

**Midget and Sprite Club
Kent & Surrey Region Newsletter/Update**

New Kent venue: The Angel P.H. Addington Green, West Malling, Kent. ME19.5BB
Tel: 01732-842117 www.theangelinnaddington.co.uk.

This new venue is merely 1.8 mile east of the Moat. Car parking front and rear but not in the no thru road opposite. (**April 24th**)

Surrey meets at the Blue Ball, Walton on the Hill, Surrey, KT20 7UE., on Third Tuesday of the month. Evening from 1900hrs (**April 19th**)

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Midget 50 taking place at Burghley House on the 12th June is now really taking off. Attracting some the worlds most important ex works and private entrant Spridgets ever to be gathered in one place, the event is set to eclipse even Spridget 50 of 2008. And along with the famous cars will be some of those famous drivers associated with them in their heyday, like guest speaker Mike Garton, who will be re-associated with his old Sebring Sprite MEG 199. Along with the cars will be at least two of the transporters that once ferried the cars across Europe, including the iconic Ecurie Ecosse transporter.

With such attractions it's no surprise that Midget 50 will undoubtedly see the largest gathering of Spridgets ever, with cars coming from all around the world. Interest in the event is becoming immense, with the organisers seeing demand for tickets step up dramatically, and its quite understandable if for no other reason, certain items of the official regalia are being limited, and can only be requested when ordering a ticket. Clever marketing? "Well no not really" says Julie Neville, the event's ticket and marketing manager. Going on to explain, "we have to decide many months in advance just how many items we should order, and with tickets selling faster than expected, things are flying off the shelves as soon as they arrive".

All this activity has generated more than usual interest in the cars themselves, leading to increased requests for information from the four clubs involved. Senior officials from all the clubs, MASC, MGCC, MGOC and AHC, have mentioned that they are sure it's due to the Midget 50 event itself, plus the publicity many magazines have created lately. For the classic motoring media have also noted that 2011 is the 50th anniversary for the little cars from Abingdon. Classic Car Weekly road tested the MGCC's Star Car Midget towards the end of January, mentioning the great celebration planned for June 12th at Burghley no less than four times, hotly pursued by Practical Classics when they road testing no less than 5 Spridgets in a back to back comparison lately.

All this bodes well for Midget 50, where some of the world's finest examples of Sprites and Midgets will be on display. From outstanding original Concours Mkl Frogeye Sprite's, through to similar immaculate final versions of the all black 1500 Midget, racing cars from the old 'prodsports' days through to today's Midget Challenge cars, plus of course the historic cars already mentioned, all will be on

show for one day only with the wonderful backdrop of Burghley House to set the scene. To catch the action and latest news go to [//www.midget50.com//](http://www.midget50.com/) where far more information can be found along with details of how to obtain your tickets.

Marshalls, and people to man the Masc stand, are required. Are you willing to give perhaps an hour of your time at this show? If you are please contact Bill Mohan bill.mohan@sky.com

April 10th MG Era at Brooklands Museum , Weybridge, Surrey. I need numbers as I am negotiating with Brooklands to allow Austin Healey Sprites & derivatives into this M.G. event, and also for a Masc pitch.

Healey derivatives will need to show a Midget and Sprite Club membership card to gain entry.

Don't forget Hants Open Day is on **Sunday 17th April** from 12.30 until around 4.00pm. This will be the fourth time this event has been held and it is proving to be ever more popular. Last year there were cars from Surrey, Sussex, Kent & Hants along with several visitors who had seen local advertisements and just turned up for the fun. By the end of the day there were a grand total of 46 cars and

one miniature steam engine. This year there will be two steam engines and hopefully even more cars as several other Masc areas are planning to join the day.

Once again the Club Regalia will be on sale and if anyone has anything that they would like to bring along to display or sell then please do so. Last year several people sold autojumble from a rug beside their cars, it's an excuse to sort out the garage and it makes a good reason to stop and have a natter – as if we need one!

There is ample parking on the field at the side of the Fox and Goose, Greywell, Hants so it's an ideal spot for a picnic. Food and drinks are available from the pub but if you would like to book a table then please give them a ring on 01256 702 062 and they will be happy to oblige.

Meet at the Grasshopper just outside Westerham on A25, as usual, and drive over to the venue?

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On **Sunday 1st May** an invite to join, to Masc members, MGOC 0906 for a fun driving day starting at Rettendon , Essex with an hours drive, an observation test, a manoeuvrability test and then a visit to a WW1 aerodrome & museum. Bring a picnic! £10 entry fee.

Miglia 2011

10th - 20th September

For M.G. Midgets, Austin Healey Sprites, & derivatives only

This years event starts at Dover X Channel Ferry Port on 10th September. After crossing to Calais drive to Reims. There are two optional routes.

(1) That used last in 2009 via Arras & Peronne or (2) new for this year via Albert crossing the Somme Battlefields.

Day two. Drive to Mulhouse for either (1) the French Railway Museum or (2) the French national Motor Museum formerly known as the Schlumph Collection.

Day three. Drive through Switzerland via mountain passes to challenge the famous Stelvio Pass with its multitude of hairpin bends.

Day four. provides options. Either (1) drive alongside lake Iseo to Mille Miglia Museum at Brescia or (2) alongside lake Como to the Alfa Romeo Museum at Arese.

Day five. Drive through the Tende Tunnel to have an afternoon exploring either (1) Monte Carlo (as in 2009) or (2) Nice. (3) or drive the Col de Torini

Day six. Drive along the scenic Napoleons Highway.

Day Seven. Drive across hills to Millau Bridge.

Day eight. Onward to Angouleme for the 'Circuit de Remparts' motor race

Day nine. Little driving today as there is motor racing to watch.

Day ten. Drive to Le Mans via Chinon.

Day eleven. Its homeward bound to catch the return ferry at Calais.

The ferry will be P&O line Dover / Calais

Hotels will be Campanile except for that at Sondrio (Day Three) and Le Mans (Day ten)

More Details? Alan Anstead Surrey / Kent Area Rep.

Mailto: alan.anstead@btopenworld.com Tel: 01322-384050

Cost approx £700 each all inc' (fuel, ferries, hotels, meals etc) based on two sharing. I now need **firm** entries as I am about to have the route books printed.

I have just added Mt Ventoux & the Col De Turini to the route. We will probably be joining with Amiclae Spridget for a meal at Angouleme on the evening preceding the motor race (day eight)

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25th September 2011 Classic Cars on Bearsted Green. The organiser has only allowed for TEN Masc cars. There are only five slots now available so if you want to attend let me know so that I can forward to you an entry form. A.s.a.p. £5 entry fee.

Sales and Wants

Wanted RVC2415 tachometer (revcounter) from Sprite / Midget/ MGB.

Websites of interest

For those of you interested in Sebring Sprites Kent Masc member Martin Ingall has recently updated his website www.sebringsprite.com

Our editor Gary's excellent website of Frogeye photos is again up and running, albeit in temporary form until a proper website is obtained at <http://frogeye.smugmug.com/>

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Coming later this year:-

2011 May 1st Fun Driving Day at Rettendon, Essex. Contact Doug Plumb
doug@tomtit.fsnet.co.uk

2011 May 17th Surrey Meet

2011 May 22nd Kent Meet

2011 June 2nd - 5th Spridgettreffen, Germany. Detail: www.spridgets.net

2011 June 21st Surrey Meet

2011 June 26th Kent Meet (I shall be absent on hols).

2011 July 2nd - 3rd Brittany Weekend A 300km tour in two stages based at St Briac (nr St Malo) Detail Dave Dixon (East Anglia Area rep) e-dave@ntlworld.com

2011 July 9 / 10 Ardingly Show. .[Detail :jeff.snell@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jeff.snell@hotmail.co.uk)

2011 July 19th Surrey Meet

2011 July 24th National Midget and Sprite Day at Silverstone Classic (22nd -24th). Discounted tickets available. Join the parade lap around the circuit. See Mascot for details. Quote Club Code when ordering tickets.

2011 August 7th Breakfast at JD's. Wycke Hill Business Park, Essex,

2011 August 16th Surrey Meet

2011 August 21st Cranleigh Lions Classic Car Show. Cranleigh Showground. Surrey.

2011 August 28th Kent Meet

2011 September 16th - 18th Goodwood Revival

2011 September 20th Surrey Meet

2011 October 18th Surrey Meet

2011 October 23rd Kent Meet

2011 November 11th - 13th Classic Car Show at N.E.C. Club Stand.

2011 November 15th Surrey Meet

2011 November 27th Kent Meet

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Alan Anstead

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