

February 2026

www.1020mg.org.uk



We Had One of Those?

Chairman's Chat - February 2026

At its most recent meeting the 1020 committee discussed lots of exciting plans for 2026 - I will announce first details on many of these at this month's club night. A reminder that the February meeting will feature the return of guest speaker Hattie Miles who will be telling the intriguing story of the Murder at the Villa Madeira.

At the meeting, those who have not already done so can renew their club membership for 2026 - a reminder that subs have increased (for the first time in over 11 years) to £15 for couples and households and £10 for individuals. Ursula Bonner will be taking your payments in person either in cash or by credit card, alternatively if you can't make the meeting you can renew via bank transfer on-line (cheques are now no longer accepted).

Membership Secretary Pat Lodge will be issuing membership cards to those who have paid at the meeting. Reminder that if you wish to renew your membership and have your membership card sent to you via post rather than collecting it at a club meeting there is an additional £1 payment to cover the cost of postage.

FINAL CHANCE TO BOOK FOR THE DICK JOLLY MEMORIAL RUN

The February club night is also the final opportunity to book your place for the 1020 Winter Road Run on Sunday 15 February which will start from Hamworthy Club and finish with a roast lunch at The Stocks Inn pub at Furzehill - due to the time of year MGs are not compulsory so bring any car that is available. The event pays tribute to former club member Dick Jolly who organised a series of Jolly Runs 25 years ago - see photo right.

Entry forms with all the menu options will be available from Pip Bonner at the club night. An entry form is also available to download from the website on the diary page. Full details on this event feature later in this newsletter.



DISCOUNT MG ROVER OPEN DAY

New Forest based Discount MG Rover Spares are hosting an open day at their Holbury premises, Unit 25 Glenmore Business Park, Southampton, SO45 2AR (in the shadow of the Fawley oil refinery) on Saturday 25 April (that's the day before our Drive it Day meeting at Shillingstone Railway Station).

The Cars and Coffee event runs from 10am to 2pm and is being organised in conjunction with the MG Rover Hub. All MGs and Rovers of any age are welcome.

Chris Adamson

1020 Management Committee 2026

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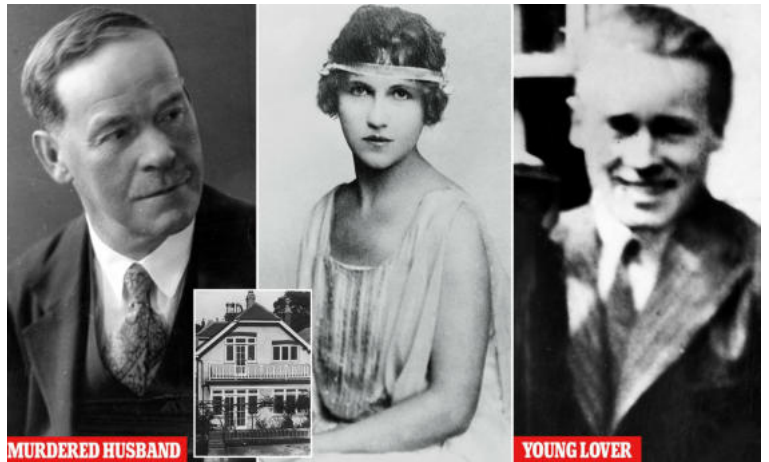
Events Group - Alasdair Wellwood - wellwood@1020mg.org.uk

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February club night - Murder Mystery!

In 1935 the Villa Madeira in Manor Road, Bournemouth was the scene of the death of well-known retired architect Francis Rattenbury that was to achieve national notoriety with reverberations which continue to this day.

What became known as the case of the Lady and the Houseboy will be recounted at this month's club night by guest speaker Hattie Miles who will be returning to tell the story of the 67-year old's demise and the trial for murder of his much younger wife Alma and their chauffeur and handyman 19-year old George Stoner.



The case was to have several dramatic twists and turns, including one of the protagonists escaping the hangman's noose. Even when the court case was over there were rumours of information that was never made public and it cast a shadow over the family right up until recent years.

As well as this fascinating talk, the evening will include the usual information on all forthcoming club events including the announcement of car shows that 1020 will be attending this year and details on how members can take part in all of the various club activities.

A reminder for all those who have yet to pay their annual membership fee that you can do so at the meeting in cash or by credit card - full details later in this newsletter. The evening will conclude with the usual monthly raffle for which prizes are always welcome.

Last chance to enter the 1020 Winter Run

There is still time to book your place on the 1020 Dick Jolly Memorial Winter Road Run which takes place on Sunday 15 February - but hurry as entries close on Monday 02 February, that's this month's club night.

The outing has been named in memory of former club member Dick Jolly who was known for creating a series of innovative road runs for the club, and starts at Hamworthy Club where cars can arrive from 10am with a suggested 10.30am departure.

The scenic route planned by Pip and Ursula Bonner will cover less travelled roads in North Dorset, although the plan is to avoid narrow lanes and road surfaces that might have suffered from the winter weather.



Participants will eventually arrive at The Stocks Inn at Furzehill near Wimborne where a roast lunch will be served from 12 noon. Entrants are asked to pre-book their choice of main courses that include roast beef, roast turkey, roast lamb or the vegetarian option of a nut roast (with gluten free alternatives) and there are small and large plate options. There is a £10 per head deposit for the lunch which will be refundable on the day in cash (this is non-refundable if a lunch booking is cancelled after 02 February). The full cost of meals is payable directly to the pub on the day.

Entry fee for the run is £5 per car to include a route book and rally plate - payment can be made by bank transfer or in cash or via credit card at club nights. Sorry we are unable to accept cheques. Forms can be obtained at club nights from Pip Bonner or via email pip@1020mg.org.uk There is also a copy of the entry form on the 1020 website. Reminder that the closing date for entries is Monday 02 February.

All aboard for the RNLI tours

Places are still available for the 1020 visits to the Royal National Lifeboat Institute headquarters in West Quay Road, Poole on 18 and 20 May - but members are asked to book as soon as possible so we can confirm the numbers with the RNLI.

The tours have been organised by committee member Alasdair Wellwood and the first date is Monday 18 May starting at 10.30am with a 90-minute tour of the All-weather Lifeboat Centre where the RNLI builds and maintains its fleet of lifeboats. Here visitors can see lifeboats at each stage of production and learn about the different classes of craft from the state-of-the-art Shannon to the pioneering Tamar.



There will then be a two-hour break for club members to have lunch or go into Poole town centre to do a bit of window shopping. You can use the RNLI restaurant (pre-booking required) or the on-site café - details on the booking form.

In the afternoon, starting at 2pm, everyone assembles again for the 90-minute RNLI College Discovery Tour which takes visitors behind the scenes of the world-class training facilities including visits to the Sea Survival Centre and lifeboat simulator.

The alternative date is Wednesday 20 May when the programme starts at 11am with the College Discovery Tour followed by the Lifeboat Workshop tour at 2.30pm.



The cost is £20 per person for the combined two-part visit on each day. There is a limit of a maximum of 12 people on each tour so places on the two dates will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

There are additional places available on the Wednesday morning tour of the training college only for anyone who just wants to see this aspect of the RNLI operation - this tour costs £10 per person.

Please note that there is no parking at the RNLI. However, there are several public car parks within walking distance - reminder that your visit will be over a period of around six hours. Booking forms are available from Alasdair Wellwood at club nights or on the 1020 website under the diary date for the visits.

Plans are in the early stages for several other club visits to local attractions and organisations - keep reading this newsletter in the coming months to find out more details. Suggestions for interesting places to visit, including coach trips are always welcome - let Chris Adamson have your ideas.

Cream teas and trains on 'Drive It Day'

For this year's National Drive it Day on Sunday 26 April we are returning for a visit to Shillingstone Station, part of the North Dorset standard gauge heritage railway which is located off the A357, mid-way between Blandford Forum and Sturminster Newton.

The station is on what was the Somerset & Dorset Railway line which opened in 1863. It eventually became part of British Railways Southern Region and was closed following the 'Beeching' cuts in 1966.

Restoration work was started by a small group of dedicated volunteers in the late 1990s, and a charity was formed to restore this part of the railway and re-open a section of the former line.

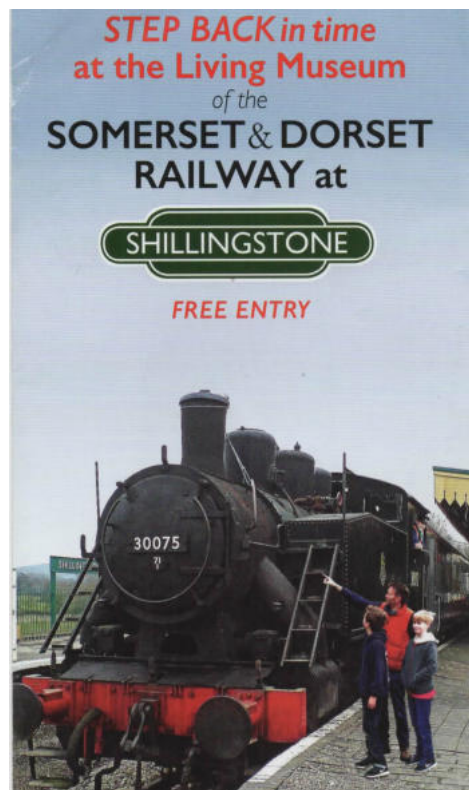
The first length of track through the station was laid in 2008 but since our last visit several years ago the volunteers have extended the track northwards to Bere Marsh, on the way to Sturminster Newton - there are plans to run train rides over this half mile of restored track.

At the station there are static exhibits of wagons and locomotives, some in the process of being restored, refurbished station buildings (including a signal box), a museum, cinema wagon, souvenir and book shop, and a cafe offering hot and cold drinks and a snack menu.

As part of the day, we have booked exclusive use of their dining carriage for afternoon cream teas. You will be able to pre-book teas (£7.50p) when you enter for the free event - booking forms available from March.

Members can arrive in their MGs (or alternative classic) and park in the station arrivals area which will be reserved for us from 1.30pm to allow time to tour the station and its attractions before the cream teas are served from 2pm until 2.30pm - the station closes at 4pm.

National Drive-It Day was launched in 2005 by the Federation of British Historic Vehicle Clubs to celebrate motoring heritage. It marks the One Thousand Mile Trial, which took place in 1900 to demonstrate the potential of the newly invented motor vehicle.



MG Breakfast Meet at Compton Abbas Airfield

Compton Abbas airfield is hosting an MG Cars and Coffee Breakfast Meeting on Saturday 28 February - the event is being run in conjunction with the MG Car Club South West Centre but is open to anyone with an MG.

The informal event runs from 9.30am until 11.30am and the outdoor Smoking Barrells Cabin will be open for refreshments such as, light bites, baps and cakes. For those wanting a full breakfast, the main Lore of the Sky Restaurant will be available although it is advised to book in advance to be certain of getting a table. There is also the opportunity to stay on for lunch, but again booking is recommended.



For those who have not been there before, Compton Abbas airfield is located at Ashmore which is on the road between Blandford and Shaftesbury and is an enjoyable run out in the country. Allow some time for parking.

This is the first of three MG breakfast meetings at Compton Abbas Airfield the following dates are on: Saturday 02 May and Saturday 01 August.

We Had One of Those?

If you have been to part of the outdoor exhibition area at the National Motor Museum at Beaulieu recently you may have spotted that the 2000s are represented in the museum's new 'We Had One of Those' exhibition by a Trophy Blue MG ZS five-door hatchback (also see front page).

Although from the outside it looks a rather clean and tidy example, a closer inspection discloses that there is quite a lot wrong with the ZS. This includes missing door handles and door cards, as well as ripped and perished upholstery.

If you ask the attendants nicely, they might even let you have a look under the bonnet which reveals even more horrors: the engine has been played with, it has an oversized exhaust and it has been fitted with an ignition system that creates flames from the exhaust on demand - there is ample evidence that this MG is never going to be a runner again.

The only good news is that the museum only paid £400 for the ZS which is probably about what it is worth in terms of spare parts. It's just a shame that they couldn't have found a better example to represent the first decade of the new century.



Cobweb Spin goes to the funfair

Our good friends at Winchester MG Owners Club have announced that their traditional Cobweb Spin event will take place this year on Sunday 12 April and will be based at the Hollycombe Steam Fair and Park near Liphook in Hampshire.

The fair features authentic steam-driven Victorian and Edwardian fairground rides such as the Golden Gallopers, Steam Swings and Chair-o-Planes. You can find out more about the location and book your places at: www.hollycombe.co.uk

Entry fee for the Cobweb Spin is £11 per car and is booked via the Hollycombe website by selecting the date. For more information see their event advert or check out the Winchester MGOC website: www.winchestermgoc.com

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2026**



www.winchestermgoc.com

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12th April

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1020 to be part of Westbourne CARnival

Westbourne Motor Show is returning for 2026, which will be its third year, it has a new name - Westbourne CARnival - it takes place on Saturday 16 May and 1020 has already booked a stand space, initially for ten cars but more can be added if more members wish to take part.

The event takes place in Seamore Road, Westbourne from 10am until 4pm when all through traffic is diverted and the street in the heart of Westbourne is reserved for pre-booked cars to be displayed. There is live music in the local bars from 3pm going into the evening with the option for exhibitors to stay and enjoy the entertainment on offer.

This year the organisers are extending the display space to showcase more vehicles, from classic motors and custom builds to cutting-edge supercars. In addition, there will be entertainment and rides, food and drink. More details can be found at:

www.motorshow.live/westbourne-carnival/



Anyone from 1020 who wishes to take part should contact Chris Adamson who will be taking names and vehicle details and distributing indemnity forms which need to be completed and available to show to the marshals on the day. The club will have public liability cover for our display area provided by the MGOC.

Sturminster Newton Vintage and Classics

A number of 1020 club members attended The Sturminster Newton New Year's Day Vintage and Classic Vehicle Run which was held in aid of Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance Helicopter and sponsored by Harts of Stour.

Vehicles assembled at the Station Road Car Park before setting off on a 33-mile run into Somerset which finished at Henstridge Airfield, home base of the air ambulance.

Approximately 80 cars were involved, including 1920s models and military vehicles. Among those taking part were Jackie and Les Cherrett in their MGBGT (right) while Eddie and Sybil Milligan had to take a modern car as their MGC suffered a clutch problem.

Among the other participating vehicles was an unusual MGBGT pick-up which attracted a lot of attention (see below right), an MGC and a an early MG TD. Many drivers and their passengers took the opportunity to lunch in the new extended clubhouse at the airfield before heading home.



MGs in the Winter sunshine



Club member Dennis Jones missed the January club meeting as he was on holiday in Armacao de Pera in Portugal.

However, he couldn't quite get away from MGs entirely as he came across a classic car display on the beach front where the line-up included this right-hand drive MGC. Dennis says he spoke to the owner who lives there now.

May meeting in the Park at Rowlands Castle

Solent MGOC are once again hosting their annual event at Stansted Park at Rowlands Castle, near Portsmouth in Hampshire. It takes place on Sunday 17 May 2026 and, as in recent years, there is no need to book in advance, just turn up on the day.

The venue has much to offer with the house, gardens and garden centre - full details will appear in the MGOC monthly magazine *Enjoying MG* from February onwards.



Capering through the Cotswolds

Following last year's damp but, successful, Cotswold Caper which raised £5,000 for charity, Gloucestershire MG Owners Club has announced that their 20th Caper will take place this year on Sunday 05 July.



The event is open to all classic and cherished cars and it usually attracts well over 100 cars with entries from all over the country. This year's route, which starts at Cirencester Football Club GL7 1HS, is around 85 miles in total, with a half-way stop for lunch where participants can picnic or have lunch at the café.

Entry fee is £35 for a car and occupants to include a route book and rally plate plus the option of an additional £6 per head for a pre-booked bacon roll together with a tea or coffee.

Gloucestershire MG Owners Club has been running the Cotswold Caper for the last 19 years to support local charities. In that time, they have raised over £83,000 for their various chosen charities. A different local charity is nominated and voted for every year by its members. This year the 2026 chosen charity is Children Achieving Lifelong Movement.

Gloucester MGOC can supply a list of local hotels for anyone who wishes to stay over for the weekend, as many entrants tend to. More details about the event can be found at www.glosmgoc.co.uk

Older drivers could face new eyesight test

Compulsory eyesight tests for the over 70s is one proposal in a new government consultation document which is designed to promote safety on the UK's roads - the warning is that those who fail the test could be banned from driving.

Drivers are currently not subjected to mandatory tests once they obtain their licence, no matter how old they become. However, they are required to inform the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA) if they admit they are no longer fit to drive.

About 24 per cent of all car drivers killed in 2024 were 70 or older, and 12 per cent of all casualties in car collisions involved older drivers. Officials hope compulsory eye testing will boost the road safety of older drivers without unnecessarily restricting their mobility and personal freedom.



In April last year, the transport secretary received a prevention of future deaths report from HM Senior Coroner for Lancashire Dr James Adeley, which related to the deaths of four people killed by drivers with failing eyesight. He wrote: "Self-reporting of visual conditions permits drivers to lie about their current driving status to those performing an ophthalmic assessment and avoid warnings not to drive. Drivers may also admit they drive but then ignore instructions not to drive and fail to notify the DVLA."

AA (Automobile Association) President Edmund King has welcomed the proposal, saying it is "important" because the likelihood of a driver being involved in a crash increases once they reach that age. He said: "A move to make eye tests for older drivers mandatory is obviously welcome, especially as the likelihood of crashes increases once someone is over the age of 70 and markedly shoots up over the age of 80 to a peak at age 86, with eyesight often a worrying factor."

Guild of Experienced Motorists head of road safety James Luckhurst, commented: "GEM believes that good eyesight is a cornerstone of safer driving in later life. By maintaining the best possible standards of vision, older drivers can protect their independence, while also reducing avoidable risks for everyone who uses the roads."

Another proposal in the consultation document is to reduce the drink-drive limit to 22 micrograms in England and Wales, bringing those nations into line with Scotland, which cut its drink-drive limit in 2014.

Currently the limit in England and Wales is 35 micrograms of alcohol per 100ml of breath. This has remained unchanged since 1967 and is currently the highest in Europe alongside Malta.



The road safety strategy also proposes ordering some convicted drink-drivers to have on-board alcolocks fitted to their vehicles (so that the ignition will not operate if the driver is over the limit), as well as new powers to suspend driving licences for people suspected of drink or drug-related driving offences.

Other planned measures to be consulted on in the latest document include a minimum learning period for new drivers, and a crackdown on uninsured drivers and illegal vehicle number plates.

Entries open for the New Forest Car Show

Following the success of last year's inaugural New Forest Car Show, organisers Bransgore Rotary have announced that they will be running the show this year on Sunday 05 July at The Playing Field in Bransgore - and 1020 plans to be there once again.

This time the show (which is open to the public from 11am to 4pm) has been officially opened up to all ages of vehicle on club stands so that both classic and modern MGs will be welcome. Entry fee is £5 per exhibitor which includes the car, driver and a passenger.

Vehicle owners are required to register individually to take part - but the entry form includes a section under vehicle details to allow you to say you are from Bournemouth and Poole MG Owners Club which will ensure they allow space for you on our stand.

Once you have registered please let Chris Adamson know so that he can double-check that sufficient space has been allocated to the club display. More information and an entry form can be found by going to www.bransgorerotary.com



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www.bransgorerotary.com

A trio of MGs in latest SWVA Classic Sale

MGs are thin on the ground for the Winter Classic sale at South Western Vehicle Auctions which takes place on Thursday 29 January - just three featured in the on-line catalogue at the time of writing.

First up is lot 17, a sleepy 1969 Primrose Yellow MGB Roadster (with black interior and roof) that has been in storage for the last three years but is in a running condition although some light recommissioning and routine mechanical checks will be required.

It is a bereavement sale and was in the ownership of the vendor's late husband for the past 12 years. Accompanying the car is a comprehensive history file, including MOT certificates dating back as far as 1989, a selection of old tax discs, and a substantial quantity of invoices documenting expenditure throughout the vehicle's life. It has 72,500 miles showing on the clock and a come and get-me estimate of £3,500 to £4,500.



Next up (lot 33) is a 1981 MGB GT Limited Edition finished in Pewter Metallic over a cloth interior. It is part of the final MGB run and one of just 580 LE B GTs made - it has an indicated 52,500 miles on the odometer and will find a new home for bids in the region of £4,000 to £5,000.

The MG formed part of a private collection and was kept by the vendor's late husband for the last few years. It is now being offered as part of an estate sale. While there is no documented history accompanying the car, the auctioneers say it presents very well in both appearance and overall condition.

Finally for the MGs, Lot 36 is a well-kept Pageant Blue 1979 rubber bumper MGBGT showing 11,800 miles, four previous owners and with a reasonable £4,000 to £5,000 price guide. For purists the fitting of a Mazda MX-5 five-speed gearbox conversion might be a step too far.

Southampton & New Forest MGOC

New Forest Run Sunday 7th June 2026



<https://www.1009mg.org.uk/new-forest-run-2026/>

Email: nfrun@1009.org.uk

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Winter warmers with 1020 club clothing



The 1020 club clothing stock now includes a previously owned black fleece lined sleeveless gilet - which features the MG logo in red. The item is sized as medium and is available for a sensible offer from Ian Hanstead at club night - the proceeds will go into club funds.

Ian also has details on all the new club clothing that is currently available including warm winter hats and waterproof jackets.



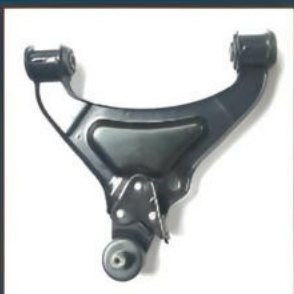
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Annual 1020 subscriptions now due

A reminder to all club members who have yet to renew their 1020 membership for 2026 that the annual subscription was due on 01 January 2026 and can now be paid either at the February club night (cash and credit-card payments only) or on-line by bank transfer. Renewal forms are available from Patricia Lodge at club nights or via email at pat@1020mg.org.uk

The 2026 fee is £15 per couple / household (which gives paid members access to club nights and club events including the subsidised coach trips and Christmas lunch) or £10 per individual. Paid-up members receive the monthly newsletter and a membership card offering discounts at various local businesses.

The options for making your payment include bank transfer to Bournemouth and Poole MG Owners Club, Account Number 88130398 and Sort Code 51-81-41. If paying by this method, please ensure that the payee details include your name and the word 'Subs' so that we can identify who the money has come from.

As well as making the payment, please complete a copy of the renewal form and return it to Pat Lodge either in person or via email. If you are unable to attend a club meeting to collect your 2026 membership card please add an extra £1 to your fee to cover postage.

The second option is to pay treasurer Ursula Bonner in cash or by using a credit card at a club night. Please complete the renewal form and hand this to Ursula with your payment, then take the form to Patricia Lodge who will issue your new membership card. **Please note we are no longer accepting cheques as payment.**

If any of your contact details have changed in the last 12 months (telephone/ mobile / email / address) or if you have changed your MG in the last 12 months, please provide the updated information in the space provided on the renewal form as this helps us to keep our records accurate.

Anyone who has not renewed their membership by the March club night (Monday 02 March) will be removed from the club's distribution and invitation list as it will be assumed that they no longer wish to be a member of 1020.



MGB - MGB GT - MGF - MG TF
MG MIDGET - MG ZR
MG ZS - MG ZT - MONTEGO - MAESTRO



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1020 CLUB ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS 2026

Events in red are organised or supported by 1020

All events are subject to cancellation or postponement

FEBRUARY

02	1020 Club Night - Murder at the Villa Madeira	1020mg.org.uk
08	MG & Triumph Spares Day, Stoneleigh Park	mgandtriumphsparesday.co.uk
15	1020 Winter Road Run - lunch at The Stocks Inn	1020mg.org.uk
20-22	Race Retro, Stoneleigh Park	raceretro.com
28	MG Breakfast Meeting, Compton Abbas Airfield	comptonairfield.com

MARCH

02	1020 Club Night - When Dorset Made History	1020mg.org.uk
20-22	Practical Classics, Classic Car and Restoration Show NEC, Birmingham	necrestorationshow.com
22	Pride and Joy Day, Exbury Club	

APRIL

06	1020 Club Night - Talk on Spring Gardening Practical presentation by Bob Sawyer	1020mg.org.uk
12	Winchester MGOC Cobweb Spin, Hollycombe Steam Fair and Park, Liphook	winchestermgoc.com
12	MGB Register Spring Run, Milletts Farm	
19	1020 Spring Road Run - finish at Haynes Museum	1020mg.org.uk
25	Discount MG Rover Spares - Coffee and Cars	dmgrs.co.uk
26	National Drive It Day - Club meeting at Shillingstone Railway Station with Cream Tea	1020mg.org.uk
26	Beaulieu Classic Day	beaulieu.co.uk

MAY

02	MG Breakfast Meeting, Compton Abbas Airfield	comptonairfield.com
04	1020 Club Night - Talk by Stefan Morawiec Walking with My Dad	1020mg.org.uk
10	Exeter MGOC - More2See Run	exetermgoc.com
16-17	Beaulieu Spring Autojumble	beaulieu.co.uk
16	Westbourne CARnival - Club Stand	1020mg.org.uk
17	Dorset Blind Association Motor Show Lulworth Castle	
18 & 20	1020 RNLI Headquarters Tours	1020mg.org.uk
17	Solent MGOC MGs in the Park, Stansted Park	solent-mgoc.org.uk
24	Pride and Joy Day, Exbury Club	

JUNE

01	1020 Club Night - MG Film	1020mg.org.uk
07	Southampton & New Forest MGOC - New Forest Run	1009mg.org.uk
07	MGs in the Park, Oxford MGOC	oxfordshiremgoc.co.uk
13	Macmillan Summer Fete - Club Stand	1020mg.org.uk
20	Ferndown Fete on the Field	ferndownandparleyrotary.org
27-28	Thruxton Retro, Thruxton Circuit	thruxtonracing.co.uk
28	1020 Summer Road Run, finish at Morden Hall	1020mg.org.uk

JULY

05	Broadstone Family Fun Day	broadstonefunday.org.uk
05	New Forest Car Show, Bransgore - Club Stand	bransgorerotary.com
05	Cotswold Caper, Gloucestershire MGOC	glosmgoc.co.uk
06	1020 Club Night - Members Choice	1020mg.org.uk
11	Westival Show, West Moors - Club Stand	1020mg.org.uk
09-12	Goodwood Festival of Speed	goodwood.com
19	Pride and Joy Day, Exbury Club	

A LIST OF EVENTS CAN ALSO BE FOUND ON THE WEBSITE - 1020mg.org.uk

Club Clothing

Revised list and 2026 Prices



Caps - £12
 Bobble Hats - £14 (new)
 Beanie Hats - £14 (new)
 Polo Shirts - £17.50
 Full Zip Fleece - £30
 Waterproof Jacket - £40
 Gillet - £39
 Ian Hanstead email:
 ian@1020mg.org.uk

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