



2026 MG Car Club Anglia Summer Picnic Houghton Hall, King's Lynn, Norfolk



The 2026 Anglia Centre Summer Picnic is on Sunday 28th June at Houghton Hall, near King's Lynn in Norfolk, built in 1722 and now the home of the Cholmondeley family.

Sir Robert Walpole, the first de facto British Prime Minister and 1st Earl Orford, inherited the 17,000 acre estate in 1700. He went on to conceive, build and furnish a new, much grander, Houghton Hall and the foundation stone of the new house was laid in 1722. Construction was completed after just 13 years in 1735 and remains one of England's finest examples

of Palladian style architecture. Ownership remained with the Earls Orford and then the 1st Marquess Cholmondeley (4th Earl Orford) into the 19th century, during which time no improvements were made. It wasn't until 1919, when the 5th Marquess and his wife took residence, that Houghton came back to life.

In 1913, the Earl of Rocksavage (future 5th Marquess of Cholmondeley) married Sybil, daughter of Sir Edward Sassoon. Her mother was born Aline de Rothschild, of the French banking dynasty. The couple moved into Houghton after the Great War with their three children and 'Rock' inherited the title on his father's

death in 1923. They accomplished a great deal over the next few decades, restoring both the State and private rooms, renewing the lead on the roof, and planting thousands of trees in the park and surrounding country.

The main house was not requisitioned during the war, although the stables housed a succession of military units, and an airfield for American bombers was built on Houghton land. Lady Sybil continued to play a key role in Houghton's restoration. In 1977 the house was opened to the public for the first time.

David, 7th Marquess of Cholmondeley, succeeded in 1990 and carried out major renovation of the house. The Walled Gardens were replanted in memory of his Grandmother, Lady Sybil, and were opened to the public in 1996. Lord Cholmondeley married Rose Hanbury in 2009. They live at Houghton with their three children and continue the process of restoring the house and its collections.

- **MG Car Club member event entry is £28 per MG car with two people (non-members £32)**
 - **MG Car Club member event entry is £14 per MG car with one person (non-members £16)**
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Notes: Entry to this event must be pre-booked. The entry price includes entry to Houghton Hall's Walled Garden, dedicated parking, one raffle ticket and a small contribution to MG Car Club Anglia Centre funds. An upgrade to full admission at £10 per person is available on the day.

Dogs on short leads are welcome in designated areas.

Booking Form (a photocopy or email with the requested information is acceptable)

Name.....Email address

Address

Post Code..... Phone(in case of query) MG model.....

MGCC membership noNumber of persons in car

Please pay the entrance fee via online banking. If you have paid the MG Car Club Anglia Centre previously then please use your saved bank information and use a reference of your name & 2026 Picnic.

If you are paying the Anglia Centre for the first time then please use account name: MG Car Club Ltd (The), sort code 40-08-10 account number 51629956, and use a reference of your name & 2026 Picnic.

If you are unable to use online banking, please send your booking form to the following address with a cheque payable to MG Car Club Ltd Anglia Centre. Your Car Park Pass and Entry Ticket will be emailed to you. If you would prefer a hard copy posted to you, please provide a stamped addressed envelope.

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Email - midnorfolk@mgccanglia.com Phone 07785 264016 - queries only.

Note - All information collected is used only in relation to this event.