflict (every mile or so, there is a graveyard, battle site or memorial) and secondly to the huge number of soldiers who fought from far away lands –

South Africa, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, India and so on. As I gazed out over fields full of red poppies, a shotgun fired from time to time (presumably a bird scarer) and I was truly humbled.



My MGC roadster at Thiepval

I left Thiepval and drove back through Northern France along roads that were reminiscent of the South Downs, yet I was the only car on the road. Never going above 55mph, it was a joyful drive. And what of my 'C'? Well, it did not miss a beat and as far as I am aware, the same was true for the other 'C' owners, although John Valentine did have to make a repair to his accelerator cable. The 'C' really is a lovely touring car and I look forward to more trips like this one. I will be taking it to Spa for the Six Hour Classic in September and will certainly be keen to attend Le Mans again next year, along with the Le Mans Classic. It is just what the car was made for.

Graham Sharpe

One of the best cars at the event: MG sporting English and French flags



The 12 hr. export drive

Category and Class wins for BMC at Sebring

Sebring, Florida, USA. Hot, flat and windy. Speed country. Scene of one of the world's fastest 12 hour track races. Where 102 mph. is a mere average. Where cars come so big, they don't even notice BMC overtaking them. Until it's too late.



BMC Scoreboard: 12 hr. Sebring

MGC TENTH OVERALL

Paddy Hopkirk/Andrew Hedges

FIRST IN 2500-3000cc PROTOTYPE CLASS
THIRD OVERALL IN PROTOTYPE CATEGORY

MG MIDGET FIFTEENTH OVERALL

Jerrold Truitt/Randall Canfield

FIRST OVERALL IN SPORTS CAR CATEGORY
FIRST OVERALL 1150-1300cc SPORTS CAR CLASS

AUSTIN HEALEY SPRITE 34th OVERALL

Clive Baker/Mike Garton

FIRST IN 1150-1300cc PROTOTYPE CLASS

MGB EIGHTEENTH OVERALL

Garry Rodrigues/Richard McDaniel/Bill Brack
FIFTH IN 1600-2000cc CLASS

68 starters 35 Finishers

Subject to official confirmation.

ALL BMC ENTRIES

FINISHED

**When BMC go on an Export Drive
-the competition knows it!**



Laon, Historique, Jonathan Graves-Morris



This year's big adventure was our second, 'father and son' continental trip. This year was to Laon for their "Circuite Historique de Laon" having done "Classic Le Mans" for their century in the old girl last year! This trip we were not so laden as we weren't camping. I need my comforts now but Toby, my son, is young enough to rough it! Our group used Scenic Car Tours for this event.

We departed deepest Somerset with a group of friends in various cars. The lunch stop was at the Jacaroo Cafe Thruxton, then onto the M25 Services for an afternoon cuppa before arriving in Dover. After our overnight stop, we set sail on an early ferry to Calais.

Friday.

The first stop was Béthune where we had the whole of the historic town square set aside for classic cars. After checking to see if the local beers and wines were of an acceptable quality everyone then drove on south to Laon. On arriving at the hotels many were out washing and polishing their cars for the following morning.

Saturday.

We proceeded to the central park area in the morning where all the cars congregated before heading out on different routes. In total this year 850 cars were attending the weekend. The weather was a bit grey but we did not bargain on the scenic tour roads that had been organised to and from the lunch stop. The lunch stop was at the Chimay Race Circuit. The roads we were taken on felt more like those of a special stage rally! We had the fun of driving parts of the original circuit. Our return back to Laon was just as





Saturday evening a group of us got together for a meal out one thing food is always good if you know someone who is a foodie!!!! After getting back to our hotel and washing our cars, we settled down for a relaxing evening.



Sunday.

Early start to go and park up in the center of the historic part of Laon to wait in anticipation for the Circuit. The town center is closed off to normal cars and only the entrants' cars can enter. Before we drove around we walked up to the centre from our arrival parking area. A short stroll but steps were involved 320 of them, I understand!! There was once a train to take you up but that sadly was all overgrown. The walk did us good, so I am informed. The old town was laid predominately to cobbles which helped our lunch go down quickly! We took the train back down!!



We set off eventually driving around the cobbled streets but the crowds were ecstatic to see us, egging us on to “put the pedal to the metal” to hear the sounds of the cars. You could do as many circuits of the town if your ‘rear ends’ could cope with the banging! With the ecstatic waving by the locals, the thoughts of sore rumps diminished. Later in the day, the cars were moving a bit quicker but we were able to find several ice cream vans to allow the cars to cool down. After the long hot stroll and each of us driving several times around the city, we returned to our hotel for a well-needed liquid refreshment and evening meal.



Monday.

Most of the cars headed back to their respective home areas but we had opted to do the second organised tour, both my son, Toby, and I decided that if the roads were like the previous run we would opt out.

So instead we drove up to Saint-Quentin a beautiful city. As it was a holiday in France the town was so quiet but again we were able to find an excellent restaurant to dine out in. We then returned to our hotel after a very scenic drive on deserted roads!

Tuesday.

Time to return back to home. To make us appreciate home it started to rain as we left Laon and continued all the way back to Somerset!

A lovely weekend and seeing several other MGCs enjoying the event was great.

Jonathan Graves-Morris



MEMBERS CAR



Graham Springthorpe at Thruxton



John & Marie Burton on the Brecon Beacons Road Run

FOR SALE

For sale, my 1968 MGC Roadster.



No 330 an early non-overdrive car. Original green log book, Heritage Certificate. SS exhaust, twin 12 volt, hi-gear starter, new windscreen, unleaded engine, radiator re-cored, good leather, new mohair tonneau, hood needs rear 1/4 window repair.

MGC Register Owner for 28 yrs, journey and maintenance log, kept in dehumidified garage, good body and chrome.

Four good 72 spoke wire wheels stored in wheel bags with in-date tyres and a new boxed water pump included in sale price.

Agreed written valuation of £29,500 dated 19/4/2021.

Ill health forces sale.

Located South coast.

£25,000.

Please Tel. 07884 467361

YOUR C REGISTER COMMITTEE

The Chairman –Mark Downing

mgc.register.chairman@gmail.com

Secretary— Mike Haughton

mgc_mike@btinternet.com

Treasurer—Angie Haughton

mgc_angie@btinternet.com

+44 151 336 1994

Registrars — Barrie & Ginny Cartmell

barriecartmell@me.com

ginnycartmell@btinternet.com

Vic Young

Our Technical advisor

What he doesn't know about MGCs.....

vjyoung@btconnect.com

Colin Howes

Tim & Virginia Hodgkinson

Martin Reynolds

Hi MG Enthusiast (UK),

The Book, 'MGCs Down Under', is now available.

Description:

The chapters cover a range of topics from the creation of the MGC, with a particular focus on the Australian connection, personal stories from MGC owners, Bruce Ibbotson's modification and RichardMixture's technical ramblings, to how the new MGC ended up Down Under in Australia, New Zealand and Papua. It also includes a list, with thumbnails photos, of MGCs in Australia and New Zealand - who knows, yourMGC might be there.

What it costs:

It's excellent value at AUD \$79 for the soft cover, AUD \$110 for the hard cover (only 100 copies available). Australia Post charges AUD \$58 postage to the UK.

Quotes:

"No other MG book that I have, has so much technical information about problems and the fixes required, it should become a reference book for MGC owners." Bruce, Aust.

"The second MGC book following Graham Robson's "Abington's Grand Tourer" to be published and it is a great read, informative, amusing and RichardMixture is a national treasure! If Graham was still alive, he would have been most pleased to see it." Barrie, UK.

"I want to say that I am amazed at what was done by the guys in Australia and New Zealand to improve the C. You really put together a fine book ..." Jeff, USA.

No doubt you are aware of the book 'MGCs Down Under'. I have finally sorted out the links and now the MGCs Down Under website is live.

Please have a look. <https://www.mgcsdownunder.com/> (to purchase the book)

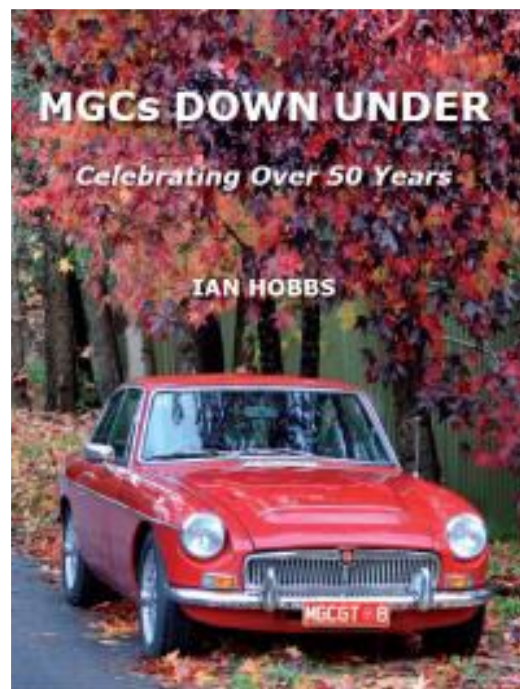
Please share the website with your members. Thanks

Ian Hobbs

MGC Co-ordinator

MGCC SA mgcgt@optusnet.com.au

I can highly recommend this book having got a copy, its very interesting.



And finally, we have a range of clothing items available via ACE, this is just an sample of some of the things available, many more items and colours available. Just a note that the sizing is on the snug side.

MGC Register Merchandise Store

Order on-line here:

<https://mgcreg.ace-online.co.uk/catalogue>



Polo Shirt £15
T Shirt £10
Sweatshirt £20
Hoody £25
Bobbie Hat £15
Beanie Hat £10
Baseball Hat £10
Fleece £25
Softshell Jacket £29.95
Parka Jacket £40
Soft Padded Jacket £40
- Plus Postage (multi items same cost)

