

THE M.G. CAR CLUB HUNTER REGION INC.

DEC 2000



'ON THE MARQUE'

M.G. Headquarters
68 Elder St. Lambton
Postal address PO Box 503
Wallsend N.S.W. 2287



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MG Car Club HUNTER REGION Inc.

"Proud to be ALL M.G. !

COMMITTEE

*Affiliated with
the MG CAR CLUB UK
Affiliated with the C.A.M.S*

***MG Headquarters
68 Elder Street
LAMBTON***

PRESIDENT: Merryl Redman (MGBGTV8)

VICE PRESIDENT: Neville Roxby (TC, MGA, MGBGT, MGCCT)

SECRETARY: Margaret Bond (MGB, MGBGT LE)

TREASURER: Christine Tolcher (MGB, MGTD, MGTC)

CLUB CAPTAIN: John MacDonald-Hill (MG Midget, MGB, MGC)

SPORTING DIRECTOR: Richard Merrick (MGB Mk I)

PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER: Chris Leggett (MGBGTV8)

SOCIAL DIRECTOR: George Quinn (MGB MkII)

REGALIA OFFICER: Dianne Hinder (MGBL)

CARETAKER EDITOR: Bev Jones (MGB MkI)

COMMITTEE PERSON: John Stuart (MGBL GT)

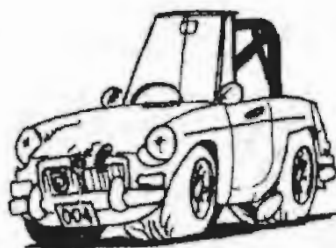
PAST PRESIDENT: Denny Bowden (MGBGTV8)

The Committee welcome your telephone calls,
however would you call before 9.00.pm.

The opinions of correspondents, individuals and advertisers herein are not necessarily
those of the Committee or the M.G. Car Club Hunter Region Inc.

BEV

CARETAKER
EDITOR



Well, Christmas is almost upon us and I still haven't finished the shopping. Hang on, I've barely started! I've been busy doing car club things.

I'm not going to say much about the Summer Concours as most of our committee members have made mention of it in there reports. I would however like to add my congratulations to Richard and his team of many helpers for a job well done. I had a most enjoyable day and caught up with club members from everywhere and even managed to score some articles and photos for the magazine.

John Colville from the Quirindi Connection has given us an update on what has been happening in there neck of the woods (or should that be wheat or sorgum?) and Barry and Gloria Young have supplied us with an interesting

story about a very special MG they discovered by accident while visiting New Zealand. Thank you for these reports. They are what makes our magazine special!

This has been a very tight month for me to get the magazine out on time. We were lucky enough to go to Wakefield Park at the end of November and so four days of magazine time were lost. I hope there aren't too many mistakes! There will be a full report of that event in next month's issue.

This is our last issue for the year and so I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from Stephen, Megan, Bronwyn and your Ed.

I would also like to thank all those people who have taken the time to contribute to our magazine. You don't know how great it is to have input from the members. Keep all the info coming and don't forget we have an email address for all you long distance contributors - mgcchunterregion@hotmail.com or you can use good old snail mail!

your caretaker Ed
Bev - 004

NEW MEMBERS

We extend a warm welcome to you, and wish you a long and happy association with the club.....

Anthony Pennell, Singleton - MGC GT V8 1969 (Costello)

Ann Nicholson, Newcastle - MGB 1978

Phillip & Linda Murphy, Tumb Umbi - MGB 1971

Hilton Suters, Hawks Nest - MGB MK1 1967

Jeff & Kylie Morris, Terrigal (Associate)

John & Jill Donnan, Charlestown (Associate)

We look forward to meeting you at a club event soon!

MERRYL

PRESIDENT



How lucky can you be. The heavy clouds caused a few anxious glances Saturday afternoon and twenty-four hours after the Summer Concours weekend the rains came. The organisation of our major event this year was first class and was a credit to Richard Merrick. Of course there were many people assisting – John Moremon who once again produced those fabulous trophies, Chris Leggett organised very professional publicity and sponsorship, Margaret Bond, Faye Petteit and George Quinn did a great job of catering while John MacDonald-Hill organised the Sunday morning run and the breakfast. However, it was on the shoulders of 25-year old Richard that the full responsibility rested... and I'm proud of him!

Many members pitched in, the marquee in the usual hands of Noel Armstrong's early morning team having the erection (at least that's the story they tell me!), while willing hands set up the park layout. Rosters were arranged so that no team would be stuck with long shifts on the catering jobs, and it was noticed that quite a number of our new members were most eager to become involved. The judging teams were also joined by enthusiastic new faces, with quite a number requesting to accompany the judges to see how it all worked. All this is very heartening, and very positive. In fact, we offer our very great thanks to all the workers and

judges.

A special thankyou to all those who brought along the MG's which made such a wonderful sight, particularly those who travelled long distances to be with us. Lastly, congratulations to those fortunate enough to take home a trophy. But, after such a great weekend I think everyone who attended was a winner.

At home my V8 has never looked cleaner and sparkles after its annual attention with the polish – a shame it won't stay this way for long. The TC now takes all our attention with final preparations for Wakefield Park historic races under way as I write this. It now has new wheels and tyres and a new diff, which I was told were absolutely necessary. In the weeks just gone it was my job to convey and receive various messages relating to the wheels and tyres. I got to speak with Colin from Neway Wheels in Melbourne and Neal from O'Neill's Tyres in Wallisend, both advertisers in 'On The Marque'. What a pleasure this turned out to be. In a lot of cases men tend to treat us females in an off-hand manner when dealing with mechanical or technical things, suggesting; "could you get your husband to call me". Not so with these two, for I quickly felt like I was dealing with old friends.

With December now here it will seem no time till Christmas is upon us. I wish you and your family a safe and happy Christmas and New Year, and I look forward to sharing more great times with you and our MG's in 2001.

See you soon

Merryl Redman

MGBGTV8 #232



MGCC Hunter Region
invites you to the



ALL BRITISH DAY

Sunday 21st January

Lambton Park

opposite MG Headquarters

(Mechanic's Institute, 68 Elder Street, Lambton)

Gates open 10.00am

Entry \$2 per vehicle



for further details contact

Denny Bowden -

Bring anything as long as it's British!

MARGARET

SECRETARY

A special thank you to all those who volunteered and helped out on the coffee and tea stand at the Summer Concours. It was really great to have so many people coming forward to help along with new members also lending a hand on the day.

My boys (dogs that is) won first and second in the Melbourne Cup sweep, so I promised them new Christmas t-shirts for the Santa Run on the 17th Dec. It is becoming somewhat of a tradition with us to bring the boys along (Justin and Jordan) in the red roadster in order to have the opportunity to sit on Santa's lap and receive their bag of goodies. So come along and have a bit of a giggle and meet the boys in their new t-shirts!

and we have revised the application form for new members to reflect the date they join the Club. A full membership is over the financial year (June to June), changing to a pro rata for those joining after January and in April/May the full fee is again charged which takes them through to the next financial year. This will make the administration of the memberships a bit easier with a equitable fee for everyone.

Some of the invitations we have received this month are from Newcastle City Council re Community Energy Workshops to be held on a variety of dates from November to February. Also the 20th Annual Sydney Super Swap Meet is to be held on Sun, 18th Feb 2001 at Hawkesbury showground. If you are interested in attending any of these events just give me a call for further information.

A very merry Christmas to all and a prosperous MG New Year!



We received six new memberships this month **Margaret Bond**

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AGENT FOR SPORTS PARTS

MGCC Hunter Region Annual Concours **Results - 2000**

MG Pre War	1 st	Evan Redman
MG TC	1 st	Neville Roxby
	2 nd	Barry & Gloria Young
MGTD	1 st	Christine Tolcher
MGTF	1 st	Paul Windred
	2 nd	John & Jan Rogers
	3 rd	Peter Cohen
MGY & Midgettes	1 st	Trevor Allen
	2 nd	Laurie Leggett
	3 rd	Annette Cosh
MGA Roadsters & Twin Cams	1 st	Neville Roxby
	2 nd	Robert Gibb
	3 rd	John Saxon
MGA Coupes	1 st	Rhonda Moremon
MG Midget	1 st	Bob Wells
	2 nd	John MacDonald-Hill
MG Front Wheel Drive	1 st	David Dawe
MGB Roadster	1 st	Mary Hickey
	2 nd	Barry Constable
	3 rd	Steve Cornish
MGB Mk II Roadster	1 st	Mike Kelly
	2 nd	Col Lawrence
	3 rd	Ray Bond
MGBL Roadster	1 st	George Inguanez
	2 nd	Doug Linsley
	3 rd	Alan Griffiths
MGB Rubbernose Roadster	1 st	Peter Dever
	2 nd	Maurie Prior
MGBGT	1 st	Dianne Collins

MGBGT MkII	1 st	Toni Saxon
MGBL GT	1 st	Wendy Armstrong
	2 nd	Keith Speer
	3 rd	Maurie Prior
MGB GT Rubbernose	1 st	Margaret Bond
MGB GTV8	1 st	Denny Bowden
	2 nd	Ian Nelson
	3 rd	Colin Bailey
MG RV8	1 st	Jim Dolbel
	2 nd	Bernie Hewitt
	3 rd	Robert Boehme
MGC Roadster & GT	1 st	Peter Harper
	2 nd	John Moremon
	3 rd	Melinda Challenor
MGF	1 st	John Kennedy
Rolling Chasis	1 st	John Morton
Racing MG	1 st	Ian Nelson
	2 nd	Jeff Redman
	3 rd	Austin Blanch
MG Specials	1 st	John Winchester
	2 nd	Chris Leggett
	3 rd	Paul Broadbent
People's Choice	1 st	Annette Cosh

Pre MGA Evan Redman – TA Tickford

Post TF/Pre MGBL Rhonda Moremon – MGA Coupe

Post MGB MkII Jim Dolbel – RV8

*Thank you to all who took part in this event
as entrants, helpers and officials!*

RICHARD

SPORTING

With a successful Summer Concours behind us for another year there are countless people to thank. Events such as these always remind me how lucky we are to be made up of such a committed group of members. It is the effort that is put in by the whole club that makes our events memorable and something to really be proud of. Thanks again to all those involved. The Summer Concours has had its weekend format for a few years now but of course we are always looking to improve and fine tune. The committee will



discuss next years event over the next few months and I would like to remind everyone that input from members is always appreciated and welcomed.

Sat 13th January 2001. Twilight Touring Assembly. I can hear the groans already. This type of touring event will involve some navigation but will be close to the format used in Canberra for the Natmeet so I would encourage all to attend for that valuable practice. I promise that no-one will get lost. We will have a late evening start for a bit of a change and have a BYO supper at the finish. *Hint: Bring a torch!* More details to follow next month.

Finally, I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

See you all in 2001 in an MG.

Richie.....037



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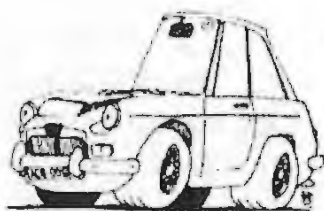






JOHN

CLUB CAPTAIN



'Tis the season to be jolly' so a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all.

With festivities in mind, the Club Christmas run on Sunday, 17th December, will be a short one to Blacksmiths, where there are electric BBQs and plenty of shade. Bring your own picnic or BBQ, but hamburgers etc are for sale nearby. We will meet at MGHQ at 10am for 10.30am departure.

Dress in your sports clothes because you will **all** be expected to compete in the MG Olympics before lunch.

I believe Santa may well pay us a visit, so please let me know children numbers on club night, so I can arrange lolly bags. Remember too that this is one run when you can bring any car without points penalty; so you can bring the family and/or friends along.

For the Christmas run, apart from the usual \$2, could you all please bring either a small toy, or an item of non perishable food (tinned etc), because there are kids out there who aren't going to have as much fun at Christmas as

we are on the run.

Numbers were down a little to those indicated for the clubman run in November, however, the rain stayed away and 32 of us sat down to an excellent meal at Gwandalan Bowling Club, highly recommended if you are in the area. Many struggled with the meal sizes and it seems a few puppies were also well fed that night. Our secretary excelled by cleaning up a huge platter (that's platter, not plate) of ribs, well done Margaret and you didn't get one drop on your clothes.

The driving part of the run was enjoyable, although full sunlight would have made the scenery a little better. The run through the Munmorah State Recreation area was great, as was the scenery at Frazer Park. The hotly contested "observation" part of the run was decided after the tie breaking toss of a coin, with Steve and Jenny Cornish, the winners of the bottle of wine for dinner.

My report would not be complete without congratulating Richard for his superb work organising the excellent Summer Concours. Thanks Richard.

It is also very pleasing to note the number of members showing great class and taste with more of you driving MGCs, so what can I say but

'C' you on the run.

John MacDonald-Hill

Christmas Run - Sunday 17th December

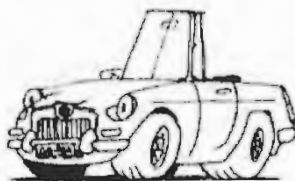
departing MGHQ at 10:30am for Blacksmiths

We are hoping Santa will pay us a visit!



GEORGE

SOCIAL



It has taken several attempts to get this month's column

down on paper. I know what I'd *like* to say, but I've decided instead to be diplomatic. I'm reminded of the old saying; "You can please some of the people some of the time, but you can't please all of the people all of the time".

When I took over this position from Ian and Carmel I had some ideas I wanted to try. Obviously every person on the committee brings to their various positions a certain style, or way of doing things. From my previous stint as Social Director, I remember that not all my ideas were to everyone's liking, which I accept and is perfectly normal. However, I would appreciate being contacted personally if you have any concerns, and that way we can make any necessary adjustments. After all, every

member of the committee appreciates *constructive* criticism and welcomes being contacted and given the courtesy of being able to reply. That way we can build on the old Hunter Region spirit that attracted us to join the club in the first place. There... *I* feel better now!

Coming up we have:

CLUB NIGHT Friday 8th. December 2000 'Red & Green' theme – in keeping with the Christmas spirit. We will have Dr Jane Yip visiting to tell us about laughter therapy.

MONDAY MUNCHIES Monday 11th. December 2000 Top end of Jesmond Park next to the 'Adopt A Road' sign. Merryl said she would like some company. Maybe a Christmas party. BYO everything.

NATTER NIGHT Friday 30th. December 2000. 7.30pm King Edward Park – top end entry. Bring 'the works' as there is nothing there but grass (and a fabulous view!).

Have a happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

George MGB GQ 554.

December Club Night

Friday 8th December

Come dressed in your red and green and get into the Christmas spirit.

Dr Jane Yip from the Discipline of Clinical Pharmacology, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences at the University of Newcastle, has agreed to give us a talk about laughter therapy – after all they say laughter is the best medicine.

'Tis the season to be jolly so come along and have a laugh.

CHRIS

PRO



The Summer Concours is over for another year and I'm sure that you will be reading much about this wonderful event in this magazine. For my part, media liaison officer and sponsorship fundraiser, ("arm twister") this was another very successful year.

As many of you would be aware the N.R.M.A. Veteran, Vintage and Classic Branch were our major sponsors who provided all the class winning trophies. Heritage MG, Morton's Motor Body Works and MG Workshops provided the three overall trophies.

It is so important for us, as members of this organisation to show our gratitude to these companies by, where ever possible, doing business with them. Something that has recently come to my attention concerning N.R.M.A. insurance is

that we should be ringing the 1800 number in our magazine for quotes etc, rather than attending our local N.R.M.A. branch. When you ring this toll free number ask for Ruth and tell her you're a Hunter Region member. You will be pleasantly surprised.

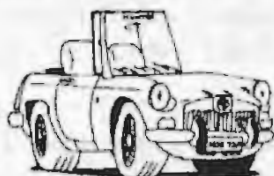
Wearing my other hat, that of increasing club membership, I am pleased to report that the list of new members continues to grow. Eight new members have been welcomed recently and at last night's (14/11/00) committee meeting another six applications were approved. It is so important to make these new people feel welcome and be assisted with their cars wherever possible.

A date has been set for our annual "All British Day" 21/01/2001. No doubt you will be reading all about it in Denny's column. I will be running notices in the usual car magazines and faxing a media release to the local papers and T.V. stations.

Chris Leggett

DIANNE

REGALIA



What I'd like to do first is thank everyone who helped me with my first Summer Concours. It was a fun day, but having never been involved with anything like this before it was good to know that help and assistance was on hand when ever I needed it from the beginning of the day when I was setting up until the end. Thank you Carol for all your support not just with the concours but with everything that you have helped me with since I've taken on this position. Last but definitely not least I'd like to thank Jan McLellen. You were good fun to be around, and a great help behind the regalia table. The only thing I might recommend you do differently next year Jan is take the dear little lavender bag out of

your MG and you too may win a trophy?? Thanks a lot everyone.

You can have a lot of fun times in a club like ours, and, that was the case when Dianne and Michael Collins had a wine tasting night at their home. Thank you both for a lovely relaxed evening with great wine, food and company.

Well Christmas is nearly upon us. Have you got all your Christmas shopping under control, or are you still pondering about what to buy that special someone? If you are still pondering, how about you come along to our last club night before Christmas, and check out our regalia table, you may find just the perfect gift to place under your chrissey tree. I'd like this opportunity to wish you and your families a safe, happy Christmas and New Year.

Take care over the festive season,
Dianne Hinder - MGB 72K



The Wakefield Park Historic Race Meeting just gone marks the end of the first 5 years (and the start of the 6th year) of 'Team Hunter'. The 'Team' started when it was announced that the newly completed 'Wakefield Park' race-track situated just outside Goulburn, would be hosting an all-historic race meeting in November of 1994. A group of sporting enthusiasts from the Hunter Region MG Car Club decided to have a go at the Regularity event at this meeting and Team Hunter was born.

That first race meeting saw 5 drivers and their pit-crew head south for our clubs first foray into this style of motorsport. Jeff Redman's TC, Tony Merrick in his Magnette, Austin Blanch and his A along with Richard Merrick and I in our B's took the first nervous steps onto a track filled with other expensive cars going as fast as possible. This was very daunting but also very habit forming.

Since that meeting the 'Team' has made appearances at Amaroo Park, Eastern Creek, Oran Park (both South and GP Circuits), Winton, Uralla GP and Mattara Hillclimbs. Successes have been many and the Team now boasts 14 drivers and over 40 in its pit-crew, and that doesn't include the

countless number of club members that have come for the day to watch the show and partake of the team's hospitality.

Experiences have been many and varied from Ian Nelson testing the strength of his headlight protectors on a concrete wall at Oran Park (to get out of letting me co-drive his car), me blowing up at Wakey (not me personally, the car!), the novelty of Redo putting up the Team tent (don't mock him, he'll blow up) and Kate Leggett going off when Chris found a good place out of sight to park his A and watch the racing at 'the Creek'. There's Redo always boiling the Kettle in the TC while Merryl checks us all for excessive noise (I'm talking about the cars when they're racing, but Jeff even registers on her meters while erecting the tent). Steve Horne's first go at Flagging saw him speechless as half a dozen Formula Fords demolished themselves right at his flag point, Asho blows his B so he can have a go in my car (I was using him to get extra miles up on the running in) and who can forget Big Tony in the Maggot taking the time to give everyone a wave while flat-out on the straight at Wakefield. The dice between the TD's of Ray Tolcher and John Mills in 'Brutus' will go down in history next to Matt Blanch spinning Richard's B off the end of the straight at the Creek at a bit over 100 MPH on one very wet Saturday. "Do the boy good... now he knows the limits" said Austin proudly from the rooftop viewing platform. "They go faster on grass than on tar" said Matt.

In the 5 years the team has represented our club at 25 international events. I have knocked up the most entries with

17 under my belt (that's why the driving suit is so tight... nothing to do with the middle age spread), Redo next with 11 and Richard M, Austin and Asho all together on 7. Nelo's closing the gap quickly with 5 and there are a large number on 1.

Something we haven't seen as yet in the Team is our first female driver. Lisa Tobin from the Newcastle Club has hung around with us a few times and is an honorary member - and a warning, she's as lady-like as we are gentlemanly whilst behind the wheel. You had better get used to seeing her backend because she's usually in front of you and pulling away. Hopefully soon we will see our club's first female competitor.

Whilst on the subject of competitors, to become one you don't have to drive like Fangio. Regularity means you have a practice, then, nominate a time that you think you can go around in, lap after lap. The fastest doesn't win, just the most consistent. Asho drove my B at Eastern Creek this year and although I was a lot faster, he got a 1st and a 4th while I got didley squat. You have to do

a one-day advanced driving course (that way you know everyone on the track has a moderate level of competence) then a flag lecture and your set to go. If driving isn't your style and you still want to participate, then flagging is fun.

'Team Hunter' is a very exclusive group. There is only one way to become a part of it, and that is come along to a race meeting, hang with the mob and enjoy it. The benefits are many, and the lies (I mean stories) told over a few cleansing ales and bubbly after the long day are but one. You can't beat the comradery you experience not only with in our group but from the whole racing fraternity. If you bring along a sense of humour and still leave unhappy there is only one person to blame.

Stephen Jones #6

NEXT TEAM EVENTS:

Oran Park - Short Circuit
27th & 28th January

Oran Park - GP Circuit
21st & 22nd April





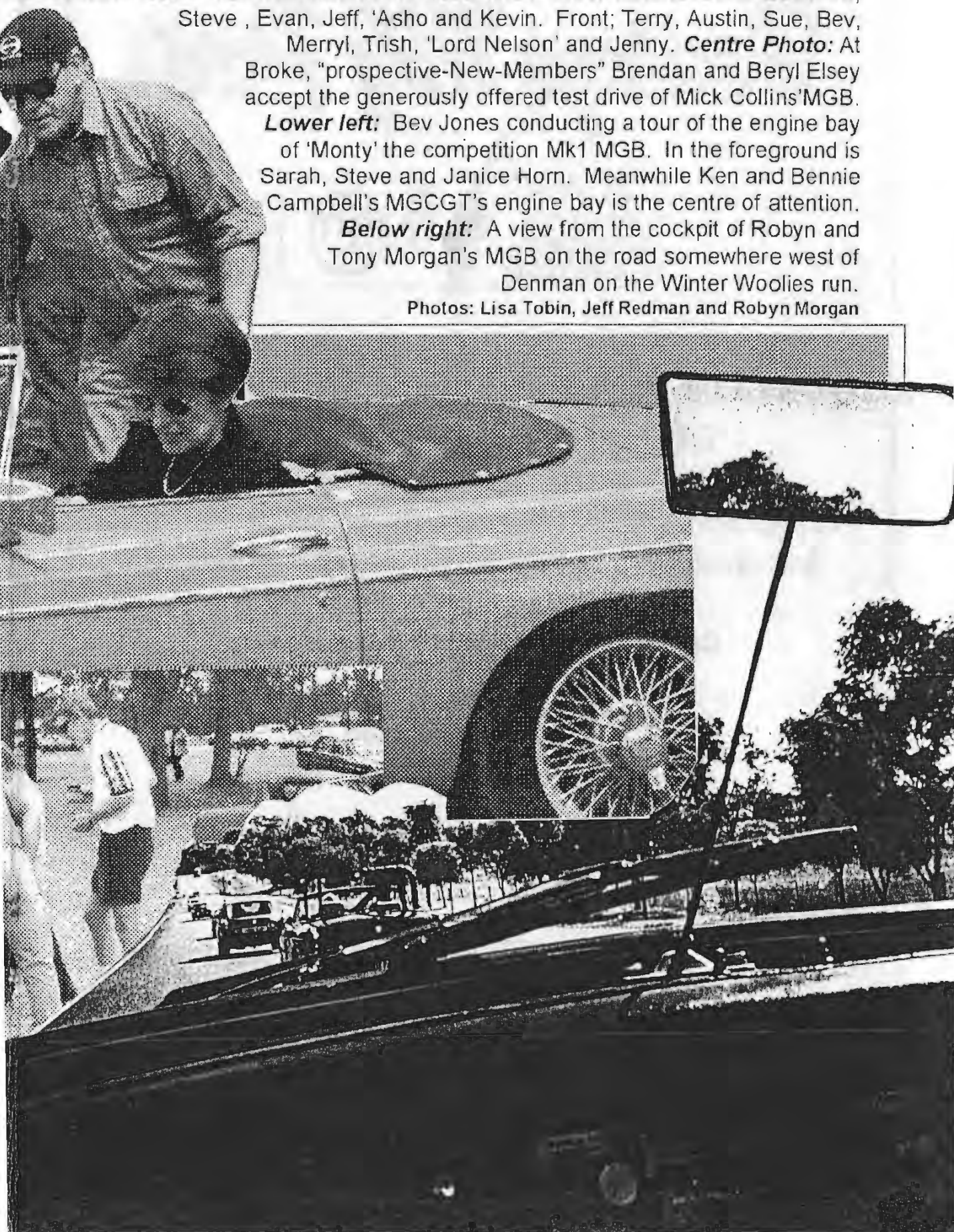
Left: From the files – 'Team Hunter' at the last Eastern Creek historic races. Back row; Steve, Evan, Jeff, 'Asho and Kevin. Front; Terry, Austin, Sue, Bev, Merryl, Trish, 'Lord Nelson' and Jenny. **Centre Photo:** At

Broke, "prospective-New-Members" Brendan and Beryl Elsey accept the generously offered test drive of Mick Collins' MGB.

Lower left: Bev Jones conducting a tour of the engine bay of 'Monty' the competition Mk1 MGB. In the foreground is Sarah, Steve and Janice Horn. Meanwhile Ken and Bennie Campbell's MGC GT's engine bay is the centre of attention.

Below right: A view from the cockpit of Robyn and Tony Morgan's MGB on the road somewhere west of Denman on the Winter Woolies run.

Photos: Lisa Tobin, Jeff Redman and Robyn Morgan



REBIRTH OF AN R-TYPEBarry & Gloria Young

During September and October Barry and I made a return trip to New Zealand. We also made a return visit to the Southward Museum Trust at Paraparuma, north of Wellington.

The Southward Museum has on show a selection of vehicles from one of the largest and most comprehensive privately owned collections of veteran and vintage vehicles in the southern hemisphere. The collection comprises some 250 vehicles, approximately half of which are on show at any one time. The museum is set in six hectares of park-like surroundings. At the rear of the site is a fully equipped engineering workshop where the work of restoring vehicles continues.

On arrival, we made contact with Stan Bellamore, Manager and John Bellamore, Restoration Manager at the museum. They had shown us great hospitality on our first visit and taken us on a tour of the restoration workshop on our earlier visit the previous Easter. This is when we first saw the very rare MG R-Type. At that stage the R-type was about to be reassembled after the restoration of the components had been completed.

The MG R-type is now complete and the vehicle has been restored to its original specifications and former glory. The museum was fortunate to have very good documentation and technical specifications, dating back to the factory, including vehicle history and previous owners.

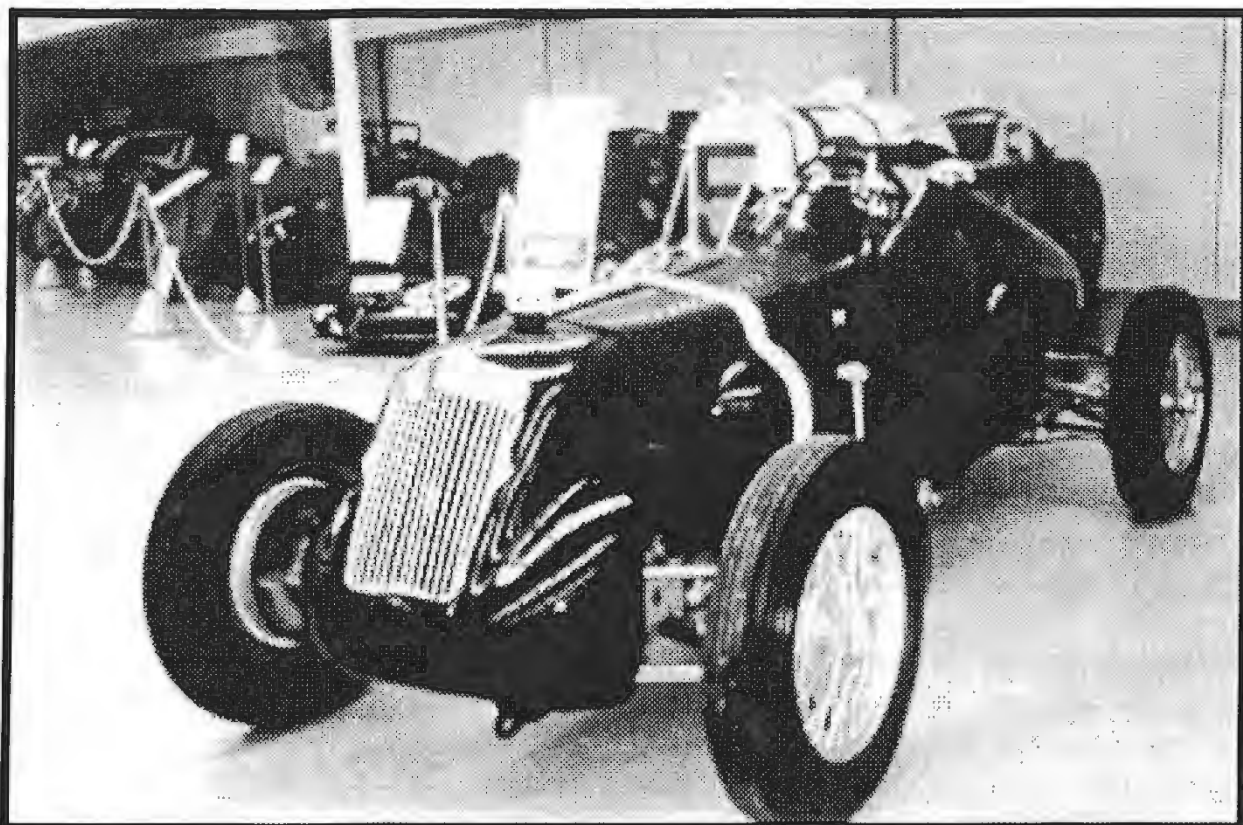
The history showed the previous own-

ers were W. Handley, R. Shapely, J. Reynolds H. Edwards and A. Booth who converted it into a modern style sports car. An RNZAF officer, P. S. Stevens purchased it while based in England in 1957. He brought it back to New Zealand but shortly after starting restoration, Stevens was posted to Fiji, and the Southward Museum Trust acquired it. Stevens had done most of the research on the vehicle.

This rare vehicle was the racing successor to the MG P-Type. The engine capacity was decreased to 750cc and a McEvoy-Zoller supercharger was added. Just eleven R-types were built and this car is believed to be the second. It has an optional McEvoy/Pomeroy DOHC cylinder head and is one of only three cars to feature this option. The other two cars are believed to be in England with Syd Beer. This was initially an MG Works car, with the distinctive cowl over the exhaust outlet. It is reputed to be the first 750cc car to have exceeded the magic 100mph (160kph) milestone.

It has now been converted back to its single seat form with a replica body built by students at Wellington Technical College. The mechanical, paint restoration and assembly was completed at the museum workshop under the supervision of John Bellamore, who we must mention is a keen MG enthusiast.

We would highly recommend that any members holidaying in New Zealand visit the Southward Museum Trust, where you will find many fine examples of motoring history.



The completed R-Type



*John Bellamore, Restoration Manager of
Southward Museum with the R-Type*

QUIRINDI CONNECTION NEWS

FEDERAL HOTEL, QUIRINDI
NOVEMBER 2000

The Quirindi Connection are going through an "on hold" and "excuses, excuses" period.

Ian Carter was planting corn until it became too wet and now he is planting sorghum, but it became too dry, but then changed to wet again! John Colville had P.S.T. (pre shearing tension) and then three weeks later came down with a bad case of P.S.T. (post shearing trauma). John Taylor and John Hickman are using Ian Carter and John Colville as an excuse. Bill Oliver is having a withdrawal period after being the area AMP man involved in the Olympic Torch Relay. He's even in TV restaurant advertisements on Prime (without TF).

John Colville hasn't put the engine back in the TF - he's blaming Ian Taylor (the vintage tractor bloke) because there is part of a steam engine hanging on the hoist he wants to use.

John Taylor is a worry! He is restoring a utility version of an EH thing which he intends to become the Quirindi version of the J Van.

Bob Wales doesn't know what town he'll be working in from day to day with the Ambulance Service and Geoff Potter is busy at work. *(Thank goodness there are two people up there who aren't named John or Ian!....Ed)*

The Quirindi Connection decided to have a few awards of their own and these are

Concours	1 st	John Taylor - MGB
	Equal 2 nd	Ian Carter - MGTF
		Bill Oliver - MGTF
Rolling Chasis	4 th	Geoff Potter - MGB
	1 st	John Colville - MGTF
	2 nd	John Taylor - MG EH Ute?!
Fastest Car		Bob Wales MGB + Bits
Clubman of the Year - John Hickman - mechanical advice and rum supply		
Quiet Achiever - Bob Wales - car gets faster and flasher		
Loudest Non-achiever - John Colville - "this year sometime"		
Most worried about stone chips - John Taylor		
Least worried about stone chips - Bob Wales		
Celebrity of the Year - Bill Oliver - getting sick of TV cameras		
Champion Tomatoes - John Taylor.		

RUMOURS

The octagonal goings-on of MG owners in the Hunter Region as overheard by The Octogonarian...

A WOULD-BE DETECTIVE... is Peter Dever, who in last month's magazine put forward his theories as to the true identity of 'The Octogonarian'. He's not the first to guess, but who says he or (she?) is one person?

I (or we!) thoroughly enjoyed Peter sharing his wealth of 'hands-on' experience from years past keeping tired and worn-out MGs running. His words really struck a nerve – for how many of us remember those days before SportsParts, Pickards, MG Centre, Heritage and all the other firms that these days serve us so well. Years back I (or we) were pretty much strapped for dosh and recall how as a struggling apprentice electrician I tried to keep a worn-out TD running. I shudder now when I think of the speeds and antics we used to get up to on re-grooved tyres! Anyway Pete... keep guessing, but above all, keep those stories coming. We love em!

A NEW TOY... is in the garage at East Maitland. PRO Chris Leggett has a rubbernose V8 engined roadster. We saw it first time at the Summer Concours, 'Pageant Blue' near as I can tell, looking great and sitting on the obligatory 'Performance Mags'. It all fits into place now. Keen observers would've noticed the discreet ads in the 'Wanted' section of the mag over the last few months seeking a V8 roadster or un-

finished project. Chris was fishing. Confusion could've come from a number of other 'Wanted's' with 'Contact Chris' appearing. These ads should not be thought to be his expanded wish-list, for Chris is a power of help to many folk seeking an MG and has brought together many cars and new owners. But the V8 roadster is Chris's toy, and I predict it will be really be something special when he's finished. I have been told the wheels will remain polished alloy and will not be painted 'custard cream'!

HEADACHES... aplenty for Paul Broadbent recently with his Flame Red V8 roadster which we raved about in past pages. Seems the electronic fuel injection had an attack of the gremlins, but the solution was simply cured. A few issues back Guy Thompson advertised a Rover V8 sedan, which was purchased by Paul. Stripping the bits from the Rover, the MG now purrs like a kitten (or tiger more like) and a whole swag of other spare parts that are available comes as an added bonus.

MG SPECIALS... seems to be a growing class judging by the increased numbers seen at the Summer Concours. Did you notice that blood red 'B roadster with Cobra badges? It's the real McCoy. What an aggressive piece of gear it is. the colour, the growl and the most fabulous flared 'guards you'll ever see. I'd love to own it!

NUMBERS WERE DOWN ... this year at the Concours, so I'm told with 88 MG's on the field which I hear disappointed the organisers slightly. Last year I recall there were 103 entries. I feel all those hard workers should not

fret to much for the sight which greeted me as I arrived late, without my MG unfortunately due to brake troubles, was very, very impressive! While a number of people who usually attend were missing I was impressed by the number of MGs and new faces that were present. It was also noticed that quite a number of folk were interested in joining the various judging teams to see how it was all done. Very significant was the fact that this year only *one* MG was noticed to be parked out on Elder Street and had declined to join the 'family'. Did you see it? A time-warp TF, battered and showing its age, but obviously much loved. Its condition didn't matter, and I'm sure it would have been accepted among the throng if its owner had chosen to drive into the park. After all, it had an MG badge on the front and back... and that's quite good enough for us

REALLY SOMETHING.... was the sight of no less than *five* MGRV8's lined up at the Concours. Close inspection highlighted the difficult task awaiting the judges, for the whole lot were simply superb. There were four in the dark Woodcote Green while Ern Stutchbury's 'RV8 also sombre in dark blue completed the line up of dark coloured cars all with a minimum of brightwork. This caused a question to be asked by a lady spectator who came in off the street ... "Are they all ex-Army cars?"

NEVER MISSING A CHANCE... is John Moremon, for I hear our ex-Sporting Director spotted the camera crew arriving from NBN television at the Concours. In a flash the master poser manoeuvred the crew up to a certain white MCGT and supervised the film-

ing. Only things missing according to Chris Leggett is the beret and long cigarette holder .. Cecil B. deMoremon indeed!

QUITE A STIR... was caused by Barry and Gloria Young's green TC. You'll recall the photos and story a few issues back. Our first chance to see it in the metal so to speak was at the Concours and there was hardly a moment without someone eyeballing it. Barry and Gloria trailered it down from Dubbo for I hear a few brake problems still have to be sorted. Even so, it's a magic thing in amazing condition, and had many people shaking their heads in disbelief and envy. She's also quite a lady is Mrs Young ... rolled up the sleeves and worked on the BBQ lunch stand with Les and Sue Bingham. I hear she doesn't mind a yarn either, and I'm reliably informed she's the only person so far to be able to talk Carol Roxby to a standstill. Stewth!

STRAIGHT IN THE DEEP END... but what a great way to meet the people who make up the membership of the club you've just joined. Just ask new-members Jan McClelland, who assisted Dianne Hinder on the Regalia stand, while Brendan and Beryl Elsey were noticed hard at it on the BBQ. Well Done, and thank you all!

A PHONE BILL.... like you wouldn't believe was racked up by Bernie Hewitt. He and the 'RV8 were alone this year with Di staying at home. The frequent phone calls back to Dubbo were to check the situation with the imminent arrival of 'Grandchild Number One'. Later over the weekend BH was almost doing handstands – at breakfast

on the Concours weekend news came through that he had a grandson – a potential future TF driver no doubt – the little bloke arriving 1am. Ripper news!

LONGEST DISTANCE... award, if one were given, surely would have been won by Bathurst residents Peter and Diann Harper. Kicking off from home, they travelled first to Brisbane to collect a British Racing Green MGC GT they'd just purchased before travelling to the Concours. Just enough time for a quick wipe-over with the polish then onto the park. Result: First in class. What a start to ownership of a new toy! I hear the GT has NSW rego with 'FUD' letter prefix, which has caused Diann to christen the MG... 'Elmer'. Vewwy clever!

PITY THE POOR JUDGES... trying to separate first second – and third from the ten or so MGBL roadsters entered in the Concours. There was an unbelievable red roadster up from Sydney, but then a quick glance at Doug Linsley's BL and the red 'B' owned by Alan Griffiths – stunning on Superlight wheels – indicated just how close the results would be. Not that far from contention were three or four (or was that five or six??) cars that included Dave and June Pritchard and Dave Walsh's BL's. Now you know why I make it my business to hide when judges are called for!

EYE-CATCHING... are the new stickers I saw being handed out at the Concours by Regalia Dianne. They fit up top of our MG's windscreens and this batch is plain white... and stand out like you wouldn't believe. What a great way to 'show the flag'.

SLOW AND SURE... is the pace set by Carl Delprat on the rebuild of his MGB roadster. I hear it's been inching along since the early 80's – a similar case to the story we've often told about the Boote's MG Midget. However rumour has it that Carl is about to 'get his teeth' into the MGB.... soon!

HOW'D WE MISS THE NEWS... that our old mate and club stalwart Trevor Allen has another MG? At the concours it was noticed that Trevor had a few new grazes and bits of bark missing. Concerned friends asked what'd happened. "It's like working inside a watch!" was his terse reply, "Worse thing to work on that I've ever owned!" Details of his new project, an MG Midget, are not known, but we'll report further news as it comes to hand.

NOT FEELING THE BEST... so we hear, is old friend Tom Parrott. Rumours have it that Tom took a tumble recently resulting in a few problems. Our best wishes mate, for a speedy recovery.

It is with great sadness that we notify our members of the passing of Sue Hickman, one of our Quirindi members, and wife of John. Sue loved being passenger in John's white BL roadster and was the brains behind the Sunday breakfast of the weekend in Quirindi earlier this year. She will be greatly missed.

FOR SALE:

MGB 1977 Roadster - Converted to chrome bumper, completely restored, damask red, minilite wheels \$18,500
Phone Peter (02) 65848404

MGTC Parts - Various parts (see club notice board for details) including Race Motor 1500cc with 1 1/2" SUs & extractors
Phone: Graham 48459751

MGB MkI 1967 - Red with black interior, good condition, hood and tonneau good, overdrive gearbox, full rego 'til Feb 2001. \$11,000
Phone David - (02)4945 4109

MGB Competition Accessories - 4 x 6" Performance Superlite Mags fitted with Bridgestone Potenza 520S tyres - 50% wear - \$1000, 4 x Costello (look alike) mags with Yokohama 008 (2 x 50% worn, 2 x 60% worn) - \$300, Bosch Racing Spark Plugs, dual platinum probes, Mintex Brake Pads - fade free 50% worn \$50, VDO "Mini Cockpit" with sensor pick up and cables \$250, Racing Suit single layer single piece Nomex (blue) Fit 36" waist & 6'1" tall person \$150. Phone Tony Pennell 65731174(h) or 0419 79 1114(mobile)

MGB MKII 1972 - White, excellent paint & mechanicals, good upholstery & hood, very original, drives well. Last model out of UK. \$17,500 Phone John Trist - Denilquin (03) 5881 2044 BH or (03) 5881 2712

MGYT complete, part restored, many spares. Over \$20,00 spent, \$12,000 takes the lot! Offers for parts or all considered up to 7/1/01. Phone Geoff (02)6365 5200 or 0408 226 839

MG MIDGET 1968, white on club plates
My owner has hardly driven me since rebuild. I am full of Vizzard 'A' series high tech stuff ie high lift roller rockers, lightened nitride crank, 45 webber, fully balanced 1400cc, 5 speed package, begging to go on club runs or historic racing, sick of cobwebs. \$9,600
Phone: 4943 9813

MGA - 1959 Roadster - Red with black interior, chrome wires, full restoration completed Dec '93, only driven 2,000 miles. \$23,500. For details phone Darren: (02)6656 4221 - AH, (02) 6652 7451 - BH

MGBGT - 1972. White, 12 mths rego, good condition, \$10,500. Phone Michael 49902378 or 0414 979 579

MGY SEDAN - 1949 excellent condition, good tyres, sunroof, good mechanical order. \$11,000 ono or will swap for MGBGT with cash adjustment. Phone Denis Burns 65521071

MG MIDGET - 1971 MkIII - white, 3 ground up restoration less than year ago, balanced engine, new tyres, refurbished wheels, many extras. Reluctant sale \$12,500(neg) for details phone - Richard 0412 543413

MIDGET SPARES - 4 refurbishes wire wheels with Dunlop Formula R tyres (70% rubber) \$1200. Set of lowered

rear leaf and front coil springs
\$400ono. Phone Richard 0412 543413

2 MGBs

1977 - Ready for sandblasting or painting, on trolley with wheels, converted to RH drive.

1978 - complete car with mini cooper lookalike alloy wheels, LH drive.

3 V8 Motors - 1 x Buick 3.5lt, 2 x Rover 3.5lt, 2 Steering Racks, 5 New Tyres 185/7 R14, Dashboard Mould for Foam Filling Dashboards, 1 set V8 extractors, 1 set Rover extractors, 1 set V8 pistons 20thou oversize, various other parts. \$16,500 the lot

Phone: J. de Boer 03 63272617 (Tas)

MGA 1959 - Twin Cam Fixed Head

Coupe. Fully restored, excellent car, runs perfectly, looks great in Tartan Red. \$49,000. Call Ray 4988 6080

Myford ML Bench Lathe with chucks and tools \$1200 Phone Ray 4988 6080 or 4962 2294 (BH)

WANTED

MGA left hand rear wing, lower rear section or damaged wing with this section in tact. Phone Ian Farrant, 02 62312991 or 0417 347974.

TF hood bows and interior rear view mirror. Phone Peter - 6334 2554

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MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING OF MG CAR CLUB HUNTER REGION, HELD 16TH OCT 2000, CLUBROOMS MECHANICS INSTITUTE, LAMBTON

PRESENT: Merryl Redman, George Quinn, Christine Tolcher, Denny Bowden, Dianne Hinder, Margaret Bond, Richard Merrick, John Stuart. APOLOGIES: Neville Roxby, Chris Leggett, John MacDonald-Hill IN ATTENDANCE: Ray Bond, Carol Roxby, Kay Bowden MEETING OPENED: 7.40pm with the President, Merryl Redman in the Chair. PREVIOUS MINUTES: previous minutes approved. Moved George and Seconded Denny BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES: Power Point - Larry Dickason to do electrical work. Magazines - Rhonda Moremon to continue mailing magazines. Neville will act as back. Fire Hazard - A system could be installed with the co-operation of the Historical Society J-Van - is back on the road Filing Cabinet - has been ordered. Signs - Merryl will speak to Jeffrey re updating the signs. NRMA Fest - forms ordered. Charity for the year - Westpac Helicopter. George will look at holding a matter night at the Helicopter Club. John Stuart will forward a letter proposing the spinal binda unit as our charity for the year 2001. Dubbo point score system - deferred to the next meeting. INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE Letters - Peter Dever, Half-page ad from NF Trading Pty. Ltd, Cams State Executive Election ballot paper, MGCC motorkhana at Vales Point, Annual Report and Newsletter, Community Voluntary & Cultural Sector GST Start-up Assistance Workshops. Les Bingham, Abbingham Spares re sponsorship. Bill Bransom re retiring from the role has auditor he has performed for the Club and with a statement of fees. Safety Fast Magazine request for article, MG Car Club Gold Coast - proposal from Delegates meeting held in Newcastle re Honour's Role, Endeavour Credit Union requiring two signatories on accounts to be full members of the Credit Union. Agreed that George and Neville, who are members of the Credit Union, would be the signatories. OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE: Letter to Cams re new officers. Two memberships. Events Application sent to Council for the Summer Concours. ACCOUNTS: Comm. Bank Statement, Aust Post, Seriprint Fast Lane Mirrors, Endeavour CU. FLYERS: Speed Technology, Tefco Trailers, Lake Macquarie Festival of Rock & Roll, Dinner Show Specials, King's Comedy Restaurant, Waterview Restaurant Function Centre, Paramedical Services Pty. Ltd., Shannons, Dirty Dicks, The Office Works, No Fuss Parts Plus. NEWSLETTERS: Cams, Print Post Service Guide, Lambton Business Chamber. INVITATIONS: The Assoc of British Car Clubs, Display Day Oct 22nd, Newcastle Restored Vehicle Club, North Shore Sporting Car Club, 2000 NSW Supersprint Championship. MAGAZINES RECEIVED: MG Car Clubs - Sydney, SA, WA, Tas, Canberra, Wagga Wagga, Geelong, Vic, Gold Coast, Queensland, Sunshine Coast, Auckland, Safety Fast. Other Clubs - Taree Historic Motor Club, Port Macquarie Heritage Car Club, Jaguar Club, Targa News, Old Timer News, Safety Fast, The Western District Antique Automobile Club, Morrie News. NEW MEMBERS: Michael & Marquerite Walsh, Muswellbrook - MGB BL 1971 Brenton & Beryl Eley, Eleebana (Associate), Trevor & Kerry Rissstrom, Orange, MGB Roadster 1966. Moved George and seconded Richard. FOR SALE: MGYT tourer and 1972 MK II MGB. SPORTING DIRECTOR: Economy run on 24th Sept 11 entries. Sydney Concours 9 entries. Summer Concours - in hand, Fees on economy runs - fees are \$2.00 for road-based events where we do not have to pay CAMS. SOCIAL DIRECTOR: Christmas party will be lunch on the 3rd Dec at George and Geoff's home. CARETAKEIR EDITOR: No Report PRO: No Report VICE-PRESIDENT: (via Carol Roxby) The Octagon Award. Neville is to maintain a list of members who have contributed to the club throughout the year, in order to come up with a nomination for this award. Committee members to forward COMMITTEE PERSON: Suggested a white board on club nights outlining up-coming club events. PLATES REGISTER: Saturday, 2nd December is vintage registration inspection day. CLUB CAPTAIN: The run on the 19th October will finish at Fraser Park, dinner carrying on to the Gwandalan Bowling Club. REGALIA: Sales club nite \$26.00. Windscreen stickers - a discussion of the size and colour of windscreen stickers. New regalia - 4 mirrors have been ordered along with key rings. PAST PRESIDENT: No report TREASURER: Merryl welcomed Christine to the Committee. No information on club finances was able to be retrieved from the computer disk. Total of \$6,421.27 in the Comm account. GENERAL BUSINESS: Evening at the Collins - a wine tasting is to be held on 4th November. A club coffee mug will be presented to Stephen and Tracy Drayton as a thank you. Keys - 4 sets in total for the club rooms. Keys for the key box which is located at the Jones will be discussed further at the next meeting. Cental Coast - the precedent for setting up satellite clubs is having to travel 4 hours or more. As the Central Coast does not fall within this ruling, a satellite club is not warranted. Accepted. Equipment Inventory - John Stuart is up-dating the list. Hiring out of MGs - a request has come from Karen Cameron from the Newcastle Knights re hiring of MGs. The request will be passed to Chris to check out the club policy. All British Day - need to set a date and begin to look at the organisation for this day. Monday Munchies - two club members attended. Notice to be placed in the magazine for another month. Lease - the lease is up for renewal in February 2001. The secretary will write to the accountants informing them we wish to take up the option of another three year lease. Video - a video made by the Canberra Club at Wakefield Park races will be brought by Merryl to club events for viewing by interested members.

Meeting closed at 9.20 pm

Merryl Redman
PRESIDENT

Margaret Bond
SECRETARY

WHAT'S ON ...WHERE & WHEN:

DECEMBER

	Sat	2	Vintage Registration Inspection Day
!	Sun	3	Christmas Party
	Sun	3	Magazine Assembly - MGHQ 7.15pm
	Fri	8	Club Night - MGHQ - 7.30pm - see page 10
	Mon	11	Monday Munchies - Jesmond Park
	Tues	12	Committee Meeting - MGHQ 7.30pm - Members Welcome
#	Sun	17	Clubman Christmas Run - see page 9
	Mon	25	Have a Merry Christmas!
	Fri	30	Natter Night - King Edward Park - see page 10

JANUARY

	Sun	7	Magazine Assembly - MGHQ 7.15pm
	Fri	12	Club Night - MGHQ - 7.30pm
*	Sat	13	Evening Navigation Event
	Tues	16	Committee Meeting - MGHQ 7.30pm - Members Welcome
	Sun	21	All British Day - Lambton Park - see page 4
!	Sat	27	Oran Park Historic Meeting
!	Sun	28	Oran Park Historic Meeting

FEBRUARY

	Sun	4	Magazine Assembly
	Fri	9	Club Night - MGHQ - 7.30pm
	Tues	13	Committee Meeting - MGHQ 7.30pm - Members Welcome

- # These events contribute to your Clubman Points
- * These events contribute to your Championship Points.
- ! These are events organised by other groups to which we have been invited.
(Members are entitled to use MG's on Vintage Plates if they wish).
- + Events organised by the 'Hunter's Dubbo Chapter' .. Phone Bernie Hewitt
- > Club Night is on the second Friday of each month. MGHQ from 7.30pm.
- > Committee Meeting is on the Tuesday after Club Night. at MGHQ 7.30pm.
Members welcome.
- > Natter Night is an informal BYO social evening held towards the end of the month.

**DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE:
FRIDAY 15th DECEMBER**

