

Newsletter 383 September 2013



Jacaranda Jottings

A short article this month as we are off to the Northern and Western Cape and to visit Namaqualand for 10 days and will not be back in time for the usual submission date. It amazing to think that when we return it will be 1 day to spring. Let us hope for a glorious summer with plenty of time to enjoy our MGs.

August started with a talk on the MMM cars by Stephen Grover, after his visit to MMM gathering in Franschoek. I knew what 2M was, and now I understand 3M!

Later in the month was the trip to the Drakensburg, I hope those that went had an enjoyable time. I assume someone will write an article about it.

For those remaining behind we had the Charity gathering at METTS. A very low turnout, only six cars, but those present had a good day soaking up the, almost, spring like sunshine. The quiche, salads, bread and wine, provided by the organisers went down exceedingly well. Due to the low numbers, the treasure hunt was postponed for another day, and some of us went to the Clubhouse for some cold beers and an informal Braai. Many thanks to Ivan, Peter, Jay, Dave, Trevor, Gus and Yvonne for taking the trouble to come along for the morning. The cars were of great interest to the people at the event, even if some of them did not know what twin carburettors were. The MC referred to us as the "Ooms who had brought their cars along." I was going to be upset until I saw that our average



The OOMs at METTS



age was the wrong side of seventy. I was rather perturbed by the low turnout, but the organisers were very happy, thanked us and asked for a return next year.

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MG Car Club-Northern Centre

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

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For those of you who responded to my e mail on insurance costs, many thanks. After many e mails and phone calls, I have been informed that the premium increase has now been reduced to 10%. John Heimans, at Indwe, has stated that they have a list of those affected and will correct the premiums and give rebates where required. I suggest you check and see. A worrying outcome is that it appears that Indwe SAMCA premiums are no longer the good deal we have been used to. There are many reasons to stay with Indwe, good cover, good response times, and support for younger drivers, but I have difficulty in paying R140 per month more than quotes from other companies. John has told me that they are going to look at the competitions policies, and see what can be done, let us all keep an eye on this.

Coming up next month we have the Dirk and Naomi van Draanen Memorial Breakfast. Dirk and Naomi were very active long term members of the Club, I am sure many of you will remember them. My lasting memory is of Dirk getting out of bed at 07h00 at the PE Indaba and putting whisky in his tea, he said it made his arthritis much better! It made all ours better too!

So, please make a note of this in your diary and make the effort to attend. (The details of the event, with times and access points are detailed on the next page— Ed)

See you in the Spring.
Steve

From the Editors Laptop

Unfortunately this month's newsletter is a bit thin—largely due to it being prepared in departures at Frankfurt Airport. All the best intent in the world was not enough to make it happen before this, as there was simply too much to see in the USA.

Although the month has been quite for me on the MG front, and I was disappointed to miss "The Nest" and the METTS run, it has been a busy month for other things transportation. Both the Mullin museum in Los Angeles and the Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance exceeded expectations, and hiring a Convertible Mustang to drive the Pacific Coast Highway turned out to be an inspired choice.



However, with everything being said and done, our feet are sore and we are looking forward to getting home. I'm looking forward to getting behind the wheel of my 'B again, although I'd be lying if I said that the Mullin and Pebble Beach hadn't gotten me excited about something a bit "Older".



Next month's issue should contain reports on the August Events, including "The Nest" and Cars in the Park, as well as the September event reports. Assuming it is of general interest I will put together a piece on the Pebble

Beach show.

As always, please drop me a line with any comments, or content, about or for the newsletter.

Octagonally,

Steve Grover

Club Banking Details

Account Name "MG Car Club-Northern Centre"
FNB Bank Account Number 62363284359
Branch Code 250655 Menlyn Square

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

Event Detail

More detail on events that are coming up soon

Dirk and Naomi van Draanen Memorial Breakfast Braai **Pretoria Sailing Club, Rietvlei Dam Sunday September 15, 08h00.**

Dirk used to insist that this event (then called the **Frostbite Breakfast**) was held on the shores of the Rietvlei dam at 07h00 on a mid winter's morning. We used to to watch the mist clearing from across the dam whilst we drank Irish coffee, old brown, coffee with rum, or tea with a drop of scotch, standing round a big log fire. The less experienced cook of the partnership had to cook the breakfast, and the "other halves" present would judge on taste and presentation. This time the event will take place from 08h00 on September 15, with no competitive element. We will see if there is an appetite to revert to Dirk's format in future.

Please bring along your cooking and eating utensils, pans, plates, braai tongs. glasses etc, and a picnic table and chairs, sounds a lot, but challenges only strengthen character. Braai fires will be provided .

You need to come to the gate at the fishing/sailing side of the dam, off Dam road, not the nature reserve, and bear right through the gate to the sailing club. This is on the M51, Nelmapius drive between the R50 & M57. You will then be directed as to where to park. We are trying to get an area close to the braai and clubhouse for the MGs.

Table Raffle **October Noggin, on 7 October**

We are reviving an event which has proved popular during the past few years. At the Noggin on Monday 7th October we will be holding a Table Raffle in the Clubhouse at 8pm.

What?

Donate any MG items for which you no longer have a need (spares, tools, memorabilia, books, regalia, . . .) but also any other items which might interest members. Anything.

When?

Bring them to September Noggin or deliver them to the Clubhouse before the afternoon of Monday 7th October to allow time for the organizers to set up the tables before the Noggin that evening. Alternatively contact George at 0824921806 to collect them from you.

How does it work?

Buy raffle tickets (R2 each) – many of them preferably – 10 is a good start. The raffle master will draw numbers at random, and the ticket holder may come forward and select any (yes ANY) one item to take home. And so on until the tables are empty.

New Members
None this month

Forthcoming Events in Brief

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

September

Mon 2	Natter 'n Noggin.	NC	Clubhouse 19h30 Technical Talk either on oils or the expected ending of LRP fuel availability.	c
Sun 15	Frostbite breakfast	NC	08h00— See Event detail	c
20—22	Cape Centres Gathering in Stellenbosch			

October

Mon 7	Natter & Noggin.	NC	Clubhouse 19h30	c
Sun 20	Jacaranda Run	NC	Unofficial run, watch for details	c

November

Sat 2	Gliding event near Magaliesburg	NC	Details to follow in future N/L	c
Mon 4	Natter 'n Noggin			c
Sun 17	MGCC Diving Tests	NC	Details to follow in future N/L	V

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