

THE TIME machine

Two T-Types in the sun on the Bush-rangers Run

Dave and Laurel Godwin in France amongst the sun-flowers



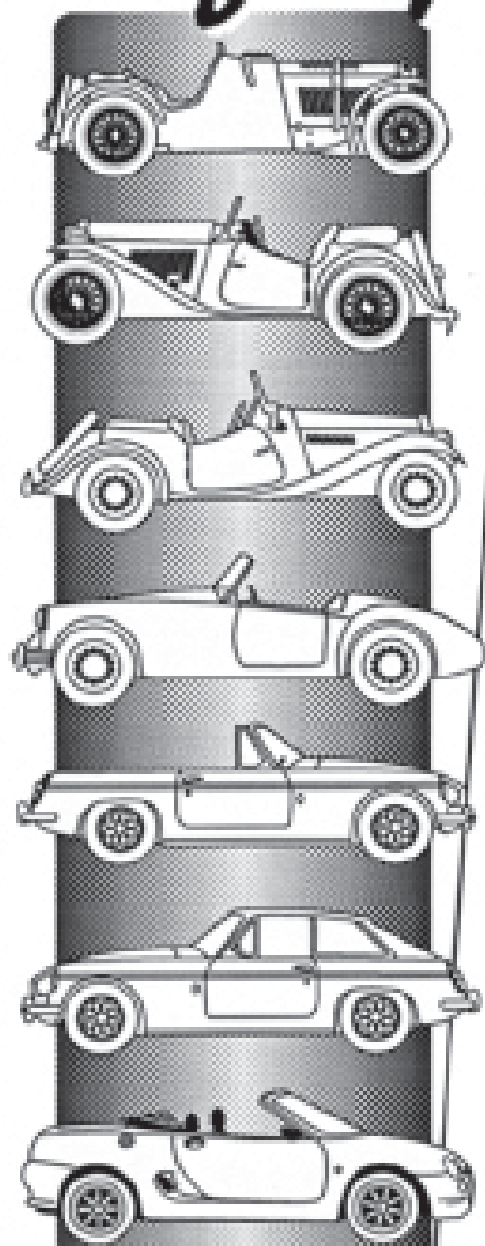
The Official magazine of the Gold Coast MG Car Club

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August September 14

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TELEPHONE: (07) 3844 2881 • FAX: (07) 3844 8278

Email: abingdon@mgcity.com.au • WEB: www.mgcity.com.au

A.B.N. 26 703 994 388

The President's Report

I am sitting in a lovely hotel with a local beer at my side, at the head of the Verdon Valley in Southern France, having just driven The Valley Circuit through Central France and wondered how much better would it have been in RIP! Poor RIP - left at home in the cold of Winter while Laurel and I enjoy the comforts of Flame, our orange/red MGBGT we keep in the UK.

This year we had a few big Bucket List items to tick - Classic Le Mans and Isle of Man TT Classic!

Laurel stayed with our good friends near Chinon in the Loire Valley (buying bric-a-brac) while I spent time with The Boys at Classic Le Mans smelling the smells and hearing the sounds of first-class classic motor racing! There were 75 Pre-1925 race cars to give you an idea of the number and range of cars on the track. Everything from Bugatti to Bentleys to Alfa 8C's to Aston Martins - they were all being driven with much gusto! A nice touch was the service and food served by the Porsche Club of France. - but I did feel a little fraudulent spending quality time in the Porsche Hospitality Tent with 3 other Aussies! It's a pity the MG club did not offer the same comforts to their members... Who won? I don't know! It isn't important to me. Watching the lights racing past well after midnight reminded me of sitting at the fence in my youth at our local race track dreaming of driving race cars one day! That day has come with Birdcage! What a wonderful experience this Classic Car Racing is!



Anyway, to local matters.

By all accounts, your committee conducted business at the July meeting successfully without me, so it seems that I am out of a job! I hope you have all taken advantage of the lovely days (after the cold mornings) to enjoy your MGs and have got smiles on your dials? Cheryl and her helpers do their best to offer you a variety of events to participate in each month.

Lastly, your AGM is just around the corner so please make an effort to attend and to contribute to the running of your Club. New ideas are always welcome and

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serve to make our Club a desirable club to join, even if you don't have an MG yet!

As this is the last magazine before our AGM, I would like to thank our Committee Members for their dedication to their tasks and professionalism at carrying them out on our Club's behalf. Thank you - one and all.

Happy motoring,

President Dave and Lovely Laurel.

The Brass Monkey Weekend Away - Day 1

As usual Jim & I arrived late to join 24 'overnighters' and 4 'day-trippers' at Jubilee Park Beaudesert, at the start of John & Lynn Talbots Queens Birthday weekend away. We certainly made a splash when we got there as I managed to spill hot coffee all over Jim's jeans!!

The plan was to drive to Stanthorpe and, as usual, not on the main roads. Heading west towards Boonah we went towards Mt Alford on the way to Queen Mary Falls and started to climb. The country was beautiful and almost no traffic!

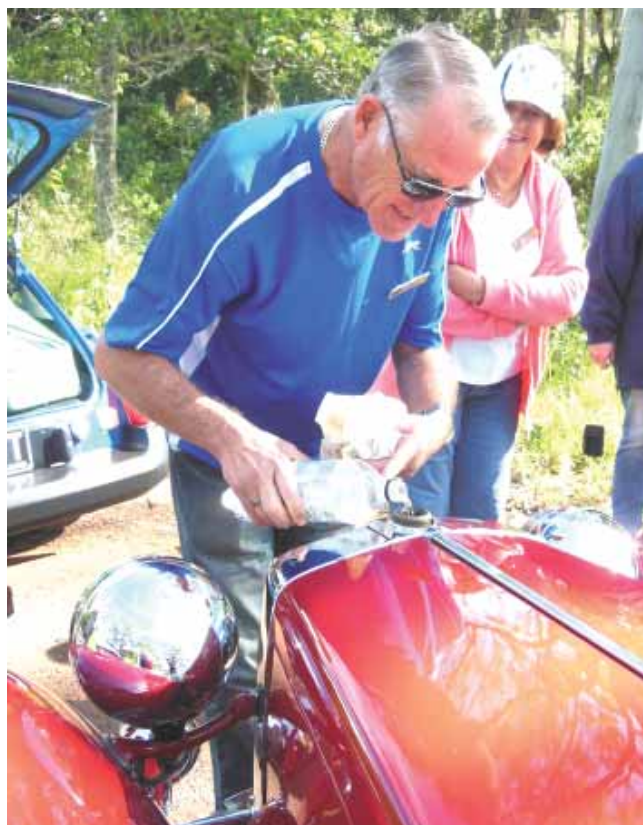


John had told us that it would be a lovely drive and he was right. We went through open farmland then crossed several rocky creeks and into stunning rain forest. The road sign said 'steep and winding' which really was an understatement!!!!

The climb continued through the forest with occasional glimpses of green and beautiful open spaces and rolling hills. It was unbelievably lush and very much like the mountains we had seen in Europe.



Julian & Di Beville-Anderson braved this mountainous terrain in their T-Type. Jim had just wondered to me how they were, when we turned a corner after a long climb, to find the mob in a clearing and the little red car with its bonnet up! Fortunately, it was just an overheating issue which the stop sorted out.





As we were waiting, Treasurer Jean Bailey, driving Keith in their green 'B' joined us. Jean had done all the driving and asked Keith if he was nervous coming up the mountain to which her loving spouse replied 'I have been nervous since we left home!'

Off and up we all went to the Queen Mary Falls Cafe where John had booked the little dining room for us and we all had a very pleasant home cooked meal and the taste of the day seemed to be the Thai Pumpkin soup!

A stroll to view the falls from the top (which were a great sight) then back to say goodbye to Roger & Ann Paltridge and Gerry & Pauline Cronin as they headed back to the coast.



We later heard that Roger's lovely green 'A' misbehaved and they were stuck in Beaudesert till after 7pm! In true MG spirit, Gerry & Pauline stayed with them for company till the RACQ arrived.

The rest of us hit the road and made it to the motel in Stanthorpe. It didn't take long for drinks and nibbles to appear. A quick rearranging of some outdoor furniture and we all were happy. John had ordered the courtesy bus from the RSL to pick us up for dinner. A fun night was had and then back to the motel ready for the next days adventure!

Thanks John & Lyn for a great first day.

*Above
- Jeff & Marvan
and the Falls*

**Moya & Jim
Haines**





The Brass Monkey Trip - Day 2

We were out and about the Stanthorpe Applethorpe area, everywhere we drove was evidence of the areas famous apple crop, just seeing the amazing amount of protective netting being used sparked quite a debate about cost with all of us deciding that we would be happy to have shares in the company of supplying same.

Morning tea was at Vincenzos (the big apple) a number of unusual items, spices and wild life being offered for sale, when was the last time I had rabbit, venison or quail, hmm.

Off to lunch more twisting and turning through the local area more country scenery, John being lead navigator needed to burn a bit of time as we would have been very early for our lunch booking, as you do he picked a nice little winery and in

we wheeled, would you credit it this was the only winery in existence that didn't do tasting and presentations, when Lyn made enquiries and explained that there were approximately 15 of us, the reply was a very emphatic NO LUNCH NO TASTE. fantastic public relations...

So off to lunch at Hidden Creek Winery, completely different vibe, our host was most welcoming he even brought the selection of wines and ports to out tables, explained the history of the wine, the winery and much about the local area. The



food was delicious, the company was great and all in all we had a marvellous time. Back to the motel where I believe there were a lot of SCANS happening, (senior citizens afternoon nap).

I must say that John's notes, organisation and directions were spot on, which begs the question how could one of our group, who famous for ocean navigation etc. managed to get lost, and ended up on dirt roads, returning to the motel, aah that wine was nice eh.

Sunday night was low key, some to the restaurant, some to the Hotel and some just couldn't fit in another morsel. All in all we had terrific weather not too cold a jumper was all that was needed for most of the time and no rain.

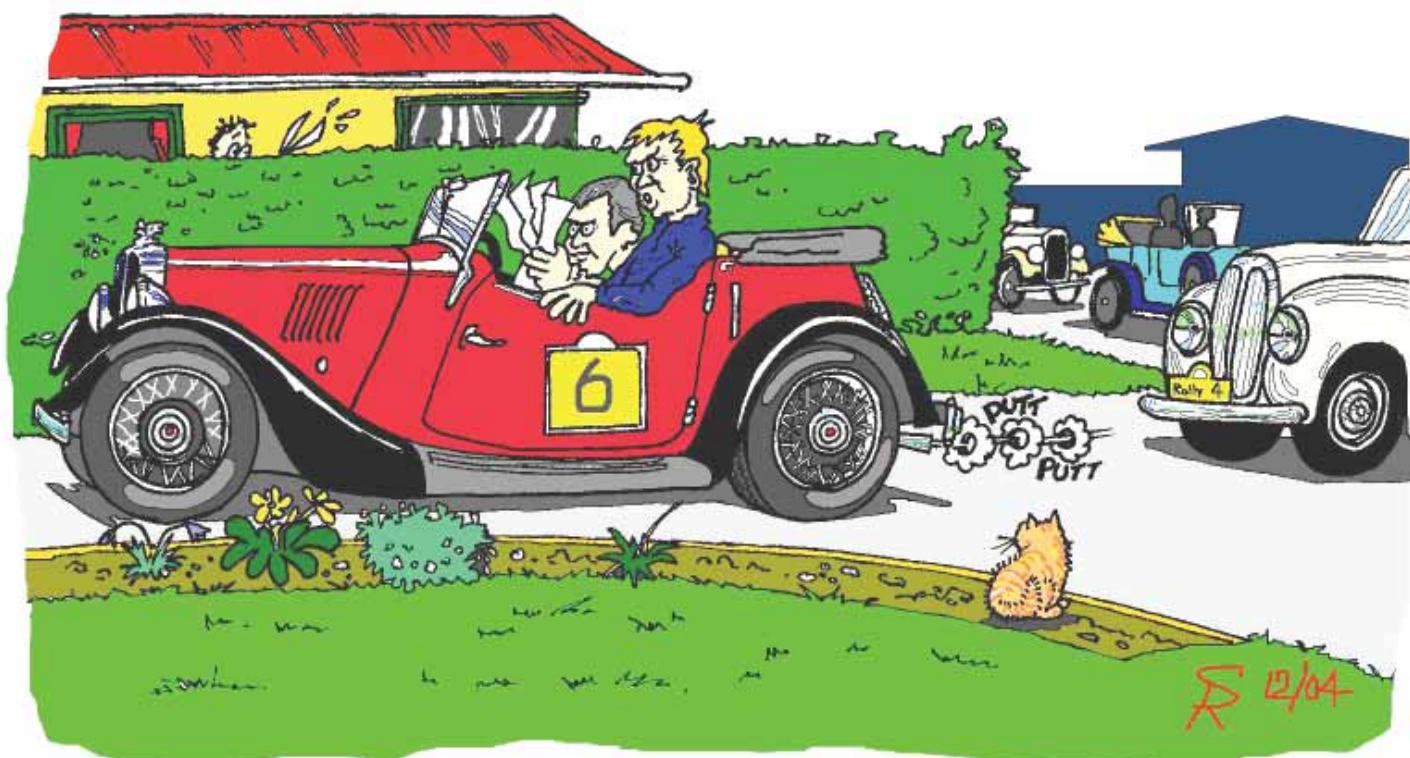
Our thanks must go to John for his tireless work to make this weekend the success it was.

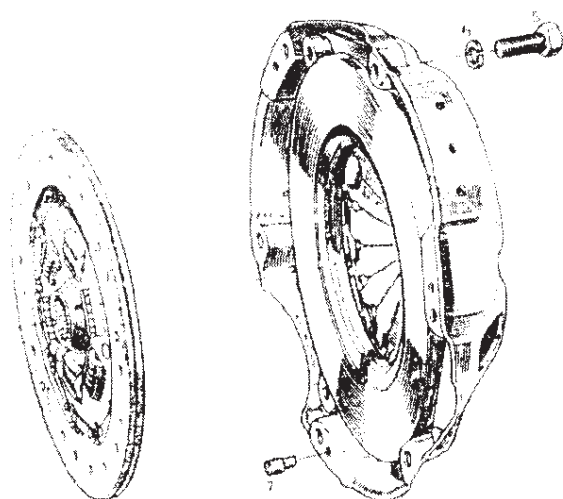
Brass Monkey Weekend Away - Day 3

Monday dawned bright and sunny, fresh, but not too cool. We farewelled Di & Julian, Les & Diana, Peter & Jean and Geoff & Marvan who were all heading off home. The remainder Pam & Sam, Keith & Jean, John & Marilyn, Peter & Nicky, Bruce & Doreen, Cheryl & Vicki, Jim & Moya and Graeme travelled to the Maryvale Hotel where we enjoyed a light lunch in the glorious winter sun.

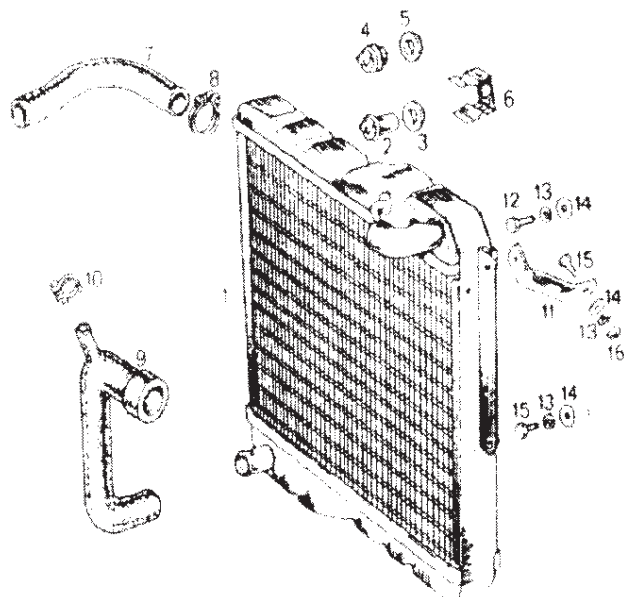
Final goodbyes exchanged, we all agreed that it had been a wonderful week end and many thanks to John and Lynette for their organising expertise and hard work.

Sam & Pam





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DELIVERY AUSTRALIA WIDE

March LSIM Run

On a cloudy Sunday morning 12 cars lined up for the Jeff and Marvan Sattler annual navigation run at the BP Service Station Coomera.

After the briefing each car had to move forward 1.5 metres which was measured by Jeff & Marvan with some interesting results.

As each car moved the required distance it left on the run. We crossed the M1 into Foxwell Rd.

We travelled along Hotham Creek Rd. Hotham Creek Rd and Baileys Mountain Rd took us through winding and hilly bush country then onto Reserve Rd. From there we made our way to the Rosins Lookout Conservation Park which was the first part of the run.

The instructions for this part of the run were in Tulip and was quite challenging.

For the second part of the run we were given a map with our destination marked on the map [Logan Village Hotel lunch] the only other instruction was that we had approach the Camp Cable Monument from the west. We mapped out a run to bring to Camp Cable Monument from the west via Jimboomba which turned out to be the correct way.

Two of the cars on the run had no navigator [Graham Cogzell & Peter Dunn] so they followed me.

The 3 of us left the morning tea stop. When I arrived at the corner of Beechmont Rd and Beaudesert-Nerang no sign of them. I parked on the side of the road and waited and waited, finally phoned Graham, was told Peter thought he had left his mobile phone at Rosins Lookout and went back for it [it turned it was somewhere in his car - on another run we were on, he lost his car keys]

Finally we were on our way. Arrived at lunch late, everyone had received their food and of course they thought we had got lost.

The Event was won by **Graham and Judith Vaughan, 2nd Steve Begley and Stuart, 3rd Jim and Hoya Haines.**

A great day was had by all.

John Talbot

The photos in this magazine have been contributed by Carole Cooke, June Haynes, Jim Haines, Jim Lutherborrow, Peter Kerr, Laurel Godwin, Dave Godwin, Jeff Sattler, John and Kate Careless, Stephen Richards

Birdcage Goes South

Late May/early June saw Birdcage visit her friends in Victoria and South Australia. Dan Casey and I loaded her up on to her trailer behind the Classic Car Clinic Vito Van complete with tools, spares, camping gear, food and drinks for a 3-week racing holiday. En route, we took the beautiful MG roads through Lismore and Casino to Walcha to visit friends who traversed Africa with us in 2012.

Inland NSW and Victoria sure is looking good at the moment – with crops growing everywhere and fat sheep and cattle grazing in the fields.

Winton is a great little club track just south of Albury. I call it “little” because we used the “short” track for the weekend, but the facility hosts the V8 Super Cars from time to time on the “long” track so the facility sure isn’t “little”!

This Historic meeting was well attended with over 400 entries, many of whom were classic motorcycles and side cars, which were a joy to watch. They reminded me of my youth when I couldn’t afford to race cars, so motorcycles it had to be...



Competition for Birdcage came in the form of anyone around her on the track: MGB, MGBGT V8, Sprite, Lotus Elan, Alfa 2000, Triumph TR2, Porsche 911, Datsun 2000 and even a De Tomaso Pantera 6litre! She didn’t disgrace herself and managed a second in class with a fastest lap of 1min 14.2sec.



The J, K and L Classes – essentially pre-war and just post-war vehicles – were well supported with lovely examples of various MG TC Specials, an MG P Type Special, a genuine MG K3 previously belonging to Prince Bira, a Riley Special and many other wonderful cars being raced with such vigor!



Our wives joined us in Echuca in a hire car for the road trip to Adelaide, the venue for Birdcage's next race encounter.

Every 2 years, racers and budding racers from Victoria descend on South Australia to vie for the MG Challenge Cup, and this year it was on again! Two Queenslanders (Malcolm from MGCCQ and yours truly) also

attended, but South Australia won fair and square – again! How could we not have a good time? Our accommodation was in the Barossa Valley; we were surrounded by MG friends and the weather behaved itself.



This event is a Sprint (Where only the fastest lap counts...) and Birdcage did battle with 10 MGs of similar lap times which were set at practice. Our group was littered with all makes of MGs, but the real battle was up front between a MG ZS 2.6lt and the Birdcage! The ZS spun off in the first heat; Birdcage spun off in the second heat and from then on the lead swapped many times until at one point the ZS flagged Birdcage past as if to say "If you want it that badly, go get it!". Birdcage won with a lap time of 1min 29.6sec.

Sunday saw us at Collingrove Hill Climb, an 8 foot tar mat virtually up a hillside – over the rocks and around the trees.

Again, Birdcage came out fighting and knocked around one second off her time after each run up the hill, eventually breaking the 40-second barrier and posting a winning time of 39.48sec.

Thanks to Mark and the boys at Classic Car Clinic, Birdcage's motor is pulling hard and she is handling impeccably!

The other entrants were very inclusive of the Queenslanders and this event was a very social affair. Each evening, drinks were taken at the motel while lies were told - and a meal was organised nearby. This is a wonderful, low-key event and it would be great if we could get a group of 5 or more to attend in 2 years time to take on the stalwarts – the South Australians and Victorians!

The trip home was a long one through Hay and Dubbo but we weren't complaining – Birdcage had excelled herself (at last!), the country looked green and prosperous and the company at Winton, Mallala and in the Vito Van (Dan) was most enjoyable. It won't be easy to see Birdcage go to a new home one day soon, but another project race car is waiting in the garage, so she has now been put up for sale!

Dave Godwin



Midweek Run - May 14 - Mad Hatter's Tea Party



In overcast and showery weather, 18 cars assembled at Jabiru Island on Hope Island Road for the Mad Hatter's Tea Party Run. Some wore their fancy hats from the start, others waited until the morning tea stop to don their attire.

We headed north towards Dreamworld, then past Coomera Marine precinct, along Foxwell Road, over the M1 Motorway, then headed toward our morning tea stop, through lots of winding (good MG) roads, some of which I and some others, had not been on before. One road in particular, Earle Circuit, where there are some magnificent homes on acreage with excellent views toward Surfers Paradise and its surrounds.

Continuing on to the Gold Coast-Springbrook Road to our morning tea stop at Polly's Country Kitchen, once seated we were served with scones, jam and cream, tea, coffee and milkshakes. John Muirhead was about to eat his scone when a kookaburra swooped in, taking the scone out of his hand and flew away with it! The raffle run by Laurie and Kay Roberts (as usual) was won by Gary Stevens.



A written question quiz was held with the answers given by the men and then adjudicated on by their wives. Pam Everitt gave Sam 10/10, Lyn Talbot said she wouldn't change anything. On the question about body shop repairs and what would you change, Laurel Godwin said she would change David and some answers from others that I don't recall (a politician's answer).

The best hat for women, as judged by the staff, went to Liz Lutherborrow for her floral hat reminding them of Mrs. Bucket (Bouquet) of TV fame.

The men's prize went to Gary Stevens for his pirate hat and beard.

After the frivolity was over, we headed out to our luncheon stop at the base of the Hinze Dam.

Apart from the odd shower, it was a very enjoyable and fun Run.

On behalf of all those MGers who attended, I would like to thank Jim and Moya Haines for their efforts in organising a good MG day out.

Bruce Bishop



Bushrangers Run - May 25



If you were on this run you don't need to read any further because you know where we went. We had perfect weather, good food, pristine cars and a delightfully planned and unrushed run by Brian & Gillian Hockey in their lovely TD. They did it again.

If you were unable to make the run it was a pity because I know you would have enjoyed the company but never mind there will be another one. Run that is. The Northern Rivers was as usual most scenic. After recent showers everything was green and washed clean. Lovely.

Our relaxed drive took us from Murwillumbah through Stokers Siding, Uki then through to Kyogle for morning tea. Then out of Kyogle on the Summerland Way. Unfortunately Aiden in his pristine RV8 will remember Kyogle for the idiot driver he met. Then through Tuncester, Rock Valley, Cawongla and passing what is known as "The oldest P.O. in Australia." Shifted there from "up the road", burned down by arsonist idiots probably drugged out of their minds, but then rebuilt from the remains.

Then further on we turned right on the Murwillumbah Kyogle Road to the Sphinx Rock Cafe. We didn't turn in to Nimbin, honest. It was many miles of MG roads, with a couple of minor roads but very scenic - sheds, cottages and some big homes, old, gracious, new, we saw them all..

About 18 cars of wonderful company. Doreen and I enjoyed the run, and the chatting around the tables at lunch.

So, thank you again Brian & Gillian for a very lovely day.

Bruce C.





*It was a cold morning when we met
at Murwillumbah*



Top- cars on display at Sphinx Cafe

Middle - Morning Tea at Kyogle

Below -at lunch at the Sphinx Cafe

MG NATIONAL MEETING 2015

Easter 2015: Friday 3 April - Tuesday 7 April
Yarra Valley, Victoria
BULLETIN 1

WELCOME TO OUR WORLD!!!

The M.G. Car Club Victoria is delighted to be hosting the 2015 National Meeting over the Easter weekend, and will be basing the events and activities in and around the charming Yarra Valley, approximately 1 hour northeast of Melbourne.

In 2015 we are back to a full event after the Gold Coast Club's successful organization of the new format reduced activity 2014 National Meeting at Ballina.

YOU WANT FAST? We have SPEED – at the iconic and historic Rob Roy Hillclimb.
YOU WANT FOOD? We have delicious local produce from the Yarra Valley – both food and wine!

YOU WANT FUN? We will provide you with an enormous amount of FUN! At EVERY event.

And - WE HAVE FRIENDLY!!!

This will be the “FUN AND FRIENDSHIP” National Meeting.

In order to make the 2015 event manageable we have set a cap of 400 registrations. We believe that this number will assist us in containing costs and be manageable for our competition and social events.

Our **full program** is set out below:

Friday am/pm Registration (*York on Lilydale, York Rd, Mt Evelyn (cnr York & Swansea Rds)*)

2 - 4pm Optional road speed familiarisation session (no helmets) at Historic Rob Roy

Hillclimb (*Clintons Road, Christmas Hills*)

pm Noggin n Natter - Welcome and Opening Ceremony (our theme event) plus Rocker Cover Racing (*MGCC Vic Clubrooms, Unit 53, 41-49 Norcal Road, Nunawading*)

Saturday am/pm Concours (*Rochford Winery, 878-880 Maroondah Highway, Coldstream (Yarra Valley)*)

am/pm We are exploring the provision of transport to and from the Healesville Wildlife Sanctuary and/or the Yarra Valley market for those who might like a break from the Concours.

pm Free Night / Optional BBQ at our MGCC Victoria Clubrooms

Sunday am/pm Hillclimb Speed Event and Picnic Day at Historic Rob Roy (*Clintons Road, Christmas Hills*)

am/pm Observation Run - Competition Event (*Yarra Valley*)

pm Free Night

Monday am/pm Motorkhana (METEC Driving Centre, 112 Colchester Road, Bayswater North (*Yarra Valley fringe*))

am/pm Kimber Run (*Yarra Valley*)

pm Presentation Dinner (*Yarra Valley Racing Centre, Armstrong Grove, Yarra Glen*)

Tuesday am Farewell Breakfast (*York on Lilydale*)

am Delegates' Meeting (*MGCC Vic Clubrooms*)

Just because we are back to a full event doesn't mean to say your stress levels have to rise. Our venues are relatively close together and different to those experienced at any previous Victorian-hosted MG National Meeting.

We will have lots of advice and assistance for you before and during the Nat Meet, and our Nat Meet Ambassadors will be out and about every day to help.

We don't claim that the roads you will be travelling on will be the best in Australia – but we do promise that they will be great “MG roads” in a most beautiful setting.

Registration fee will include a light lunch for all registrants at our Conours.

Of special note is our Hillclimb Speed event on Sunday. This is a family picnic day. As it will be an early start we anticipate that many competitors/officials may have skipped breakfast, so a traditional Historic Rob Roy brekkie of bacon/egg sandwich will be provided which will finish around 8:30am. A light lunch will also be a part of your registration fee. We plan to break for lunch, so plan to stay the day, sit under the gum trees or trackside, and enjoy the atmosphere.

Accommodation:

In this modern age, you don't need us to act as your travel agent. **YOU NEED TO ORGANISE YOUR OWN ACCOMMODATION.** However, to assist you we have personally checked out nearby accommodation locations.

Registration:

We are committed to providing you with excellent value for money and are making every effort to keep costs as low as possible.

We will also be providing you with an Early Bird Discount Registration Fee – valid from 1 December 2014 to 15 February 2015.

So don't delay. Make the commitment to attend, finishing touches are currently being made to our NatMeet

website. Expressions of interest for receiving future Bulletins can be made by emailing our NatMeet Secretary (address below). Organize your accommodation now, and plan to book with us in December.

In the meantime, for any enquiries relating to the 2015 National Meeting in the Yarra Valley, Victoria, please contact:

The 2015 National Meeting Secretary, Louise Grills
M.G. Car Club Victoria
Email: natmeetsecretary@mgcc.com.au;
Mob: 0417 415 362

And don't forget watch our website – <http://www.mgcc.com.au/mgcc/default.shtml>

You know how much we love running a National Meeting! We already have a great team of MGCC Victoria members hard at work putting together a NatMeet which you will love

Remember: FRIENDLY, FUN, FOOD, FAST !!!

Looking forward to seeing you in 2015.

ROBIN PAGE
2015 NATIONAL MEETING EVENT DIRECTOR



TD breaks Records at Bonneville!

Goldie Gardner made many attempt on many records on the Bonneville Salt Flats in Utah in EX 135 in 1951. After 16 records were broken and while a different supercharged 1250cc XPAG engine was being prepared for EX 135, an interesting event occurred.

According to John Thornley in his book, *Maintaining the Breed*.

Among the American journalists who had been assigned to cover the Gardner record attempts was Dick van Osten, associate editor of *Motor Trend*. He arranged with the American Automobile Association at Wendover to attempt to establish American Class F stock car records in the open car division, using an MGTD Mark II. The expression 'stock car' in this context means that the records will be attempted with a car selected by the AAA from an AAA dealer's stock and then simply run-in, under AAA's supervision, prior to crossing the start line.

The car was drawn from the showroom of the Foreign Motor Car Company of Salt Lake City and run in for 1,000 miles. Van Osten collected as crew one of the *Motor Trend* publishers, Pete Petersen and circulated the ten-mile circular course for twelve hours, stopping only to refuel and change of driver. In a most astonishingly consistent run, they established 23 stock car records and broke 5 existing national ones. An indication of the consistency with which the car ran is given by the fact that, though the records varied in distance from 25 kilometres to twelve hours, the speeds recorded varied only between 74.62 and 75.36 mph, reflecting the greatest possible credit on all concerned'.

There is a grainy movie record of this feat.

