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Written and Published by MG Car Club Hunter region Inc. MARCH 2022





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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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MARCH 2022

What's On

MG Car Club Hunter Region sponsored and supported activities.



MARCH 2022

- ♦ Thursday 3rd Square Riggers Natter—12pm to 2 pm Inu Café
- ♦ Tuesday 8th Committee Meeting at club rooms 6.30 pm Club Meeting at Club rooms 7.30pm—Covid Rules Apply
- Wednesday 9th—Mid Week Gathering—11.30 am for 12 Lunch
 General Washington Hotel at Stockton —Covid rules
 apply—contact Kay Bowden if you wish to attend on
- ♦ Sunday 20th MGCC Newcastle" Hillclimb Ringwood Park
- ♦ Sunday 20th—Clubman Run— To Hillsdale—BYO barbecue
- ♦ Friday 25th—Social Event—Meet in the outdoor section of the Lambton Park Hotel from 5 pm onwards. Contact Anne Pettigrew—at.rose.villa@gmail.com
- ♦ Saturday 26th to Sunday 27th—MG Racing at Winton Victoria

APRIL 2022

- ♦ Thursday 7th—Square Riggers Natter—12pm to 2 pm Inu Café
- ♦ Monday 11th— "HSRCA" meeting Sydney Motorsport Park
- ♦ Tuesday 12th Committee Meeting at club rooms 6.30 pm Club Meeting at Club rooms 7.30pm—Covid Rules Apply
- ♦ Wednesday 13th—Mid Week Gathering—11.30 am for 12 Lunch Location to be advised —Covid rules apply—contact Kay Bowden if you wish to attend on
- ♦ Wednesday 13th—"GEAR" meeting Wakefield Park
- ♦ Friday 15th—to Tuesday 19th—MG National Meeting Lake Macquarie
- ♦ Sunday 17th—NO Clubman Run
- ♦ Thursday 28th—Tuning Run—Meet at Maccas car park Hexham for 9 am departure. Contact Austin Blanch on 0434143242 to register
- ♦ Friday 29th—Social Event.—Barefoot Bowls at Merewether Bowling Club from 4.30pm—Contact Anne Pettigrew—at.rose.villa@gmail.com

NEW MEMBERS NAME TAGS

The following NEW MEMBERS can collect their club badges when attending a club function .

The club badge should be worn during any club function.

Martin / Melanie Campbell

Terry / Janine Clifton John / Anne Marley

Phil / Glenys Powell John / Astrid Perdriau

Alan Priest John Ray

Laurie / Kris Sullivan lan / Carol Tracey Clayton Thomas Andy Webmaier

Kevin Bailey

Mark / Karen Hodgen

Jo Barbaschow

Trevor / Sandra Soul

Terry / Terefita Westaway Ross Kirby

riau

Paul Crockert Christine Hobson Peter Curzi Jacob Alley-Sonter

Martin Evald

Sharyn Hill

Donna / Mal Regan
Jeff / Kaye Palmer
Bruce / Dianne Whitten



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.

From the Editor

Graham Haywood

The February Clubman Run was well supported and as usual a very rewarding social event enjoyed by all. The weather held out for a gentle run to "Mount Sugarloaf" for morning tea and then onwards to "Morpeth Park" for lunch.

Welcome to new members Jim and Sue and it seemed that they thoroughly enjoyed their first experience driving on a social run with other members of our club.

The Mid Week Gathering got off to a good start this year which infers it will be well supported throughout the year.

The Square Riggers Natter was not well supported with only four attendees.

It should be noted that the general Natter or discussions are over all types of MG's from the early 30's up to the last gasp sports machines in the mid 2000's. See page 23 for discussion and a small challenge to members with MGA's and MGB's to attend.

Check out the "What's On" page as our Social Director is planning for a Social Event every 4th Friday of each month.

Progress with my MGB.

Although it is unusual my MGB RN has been behaving well, probably due to very little use during the past month.

Mid Week Gathering March Kay Bowden

Mid Week meeting Wednesday 9th March

venue: General Washington Hotel at Stockton

Time: approx, 11.30am for 12.00

Please let Kay Bowden know if you are coming on or Denny Bowden on 0402 476 631.

N.S.W. Covid rules, if any still exist, will apply

Thank You, Kay Bowden

Around the bend – ravings of your President

The pinnacle of the MG calendar in Australia is only a few weeks away. You don't have to aim at a trophy (though this is the highest honour in the MG world) but just being there and absorbing the atmosphere and camaraderie is an experience you won't get at any other MG event. This will be the cheapest a National Meeting is ever going to get for us. We have no travelling cost and no accommodation to worry about and we don't have to work for it.

With that in mind, I was really hoping for a good response. There are of course the few that regularly give our club a good name on the national stage and have a good time whilst doing it. At the time of writing we have just over a dozen members that have contacted me to say that they've entered. That's just around 7% of our members.

Running a National Meeting is a very significant experience in any Clubs life. If done successfully (and we've done it fantastically... well a couple of times), it is good for the coffers as well. It takes a commitment from the whole club to put the effort in, but the MGCC Hunter Region only has a few members that put the effort in. I can't see our club ever being in a position to host a meeting anytime in the foreseeable future

I'm currently preparing two cars for the Nat Meet (and possibly a 3rd). Our two Midgets are getting a good going over to maximise our chances in every event we enter.

Bev's Midget has had lots of work done. There's a list that I've wanted to do for a very long time and with Covid keeping me in the shed between working, working, working, (yes, Covid means I'm working more than ever) I've finally done most of what I wanted to do. It should hopefully do reasonably well in both the cold and hot radiator events

My race Midget has had quite extensive work done on the front suspension and the clutch has been replaced after last year's incident at Eastern Creek. Unfortunately, I probably won't get a chance to test her out before the big event

As I said last month, my mate John's TF is in my workshop for both body and ignition work. Same with another John from out at Toronto. His B had its head done and I need to get back out there to get it

back together. Unfortunately, getting my MGs 100% Nat Meet ready has been my priority (sorry John x 2).

The tuning run for February was a damp affair. Not as damp as up

north (I missed a call for a swift water rescue deployment during the run) but wet enough to put several regulars off. It came down to Bev and I in the B (with the roof up), Arthur Nichols in his F and Robert and Aileen Devereux (leaving the freshly restored 260Z at home) in their Honda SUV.



My aim is always to have someone say 'I've never been on that road before' and this time I came up trumps. Even I had to say it several times!

The run wound through the back of Sugarloaf, Abernathy skirting Kitchener to Ellalong for morning tea (49km first leg).

From there it was on through Quorrobolong, over the gap, through to Morisset then a jump over to Mandalong Road for a very interesting run to Wyong (another 68kms). We found another Royal Hotel and lunch was so good, I've put it on my list of places to revisit.

The trip home was the old highway to Swansea and boy, has the countryside changed over the years. A healthy 200km round trip. Gee I have to do something about the diff in my B. With the roof on it is deafening.

DUE TO PRE NATIONAL MEETING COMMITMENTS FOR THE TUNING RUN ORGANISERS, THERE WILL BE NO TUNING RUN IN MARCH... unless someone else wants to step up.

Watch Facebook for updates.

Anyway, you get out of both your MG and your Club what you put in to it. Get out and enjoy both.

Steve

The "HSRCA" New Year Historics was a great weekend of historic Motorsport at Wakefield Park over 29/30 January. It gave us the first opportunity to compete in a historic event in 2022, with good fields in all categories.

Conditions on Saturday morning were cloudy but dry until just before the lunch break when we were hit with heavy rain & a severe electrical storm. The severe conditions with poor visibility & the treat of lightning strikes forced officials to abandon racing for the rest of the day. With the drains unable to handle the volume of water some of the pit car ports & garages flooded.

I haven't experienced that at Wakefield Park before.

Our Regularity group had a total of 15 competitors with a good mix of cars including Toranas, Sunbeam Alpines, Ginetta G4, Austin Healy Sprite, Alfa Romeo GTVs, Porsche, MGA, MGB, Morris Minor.

We managed to get a qualifying run &

one regularity trial in on Saturday morning before the storm hit. On Sunday we were able to do 2 regularity trials and seven of the regularity competitors had a run in the last Super Sprint event of the weekend which was great. I never turn down the opportunity for more track time.



"MGCC Hunter Region" member Bruce Melville, driving a great looking silver 1971 Alfa Romeo GTV drove well to be placed 3rd in the final Regularity event.

This W/E was a learning curve for me & not adjusting my nominated time for the last event put paid to any chance of me being competitive because even though my lap times were consistent I was

almost 3 seconds under my nominated time, probably due to improving track conditions & me settling in a bit.

The great thing about these events is that you get to drive on the track in your

category & then watch the other groups on the track .

One thing that was a bonus for the weekend was officials told me I was 17 again for the weekend & I had to put a P plate on the car (strange because I didn't fael 17, ab well)

didn't feel 17, oh well)

P plates are used in Motorsport to indicate to other drivers that you are inexperienced & the number of events you are required to wear them depends on the type of event you are competing in.

I hope everyone has got their entry in for the up coming National Meeting, being in our own backyard it will be the cheapest national meeting you will ever have the chance to become involved in.

Let's get in & support the event either socially Or as a competitor.



I feel the cost to enter is very reasonable considering the number of social events going on over the weekend. Please don't take the attitude that my car isn't good enough it takes cars of all standards & types to make a national meeting a success & keeps the marque alive, so give that car you love a good clean, a detail, then come & enjoy the company of like minded people over the Easter W/E, I look forward to seeing you there, don't miss it.

Anybody who is running in the competitive events & requires information or help contact Steve Jones, Austin Blanch, or me.

You can also become involved in concourse judging I know we have a great deal of MG knowledge within the Hunter Region club, put your name down to judge I have.

Entries close: Wednesday 16th March.

Coming Events

Monday 11 April "HSRCA" one day meeting. Sydney Motorsport Park.

Wednesday 13 April "GEAR" at Wakefield Park Goulburn

Friday April 15 to Tuesday April 19 "MG NATIONAL MEETING". Lake Macquarie.

Sunday March 20 "MGCC Newcastle" Hillclimb Ringwood Park.

Remember drive them don't hide them . DONT MISS THE NATIONALS .

Gary Piper

Clubman Run February 20th Sugarloaf Mt.

The February Clubman Run was a resounding success with Good weather encouraging the participation of many existing and 3 new

members.

After a short drive the morning tea stop was at Sugarloaf Mountain where several relatively remote located members joined us.

Andrew Gowans in foreground Kay Bowden attending to Denny in the background with Mike Stevenson at the table





Graham Haywood in foreground with Neville and Carol Roxby on other side of the table and Kay Bowden on the right

In the foreground are 3 new members being Sue and Jim Smyth (Porsche) talking to Keith Gibson (MGB)



After the morning tea break we all progressed onwards towards Morpeth Park. The only hiccup was when the lead car (Editor driving) took a wrong left turn but that only caused a slight delay.



Charlie Head's MGB GT resting in the shade with Arthur Nichols MGTF on street



Peter Buckley's Jaguar and Andrew Gowan's MGZT in the parking area



Keith Gibson's MGB, Jim and Sue's Porsche and Graham Haywood's MGB RN

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John and Judy Woolmer's MGB RN and Colin Dunne's MGB in the car park.



Denny and Kay Bowden's MG RV8 and Larry and Shirley Dickason's MGB

Peter Buckley in foreground with Arthur Nichols further back and Anne Pettigrew behind the post at Morpeth Park Lunch stop





Kay Bowden to left foreground,? ? behind Kay, Larry and Shirley Dickason in the left middle with Maggie and Charlie Head to the right. Three well fed interlopers begging for attention and food in front of Charlie



Rick Nash relaxing (Friend of Colin joined in with his MX5 ND) with Colin Dunne seated in the middle and Mike Stevenson seated on the right

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Mike Stevenson to left, Judy and John Woolmer centre and Jim to right



Jim and Sue to the left (new members on first clubman run) with Chris Gibson to the right and partial of Arthur Nichols.



Anne Pettigrew to the left at the table, Peter Buckley behind her, Howard White at the table then Graham Haywood talking to Denny Bowden on the right at the table. All sheltering below a large fig tree

A good time was enjoyed by all with social interaction ongoing after the meals were completed.

After a while Anne, Andrew, Howard and Graham left to visit Peter and his British built Armstrong Siddley limousine.





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Social Director Report

Anne Pettigrew

What a fantastic turnout for the 1st Clubman Run of the year on 20th February to Morpeth Park via Mt Sugarloaf. Andrew Gowans took many photos and kindly posted them on the Club's facebook page and I'm sure there will be other reports and photos in this newsletter. The weather was also perfect for the run and picnic. Well done to our newest Committee Member, Howard White for organising his first Clubrun!

Afterwards, it was a shame that only 3 members were able to come and see the beautiful Armstrong Siddeley that I 'found' in East Maitland. The owner was a delightful gentleman who had a lot of knowledge about his car and also the history of the British manufacturer. He also told us that the car is 'FOR SALE'.

If anyone is serious about having a look at this car or wanting more information, please send me an email to at.rose.villa@gmail.com and I will put you in contact with the owner.

Although it is NOT an MG, he has agreed to come along to a Clubnight and give a presentation – possibly 10th May – so "watch this space" for confirmation.



However, can you please now get your diaries out and write down some more dates! ...

- 1. <u>Tuesday 8th March</u> Hopefully more members will feel comfortable coming to our monthly **Clubnight**, with the next one in the Clubrooms in Elder Street, Lambton at 7:30 pm.
- 2. <u>Sunday 20th March</u> the next **Clubrun** one of our members has a property at Hilldale which is ½ way between Dungog and Paterson, where they grow olives. He would be delighted to have us,

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- and will even get his barbeque going for members to cook our own BYO lunch. A run will be worked out and tested, by either Jeff or Howard, to arrive at Hilldale around 12-12:30.
- 3. <u>Friday 25th March</u> (= 4th Friday of the month) At the last committee meeting, I raised the possibility of having a **social event** in the evening for those members (including myself) who are still working and therefore unable to attend any day-time gatherings.

 I have suggested any interested members meet in the outdoor section of the **Lambton Park Hotel** (on the corner of Howe Street and Morehead Street, Lambton and across the road from Lambton Park) from 5 pm onwards. Of course, all members and partners are welcome.
- 4. Friday 15th to Monday 18th April.
 - Don't forget the **National Meeting** and all the associated events over the <u>Easter weekend</u>. Personally, I am looking forward to seeing some of the 60's outfits at the dinner on the <u>Saturday 16th April</u>, at the Macquarie Club. Even if your prized MG is not of Concourse standard, and if hillclimbing is not your thing, please try and come along as a spectator and support the Newcastle MG Club.
- 5. <u>Friday 29th April</u>, I have booked for us to play **Barefoot Bowls** at the Merewether Bowling Club from 4:30 onwards. They do have their own carpark, as well as plenty of street parking, and there are bbg facilities adjacent to the greens.
- 6. **Christmas-in-July** has been booked again at the Royal River Hotel in Morpeth after such a fabulous welcome last year. The exact date will be confirmed at the next committee meeting so ... again "watch this space"!
- 7. And lastly, talking of dates ... wishing all the members having **Birthdays in March**, especially committee member and Regalia Officer Wendy Croker "Many Happy Returns"!!!!
- I look forward to meeting more of our Club members at some of these events. Meanwhile, get that booster, and stay safe!

Anne Pettigrew

SQUARE RIGGERS NOGGIN & NATTER

Square Riggers Noggin & Natter meeting will occur this month. Don't be discouraged and think that all we talk about is the "Sq Riggers" as we include discussions on MG Magnette sedans, MGA, MGB or indeed modern MGF, MGTF and MG RV8.



The above photograph illustrates that we do include all of the post war MG's with MGB, TF, TD, TC, and MGB RB represented with only MGA, MGB GT, MG RV8, MG Magnette, MG Rover cars, MGF, MGTF missing. Plenty of MG's to talk about and that is not including the modern Chinese built SUV's!

So come along and perhaps more models can be in the next photograph at the usual location "Café inu" on 43 Denison Street in Carrington for March 3rd 2022.

Perhaps the MGB's and possibly MGA's could outnumber the square Riggers?

We can order, then sit inside the Café to eat, drink and chat or as below bring your chair and sit under the shade on the grassed area.

Come and join us as you will be welcome.



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MG s and Dinky Toys

John Stuart

MG s and Dinky Toys have a long and parallel history. As a collector of both, I thought it was time to attempt an article bringing these 2 famous names together.

MG as everyone knows, stands for Morris Garages. The cars were developed from the Morris by Cecil Kimber who ran "Morris Garages" in Oxford for William Morris (later to be Lord Nuffield). Kimber was initially building Morris Cowleys and Morris Oxfords. Kimber was interested in racing and the first "MG" was probably a modified Morris developed in 1925 for the London to Land's End trial. (The first MG "Old Number One" was rescued from being scrapped in Manchester and brought back to Abingdon for restoration in 1933.) By the end of 1926, 179 MGs had been produced.

The <u>MG</u> car factory moved to Abingdon in 1929, 1,155,032 cars were made at the plant over the next 51 years until <u>British Leyland</u> closed it on 24 October 1980. Subsequently cars sold under the MG brand have been produced either at <u>Longbridge</u> in <u>Birmingham</u> or at <u>SAIC's</u> factories in <u>China</u>. (Wikipedia)

Dinky Toys were first produced in 1931, initially called "Modelled Miniatures". They were made by the Meccano Company in Binns Rd, Liverpool. This Company was started by Frank Hornby in 1901 and remained the centre of operations until 1979. O gauge Hornby trains were first advertised in 1920, and Modelled Miniatures were initially produced as accessories to the trains, Station Staff being the initial offering in 1931. The O gauge scale is approximately 7 metres to 1 foot or 1/43. The first catalogue in 1934 describes Meccano Miniatures and includes a bus and a racing car as well as some push along trains. Later in 1934 the name Dinky Toys was introduced.

The first sign of MG in the early Dinky productions was the 23 and 23a/b racing car initially issued in April 1934 as no 23 and then a month or two later as 23a or 23b. The model was based on two MG Record racing cars driven by Capt, George Eyston, though never given this designation by Meccano. The first casting was based on the 4 cylinder "Magic Midget" EX-127, had an open cockpit and no driver, with 4 stub exhausts. By December 1934 a drivers head was added to the casting with a 6 branch exhaust system including silencer and fishtail to represent the later 6 cylinder Magnette (EX-135). This MG was painted in horizontal stripes earning it the nickname "Humbug" after the striped confectionary!





Figures 1 and 2.

These show the Dinky racing car based on the 6 cylinder Magnette with the exhaust configuration and fishtail. Dinky 23a, renumbered 220.



Fig. 22a. 23a Racing Car, showing the change to the exhaust system.

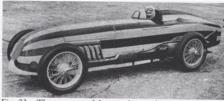
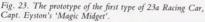


Fig. 23a. The prototype of the second type of 23a Racing Car, Capt. Eyston's 'EX-135, M.G. Magnette', showing the 'Humbug' paint job.



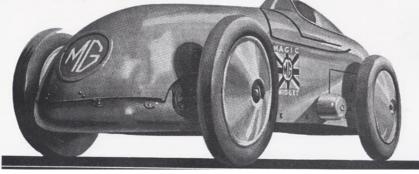


Figure 3.

Extract from Hornby Companion Series, Dinky Toys and Modelled Miniatures by Mike and Sue Richardson.

One of my favourite Dinky Toys is 23p Gardner's MG Record car first issued in 1939. After the records were set by Major A.T.G Gardner in May 1939 (world speed record for cars of less than 1,100cc capacity on a German Autobahn), the model appeared in the shops in December, something of a record in itself for Meccano! Interestingly

the initial record was 203.7 mph for the flying kilometre and 203.2 mph for the flying mile. The car's engine was then rebored to take it over 1,100cc and set new records for cars up to 1,500cc over the fly-

ing km, mile and 5km with speeds of 204.2, 203.8 and 200.6mph respectively. The model pictured has the MG logo on the front of the bonnet and Union Jacks on the sides indicating the world record for Britain. Also of interest is that these records were set in Germany just before the outbreak of the Second World War.



Figure 4Gardner's MG Record Car, Dinky 23p

While most of the Dinky cars were of the scale 1/43 to fit in with the "O" gauge Hornby trains, a smaller scale set of vehicles was also produced to accompany the Meccano made Dublo electric trains, "OO" gauge. Strangely, the first set issued preceded the first Double trains by 2 years (1936) and included 2 MGs. The first was 35b Midget Racer, an MG R Type, and 35c MG Sports car based on the MG Midget or P Type.



Figure 5 Small Dinky sports cars plus 2 Lesnev (Matchbox) models for comparison. Foreground Dinky 35b Racer based on MG R Type. Red and Green MGs Dinky35c, G Sports Car based on MG Midget or P Type. Yellow models are Lesney

While production of all Dinky Toy and other Meccano products would have been severely curtailed during the war, the company flourished in the post war period. The Meccano Magazine came out every month with new models advertised. In 1955 a series of sports cars were released, featuring an MG Midget (TF) in both racing (108) and touring (102) finishes.



Figure 6

MG "Midgets" in different colours, Dinky 102, 108



A gift set of 6 of these is pictured below in Fig.8 which includes the MG with Sunbeam Alpine, Austin Healy, Triumph TR2 and an Aston Martin DB3S, a very desirable set **Figure 7**

Austin Healy, Part of the Sports Car Gift Set.



Figure 8Newspaper cutting from the Collectormania circa 2005 showing Sports Cars Gift set in box which sold for \$6,200

In 1962 an MGB roadster was released with some new gimmicks. The front wheels turned on pressure and the doors opened. This was the last MG produced by Meccano.

Regrettably the Company began to face challenges from newer and more progressive competitors such as Corgi and Solido and Matchbox who were adding plastic windows and friction motors and Dinky was slow to catch up.

In 1963 Meccano sustained a major trading loss associated with changing over the Hornby Dublo Track system from 3 rail to 2 rail. In 1969 "speedwheels" were fitted to many of the cars, but this was well behind their competitors. Subsequently there were changes in the ownership of Meccano with Triang, Lines Bros and Airfix all being involved at different times and the Dinky Toy Company's Binns Road factory was closed in November 1979.

Dinky Toys were also produced in France. These were French makes and no MG s were made there.

There is now a company in China making facsimile products of the French Dinkys. They are in very similar boxes to the originals and Branded either DeAgostini or Atlas.

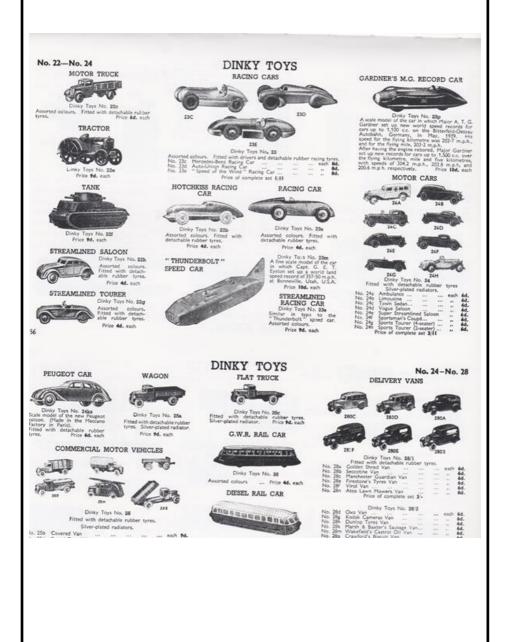
They seem to be using the original dies and the baseplates have only been changed to say De Agostini Mattell. They are very faithful to the original models and sell for between \$30 and \$80.

I hope this has provided food for thought about the relationship between the 2 companies, interesting that the new MGs are now also made in China!!!???

John Stuart

Addendum,

Early Dinky Toys Catalogue, 4 pence for a Racer and 10 pence for MG Record Car!!!



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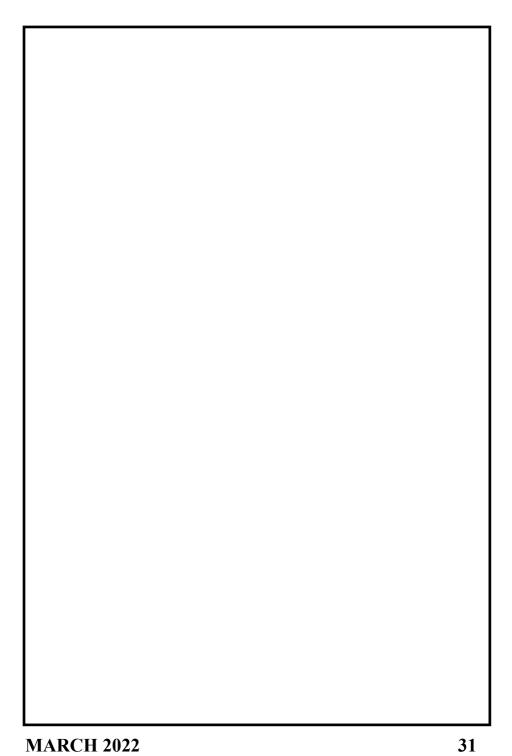


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MARCH 2022

2022 MG National Meeting

"MGs by the Lake" Bulletin 4 - January 2022



Well, the Omicron strain has caused much concern since Bulletin 3 in November. However, be assured that Nat Meet 2022 will be proceeding, with registrations opening next week. The only thing that would stop the event now is a major tightening of Government regulations.

Registrations open Monday 24th January

Registrations will open on Monday 24th January and close on Wednesday 16th March.

Discounted "Early Bird" rates are available up until Wednesday 23rd February, with savings of \$50 per head for adults.

Careful planning has kept the registration fees low, making this the most affordable National Meeting in recent years.

Entry forms will be available on the Nat Meet website from 24th January and will be sent directly to Club Secretaries and those who have completed an EOI.

Maximum Numbers of Registered Entrants

As mentioned in Bulletin 3, our social venues will enable us to cater for around 350 entrants, although that would reduce to around 300 if current covid restrictions continue. The motorkhana and hillclimb venues can accommodate around 100 competitors each.

Expressions of interest have been received from more than 360 people who say they are likely to attend, so it is possible that numbers may have to be capped. If so, entries will be accepted on a strictly "first come, first served" basis.

Some Reminders and Event Updates

Photographic Competition:

Remember to bring along your best photos featuring an MG theme or car/s to enter in the photo competition. Entries are to be submitted at Registration and must not have not been entered at previous National Meeting. Full details are in the Supp Regs. Please remember that the size of photographs is restricted to a maximum 250mm x 200 mm (10 inch x 8 inch). Categories are:

- · Best Action photograph
- Best Still photograph
- · Best Novelty photograph
- · Best Digitally manipulated photograph



1

Scenic Tour Options on Lake Macquarie:

For anyone looking for something else to do on the day of the Concours, other than inspecting all the beautiful MGs, a ferry service has recently commenced around the northern half of Lake Macquarie. Lake Mac Ferry departs from the Speers Point jetty (right at the Concours venue) and cruises to 5 different stops. There are multiple departures throughout the day, and routes and travel times vary between 1½ and 2 hours. See Lake Mac Ferry for more details.

For those with deeper pockets and a higher thrill tolerance, JoyAir operates scenic joy flights in a floatplane over the lake and the adjacent coastline. Pickup can be booked to collect from Speers Point Park. See <u>JoyAir</u> for more details.

Theme Night:

Our Theme Night on Saturday evening will celebrate the 60th anniversary of the launch of the MGB, so we will be going "Back to the Sixties". We look forward to seeing plenty of mini-skirts, knee-high boots, flared trousers and paisley shirts as we have a fun time celebrating the "good old days".

Covid-19 Uncertainty

We are proceeding on the basis that Nat Meet will go ahead, but we are aware that many of you will be feeling uncertain about committing in the current environment. With that in mind, the committee has undertaken to refund all registration fees in full if the event has to be cancelled due to a major tightening of Government restrictions concerning Covid-19 management for events.

Note that entries may be withdrawn for other reasons up to 16th March with a full refund. After 16th March a cancellation fee of \$50 will apply and after 1sth April no refund will be granted unless Nat Meet is cancelled.

In the meantime, please "roll up your sleeves" for your covid booster vaccination at the earliest possible opportunity, and we look forward to seeing you all at Nat Meet 2022.

Contacts for more Information:

Website - natmeet2022.mgcarclub.com.au

Registration enquiries - Raechel Fraser (0401 624 819) - registrar.mgnatmeet2022@gmail.com

Chair - Bruce Fraser (0417 481 480) - chair.mgnatmeet2022@gmail.com

Secretary - Fran Hodgson (0414 449 252) - mgnatmeet2022@gmail.com



2

WANTED TO BUY

Im actively looking to buy a good / well restored example of a MG TF 1500 and wondered if any of your members may be interested in sell-

ing their pride joy.

Could you please circulate my details to your members or otherwise make TF owners aware of my contact details perhaps as WANTED section in the clubs magazine.

Many thanks Bruce Piper 0414960777



WANTED TO BUY

I am looking for early MGB 5 inch wide steel rims and hub caps fitted to early MGB GT's as per attached photograph to fit on my MGB GT.

Please notify me on <u>ray.sharon@bigpond.com</u> or 0425245100 with price and location





FOR SALE

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

2 Used Rear dampers suitable for MGF with Hydragas suspension units. Incorrectly Supplied with a spring conversion kit but little compression dampening.

Very little use under car Offers to buy at suggested price \$100 ONO.





FOR SALE

Complete Workshop Manual for a modern MG TF, 480 Pages of mechanical instruction with pictures at a bargain price

\$45, includes postage within NSW, Contact John Fletcher mb 0407 704 853



FOR SALE

MGB Silver 60 spoke wire wheels with tyres 4 in total. Will sell separately \$125 each

2 x 14" x 4.5 and 2 x 15" x 4.5

The 14" tyres are very good with very little wear

The 15" tyres need replacing

Spokes are well cared for and in great condition.

Alison Rix alirix25@outlook.com>

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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.

Fitted with light truck tyres.

Frame tilts with hydraulic ram for easy loading/unloading.

Mechanical disc brakes and spare wheel.

Aluminium frame, roof and nose cone.

Vinvl curtains on sides and rear.

Front storage boxes.

Split rear ramps.

Loads of tie down points.











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MG Car Club Hunter Region Minutes of Committee Meeting Held 8th February 2022

Meeting Opened: 6:08 p.m.

Chair: Denny Bowden. Minutes: Frans Henskens.

<u>Present</u>: Denny Bowden, Frans Henskens, Greg Jenkins, Ian Ashton, Howard White, Anne Pettigrew, Graham Haywood,

<u>Apologies:</u> Stephen Jones, Jeff Lauff, Gary Piper, Wendy Croker. In attendance: Nil.

<u>Minutes:</u> Approval of minutes of previous meeting held on 14th December 2021, Moved Graham Haywood, Seconded Ian Ashton.

Business Arising:

Good rollup at vehicle registration day.

Insurances have been paid.

Reports:

President (Stephen Jones):

Nothing to report.

Vice President (Denny Bowden):

Nothing to report.

Secretary (Frans Henskens):

2021/22 Membership renewals to date: 67 single and 78 family, a total membership of 223.

Correspondence received from Bruce Coates "I have an MGF Abingdon in Newcastle and previously had it serviced by John Collins and then Nathan who took over from him with Newcastle Dyno Tune. Now that Nathan has announced his retirement, I am looking for recommendations from Club members for a mechanic who has the equipment to service the Hydragas suspension units. Any help and assistance would be greatly appreciated." Sorry, can't help.

Treasurer (Greg Jenkins):

Auditor happy that we have complied with all regulatory requirements.

Destruction of old records - Treasurer will commence shredding everything over 5 years old.

Club Captain (Jeff Lauff):

Nothing to report.

Sporting Director (Gary Piper):

As per magazine.

Is anyone aware of any of our club members that competed in the first Ringwood Hillclimb back in 1986.

This was prior to creation of MGCCHR. Ask the Newcastle Club.

Ringwood Revival event is on Sunday February 27.

Public Relations (Ian Ashton):

- Trish and I will be away from Sunday 13th February until Thursday 3rd March. However, I will be contactable via mobile or email.
- Hawks Nest Motorfest on 12th March has been cancelled.
- Editor Graham and I are proposing a monthly morning coffee members' get together at the Lambton Tea House opposite our Club.
- o Suggested Tuesday 10 a.m. on 3rd Tuesday of the month commencing 15th March. Also TBA on Club Website.
- o Euro Motorfest is booked for Sunday 19th June at Newcastle Foreshore Park.

I have indicated to the organisers that we will have 12 MGs at Speers Point Park for Lake Macquarie Motor Festival on Saturday 30th April.

Regalia (Wendy Croker):

Nothing to report.

Committee Member (Howard White):

For Club Run on Sunday 20th February we leave from Clubhouse at 10 a.m. driving to Mount Sugarloaf for morning tea in the lower carpark, then travelling to Morpeth Park for lunch. BYO everything to report everything.

Social Secretary (Anne Pettigrew):

Following a lead from Denny, I phoned Neville Schofield who

lives at Hilldale – which is ½ way between Dungog and Paterson, about the possibility of the Club having an outing to his property where they grow olives.

He would be delighted to have us and could even get the barbeque going for lunch.

Propose Sunday 20th March as the Clubman Run.

Barefoot Bowls

To try for a Friday night in April. More details when Bowling Club availability is determined.

Day Cruises

Will investigate further.

Will commence holding a regular activity for those members who work and are unable to attend mid-week daytime events. Perhaps a Friday night once a month for: a drink at a local pub; a games night in the clubrooms; a game of tennis; etc

Birthday notices

We plan to list the names of members having birthdays on a monthly basis in the Club magazine. (Not the actual date, or their age!).

We will have Christmas in July again this year. Will return to the Royal River Hotel at Morpeth who were so welcoming last time. Proposed for 24th July. Watch this space!!

Magazine Editor (Graham Haywood):

Have had 4 returns on emailing out the magazine, all to Hotmail accounts.

This is only a subset of members on Hotmail, so Editor will phone each individual to enquire.

General Business:

Club Website stats for December 2021 & January 2022 (Andrew Gowans):

Site was viewed 1,048 (December) & 1,156 (January) times with respective peaks being 5 December with 78 views & 4 January with 66 views.

The top 5 searched pages December/January were: Site Home Page – 293/349 views Magazine Archive – 163/166 views Classifieds – 113/114 views
Euro Motorfest 2022 – 40/17 views
Club Magazine – 38/32 views

Website backend updates are regular and ongoing. Updates applied in December/January;

- → The Events Calendar to 5.12.4 (Events calendar)
- → Ultimate Product Catalog to 5.0.31 (Regalia catalogue)
- → Jetpack to 10.5.1 (site security & performance)
- → Ninja Forms to 3.6.7 (webform builder)
- → Beaver Builder to 2.5.1.1 (webpage editor)
- → Wordpress tp 5.8.3 (Website environment)
 Facebook stats for December/January were:
 There were 164 posts.
 - 24/01 I blocked a FB Group member who was posting adverts for non-car websites and told them they are no longer welcome. This was a FB member, not a MGCCHR member.

Meeting Closed 7:25 p.m.

Next Meeting:

Tuesday 8th March 2022

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.

Index of Advertisers

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Shannons Inside back cover Sportsparts Pty Ltd. Outside back cover

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 APRIL 2022 edition will be Thursday 24th March 2022





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