

ON THE MARQUE

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Club Hunter region Inc.

JUNE 2021



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

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



What's On

MG Car Club Hunter Region sponsored and supported activities.

JUNE 2021

- ♦ ***Thursday 3rd Square Riggers Natter—12pm to 2pm Inu Café***
- ♦ ***Tuesday 8th — Committee Meeting 6.00pm at Club rooms
Club Meeting 7.30pm with QR code entry.***
- ♦ ***Wednesday 9th — Midweek Run—Lochinvar Hotel 12 noon
Contact Kay Bowden to Register.***
- ♦ ***Wednesday 9th — "GEAR" meeting at Wakefield Park Goulburn***
- ♦ ***Saturday 12th — "HSRCA" at Sydney Motorsport Park***
- ♦ ***Sunday 13th — "HSRCA" at Sydney Motorsport Park***
- ♦ ***Sunday 20th—Clubman Run—Euro MotorFest on Newcastle
Foreshore Members must contact Jeff Lauff
Jlauff55@dodo.com to attend***
- ♦ ***Thursday 24th — Tuning run - Depart Maccas at Hexham 9am
Contact Austin Blanch to attend***
- ♦ ***Sunday 27th—Lambton 150 yrs celebration—MG Car Display***
- ♦ ***Sunday 27th—Reserve day for Euro Motorfest should weather
cancel Sunday 20th.***

JULY 2021

- ♦ ***Thursday 1st Square Riggers Natter—12pm to 2 pm Inu Café***
- ♦ ***Tuesday 13th—Committee Meeting 6.00pm at Club rooms
Club Meeting 7.30pm with QR code entry.***
- ♦ ***Wednesday 14th—Midweek Run— Swansea Hotel 12 noon
Contact Kay Bowden : to Register.***
- ♦ ***Thurs 15th to Sat 17th—Proposed W/E Tuning Run— back up
will be usual tuning run Thursday 22nd -
contact Steve Jones or Austin Blanch to
register.***
- ♦ ***Sunday 25th—Clubman Run—XMAS in July lunch—Contact Jeff
Lauff Jlauff55@dodo.com or Anne Pettigrew
at.rose.villa@gmail.com to attend.***

MEMBERS TO NOTE

Changes to arrangements published in "On the Marque" will in future be advised on both the Web page and the Club's Facebook page. Members are advised to check them for such changes as the date/time of each event approaches.

NEW MEMBERS NAME TAGS

The following NEW MEMBERS can collect their club badges when attending a club function such as "Club Run" or "Tuning Run" and hopefully in the near future "Club Meetings".

The club badge is then to be worn during any club function. as is the club normal, so that other members can identify you and your integration into our social membership can be smoother and quicker.

Martin / Melanie Campbell
Trevor / Janine Clifton
John / Anne Marley
Phil / Glenys Powell
John / Astrid Perdriau
Alan Priest
John Ray
Laurie / Kris Sullivan
Ian / Carol Tracey

Peter Thomas
Clayton Thomas
Andy Webmaier
Kevin Bailey
Mark / Karen Hodgen
Jo Barbaschow
Trevor / Sandra Soul
John / Judy Woolmer
Colin Dray



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MGCCHR Clubman Point Scoring System

The Honour Board on the wall in the Clubroom has provision for the yearly Clubman Champion and Sporting Champion. Every member has the chance to get their name on the board through consistency of participation in Sporting Events or Clubman runs.

Sporting results are kept by the Sporting Director and apply to any MG Club endorsed sporting event that members compete in whether it is a hill climb, motor kana or racetrack event. 1 point allocated for each sporting event a member competes in during the club year. 1st, 2nd and 3rd placings are decided by the total number of points allocated and are rewarded with a trophy. The 1st placing winner's name is listed as the **Sporting Champion** on the Honour Board.

Clubman results are kept by Public Relations Officer (PRO) and are forwarded to him via (A) member responsible for monthly Wednesday mid week pub and club runs, (B) member responsible for monthly Thursday tuning runs, (C) Club Captain responsible for Sunday monthly Clubman runs. To qualify for Clubman points members must participate in a minimum of 3, mixed or the same, event runs in the same MG during the club year (July to June).

Depending on what model MG you own and or participate in will decide 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in each allocated model division. PRO allocates one point to each driver and mate for each Clubman run for each MG Division. Trophies are awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in each MG Division and to the first three MG mates (car partners, wives, girlfriends, boyfriends etc.) The overall winner (the member who participates in the most Clubman runs) wins the Clubman Trophy and has their name listed as the **Clubman Champion** on the Honour Board

Our Club also has a **NON MG** class which is designed to attract members with other marque sports cars to join our club and participate in all runs. PRO allocates one point to each NON MG sports car participating in a run. Members must also participate in a minimum of 3 runs in the same NON MG car to qualify for the trophy. There is only one **NON MG and mate** combined trophy which is awarded to the member with the highest points at the end of the club year.

Although NOT awarded annually the **Octagon Award Trophy** can be awarded by the committee to a NON committee member who in the view of the committee continually assists the MGCCHR with a range of services over the club year.

CLUB MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL IS DUE

1 Renewals are due by end of June 2021.

Those on historic registration MUST not allow their membership to lapse because it is a necessary condition for their concessionary registration.

2. There are three possible renewal fees as follows:

Single Membership (Full or Associate) is \$60

Family Membership (Full or Associate) is \$70.

Student Membership (over 18 and full-time student) is \$25

3. PDF of "*On the Marque*" club magazine by email is included in Membership.

Printed copy incurs an extra \$60 per annum.

4. Payment should be made by EFT as follows:

BSB: 062-817

Account Name: Hunter MG Car Club Account

Number: 00903262 (N.B. corrected 2 Jun)

Description: Name(s) of renewing Members

5. After payment has been made please send an email with payment details

(date and amount of payment,

whether renewal is Full Single/Family,

Associate Single/Family,

or Student,

and whether additional fee for printed copy of magazine)

to our Treasurer Greg Jenkins (gregjenkins204@gmail.com)

6. When renewing it is NOT necessary to complete a Membership Application/Renewal form.

If Membership details (e.g. email or postal address, phone number, vehicle details) have changed please advise the Secretary Frans Henskens by email

(henskens@henskens.com.au)

To follow on with the front page theme of “MG wheels” this months photo is of a “US Trans Am” design alloy wheel that was a popular wheel for MG’s in the USA and happens to have been the spare in my MGB when purchased by me in 2006. Observant members may notice the vintage Pirelli Cinturato tyre still fitted to the wheel.

A similar design wheel is available from the USA made by VTO and is named LeMans and or Retro-4.



An unfortunate result from our Club Run in May was that two members MGB’s suffered Clutch issues. I have volunteered, along with fellow member Howard White, to assist Ian in replacing his MGB GT clutch and our other member Colin is repairing his car. However one real output from these efforts is a strengthened friendship between us all but progress on the car has been a little slow. Needless to say the slow progress has allowed us to check as we go.

Our Regalia Officer has ordered more shirts and Jackets with embroidered MG CC Hunter Region logos for members whom have asked to purchase them. For details see page19.

I purchased a club embroidered jacket last month and now I am a warmer and a more recognisable MGCCHR member.

Progress with my MGB.

I have been a little busy this month on other issues so have only replaced the 4 fuse box with a new unit (with a cover!). Now I have a more reliable electrical system.

Slowly but surely I am achieving a more reliable Club car to enjoy.



Around the bend – the ravings of your President.

There are those months where inspirations for my article just line up for attention. There are however others where you wait for a revelation to occur. When it does occur you often wish it hadn't.

Take this month for example. A quiet Saturday night in front of the idiot box when **BOOM!** What the Hector Crawford was that. A search outside revealed nothing, the garage downstairs looked normal with MG's under covers and nothing was awry in my shed where the race Midget was sitting up on stands. What was it?

I detected an odd smell over near Bev's Midget so I removed the cover and lifted the bonnet. Smoke. I have a battery isolator on every car so nothing drains the battery whilst they are idle. I also have trickle chargers on the MG's so they are ready to start when needed.

I don't know why but the battery had exploded. Plastic shrapnel everywhere along with a healthy dose of battery acid. I put on some heavy chemical gloves and quickly removed the battery then washed and hosed down everything under the bonnet.

Bev kept saying over and over, 'lucky we were home'. There was no real damage because we were onto it immediately. So the question is whether trickle chargers are safe. My trucks at work are on trickle charge whenever they are turned off at the station. Especially at very quiet stations where it can be a week or more between runs, the truck sits on a Ctek charger 24/7. According to the manual for the chargers I use (Aldi), I can leave them on 24/7, no worries.

The battery was not quite 2 ½ years old and I'd purchased it as usual from Newcastle Batteries at Wickham. I've been getting my batteries from them for as long as I've had MGs, so a few years. Their reaction was not quite what I expected. "Yep, no worries, obviously a faulty battery, here is a replacement. We've had several go bang whilst being charged, including truck batteries. They go big boom".

Apparently the problem occurs if a cell fails. That then drops the voltage, the charger thinks the battery needs charging and ups the amps, the cells lose fluid and eventually there is an internal short/spark, probably in the failed cell that ignites the hydrogen gas inside. **BOOM.**

If I didn't have a charger on it to start with, the car wouldn't have started and I'd have put a charger on and then boom. Thanks to Newcastle Batteries for the great service and advice.



I've again been up to Tamworth to visit a club member and mate. The mice are diabolical up there and I'd hazard to say not as bad as other country areas. They are everywhere, in the house and the shed. The biggest worry from a car enthusiasts view point is the damage they will do to your car. Wiring and carpet are the two main areas where I've seen them.

There were a few making a nest under the gear remote carpet (damaging the carpet to do so) and there is lots of evidence of the little creatures under the bonnet. I haven't found any damaged wiring... yet.

This started an interesting conversation on Facebook. How do you mouse proof your car? I started with the car up on axle stands with the stands sitting in rubber rubble buckets (not too big or they'll be too close to the wheels and car and the mice can use them to climb in) of a water/ vinegar/ lemon essence/ peppermint essence mix. Unfortunately the stands put holes in the buckets. Another suggestion was to use naphthalene (as in mothballs). Getting it in sufficient quantity may be the hardest part. I've placed packets of moth balls under seat and in the engine bay.

Next visit I might cut the buckets down (they are plastic) and turn them upside down on top of the axle stands. This would then mean

that the mice in theory couldn't get past them.

Another option is to move the car somewhere with no mice. Easy but then the owner doesn't get the pleasure of seeing his car. That's important at the moment.

Hopefully, we in the coastal cities won't have to deal with this plague though there are groups out there saying that mice have rights too and we should be catching them and releasing them. Where? I would suggest that person's place that came up with this idea.

Again, the club magazine has come to the fore with the inquiry a few months back regarding the history of an ex MGCCHR MGF. As reported last month, the original owner was found and contacted. Ian Hague was able to pass on his history of one of the first few MGFs in our club and his experiences in it to the new owner. That's what the MG Car Clubs worldwide are about.

Speaking of our magazine getting out there. Gary Boote has successfully sold his B. Last magazine you would have read all about his 40+ years of ownership. It's a happy day and a very sad day all in one. I hope the new owner from down the coast enjoys it as much as the Boote family did.

Well, the race Midget is packed ready for my final race meeting of the year. The "HSRCA" hosted the Sydney Classic at Sydney Motorsport Park (or Eastern Creek to us oldies) and the entry fee was pretty eye watering. That's why I don't compete very often despite the enjoyment.

There will be a full report and pictures next month and I'll have some videos up on my Youtube channels a few days after the meeting. I can't believe that I have 41,500 views of my race meeting clips so far. Are people that bored?

Later this month is Euroday. It will be a chance to finally get our MG's on display for all to see. There will be a huge variety of European car (and bike) makes exhibited. Since we are hosting the event, we need a good representation.

Whilst we were on a park, Lambton this time, the municipality of Lambton was gazetted on the 26th June 1871. The community anniversary committee is holding a major event in Lambton Park on Sunday 27th and our club is going to be part of the celebrations. Again we need some cars on display. We don't need hundreds but two dozen MG's would look good and attract some attention.

See you soon
Jonesy

SQUARE RIGGERS NOGGIN & NATTER



Square Riggers Noggin & Natter meetings are on at the usual location "Café inu" on 43 Denison Street in Carrington for June 2021.

Lively conversations on our interest in MG cars, including the square riggers, are conducted over lunches and liquid refreshments.

Lovely sitting yakking away and enjoying a drink and lunch just as the group below were doing during a meeting whilst keeping COVID safe.



Come and join us, you will be welcome.

Clubman Run News

Jeff Lauff

The **Tilligery Motorama**/ Now Hawks Nest Clubman Run for 2021

Unfortunately the Tilligery Motorama club run for May was once again cancelled due to the stringent requirements imposed by Covid-19. John and Willy were the only two club members who attended this year, sorry for the late changes to our agenda. Please check the Web page and Face book for updates to all our club events.

So, with this change to our plans, I quickly organised an alternate trip to Hawks Nest via Karuah Park for Morning Tea. The sun was out and the top was down, but the temperature didn't get above 18 deg. Very chilly. Initially, I planned for 28 people to have lunch at Hawks Nest Golf Club, however, by Friday evening I still only had 16 nominating. I contacted the Club and changed the number back to 20 in case a few late comers showed up on the day. Not to be. We left the Club House at 10am with only 5 cars and nine people. We had a great run up to Karuah where we were to meet up with some other members. We pulled into the designated Park on the right side of the bridge to find a lovely park and a demolished toilet block.



Change of plans, we all headed over to the left side of the bridge where Colin was waiting for us. We all had a warming Morning Tea and considerable time chatting.





Unfortunately, for our newest Club Member, Colin Dray, on his first run with us in his lovely restored 67 burgundy MGB, the day was not without incident. His car decided to make strange noises coming from the clutch. Under strict scrutineering from all members, we decided it was the Thrust bearing and that we thought Colin could nurse it up to Hawks Nest for lunch in which he did.

Now on leaving Karuah our member numbers had grown to 10 with five MGBs and a lonely one Blue MGF.

To get to our lunch stop was only a 20 minute run so I planned a scenic route going through the streets of Hawks Nest so that we would reach our destination right on 12.30. This sounded a good idea at the time except I did not plan on Colin's clutch problem, now leaking fluid. Or bigger still, Ian and Trish experiencing a blown out clutch on his MGB GT. Some say Ian is "the Australian version of the STIG". But I know him as an MG enthusiast.

After waiting for some time in the car park the rest of us went in for lunch. Ian and Trish arrived shortly after.

Not to disrupt lunch by MG problems we all ordered and tucked into a very enjoyable lunch and drinks.

After lunch came the crunch - what to do with Ian's car? The only thing to do was call the NRMA for backup.

The NRMA came and decided the only thing for it was a tow. At this stage most people were heading off home leaving Ian and Trish to wait for the tow truck which could be quite awhile. Bill and Therese stepped up and offered to stay and support them.

As it was too cold to stand out in the car park, an executive decision was made to go back into the Club for more drinks.

An interesting Club Run this month, Colin made it home, nursing his leaky clutch and Ian I think got home safely.

Next month's club run will be our "Euro Motor Fest and Display" on Newcastle Foreshore. Because I will be away for this event, please contact Ian to let him know of your attendance.

More information to come in this month's issue in regard to the "Euro Day".

Until then be safe.

Try to get out and give your pride and joy a run and remember the other Club activities during the month in which you may like to participate in, especially the monthly Club Meetings on a Tuesday evening.

See you on the road.

Jeff Lauff



Social Director Report

— Anne Pettigrew

May has been a bit of a disaster for me in relation to my commitments as Social Director and personally with my beloved MGF “Maggie” cracking up (literally!), as 156 of you have already seen on facebook.

Firstly, I need to apologise to members for needing to cancel (again) the movie night to view ‘Ford vs Ferrari’ in our Clubrooms. Many of our committee members were unable to attend, and I was completely unfamiliar with the equipment and technology to screen the movie. Also, it was later suggested that many members prefer to spend Friday nights in Winter watching the footy!

Next was the planned Clubrun to the “Tilligery Car Show”, was also cancelled; but it was good to see some members enjoy the day out and drive to Hawkes Nest, although obviously not for Col nor Ian & Trish all having clutch problems!

And now June is upon us, and we have our fabulous “Euro Motorfest” happening on Sunday 20th June, (with a back-up day the following weekend in the event of unfavourable weather). This is a really great day to see so many European Marques magnificently prepared to show them off. There is no Clubrun as such this month, and there is no organised social activity either; but the beautiful Customs House Hotel is walking distance across from the Newcastle Foreshore Park, and I am sure that a few of us might wander over there once the afternoon is over!

But in July . . . please get out your diaries now our Club Captain Jeff has agreed to postpone the regular Clubrun on the 3rd Sunday of the month to Sunday 25th July and having a ‘Christmas-in-July’ luncheon. The exact destination is yet to be confirmed, but I have made tentative bookings at 2 places where we can have our own dining area, off-street parking, and even a visit from Santa and one of his elves!

So please keep an eye on the Club’s website, as well as facebook, and of course next month’s magazine.

Meanwhile, keep warm, keep safe, and keep away from Melbourne!

Anne Pettigrew
Social Director

In my last article I stated that I was going to lead a number of historic and classic car owners from the "Taree Historic Motor Club" on a seven day journey called the "Long Run".

I'm pleased to report that all owners driving MG's had no mechanical stress. The first car to be returned home about two hours into the event was a Porsche Boxster. A pool of oily liquid stained the road underneath it at our morning tea stop at Raymond Terrace. The second car to be trucked home was a Triumph that stopped on Mt Panorama failing to complete a timed 60 KM per hour trial. There were two other breakdowns involving a Triumph and a Sunbeam Alpine that were sorted on the road side.

Mount Panorama was interesting as there was a competition for both male and lady drivers. The boys in their toys complained about the set 60Km speed limit, but changed their minds when Police were observed on the track checking motorist's driving behaviour. Some explanation was required when a track minder official tried to take me to task for operating a non sanctioned car event on a public road. I assured the person that all drivers were members of the public, licensed and driving heritage cars that were not modified in performance and drivers were observing the set 60k per hour limit. Each car driver was set a seven minute circuit time to ensure the speed limit was observed. I advised there was no racing being conducted on the public road that currently was not a racing track. The minder grumbled and returned to his car disappointed in not being able to exercise his muscle of authority.

The event was welcomed in all the country towns that were visited, the towns people liked the cars on show but most of all I'm sure that they liked the money we spent at each stop over. The "Long Run" proved to be a social success because of our delight in driving special cars that received attention at every stop. The general camaraderie that developed at each nights dinner get together was always a high point of good social fun.

Have Wheels Will Travel
John Fletcher

Winter Regalia Orders

MG Car Club Hunter Region clothing is mainly supplied "as ordered" due to the high cost of keeping stock on hand for infrequent requests for shirts, jackets, etc.

It is now time to place an order for Club Jackets for any members that are wanting one.

A sample of each size – Medium, Large and X Large - is available at the clubrooms so that you can be confident the correct size has been ordered.

The jackets are \$90 each which includes embroidery with the Club logo.



Long sleeve chambray blue shirts can also be ordered. These business style shirts are \$55 each.



If you prefer a short sleeve shirt, these can be supplied for \$53 each.



A photo of the jacket and shirts is shown.

If you have any questions I can be contacted by phone, 0417 041 850, or by email at, wendy.croker@yahoo.com.au.

I plan to place the orders by mid May so your requests need to be with me soon after the May meeting night.

Wendy Croker Regalia Officer



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By the time the mag is published I would have competed in a Hillclimb at Ringwood Park on Sunday May 30 which will be run on the shorter A2A course.

There is a maximum number of seventy six competitors entered for the event including "come try" Hillclimb entries .

MGCC Newcastle will run a couple more "come try" days later on in the year, so there will be some more opportunities to try having a run up the hill.

I competed in a Hillclimb at Ringwood Park on Saturday April 24, the day saw a total of 64 competitors in 16 different classes running on the long A4 course.

Fastest time on the day was taken out by Andrew Fraser driving a 79 Chev Corvette (go the seventies cars). Andrew drove well on the day to be quicker than the late model high tech turbo all wheel drive vehicles. Second was Adam Single Subaru WRX, Third was Steve Brydie Datsun 1200 coupe, it just shows that well developed older cars driven well can hold their own against the later high tech machines on the hill.

I managed to take 1 second off my previous best time for the A4 course, I'm now 8 seconds quicker than my first run on the A4 course, still at back end of the field but continue to get quicker which is pleasing. Thanks to MGCC Newcastle for putting on a great days Motorsport.

Next event for Team Hunter members will be the HSRCA Sydney Classic at Sydney Motorsport Park on Saturday, Sunday June 12 & 13 . Steve Jones, Matt Blanch, & Austin Blanch have entered in this event. Steve & Matt in Racing, Austin in supersprint.

With one day to go to the close of entries there were a total of 234 entries, there are a large number of MGs & British sports car marques entered, So if you like having a look at a big variety of historic cars competing it will be well worth the trip down to have a look & cheer on the Team Hunter members, contact Steve Jones for info on the event.

I will be competing in a GEAR day event at Wakefield Park on Wednesday June 9, also worth having a look at, if you are interested in coming down to have a look at a GEAR day or becoming involved in the GEAR club competitive or helping out give me a call, they are

always looking for people to help run the events, enjoyable day either way.

Coming Events

Wed June 9 “GEAR” Wakefield Park Goulburn

Sat, Sun June 12, 13 “HSRCA” Sydney Classic Sydney Motorsport Park

Remember drive them don't hide them, enjoy your MG on Race Track, social runs, car shows.

Plenty to do with your MG.



Austin Blanch in MGA against Torana at start line and on track at Winton



Gary Piper at start line at Winton



Austin Blanch at start line at Winton

The best laid schemes of mice and men

The last few years have been difficult and Australia has had it all. Drought, fires, floods, pestilence and now plagues. Who'd be a farmer?

During a recent visit to an MG mate in the country, I was faced with a quandary. The friend has a classic MG that I spent the better part of a year (and lots of \$) getting back to road worthy condition and now the mice have invaded by their millions. How do you save your classic pride and joy (I mean MG) when there is a mouse plague?

We have seen houses go up in flames from mice eating through electrical wiring. Cars interiors and electrics are eaten and destroyed whilst the little rats build nests. It isn't a one off. I can 100% guarantee that in a few years' time, we'll have another infestation of mice and we'll do it all again. I posed the problem and some possible solutions on Facebook and was quite surprised by the reaction as well as people looking for solutions. There was one organisation that proposed that we speak nicely to them, catch them and release them, though didn't suggest where. I have a suggestion.

If you look at the expensive end of the scale, it was proposed that we get a refrigerated container. Seal the car inside and periodically turn on the refrigeration unit to kill any mice inside with cold. You need to have room to fit a container inside, under cover, as if left outside in the sun, the heat may damage the seats and interior. To remove them to be stored elsewhere seems to defeat the whole concept, as again, the mice can get to the parts that they like to destroy.

Mice apparently hate naphthalene so I put lots of moth balls all through the car. This will help but I can't leave them under the bonnet whilst driving and I can't get them in all the wiring to be totally effective (and the car smells like an old wardrobe).

Mice also hate a solution of ½ a bottle of vinegar, 15 drops of lemon essence and 15 drops of peppermint oil. I put this mixture (with water) in soft rubber rubble buckets, put axle stands in them and perch the car as high as





possible. My thinking was that hopefully the plastic buckets are hard to climb and they don't like the solution so won't jump in to swim across to the stands. Apparently mice can jump up to 400mm so the bucket/ stand is no guarantee and is only a deterrent (and hopefully they'll go somewhere easier). Unfortunately the stands holed the bucket and the solution ran out. The MG still looked relatively unscathed on last inspection.

On the 4 hour drive home from a subsequent visit my brain was still trying to come up with something more effective. My next thought is to use what I have there. If I turn the shiny rubber rubble buckets upside down and put them on top of the axle stands. They are soft rubber so should mould to whatever they are against and being inverted the mice will fall out of them as they try to climb from the stand to the car. I just have to raise them far enough off the ground to make them effective.

This does make it far more difficult to take the car for a Sunday afternoon jaunt.

If you have a tried, tested and working solution, please let me know. There are a lot of MGs and classic cars out there that may live or die on what we can come up with. It won't protect your house, that might take a moat around your 'castle'... actually you could try that for the shed, but it might keep a smile on your face seeing your baby safe and secure waiting for a fine days winter drive

MG ZS range claims coveted “Drive” Best Value Car of the Year Award for 2021

MG Motor Australia is delighted to announce that the ZS small SUV range has been awarded the prestigious Best Value prize in the 2021 “Drive Car of the Year” awards.

The “Drive” judges awarded the MG ZS range - which comprises the value-laden ZS, the spirited ZS T and the most affordable electric car in Australia, the ZS EV - the Best Value award after judging it against criteria that included driver technology, comfort, safety, ongoing running costs, performance and handling.



"We are very proud and honoured to win the “Drive Best Value Car of the Year” award for 2021 for the ZS," said Peter Ciao, the CEO of MG Motor Australia. "We sincerely thank the judges at “Drive” for this prestigious award."

"About Drive Car of the Year 2021"

The 15th “Drive Car of the Year” is our biggest awards programme yet. Over the last 12 months, our dedicated team of automotive experts have driven, reviewed, compared and lived with almost 600 vehicles.

“Drive Car of the Year 2021” judging took place at Luddenham Raceway in Sydney, testing more than 80 vehicles across 25 categories making this the most relevant and comprehensive awards programme for today’s new car buyer. Our team of expert judges have tested the absolute best of what’s next and what represents the biggest step forward for the Australian car buyer.

WORKING ON PRO's MGB GT CLUTCH REPLACEMENT

A joint effort on the replacement of the failed clutch on the PRO's MGB GT was achieved with the help of club member Howard White and the Editor with moral support from club member Gary Croker.



Ian and accomplice preparing to remove engine. .



Makeshift lifting brackets attached and balancing bar ready for removal of engine

Engine out with some progress being made.
Preparing to sit engine on the floor.



Cause of failure, total loss of carbon bush in clutch throw-out assembly thus metal to metal contact with pressure plate assembly of clutch



NEW CLUB MEMBER VEHICLES

The number of club MGB GT's is growing with the recent purchase of a 1975/76 MGB GT by Howard White whom has been my regular navigator on Clubman Runs.

It will not be long hopefully before I will become his navigator on clubman runs.



For Sale Photograph



Howard's new purchase on PRO's car trailer during homeward journey from Queensland



To left is image of an old tyre that failed intransit from Queensland providing an unwelcome excitement at night.

No damage to his trailered car nor to the borrowed trailer



Safely parked in it's new home

2022 MG National Meeting

Bulletin 1



Greetings to MG enthusiasts around Australia and further afield!

With the 2020 and 2021 National Meetings having been cancelled due to Covid-19, we are thinking positively that 2022 will be a better year for us all and we are well advanced with planning for the 2022 National Meeting.

You are invited to join MG Car Club Newcastle for "MGs by the Lake" 15th to 19th April 2022!

The event will be based around Lake Macquarie over the 2022 Easter Weekend. We look forward to welcoming you and your MG to this beautiful part of Australia. Lake Macquarie is the largest coastal salt water lake in Australia and is renowned for its beautiful scenery and variety of water sports. It is a city in its own right, just 25 minutes' drive from the centre of Newcastle.

Lake Macquarie City Council has come on board as a major sponsor and we are grateful to them for their support.

All the traditional activities and events!

All social events will be held at Club Macquarie in Argenton. A variety of accommodation is available close to the main venues, including 36 rooms on-site at the club's own motel.

Friday - Registration & Noggin n Natter

Club Macquarie is just 5 minutes' drive from the Lake, and is the venue for Registration and all the evening social events. There is ample space for Registration, Scrutineering and the Noggin n Natter including the Rocker Cover Racing.

Saturday -The Concours

The Concours will be held in beautiful Speers Point Park, right on the shore of Lake Macquarie, with a large paved area available on the off-chance of inclement weather. Speers Point Park features many shade trees, picnic facilities and one of the best children's playgrounds you'll ever see. Food and drinks will be available during the event, or there are many cafes and restaurants in Warners Bay - a 5 minute drive around the Lake.

We are planning an optional scenic cruise on the Lake for those who aren't directly involved in the Concours and want to see more of this lovely area.



Sunday - Speed Event

Those with the need for speed will be able to test themselves and their cars on our recently extended and improved hillclimb at the Club's Ringwood Park complex, an easy 40 minute drive north of the Lake.

Monday - Motorkhana

The motorkhana will take place right alongside Lake Macquarie at Rathmines, a 20 minute drive from Club Macquarie. This is where the famous Catalina Flying Boats were stationed during the 2nd World War, and the area is steeped in history. Competitors can be assured of interesting motorkhana tests to challenge their driving and navigational skills.

Sunday and Monday - Touring Events

Lake Macquarie will be the backdrop for the Observation Event and Kimber Run. Participants will enjoy the scenic landscape and interesting roads, and maybe a few testing questions to sort the field.

Saturday and Monday - Social Events

The Theme Night and Presentation Dinner will be held at Club Macquarie. As 2022 marks the 60th anniversary of the launch of the MGB, we will be going "Back to the Sixties" for our Theme Night. Ladies, start searching for your old mini-skirts and knee-high boots, and men, dig out those flared trousers and paisley shirts (if you're game!) for a fun time celebrating the "good old days".

Tuesday – Farewell Breakfast

The farewell breakfast will be held right on Lake Macquarie at the Belmont 16 Foot Sailing Club. The venue overlooks the sailing boats moored on Belmont Bay, a scenic 20 minute drive along the Lake's edge from Club Macquarie. The Delegates' Meeting will follow at the same venue.

A Special Note about Accommodation

MGs by the Lake will coincide with the Australian Deaf Games being held in Newcastle and Lake Macquarie, which will create additional demand for accommodation in the area. The NatMeet website provides a list of hotels, motels and apartments that are convenient to most of the event venues, and we strongly encourage you to make reservations as early as possible to ensure you secure your preferred accommodation. There are 36 rooms at "Macquarie 4 Star", part of the Club Macquarie complex, and these are expected to be in high demand.

To ensure you are kept up to date, please go to our NatMeet 2022 website, click on the "Express Interest" button and provide your contact details so you will be added to our email list to receive further bulletins and updates.

Contacts for more Information:

Website - natmeet2022.mgcarclub.com.au/

Chair - Bruce Fraser – chair.mgnatmeet2022@gmail.com

Secretary - Fran Hodgson - mgnatmeet2022@gmail.com





Daimler



Euro Motorfest 2021

Sunday 20th June

From 8.30am to 1.30pm

Display Vehicle entry fee \$10.00

Newcastle Foreshore Park

Wharf Road, Newcastle East

Food & Drinks available

For more info call Ian Ashton 0429 592 823

All European Marques Welcome!

Please register your car club's attendance by

emailing iashton7@bigpond.com

In the event of wet weather, alternative date is Sunday 27th June

Presented by MGCC Hunter Region

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John Hunter Children's Hospital**



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Vale John Taviner; MG Enthusiast , Solihull UK.

I met John and his lovely wife Jean on a minibus in Bangkok 25 years ago. I was wearing a sweat drenched MG Car Club Tee shirt which was the trigger for MG natter and life-long friendship.

John was the quintessential MG enthusiast. He had owned and raced T Type MG's since his late teens and no doubt his profession as a RAF trained mobile motor engineer served him well. He held the fastest lap time at Silverstone in a TC. His twice restored MGTF 1500, finished in Jaguar dark Blue with Derrington Head, frequented Octagon MG Club runs and motor shows, including Silverstone, the annual Lakes District run and a trip over the channel to France. Types are perfectly suited to the country lanes of West Midlands and the Yorkshire Dales.

John had also restored two rubber nose MGB's to concours stanard. One for Jean finished in Jaguar Blue (his favourite colour it seems) and one finished in Damask for his daughter Louise.

Some years ago, I had the great fortune to spend a week with John and his family touring the Warwickshire country-side in their MGB's and meeting some eccentric MG enthusiasts at Silverstone; including Bob and Lynne Douglas (see www.tcthewanderer), Mike Collingburn and Harry Crutchley etc. Great people!

I reciprocated John and Jean's hospitality and introduced them and their daughter Sally to our Hunter Region enthusiasts after the 1995 Natmeet in WA which they enthusiastically attended as our guests. Some will recall John inspecting Jeff Redman's TA Tickford idling nicely in the garage and asking whether it had an electric motor.

John was a colourful character without being over the top. He had a wealth of motoring anecdotes; some less convincing than others. He was entertaining with those stories; yet he could silence a different opinion with an economy of words, as only the English can do.

I recall his account of the time when he was caught short on a free-way traffic jam in his red Ford Transit work van. An empty coolant bottle was secretly put to good use. Later that day an unsuspecting customer was offered the half full "coolant" bottle with a direction on how to determine whether the coolant had kept its shelf life: if it tasted bitter on a finger dipped in the bottle then it was OK.

Then there was his attempt at cooking a Royal Swan (apparently a hanging offence in the UK). Unfortunately the feathers thrown on the fire to conceal the evidence shot up the chimney and fell around the

house like snow.

There were many other such accounts including a runaway Triumph Stag and the customer's manicured hedge.

I met up with John in a London pub 15 years ago. He hadn't changed; he was still what we call a Larakin. He shouted me a pint of bitter which tasted so disgusting I couldn't drink it. We shared MG matters and mechanical exploits.

We exchanged calendars and well wishes each Christmas and the occasional phone call which gave way to text messages up until his recent passing; him joking about the need for a second jab (of Pfizer vaccine).

I am grateful to have met John and his family as part of my MG experience.

RGT



MG Pre-War and TYme Event 2021

Event Information and Registration is now available for the MG Pre-War and TYme Event to be held in Canberra from 1 to 4 October 2021.

The information and registration form can be found at:

<https://mgcccanberra.org.au/>

Inquiries concerning the event may be sent by email to

mg-pre-war-tyme@mgcccanberra.org.au,

or by phone to:

Pre-War Registrants: Malcolm Robertson ph. 0408 627 685

T Type and Y Type Registrants: Kent Brown ph. 0412 558 029

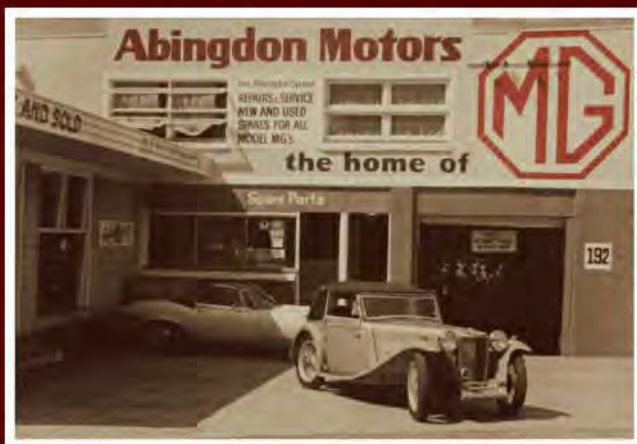




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MOTORING LIBRARY ARTICLES FOR SALE

Downsizing my motoring library. MG and other books for sale.
Email Rob at robertanddenny@gmail.com for full list.

FOR SALE

FOR SALE. \$8500 ENCLOSED TILTING CAR TRAILER

This trailer was purpose built to suit a MG TC, but will equally suit any small car or other purpose.

The Vinyl curtains allow easy access to tie down and secure the vehicle and the upgraded single axle provides sufficient strength plus allow easy manoeuvring.

Includes;

Hot dipped galvanised base with upgraded heavy duty axle, springs and bearings.

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Frame tilts with hydraulic ram for easy loading/unloading.

Mechanical disc brakes and spare wheel.

Aluminium frame, roof and nose cone.

Vinyl curtains on sides and rear.

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Split rear ramps.

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FOR SALE 1968 MGB

1968 MGB Mk 2, "CAMS" logbook and current historic road registration with MGCCHR...This classic British racing green MGB with "J&S" fibreglass hardtop is ready for track or to drive on the road...**\$22,000 neg phone Ian Ashton on 0429592823**



Vehicle specifications.

The suspension has been lowered 2 inches with upgraded front coils & rear springs, heavy duty front & rear sway bars, tramp rods, gas rear shock absorbers. There is air an intake for the oil cooler and ducting to the front brakes. Brakes have competition front discs & pads, plus competition rear shoes. The cockpit is fitted with a "Cams" approved roll bar. The car sits on 6 inch wide "Rostyle" steel wheels fitted with 185 / 60 road legal semi slick tyres..

A dual axle car trailer can be added to the deal for \$2,500.00.

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enlarged baffled sump,

engine fully balanced,
competition clutch,
extractors & free flow exhaust,
modified water pump,
Electronic ignition,
alloy oil catch tank.
45 DCOE Side draft Weber
carburettor

MG Car Club Hunter Region
Minutes of Committee Meeting held 11th May 2021

Meeting Opened: 6:02 pm

Chair: Ian Ashton. Minutes: Frans Henskens

Present:, Frans Henskens, Greg Jenkins, Jeff Lauff, Ian Ashton, Anne Pettigrew, Graham Haywood, Gary Piper

Apologies: Stephen Jones, Denny Bowden, Wendy Croker, Gary Croker,

In attendance: Nil.

Minutes: Of previous meeting held on 13th April 2021 approved - moved Anne Pettigrew; seconded Gary Piper

Business Arising:

Ian Ashton has spoken to Tracey (from Repco) who will consult with her boss prior to coming to our meeting. Is trying to have Repco become our preferred supplier.

Clubhouse painting coordinator/liaison is Ian Ashton.

Euro Motorfest arrangements and correspondence exchanged with NCC were discussed. Decided to have 2 rather than 3 bins. Need to have COVID Marshalls, QR code check-in, etc.

Reports:

President (Stephen Jones):

N/A

Vice President (Denny Bowden):

N/A

Secretary (Frans Henskens):

Membership renewals to date: 68 single and 75 family.

Need to emphasise to those members with historic registration that renewals are required before EOFY. Suggest a simpler process (perhaps without requirement to complete Membership Form) for members for whom personal and vehicle details have not changed.

Anomaly in fees was discussed. Committee approved revision of membership fees so that Associate and Full Family Membership are both \$70.

Treasurer (Greg Jenkins):

Club Captain (Jeff Lauff):

This Sunday's Club Run to Tilligerry has been cancelled and replaced with a Run to Hawk's Nest Golf Club for lunch with morning tea at Karuah Park just before bridge.

Last month's Run to Ellalong was a huge success.

Sporting Director (Gary Piper):

As per magazine.

The Come-And-Try hill climb day is being held on Sunday 30th May at Ringwood. Need a CAMS license (or one day license).

Next GEAR Day is 9th June.

HSRCA Sydney Festival is 12 and 13 June.

Public Relations (Ian Ashton):

Items were discussed for Euro Motorfest on 20th June. Arrangements are proceeding well.

Regalia (Wendy Croker):

I will be placing orders for both Club jackets and Chambray shirts if there are members who wish to order. Graham placed an ad in the May magazine advising that orders can be placed and pricing. If any members wish to try on a jacket for sizing, there is one of each size, Medium, Large and X Large, available in the Regalia room. In addition, two shirts were sold and posted to Maurice Prior in April.

Committee Member (Gary Croker):

N/A

Social Secretary (Anne Pettigrew):

Discussed issues to do with movie night initially proposed for last Friday. Committee agrees that better coordination between members is required for arrangement and conduct of such events.

Is working on Christmas in July Run with Jeff Lauff. Proposed to occur under marquees in Gloucester on 25th July as part of Winter Woooleys Run.

Magazine Editor (Graham Haywood):

Will include membership renewal advice in June edition of *On the Marque*.

General Business:

Website stats for April 2021:

Top 5 accessed pages:

Home Page – 444

Magazine Archive – 216

Classifieds – 153

Euro Motorfest – 54

2022 MG National Meeting – 53

13 people granted membership to the Club Facebook Group. Now 232 members.

The Website back-end software (Wordpress) is being continually updated, mainly for security purposes. The latest update is incompatible with the Weather plug-in, so a new plug-in has been deployed – it seems to be working well.

Meeting Closed 7.30 p.m.

Next Meeting:

Tuesday 8th June 2021

DISCLAIMER

Technical tips and methods suggested herein are the views of the person submitting them and the club cannot accept responsibility for the accuracy of these whatsoever. Persons following these tips and methods must make sure of their personal safety when applying them.

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CLUB MEMBERSHIP ENDS JUNE 30 NEW YEAR OF MEMBERSHIP STARTS 1ST JULY

**HISTORIC REGISTRATION REQUIRES FINANCIAL
MEMBERSHIP OF A REGISTERED CAR CLUB SUCH AS
MG CAR CLUB HUNTER REGION**

Applications for renewal or new membership can be accepted now.

Thank you to those who have contributed to this edition of "On the Marque"
Please submit your contributions via email to ghaywood6@bigpond.com
It is great to have input from members as well as committee members!

**Deadline for the JULY edition will be
Thursday 24th JUNE 2021**



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