THE TIME MACHINE December 18 January 19

The GCMGCC Display Day for Concours and Pride of Ownership was held on the 23rd September after being postponed from 26th August, due to lots of rain.



The Official
Magazine of the Gold
Coast MG Car Club

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THE TIME MACHINE

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





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Register Co-Ordinators

Peter Kerr - T & Pre War Gary Lock - MGA

John Crighton - MGB Other MGs - TBA

The Committee welcomes your phone calls, but please before $8.30\ pm$ Q time

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Greetings all,

As I sit here with the TV on waiting for the Melbourne Cup to start I realise that this year is in the home straight. When we say "time waits for no one" I reflect back over the year and ask myself if I could have been more productive with my time. The answer must be yes...



Time is a relative thing. Most of our time is taken up with work or family duties. Those who have the luxury of spare time often seek leisurely pursuits, many contribute to charitable causes. Good people manage to combine all of the above.

In our Club we have such a couple in Kay and Laurie Roberts. Kay and Laurie were the recipients of this years President's Trophy. This presentation was made at our recent Presentation Lunch held at the Colonial Golf Resort. The award was in recognition of their selfless dedication and time they expend managing our charitable fundraising arm. Of course none of this would be possible without the generous support of the membership.

I also had the privilege of presenting Kay and Laurie a cheque of \$1000 to support the Soroptimist International Gold Coast Inc. in which they are involved. This organisation is not only a global voice for women but it supports our local women subject to domestic violence and homelessness. Soroptimist Gold Coast also operates the Pajama Foundation (children in care). Their members assist children in foster care with literacy and numeracy programs, sponsoring children and their careers to summer camps, whilst also conducting an annual Pyjama Drive for new PJ's for children in foster care. This



organisation is also a committed partner with the Country Women's Association, particularly in the support of rural women during this drought period. Kay and Laurie are heavily involved with Soroptimist Gold Coast so the Committee was delighted in choosing this worthy organisation as our chosen recipient.

I would also congratulate all those members who attended our Christmas/ Presentation Luncheon and particularly those members who were recipients of awards. The day lived up to everything we expected. On show was a wonderful array of MGs that showcased the very best of our cars. This is what we are about, having fun with friends.

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With this year drawing to a close we can but look to next year with optimism. From my point of view I believe the Club will enjoy great member support for our full program of events. Let's not forget that the National Meeting next Easter is to be hosted by MG Queensland. For those who can't travel long distances this is a great opportunity to experience the buzz of the Nat Meet.

Finally on behalf of Liz and myself I take this opportunity to wish all members a Happy Christmas and a safe New Year. Let's all hope that next year time may slow down a little so we can all inhale that smell of hot oil and look for that pesky squeak that MG's are famous for.

Merry Christmas to all.

Peter Johnston



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WINNERS ARE GRINNERS!

Congratulations to the MG Motorsport team for taking out first place in the Australian Production Cars series 2018 in the Jacuzzi Spas Australian Production Car Championships, Class E, following the MG Motorsport team's podium finish at the last race of season.





Over the weekend, the final round of the season at Victoria's Phillip Island Circuit saw the team battle it out in a gruelling six-hour endurance race.

What a mighty achievement by James Brock, ELLIOT BARBOUR RACING and the Brock Race Engineering team in their first year in the MG6 PLUS!

MG MOTOR AUSTRALIA CELEBRATES A TRIO OF BUSINESS MILESTONES

MG Motor is excited to announce three major business milestones, as the brand celebrates its second year in business, four new dealerships, and the sale of its 2000th car in 2018.



A new Police vehicle, MG6 Plus, for the Tuggerah Lakes Police

This brings the marque's presence in Australia to 25 dealerships, with the appointment of four new dealerships across the East Coast of Australia offering the full range of MG vehicles, including the flagship SUV MG GS, the stylish MG ZS SUV, the contemporary fastback MG6 PLUS and the stylish MG3 Auto. Doors are now open at Browns Plains (QLD), Geelong (VIC), Sunshine Coast (QLD) and Wollongong (NSW).

RICK & MARY, AGNES AND ELVIS - PART 2

We stayed at Bundaberg for 2 nights and did our own thing is seeing the sights. A visit to see the Bert Hinkler Museum and house was very enjoyable. The next day was a trip to the beaches from Elliott Heads to Burnett Heads and Mon Repos where Bert Hinkler first flew a glider. Also a excellent view from The Hummock where there is another memorial to Bert. - Peter and Carole





Bert designed and built early aircraft (above right) before being the first person to fly solo from England to Australia, and the also first to fly solo across the Southern Atlantic Ocean. Bert was welcomed home by thousands of people in the car above. He died at 39 when he crashed in the Alps above Florence, Italy.

His house in England was relocated brick by brick to Bundaberg, his birthplace.



At Bundaberg, we went out for dinner but as it was Father's Day, there was no room for us. But Management found a separate room for us, where we all had pizza!



Tuesday meant assembling the troops once more and a "gaggle" of MGs (there is a goose or two in the group so perhaps this collective noun is appropriate! Am I getting close with the name for a collection of MGs?) started their engines at the motel in Bundaberg. In small groups the club members headed out into the morning traffic and hit the road towards Tin Can Bay. The terrain was getting flatter as we moved south and towards the Coast and Tin Can Bay.

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Between road works, some nice country driving and cooler weather, we headed into another terrific lunchtime watering hole in Toogum. What a ripper spot for lunch! Club members were in awe about the beauty of this lovely little village and beachfront restaurant and bar. I don't think any of us realised how far out the tide would travel in this part of Queensland.

Our lunchtime arrival signalled the tide at full turn and a massive sandbar/mudflat for us to ogle at as we prepared for, then indulged in a great lunch. Lots of great tucker choices at this location and I had





the good fortune to have some terrific seafoods and someone made me drink some lovely wine to go with the oysters, scallops, prawns and calamari – please make them stop doing this to me!!

The afternoon run was pleasant and we enjoyed another "follow the leader" stint into the Sandcastles Motel in Tin Can Bay. The cars assembled and were quickly being photographed by a member of the local camera club. The photographer was taking some really arty photos of the cars "from the olden days" and noted that all of the drivers were from the olden days too – cheeky! I tried to lay claim that my car was only from 2001 and I was not very old either but for some reason my nose started to grow...

It was especially hospitable to have the motelier provide us with tables and chairs and some nibbles for afternoon tea. As the weather started to turn and the storm clouds brewed, the roofs and tourneau covers went on the cars and we flipped

the tea and coffee into beer and wine before our dinner booking. Dinner was once again on the courtesy bus to the local country club and a Chinese restaurant.

At the Tin Can Bay Country Club it was especially gratifying to see the whole "murder" of MG members





assembled at a really long table. I couldn't count the number of MG members as I ran out of digits but there were lots of us. I reckon a word which is used to describe a collection of crows might well be the right one for the collective of the car club members as the noise a crow makes exemplifies a noise some of the club members use as an expletive from time to time.

Do you think I have the right collective noun to describe a collection of MG folk yet?

We embarrassed a certain lady as it was her birthday

And so all good things have to come to an end. Wednesday morning was symbolic – the day started with cloudy skies and we were dark and dirty about the trip coming to an end. Rain falling as we were heading out and we were



shedding a tear or two as we said goodbyes to old friends and new. Some folk headed off in groups and others headed off on their own as we all made our way back in different directions to our different parts of Queensland and northern NSW.

I am going to indulge myself as a new member of the Gold Coast MG Car Club now. As a new member and a recent purchaser of an MG I have been involved in the Club for less than 3 months. There are an array of things I believe current members and potential members would like to understand about this "MG Car Club thing":

Richard Patterson and Janine Prichard.



Barry and Lorraine were able to get their MGA back after repairs in time to drive it home.

CONCOURS AND PRIDE OF OWNERSHIP AND DISPLAY DAY - SEPTEMBER 23

Our Display day was postponed from the 26th August as it raining that day. We had lovely weather for Display Day on September 23. Over 55 MGs attended on the day. - Editor













The Concours winners will be announced at our Christmas/Presentation Lunch.

The winners of Pride of Ownership were announced on the day -MGA & Pre MGA MGB MGF/TF

Roger Paltridge Charles Dickson **Bob & Sheila Roberts**











































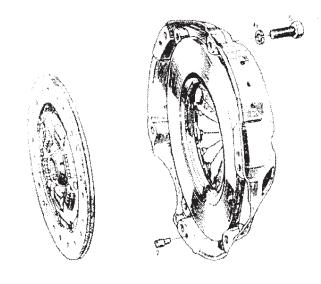






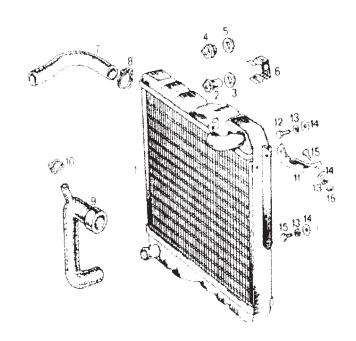






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DELIVERY AUSTRALIA WIDE

NOOSA WEEKEND AND NOOSA BEACH CLASSIC CAR SHOW

Under partially cloudy skies but without any hint of rain a small group of MGers met at Arthur Earle Park at Nerang. Our run organiser, Club Captain John Talbot, handed out the run sheets and gave us instructions for our run up to Noosa on the Sunshine Coast where we were to attend and participate in the Noosa Beach Classic Car Show over the October long weekend.



Having followed the much travelled route through Canungra we proceeded on through Mundoolun on to the Mount Lindesay highway to our morning tea stop at the James Smith Recreation Area at Greenbank. After partaking of the usual refreshment we proceeded on through both residential and commercial areas in the Springfield and Ipswich areas before entering the rural zones heading towards the Wivenhoe and Somerset Dams. The scenery through this stretch of country is spectacular with rolling hills and mountains and views of the dams along the way.



Our lunch stop was at Kilcoy at the Coff & Co. bakery where meat pies were the main fare. We again headed off in to the hills on the D'Aguilar Highway towards Landsborough and then on to the Maleny-Montville Road. Having passed through Montville where our small convoy of MGs caught the attention of the visiting tourists, we descended the mountain through Nambour on to the Eumundi-Noosa Road to our accommodation at the Anchor Motel at Noosaville. Here we were met by Leckie Thomson and partook of the customary pre-dinner drinks before the courtesy bus transported us to the Noosa RSL Club for dinner.

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Cut off date for next magazine 10th January 2019

Articles, letters to the Editor and suggestions from members are most welcome.

Email the Editor - Carole Cooke - cazcooke30@gmail.com

Membership: \$70 per year (due June 30)
Joining Fees: \$20 per person

Membership forms available on our website - www.goldcoastmgcarclub.com.au

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

National Australia Bank Ferry Street, Nerang BSB 084 852

Account Number 14-920-3252

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

Membership at October 2018
Active 145 Family 111 Life 7 Honorary 4 TOTAL 267

The Life Members of the Gold Coast MG Car Club are -

Murray Arundell, Rob Baylis, Carol Brookman (dec), Bruce Corr, Marie Conway-Jones, Jim Haines, Phil Redding, Jeff Sattler I must say the food here is delicious, and reasonably priced. Live entertainment was provided in the form of a Buddy Holly look alike and sound alike with the band playing 50s and 60s music and songs that we could all sing along to. That shows our age, doesn't it?

On Sunday morning, the date of the Noosa Beach Classic Car Show which was being held at Lions Park at Noosa, the skies were overcast and with rain threatening. About 300 cars are on show at this event featuring all British Marques, some of which had not been in production for many years. They included Bristols, Rileys and Singers and others too numerous to list here. We also met up with Griff Kilbourne who was exhibiting his immaculate MGA.

What happened next was pure disaster. The heavens opened and down came torrential rain. This caused many people to get their 'open top' cars covered as best they could, but with most it was simply too late to keep the interiors dry, yours truly included. We trudged around in the water with sodden footwear and clothes, making for a most uncomfortable situation.



That evening we dined at a nearby Thai restaurant where, again, the food was delicious. By this time the skies were clearing, and on the following morning the rain had gone.

The run home on Monday took us back over the mountain where morning tea was taken in a café on Old Landsborough Road. After morning tea it was on to the

D'Aguilar Highway again to the Esk-Kilkoy Road and Brisbane Valley Way to Ferndale for lunch at the Brisbane Valley Tavern. Following that it was on to the Warrego Highway and Logan Motorway to home.

Overall a great weekend which was somewhat tarnished by the 'wild' weather for the car show on Sunday, and we thank Club Captain John for his usual organisational skills in its preparation.



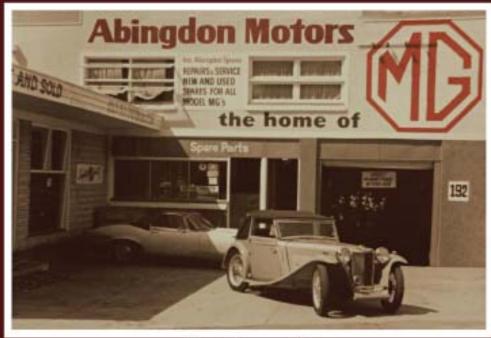
Jim Lutherborrow



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LSIM - SEPTEMBER 30



It was a gloomy start to the day when our members met at Schuster Park. It was a run organised by Gary and Lindsey Stevens for those of us who hadn't gone on the weekend away run Noosa.

Not to be deterred by the threatening weather and after we had said hello to everyone we were sent on our way towards Currumbin



Creek on a very pretty stretch of road.



Just before we reached the Rock Pools we turned into Bains Road. This is one of Jim H's favourite roads. He has always maintained it would make a great Hillclimb course and loves to get a good run up.

Up over Mt Tomewin towards Murwillmbah. A road we have travelled many times but this was the first time in the mist. It looked truly beautiful and very different. A roundabout route through the lush northern NSW where the bay trees were covered in their bright green new leaves. Now I know they are considered a weed by some but they did look spectacular.

Through the back streets of Murwillumbah to Knox Park for our morning tea stop and I have to say this was first time we enjoyed our cuppa in someone's boudoir. It was a little sad to see the bedding of a homeless person neatly tucked into the rafters of the picnic shelter ready for that night. The owner of the bedding /

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seemed to have a sense of humor as there were a pair of playboy bunny ears right next to their stash.

Off towards our lunch venue we travelled through Stokers Siding and I am always amazed at how different things look when driven in the reverse direction for a change.



Not far out off Mooball we turned towards the coast, around Round Mountain, which is a great MG road, then up to the Cabarita Bowls Club. Here quite a few of our members opted for the Chinese lunch specials and I found mine delicious.



While we were enjoying lunch and a warming beverage the heavens opened with quite a downpour. Perfect excuse to stay chatting a bit longer with the rain stopping just as most of us were leaving.

Thank you Gary and Lindsey we really enjoyed the day.

Moya and Jim Haines

##_#_#_#_#_#_#_#_#_#



About 20 veteran, vintage and classic cars and motorbikes are on display at the Maroochydore Homemaker Centre in a vacant shop. Members of the Sunshine Coast Antique Car Club open the doors on the weekend to dust the cars and answer questions. It has proved to be very popular and the Management

want the cars to stay until Christmas. Some cars will be changed over at times to vary the display.

Peter Kerr has his 1929 MG M Type on display.

50 YEARS AGO

A couple celebrating their golden wedding anniversary year are also celebrating 50 years with the same car.

Tom Eaves, 80, and wife Christine, 71, from Devon, married on 22 March 1968 in Truro, Cornwall.

Half a century on, they are still driving the MG TF roadster that was a big part of their special day.

Mr Eaves bought the car when the couple started dating and it's been with them on many adventures - including their honeymoon - in the decades since then.

"If you put that car on to relatively traffic-free country roads, with the hairline steering it's got, it's absolutely super. You couldn't get anything better," Mr Eaves said.

After "doing all our courting" in

what was to become their wedding car, the couple set off on honeymoon in it - a fortnight's trip from Land's End to John O'Groats.

On their golden anniversary earlier this year, the couple, from Dousland near Plymouth, went back to Land's End in the MG to mark the occasion.

- The Eaves' car was built on 13 and 14 April 1954 and delivered to a garage in Plymouth on 30 April. It was bought in 1967 by Mr Eaves for £350 (about £8,000 today)
- Only 1,242 of these cars were sold on the home market (UK)







COMING

P - Christmas Midweek Run - December 12

From 7.30 am on, brekky and or natter at Arthur Earle Park, Nerang. Leave on run at 9 am. BYO morning tea. Lunch at Coolangatta/ Tweed Heads Golf Club as usual. Numbers are needed by the prevous Friday to John Talbot on 0421 185 419 or email ejohntalbot6@gmail.com.

Ple RS for GCM eve

P - Midweek Run - January 9

From 7.30 am on, brekky and or natter Then this run.will leave Arthur Earle Park Nerang. The Event will be called The Point to Point Run. BYO morning tea. Club Lunch. Numbers to your organisers, Coral andGraham Cogzell at grahamcogzell360@ gmail.com Phone 0423528369 before 6th January.

P - LSIM Australia Day Run -January 26 TBA

P - Midweek Run - February 13 TBA

P - LSIM - February 24

Combined with the Gold Coast Antique Auto Club and the Automobile Restorers Association Gold Coast. Details TBA

P - Australia Day

26 January 2019 is a long weekend, Monday the 28th is a public holiday. I am arranging a run to accommodation near Coffs Harbour leaving Martin Sheils Park Tallebudgera on Saturday 26 January and returning Monday 28 January. Full details later. John Talbot 0421185419



EVENTS

ase VP all GCC

ents

P - Points earned towards the Roger Thompson Tray. This is the founding President's trophy and is awarded to the most successful MG, namely the car that earns its owner the maximum number of points by attendance at Gold Coast MG Car Club events.

New Members

We are pleased to welcome the following new members to our Club and hope to see them participating in our runs.

New members and 'old' members, we would love to hear your story of how you come to have an MG.

Barbara & Tony Smallwood - Tamborine Mountain - 1967 MGB
Leigh & Vivienne Hanham - Southport - 1972 MGB
Sean Edge - Maudsland - 1955 MG TF
Chris Thomsen - Surfers Paradise - 1967 MGB
Andrew McGowan of Bundall

Please consider sending articles and photos in to me for the Time Machine. Email - cazcooke30@gmail.com

Also needed is for members to think of suitable Runs for the Club. Contact John Talbot for more details on how to plan a Run. Mobile - 0421 185 419, email - ejohntalbot6@gmail.com

The photos in the magazine have been contributed by Carole Cooke, Peter Kerr, Steve Begley, Paul Rogers, Jim Lutherborrow, Dave Godwin, Norm Richardson, Facebook



BULLETIN 2 - OCTOBER 2018 THE GOLDEN JUBILEE MG NATIONAL MEETING 2019 - REDLANDS QUEENSLAND.

It is time to start planning your trip to Queensland for the 2019 National Meeting. Our dedicated Committee has been hard at work overcoming what initially appeared to be almost unsurmountable obstacles, and this has caused us to adopt some significant changes to what was proposed in Bulletin # 1

The Queensland Licensing Laws do not allow the service of alcohol on Good Friday unless it is in conjunction with a meal in a part of the premises that is ordinarily set aside for dining. This has meant that the proposed venue of the Noggin and Natter did not comply, and so the search was on for a licensed restaurant that could accommodate us. The Alexandra Hills Hotel Conference Centre (which was already chosen as a venue for the Farewell Breakfast) could satisfy this requirement.

How does this affect you?

Well, the maximum number that they can legally accommodate in their largest function room is 350. This means our numbers have to be capped to 350 overall. This has also caused changes to other venues. While some of the venues have altered, the traditional functions have not, however. It's full speed ahead from now on.

We recommend that you register early so as not to miss out. Registration will be open before Christmas holidays so keep an eye on our new Nat Meet website for details mgnationalmeeting.org.au

VENUE DETAILS:

Friday 19th April - Registration and Scrutineering Alexandra Hills Hotel Conference Centre

"Time Line of National Meetings" Alexandra Hills Hotel Conference Centre Noggin & Natter plus Alexandra Hills Hotel Conference Centre Rocker Cover Racing

Saturday 20th April - Concours de Elegance GJ Walter Park, Cleveland "Time Travellers" Night & Alexandra Hills Hotel Conference Centre Concours trophies presentation

Sunday 21st April - Hillclimb (Speed Event) MGCCQ's Hillclimb, Mt. Cotton Observation Run Redlands and surrounding area

Sunday Night Free night

Monday 22nd April - Motorkhana Sleeman Sporting Complex, Chandler Kimber Run Redlands and surrounding area Golden Jubilee Dinner Alexandra Hills Hotel Conference Centre & Trophy Presentation Night

Tuesday 23rd April - Farewell Breakfast Alexandra Hills Hotel Conference Centre Delegates Meeting Alexandra Hills Hotel Conference Centre

As we celebrate the 50th National Meeting with the theme of "Time Travel" we are looking to create a display to illustrate the history of these meetings.

TIME LINE OF NATIONAL MEETINGS

How are those old photographs going for the Time Line? Have you started going through those old slides and photographs and earmarking them yet? These photos will need to have been taken at any of the 49 National Meetings. They will more likely be selected for inclusion on the Time Line if they have people and cars in them. (A car by itself could have been taken any time.)

Please only submit about 2 per meeting, so be very selective. We will need the who, what, where, when and why on each photo, THANKS.

Electronically-They will need to be sent to Delia & Peter Rayment at peterrayment@ bigpond.com or memorabilia@mgnationalmeeting.org.au or as an attachment to the email as a jpeg file, 2-3 Mbytes, to keep reasonable resolution. Don't send too many in one email, as we may not be able to access them. Definitely nothing off an iPad either thanks, we can't do anything with them.

No email facility -For those who do not have access to email facilities please post a photocopy of your original to our home address - 32 Coveys Road, Tinbeerwah. Q 4563. We ask for photocopies as we do not want to have to be posting originals back to people.

The whole collection – It is envisaged that after the 50th meeting, all the photos submitted will be available on our website for people to download if they want to make their own book of photos.

Cut off time for photographs will be a month before Easter. So the sooner the better OK. We look forward to lots of photographs.

The MG Car Club of Queensland invites you to come and help us celebrate 50 years of National Meetings at Easter 2019.

Expression of interest and enquiries to enquiries@mgnationalmeeting.org.au. More details of Redlands attractions, accommodation options, cut off dates and prices can be found on our new website - mgnationalmeeting.org.au

TYME 2018

The first weekend in October is when TYme is held in Canberra. This year 45 cars and 84 people made the rally.

The display of cars was consigned to a corner of the Australian War Memorial public car park. The pre-war cars included 2 TAs, and the unfinished TB Blue

Streak Special There were 13 TCs from Sydney, Hunter, Newcastle Gold Coast and Canberra. Also 5 TDs and 5 TFs. It was unusual this time that there were 7 YTs and only 2 YAs.

The War Museum has a display of 62,000 crocheted red poppies in the gardens to commemorate 100 years since the end of WWI and the number killed in the war to end all wars...



A group of enthusiasts from the GCMGCC rugged up for the trip to Canberra for TYme and after that took the long way home via the Victorian Alps.







Malcolm Robertson's Blue Streak special

VICTORIAN ALPS TRIP

As is often the case, the journey to and from an MG event can be more eventful, exciting and enjoyable then the event itself.

This was certainly the case on the way to and returning from the TYme event in Canberra during October 2018. Not that the TYme event wasn't enjoyable! It was! It's just that the trip consisted of 10 days of magical driving along B and C roads in all weather conditions with MG friends with similar interests... Do I need to say more?

The Short Story

Before heading to the UK with my MGA race car, Birdcage A, for a race season, early April 2018, I performed a major service on my 1937 TA and parked it facing the garage door, ready for a quick getaway on my return. The intention was to leave for Canberra with Murray Arundell and his group, 1 hour after arriving home - jet lag and all!

Six months later, my return flight was delayed 2 hours. This meant that Dan Casey and I were 2 hours behind the forward group already! They had taken the New England Highway route to Glencoe, NSW and by the time night fell, Dan and I had reached Tenterfield, which now put us one and a half hours behind.

At 5am next morning, Dan and I were up and chasing. We met the forward group for breakfast at Uralla and the six MGs headed further down the New England highway to Tamworth, before taking bumpy and pot-holed back roads with beautiful vistas, due to recent rains, to Gulgong, Cowra and finally, Canberra, mostly in full sunshine.

2.7

Of concern was the number of dead wombats (marked with a red "X" on their stomachs) along the inland roads! Apparently, this is done once they have been checked that any babies they may have been carrying have been assessed! Very sad!

Other than suffering fuel vaporisation driving up Cunningham's Gap (I had removed the carburettor heat shield, thinking it wasn't necessary!), the TA was simply humming along at 55mph to 60mph, eating up the miles...



Having caught up with old friends and making new ones at the TYme weekend and having visited the War Museum one more time - which is never enough - the Queensland-owned TA, two TC's and two MGA's headed south towards the Victorian Alps, this time in inclement weather. Again, the back roads were bumpy and, at one stage, I smiled to myself wondering what an observer might think seeing Murray and Robbie bounce out of their seats over a particularly big bump, only to see me do the same a few seconds later!



Our route southwards took us to Cooma, Jindabyne and Mt Hotham/Dinner plains, through the Alpine and Kosciusko National Parks, before continuing south to Orbost through the Snowy River National Park, which is only a stones-throw from Bass Strait and Tasmania! The roads remained bumpy but also became steep and windy, which challenged the Allen Lim Joon built MPJG motor more than ever before. Allan drove 4500 miles during his 39 year custodianship and I have added 9000 miles in 2 years, so, in effect, the motor is only just run-in! Being a newbie to MG TAs, I was advised to keep the revs below 4000rpm - preferably around 3500rpm - in an attempt to avoid cracking the head internally, which in effect, renders them scrap! Needless to say, I had to select second gear a good few times and third gear down the steeper and more challenging sections while

working within these self-imposed rev limits.

The steep climb up to Mt Hotham in rain and mist was scary, to say the least, as visibility reduced to around 30m towards the top. There were still pockets of snow on the ground and the breeze was quite chilly, but, as we were all well attired in preparation for this trip, the hoods of the T-Types stayed down! Needless to say we enjoyed the log fire in our chalet after a meal at the only open bar/restaurant on the mountain!





The Southern Alps is a beautiful part of Victoria. It is hilly with lush farm lands and tree-topped mountains and appears very profitable for the farming community, judging by the full dams and large number of sheep and Angus cows per acre! Green grass, fat sheep and fat cows are hopefully signs of good times.



On reaching Orbost, our southernmost point, we headed back inland towards Bega through the Coopracambra National Park, Tilba Tilba and Kiama, before sprinting for home over 2 days via The Putty Road, Tamworth and Grafton. Sometimes in rain; sometimes in overcast weather; seldom did the sun make an appearance! However, the hoods

stayed down!

Trips like these tend to deepen existing friendships and are opportunities to make new ones, and this trip was no exception. Murray's choice of pub accommodation was educational and entertaining and the success of "most" MGs made it all worth while.

Most of us had a few maintenance issues to resolve along the way: One of the TC's snapped its drive shaft, unfortunately, and had to be shipped home. But, on the plus side, we met Peter, a lovely MG owner, at morning

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tea in Bright who we later tracked down and he offered to store the TC until the RACQ arrived to take it home. Apparently, there is no truth to the rumour that the TC owner was trying too hard to keep up with the TA! The TA and the other TC's prop shaft bolts came loose, which is weird, but that is what happened! This was an easy fix once we had found a hoist!

One of the MGA's ignition switch failed, but that was no bother for the mechanic on the trip - it was able to be started in the engine bay.

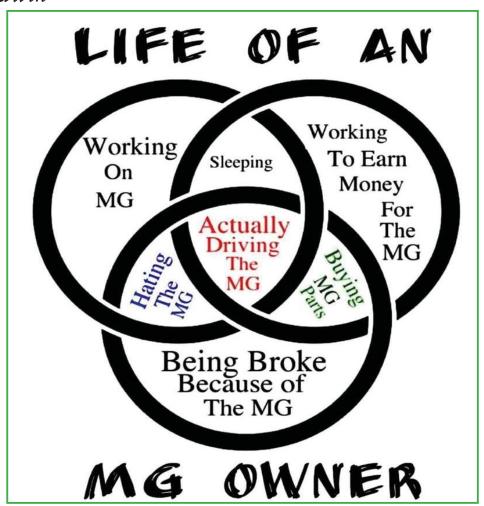
On trips like these, it's the fun you have along the way that brings you back again: the people you meet, the hotels, coffee shops and pubs you find to have breakfast, lunch and dinner, and having the opportunity of touring this wonderful country of ours

Would I do it again? Yes, I certainly would, but I'm not sure that I would leave the day that I return from overseas and have to put up with jetlag all over again!

Also there is talk of us going north next time, which is an area I have not traversed in my TA before, so that would be interesting.

However, as with most long trips in classic MGs, I have a long list of "Things to do..." that need attention before such a major trip is undertaken again. Is this not normal for our old cars?

Dave Godwin



MIDWEEK RUN - OCTOBER 10

This run started from the Coomera Community Centre.Lunch was at Tweed Heads West by the Maritime Museum with the food delivered to the members. Bruce Barton-Bishop led the pack. The food looked delicious! - *Editor*









At Tweed Heads West



Collecting and eating the great fresh and cooked fish lunch



LSIM OCTOBER 28TH "ANOTHER DAY IN PARADISE"

Another perfect GOLD COAST spring day. We met at the Hinterland Regional Park in Mudgeeraba for the start of today's run. When we rocked up in our MGTF we wondered if we were at the right club as we parked alongside a Porsche, Carmen Ghia, a 370Z a couple of MX5's. Fortunately the good old TF belonging to Neil Godwin arrived and the old faithful MGB's and MGB GTs.



As we headed out along Bonogin Rd and Observatory Drive and many roundabouts and wrong turns later we arrived at our morning tea spot at Robert Neumann Park. What an amazing park, with a beautiful lake and ducks and even a few chooks wandered over from a nearby farm to see who had invaded their quiet Sunday morning. It was good to catch up with old friends and meet Gary Stevens' Mum who just happened to go to school with our Life Member, Bruce Corr. What a great pair they made as they chatted about old times.



As the day heated up the tops were all down and I'm sure the aircon cranked up in the luxury We headed off after morning tea to NSW via the M1, avoiding all the inevitable weekend roadworks. Today's route, courtesy of John Talbot, took us along the beautiful Tweed Valley with groves of trees lining the roads. It was a lovely run for the MGs, full of twists and turns and beautiful scenery for the passengers. At the iconic Mooball Roadhouse we saw

another Car Club with American classic cars and gave them a wave as we sped past through to Wooyung before arriving for lunch at Pottsville Tavern.

After ordering our lunch we sat down to the usual catch up with fellow Club members.

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Janine Pritchard showed us pictures of her recent family holiday in Samoa where she made the papers, both in Samoa and back in Tweed. It transpired the family lived there when she was very young and her father was on contract from the Dept of Agriculture to fix a problem affecting the bananas. Wow, some people had interesting childhoods! Her partner, Richard Patterson, not to be outdone regaled us with stories

of his misspent youth travelling in London and the other boys our table, on namely our indomitable President. Peter Johnston as well Ken as hopped Shead



onto the bandwagon with mindboggling tales of their youth. I think the prize for creativity must go to Peter. He not only left his black bag containing his life saving medication behind at the start of the day and which was found by some lovely lady and returned, thankfully, without any medical incident, but he then proceeded to offer us his nitroglycerine spray (commonly used for angina). There followed a somewhat interesting and risqué discussion about the benefits of this spray which I, as a nurse, had never heard of! Needless to say there was a lot of laughter and stupid banter.

Sadly we had to leave for the long hot drive back north before long, but what a great day with even greater company. Thanks again to John for his meticulous

planning and a nice short run on such a hot day.



Sue Craig

Gary Steven's Mum decided she wanted a ride home in Gary's MGB, roof down and all!

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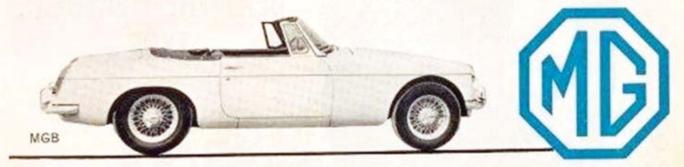
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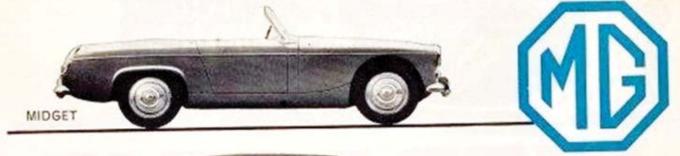
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HISTORY OF MG - PART 8 - BEFORE THE WAR

Nobody had any idea that when the MG Midget, Type M was first designed, that it would race - or if they did they omitted to tell the designer. However, with the introduction of the M Type Midget, in April 1929, it occurred to Cecil Kimber that the High Speed Trial, to take place in June, provided an excellent event in which to prove the new car. Arrangements were made for three of them to be entered & driven by Callingham, Parker and the Earl of March, with Cousins, Jackson & Frank Taylor of the MG Company, riding as mechanics. This started the racing programme & later at Brooklands in the rain which fell in sheets & swamped the track on both days. The larger cars were slowed, but the Midgets continued without variation of their lap speeds. As a result of these early successes, the 12/12 Midget set the standard which continued with confidence which continued to 1935 & continued until the new Austin man, Leonard Lord, ended the era with the MG RA single seater. It was so advanced it was like a modern F1 racer, but was never developed. It lasted longer than Lord but his negative edicts did not retire with him.

The MG RA was a single seater racing car with a 746cc supercharged OHC four-cylinder engine and a four-speed preselector gearbox. The new strong backbone chassis with fully-independent wishbone and torsion bar suspension sat on all four wheels. The body was streamlined like the German Grand Prix cars of the day. The RA won the 750cc class in the 1935 French Grand Prix and was born and died in 1935 with Leonard Lord. 10 were built and sold for 750 pounds in GB.

The press comments included: 'Definitely it departs from convention' - 'The brakes are extraordinarily good....and so powerful that that you have to be quite careful not to push hard on the pedal' - 'The steering is a bit too stiff at the moment for the average road circuit.'

None were sold new to Australia but Pip Bucknell was looking for bits for his K3 002 in the UK. He was told there were bits in a loft in Ireland so he hopped up there and it was RA 0259 which was raced by Bobby Baird very enthusiastically. Pip lived down the road from me so I would call on him regularly. He sold K3 002 to Lanes Motors in Melbourne. He was funding a swimming pool for his kids. I quizzed him why he sold the K3 and he replied that the R type only required 4 pistons but the K3 required 6. I wrote articles in Wheelspin and did a graph of K3 prices compared with swimming pools. K3s were increasing much faster and were more mobile too.

Len Lukey bought the Phillip Island race circuit in 1964 for \$40 000. He raced long & hard and passed away in 1978. The Lukey estate sold the circuit in 1984 for \$800 000. His widow set up a museum & wanted to display the Lukey race \cap cars. Richard Berryman in Toorak had his Cooper in his collection but declined

to sell it to her. She said there must be something he would like. As a throwaway line he said a K3 please.

When Lanes auctioned K3 002, Mrs Lukey bought it and then went over to collect the Cooper. Richard passed away and I visited his son Adam. He was still at school but obtained his licence driving the K3. He said he was going to restore it. Adam had rego plate MG 1933 added but I said he should leave the MG in its present condition which he has done and said it was the best advice given to him. It is just the same today but it now has an S registration plate.

I worked on the K3s at Abingdon Motors as an extra pair of hands which was appreciated by Rod Hiley. I asked why the RA was there too. Pip had done a deal was his

answer. I later heard from John James in the UK that he was being paid commission to sell it. I later asked him how much commission he received but John said the Bucknell son has it in South Australia. I received an email explaining the current status. He joined MGCCSA and it was out and about down there as he worked at Whyalla. I am a member of that Club but have not seen it lately. I examined the

twin cam R type in the NZ museum when over there. They are very special MG race cars.

Peter Kerr

Photos from the MMM Register, MGCCUK Top down - RA253, RA255, RA257, RA259











Feeding the spanners with a nut

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