

Thumbs Up!!!



Kevin Loader driving Koos Boshoff's MGA down the steep ramp towards the Sea Lion ferry at Milibizi on Lake Kariba on 21st May 2013.

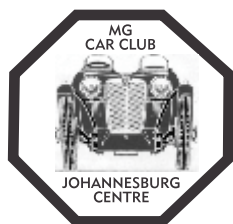
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2015

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER MG CAR CLUB JOHANNESBURG CENTRE

March 2015



MG CAR CLUB

Johannesburg Centre

PO BOX 52336 SAXONWOLD 2132 JOHANNESBURG

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All Payments can be made directly into the MGCC Banking Account

Standard 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 normally 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 normally held on the second Sunday of each month.

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



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NEXT TO TOTAL GARAGE

Thumbs Up!!!



EDITORIAL

The AGM is over, and apart from Suzette leaving us, as she anticipates a busy year ahead with her own Ventures, and Shelly Dixon, (Michael Dixon's wife) who will be taking on the portfolio of Events Co-Ordinator. I am sure she will soon be initiated into the post, and we shall be attending entertaining events in the future. Starting with a possible visit to Wilfred Moles Farm in Mid Rand.

Don't forget the Swap Meet at Modderfontein in March, then the popular Angela's Picnic at Delta Park on the first Sunday in April.

Apart from these local events there is several items coming up for those who enjoy Tours and longer runs. The MMM convoy meets at Franchhoek shortly then there is the Stars of Sandstone taking place for 10 days over the Easter weekend, A Tour is being put together which will incorporate this show as well as visiting other parts of the area. This will be followed by the Cape Centres Gathering from 30 April to 3 May. Then the Maritzburg Show, followed by the Popular Scottburgh Classic Car Show organised by Peter Fielding and his merry men, this has always been a popular event, and Special Rates have been negotiated at the Blue Marlin Hotel.

The Northern Centre will be hosting the MG Combined Centres Showday this year, and then they are well advanced with the final preparations regarding next Year's Indaba. Booking is filling up fast -- So don't be left out! Book Now.

The 60th Anniversary Tour of the MGA takes place from the 13 to 23 August.

For those who have not yet paid their Annual Subscriptions -- Think again -- Pay UP! And take part in this year's MG action!!!!

I will be away for almost three weeks from the last week of March till after Easter at the Stars of Sandstone Show. I assist with the planning and maintenance of the Classic Cars which the public sees on the roads, following the Narrow Gauge Steam Trains around the Farm. There is a collection of old Chevs, Model T Fords etc which is kept on the farm to create an atmosphere of the years gone by. After spending three weeks there, one goes home feeling that you had been living some 50/60 years in the past.!

Editor.

MG WEBSITES

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*Printed by John MacKenzie of Kalalex Business
Forms & Systems (Pty) Ltd. Tel: 011 787-5620*

CHAIRMAN'S



And this year flies on at an alarming pace.

I meant it when I said that this year my time is at a premium and that more than ever I will be leaning on the Committee to Get Stuff Done.

And so it starts. We have an Amazing Noggin in March with utter nutcases. I'm talking about the Dakar guys - you have to be a bit nutty to consider this event in the first case.

Stuff to stuff my column with this month includes drumming up a bit of support for the Indaba hosted by Northerns. They are fast getting their ducks in a row now and this Indaba is shaping up to be one of the best on record. I can't reveal their plans in good faith but if you don't sign up for it, it WILL be your great loss.

There is a full calendar this year. The A tour has one or two spots that have opened up (and I am damned sure that any MG will suffice if you want to go along). The guys working on that tour are really putting together an amazing event - again - don't miss out because you're vacillating!

We also have Cape Centres at the end of April. And Shelly is putting together all the runs, usual events like Angela's picnic, Show Day etc into the calendar to the point where it is full to busting. You cannot complain about not having something to do in your MG...

Lastly, if you have not yet paid your subs, please do so asap. We need the money to plan more events, and to do more in our cars. This is a Car Club for "do'ers" - we are not "sit back and watchers" and there is plenty we want to see and do. The one way we can grow membership is to be seen and to be heard and to have events that get people out and about.

And of course get your friends involved. Get them into an MG. Let them drive your cars. Make them join. Bring them on runs to see what we do - invite them to Noggins. Feed them copious quantities of alcohol and get them to sign up!

In the meantime - see you on the roads in your MGs.

William



M G CAR CLUB JOHANNESBURG CENTRE

Minutes of 45th A G M.

Old Edwardians Club, Houghton, Johannesburg.

Attendance as per register. +-46

INTRODUCTION

Chairman William Kelly welcomed all at 8 PM.

UP COMING EVENTS discussed.

Apologies: de Grootes, Alex Cooling, Alex Wilson, Anita De Castro ,Bill Greg,Pierre van Hell, I&D Cass, A Brink, Justin Moore, Densil Hopkins

Quorum established.

Previous minutes acceptance proposed by Norman Ewing, Seconded by Glen Parker.

Chairman's report read as per attached copy.

Treasurer's report handed out and discussed by Tony Maybank. Copy attached.

Acceptance proposed by Tom Kirkland, seconded by Glen Parker.

Committee asked to follow up on non paying members.

Previous committee dissolved and appointment of new committee accepted.

Shelley Dixon new events coordinator.

Suzette Bouwer thanked for her services to the club.

GENERAL

Yearly magazine will be published with highlight of articles from electronic magazine. Will be a 16 page glossy for each member ordering it to pay.

Electronic magazine might eventually have members only access code or be sent to members by e mail.

After few months be made available on web?

Meeting concluded at 8.55pm.



Stars of Sandstone 2015

From 2 to 12 April 2015

Take advantage of Special Classic Car Club Rates

Bookings: Larissa Clarke 051 933 2235 or 076 024 6188

Submit your MGCC Membership Number when booking

Special Public Day Saturday 11 April R75.00 Adults

Scottburgh Annual Classic Car Show

Another Awesome Motoring Event to be held on

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Website: www.scottburghclassiccarshow.co.za/039 976 1995

An MG Run to ESTATE d'AFRIQUE at Hartebeespoort

The members of our MG Club had the choice of two events to choose from on this the second Sunday of February. Firstly there was the British Car Day at the Piston Ring Club at Modderfontein, this is always well supported by our members.

But, a second event was laid on by Norman, which took a group of us out to visit Mr and Mrs Herman at their recently acquired property in the "Estate d'Afrique" situated in a high gauge overlooking the dam. 10 MGs and several 'Plastics' departed from the MG Dealership in Northriding at 10.00am., after an orderly, sedate drive we were greeted with a spectacular view of the dam as we crested over the high mountain slope onto their driveway. The sunshine glistening over the water, and the reception we got on our arrival was just unbelievable.

We were entertained on a large shady patio outside, overlooking the dam below. An enjoyable, social morning was enjoyed by all. Our picnic lunches were shared out amongst each other around 1.00pm, then soon after, we most reluctantly said our Good-byes and departed on our way back home.

Our thanks to Rob and Sharon for their kind hospitality, and giving us all a chance to share this wonderful piece of 'paradise' with them.



On the way

An MG Run to ESTATE d'AFRIQUE Pics



Le Club



Dam view



Entrance Gate

BRENTHURST AND TRANSVAAL SCOTTISH VISITS

Article By Jenny, Pics by Kevin Loader



The MG group (together with Philippa between Bruce & Jenny) who enjoyed the Brenthurst Library tour; lots of symbolism in the mural behind

Wednesday 18th February was a bright and sunny day, just perfect for a mid week run in Mgs.

The library at Brenthurst and lunch at the 'home' of the Transvaal Scottish Regiment were on 'the menu'.

The library houses the private collection of 'Africana' belonging to the Oppenheimer family first started by Sir Ernest in the early twentieth century. The collection of books and paintings is vast; some is not on public display such as the late Sir Harry's private collection of first editions of poetry.

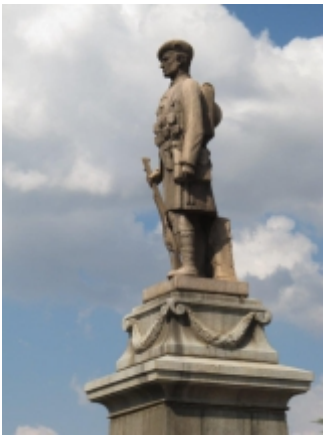
We were all fascinated by what happens in the Bindery, a room of tools and equipment where the preservation and restoration of the books and paintings takes place. Even an apprenticeship of 10 years is not long enough, there is so much to learn. A big thank you to Suzette and PJ for arranging the visit through their friend Philippa who works there.

After tea and cake (thank you Norman) we drove around the corner and up the hill to our lunch venue. The historic home was owned by the Cullinan family of 'big diamonds' fame and used to have a view all the way to the Magaliesberg. The Transvaal Scottish Regiment restored the home a few years ago and it does look smart in its tartan. Most of us opted for the fish and chips followed by ice cream and chocolate sauce, delicious.

Norman's friend James gave us a brief history of some of the characters of the Regiment as well as a tour of the museum; very professionally maintained.

The house is open everyday to those who want to pop in and have a pub lunch in delightful peaceful surroundings.

All in all a most interesting day out to two of Joburg's hidden gems and we thank the car club for this opportunity to enjoy them.



Memorial to members of the Transvaal Scottish Regiment



Lunch venue at "The View" in the old billiard room



"The View" originally built by the Cullinan family in 1896



The walk way to the Brenthurst Library



What remains of the view of the Magaliesberg; must say that the gardens at "The View" are very well kept

Thanks to James Mitchell for the talk & tour of the Transvaal Scottish museum, which is well worth a visit

MG(A) 60 for Away Tour 2015

Update



The MGA 60th anniversary tour begins in less than 6 months' time. At this stage 43 cars are taking part from around the country. Interesting to note that there were 50 cars involved with the 50th anniversary tour & that only 17 of the drivers from 2005 will be taking part in the 2015 tour.

| Centre | Cars |
|--------------|-----------|
| Border | 1 |
| Cape Town | 7 |
| Jhb | 19 |
| Kzn | 4 |
| Northern | 4 |
| S Cape | 8 |
| Total | 43 |

Here is a brief overview of when & where the tour will travel:

| Night | Weekday | Date | Overnight Venue / Stop |
|-------|-----------|--------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 | Thursday | 13 August 15 | Drakensberg Sun |
| 2 | Friday | 14 August 15 | Ingeli Forest Lodge, Kokstad |
| 3 | Saturday | 15 August 15 | Premier Hotel Regent, East London |
| 4 | Sunday | 16 August 15 | Chapman Hotel, Port Elizabeth |
| 5 | Monday | 17 August 15 | Knysna Hollow, Knysna |
| 6 | Tuesday | 18 August 15 | Knysna Hollow, Knysna |
| 7 | Wednesday | 19 August 15 | Swellengrebel Hotel, Swellendam |
| 8 | Thursday | 20 August 15 | Kleinplaas Resort, Oudtshoorn |
| 9 | Friday | 21 August 15 | Karooopark Guest House, Graaf-Reinet |

If you've got an MGA / Magnette it's still possible to join the tour... but please hurry as time is fast running out. If you're keen, but haven't yet got your A into G, then please call Mike on tel. (083) 4495220 or send Kevin an email on KLoader@worldonline.co.za.

Memories of the Past! Sydney or Bust!

Dorian Radue: Her London-Sydney Marathon experience, *Classic Car Mag*, Oct 2000



The London-Sydney marathon was first run in 1968 with a field of then current rally cars. The event which wound through Europe, Asia and Australia, drew almost 100 entrants, many of them works crews, and attracted a great deal of publicity.

A commemorative event held 25 years later in 1993 included an MGB GT crewed by South Africans, Roger Pearce and the late Sam Beukes. A later event was timed to commemorate the new millennium, and to tie in with the Sydney Olympic Games. I was very keen to take part, and Roger agreed to field the MG one more time. Both he and the car are rally veterans, having done a number of similar marathon classic events in recent years.

Preparation of the car and logistics for the rally took about 15 months, which included training his navigator, yours truly, who came with no prior experience. We flew to London with the cars at the end of May. The South African contingent also included five Porsches: a 914 and four 911s. None had room for luggage, other than a small kitbag for clothes.

The big day dawned on Saturday 3 June, and we were flagged off on our way. After two special stages in Kent, a ferry ride from Dover to Calais and 12 hours driving through the English and French country sides, we reached our first overnight stop at Metz in eastern France. And that started the pattern we were to follow for 32 days over 16,500km, 13 countries, five continents, nine time zones and hotel after hotel. It got hotter and hotter, as we travelled east in the northern hemisphere where it was mid-summer. Turkey, Thailand and Malaysia, in particular, were extremely hot, especially when one was wearing the helmets and triple-layer fireproof FIA-approved overalls required for the special stages.

The MG's gearbox quickly over heated in Turkey, causing the loss of overdrive and Terratrip, until parts could be flown in to meet us on arrival in Thailand. The gearbox problem and a broken oil cooler in Australia were the only mechanical gremlins we experienced on the entire trip. The extensive modifications Roger had made to the suspension worked like a dream, and the car took all the punishment that a 16500km special stage rally can dish out without any complaint.

The mountains and coasts of Turkey, the jungles of Thailand and Malaysia, the Antonov airlifts, the thousands of miles of empty bushveld and desert in the Australian Outback, 60 special stages and the relentless ticking of the rally clock made the final leg - a police-escorted convoy through the suburbs of Sydney to the finish at the steps of the Opera House - seem like an abrupt and unlikely end.

It was hard to believe that we'd made it unscathed, and realistically placed 35th at that. Five of the South African cars finished: we missed Franz Stangl and Stan Illman on the Ozzie section - they went home after their Porsche turned turtle in an irrigation ditch during a stage through a Malaysian palm plantation.

Only one of the five South African finishers had a major drama en route: Steve Pickering and Craig Hopson rolled their 914/6 on the first stage in Malasia, a cane field stage, but with perseverance they got the crippled Porsche to Sydney and were classified finishers. Hats off to them!

The event was won by Swedish rally ace Stig Blomqvist in a Ford Capri Perana V8. He never put a wheel wrong. Other ace drivers like Michele Mouton and Hannu Mikkola had as much trouble as most competitors - trees that jumped out at them, kangaroos, dongas, cliffs, dodgy alternators and the like. But watching them drive special stages was like Formula One in the dirt. Amazing stuff!

Comparing notes with other competitors at regrouping points during the day, and in the pub at night, provided much entertainment. A wide and interesting range of nationalities were represented, and personalities included former Grand Prix star Clay Regazzoni, and the father and son team of Chip and Cody Johns, who had non-stop trouble with their Yank tank, kangaroos and a few immovable objects besides.

Of the 95 starters, 17 retired hurt for various reasons, but several of them completed the course with new engines, gearboxes or pilots and were thus classified as non-finishers. A black-tie prize giving dinner in Sydney on the evening of the finish rendered some people unrecognisable after being cleaned up, and so we were reintroduced into civilised society again. Three days R&R in Sydney, then the long flight home - with yours truly rather humbled, somewhat amazed, and very pleased at having completed this major adventure in my life. Now I'm back to driving a desk from Monday to Friday as before.

BUT I have my photos and I will always have the memories.





Michael Brett & Associates



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NrmanTalks!

2015 is well and truly up and running. Pat decided that we should fly to the Cape for the Triple M event at Fransschoek, pick up a car and collect Philippe - my mon ami mate - who is bringing out his car, K3026 for the event, which will await him in Rodney Green's lock-up, along with Barry Foster's 'C' Type, "The Rat" in Hout Bay. Barry has now got "the Rat" up to 7,500 revs, so should be fun. Fred Phillips has bought an 'N' Type and Peter Posniac will have his K1 there - talk about heaven!

Although my J2 will not be there - it is presently with Joe de Castro to be sprayed two tone - Ecurie Ecosse Blue and Old English White - I just can't wait - this project started back in 1978.

Pepi Gaspari and Steven Grover (who has just been voted in as the Northern Centre Chairman) are towing Pepi's 'P' Type to the event, hoping to arrive before 10am on Wednesday 18 for a special showing of the pre war cars to members of the Crankhandle Club - we will all be staying in the Hout Bay area - Philippe, Pat and I with Janet and Dave Lyons - and all his wonderful cars including the TA and recently acquired SA Tickford.

Dave originally joined the Jhb Centre in 1971 with a BRG MGB - then began to collect and restore bikes - first a Greaves and then LOTS of bikes - when he sold Callguard, he commissioned an Authentic Cape Dutch home in Hout Bay - all the stables being for his car collection which is awe inspiring.

Yet again it is the people in this club that make it so special. Trevor Beddy - my wonderful naval friend, the Admiral - knowing of my great love for ships and the sea has lent me some incredible books on the Bismark and the Battle of the River Plate - an official version which I will copy to the Bishop of Norwich shows version was different to mine.

It is this cross pollination of interests that members have that really make this club amazing.

*Octagonally.
Norman*

PS: And of course "Hoodoo" the Black Magic Midget - the 'C' Type that raced in 1934 at the First South African Grand Prix - with Ralph Rohr will be there. I am sure that Johan Rupert will enjoy the event as much as we will!

FOR SALE

1967 MG BGT

Exterior Old English white.

Asking R125 000.00 ONO

Stuart Geoffrey Guy

guysaircraft@yabo.co.za



I'VE BEEN BANNED FROM TESCO.

Yesterday I was at my local Tesco store buying a large bag of 'My Dog' dog food for my loyal pet and was in the checkout queue when a woman behind me asked if I had a dog. What did she think I had an elephant? So, since I'm retired and have little to do, on impulse I told her that no, I didn't have a dog. I was starting the Dog Diet again...

I added that I probably shouldn't, because I ended up in hospital last time, but I'd lost 10 kilograms before I woke up in intensive care with tubes coming out of most of my orifices and IVs in both arms.

I told her that it was essentially a perfect diet and that the way that it works is to load your pockets with 'My Dog' nuggets and simply eat one or two every time you feel hungry. The food is nutritionally complete so it works well and I was going to try it again. (I have to mention here that practically everyone in queue was now enthralled with my story.)

Horrified, she asked me if I ended up in intensive care because the dog food poisoned me. I told her no, I stepped off the kerb to sniff an Irish Setter's arse and a car hit me. I thought the guy behind her was going to have a heart attack he was laughing so hard. I'm now banned from Tesco.

Better watch what you ask retired people. They have all the time in the world to think of daft things to say. Forward this now, (especially) to all your mature friends..... and give them a laugh courtesy of www.facebook.com/rainbow360media



Lap of Natal

9 September 2015

ENTRY FORM

The Lap of Natal is an eleven day event taking in the most Northern, Southern, Eastern and Western points of Natal accessible by road and almost everything in between.

Day 1 will see us head off to Dundee on a slightly nontraditional route and we will visit the Talana Museum before heading for the overnight at Battlefields Lodge.

Day 2 we set off for the Battlefields of Natal with our dedicated Tour Guide who will show us the best of Blood River, Isandlwana and Rorkes Drift. From here we go via Tugela Ferry into the Northern Berg area for the overnight; very rural Natal area.

Day 3 we set off for a leisurely drive along the side of the Drakensberg all the way around to the most westerly point of Natal. We overnight at an unknown but highly spoken of lodge. On this day there is a shorter but very scenic gravel route and also a longer tar route. A lunch stop at the Himeville Arms is recommended.

Day 4 we head down to Port Edward to the most Southerly point of Natal. After an explore of the Oribi Gorge we overnight at the Oribi Gorge Hotel with a braai for dinner. On the way past Port Shepstone visit the new Dezzi Race Track.



Day 5 takes us up to Durban via the old road and we overnight on the Durban beachfront. A short day and early into Durban.

Day 6 is a day off in Durban to do as you wish.

Day 7 we head west out of Durban following as close as possible the Comrades Marathon route into Pietermaritzburg. From PMB we take a slow drive via Howick Falls up the Midlands Meander route. Lunch at the Bierfassel at Nottingham Road is recommended as is the bar lunch curry at the Nottingham Road Hotel. From Notties we head north to Mooi River then turn inland to Greytown and finally to the Wartburg Hof Hotel for the overnight in Wartburg.

Day 8 has an early 7.00am start as it is a fairly long day we travel down to the Natal North Coast then north to the Umfolozi Game Reserve and on to our overnight near St Lucia. Take a slow drive through this very good game reserve and you could also divert during the day and visit a place called Nkandla.

Day 9 is a very short 160km day and a boat cruise on Lake St Lucia is included then either back to the hotel or another visit to the game reserves.



Day 10 we take a long run up to Kosi Bay to reach the most Northern and Eastern point of Natal then back down to the Jozini Dam for the overnight at a special lodge. A two hour cruise of the dam is included followed by our traditional last supper.

Day 11 in your own time back to home via Ermelo if you are heading for Johannesburg.

The distance for the event is close to 3500km with the longest day being the return home from Jozini Dam at 520km.

The entry fee is R17777.77 for two people. Included is/are:

1. All accommodation.
2. All Breakfasts and Dinners except for the two nights in Durban where I shall be in search of the perfect curry.
3. Entrance fees to Talana Museum, Blood River, Isandlwana, Rorkes Drift, Oribi Gorge, Umfolozi Nature Reserve, St Lucia River Cruise and a Jozini Dam Cruise.
4. A Battlefield Tour Guide Expert.
5. A rally plate and decals.
6. Route Instructions via GPS and Print.
7. A farewell dinner and prize giving.
8. A huge amount of fun if the last few events are anything to go by.

This works out at R1600.00 per day per couple all in except two meals which in this day and age is very acceptable.

The event requires 10 entries to make it viable and is limited to 17 entries. Entries open immediately and close the 30th July 2015. A payment of R1000.00 is required to make a booking and is not refundable after the 1st June 2015. The balance of payment date is due 30 July 2015.

Payments to be made to:

Classic Car Events FNB Acc No 62015502075 Branch 254005

Contact: Roger Pearce 0117872829 or 0828970771





Lap of Natal

9 September 2015

ENTRY FORM

01: Entrant/Driver:.....

02: Postal Address: Code:

03: E-Mail Address:

04: Phone Numbers: (W) (H)

(Fax) (Cell).....

05: Passenger 1: (Cell).....

06: Passenger 2: (Cell).....

07: Passenger 3: (Cell).....

08: Emergency Contact Person:

09: Emergency Person Contact Number:

10: Car Make: Model:

11: Year of Manufacture: Colour:

I, the entrant, do not hold Classic Car Events, responsible for any loss or misfortune, which may take place during the Lap of Natal 2015. Further, by my signing this document, my passengers and I agree to the terms and conditions of the lap of Natal.

Signed at:..... Date:...../.....2015

Sign:

Passenger 1: Name:..... Sign:

Passenger 2: Name:..... Sign:

Passenger 3: Name:..... Sign:

Who Remembers Sue and Ken Slater, and their Annual Jaunts around the World, in their Red MGB GT?

In the February edition of Thumbs Up! I think it was Kevin who brought this next tour of theirs to my attention. I did make mention of it and gave their blog address for our interested members to be able to visit their Daily Blog.

I have occasionally visited it and have found it most interesting. Their cars have been performing well, and the whole tour has been most fascinating to follow. Should you wish to visit their Blog, their address is <https://susieslater.wordpress.com/>

You are also able to pick up other participants blogs from there. Look out for the two J2s who met them, when passing through their area, in South America. Read about it on their blog of the 11th February, with pictures.

1 JANUARY 2015 JUST ABOUT READY...

After a fabulous, family festive season it is Happy New Year and here's hoping the sun shines on all of us wherever we travel or reside.

The count down is on, yet again but we are on a new blog. The last blog: mgblog.thepeacefund.org had an enormous following from 2010 to 2014 and has provided a great record of our travelling in MGBs from Beijing to London, Cape Town to Cairo and later along the Arctic Highway to Nordkapp and two tours with Piero and MG Italia Car Club. So for us it has been up the world and nearly around the world following Dave Godwin, the always passionate Mr MGA and wife, Laurel.

We are informed the cars are safely landed in Santiago, our bags are nearly packed, and our house is in order so we are ready to embrace "the zone". The long haul drive where it almost seems like "real life" ends and another begins.

Looking forward to reconnecting with folk who completed the 2012 Cape to Cairo trip and Kay and Mike who join the team. This time the team has taken responsibility for much of the organisation which must be a great relief to Dave who in the first trip in particular shouldered all the planning and most of the organisational tasks.

Hope you will watch this space to see how the Pan American drive from Santiago, Chile down to Ushuaia and onwards to Vancouver, Canada unfolds.

Mgs MAKE IT TO CERRO ACONCAGUA, THE HIGHEST MOUNTAIN IN THE SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE 11 FEBRUARY 2015

Magic and memorable was our drive to Cerro Aconcagua, the highest mountain in the southern hemisphere at 6,962 metres above sea level and nicknamed "the sentry of America". Five of our cars take on the challenge. RIP, Red Car, Navy Car, Green Car and Shiraz make it to the statue of Print Christo Redentor or "Christ, the Redeemer" at 3,850 metres above sea level on the border of Argentina and Chile and perfect viewing point for this Cerro. The seven metre Christ statue was erected in 1904 to celebrate the peaceful resolution of a conflict between Argentina and Chile dwarfs our cars which strategically parked around the base of the statue.



Our fabulous Argentinian MG folk lead the way. Horace and Carlos with Hector, driving their J2 MGs, Mario and Maria in a Q MG and Raul driving an MG B. These cars were built in the 1930s and they are still going strong. You have to admire each driver's courage and skill as they tackle the bends and make their way up the mountain.





The drive is over 320 kms round trip and we consider the soft option of lunch and shopping but adventure calls and off we go. The Argentinians in their pre war MGs are inspirational. We follow them as the road snakes through the deep valleys with volcanic debris. Then we wind our way up. The last hour's drive to the viewing point comprises twenty nine hair pin bends on a narrow, dusty, track with a sheer and dangerous drop down to valley below. Tourist buses dwarf the little cars.

It's a real celebration when all nine cars arrive, although the cold wind and altitude makes one feel a tad disoriented. Mandatory pictures, congratulations from all and sundry, a hot chocolate and down we go. A fabulous experience. Thank you Argentina.



We are still No1



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CAR TRIVIA!

Q: What was the first official White House car?



A: A 1909 White Steamer, ordered by President Taft.

Q: What was Ford's answer to the Chevy Corvette, and other legal street racers of the 1960's?



A: Carroll Shelby's Mustang GT350

Q: Who opened the first drive-in gas station?



A: Gulf opened up the first station in Pittsburgh in 1913.

Q: What city was the first to use parking meters?



A: Oklahoma City , on July 16, 1935.

Q: Where was the first drive-in restaurant?



A: Royce Hailey's Pig Stand opened in Dallas in 1921.

Q: True or False?

The 1953 Corvette came in white, red and black.

A: False.

The 1953 'Vett's were available in one color, Polo White.





2015 Motoring Calendar

MG Johannesburg 2015 events calendar

| Date | Day | Time | Event | Details | Place | Organiser (s) |
|---------------|-------|---------------------------------|----------|---|---|---------------------------------|
| 05 March 2015 | Thurs | 19h30 for 20h00 | Noggin | Dakar Race - Team KEC | Old Eds | Mike Lawrenson |
| 08 March 2015 | Sun | 09h30 for 10h00 departure | run | Wilfred Mole Private collection. Midrand. Bring a picnic (details TBA) | TBA | Norman Ewing 083 654 5433 |
| 15 March 2015 | Sun | Early | Other | Youth Project swap meet - Donations of any & all spares welcome for fund raising | Piston ring | Careron |
| 18 March 2015 | Wed | 10h00 | Mid Week | Exhibition on SA Prisoners of war, MAX 20 PAX - PLS BOOK | Brenthurst Library Federation road, Parktown www.brenthurst.or g.za | Norman Ewing 083 654 5433 |
| 23 March 2015 | Wed | 12h00 | Mid Week | Ladies Lunch | TBA | Lou 082 929 7999 |
| 02 April 2015 | Thurs | 19h30 for 20h00 | Noggin | Youth Project and MMM | Old Eds | Norman and Cameron |
| 05 April 2015 | Sun | 9h00 | run | Angela's picnic | Delta Park, Jhb | SAMCA |
| 12 April 2015 | Sun | TBA | Run | Norman's Surprise Run | TBA | Norman Ewing 083 654 5433 |

NON CLUB EVENTS OF INTEREST

| | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|--|-------|-------|---------------------|-------------|--|
| 15 March 2015 | Sun | Early | Other | Bi Annual Swop Meet | Piston ring | |
| 22 March 2015 | Open day for the 2015 MMM MG gathering to be hosted at the Franschhoek Motor Museum | | | | | |
| 2-12 April 2015 | | | | Stars of Sandstone | | babitan@sandstone.co.za |
| | Railway enthusiasts, car and tractor buffs will love this one! Special offer for MG Car club | | | | | |
| 19-Apr-15 | Sun | Early | Other | Ford Day | Piston ring | |
| 30 April to 3 May 2015 | MGCC - Border Centre : Cape Centre 2015 | | | | | |

NOTES

[illegible]



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