

# Newsletter 363 Nov 2011



## Jacaranda Run

by Hazell Eden

On a beautiful hot, sunny Sunday about 20 cars left Freedom Park to take part in the 2011 Jacaranda run. Accompanying them a photographer from 'Die Rekord' and Dave Hastie from "Classic Car Africa". The Hugo's and their helpers had entered into the Jacaranda spirit and were dressed in clothes, and in some cases shoes, of an appropriate hue. The staff at Freedom Park was very enthusiastic, and made sure we managed to find our way out without mishap.



We were given carefully prepared, colourful route schedules, complete with photographs of points of interest on the route we would follow: famous South Africans, important buildings, and the all important Jacarandas. Places which presented good photo opportunities were also clearly indicated. A well thought out, easily readable schedule. So how come so many cars got, well, lost? By the time we hit George Storrar Drive there were MG's coming from all directions, as participants battled to get back on route.



A 50 km run, in and around Waterkloof, Brooklyn, Pierneef and Central Pretoria, with of course The Union Buildings and Johan Rissik Drive included followed. The White Jacarandas on Herbert Baker were a magnificent sight, for those (few) of us who managed to find them.



After a hot 2 hours in the 'A', we were very pleased to get to the clubhouse where cold beers were waiting. The tables had been beautifully decorated by the organisers, complete with fresh Jacaranda flowers. A pleasant time of socialising with old friends and some new ones followed, as well as the opportunity to wish Adam Hugo a very happy 9<sup>th</sup> birthday! This latter causing some reflection for those of us who remembered, only too well, an earlier run just after

he had been born.

A news crew from E-TV arrived later in the day. Steve drove the A up and down the road while they filmed him, and Eileen Hugo and Dirk Putter were interviewed, in Afrikaans, for some future programme. A stall selling chilli

saucers did a roaring trade,



### 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](http://www.mgcc-north.co.za)

GPS S 25 46.495 E 28 16.035



as did the bar! Many thanks to all those involved in the organisation of another successful Jacaranda run.

(Pictures Steve Eden)

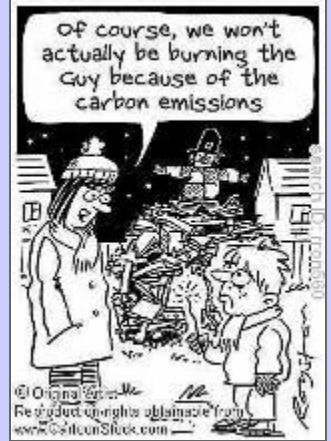
# Jacaranda Jottings



An interesting article from Dirk Putter this month in response to my appeals for input, Thanks Dirk. We will be sure to allocate time at a noggin for a full presentation.

Also thanks to Peter for his article on Wayfarers, pity Chris hasn't paid his subs for 2011, perhaps we should charge him for advertising!! Trevor has submitted the poem he recited at the last noggin, thanks.

Remember, remember the fifth of November, I see the greeny tree huggers have got involved in this as well! Don't forget, on the 20th we have a treasure hunt guaranteed to go with a bang.

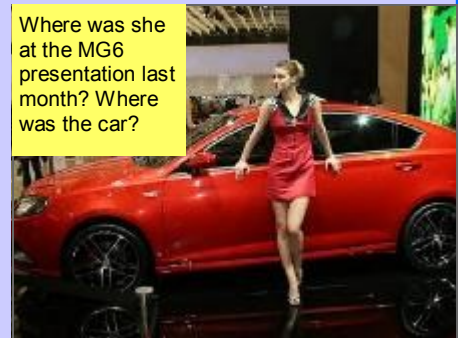


After more years than he would like to mention our esteemed treasurer, Tony Craddock, has decided to pass the money box to someone else. The Club owes an enormous debt of gratitude (no pun intended!) to Tony and he will be difficult to replace. After some discussion it has been finalised that I will take over from Tony as from Jan 2012. This obviously means that we require a new Newsletter Editor to replace

yours truly. I have agreed to carry on until the AGM in March, but someone else will have to pick up the job from then.

Coming up early next year will be the awards ceremony. Any suggestions on what format you would like?

Where was she at the MG6 presentation last month? Where was the car?



During the month Ivan de Clerk organised a trip round some of the gardens on display as part of a Rotary Fund Raiser. We visited 4 of the six display gardens and came away

a little green with jealousy at how beautiful they were. The amount of work put in by the owners must have been enormous.



The trip round ended with an enjoyable lunch at Isabella's. We then had the annual Jacaranda Run on Oct 16, for a change this started at Freedom Park and was organised by John & Eileen Hugo. See article by Hazell. Eleven of us

are off by various routes to the Cape Centres gathering in Graaf Reinet (27-29 Oct) so this newsletter is a little early. Steve

**THE PERFECT MOTORCYCLE (or T type?)**  
by Jack Delamain Ainger (With apologies to Mr. Rudyard Kipling.)

Submitted by Trevor Beddy

If you can keep your tune without attention  
Of any kind at all for many years;  
If you can stand ill-treatment of your engine,  
And bad manipulation of your gears;  
If you can fire, and not get tired of firing,  
Or being cursed at, don't start breaking down;  
If you can do your "sixty" without tiring,  
And yet be quiet when passing through a town;  
If you can start up first kick every morning,  
Even on a frosty winter's day;  
And never seize your engine without warning,  
Or let me down in any other way;  
If you can keep me dry when it is raining,  
If you can keep me warm when it is cold;  
If you can do your work without complaining,  
Not only when you're new, but when you're old;  
If you can use a minimum of fuel,  
And do a thousand miles on every tyre;  
If you can get the best of any duel,  
Even with machines of higher power;  
If you can be dismantled in a minute,  
Without any abnormal mental strain;  
Your inside scraped, and everything that's in it  
Removed and cleaned, and then replaced again;  
If you can do your work on all occasions,  
And show no sign of labouring or fuss;  
You'll put a stop to any Yank invasions,  
And – which is more – You'll be "The Perfect Bus"

## Welcome to new members

620 Gus Heinze MGA  
621 Asham Singh MG ZR  
We hope to see you at future events.

The opinions expressed in this Newsletter do not necessarily represent the views of the MG Car Club Northern Centre or the Executive Committee.

## Forthcoming Events

Point allocation c=Clubman, v= Victrix/tor Ludorum, RR=Regularity Rally, HR=Historic Racing

### November

Mon 7	Natter & Noggin	NC	Clubhouse 19h30	c
Mon 14	Exco	NC	Clubhouse 19h30	
Sun 20	Treasure Hunt	NC	Start at Mooikloof Village Centre 10h00	c/v

### December

Mon 5	End of year Natter & Noggin - Pizza night	NC	Clubhouse 19h30	c
Mon 26	Boxing Day Braai	NC	Clubhouse 10h30	

### January 2012

Mon 9	First Noggin of the year	NC	Clubhouse 19h30	c
Sun 15	Baylis Bash	NC	Bob's place in Midrand, leave clubhouse at 09h30	c
Mon 16	Exco	NC	Clubhouse 19h30	

### New Regalia that is available:

His and Her's navy golf shirts.

Jackets.

Beenie,glove and scarf set's.

Limited stock available, buy now to avoid disappointment

Contact Gary Chapman

## Subscriptions

The end of the year is here. Please note that your subs are due as from January. Please pay into bank account and notify the treasurer (now Steve Eden) via e mail, SMS, or phone. Bank details are on the club website. Please use your name and membership number as reference. Subs are currently unchanged for 2012 but if you require a posted newsletter an additional R100 is required to cover increased printing and postal costs. Please note, that as from Jan 1, Steve Eden has replaced Tony as Treasurer.

# Event Detail

## Natter & Noggin - 19h30 Monday November 7

Will they, won't they? CMH have indicated that they will (might?) bring an MG6 along. Phone John to find out.

## Charity Treasure Hunt - Sunday November 20

Last run of the year!!

A mystery route starting east of Pretoria at 10h00 to avoid the traffic. About one and a half hours on pleasant roads with easy questions ( really easy, don't be afraid) to maintain interest. A route of approx 60km, with a short run back to clubhouse afterwards.

Start is at Mooikloof Village Total, Garsfontein Road, (M30) 5.3 km east from Hans Stridjom (M10). S 25.84103, E 28.32638

Finishing back at the clubhouse for a bring and braai or picnic if you prefer. Entry is free but please bring along a donation of Mealie Meal or similar for Paul Jungnickel Home for people with disabilities.

## Natter & Noggin - 19h30 Monday December 5

Last of 2011, Please bring along a Pizza to share with the other members.

## Boxing Day Braai/Picnic - Clubhouse 10h30

A traditional post Christmas get together for those who need to get away from home. Not very well supported in recent years. Braai fires will be provided and liquid refreshments available.

## Natter & Noggin - 19h30 Monday January 9 First for 2012

A social evening to start the new year. Come along and tell us what Father Christmas brought you. Bring money and pay your subs!!

## Baylis Bash - Sunday Jan 15 - 09h30 from Clubhouse



Come and join us for a bring and braai in Bob's garden (maybe Tanya's!!). Braai fires and seating will be provided but please bring your own plates, cutlery and liquid refreshment. Parking is limited, so one car per family please!

Meet at Clubhouse at 09h30 or make your own way to 19 Summerset Estate, Garden Road/Seventh Avenue, Midrand.

We had a great time in the rain last year, imagine how good it will be in the sunshine!!

## Letters

### THE ART OF GIVING AND CARING IN THE MG CAR CLUB, NORTHERN CENTRE

For some time now the writer has been mindful of what he has been given by Friends within the MG Car Club , Northern Centre. I am also mindful of what I have contributed time wise to other people over many years which is my pleasure ,and the only way in which I can help others. There are many other people who give of time and talents where somebody's situation is " stuck in a rut and no way out." Recently Uncle Peter was at the end of the road and no foreseeable way out with a broken engine on Grey Lady. Good Samaritans in the club heard of this, fetched the car and fixed it at no cost. My greatest appreciation goes to these persons for their help. My sincerest thanks for the gift of completely overhauled carburettors for my MGB. I hereby wish to thank all those people who drop everything to help others – From fetching broken cars from the other end of nowhere to just popping I to see how someone else is doing, or a phone call when somebody is sick. Long may this culture continue.

Best wishes, Spooky

## KNOW YOUR (ex) MEMBERS CHRIS COLVERD

Chris, Member, no.287, joined the Northern Transvaal Centre, as it was originally known, in the very early part of its existence. However, we have not seen much of him and his good wife Morag, other than at Indabas, because the Colverds lived in Botswana for 20 years. Some 7 years ago, however, they came back to South Africa and settled down in Sabie, having bought the Wayfarers Guest House there.

In 2009 Chris organised the Sabie leg of the Johannesburg Centre's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Tour and put on a super 2-day event for the entrants. Some of you may have met him there.

Now it so happened that my sister, Daphne, and I, had booked a visit to Letaba rest camp in the Kruger National Park in August. We wanted to enter early through the Kruger Gate and drive up the long road to Letaba. This required an overnight just outside Kruger. Sabie was the obvious overnight stop, so we contacted Chris and booked in to The Wayfarers.

On the appointed day we arrived in Sabie in time for lunch at a local restaurant before being welcomed by Chris and Morag. Daphne and I were allocated two of the three rooms in the main house. There are two more rooms in the back garden. As you can see on the pictures, the decor and furnishings are fit for royalty!

Once we were settled in Chris and Morag entertained us with tea and cookies in the elegant guest lounge, which has TV, an honesty bar for sundowners, and space to relax whilst reading a book.

Chris directed us to the best restaurant for supper and then it was a super comfortable sleep.

We had chosen the English breakfast, which was an absolute tour-de-force. The range of top quality things to eat was

much more than either of us could manage.

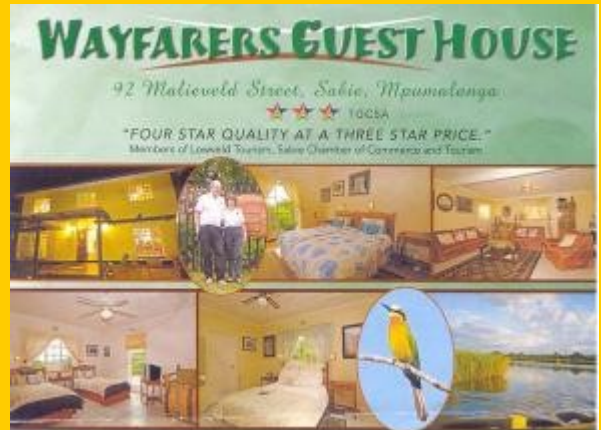
Chris is an avid classic car enthusiast. Apart from the MGC Roadster the garage houses an immaculate Jaguar E Type coupe and a modern Jaguar S Type for good measure.

However, his biggest passion is photography, especially the animals of the Kruger Park. The big cats are favourites and the house walls are covered with his work. One special one is this picture of a cheetah that appears to be standing on the tonneau of the MGC. The picture was featured on the front cover of the September 2000 issue Safety Fast magazine.

All in all our stay with Chris and Morag was a most pleasant and interesting experience. If you are planning a trip to Kruger Park or that area of Mpumalanga you cannot do better than to make a sleepover at the Wayfarers – you will be made welcome.

Peter Noeth

*(Please note, will the next person to stay here please remind Chris that he has not paid his subs for this year!! Ed)*



## Committee Members

Secretary George Dehlen	082 492 1806 012 991 1754	<a href="mailto:gdehlen@iafrica.com">gdehlen@iafrica.com</a>
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Treasurer Tony Craddock/Steve Eden (Jan 1)	073 221 2610	<a href="mailto:craddock@vodamail.co.za">craddock@vodamail.co.za</a>
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Newsletter/Treasurer Steve Eden	082 372 8740	<a href="mailto:stevejre-den@gmail.com">stevejre-den@gmail.com</a>
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Chairman, Clubhouse Maintenance John Hugo	082 801 9969	<a href="mailto:adaboy@absamail.co.za">adaboy@absamail.co.za</a>
Motor Sport Liaison Kollie vd Westhuizen	082 557 4712 012 993 3985	<a href="mailto:kollie@kollies.com">kollie@kollies.com</a>
Clubhouse Refreshments & Insurance Valuations Jay Westaway	079 528 1954 012 329 5533	<a href="mailto:jayw@vodamail.co.za">jayw@vodamail.co.za</a>
Clubhouse Refreshments TBA		

## Putters' Holiday in New Zealand

During September Sharleen and I were fortunate enough to visit our daughter who lives in the picturesque town of Queenstown in New Zealand (that is why we could not join you all for the visit to Ludwigs).

Queenstown is a quaint holiday town and Ski resort on the South Island with a population of about 10000 which grows to 45000 during the Skiing season. Collectively, this is where I have seen the most people walking with the aid of crutches due to skiing accidents.

Our visit coincided with the Rugby World Cup and while we were in Queenstown the English as well as the mighty Romanian rugby teams made it their base. Unfortunately there was not enough time for us to get to a live rugby match (the tickets were hellish expensive and the games were too far away from Queenstown). Rugby World Cup fever was however very high wherever we went and it was just as good to watch the games in a pub.

The weather down there (45 degrees south) still thought it was the middle of winter as we were lucky when the day temperature rose to above 10 degrees (night times were between -4 and 0). For both, Sharleen and I it was an exhilarating experience to see snow falling for the first time in our lives. I have included a picture of the view from my daughter's lounge over Lake Wakatipu and the mountains known as the Remarkables which really looks like a fairytale.



Anyway, I am not writing to tell you about our holiday. The last two days of our trip was spent with friends in Wellington. Unfortunately the Springboks had already moved away from their base which was Wellington as a result the town was a bit quieter, but we did not spend much time there as our friends had other more interesting plans for us.

Our friends knew of my interest in classic cars and suggested that we pay a visit to a car museum, which is about an hour's drive north of Wellington. I was expecting that we would perhaps be visiting a small barn containing a few old cars. Much to my surprise and delight when we arrived at a very large modern looking building which is called the Southward Car Museum; a far cry away from a barn with a few old cars.

At the entrance we were greeted by a 1930 Alfa Romeo 6 cylinder twin cam supercharged 1750cc producing over 100 hp.

As all good South Africans would do, we paid our entrance fees and wow!!!!!!!!!!!! there it was - a hall the size of a rugby field just full of classic cars from many eras and manufacturers and in many colours, shapes and sizes.



Once inside and battling to find my breath and composure, I felt like a chicken without a head, not knowing where to look first. Once I reached a semblance of order I discovered that there is also a basement full of cars, in all about 350 cars. And, oh yes, there were also some motor cycles, at least 100 of them, on a mezzanine level.



The museum was opened to the public in December 1979 and is a charitable trust with the object of preserving for posterity the largest and most varied collection of motor vehicles in the Southern Hemisphere. Trust benefactor, the late Sir Len Southward, began collecting cars in 1956 when he purchased a Model T Ford. He had been associated with the New Zealand motor industry since 1919 when he was a messenger at a Wellington Motor Warehouse. This sounds like a great

success story.

These are only a few pictures which I took to whet your appetite. I will be putting together a DVD in due course for all of us to enjoy at one of the nog-gins.



While New Zealand is very far to travel to, the whole trip takes about 25 hours, I would highly recommend that if anyone finds a reason to visit that country be sure to make an effort to visit this museum, it is absolutely worth it (and put a full day aside for it)



Kind regards

Dirk and Sharleen

## MG Mart

For Sale: MGB GT 1982, Red/Orange, with sun roof, perfect running condition, R60 000. Contact Renee Matthyen - 074 428 8863 or matthyen.renee964@gmail.com (2)

1960 MGA Roadster. Red with wire wheels. Owned by Dave and Marilyn Nunn since 1973. Excellent condition. R160 000.  
Contact 0827710461 or 0117282879 (2)

1972 MGB for sale. (Colour mustard with wire wheels) The vehicle is in excellent condition and runs extremely well. (tight) We would like to see it go to a collector rather than a dealer and as such if you could advise your members of the availability and give them this email address and I will co-ordinate the transfer of further details and test drives for interested individuals.

Jim Burns  
Phone: +27 10 202 6064  
Telefax: +27 011 579 8171  
Mobile: +27 83 235 4253  
email: jim.burns@za.abb.com (1)

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My Name is Carlos Lourenco and I am busy with registration papers pertaining to older vehicles for a fee. I take the vehicle for police clearance, weigh bridge and any other authority in order to get the vehicles licensed. The vehicle would be code 3 (Build up) unless there is some sort of documentation that would allow the vehicle to be registered as code 2. I try to work with vehicles in the Tswane municipality as to not complicate issues with different municipalities.

Should you or anyone in your club require vehicles to be licensed, please feel free to email me at [carloslourenco@vodamail.co.za](mailto:carloslourenco@vodamail.co.za) or contact me on 074-125-0071.

If a reference is required, please do not hesitate to contact Gawie Deysel on 082-772-9714.

## Help Wanted

MGTC 8154

Len Bonnay from Ontario, Canada has restored a basket case 1949 MGTC 8154 which it appears was originally exported to Rhodesia. He is trying to trace the history of the car. Its last known owner was a Mr Windrim, and registered in Blantyre, Malawi in 1965. He also understands there was a Rhodesian MG club at the time, and is looking for a grille badge from the Rhodesian MG club. Any help anyone can provide will be greatly appreciated. Len Bonnay, [ljbmq@cogeco.ca](mailto:ljbmq@cogeco.ca) (2)

I am the (fourth) proud owner of a 1964 MG Midget. I was told that the original owner lived in Botswana. The MG ended up in Umhlanga. Restoration work was done. It was bought and returned to Pretoria. I took ownership two years ago. I am looking for a complete set of side curtains (left and right). Can you direct me to somebody that can assist me in this regard? Regards, Jurgen Kühne 0833874072 (2)

## Wanted

Your subs for 2012  
Volunteers for Newsletter Editor.

It seems that some people actually read this magazine, see response to Len Bonnay's request from Peter Locke in Zimbabwe.

Hi Len, Herewith a scan of the Rhod MG badge. As you might or might not know the Lion and Tusk was the Rhodesian 'symbol' inherited from the BSA Company which ran the country as a Chartered Territory from its inception until 1923 when Rhodesia became self-governing. The badge is 87mm tall and 77mm wide. The only place I know that would be able to make a decent copy of the badge here charged a friend US\$40 just to reproduce a plain stamped aluminium engine number plate so I fear their charges would be prohibitive. I will endeavour to find out. Kind regards, Peter

