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MARCH 2018

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MG CAR CLUB HUNTER REGION INC

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AFFILIATED WITH MG CAR CLUB UK

AFFILIATED WITH CAMS



CLUBROOMS
68 ELDER STREET
LAMBTON NSW 2299

POSTAL ADDRESS
PO BOX 503
WALLSEND NSW 2287

www.huntermg.com

Your Committee

President

Stephen Jones
4952 3486
0412 495234
sbmbjones@optusnet.com.au

Secretary

Frans Henskens
0419 561 448
henskens@idl.net.au

Club Captain

Alan Andoni
0417 431 276
alan.andoni@yahoo.com.au

Public Relations

Brian Madden
4946 9174
rbmadden27@gmail.com

Committee Person

Jeff Lauff
0413 971 154
jlauff55@dodo.com.au

Editor

Bev Jones
0419 200 813
4952 3486
sbmbjones@optusnet.com.au

Vice president

Denny Bowden
49514125
0402 476 631
dennis.bowden@bigpond.com

Treasurer

Greg Jenkins
0439 450 606
4956 6624
gregjenkins204@gmail.com

Sporting Director

Gary Piper
0419 490 936
gpsiper@internode.on.net

Regalia

Wendy & Gary Croker
0417041850
wendy.croker@yahoo.com.au

Social Director

Position Vacant
Can you help??

Website

Stephen Jones
4952 3486
0412 495 234
sbmbjones@optusnet.com.au

Committee members welcome your phone calls, but please call before 9.00pm

The opinions of correspondents, individuals and advertisers in this magazine are not necessarily those of the MG Car Club Hunter Region

What's On

March 2018

- ♦ **Saturday 10th—Tea Gardens Hawks Nest Motorfest**
Meet at the venue before 9.30
- ♦ **Tuesday 13th—Committee Meeting 6.00**
Club Night 7.30pm
- ♦ **Wednesday 14th—Midweek Gathering 12 noon**
Maryland Tavern, call Kay to book 49514125
- ♦ **Saturday 10th—Tea Gardens Hawks Nest Motorfest**
- ♦ **Sunday 18th—Clubman Run — Gosford Motor Museum**
Depart clubrooms @ 9.30am
- ♦ **Thursday 22nd—Tuning Run—Meet Maccas Hexham**
for departure @ 10am
- ♦ **Saturday 24th—CONCOURS 2017 Re-run** *see page 7*
- ♦ **Fri 30th to Tues 3rd April—National Meeting 2018**
Tasmania—North West Coast

April 2018

- ♦ **Sun 1st to Tues 3rd—National Meeting 2018**
- ♦ **Sunday 8th—Memorial Run to Stroud—**NEW DATE****
Depart clubrooms @ 8.50am sharp
- ♦ **Sunday 8th—HSRCA Historic Race Meet @ Wakefield Park**
- ♦ **Tuesday 10th—Committee Meeting 6.00**
Club Night 7.30pm
- ♦ **Wednesday 11th—Midweek Gathering 12 noon**
Caves Beach Hotel call Kay to book 49514125
- ♦ **Sunday 15th—EURODAY**
- ♦ **Wednesday 18th—GEAR Meeting @ Wakefield Park**

May 2018

- ♦ **Tuesday 8th—Committee Meeting 6.00**
Club Night 7.30pm
- ♦ **Wednesday 9th—Midweek Gathering 12 noon**
Gwandalan Bowling Club, call Kay to book 49514125
- ♦ **Sunday 20th—Clubman Run**
- ♦ **Thursday 24th—Tuning Run—Meet Maccas Hexham**
for departure @ 10am

It didn't take long to get a response to the question I asked about that unusual vehicle wearing an MG badge which I published in last month's magazine. Seems there was a design challenge put out by SAIC Motor and the picture was one of the design entries. A little bit out of the square!. If you ask Mr Google you will probably find more on the internet.

We have two major events coming up on our calendar and assistance will be required for set-up of both events. Concours day and Euro Motorfest are major events for our club. We need as many hands and cars as possible at these days to be an even bigger success than last year's!

Speaking of pitching in for our club, I will be standing down from my role as Editor at the end of this committee year. I will have been in this role for three years by then and it is time to hand over the reigns. A fresh set of eyes and ideas might just be in order for our magazine, and I am finding my time is more limited these days now that we have our two little granddaughters to spend time with. I am more than happy to share what I have learned over the past years to the next editor. Please consider this important role. Our club needs the magazine to stay in contact with all members and keep them up-to-date with what is happening.

We haven't had a full committee for many years now and many might say things are going fine but all the jobs are still there, it just means that fewer people are shouldering the load. Please consider helping even if it is to organise a run or one club night. We would like to have some guest speakers, preferably with a motoring theme so if you have an idea or know of someone who could speak, please contact a committee member.

Change of Date

Memorial Run

Sunday 8th April

To Stroud Central Hotel

Call Brian Madden to book a place for lunch
4946 9174 or email rbmadden27@gmail.com

Departing Clubrooms at 8.50am (precisely), BYO Morning Tea
@Paterson Park about 10.30am, then proceed to Stroud via Dungog.

Set menu 2 course lunch about \$23 per person.

Joint run with Great Lakes Automobile Club & Taree Historic Motor Car Club

We're trying again!!!

2017

*Annual Concours
Re-run*

Saturday 24th March 2018

Lambton Park

Elder Street, Lambton

Gates open at 8.30am
Judging will commence at 9.30am

Entry Fee \$10 per car

We are holding a Saturday evening Dinner
at the Duke of Wellington Hotel, Regent Street,
New Lambton—Buy your own meals and drinks

*You will need to book a seat for dinner
Call Steve Jones 49523486 or 0412 4952 3486*

Help required for set up at 7.30am
Call Denny Bowden for more information
0402 476 631

The summer heat has put top down motoring on hold. Isn't it ironic that in the Northern hemisphere the MGs are packed away for winter and they look forward to top down motoring in summer. We're (or at least I am) the opposite. You can't beat a cold winter's day, all rugged up, wind in whatever hair we have left, enjoying a few back roads to nowhere.

With the heat in mind, the February Tuning Run was an evening affair. Dinner at a local pub at the start then a very round about drive to Sugarloaf to watch the lights of the east coast twinkle. Again I heard the magic words "there was a few roads there that I've never been on before". That's the aim. Now it's back to the day runs as the weather moves on to autumn for another year.

I totally forgot the MG Hill climb from December. I was going to do an article last month but it slipped through the cracks in my mind. 5 MG starters from our club. Reasonable but could be better. Lots of support, not really, would have been nice to see a few more on the hill watching. Well done to all that came for a look or a run. We managed a credible 3rd place in the regularity team challenge. Please don't ask how many teams there were.

Our Annual Concours for 2017 (yes last year) is on the park in front of the club rooms on Saturday 24th March. We'll be taking bookings on the day for dinner at the 'Duke'. We will have to know for numbers as we've booked. It's important that we put on a good show when it's local. I'm putting off the gearbox rebuild in Monty so he can make the paddock.

A week after the Concours is the MG National Meeting in Tasmania. By having them this close means the Adams' and Burns' won't need to clean their cars twice. Oh, I forgot that they have to drive all the way to Tassie between the two events. Good luck and god speed Ladies and Gentlemen.

I'm still waiting on word as to whether I'll be spending a few months as a temporary resident of Southern Sydney conducting training. It will certainly curtail my MG work and fun. Hopefully Bev's 'Bella' will be ready to be pressed into action at all times, 'Monty' will get his new gearbox, I might start looking at 'Myf's engine and gearbox whilst getting a friend's TF fettled for the road after many years of storage. There's a lot of work in all of them but the work is good therapy. My weekends will be full and fulfilling.

I hope yours will be too.
Steve



Sunday December 4 saw the running of the All MG Hillclimb at Ringwood Motorsports Complex in near perfect conditions for hillclimbing. A somewhat disappointing number of 18 cars turned up on the day, however for those who turned up it was an enjoyable day of Motorsport.

Competitors were given 3 runs then had to nominate a time for the regularity event and had to stay as close as they could to their nominated time, so it didn't matter how fast or slow you were in the morning it was about being consistent for the afternoon's regularity event.

Some new track record were set on the day for course A2A.

Thanks to MG Car Club Newcastle for putting on a great event & hopefully we will get a bit more support from both competitors & spectators for the 2018 event.

Outright	1. Darren Hodgson	MGF	MGCCN	58.95
	2. Austin Blanch.	MGA	MGCCHR	62.20
	3. Wayne Lewis	MGF	MGCCN	63.06

Road Reg Classic under 2litre.

1. Austin Blanch	MGA	MGCCHR	62.20.	New record
2. Dave Walker.	MGB	MGCCN	67.27	
3. Paul Whitworth.	MGB	MGCCN	69.26	

Road Reg Classic over 2 litre

1. Peter Fogarty	MGY	MGCCS	75.93.	New record
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Road Reg Modern under 2litre

1. Lyle Clarke	MGF	MGCCN	65.58.	New record
2. Fran Hodgson	MGZR	MGCCN	68.69	
3. Paul Smith	MGF	MGCCHR	74.74	

Not Road Reg

1. Darren Hodgson.	MGF.	MGCCN.	58.85.	New record
2. Wayne Lewis.	MGF.	MGCCN	63.06.	
3. Bronwyn Lewis.	MGF.	MGCCN	64.18	

Regularity team Results

1. MGCCN Team 1
2. MGCCN Team 2
3. MGCCHR. Team 1

Hopefully we will have more starters next time.



Gary in action at the All MG Hillclimb In December.

The Northern Arm club members must be still a bit hung over from the festive season as the roll up for our February lunch at Sporties was on the thin side in attendees. Come on! The MG needs a bit of a work out each month. I'm sure some of our cars now not only need to blow soot but cobwebs as well from the tail pipe. Mark your calendars first, Thursday of the month, lunch with the boys or if you like at the table of knowledge, a good spot to find out what's ticking in your MG.

Peter Morrison I previously reported purchased an MG Midget late last year. I now hear it's almost ready for its maiden event run. Peter has put a few hours in sorting out the clutch, brakes, replacing wheel and master cylinder essentials, along with servicing the radiator and hose replacements. His efforts have been rewarded as it has passed historic plate inspection and is now registered for road use. So Peter, we are now looking forward to meeting your new second hand toy at one of the club's outings.

I can also report that I have been working on wife Brenda's MGB's appearances, replacing both rear guard lower quarter panels along with the engine being rebuilt and converted to unleaded petrol. The engine bay has also had some paint improvement and the seating bolstered with new foam rubber replacement. The car is now looking a bit swish, might even go well at the next concours. I can guarantee there is no soot or cobwebs in it's tail pipe as Brenda loves to take it for a spin. I think it may have something to do with head turning admirers.

To our Northern Arm members here is an offer you shouldn't refuse. If you have a news story to tell about your MG or a situation of motoring interest drop me a line. This spot is not about me, it should involve the interests of all of the Northern Arm club members.

Have Wheels Will Travel

Midweek Gathering

Meet at the venue for a 12 noon lunch

14th March—Maryland Tavern

11th April—Caves Beach Hotel

9th May—Gwandalan Bowling Club

Don't forget to phone Kay Bowden to reserve a seat!
49514125

March Clubman Run - Gosford Classic Car Museum

I've made a booking with the GCCM for our Clubman Run on **Sunday 18th March**. This will provide us with parking separate to the general admission carpark, where we'll be able to park together as a group.

The GCCM is located in Stockyard Pl in West Gosford (formerly the Buntings building) and currently has around 400 cars in the collection.

- Entrance tickets are available at the door;
- Adults \$20
- Senior Card holders \$18
- Concession Card holders \$15
- Children 5-14 years \$15
- Under 4s are Free
- Family ticket (2 x Adult & 2 x Child) \$55



The run will start at the MGCCHR Clubhouse at **9:30am** with Morning Tea at the Wallarah Point Peace Park in Gorokan, just east of Toukley Bridge. The Toukley Regional Art Gallery is in the park and has a small cafe, but most may prefer to BYO morning tea.

We're 'booked' to arrive at the GCCM around 12:30 pm, entering the events carpark at the western end of the culdesac via the entrance marked 'Exit Only'. Yep.

There is a classic American Diner Car outside the GCCM which serves meals; burgers, hot dogs, chips, some sandwiches, cold drinks, tea, and coffee. The meals are around \$10 - \$15 in price, or you can BYO.

There's some seating inside the front doors, but I propose to take one of the club marquees (if available) and set it up in the car park near our MGs so we can enjoy a meal together before going into the museum.

Details of the two 'legs' for the Clubman Run will be in the run sheets supplied on the day.

I've indicated that we'll bring around 10 - 15 cars, but if people can drop me an email or call me on 0425 204 762 to register their interest I can adjust the numbers with the GCCM before the day.

I've not been to the Museum myself, apart from looking in from the entrance on a reconnoiter run with Heather in January. From what I can see it's a tremendous collection of classic and modern cars and should be a great visit. I'll also be able to provide an update and answer questions at the Club Night on 13 March.

Andrew Gowans—0425 204 762

Getting Ready for Winter Sale Night!!

At our March Club Night - bring your cash, no EFTPOS.

Men's beige long and short sleeve business shirts With either Club logo or MG logo - limited sizes	\$25.00
Navy Spray Jackets with club logo - large sizes only	\$25.00
Fleece scarf - maroon or navy blue with club logo	\$5.00
Fleece beanie - navy blue to match fleece scarf	\$5.00
Umbrellas - maroon and white with club logo	\$25.00

Club Jackets

As well as the above items, orders will be taken for maroon and white club jackets with embroidered logo at \$80 each. Samples will be available to try so you can be sure of correct size when ordering. Ordered jackets will be available for collection at the April club night, just in time for the cooler weather.

Wendy Croker



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There was excitement in the air when it was announce that Historic racing Group Sb would be one of the support races for the Bathurst 12 Hour meeting in early February 2018. Matt Blanch duly put in his entry and started work on preparing his MGB for the event, hoping his entry would be accepted.

As time and the work on the B passed, eventually word came that it was all systems go. Entry accepted. The pit crew put their hands up with dad Austin, son Tim, and friends Robert Devereux and myself being accepted. Matt booked accommodation as close to the track as practicable (by the time entries were accepted the best we could do was Oberon).

Austin and I travelled in Sue's BGT whilst the others towed with Matt's Prado. This was an experience for me as, hard as it is to believe, I hadn't ever driven a 4 cylinder BGT before and certainly not done any long miles. Actually, there are quite a few MGs I haven't driven... anyway, the route was set and then changed for a more scenic route at the last minute.

We travelled up the valley and on through Sandy Hollow, Bylong and had lunch at Rylstone. Bathurst was hit mid-afternoon and the B was unloaded at the track.



Thursday was paperwork and stand around and wait for scrutineering day. Everything on my checklist was double ticked to cover everything a pit crew could do. Things looked good except for a very early start on Friday. Even earlier with a 40 minute drive to get to Bathurst.



Matt was second practice up starting at 7.45. The check sheet was checked again and a few extras added. Since Matt didn't have a time set for this track he was gridded midway in the field. As soon as they were on the track though, Matt started passing one car after another. He finished his 5 laps of qualifying in 22nd out of 60 starters with a 2':55".

The car looked fine, all the fluid levels were checked, brakes adjusted and fuel measured and topped up.

Race 1 started at 2.30 and was down for 5 laps. Matt's position on the grid meant that it was physically impossible to see the starter or the starting lights. Matt wasn't the only one. The big Corvette in front of him was just as blind. The first indication that the race was on was when the other cars around him started moving. A problem was showing up with the gearbox. He didn't see one clean change up or down the whole weekend. There was only 1 lap before the safety car came out and the whole race was run behind it. It was very frustrating as the 'Keystone Kops' tried to get a Mustang out of the kitty litter at the 'Chase'.

Race 2 on Saturday saw him moving up through the pack. Starting from an odd number (left side of the track) meant he could see the start lights and that made a difference off the line. The gearbox still caused heart ache all race, though in the end Matt had done a 2':48", picking up 5 places and taking over 2 seconds off the class lap record.

Check list double checked and at 3pm we headed down to the dummy grid ready for the final race of 8 laps. On the warm up lap the announcer gave Matt a massive wrap just as Matt exited the 'Chase'. At this exact point in time there was an ominous rattling noise from the engine. Matt pulled into the pits and the noise stopped. He started from pit lane after the other cars had passed. The chase was on. Unfortunately it turned out that the rattle was the timing chain adjuster falling apart. After 3 laps with the engine not quite as 'on song' as before, the timing chain snapped. The Cam stopped which meant the oil pump stopped too. Fortunately that was on corner 1 and Matt caught it straight away, shutting down and coasting to a halt near the Pit return. Hopefully damage was minimal. The potential had been demonstrated.





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Euro Motorfest 2018

Sunday 15th April

From 8.30am

Display Vehicle entry fee \$10.00

Spectators FREE

McDonald Jones Stadium
Turton Road, Broadmeadow

Food & Drinks available

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FOR SALE

1970 MGBGT Portofino Gold. Imported by owner as LHD in 1995. Converted, fully restored and used as a daily driver since 1996. Currently not registered but working order. Needs TLC and minor restoration. Change of lifestyle has prompted sale.
\$7000 neg
More information, call Kevin Cornford on 0415 688 100



1968 MGC Roadster Burgundy. In family since 1998. Road registered. Motor good. Paint and upholstery need TLC.
Price negotiable..
More information, call Kevin Cornford 0415688100

SOLD



1997 MGF Manual, 53000 klms, Outstanding condition, service history. Senior (75) selling due to limited use, Like this great MG to go to an MG enthusiast. Only way to appreciate is to see. Price guide \$9500
Call Lewis Hutchison 0410642970 (Daleys Point NSW)



1972 MGB GT Burnt Orange
Refurbished and is in good condition and runs well. We have had 11 years of fun in it and it's now time to pass it on. \$17,500 ONO
Call Bob (02) 6552 1595 Car is in Taree NSW



MGF 1999
manual, silver, 84,000klms, 12 months rego. Very good condition. Black hard top, Pirelli tyres. Service records & receipts available with handbook...
\$8,500 ph. Ian on 0429592823



MGTF 2002
Aircon, power steering, auto with 6 speed paddle shift on steering wheel. Modified head gasket installed. ABS, Head Up Display fitted, registered until Oct.2018, Canyon Grey excellent condition. 122000 k's AMZ35R \$10,500 ONO Phone 0412645091



1949 MGTC

Part finished restoration. All the hard work done (including new wooden body frame, chassis straightening and repairs and all panel work repairs). Many new and reconditioned parts. A rare opportunity to acquire one of these acclaimed milestone cars. Newcastle area
Asking \$15,000 Contact Robert on 0249684696.

MG Parts

1979 MGB 4 speed MKII gear box in working condition. \$200
Austin 1800 MKII short motor adaptable to MG \$50 some other parts FREE
please contact Peter Smyth on 49557310

Ads submitted will appear for 3 editions of On the Marque
If you want your ad to run longer or the item is sold, please notify the Editor

www.huntermg.com is undergoing a makeover.

We are not able to update our current website.
If you need information about events, please contact a committee member

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MG Car Club Hunter Region

Minutes of Committee Meeting held 13th February 2018

Meeting Opened 6:10 pm

Present: Stephen Jones, Denny Bowden, Frans Henskens, Greg Jenkins, Alan Andoni, Brian Madden, Bev Jones, Wendy Croker

Apologies: Ian Ashton, Gary Piper, Jeff Lauff.

In attendance:

Minutes: Accepted, Denny Bowden seconded Alan Andoni

Business Arising:

Jeff Lauff is new Committee Person.

Correspondence Received:

From CAMS for Gary Piper

Posted in Tea Gardens for Steve Jones

From R. Newling, Taree for Bev Jones

3 from Aust Post for MGCCHR

From Credit Union Aust, for MGCCHR

From Shannons for MGCCHR

From MG Owners Club U.K. for MGCCHR

From AON Insurance Brokers for Greg Jenkins MGCCHR

2 from NRMA for Greg Jenkins, MGCCHR

7 magazines from various Car Clubs.

Reports:

President:

Concours final preparation.

- To be held Saturday 24th March at Lambton Park – commencing 8:30 a.m.
- Paperwork has been submitted to NCC.
- Duke has been booked for dinner (30 people).
- Checking on scouts' BBQ.
- Coffee cart is interested in attending.

Euroday final preparation.

- To be held Sunday 15th April 2018 – commencing 8:30 a.m., presentations 1:00 p.m.
- Sub committee has been formed: Steve Jones, Ian Ashton, Alan Andoni, Gary & Wendy Croker, Greg Jenkins, Bill Brown, & Brian Madden.

Steve will be working in Sydney Monday to Friday for up to four months and thus unable to attend Committee meetings for that time. Will check emails daily and able to attend to business but will need Denny Bowden as alternate Chair for meetings.

Vice President: Nil.

Treasurer:

-
-

Secretary

- Concours paperwork has been submitted to NCC, now we have received documentation proving we have renewed our insurance for 2018.
- Letters seeking approval of changes to Constitution have been sent to MGCC Limited (UK) and to CAMS, both of which we are Affiliate Members. These ap-

provals are required under Section 17 of the Constitution.

Club Captain:

This Sunday going to Patonga, departing Clubhouse 9:00 a.m.

March 22 is Tuning Run to Wangi, departing 10 a.m. *sharp*, Hexham.

February Thursday Run is at night – see Newsletter.

Sporting Director:

Hope everyone has had an enjoyable Christmas New year period.

It's only early in 2018 but Hunter Region members have been competing in Motorsport events. Matt Blanch competed in group S which was a support category for the Bathurst 12 hr, Friday was practice & qualifying with 2 races on Saturday, Matt finished 17th out of over 50 starters in race one which was a great effort considering the some of the exotic big horsepower cars that were behind him. He also managed to take over 2.3 seconds off the class record well done, unfortunately he was forced to retire in race 2 due to oil pressure problems. The Blanches have built what is one of the fastest 4cylinder group S MGBs around. All the MGs in the group S category performed well.

I've competed in one Hillclimb at Ringwood in January, my first time on semi slicks, it certainly changed the handling of the car & by the end of the day I was starting to improve a bit.

I am looking at organising a 3-day weekend in July up the north coast in Forster or possibly another location, so I am seeking expressions of interest. Unfortunately, I will not be available to organise a weekend for the Forster Keys event which is on Sunday July 1, if people wish to attend that event & want to make that the W/E away someone else will have to organise it & I am happy to help where I can.

CAMS Affiliation (Sporting Club Plan 3, ID 6713834) has been approved and certificate received.

Public relations:

Saturday 10th March is Hawkes Nest Motorfest. It is a Destination Run. Will need transport for cabanas.

Committee Member:

Nil.

Regalia

December Clubnight sale was successful, sales totalling \$210.

Plans to have sale of winter stock (beanies, scarves, etc.) at March meeting (Gary & Wendy away in April).

Should more Club jackets be ordered heading into winter? Suggest that we take orders from members, with a small number of extras as well so one of each size is kept in stock. Approximate cost price \$55 - \$60 each, suggested price at time of order \$80 (good price, previous stock sold at \$80).

Magazine Editor

Now that most members are receiving the magazine by email, printed copies are now costing ~\$5.00 each. It may be necessary in future for printed copies be sent out as A4 sheets rather than professionally produced booklet.

At end of this year it will be three years that Bev has been Magazine Editor. She has decided to resign as Editor at end of this Committee year – i.e. we need a new Editor from this year's AGM.

General Business:

Call from Nev Roals – due to health issues they cannot continue organising the Mid-week Run.

New key for refurbished toilet has been received and is hanging near top of

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Thank you to those who have contributed to this edition of "On the Marque"
Please submit your contributions via email to smbjones@optusnet.com.au
It would be great to have input from more of our members!

Deadline for the April edition will be
Thursday 22nd March 2018

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10 Myrtle Street,
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