Newsletter 374 Nov 2012



Jacaranda & David Gous Run

The now traditional annual Jacaranda run took place on Sunday October 19. Good rains the week before had brought

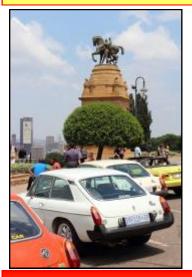






the Jacarandas into colourful bloom. This year the Pretoria Triumph Club were invited to join us, along with the Johannesburg MG Centre. Starting at the Union Buildings at 10h30, the route went over the ridge at Tom Jenkins, along Soutspanberg and then down Duncan Street to Hatfield. A run through Herbert Baker to see the white Jacarandas was followed by a trip through Waterkloof on Rigel eventually arriving at the Clubhouse at around 11h30. Following some well received liquid refreshments, the participants then set off to the Benoni area to visit David Gous' Classic Car, Bike and memorabilia collection. (Pictures Steve, George & Annette)







MG Car Club-Northern Centre

PO Box 11430, Silver Lakes 0054

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

Committee Members

Chairman, Clubhouse Maintenance	082 801 9969	adaboy@absamail.co.za
Secretary/Acting Chairman George Dehlen	082 492 1806 012 991 1754	gdehlen@iafrica.com
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Records management Ivan de Clerk	082 552 6906 012 997 7335	ivan@bscsurvey.co.za
Public Relations, Club Liaison Pepi Gaspari	082 410 1569 012 803 9682	marpepi@iafrica.com
Clubhouse Refreshments & Trophies Jay Westaway	079 528 1954 012 329 5533	jayw@vodamail.co.za
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EXCO Announcement

Please be advised that for personal reasons, John Hugo, current Club Chairman, is unable to continue in this position for the immediate future.

George Dehlen has been appointed as Acting Chairman until the 2013 AGM.

A letter from Derek Howes

Dear friends,

I would like to say farewell to all the club members I have known over the past 25 years. I have enjoyed being a member of Northern Centre. Sheila & I are moving from Pretoria to Natal in November to a retirement village 'Amber Ridge' in Howick.

I joined the club around 1987 when we bought a lovely black MG-TD, this was following by several other MG's finally a MG-TF 160 which we are taking with us. In 1993 I lost my hearing and thanks to my wife, family and club members I managed to stay sane. I took on the Editorship of the newsletter for 8 years enjoying the people I met whilst doing it. I will miss the Monday night's noggins but hope to see you again when we return to Pretoria to visit our family. We are now looking forward to 'putting the hood down' and enjoy visiting the 'Midlands Meander'.

Kind regards to you all.

Derek (Howes).

Derek, you will be missed. Please provide some contact details so people can visit you on trips to Natal, Ed.

Jacaranda Jottings



Would you believe it, the MGCC is now 82 years old. Well, you probably would as we had the 80th Celebration 2 years ago! MGCC members who have achieved 50 successive years of Club membership gathered at Kimber House on Tuesday 16 October when presentations in appreciation of their service to the organisation were made by MGCC president John Day. Over 45 members were in attendance, including Howard Brook who competed in a works MG Magnette on the 1955 Monte Carlo Rally.

Closer to home, thanks to all those that have donated to the "Driveway Fund", to date those are :-

Trevor & Chévaun Beddy, Carel Wilken, Pierre van Zyl, Gus Heinze, Alan Uzzel & Denise, Stephen Grover, Pretoria Triumph SCC.

More donations will be gratefully received.

The response to my query on the awards function has been non existent. With this amount of interest I wonder if it worth doing? In general we are looking at declining event interest and attendance. This is not unique to Northerns, but an issue with most centres. I did get a couple of responses to my question on the email with your Newsletter last month, thanks to those, but the silent majority are really silent. We are going to form a small focus group to look at ways of increasing involvement. This will be some Exco members plus any volunteers. If you have a comment or complaint you can send it to me, if you wish anonymity, I promise not to disclose the source, or you can send a letter to the Club PO Box. We really need to resolve this issue to keep the MG Club alive.

The Jacaranda/David Gous Run was obviously the exception that proves the rule. Great attendance from MG Northern and Jhb Centres plus a good turn out from the Pretoria Triumph SCC.

Thanks Guys.

Thanks also to Trevor Beddy for his input to this months Newsletter.

Steve



The MGA celebrates its' 60th anniversary in 2015. If you're interested in participating in a celebratory tour please let Mike O'Keeffe know by sending him an email to mok@asu.co.za or phoning Mike on (083) 4495220. There is also some discussion of a trip to Vic Falls in 2013, interested?

New Members

Jennifer Bradly MGB GT. Welcome

Remember, if you join now, your membership is valid until end 2013.

I have received a payment of R300, presumeably Joining Fee and subs from a Louis van Wyk, however I nor Gary has any record of his application, does anyone know who he is?

MG AND TRIUMPH CLUB VISIT: DAVID GOUS CAR AND MOTOR CYCLE COLLECTION: SUNDAY 19 OCTOBER 2012



Following on from the annual Pretoria Jacaranda Run, the visit to the David Gous collection of classic cars and motoring memorabilia on Sunday 19 October went off as planned and was the highlight of the day.

Aside from some of the eager participants getting lost on the way to the Gous farm in the Mariston/ Benoni area (gyro's toppled I think?), a great day was had by all. In true David Gous style everything was done to perfection in order to accommodate and to make us feel at home. This despite the fact that he was in hospital at the time. His absence, though keenly felt, was compensated for by the presence of his charming wife Ginny, who played the role of both host and hostess and saw to it that "the show must go on". This it certainly did, in a very lovely garden setting, with braai fires lit and a festive air prevailing. David's parking area brimmed with as-

sorted MGs and Triumphs, as well as a few exotics, marking a very well attended event.

The only factor that intruded on the day was a bothersome wind that tried its best to outperform the infamous Cape South Easter. That aside, the viewing of David's self-made collection of classic cars, motor cycles and interesting motoring and aviation memorabilia, compensated for anything that the weather could throw at the event. The collection in-



cluded an impressive array of Ferrari types and other classic vehicles and motor cycles. Notable amongst this remarkable private assembly of motoring hardware were the following Ferrari marques: an eminently collectable 1960 250 GTI, rescued from scrap and beautifully restored by Dave; a black formidably potent 1971 365 GTC originally owned by David's father; a 1972 365 GT4; accompanied by a 1979 308 GTS and finally a 1995 355 Berlinetta. According to Dave his beautifully restored Dodge Challenger, living up to its name, would leave the Ferrari pack standing in a racing start. Now that I would like to see!

Additional to the above it was of great interest to the MG aficionados to see "Jasper", one of three beautifully modified and supercharged racing MG TCs. The car, originally belonging to Les Miller, was acquired by David some thirty five years ago from Jacque de Byl's farm

at Bapsfontein . Esra Martins has some interesting stories to tell in this regard. Other racers were a Lotus 18 which participated in the 1961 SA Grand Prix, where it was raced by well known Ted Lanfear - and a replica Maserati 250 F1 which once had pride of place in David's lounge, or so I'm told! On the more sedate side were two beautifully restored Austin Sevens, and an old 1932 Stuart mine ambulance originating from the now defunct Modderfontein mine, as well as David's trusty, mint-condition, 1936 Chevy pick-up .

Motor cycles were to be seen aplenty. The notables were an evocative Harley Davidson 1012 complete with sidecar; a 1925 Douglas 600EW and a 1968 Triumph Bonneville, which even I



can remember from my youth. From the racing stable there

was a beautiful 1934 Excelsior Manxman racing bike with which the famous Roy Hesketh won the Durban to Joh'burg race in 1936.

One could go on trying to do justice to a remarkable collection of automotive memorabilia, with pedigrees that would be hard to match in any private collection. Suffice to say that a great day was had by all and our grateful thanks go to David and Ginny for accommodating an enthusiastic crowd of "petrol heads" and their long-suffering spouses and partners. We also wish David a speedy recovery from his recent medical setback and a swift return to the job that he loves doing best.

Trevor Beddy - 23 October 2012

(Pictures and text Trevor Beddy)



Below is a missive received from a friend of mine and former Royal Navy officer, Commander John Ainger. You may recall that I read one of his father's poems at an MG noggin some time ago. Incidentally, his father, Jack Ainger, was also a Royal Navy officer - but in another dim distant era. John is also given to putting pen to paper from time to time and has, to boot, inherited his father's talent for verse. The attachment is an example thereof. As it applies to all of us who dare to challenge the onset of old age in tiny cars of MG origin. Yours ave

Trevor Beddy

TRANSPORT OF DELIGHT FOR A MASDOL

A Masdol (middle-aged swinger down on his luck), Will not often be spotted in charge of a truck; When a spell of good fortune could find him to be, Just like you, at the wheel of a Classic MG.

An MGB roadster in perfect BRG, Fitted out with wire wheels, is a wonder to see. Yet, without blades of grass growing under your feet, You then added a fine old TD to your fleet!

Second childhood enthusing is all very well But with legs no shorter; as far as I can tell, A tight fit going in; no better coming out; Your problem is one that you could well do without. With strategic'ly placed running blocks, I suppose, A frame – long and lanky from its head to its toes -Could be raised and manoeuvred without too much pain, Until it resumed an upright stance, once again.

But although, in your youth, MGs were all the rage, We require much more comfort in cars at our age; So, mothball your fleet; the solution's to be found In cars where the seats aren't so close to the ground!

Trevor, thanks, we are all waiting to see your T Type to be back on the road!! Ed

MGNC Unique Regalia Contact Trevor Beddy

Graduated, laser-engraved, MG dipstick. This item is made from quality rosewood and supplied in a neat green felt pocket. It is a copy of an original American T Type dipstick and is graduated in US gallons. It is suitable for TC,TD and TF types. A litre conversion is engraved on the sticks as well. These are quality items and add to the "look" of one's T Type. Further, they are very practical items to have. The price, including the pocket, is R130.00. The felt and wood has been sponsored, failing which the price would be much higher. There are only 9 items left and more will not be produced. Twenty one have been sold to date from the thirty that were originally made.

Radcap loosener. T Type. This is a very handy and practical radiator cap loosener which will save a driver from burning his hands or being scalded when he attempts to loosen a hot cap. It is engraved with the MG logo. These sell for R100.00 each. Once again, there are only seventeen of these items left and more will not be made due to the cost factor.

Knee protectors for TC drivers. These are black felt, knee protectors made with a dense-foam pad to protect one's right knee when driving over long distances in the TC type. This item is easily fastened around the right knee with a felt/velcro strap and is a very practical item to have. They were rather popular at the Clarence Indaba. These sell for **R100.00** per item and there are twelve left.

<u>Spinner Spanners</u>. These items are essentially neat, practical "levers" made from a Central African hard wood (IROCA), and are engraved with the MG logo and instructions for use. These "levers/spanners" are designed to fit over wire wheel spinners to enable a driver to remove a spinner easily and without damaging the chrome. This is an essential item for a T Type owner (or A or B) who wishes to preserve the appearance of his car's spinners. The cost of each item is **R300.00**. Only seven items have been produced due to the high cost of manufacture and all of these items have already been sold locally. Once again, the wood has been generously sponsored. These items will in future only be sold on confirmed order.

Jackets

We have had several request for a re run of the winter jackets. Gary Chapman is arranging for some more which will be supplied to order only. Contact him if you would like one.

MG The Marque of Friendship

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





indaba@mgcarclubsc.co.za

P.O. Box 732, Knysna, 6570

Dear MG Enthusiast.

Bookings are open for the 2014 SOUTH AFRICAN INTERNATIONAL MG INDABA which will take place between 9 and 13 May 2014 in Knysna. The event was formally announced at the 2012 Clarens Indaba in September and places are filling rapidly!

Visit our Indaba website, <u>www.mgindaba2014.co.za</u> for the necessary forms and information and get your entry in quickly to avoid disappointment!

We look forward to welcoming you to Knysna.

With best MG wishes,

The South Cape Indaba Organising Committee.

Indaba Secretary, Liesel Winter. Email: indaba@mgcarclubsc.co.za;

FAX: 086 718 7120;

Post: INDABA BOOKINGS, P.O.BOX 732, Knysna,

6570.

Don't miss out, book now. NC already has a number of entrants. Even me!!

Indaba 2012

Contrary to what was published last month third place at the driving test was taken by Jay's son Dave, in Jay's MGB

Highlight of the post Indaba session held at the last Noggin was an audio visual presentation by Dave, a lot of hard work. Thanks to Dave, and the others, who showed their pics. Really the only negative to come out of discussion was the 20km drive each way for supper in the evenings. Not a clever move in an MG with bad lights, on today's crime ridden roads. (Pictures by Pepi)







Forthcoming Events

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

Nov					
1 1					
Thur 1	Invitation to JHB	JHB	Talk on UJ's entry to the solar challenge		
Mon 5	Natter & Noggin	NC	Clubhouse 19h30	С	
Fri 9	Pub Night		Clubhouse from 17h30, Gary will be serving Chicken Prego Rolls.		
Sat 17	Tops Open Run	NC	Meet at Clubhouse 17h30 for a short run followed by a restaurant visit. Open cars - Tops Down	С	
Wed 21	PPO Lunch Run		Organised by Johnnie & Sasara van Wyk. 12h30 at the Clubhouse.		
Dec (would you believe it, where has the year gone?)					
Mon 3	Natter & Noggin and end of year function	NC	Clubhouse 19h30. Please bring a plate of food, Pizza, quiche, finger snacks and your significant other.	С	
Wed 26	Babelaas Braai	NC	Clubhouse from 11h30		
Jan 2013					
Mon 7	Natter & Noggin	NC	Clubhouse 19h30	С	
Sun 20	Baylis Bash	NC	Clubhouse 09h30 or make your own way there. 1 car per family plse.	С	
Feb 2013					
Fri,Sat Sun 1,2,3	Zwartkops Historic "Passion for Speed"		Looking for someone to organise a MGNC viewing spot.		
Mon 4	Natter & Noggin	NC	Clubhouse 19h30	С	
TBA	Awards Function	NC	Looking for ideas and an organiser	С	

Event Detail

Natter & Noggin - Monday Nov 5 - 19h30

Remember Remember the fifth of November, Gunpowder treason, and plot. I see no reason, why gunpowder treason, Should ever be forgot (Traditional children's rhyme)

Could we actually do with Guy Fawkes to disrupt the activities of the developer who wishes to eliminate all the Clubs in Menlo Park and build something else? Do we really need another shopping centre or office block? We will possibly have an open discussion on what we can do going forward in terms of the Menlyn Node Development.

Topless Run - Saturday Nov 17 - 17h30

Meet at the Clubhouse at 17h30 in your convertible with the top down. A short entertaining run follows to a local hostelry for food and drink.

Those attending in a closed car will have to pay some sort of forfeit, unless the occupants are "topless". Contact Ivan for more detail.

PPO Lunch Run - Wed Nov 21

The last one of the year, organised by Johnnie & Susara van Wyk. Details to follow. Watch your SMS's and e mails.

Natter & Noggin - Dec 3 - 19h30

This will be the last official function of the year, except for the Babelaas Braai.

Please bring along a plate of food, pizza, quiche, savouries etc. to share. Most important, bring your partners to thank them for their support through the year

Boxing Day (Babelaas) Braai - Dec 26 - 11h30

A traditional MGNC event, this has suffered from poor attendance in recent years. Come along for a breath of air, to get away from the kids, and possibly to show off what Father Christmas brought you. I hope it was what you wanted! George has promised to open the Clubhouse at 11h30, so come along for a drink, a braai, or just a chat.

Natter & Noggin - Monday Jan 7 - 19h30

I trust you have all made a resolution to support your club by attending the events in 2013. I hope you have all paid your subs!

Come along to the first Noggin of the year to tell everyone what you got up to in the holidays

Sunday Run - January 20 - Baylis Bash 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 food, plates, cutlery and liquid refreshment.

Parking is limited, so one car per family please! Bob needs your name and car registration in advance to clear you with security.

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

Invitation to the Jhb Centre Noggin, Nov 1 19h30

Folk from UJ's Faculty of Engineering plan to talk at the MG November noggin about their entry in the recent solar car challenge. "During September 2012 both international and local teams competed in the Sasol Solar Challenge, an epic two-week country wide endurance challenge of specially engineered solar powered vehicles."

Old Edwardian's Club, 11th Ave, Houghton.



PPO Lunch Run October 26.

2 MGAs, 1 TD, 1 MGB, 1 TF plus a plastic met on Graham Road for a short drive to Downtown Restaurant in Shere. A beautiful location amongst the trees and inexpensive but excellent food (and cold beer!) made this an enjoyable occasion.

Come and join us at the next one.

(Pictures and text Steve)



MG Mart—Buy one for Christmas!

1976 MGB for sale, colour red. Needs TLC. Asking R50,000 negotiable. Call Janet on tel. (084) 421 4038. (1)	1972 MGB FOR SALE IN THE ALBERTON AREA. MECANICALLY SOUND, LICENSED, BUT THE BODY NEEDS ATTENTION. ASKING R50 000 MARK 0798970157 (1)	
2004 MG ZT190, V6 manual, with 139 000km, fsh, one owner, excellent condition, sunroof, pdc, fullhouse. This V6 manual is very rare. This is probably the cleanest MG around. Need R70 000. Contact Christo on tel. 0832764691.(3)	1967 MGBGT (red) for sale. No rust and in good running order. Needs respray. Two owners only. Asking price R30 000. Contact jane@mcjones.co.za Tel 033 702 1033 Cell 0833843081 (3)	
For sale: 1981 yellow MGB GT. Mileage 67k miles. Alberton based. Price R55k. Call Michael on 011 9076064 or 0726456741 after 15h00 (3)	FOR SALE Used MGF Hydro-elastic displacers (Spheres),One rear, two front. With used shocks. R1000 each set. Call Neville at 082 789 5649 (3)	
1967 BRG MGBGT with overdrive and wire wheels. Rebuilt 2006. Major service just completed. R65,000.00 Call Cliff on 082 898 9772. Jhb.(2)	1982 Autovilla with Audi 5 Cyl Engine. New clutch, water pump, cylinder head overhauled, etc. R65,000. Call Cliff on 082 898 9772. Jhb.(3)	
1976 RUBBER BUMPER. RED. PAINT AND INTERIOR OKAY BUT NEEDS TLC. BLACK LEATHER. RUST BLISTERS ON DOOR SILLS, AS USUAL. ENGINE GOOD. GEARBOX NEEDS ATTENTION, BUT A GOOD RUNNER. SOFT TOP GOOD, BUT WINDOWS NEED REPLACING. LOCATED IN BUCCLEUCH SANDTON. CONTACT JANET 084 421 4038 (3)	MG TF135, Colour black Kms 83,000 Model 2005 price 95,000 hermang@mwebbiz.co.za 082 881 5238 (2)	
MG Midget 1979 1500cc. Seats and Body needs some TLC. Original all round. In daily use and licensed until end November 2012. R50 000 neg Contact Riaan 072 476 2199 (1)	Looking for a set of headrests for a MGB GT. Preferably the D-section type. Price depending on condition. Heinz Koncki, MGCC South Cape.h.koncki@gmail.com TEL+FAX: +27 (0)44 8735250 CELL: +27 (0)79 6250240 (1)	

Subscriptions

It is nearly year end and your membership expires at the end of December.

It has been decided to keep the fees at the same levels as last year, ie R200 for full members and R100 for country members. This must be the bargain of the decade, not even half a tank of LRP!!!

Please note that should you require a posted Newsletter, not to be encouraged for the extra load it puts on the Editor, an extra R100 pa is required to cover postage and printing. We are down to one posted Newsletter at present.

Please pay by EFT to FNB Account - MG Car Club Northern Centre, 62363284359, Branch 250655. This account will **not accept cheque payments**, if you must pay by cheque, please contact the treasurer.

Payment by cash or cheque attracts bank charges, so please add R20 to your payment in this case.

Remember, your insurance may be invalid if your membership expires.

Any renewals after April 1 will be treated as a new application and the R100 joining fee will be imposed. Please pay promptly to keep your club on it's sound financial footing.

Many Thanks - Treasurer

This might make you smile

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2-ZI5cPvQus&feature=related

Thanks to Trevor Beddy

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