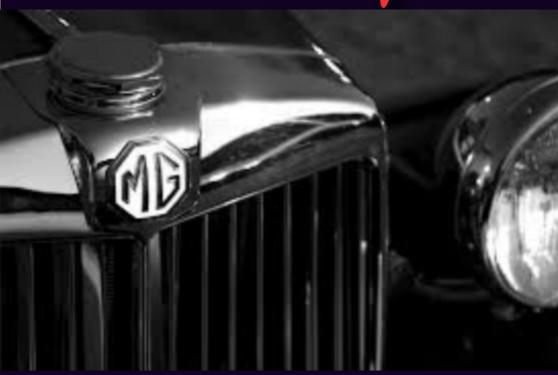
# Thumbsup!!!



1969



2014

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

MG CAR CLUB

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**April** 2014

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#### **APRIL 2014**

### MG CAR CLUB Johannesburg Centre

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#### COMMITTEE

Chairman:	WILLIAM KELLY	082 8867114		william@happykoi.co.za
Secretary:	PJ. RYAN (New)	083 303 4304		ryvo@absamail.co.za
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Triple "M" & T-Types:	RANDALL EVERSON	082 414 0438		reverson@mweb.co.za
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CO-Opts:				
New Members/ Badges	JEANNE ERASMUS	084 261 4427	011 888-5364	erasmi@icon.co.za
Regalia	ANNEKE DE GROOT			radegroot@nashuaisp.co.za
Website	ALEX MOODY			alexp.moody@gmail.com
Youth Project	SCOTT RAINIER			
Ludorum Points	CLIFF SMYTH	082 898 9772	011 462-0322	Csmyth@vodamail.co.za
<u>Postage</u>				

All Payments can be made directly into the MGCC Banking Account Standad Bank, Rosebank branch 00-43-05; Account Name & "MG Car Club" 00 203 458 1 Remember to reference your deposit with your name & preferably state your Membership Number

A Natter & Noggin is <u>normally</u> held on the first Thursday of each month at 8pm.

The Old Edwardian Club, Houghton

For more details see Motoring Calendar in this issue of "Thumbs Up!"

Club Runs, are <u>normally</u> held on the second Sunday of each month.

AFFILIATED TO THE MG CAR CLUB - ABINGDON-ON-THAMES - ENGLAND





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#### Our Showroom/Workshop is located at 70, Main Road, Knysna We buy and sell all classic, sports and vintage cars. Consignment sales welcome.



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R550 000



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Plus.. Plus.. Plus.



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The Chairman's Twitter

Club News - Annual Awards

Youth Project News

Run to Black Horse Brewery, Magaliesburg

Magazine -- Memories of the Past

BTCC MGKX Momentum Race Season

Motoring Calendar

Your Editor will be at Stars of Sandstone

Members: Please let us know what you think of the Magazine appearing on the Web in this new Format?

#### MG WEBSITES

Our Website: www.mgcc.co.za Our E-mail: mgcc@worldonline.co.za

Printed by John MacKenzie of Kalalex Business Forms & Systems (Ptv) Ltd. Tel: 011 787-5620 Colour Section by Rolf Schweizer of Ultra Print.

#### **EDITORIAL**

The month of March has been a fairly active MG month with several activities taking place. The Noggin had the Rocker Box Trials taking place which was very hotly contested by several of our members. They will all be back at this months Noggin, having made some minor adjustments to their Box, there can now only be two finalists to claim the honours, at the South Coast Indaba.

Then there was the annual Prize Giving Awards presentation. My congratulations to those who received the awards, particularly Thelma Cuninghame, who so proudly received her Silver Tray. This great lady who does so much for her husband. Stuart. while out on so many Rallies and Motor Cycle events during each year. Congratulations Thelma!

The run to the Black Horse brewery went off well and a great meal and beer was had by all.

The Piston Ring Swop Meet, brought in R4 500.00 for our Youth Project. Well done!

During the following months there are several touring events: the Indaba, The Maritzburg Cars in the Park, The Scottsburgh Classic Car Show, and the Sani Pass adventure, then the Flower Tour soon after.

We also have the Combined Centres Show Day and Judging coming up on the 8th of June. Keep this day open we are really trying to make this a great occasion, run along the unique lines of the popular Nairobi Shows, E. Africa.

Fditor

# Chairman's Twitter

#### William Kelly

Would someone please return March? What on earth happened there? Yes I realise most of it was rained out but still, honestly? April already?

Despite the obvious comparisons there are times I feel as if I am drowning! The pace of life is simply hectic and the weeks fly past at a rate of knots that sometimes leave me thinking I am standing still. We're making progress with the new committee and my thanks to them all for their work and their hard work still to come.

The biggest issue on hand at the moment is this magazine and our ongoing communications with you, our members! Most of you respond to our SMS drive to validate cell numbers and there was also a good number of email responses. So we're in the process of cleaning up these databases and correlating the two-it's guite a bit of work.......

Our eMag is so far working out well. Nearly everyone has managed to get to it, download and/or read it on their cell phones. Progress will naturally have some teething issues - to those of you battling, drop us a line - we are here to help!

I have an apology to make to our Northern neighbours. Their run to the History Museum was on the 18th of March. Yours truly had it down for the 19th and when it came time to send an SMS reminder, the day before, the event was already taking place. I'm sorry folks - that was a stupid oversight.

Angela's Picnic is the run for this month on 6th April. Note, this is not the second Sunday - it is the first.

The Indaba Ioometh. Don't forget your Rocker Boxes for this event, even if you didn't bring them to the Noggin, you can bring them to the Indaba! There has been a call for more cars to be entered on the Concourse? Who knows - you might even have some fun and learn a few things about your car at the same time! OK, it's back to the sorting. And oh yes, those of you who haven't paid your renewal subs as yet? Please do!

Yours MG'lly, William





A few funnies!!



I fit a deer beer laughed and walked away





#### CAPE RIDER WINS 2014 DURBAN-JOHANNESBURG CLASSIC MOTORCYCLE RALLY

Text by Roger Houghton

Allan Cuninghame, of the Cape Vintage Motorcycle Club, riding a 1936 Velocette, won the 2014 Durban-Johannesburg classic motorcycle rally which was contested on a demanding, 800km route between Durban and Johannesburg on March 7-8.

He had a total error of 240 seconds at the 17 timed control points on the event which started in Hillcrest and finished at the Turffontein racecourse after an overnight stop in Newcastle.

Allan's father, Stewart, who has been a regular competitor in the DJ Rally for many years and competed in the 2013 event at the age of 92 decided to hang up his helmet for 2014 but was obviously very proud of his son's success.

Allan Cuninghame taken by lan Groat.

#### 15 - 18 MAY - KNYSNA FESTIVAL OF SPEED

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#### Club News

#### **Rocker Box Progress**

In breaking news at the Noggin the issue of Rocker Box racing was addressed. A reading of the rules was undertaken, and it was agreed that any and all means necessary are to be deployed to ensure our ultimate victory down in Knysna. Glen, Hentie, Bruce, Michael and Rolf (c/o Rodney) had their rocker boxes present and accounted for, and Glen's on the night was a winner by a tiny margin over Rolf's speedy racer. Victory at these events comes down to a few mm. The engineering skills and tips passed on by Hentie and Glen as well as Bruce are invaluable and so at the April noggin we have to select our two finalists to represent the Johannesburg Centre. Please, all of you, bring your rocker boxes and let's have a race off!

Warm Regards, William and the Committee

#### Sani Pass & Drakensberg Experience

A Scenic & Cultural Weekend August 22-24 and or 25 2014

Four highly experienced guides/hosts have put together a unique weekend of guided events, lectures and visits to historical places in and around the Underberg/Himeville, including a trip up the famed Sani Pass.

Option A; Two night package 22 & 23 August 2014 Cost per person R1870.00 per person Including Accommodation on a B&B basis at Cedar Gardens, Underberg, including supper on Fri and Sat. Option B; Three night package 22, 23 & 24 Aug 2014

Cost per person R2660.00 per person Includes Accommodation on a B&B basis at Cedar Gardens. Supper on 22 & 23, Lunch on Sunday.

For full details, and Booking contact Sharron or Aldo Email: greywing@telkomsa.net

#### **Annual Awards Presentation**

**Steven Kernick -** Midget Trophy, for most enthusiastic youngster.

**Dave Holt** - South Downs Trophy, for most enthusiastic supporter, thanks to his unwavering commitment of the Y Project.

Thelma Cuninghame - Doreen Evans
Trophy, for putting up with her mad
husband, frankly we all thought an Iron
Cross and a Purple Heart would have been
more appropriate, but as we're not in a
position to award these, she has a
substantial silver tray with which she can
wallop Stuart on the head when next he
decides to venture forth on some madcap
bike run!

**Cameron MC Leod** - Safety Fast Trophy, for his racing efforts this year.

**Jenny Loader -** Victrix Ludorum, for her contributions during this year.

**Bruce Dixon -** Victor Ludorum. In an extremely closely fought contest between Hentie, being just 10 points behind.

NOTE: Points are earned throughout the year, by attending events, writing articles, submitting photographs, organising stuff and generally just getting involved. Committee members are not eligible.

#### The Leak Free Engine

#### Another Analysis by 'Boytjie'

Although this item already appears on our MGCC website, it is very explicit and delves into so many different aspects and causes of oil leaks in BMC motors. Boytjie is anxious to get your input and asks that our members communicate with him, and give him your ideas on how you may have solved your specific leak. You may either not agree with him or have further ideas to put forward.

In my case, my Y leaked very badly from the back seal. I did the conversion to the crank shaft and fitted the Chevy oil seal. Some years ago that seemed to be the answer. Since then I have the occasional drop.

Read Boytlie's article on MGCCJohannesburg.

# Youth Project

# African Six Hour March 2014 21 23 February 2014



#### Report by Gavin Holt

I missed the start of the race because Stephen, Shannon and I were at the entrance to the track busy selling tickets to the public. Once we were cleared of that job, we were assigned to watch the pitting of the teams, their pit speed and to only allow the authorized pit team members on the pit wall.

The racing was as racing normally goes with a few problems on the track as well as in pit lane, with a dodge viper catching on fire during refueling. As the hours went by, more and more cars pulled out, some came in with damages or faults, were then repaired, and then sent right back out again to continue racking up the number of laps.

as a long and successful weekend in the end.

#### RACING AT GREASE ROOTS LEVEL

# Behind the scenes at he MG Youth Programme

To be chosen for inclusion into the MG Youth Programme should not be considered as a great opportunity to enter the realm of racing, it should be considered an absolutely unbelievably gift that allows these young people to learn skills and hone talents in a sport that is enjoyed by a very select group of people in the World.

Not only do these youngsters get to learn matters mechanical, they also learn general life skills such as that of commitment, team-building, sharing, negotiating and strategising. They follow proper corporate boardroom decorum in their various meetings. Task allocation and resultant responsibilities that go with these duties are allocated and feedback expected on each project or job of work.

Workshop focus presently is the preparation of the two race cars, the Flag Car (MGBGT) and the MGA. Over and above the normal service and prep an occasional engine rebuild is undertaken by the youths and when the need arises panelbeating, painting and bodywork is also taken care of.

When both cars are race ready and are lying in waiting, the youth programme members are also invited to participate in other car projects such as the creation of other classic cars of various shapes and sizes.

In closing, I believe these young people are super richly blessed with this golden opportunity and my only wish is that in time, each one of the programme candidates give back to some other aspect of our community as a token of their gratitude for this magnificent gift made possible by the unbridled generosity of others.

**Terence Tracey** 

#### MARCH REPORT BY BRENDAN TRACEY



On the 21 until the 23 I attended the African 6 hour, Gavin fetched myself and Warrick From school and we straight to Pakhisa race track. I was really excited because it would be the first time I had watched a six-hour. our way there we were caught in very heavy rain but we got there all safe and thanks to Gavin. As we arrived I attempted to set up my tent but failed horribly, luckily Warricks dad helped me.

the weather, it was a howling gale that rattled and shook my flimsy tent the whole night long. In spite of this I was up bright and early the next morning to attend to my first job; to Patrol the pits and check for any one that was breaking any of the race rules. When the Race started my job was to make sure every one was obeying the pit speed limit and as the day progressed there seemed to be no problems until.....without warning the Dodge Viper came in to re-fuel. I was sitting opposite it on speed gun duty. Every thing seemed alright and then all of a sudden there was a huge fire enveloping the rig. It looked scary! With quick reactions from the Team it was soon extinguished. However, without warning it flared up again and again and again, it just didn't seem to stop. I made sure I got away from the car just in case they finally got the Viper back out on track but time went by so quickly it was already the end of the race.

I really enjoyed the weekend. Thank you to every one who helped to make the event a memorable one and a big thank you to the Organisers for putting on an Amazing Event.

#### **RACING AT GREASE ROOTS LEVEL**

# World of Classic Motoring

# Rand Easter Show, Nasrec 18 to 28 April 2014

We would love you to exhibit your classic car at the World of Classic Motoring, an annual event at the Rand Easter Show.

The exhibition has been hosted annually by Stuart Johnston, well-known motoring media personality, for the past four years. Each year it has been voted by up to 100,000 show-goers as one of the most popular hall exhibits of the show, as it introduces classic motoring to an audience not usually exposed to the delights of the magnificent cars and motor-cycles from an earlier era.

"The beauty of our exhibits is that the people who see the cars are generally newcomers to the delights and wonders of classic cars. The older show-goers are totally knocked out by examples of cars they remember from their youth. And youngsters too can be seen gazing wide-eyed at cars they don't see every day of the week," says organiser Stuart Johnston.

The owners have peace of mind as the cars are housed for the 10-day duration of the show under cover, and each car is safe from prying hands and grubby finger prints, as they are located behind picket fences within the hall. Yet visually, they are totally accessible to the public at close range."

Johnston says it is an ideal way to promote classic car clubs too, to a wider, fresh audience, to people who don't normally go to car shows.

And of course, the sheer numbers of people through the hall is huge. In previous years the organisers have measured up to 12,000 people per day through the World of Classic Motoring, over the weekends.

For more <u>information</u>, and <u>Entry Forms</u>, please contact

STUART JOHNSTON

Cell phone: 183 450 9255 E-mail: stujohn@netactive.co.za





#### APRIL 18 to 28, 2014

#### WORLD OF CLASSIC MOTORING RAND EASTER SHOW 2014

Contact:

STUART JOHNSTON 0834509255 stujohn@netactive.co.za

Exhibitors Details
NAME
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EMAIL
AMOUNT OF CARS AVAILABLE FOR EXHIBITION
NAME OF CAR CLUB / PRIVATE
1 MAKE
MODEL
YEAR
2 MAKE
MODEL
YEAR
3 MAKE
MODEL
YEAR
4 MAKE
MODEL
YEAR
5 MAKE
MODEL
YEAR

The Black Horse Brewery



We had a pleasant gathering at the Shell Garage, only to find they were out of fuel, so we departed for the Engen Garage over the road. We had a rather long wait there, eventually young James Kelly arrived with his mother.

So, the convoy took off at a rather brisk pace. With Hyla and I being in the second car in the group, it was rather difficult keeping in sight of Clive and Tanya in front and the MGBs and others behind, as well as many robots to break up the convoy of almost 25 cars.

Once we were out of the Cradle of Mankind area, it was easier for all cars to be together, the weather was very good to us, and we probably had one of the best days of the year, with some blue sky and a glimpse of sun occasionally. Then, just to break the monotony we had about 7km of hectic speed bumps, each being a different size, there were low ones, tall ones, and even one, two or three rows each spaced at different intervals. We were fortunate in not having any broken springs, 'damage to the shocks usually shows up much later!!'

With a sigh of relief we found the

entrance into the Brewery, down a steep ramp to the car park. Only to find that we had to walk back up that steep incline to the very pleasant eating area. That was very cleverly thought out by the owners, as once you settled down in the comfortable seating arrangements. a draught beer was quickly ordered and downed, the waiters were at the ready for the second round.

A menu, with so many, many mouth watering dishes to chose from, (all the meals that our mothers used to make). Bobotie Pie etc was given out. After that delicious meal and another beer, it was time to face those horrendous 'calming? strips' again on the way home.

BUT First, the drivers had to negotiate that steep ramp, and drive up the ramp again, using "extra low," while the ladies slowly got into the passengers seats. While the cars behind were burning their clutch, on the steep incline. Even the hand brakes did not really work.

All in all it was a very pleasant and relaxed days outing.

Thanks to all who helped put it together.

# MaGic Memories

At a recent Committee Meeting The Magazine was being discussed, Bruce Dixon said he had copies dated from the beginning of the Clubs formation and he would pass them on to me for possible inclusion in our present magazines.

With that, I will be starting a regular feature each month with items of interest extracted from these early documents. The first few years there were only fullscap sized roneoed sheets sent out to all members.

some very interesting tit bits have come to light.



A Montage of some of the more Modern Day Magazine Covers

#### My first Official Entry

Extracted from News Letter No 103, March 1978

#### From the Chair

This last month has been quite eventful MG Firstly, congratulations to the N. Transvaal Centre who had their inaugural noggin on the 6th March. All going well we should have the 5th official centre in the Republic before long. Secondly, I was very pleased with the fantastic turnout of MGs for the Grand Prix drivers parade. What a sight it was, after the parade, to be driving through Jukskei and see, in my rearview mirror, a dozen T-types screaming through Barbeque. It was a great Grand Prix too; at Clubhouse we saw a whole new ball-game with Patrese in the new Arrows taking first, Andretti and then Scheckter on the inside. Most of the drivers consider that Crowthorne is the only overtaking place.

This month's run was a great success -- Thank you Sandra. Although the turnout

was a bit disappointing, only 14 out of 200 members, the run had all the classic ingredients of an MG run -- Boiling cars, short tempers, divorces, competition and above all, a very social occasion. Congratulations to Nan and Phil for once again proving that they are the best grasshopper catcher this side of Groblersdaal.

Unfortunately it looks as though there is little support for the Swaziland weekend - let's hope it's because you're all saving up for Sedgefield.

\*\*Dave Numn\*\*

#### CAN YOU HELP?

I am looking out for a suitable permanent <u>Name or Heading</u> for this Page, that reflects and enhances the purpose of such a feature. Please submit your suggestions and even a Sketch or Artwork wit your entry.

This is your Magazine ----- You must decide! E-mail your entry to <a href="mailto:kirk1@lantic.net">kirk1@lantic.net</a> Thanks Ed



A Montage of some of the more Modern Day Magazine Covers

#### Scottburgh Classic Car SHOW

### Sunday 20 July 2014

Exhibitors 7.30am Public 9am - 3.00pm



This is a most well organised event, with Static Displays, as well as continuous items of interest taking place around the arena throughout the day Including Charity Stalls + Beer Gardens + Tea and Cake stalls + A large selection of Food Stalls.

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ANNUAL SAMCA EVENT

# Angela's Picnic Sunday 6th April 2014

DELTA PARK

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**Collection at Gate** 

### Fun Pic of the month



Please mail any fun MG pics to the Ed

### We are still No1



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### BTCC MG KX **Momentum**

Race Season **Starts** 



MG Motor UK has signed double touring car Champion Jason Plato to spearhead its new three-year assault on the British Touring Car Championship. manufacturer will join the series with two five-door MG6 cars run under the auspices of the MG KX Momentum Racing Team. The cars will

be prepared by Triple Eight Race Engineering which successfully ran the factory Vauxhall squad for many vears.

Plato - champion Vauxhall in 2001 Chevrolet in 2010 - will be joined by Andy Neale, who last drove a TeamAon Ford Focus in the BTCC.

12 October

### Jason Plato Sam Yordoff and newcomer **Andy Neale**

raring to go...

#### RACE DATES

RACE 1 **Brands Hatch** 30 March RACE 2 **Donington Park** 20 April RACE 3 Thruxton Circuit 4 Mav RACE 4 **Oulton Park** 8 June RACE 5 Croft Circuit 29 June RACE 6 3 August **Snetterton Circuit** RACF 7 Knockhill Circuit 24 August RACE 8 7 September Rockingham RACE 9 Silverstone 28 September

RACE 10 Brands Hatch



### MOTORING CALENDAR

MG CAR CLUB JOHANNESBURG CENTRE

WHAT Natter and Noggin, Rocker Box Racing - Selecting Cars for Indaba

WHEN 6 March 2014

WHERE Old Edwardians, Cor 4th Avenue and 11th Street, Houghton

WHAT Natter and Noggin, WHEN Thursday, 3 April

WHERE Old Edwardians, Cor 4th Avenue and 11th Street, Houghton

WHAT Angela's Picnic, 33rd Anniversary of this event SAMCA

WHEN Sunday 6th April

WHERE Delta Park Johannesburg

WHAT Northern Centre Run. Auto Safety Inspection Dave Wheeler 082 579 1270

WHEN Sunday 20 April

WHERE Craftsman Auto (Formerly Magnette Motors),

WHAT Offsite Noggin, prior to Indaba

WHEN Saturday 3 May WHERE To be advised.

WHAT South Cape Centre's Indaba 2014. See: www.mgindaba 2014.co.za for details

WHEN 9 - 13 May

WHERE Knysna, Join Convoy to Knysna, Contact Norman.

WHAT Durban Dash - MG Style: Take Scenic Route to the PMB Car Show.

WHEN 16 to 18 May - Join Convoy, To be advised.

Abie Brink 084 652 7952 or Clive Winterstein 083 795 0000

WHAT Natter and Noggin Inter Car Club Quiz New format planned WHERE Old Edwardians, Cor 4th Avenue and 11th Street, Houghton

WHEN Thursday 5th June 2014

WHAT Zwartkops Airforce Museum

WHEN Saturday 5 July 2014

WHERE Meet at 8.00 at Ultra Shell Midrand M1N

WHAT Scottburgh Classic Car Show

WHEN 18 to 20 July Contact Tom Kirkland 082 4456 770

WHERE Meet at 8.00 for 8.30 departure from Total Petroport before Heidelberg

Join convoy to Midlands Meander, Rawdons Hotel 00000 Do your own booking

#### A MAGNIFICENT WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

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