



Newsletter

350

Oct 2010



Rocker Cover Racing

Committee Members

The inaugural MGNC Rocker Cover Race Meeting was held on Sunday September 5. Three well prepared racers competed to the enjoyment of the spectators.

More entries are hoped for for the next round to be announced soon. See page 4 for more details and pictures.

We will challenge PTSCC to build Triumph Racers.



| | | |
|---|------------------------------|--|
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| Ex Officio Clubhouse Refreshments Doug & Meghan Baillie | | |

MG Car Club - Northern Centre

PO Box 35765, Menlo Park 0102

Clubhouse c/o Umgazi Road & 26th Avenue, Menlo Park, Pretoria.

Meetings usually on first Monday of Month, check by phone.

www.mgcc-north.co.za

GPS S 25 46.495 E 28.16.035

Jacaranda Jottings

I have heard it said that to travel is good, but to return home is delightful. I really must agree with these sentiments. Having returned from 14 days in the UK I must say that being in SA is wonderful and Hazell and I were both ecstatic to be back.

Having travelled cattle class for the first time in many years I believe that an SAA Airbus should be referred to the Human Rights Council as inhumane and unfair treatment. How they have the nerve to say "we hope you enjoy your flight" I really don't know. The amount of space available would not comply with the minimum legal requirements for a passenger car and the noise levels probably exceed the factories act. Getting food poisoning on the outward trip didn't help either.

However, enough moaning. The purpose of our trip was varied, to go to the Goodwood Revival, to see Hazell's brother and family, to visit Tim and Jane Stanleick in Devon and to see our son and Hazell's parents in the Midlands. The weather proved kind most of the time with no rain at all!

We can report mission accomplished. The Goodwood revival, despite yours truly still recovering from Delhi belly, was an experience not to be missed. The atmosphere is tremendous, the variety of cars, bikes, planes and busses amazing, the period costumes dazzling and the racing incredibly competitive. Unfortunately we did not realize the necessity to pre-book grandstand seats, so we saw most of the racing on the TV afterwards. It was reported that in one race there was 1.5 billion pounds worth of vehicles! The organisation was beyond belief, entrance roads were closed to non event traffic, and we drove straight into the car park without a pause. I am not sure that I would want to go every year, certainly not if it involved travelling from here, but I think every classic car enthusiast needs to go at least once. One could drive into the car park without a ticket and ride the funfair, visit shops selling all sorts of things and of course look at the cars. A nice change in a country that charges for parking in supermarket car parks, and every where else! (If you can find anywhere)



and every where else! (If you can find anywhere)

Our visit to see Tim and Jane could be counted as the holiday part of the trip.

The weather was gorgeous and on one day we drove with them, in their MGs, roofs down, through the Devon lanes for lunch in a sea-side pub. That is the sort of trip MGs were designed for. Tim and Jane asked us to send their best wishes to all their SA friends and say they may be visiting next year.

The Newsletter may be a bit thin this month but we only returned from the UK on the 29th and I wanted to get it out as soon as possible. I would also appeal to members for contributions as they are few and far between at present. (Thanks to Ivan for the Indaba article.)

It is with sadness that we record the deaths of two of our members this month. Surely a reminder to all of us that life is short and we need to enjoy it to the full whilst we can. Thanks to Peter and the Hugos for the obituaries.

Steve



OBITUARY – TONY CASTLEMAN

6TH DECEMBER 1941 – 22ND AUGUST 2010



It is with sadness that we learned of the sudden and untimely death due to complications while undergoing surgery, of long-standing member Tony Castleman.

I have known the Castleman family since 1962 when I bought my first house in Rietondale. The nearest petrol filling station was the Oaks Garage in 15th Avenue Riviera and Tony's parents would often be supervising on the forecourt when I was filling up my car.

Initially I did not need use of the workshop but it was much later when we moved to the corner of Stuart Street and 15th Avenue, just two blocks from the Oaks Garage, when I was finishing the restoration of my 1938 Morris Fourteen-six that I met Tony as from time to time I needed bits of hardware or workshop help.

It was, however, when Clive Mulder and I formed NMG Auto Services, working at my house, that we got to know Tony and Shirley well. Tony took on work on more modern cars than NMG preferred to service. He also readily allowed us to

use his workshop facilities to do jobs that we could not handle in our workshop. He had engine bays steam cleaned for us and supplied various servicing items that we needed. We persuaded Tony to join our club and we carried his advert in our Newsletter.

Softly spoken, patient, ready with a smile, never angry, always ready to help, Tony was a true gentleman and friend.

He will be missed in classic car circles as well as by his family.

To Shirley and Family go our heartfelt condolences and we wish them the strength they will need in the difficult time ahead.

Forthcoming Events

October

| | | | | |
|--------|------------------------------|-------|---|----|
| Sun 3 | Alfa Rally | SARRA | Joe Smith 083 498 4994 | RR |
| Mon 4 | Natter & Noggin - Quiz night | NC | Clubhouse @ 19h30 - Please come early!! | c |
| Thur 7 | Natter & Noggin | JHB | Old Edwardians Club @ 20h00 | |
| Mon 11 | Exco | NC | Clubhouse @ 19h30 | |
| Sun 17 | Jacaranda Run & MG80 | NC | Clubhouse 10h00 | c |
| Sun 24 | Rallyesport Rally | SARRA | Andy Adendorff 082 552 0488 | RR |

November

| | | | | |
|--------|-----------------------|-------|---------------------------------------|----|
| Mon 1 | Natter & Noggin | NC | Clubhouse @ 19h30. Indaba post mortem | c |
| Thur 4 | Natter & Noggin | JHB | Old Edwardians Club @ 20h00 | |
| Mon 8 | Exco | NC | Clubhouse @ 19h30 | |
| Sun 14 | Casa de Madiera Rally | SARRA | Brian Askew 082 601 3021 | RR |
| Sun 21 | Sunday Run | | Details TBA | |
| | | | | |

December

| | | | | |
|--------|-------------------|-----|--|---|
| Thur 2 | Natter & Noggin | JHB | Old Edwardians Club @ 20h00 | |
| Sat 4 | Travelling supper | NC | Details to follow | c |
| | | | | c |
| Mon 13 | Exco | NC | Clubhouse @ 19h30 | |
| Sun 26 | Boxing day braai | NC | Clubhouse from 11h00. Informal get together for those who want to get out. | |

RR = Regularity Rally; c = Clubman event; v = Victor/trix event



Derek Howes found this intriguing photograph of a peculiar car driven by a propeller! The photograph was possibly taken in the 1920's judging by the bystanders clothes. The building in the back ground is The Royal Pavilion Hotel in Royal Tunbridge Wells in Kent, England.

Does any club member hazard a guess to what this car is? No prizes to the person that gets it right but I will tell you the answer next month's Newsletter and the first person with the right answer.

Answers to dfhowes@iburst.co.za

(Derek, you could at least buy the winner a beer!- Ed)

The views, comments and opinions expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily those of the Club or Executive Committee.



MG ROCKER COVER RACING

Competition Guidelines

The racers shall have no power source. All motive force is to be provided by gravity. Racers shall be based on a rocker cover from any MG or a rocker cover of the same silhouette.

The racer shall not be more than 40mm longer than the rocker cover.

Wheel track shall be no more than 200mm.

Racers shall have four wheels, no more than 150mm in diameter.

The maximum racer weight to be no more than 3kg.

The course shall consist of a launch incline 1.5m long followed by a level run of 6m.

The launch incline shall consist to two lanes, each 450mm wide.

The incline shall be 600mm high at the rearmost part and level with the course at the front edge. The front shall be beveled to provide a smooth transition from the incline to the run out area.

The official starting line shall be 600mm from the rear edge of the starting ramp. A mechanized starting gate may be utilized.

The run out section of the course shall provide two lanes 900mm wide. The lanes shall be clearly marked.



The finish line shall be marked 6m from the front edge of the launch incline.

The competition shall be conducted in heats of two racers at a time.

The racers are to be launched with their front wheels on the starting line. The first racer to have its front wheels cross the finish line is the winner. If neither racer makes it to the finish line, the one going the furthest in the lane is declared the winner.

If the wheels of a racer should touch the lane markers or cross over the lane marker the racer shall be disqualified. The remaining racer automatically becomes the winner.

Heat winners race until all are eliminated except one racer, which will be the outright winner.

New T type publication

"Totally T-Type 2" has been put together by the creator and original editor of the MGCC T Register publication, "Totally T-Type", which many of you will be familiar with, "Totally T-Type 2" focuses purely on technical matters, but best of all it is published entirely online by volunteers, and so can be offered at absolutely no charge.

"Totally T-Type 2" (TTT 2) is available in two formats,. Firstly, there is a "traditional" PDF ebook download that you can view on screen or print off and read at your leisure. Secondly, the articles themselves are reproduced on a webpage as a sort of "e-zine" format. The point of this is that it enables a two-way process, allowing the reader to make comments or ask questions about the article which can then be responded to by the author.

The website TTT 2 is hosted on is also home to a small but growing list of suppliers of T-Type spares. These will initially be UK-based, but will expand internationally in time. The idea of the "directory" that we will build is that it puts T-Type enthusiasts in touch directly with suppliers at source. Additionally, suppliers do not have to pay to be listed on our directory; it is put together as a service for the T-Type community, not for profit.

The first issue of TTT 2 can be read or downloaded at :<http://ttypes.org/ttt2>

Simply click on the front cover picture to download the .pdf, or read the publication directly on the website by working your way through the contents starting from "The Editor".

Event Detail

Bob's Quiz Night - Monday October 4

Don't miss this one. Please arrive early so we can get the quiz underway!!

Organise yourselves into teams of 4. There will be 4 rounds of 20 questions each. Topics will include General Knowledge, Sport, Geography and Music.

These quiz nights are always good fun with a competitive edge. Bob has recruited the Edens to be impartial judges to rule in the case of disputes.

Krugersdorp Hillclimb 9th October

The final event on the ZOC 2010 Fun calendar will be the Krugersdorp Hillclimb on Saturday 9th October.

This popular event will be an ideal warm-up for the Knysna Hillclimb that takes place on the weekend of 24-26 October. Regulations and online entries are available here:

http://www.zoc.co.za/documents/zoc_krugersdorp_hillclimb_20101009_regs.doc

MG 80 and Jacaranda Run- Sunday October 17



The Mother Club is celebrating 80 years of existence on the 16th & 17th of October. This date coincides with our proposed Jacaranda Run.

We will leave the Clubhouse at 10h00 for a tour of the Jacarandas, and historic parts of Pretoria. MGs will have unique stops to allow for video taping which will be uploaded to the internet for viewing as part of the MG80 celebrations. Other marque clubs will be invited to take part.

After the run we will return to the clubhouse for a Bring & Braai. Fires will be provided.

You can view details on this event at <http://mg80th.blogspot.com>

Natter & Noggin - Monday November 1

If you did not attend the Indaba, but would like to hear all the good, and some of the bad, things that happened come along to the November Natter and Noggin.

Those who were there will present their feelings and comments and hopefully some pictures.

We will also have a discussion on the Jacaranda Run and its contribution to MG80.

Travelling Supper - December 4

A Travelling Supper, in place of the usual Xmas bash at the Clubhouse, has been proposed for this year. Beginning and ending at the Clubhouse it is suggested that a meal of 3 courses be provided. Each course will be served at a different members' house.

Details to follow.

Thanks to Johnnie van Wyk for this, this guy was even older than some of our members!



Mr. Allen Swift (Springfield, MA.) received this 1928 Rolls-Royce Piccadilly P1 Roadster from his father, brand new - as a graduation gift in 1928. He drove it up until his death last year.....at the age of 102 !!!

He was the oldest living owner of a car from new. He donated it to a Springfield museum after his death. It has 170,000 miles on it, still runs like a Swiss watch, dead silent at any speed and is in perfect cosmetic condition. (82 years) ...That's approximately 2000 miles per year...

The 2010 Indaba

Ivan de Clerk

We knew beforehand that it was going to be a long trip down to the 2010 MG International Indaba held in Oudtshoorn. However, Peter Noeth yet again managed to put an excellent route together for the small group of members who decided to travel together in an assortment of MG's and a Fortuner. His schedule clearly indicated places of interest, ETAs and exact distances, any Rally organiser would have been proud of it. It helped to make the distances seem shorter.

The first leg took us to Kimberley, our first stop-over where we intended to visit the Groot Gat museum. We reached Kimberley and the Hadida Guesthouse safely, but decided to skip the scenic bit, just settled in and braaied together. Early the next day we set off for Sutherland on the more than 500 mile run. Our plan was to take the opportunity to visit the Observatory at Sutherland, a dorpie well known as the coldest place in South Africa, and where the new SALT telescope is located.



That evening found us outside in the strong, icy wind trying to look through one of the eleven inch Celestron reflector telescopes whilst our hands shook with cold. Our host Jurg, was bravely trying to show us the moons of Jupiter. In-

terest was waning, like the Moon at that stage, and we gratefully climbed back into the warmth of Johan's Fortuner.

The accommodation at the Olive Grove guesthouse was superb with real "farmhouse" charm and so many antiques that we wondered how on earth they could trust guests not to carry the lot off.

Thanks to Norman Ewing who made this recommendation to Peter.

On our way again, we stopped in Matjiesfontien where we briefly met Johnny Theunissen at the hotel. He treated us to some "colourful" jokes, which had us in stitches. We wish could have spent more time there, but we had to reach Oudtshoorn for the registration at the Indaba and the **Swartberg Pass** still lay ahead. No worries. We were on time at Kleinplaas and after registering and dropping off our luggage, we joined all our friends for the official welcoming followed by an excellent dinner. The Indaba,



organised by the Cape Centre, was fairly informal. Speeches were thankfully short and with lots of humour. Overseas guests from Australia, the UK and of course, Holland were introduced and welcomed.

The following day was dedicated to Concours and Top's Only competitions. There were not many entries this year but **Johan Nel's beautiful MG TD** attracted a lot of attention and small wonder that it won "Car of the Day". It looked great!

Then followed some runs through the town and outlying areas, and also a fun Drivers' test. The theme for the final evening was based on the **Flintstones characters**.

We particularly enjoyed the bright costumes and even saw some bones that were added as decorations. Betty showed off a leg, and Peter even more ...! He must have been shivering as it was quite



cold in the marquee. Dave and Maureen had matching costumes, and so did Johan and Gustaf.

On the final day we set off to Natures Valley for a short holiday at Johan's holiday home. Our group started to split up, with Albert returning for business, Ilse flying back from George, and Annette and Renske going on to Cape Town to visit friends. With two cars tackling the road over yet another mountain pass, the Outeniqua, then through to George and Plettenberg Bay, we finally reached our destination.

We particularly enjoyed the long walks on the beach

and Peter joined in hiking over the mountain to see the Sout River mouth. At 74 years of age he can still keep up and proved to be a real toughy. What a beautiful and peaceful part of the country this is, with lots of wildlife and birds and ideal for retirement.



Our journey back to Pretoria was hot

and uneventful. We stopped over in Trompsburg and from there the final leg was a short trip via Bloemfontein. We arrived home safe and sound

after completing the trip of 2,080 miles. Thanks go to Peter for a well planned route, Marcelle who booked all the accommodation for us, Johan and Ilse for the stay at Natures Valley, Albert for his excellent company, and Annette and Renske who showed such tremendous appreciation.

Obituary - Fanie Geyser

1 July 1947 to 21 September 2010

Fanie had been an MG Northern's member for many years, and was something of a fixture on many runs - major and minor - in his fastidiously kept pillar box red TD. In a club where themes and thinking are generally linear, Fanie could always be relied upon to come up with a view from out of the left field.

First a farmer, before becoming a businessman, there was not a tractor, a pump, or a donkey engine that he could not coax into sputtering life.

Fanie loved his MG, Suzette, his friends, his daughters, hunting, kuier, Neil Diamond, the Shadows, dancing, and laughing, although not necessarily in that order.

We shall all miss him. RIP



From Suzette and family

Thank you to all Fanie's MG friends for the many phonecalls, visits and support over the last few months. They were much appreciated. It was very heartwarming to see several members from both the Johannesburg and Northern Centres who attended the burial and memorial services.

Sincere thanks from Suzette, Corné, Stephanie and family



MG Mart

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>MG Midget - 1969. Engine rebuilt, seats retrimmed. Old English white. R55 000. Steve Eden 082 372 8740 (1)</p> | <p>Wanted MG TF. Rosa Pentz@absa.co.za (3)</p> |
| <p>MGB GT 1972. Chrome bumpers, rosstyle wheels. Asking value price R65 000.00 and assessed as excellent. Looking for a good home, only two owners. Vinca Cox 0823754235 (1)</p> | <p>MGBGT 1973 5 NEW TYRES, USED REGULARLY, RED WITH BLUE INTERIOR, AIRCON, OWNER MAINTAINED. SPACE NEEDED.R35 000 CONTACT STEVE GOOSEN 0833658444 (3)</p> |
| <p>MG1100 1967 TWO TONE CREAM/GREY WITH RED INTERIOR. USED REGULARLY. OWNER MAINTAINED. SPACE NEEDED. R25 000 CONTACT STEVE GOOSEN 0833658444 (3)</p> | <p>Personalised Number Plate, 066BGT GP, for sale. R400 Contact Michele Batstone 082 8354139. (3)</p> |
| <p>1963 MGB ROADSTER First one to arrive in South Africa. Original & in mint condition. Very clean, good running condition. Price – R125000 Contact: Mr. H Pretorius, Middelburg, Mpumalanga, Cell. 079 991 4457 (3)</p> | <p>Rover 1055 (P4) Year 1958,Electric overdrive,Twin carburettors, R 35 000. MG. BGT Year 1967 Spoked wheels Electric overdrive, Everyday use. R 45 000. BMW 520 I, Year 1987,,Everyday use,R 20 000. This one will be available by arrangement, but preferably by mid August. Contact Details: Owner: Roy Harrison, Tel Home: 041 - 58 11840. Email: raharrison@telkomsa.net (3)</p> |
| <p>2002 MG TF 160 for sale. The engine has a blown gasket but is still running. . The vehicle has 91 000 km's on the clock. The price for the vehicle is R45 000.00. I can be contacted at 072 359 6815 should anybody be interested. Sarel Roux (3)</p> | <p>MGTF WXS941GP. First registered 26-3-2003. Excellent condition, runs well. Usual OE features. Dark metallic blue, service record, Goodyear F1 tyres with good tread. New battery end 2008. Head gasket replaced March 2008 @ 97277kms by Emgee Workshop. Extras include GAZ coil over shock suspension kit (originals included), Nokia car kit incl 6310i, workshop manual CD, "Windstop" wind deflector, "Low larm" low coolant warning, "HY Tech" parking sensors front & rear, rear mudflaps. R95 000 Eddie McCabe 082 846 0200 or ecosse@vodamail.co.za (3)</p> |
| <p>MGB 1 Righthand door mirror (used),1 Lefthand door mirror (used)1 reverse light lenses (used),3 MGC distributor caps (2 new and 1 used), MGC Cam bushes, MGC oil filter housing (used),1 steering wheel. John Berry, cell is 083554773 and home number is 011 794 9478 (3)</p> | <p>2003 MG TF 160. British Racing Green with tan interior.115500 km. Uprated head gasket with oil distribution ladder, new head bolts, cam belts and water pump fitted at 105000km.Asking price R 85 000 onco. Andrew Morrall.Tel: +27 (11) 978 3401 Fax: +27 (11) 978 5648Cell: 082 447 8470email: andymorrall@flysaa.com (2)</p> |
| <p>For Sale -MGB GT - 1967 - White with red interior, nicely restored and well maintained - R85000.00 - Charles Thompson - 012 654 1284 (2)</p> | <p>Midget – 1972 round Wheel Arch. Red m 70000 kms. Has just been worked on after standing for 2 years. Brakes , water system, Fuel systems and carbs have all been cleaned and car is running well. Tyres good. Needs carpets and soft top repair. Further car needs TLC . Price R35000 onco – Car in Pretoria . Contact Jaco Guillarmod on 082 562 7000 Or Robin Godfrey at 082 6780171/012 4305004 (1)</p> |
| <p>1970 MGB GT (Jhb based). Wire wheels, white (new paint), body work in great condition, recently refurbished. Asking R78k Phone: Sean 0795019211 (1)</p> | <p>MGB Roadster 1963 White with red interior, soft top, tonneau. R 90 000 Reine 0711 801 523 info@kalaharimineral.com (1)</p> |

Advertisements must reach the editor by the 15th of the month of publication. Please preferably e-mail to stevejreden@gmail.com or fax to 0865439787. Adverts will be carried for 3 months unless an extension is requested.

The National For Sale and Wanted list is available on request.

MG - The Marque of Friendship