THE TIME machine

The MG cars that attended the combined Run with the Gold Coast Antique Auto Club on February 23



The Official magazine of the Gold Coast MG Car Club

Registered by Australia Post Publication No. PP 444728-0010





APRIL MAY 14

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THE TIME MACHINE

The OFFICIAL JOURNAL of the GOLD COAST MG CAR CLUB INC.

Affiliated with the MG Car Club UK and C.A.M.S.

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NB. The Commitee welcomes your phone calls, but please before 9.00 pm.

President's Report

Not that you, the membership, needs to be told, but what a lovely social Club is our GCMGCC. Proof for me was the large turn-out to say goodbye to the Godfrey's! As most of you will already know, Robin was Treasurer for many years and he and Linda have returned to Blighty to be nearer their family. In excess of 50 members attended – some coming from as far away as Redcliffe and Brisbane on a midweek night – just shows me what a great Club we have!

Always wanting to try something new, your Committee is trialling a Ladies Evening and a Film Evening to gauge if there is interest to meet each other without our faithful steeds at our sides. I encourage you to get behind these initiatives and for someone who attends to write a report so that the rest of the Membership knows what they are all about.

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On a personal note, we (read, I) decided that 2014 was to be a Racing year for me, and what a stressful start I have had! The rebuilding of Birdcage's motor was troublesome from the crank shaft, upwards – every step of the way! The failure at Lakeside last May was catastrophic, to say the least, as the crank shaft broke in two and destroyed the complete motor – from the oil pan to the cylinder head and everything in between!

Many hours later – it would not be wise to mention money here – Laurel may read my report – the motor was encouraged into the engine bay, only to find that it would not mate up with the gearbox – so out it came again and it was found that the gearbox input shaft was bent as a result of the whipping of the failed crank shaft, so the gearbox was stripped and rebuilt while the input shaft was being repaired. The result of all this activity is that Birdcage now has a new and strong drive train that produces around 97hp at the back wheels and it has already

Features President's Report Australia Day Weekend, Coffs Harbour 7 Midweek Run - February 12 10 2nd Combined Run - GCAAC, GCMGCC Thank You - Robin and Linda Godfrey 16 Movie Night 18 Girly Girls Night 19 Midweek Run - March 12 20 MG90 22 Club Challenge, South Australia 23 Macleans Bridge at Logan 25 Coming Events 26 Restoring a TD over 39 Years 28 Celica Gearbox in a TD 33 Late News - Vale Rod Hiley 36 Brand Impressions, Ford 20th Century 37 A Smidge of 'Midge' History 41 Competition Call 45 Phillip Island and Back 47 For Sale 50

given me great pleasure to frighten a few MGB, Alfa, Healey, Midget and Lotus drivers at Morgan Park and Phillip Island!

Long may Birdcage punch above her weight! (Thanks for your patience, Mark and Paul. I was seriously stressed out for a few weeks back then!)

Your Vice President and her Team have provided you with an array of events for you to enjoy in your MG – call an organiser now and go have fun – isn't that the reason you joined the Gold Coast MG Car Club?

Cut off date for next magazine - May 15 Articles, letters to the Editor and suggestions from members are most welcome.

Email Carole Cooke - cazcooke30@gmail.com

Committee meetings: the first Monday of each month at the Gold Coast Antique Auto Club rooms, Mudgeeraba Road, Mudgeeraba, UBD Gold Coast Map 48 A-B 18

Membership: \$70 per year (due June 30) (\$35 after 31/12)

Joining Fees: \$20 Membership forms available on our

website - www.goldcoastmgcarclub.com.au

Membership at March 2014 Active 144

Joint 120

Associate 8

Life 5

Honorary 2 TOTAL 279

Payments made directly into the Club's bank account must include payee's name

Direct Deposit Details -Bank - ANZ Surfers Paradise, BSB 014 704

Account 3786 50734

Account name - Gold Coast MG Car Club Inc. Cheques to be made out to - Gold Coast MG Car Club Inc

It is a pleasure to meet new members, we hope to see you as regular participants at our many outings. You will find us friendly, so just make yourselves known!

GOLD COAST MG CAR CLUB INC The Secretary, P.O. Box 1018, Southport Qld 4215

Email - goldcoastmgcarclub@hotmail.com

Opinions expressed in THE TIME MACHINE are those of individual contributors and are not necessarily the opinions of THE GOLD COAST CAR CLUB Inc, or its Committee.

Australia Day Long Weekend Trip to Coffs Harbour

Nine cars left Martin Sheil Park for the trip to Coffs Harbour. Despite some light rain at stages en route, it was a smooth run via Lismore, Casino (lunch) and Grafton. Arriving at the Opal Cove Resort, parking was at a premium due to the "Cre8 Arts Festival" being held that weekend in the Resort grounds. The evening was spent at the Coffs Harbour RSL Club, transport being provided by the Club's

courtesy bus.

Sunday dawned fine, and it was early start to join the CEX Club (C.ex Coffs Touring Sports, and Classic Car Club) for a day run to Dorrigo and surrounds. There were about 15 of their





members, with a great variety of cars from Morris 1100 to Austin Healeys..and of course some MG's.

This Club is an interesting one, as they are not CAMS affiliated and receive funding as a sports club from the RSL, plus basically free use of the premises for meetings etc.



The CEX Club had arranged a great scenic run to Dorrigo via Bellingen, with morning tea at the Old Butter Factory and lunch at the North Dorrigo Restaurant.

7





Left - Admiring RIP Above - Howard Wood (TR2) of the CEX Club is restoring an MGTC



Like many others, we hadn't brought jumpers jackets, but they were surely needed at the Griffiths Mountain Lookout, where the temperature was about 10degC, and damp! Everyone got back safely to the Resort, and had a great evening meal there. The next morning, several cars discovered that they were minus their tyre valve caps ...some little souvenir hunters overnight!





The return to the Gold Coast was uneventful along the Pacific Highway, although the previous day I discovered that I had lost brake lights due to a faulty switch, and would you believe as soon as I pulled out from the Resort, I was followed by a NSW Highway Patrol car for 30K...luckily I had no need to brake for that time.

Thanks to John, Cheryl and Marie for a great weekend.





Above - a quick drive-past the Train Boneyard

This TC has been recently restored and proudly owned by Albert and Gaye Junge of the CEX Club







Above - the CEX Club's display at the RSL Coff's Harbour

Left - Peter is at the Baaaaar

Midweek Run - February 12

'On a hot and sunny Wednesday 12th February 2014 a very large crowd assembled at Arthur Earle Park, Nerang - 27 cars in all - for our mid-week run. After the usual natter, notices and Bruce's Irish jokes, at 9.15 we proceeded LEFT out of the park (for the very first time in our memory at least) and on through Nerang and Gilston and the beautiful Beechmont where the views of Advancetown Lake and Hinze Dam and further to the coastline were spectacular. We travelled on, over the winding hills with the dappled sunlight shining through the huge trees and hang gliders enjoying the breezes. Into the Lamington National Park and on to Binna Burra for morning tea. The day was sparkling and all enjoyed the cuppa and catch-up. Bev Robinson won the raffle, the proceeds of which will go to Multiple Sclerosis (a very worthy cause) until June.

We left Binna Burra just before 11am and travelled back to Beechmont and on through Canungra to Tamborine Village and further to Mt Tamborine where we assembled for a very generous lunch at St Bernard's Hotel and were greeted by the St Bernard himself.

Many thanks to Susan and Terry for a delightful drive in this very beautiful part of the world. How lucky are we, to live here!!'

Kay and Laurie Roberts











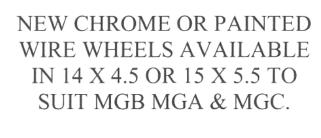






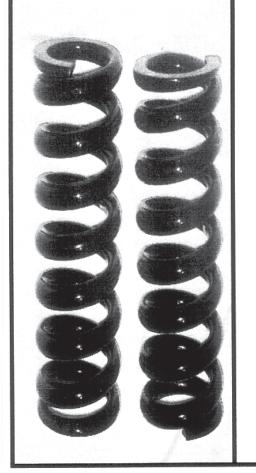


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"Seems to be lots of "Bunnies" on the road this time of year Mavis!
"Don't worry dear...your driving and the Calici-Virus should take care of them!"

The regular cartoon from our Club member, Stephen Richards

2nd Annual Combined Rally - February 23 Gold Coast MG Car Club - Gold Coast Antique Auto Club



30 cars arrived at the club rooms on a bright, if somewhat hot morning, 18 MG's and 12 of our friends from the Antique Auto Club; including Heinz and Meike in their 1926 Chev complete with back seat driver Diamond, the dog!







After the usual formalities and briefing, we set off down the M1 to Tweed Valley Way Tumbulgum and for morning tea. Refreshed, we then toured along the

beautiful Tweed Coast road then back onto Tweed Valley way, then onto the less travelled Coolamon Scenic Drive and arrived at RSL Mullumbimby for a delicious lunch. The cars made an impressive sight lining both sides of Dalley Street.

At lunch, Gold Coast Antique Auto Club President, Tom Gibb thanked our club for a great day out and was looking forward to next year's combined run.

Many thanks to Liz Lutherborrow for running the raffle which was won by Anne Paltridge.

Despite engine trouble, John and Lynette Talbot soldiered on; we thank them for organising such an enjoyable day.

Sam & Pam Everitt



Thank You - from Robin and Linda Godfrey - February 26 - to the President

Dear David

When we heard the club was arranging a farewell get-together for us we were surprised, but little imagined the number who would turn up on Tuesday evening. It was a humbling experience but typical of the club's membership and their attitude.



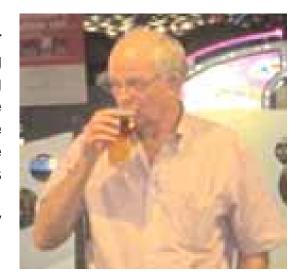
Both Linda and I cannot express our thanks enough to everyone for taking the trouble to attend, the unique gift which will be used regularly, and for the sincere good wishes expressed for our future.

It showed our club at its best; a close knit association of people who, through a common interest, have created a supportive friendly group that will stand the test of time.

Looking back over the years with the club it quickly became apparent that having a good time was the first priority, be it on short runs, long runs, coast to coast runs and in your case, international marathon expeditions. Eating and drinking also has to be placed high on the list of priorities. We once calculated the average time between refreshment stops on a normal run is less than an hour.

The reason for all this activity is of course our cars, without which we would not have an excuse to hold the events. The founders of the marque can little have imagined what an exclusive international club they would create. You can go to almost any country in the world and find MG enthusiasts where you will be greeted and welcomed without question, whether you have a rare classic or a modern version.

Had we not had our MG we would have neither met such a disparate group of interesting people nor have had the privilege of exploring this vast country, which we now appreciate more than we ever imagined possible. We have lost count of the number of times people have come up to us in out of the way places (Kuranda, Atherton Tableland, mid-Nullabor, Tenterfield to name a few), to talk wistfully about their past MG experiences.





Ironically, we are frequently asked for travel advice by Aussie friends who realise we have been to more of their country than they have. Our learning started within three months of us arriving, and within a month of joining the club; so I propose a tag line for the magazine: "Join the club and discover your country".

You can rest assured we will be joining the local group in England as soon as we are organised and the Twin Cam is again wearing its old number plates.

Thank you David, once again, for arranging the gathering. To all our friends we should like to express our appreciation for your friendship and companionship over the years. We will miss you all and the fun times we had but which we know will continue. We wish you and the club continued success and enjoyment of your cars.



Robin and Linda Godfrey









Movie Night

Now for something completely different;

On Thursday 13th March the club had its first Movie Night,

There were 19 members in attendance and a good time was had by all!



We started with a short film from 1932 taken at Abingdon where we witnessed the assembly of the MG Cars and the work practices, this was followed by the 1971 classic, Le Mans, starring Steve McQueen. Neil Weenink turned to me and remarked on the resemblance to him and Steve.

Our President Dave was kind enough to supply beer and popcorn; nice touch. We hope to do this again, probably in August, so I look forward to an even larger audience then.

Remember the club now has the equipment to show movies so if anybody has any inspiration regarding this – make use of it.

Nick Tyler.



Girly Girls Night

For those that did not come you missed out we had a lovely night. It was nice to see Madeleine Weenink bring her mother out for a cuppa and enjoying chatter and a lovely cake.

A nice setting out on the veranda overlooking the gardens with Laurel, Barbara, Anita, Elaine, and Marie. After sorting out what movie we decided we would attend, out came the wine and a lovely meal. Some of us were lucky to do a meal deal but the other two!!!!! Won't say what happened there....

Movie was great. Company was great. I won't say how many attempts it took to get out of the car park!!!

Thanks ladies, I will keep my eyes open for a show or even a trip to Brisbane, could be fun and you never never know what could happen there....

Marie

Notification of Overnight Mid Week Run to Montville, 2014

YES FOLKS ITS ON AGAIN IN 2014

All the merriment of another Christmas in July Midweek Overnight Run to the beautiful mountain retreat of Montville, with accommodation at the Montville Mountain View Motel has been arranged for Wednesday 9th and Thursday 10th July.

The cost will be \$230 per double/twin and \$170 for a single room with the tariff including a light lunch at Somerset Dam, bed, a traditional three course Christmas Dinner with party hats, streamers and all the trimming and full buffet breakfast.

A total of 26 rooms have been booked for the evening of Wednesday 9th July and all have been filled, so get your deposit in early to secure your booking. A stand-by list has also now been started.

For information contact Jim Lutherborrow on 5564 1943 or email <u>jameslutherborrow@bigpond.com</u> A \$100 per room non-refundable deposit to the Treasurer to secure your place is required.

Mid-Week Run - March 12

In near perfect MG weather, 18 cars departed Winders Park, beside Currumbin Creek at approx. 9:00am, winding inland through the Currumbin Valley.

It was then up and over the mountain range via Tomewin Mountain Road. As this 10-mile route climbed, twisted and turned through the abundant rainforest a light shower failed to dampen the joys of top-down motoring or the magnificent mountain and valley views intermittently revealing themselves along the way.



As we crossed the border into NSW road resurfacing work made the steep descent into the farmlands and cane fields just that little bit more interesting, the loose gravel surface threatening to chip windscreens and the pampered bodywork of club mem-



bers' cars. Pressing on, we wound through cane fields en-route to the delightfully rustic town of Chillingham.

Chillingham is home to a truly fascinating local roadside store selling all kinds of unusual and exotic plants and fruits cultivated on the property by its owner, Gerard. These fruits, herbs, jams, chutneys and a host of lotions and potions are not only sold

locally, but are also exported to many Asian and European countries, where their organic benefits and natural remedies are highly regarded. The stall also sells really scrumptious home-made mango ice creams which one or two members stopped to sample.

On then to a morning tea break in a park opposite the local Tyalgum Hotel. With the raffle drawn and morning appetites satiated, we were all about to leave when

Peter Dunn discovered that the keys for his MGB had gone AWOL. After a frantic search in the long grass, they eventually turned up, resting between the folds of his car's hood. It was a great relief for Peter and his wife, who had visions of having to thumb a lift home to collect a spare set of keys. Unfortunately, in the madness of the moment their lunch box was left behind

20 on a park bench.

From Tyalgum we headed along more perfect MG country roads, through Murwillumbah and on to Cabarita Beach via Bakers Road. Bakers Road is one of those places the local council and NSW country road authority seems to leave off their



road maintenance program every year. It's a real bone-shaker/wheel buster. Fortunately it's only a few kilometres long. It was around here that Gary Stevens experienced a flat tyre in his MG Magnette. He must have broken all records for changing a wheel as he managed to re-join the convoy as it passed through Chinderah.

Clothers Creek Road, also en-route to Cabarita Beach, wound over another low range, leading us past the Madura tea plantation. This small plantation grows and supplies some truly great Aussie tea varieties. Strongly recommend their Premium Blend to anyone who still brews their own cuppa in a real teapot.

So after a delightful 90 mile run we arrived safely at another lovely park for lunch beside the Tweed River at Chinderah.

We're still not sure what happened to Jim and Moya Haines who arrived at the start with the latest addition to their family, a very fluffy and adorable Border Collie pup. Perhaps he was a little too young to fully enjoy the delights of a midweek run in the car, but no doubt he'll accompany them on many more runs in the future.



Special thanks must be given to all of the ladies who baked and shared cake and cookies at morning tea; a really lovely gesture that was appreciated by all. And very special thanks to Peter and Jill East for organising yet another memorable midweek run. The run covered some of Australia's most beautiful countryside, avoiding traffic lights, main roads, highways and motorways for almost its entire distance. Although they flew home to the UK just two days later, they assured us they will return in November to plan and enjoy more mid-week MG runs with our club.



Bulletin 1, February 2014

Dear fellow MG enthusiast



The MG Car Club in the UK would like you to help in staging a series of worldwide events to celebrate the 90th anniversary of the MG marque.

Here in the UK we are planning to hold a celebratory Road Run, the Abingdon Town museum will be displaying a collection of MG memorabilia and the MG Garden in Abingdon will get its official opening - and we are working on other events to make this a truly memorable MG90 year.

Topping it all, our annual Silverstone MG extravaganza is now branded as MG90 and will be in full swing over the weekend of the 21/22 June 2014. MG Motor UK will be supporting these events.

We would like to invite Clubs, Centres, Registers, Chapters and other MG groups wherever you are around the world to join us and stage an event of your choosing to celebrate MG90.

Tell us what you are doing! We have launched a Facebook site and a Google map, where you can catch up on all the events worldwide, track their progress on the Google map, upload details and photos of your own event and add your comments.

Specially designed regalla, clothing, car badges etc featuring the MG90 logo are available from our shop.

We look forward to hearing from you!

We will keep sending additional information Bulletins to keep you up to date with the latest developments.

Best regards

Contacts

Worldwide MG90 on Facebook www.facebook.com/MGNinety MG90 at Silverstone www.mgcc.co.uk/mg90

MB.90 Clothing www.topsigns.net

The MG90 Team



2014 MG CLUB CHALLENGE 7th - 8th JUNE ADELAIDE SOUTH AUSTRALIA

The MG Car Club of South Australia are hosting the 2014 MG Club Challenge based in the famous Barossa Valley wine growing region over the Queens Birthday long weekend in June 2014

The Challenge is a back to basics Motorsport Event and is open to all MG Car Club members in Australia.

The event comprises a Super Sprint at Mallala Motorsport Park on Saturday the 7th and a Hillclimb at Historic Collingrove on Sunday the 8th

We have booked accommodation at the Lyndoch Hill Motel (www.lyndochhill.com) which is 30 minutes to Mallala and 20 minutes to Collingrove

Expressions of interest would be appreciated at this point forwarded to Bev Waters Ph: 08 8522 1940 Or Email: bev.waters@bigpond.com





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Maclean's Bridge

Sports and Classic Car Festival

Sunday 18th May

at the Logan Campus of Griffith University University Drive (off Loganlea Road) beside the Logan Motorway Exit M1 (towards Gold Coast) at Exit 31 and cross over M1 onto Logan Motorway Loganlea Road is the second exit on left.









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On a personal note, we (read, I) decided that 2014 was to be a Racing year for me, and what a stressful start I have had! The rebuilding of Birdcage's motor was troublesome from the crank shaft, upwards – every step of the way! The failure at Lakeside last May was catastrophic, to say the least, as the crank shaft broke in two and destroyed the complete motor – from the oil pan to the cylinder head and everything in between!

Many hours later – it would not be wise to mention money here – Laurel may read my report – the motor was encouraged into the engine bay, only to find that it would not mate up with the gearbox – so out it came again and it was found that the gearbox input shaft was bent as a result of the whipping of the failed crank shaft, so the gearbox was stripped and rebuilt while the input shaft was being repaired. The result of all this activity is that Birdcage now has a new and strong drive train that produces around 97hp at the back wheels and it has already

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given me great pleasure to frighten a few MGB, Alfa, Healey, Midget and Lotus drivers at Morgan Park and Phillip Island!

Long may Birdcage punch above her weight! (Thanks for your patience, Mark and Paul. I was seriously stressed out for a few weeks back then!)

Your Vice President and her Team have provided you with an array of events for you to enjoy in your MG – call an organiser now and go have fun – isn't that the reason you joined the Gold Coast MG Car Club?

Cut off date for next magazine - May 15 Articles, letters to the Editor and suggestions from members are most welcome.

Email Carole Cooke - cazcooke30@gmail.com

Committee meetings: the first Monday of each month at the Gold Coast Antique Auto Club rooms, Mudgeeraba Road, Mudgeeraba, UBD Gold Coast Map 48 A-B 18

Membership: \$70 per year (due June 30) (\$35 after 31/12)

Joining Fees: \$20 Membership forms available on our

website - www.goldcoastmgcarclub.com.au

Membership at March 2014 Active 144

Joint 120

Associate 8

Life 5

Honorary 2 TOTAL 279

Payments made directly into the Club's bank account must include payee's name

Direct Deposit Details -Bank - ANZ Surfers Paradise, BSB 014 704

Account 3786 50734

Account name - Gold Coast MG Car Club Inc. Cheques to be made out to - Gold Coast MG Car Club Inc

It is a pleasure to meet new members, we hope to see you as regular participants at our many outings. You will find us friendly, so just make yourselves known!

GOLD COAST MG CAR CLUB INC The Secretary, P.O. Box 1018, Southport Qld 4215

Email - goldcoastmgcarclub@hotmail.com

Opinions expressed in THE TIME MACHINE are those of individual contributors and are not necessarily the opinions of THE GOLD COAST CAR CLUB Inc, or its Committee.