

THUMBS UP!



OFFICIAL
NEWSLETTER



MAY
2019

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Alternatively Please feel free to contact any of the committee members above.

INDEMNITY

All members, their spouses, partners, participating family and friends are required to sign an indemnity form.

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From the Chair



I am a bit loathed to say that we had another busy month, since that has been my opening line before. However **WE HAD ANOTHER BUSY MONTH!** The club had another 3 official events this month namely: The Noggin, Angela's Picnic and our Treasure Hunt. I am genuinely thrilled to some growing participation.

The month started with the usual Noggin, where we ran out of chairs! What a great problem to have! I was personally delighted by the fantastic turn-out. According to the register there was just over 30 members, a great boost! At the Noggin we watched a video made in about 2012 by Andy Green (the world's fastest man). The video detailed some of the engineering challenges faced when designing Bloodhound SSC which aims to travel at 1600KPH! Some of my highlights were facts such as a Formula 1 Cosworth engine is used as a fuel pump (currently this has changed for sponsorship reasons) as well as the fluid dynamic design to cope with the shock waves and will be able to maintain stability through such a dramatic force. The positive feedback was very encouraging, as many members seemed to enjoy the evening.

Next, we participated in the SAMCA event, Angela's picnic. There are more details about Angela in a must-read article written by John Meiring later in this magazine. The event itself did fantastically well with just shy of R60000 raised for Hospice. The expenses still need to be tallied and deducted but it is an outstanding figure and truly shows the passion of motoring enthusiasts. The club had an impressive turnout with at least 35 cars and 2 plastic cars (that I know of). And many more MG's around, proof that there is potential for our club to grow and I encourage all members to reach out to these cars. Not to mention being able to see some beautiful and rare cars (not just MG's), I could easily turn this whole report into a list of some of my highlights. I can't help but name a few: McLaren 650s, Noble M600, Lambo Maura and even an early Ford Model A.

The final event for the month was our monthly run and wow what a fantastic job Norman did in organising the treasure hunt. Every turn and every clue was plotted in fun and whimsical detail. I think we all owe him a huge thank you as he went through a lot of stress and even broke his suspension planning the event. The scenic route started at Old Eds and we toured through Athol, Illovo, Sandton and ending in Bryanston at Peter Knights lovely and hospitable home, which we are truly grateful for. What a great way to celebrate the birth of a legend, Cecil Kimber. Congrats to the Grover's for winner the treasure hunt!

Safety Fast!
Mike

Angela's Picnic

When I attended Angela's picnic I realised that this was not just an ordinary car show. Sure we had a multitude of spectacular cars; the charity members present collecting donations and of course the fellowship among car enthusiasts. However there was this lingering ingredient that I could not distinguish! What was the glue that held this all together? What brought all these clubs and cars together once a year?

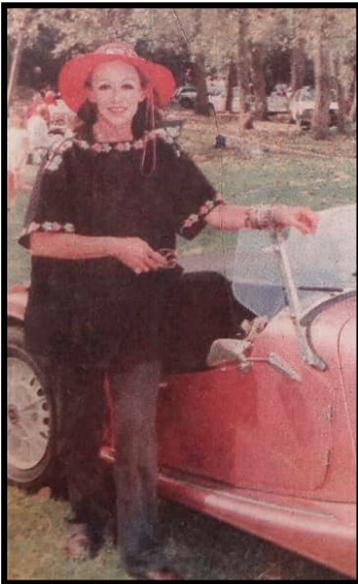
Then it struck me like a bolt of lightning, this is not just another show... this is a legacy! It is the surviving memory of a woman. When speaking to members who knew her there was an unhesitant and unanimous answer WHAT AN INCREDIBLE WOMAN! Of course that lady is Angela and whilst I did not know her, I really wish I had. She seemed to positively touch everyone's life that she came into contact with.

Then my thoughts turned to this magazine and that how could I represent this intangible ingredient? I decided I want this article to be about Angela. So I asked John Meiring to share a dear memory. What follows is John's response.

-Mike

Angela

(Lady Hamilton & her mate Angela)



Having just returned from yet another wonderful Angela's Picnics @ Delta Park on Sunday 7th. April, I decided I might have something to add to all the rhetoric posted around Angela during the build-up to this weekend's event – so herewith a few snippets:

Angela & I had a fond relationship beginning after one of the early classic car club 'Combined Marque' events to be held (possibly even prior to SAMCA?) -- this one was in the very early 70's,

a Drag Event @ the then famous Rainbow Drag Strip on the far east rand (between Benoni & Brakpan), before Tarlton existed (?).

We had a fun day 'dragging' our cars against one another with much banter between each other & more importantly between all marque clubs – our TC 'Lady H' (then super-charged & on 'A' wheels etc.) didn't disgrace herself with a sub 25 second quarter mile. In the early afternoon a typical Highveld thunder storm was brewing & we (Lady H & I) decided to rush home (she, in race trim sans any heavy accessories such as tops, side screens, spare wheels & any spares – 'cept for the 6 pack of Lion Ale? – well yes, of course).

We weren't too far down the road when the storm broke & Angela in her recently acquired Pink Morgan, indicated to us to duck under the next bridge – where we sat the storm out – she, reprimanding me for being a typical 'boy' thinking it right to drive home in the storm instead of sitting under a bridge with a hot chic for half an hour, while the storm ran itself out.

She took me home to her Munroe Drive home to dry-up & enjoy her version of Irish Coffee & schnapps. It later transpired she was the sister of my close friend Roland Jordan – who, was married to Suzy

Jordan who drove an automatic MG B -- the infamous Suzy Jordan who you may also recall, had a serious brush with the cops when she was arrested after she had smacked an obnoxious SAA check in clerk at the then Jan Smuts Airport.

Roland, Angela their brother, who I did not know, but who owned an orange Lamborghini Muira (which may have been the same one at this year's picnic?) -- The Jordan family were direct decedents of the Kirchoff Seeds 'family' – I do not think any of them needed to work too hard after completing finishing school in Europe? – sadly Roland & Angela are no longer with us.

However all three were pretty enterprising, Roland owned & ran a few antique book shops in the city & Angela was the 1st. SA agent for both Morgan Cars & KTM Motor Bikes -- these involvements being over and above the well reported love, commitment & support she had for the arts, classic opera, trips to UK/Europe in her Rolls named Edwina etc.

Angela was the creator of her 'PICNIC' after herself contracting cancer which sadly took her from us. Those who were fortunate enough to know her will remember her passion for & commitment to supporting Cancer Research & motivated this annual non-competitive gathering of classic cars, while raising the funds so desperately required for cancer research.

Unfortunately, we are unable to find pictures of her with her Pink Morgan but hope the attached pictures paint the picture.

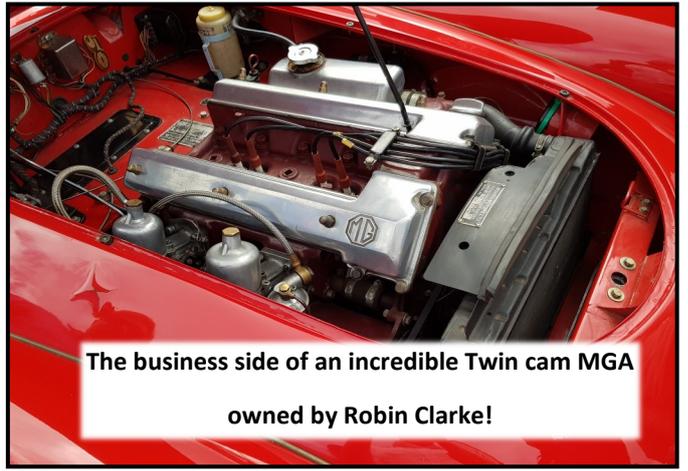
We toast ANGELA, a true loving & lovely lady, sadly missed by all of us.

-John Meiring



Angela's Picnic 2019 (The Pictures)

The MG's





Other Notable Beauties



A rare Noble M600



Spectacular Transverse V12 from the Lambo Miura.



The relatable struggle of getting one's roof up!



A truly brave soul with the legendary Wankel engine!

Forthcoming Events

Monthly Run 33 High Street Café (close to Piston Ring)	Join us for some "Car Bingo" and a morning breakfast	12th May
MGCC JHB 50th Anniversary	Run to Numbi for a spectacular weekend, celebrating our milestone.	6th to 9th September
Combined Centre Show-day	Get out the spit and elbow grease to immaculately clean your car. Details TBA	23rd June
The Official 50th Run (Not to be confused with the September run)	NOT TO BE MISSED!! The 50th anniversary of the club (29th June). Historic Re-Run to the Tiger-moth club. Planes, Cars and good memories!!!	30th June
Hartees Meander	Rotary club meander, entrance R300	28th July
KZN 80th anniversary	At Champagne Castle Hotel, R940pppd. Details and entry form at end of magazine	2nd to 4th August

Trading Post

Big congratulations to Pierre Van Hell, who acquired the MGA and MGA chassis posted in last months magazine.

Wishing you all the best in your father-son project!
We know the car is in GREAT hands!!

If you are looking to sell or buy any cars, car parts or memorabilia. Please send details to michaeltrolley@gmail.com to be posted in the trading post.

Notice Board



Wishing Joe de Castro an incredible Birthday for the incredible guy that he is!

Congratulations to Norman Ewing on finally getting his car back after the suspension broke planning the treasure hunt run, about 4 weeks ago!!

If you have any pictures of your cars in unique locations, or any news you wish to share with the club. Please email michaeltrolley@gmail.com



B

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Monthly Run

Join us on the 12th May for a breakfast run.

BINGO! We will be playing some car bingo for a bit of fun!

All are welcome!

Meet: Old Ed's

Destination: 33 High Street Food (nearby Piston Ring)

Time: 8:00 departure 8:30

Arrival: 9:00

We will understand members leaving early to honour mothers day.



MG CAR CLUB

JOHANNESBURG CENTRE

GOLDEN JUBILEE WEEKEND

6th to 9th SEPTEMBER 2019

REGISTRATION FORM

ON RECEIPT OF YOUR COMPLETED REGISTRATION FORM AND THE REGISTRATION FEE YOU WILL BE ALLOCATED AN EVENT NUMBER. THE NUMBERS WILL BE ALLOCATED STRICTLY IN THE ORDER THAT REGISTRATION FEE PAYMENTS ARE REFLECTED IN THE CLUBS BANK ACCOUNT BY EFT. YOUR SURNAME IS TO BE USED AS THE BANKING REFERENCE ALTHOUGH THIS IS A THREE NIGHT EVENT WE HAVE A RATE FOR THOSE WHO CAN ONLY ATTEND TWO NIGHTS.

FIRST NAME: _____

ACCOMPANIED BY: _____

SURNAME: _____

CAR TYPE: _____

Registration No.: _____

SEND THIS FORM TO NORMAN EWING mgewing@polka.co.za and EFT the R 251,00 REGISTRATION FEE TO:

THE MG CAR CLUB JOHANNESBURG CENTRE

STANDARD BANK ACCOUNT NUMBER 00 203 458 1 BRANCH CODE 00 43 05

REFERENCE – YOUR SURNAME

REGISTRATIONS CLOSE ON 12TH APRIL 2019 ANY LATE ENTRIES WILL BE CHARGED R 120,00

THE TOTAL COST PER COUPLE FOR ACCOMMODATION FOR THE ENTIRE 3 NIGHT WEEKEND – DINNER BED AND BREAKFAST IS R 4998,00 THE SINGLE COST IS R 2790,00

ALL FUTURE PAYMENTS MUST BE MADE BY **EFT DIRECTLY TO:**

LITTLE PILGRIMS BOUTIQUE HOTEL FNB: ACCOUNT NUMBER 62742025598

BRANCH CODE: 210554 REF: YOUR SURNAME

PAYMENTS AS FOLLOWS:

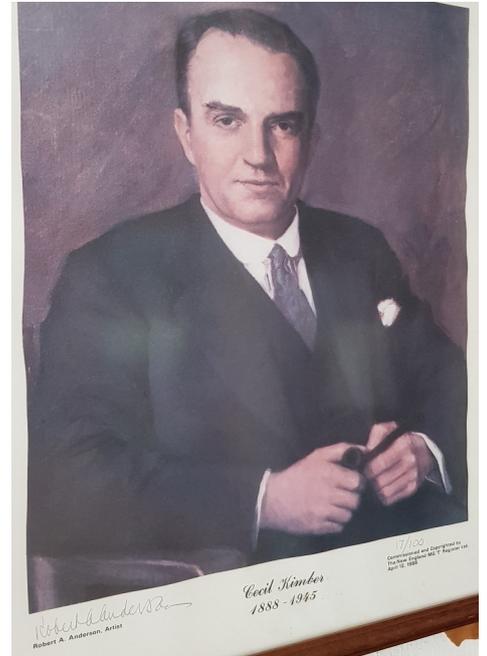
PER COUPLE SHARING

	3 NIGHTS	PAY BY DATES	2 NIGHTS	PAY BY DATES
DEPOSIT	1000,00	20 TH MARCH	1000,00	20 TH MARCH
1 ST PAYMENT	1999,00	30 TH JUNE	1290,00	30 TH JUNE
2 ND PAYMENT	1999,00	6 TH AUGUST	1290,00	6 TH AUGUST

PER SINGLE

DEPOSIT	500,00	20 TH MARCH	500,00	20 TH MARCH
1 ST PAYMENT	1145,00	30 TH JUNE	845,00	30 TH JUNE
2 ND PAYMENT	1145,00	6 TH AUGUST	845,00	6 TH AUGUST

Kimber Run





Cecil Kimber

Who was Cecil Kimber, and why is the club celebrating a man's birthday who passed away in a train crash in 1945?

Simply put Cecil Kimber was the Automotive engineer, Managing Director and founder behind early MG cars. A huge driving force for the marque's early success!

He was a man of many quirks, one being his liking for green pens (hence the birthday cake in green piping). I found a short Biography from Wikipedia and thought it would be of interest to read.

Biography

He was born in London on 12 April 1888 to Henry Kimber, a printing engineer and his wife Fanny. After attending Stockport Grammar School he joined his father's company and took an early interest in motor cycles buying a Rex model, but after an accident on a friend's machine that severely damaged his right leg he took to cars and in 1913 bought a 10 hp Singer. This interest caused him to leave the family firm in 1914 and get a job with Sheffield-Simplex as assistant to the chief designer. During World War 1 he moved first to AC Cars and then to component supplier EG Wrigley. He made a large personal financial investment in Wrigley's but he lost this when the company lost heavily on a deal with Angus-Sanderson for whom he had styled their radiator. Wrigley had also been a major supplier to Morris Motors Limited and was bought by W R Morris in 1923 and presumably with the help of contacts, Kimber got a job in 1921 as Sales manager with Morris Garages, also Morris's personal property —he founded it in 1909— and the Morris agency in Oxford.

While there he developed a range of special bodies for Morris cars eventually leading in 1928 to the founding of MG as a separate marque specialising in sports cars. The new company moved from Oxford to Abingdon in 1929 and Kimber became managing director in July 1930. The main shareholder remained William Morris himself and in 1935 he formally sold M.G. to Morris Motors which meant Kimber was no longer in sole control and had to take instructions from head office leading to him becoming increasingly disillusioned with his role.

With the outbreak of World War II, car production stopped and at first MG was reduced to making basic items for the armed forces until Kimber obtained contract work on aircraft but this was done without first obtaining approval and he was asked to resign and left in 1941.



PETER + PAUL'S CHALLENGE TO CLUB MEMBERS



TRIVENTURE
3 RUNS | 3 MONTHS | 3 000kms

With the exciting long distance runs coming up this year, join us for a big adventure a ...
2019 TRI-VENTURE

3 Long Runs over the upcoming year. Our runs are going to be an MG Adventure across Sea, Berg and Bush, incorporating *The Durban Dash + Scottburgh Classic Car Show, Champagne Castle for the KwaZulu Natal 80th Anniversary and Hazyview for the Johannesburg Centre 50th Anniversary.*

Join in for a great year of motoring and driving our cars. Choose and commit to any 3 long runs and let us share the adventures.

Norman's Treasure Hunt Clues

Cecil Kimber, the creator of MG, was born in a London suburb on 12 April 1888 --this run is to celebrate his birthday.

This is NOT a race...it is a treasure hunt...obey all speed limits and traffic laws...INDICATE your intentions clearly, SIGNAL and USE YOUR MIRRORS to warn cars following. Above all, drive carefully and defensively!!! PLEASE IF you get lost or have a problem please call 083 654 5433

Turn left out of the gate--and first left into 9th then left into 3rd and straight over through the robot and speed humps-- then stop straight and robot straight

Q1) On your left you will see.....The motoring home of the...?

A1).....

Robot left into Melrose Street, over motorway...second right into TYRWHITT.

Q2) On your right you will see.....The airship that caused much misery

A2).....

2nd right into Ravenswood...left around the park and 1st left into Greenacre Drive

Q3) The last three letters on the school sign you see are Cecil Kimbers motor racing philosophy!!!

A3).....

T circle right into Venus...circle left,,circle right into Rudd..straight at light over CORLETT...robot left into....

Q4) This bowler hatted happy clown supposedly made our Cecil frown

A4).....

Robot right into...Q5) The first home of MG.... A5).....

Robot straight, robot right into CENTRAL

Q6) If Cecil was born 99yrs before Block & Chisel

A6) Then tell me when that was.....

1st left into 1st..opposite Sanston is a number I require

Q7) How many C-types were produced in 1931 Now if you can get it right it really will be fun

A7).....

First right into.....Q8) This was Cecil's famous home,it soon became a pub, many of us went there for more than just the grub!!!

A8).....

At stop turn right into 5th ...T circle left...robot straight...Q9) A French race at 114,I must know where it is, So tell me please before you go, I really must insist

A9).....

T left into DENNIS...stop straight on..Q10) A pair of security signs together for all to see Both octagonal...so what companies...do tell me

A10).....

Stop straight on.....

Q11) This Yorkshire town named like its moor, was Jack Armstrong's home, So write its name down, just for me, before you start to roam

A11).....

Left into PATRICIA, stop right, stop T left.....

Q12) This theatre gave much joy to Abingdon's elite quite simple really, it shouldn't have you beat

A12).....

Stop right into PRETORIA, .robot straight.. robot straight into RIVONIA.. robot straight..robot straight..robot straight over GRAYSTON..robot straight..

Q13) McGoverns gems on your left displayed..What MG did he create for us to play???

A13).....

Now turn left up hill past Mediclinic, yield straight, circle right past Regent...

Q14) You have done really well to reach the South of France

So write it down and hurry on without a second glance

A14).....

Stop left, at robot turn right into BALLYCLARE, straight on

Q15) Now you can see footwear made of wood

so tell what you'd ask for if buy a pair you could?

A15)

Robot straight... over bridge... robot right into St Audley.

Q16) Kimbers favourite beauty spot at Conniston appears

So write it down...before it disappears

A16).....

Stop left into.....Q17) Once a famous pre war Grand Prix of renown...no need for you to frown

A17).....

Robot right into WILTON.....when road curves keep on WILTON to left..

Q18) A boomed off road on your left is where Cecil was born,
a suburb of London to the south one cold and frosty April morn

A18).....

Robot left into BRYANSTON DRIVE...robot right into Mount..

Q19) The vet has a special number of this you can be sure
From telephones to chassis plates it is MG history so pure !!!

A19).....

Stop straight...you are nearly there and you have done well

Q20) So tell me what MGs are they saving please
This is my last and final tease !??!

A20).....

Straight through the boom...T junction right into NANCY...number 18 on your right
and you are home Jerome.

THANK YOU FOR TAKING PART...HOPE YOU ENJOYED IT...
OCTAGONALLY, NORMAN

CONGRATULATIONS!!

The top place finishers were:

1st Place: Richard and Avril Grover

2nd Place: Bruce and Carol Dixon

Tied 2nd Place: Maryanne and Michael Trollope

No insider information was shared!!

Answers

(1) VVC (2) R101 (3) Win (4) Chaplin (5) Oxford (6) 1888 (7) 44 C Types (8) Boundary House (9) Avignon (10) ADT + Protea Coin (11) Ilkley (12) Drury Lane (13) F (14) Antbes (15) Sandalwood (16) Ambleside (17) Grosvenor Grand Prix (18) Dulwich (19) 251 (20) Bees

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your MG.**

Norman Talk's

A Really MaGic April!

Quite apart from Ducky suspension problems. It has been a great month. Angela's Picnic was superb, and I just know that Angela would have been over the moon with the day. And wearing my President of SAM-CA's hat I was truly thrilled that we raised close to sixty thousand ... a fantastic and Rob Clark the Renault man is to be congratulated on yet another splendid effort!!!

The Kimber Run turnout made the effort of putting it together worthwhile. And I really must thank Pat for coming with me to put it all together. I also must thank Peter for being such a willing host, with tables and chairs when the next day he was off to Mauritius, the lucky sod. And to Michael for a MaGic cake. I really hope that all participants learned something new about Cecil Kimber...AND FINALLY to the winners. Or rather winner Avril Grover for being so sharp. WELL DONE!!!

I would also like to place on record that I am not Mr MG this accolade has been given to many...the workers at Abingdon called Syd Enever the chief designer Mr.MG...Peter Thornley in his book called his dad John Thornley Mr.MG...but there was only ever one Mr.MG and his name was Cecil Kimber. In 1988 I was invited to the Kimber Festival in Rhode Island, USA to give a talk on pre-war MG Advertising. Along with world famous motoring celebrities Wilkie Wilkinson and John Dugdale the pre-war motoring editor of Motorsport I was presented with a special shirt on which was embroidered Cecil Kimber's signature in green silk. A fairly old female came over and said, "Are you Cecil Kimber?" I assured her I was not and shook my head

"Is he coming?" she continued. I shook my head explaining he was deceased. "We are here to celebrate the birthday of a dead guy?" she said..."like Hitler?" "No not quite" I responded...and she left. At the weeks end she came over to say how much she had enjoyed my talk and introduced me to her husband as Cecil Kimber....Oh well.... Octagonally, Norman

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**MG CAR CLUB – 80th ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND CELEBRATIONS
VENUE – CHAMPAGNE CASTLE HOTEL – DRAKENSBURG**

Dates: Friday 2nd to Sunday 4th August 2019

Rate: 1. R940 per person per night, sharing (+50% supplement for those not prepared to share)

A 50 % deposit is required by the hotel on booking your place.

2. If you are a single booking and are prepared to share please let me know.

3. The rate is all inclusive from lunch on Friday to breakfast on Sunday. (includes breakfast, mid morning tea/coffee, lunch, mid afternoon tea/coffee, and dinner) Also there is free WiFi.

4. For those wishing to stay over Sunday, the same rate will apply.

80th ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND ACTIVITIES

The programme is provisionally as follows;

Booking Procedure:

Please book directly with the hotel with reservations at 036 468 1063 and speak to either Morgan or Zama, and pay your deposit directly to the hotel.

Banking details: Champagne Castle Hotel, Absa Bank, Branch Code: 331926

Account Number: 406 034 5595, Swift Code: ABSA ZA JJ

Please quote MG 80th Anniversary Weekend when booking

Email address: info@champagnecastlehotel.co.za

Cut off date for bookings is 20th April. After that the favourable rate falls away and they won't keep the rooms for us

Please fill your details on the form below and email to the hotel with a copy to Lawrence@ionline.co.za

Friday 2nd August. Arrive for lunch (1.00-2.00pm)

Fun Gymkana at the airfield from 3.00pm. Leave for the airfield at 2.45. **All can take part! Ladies can do the driving!**

Meet in the lounge / pub for welcome speech and drinks at 5.30pm.

Dinner from 6.30 – 9.30pm

Saturday 3rd August. After breakfast (7.00-9.30am), an interesting drive / treasure hunt is planned, including a visit to a reptile park, a shopping Centre and a tour of a Mini Brewery and a tasting session there (maybe). There will be no clues on the road. In each case the stops will mean walkabout to find the cryptic clue answers. Then back to the hotel for lunch. (1.00-2.00pm)

Spend the afternoon at your leisure. There are various activities you can participate in. Walks, Giant Chess, Trout Fishing, Horse Riding, Darts, Table Tennis, Tennis Court etc.

A 19km drive will take you to the Thokozisa Market.

Pre dinner drinks and Fun Run prize giving at 5.30pm (Maybe the odd speech!)

Gala evening with a Woodstock theme. (6.30-9.30pm) **Dress up accordingly!!**

Sunday 4th August.

Enjoy a good breakfast then off home !!!

MG CAR CLUB - 80th ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND CELEBRATIONS
VENUE - CHAMPAGNE CASTLE HOTEL - DRAKENSBURG

MG Car Club 80th Anniversary Weekend Celebrations 2nd - 4th August	
Names:	
No of participants:	
Deposit Paid:	
Email Address:	
Phone Nos:	
Car to be used:	