<u>MG Car Club Northern Centre</u> <u>Newsletter</u>

<u>June 2017 — Issue 426</u>



Peter & Paul balancing Balls on Sticks at the Gymkhana hosted in on May 28th

MG Car Club-Northern Centre

PO Box 11430, Silver Lakes 0054 Clubhouse c/o Umgazi Road & 26th Avenue, Menlo Park Pretoria. Meetings usually on first Monday of Month, check by phone. www.mgcc-north.co.za GPS S 25 46.495 E 28 16.035



Notices

Club Banking Details

Account Name "MG Car Club-Northern Centre" FNB Bank Account Number 62363284359 Branch Code 250655 Menlyn Square

New Members

This month we are pleased to welcome Stuart Grieg, proud owner of a Midget (and several mini's). We hope to see you often at our events.

The opinions expressed in this Newsletter do not necessarily represent the views of the MG Car Club Northern Centre or the Executive Committee.



2017-2018

Committee Members



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FROM THE WORKBENCH

We were very lucky to be joined by our German friends Walter & Brigitte Kallenberg at the MMM gathering, as well as the hill climb which followed. Having met The Kallenberg's at the MMM hosted in 2015, and then subsequently at Silverstone later that year and most recently at the indaba in 2016 it was wonderful to meet up with them again.

Those who know Walter will be familiar with his direct and "nobull-shit" approach to things, which lead to a particularly interesting and intense conversation on one of the evenings between the two events. The point of discussion was around the unreliability of some of the South African cars, with Walter trying to figure out why our cars are not driven... We are often hesitant to drive our cars extensively on the roads, with a massive range of excuses - however, with proper maintenance, planning, support, and enthusiasm our cars can successfully be driven long distances cross country. Walter cites many examples of how he has driven his MG K1 across country, and was baffled by why we were so impressed by Stuart Grieg who was travelling from Johannesburg to Knysna solo in his Midget - why were we so impressed with somebody driving a "Modern" MG so far... When you dig down into the nuts bolts of the conversation there are few reasons good reasons not to drive a car long distances, and many excuses.



Certainly after the conversation I felt inspired to maintain better and drive further – now let's see if that can be turned into action!

Other exciting events hosted this month included the pub evening, which was wonderfully catered by The Cradocks, and the driving tests. The pub evening have become a real institution in the club, and I think that they are looked forward to by many members – certainly by me. They are a great way to connect with other club members, and to strengthen our relationships. If yo uahve not attended an event yet, you really should make an effort to attend.

The gymkhana was a great success, with interesting tests of driving skill and communication. The turnout was reasonable, and those that competed seemed to enjoy the challenges. Big congratulations to Heather and Gavin Holt for coming both first and second!

The highlight of the coming month will be the combined centers showday, which will be hosted by ourselves on 25 June. We are looking forward to welcoming the Johannesburg members to our side of the Jukskei, and a wonderful day at the Botanical Gardens. We are hoping to have a strong attendance – please make an effort to get your cars there, and invite friends and family to join.

A note of congratulations to Gary Chapman for the firing up of this MGB V8 for the first time. Many of us are familiar with Gary's brown MGB which he has owned for over 25 years,



but it has recently been given a new lease of life with what must be one of the best V8 conversions. Well done to the Chapman family, and all those who assisted with the project. We wish you many happy and trouble free miles in it. We are looking forward to the next driving test!

With the Cape Centres' event recently having taken place in Wildernis, it really is time to start punting registration for the 2018 Indaba. I have included the necessary information at the end of the newsletter. Please register! Indaba's are incredible events, where fantastic friendships are formed and people are initiated into the MG Familia—you will not regret attending.

On that note, there is quite a bit of cleaning to do ahead of Showday..., so best we brave the cold outside and get busy.

Octagonally,

Steve Grover

MAY MIDWEEK RUN

Last month we decided to re-introduce mid week lunch runs for those of us that either do not have to work, whether by choice or compulsion, those of us with understanding bosses or those that may



be the boss.

In April we went to the Bosveld Lounge, next to Kittyhawk, and an enjoyable lunch was had by all, boerekos was available which made a pleasant change from burger and chips, especially enjoyable was the wildvleis pie. The location was beautiful, out in the country, and very quiet.

Hoping to keep the bosveld experience going, we decided this month to try Die Bronberg Wynland on the Lynwood Road, just past the Boschkop turn.

For added interest we met at GT Auto, next to Makro on Solomon Mahlangu for coffee, a look at some of their vehicles, mainly heavy American metal, and

to see their facilities.

They undertake complete restorations, and work in progress included an E type, and an Alfa. They have paint shop, and a Glaze applying facility for those requiring a high gloss scratch and chip resistant finish. There was a white 1500 MGA undergoing restoration, fitted with a BMW gearbox. We tried to find out who owned it without success.

There was an original Porsche 356 super 90, valued at over R4m!!

There is a snack bar with the usual burger and chips type menu if you fancy it.



An intricate full size wire Mustang was in the showroom, an awful lot of work.



After this interesting visit, we drove the short distance to the Bronberg. Again a bosveld atmosphere, they had supposedly organised reserved parking for us, which became available once the owner moved her Range Rover.

As Hazell will tell you with delight, I seem to have lost the ability to reverse, and managed to contact a lamp standard with the newly repainted A, no harm done, the marks fortunately polished out.



Present we had 2 TFs, Geoff ,Bev and Bill Sales, 2 BGTs, Johnnie van Wyk and Eddie du Ras, ourselves in the A, Danie Bester and Elmarie in a B roadster and Bill Flynn in a Triumph Stag (we forgive you Bill!).

A quiet table under the thatch had been organised and the10 of us sat down for some drinks and a tasty meal, boerekos was again available for those who enjoy it. The Bees lewer in geurige gebraaide uie at R60 was a very tasty bargain and went down well. The burger special, including a Castle was also good value at R70.

Service could have been a little faster, with Caiphus basically delivering 1 plate at a time, but we all ate well.

A pleasant way to spend time with some of the MG family (and Bill).

Why not come and join us next month. Watch facebook, whatsapp and your e mails for details. Steve E



TRIPLE-M GATHERING

<u>KNYSNA 2017</u>

Triple-M. A phrase which, only four years ago meant very little to me at all, has now come to signify so much. 2017 marked the third occurrence of the South African MMM gathering, and I was thrilled to be able to attend again, to meet up with friends – new and old – and to once again be amazed by the work which was being done by MG over 80 years ago. Over the course of the next few months I am planning to do a few articles for the newsletter to brush up on the knowledge of the cars—they are incredibly interesting!

This year's event was hosted in Knysna, which was a change from the first two events which had been hosted in Franschoek, and we were glad to be able to join the Kynsna Motor show, and to stay on for the hill climb which was held a week later.



We drove down over a period of two days, leaving on Thursday 27 April and overnighting at Gariep Dam. Bronwyn and I had taken up the offer from the folks of taking down their "new" MG TF, which proved to be a joy to drive on the open road, being both comfortable and economical. We drove down with fellow two of the other Northern Centre entrants, Pepi & Raymond and Robin & Liesl Clarke. It is worth commenting on the accommodation which is available at Gariep Dam, which is remarkable – very good value for money, exceptional value for money, clean and well presented. We will definitely stop there again on the road to the Cape.



Angus competed in period in Spider – the ex-Les Miller TC special which many of us have seen racing in the hands of Heyns Stead, and won the Fairfield 500 in the car.

With the cars having been positioned on Saturday afternoon, the Knysna Car Show got underway on the Sunday. The show is a remarkable display of some very high quality classic cars, and it was nice to have a strong showing of MG's amongst them. The South Cape MG Car Club had a good display, and it was exciting to see the Costello MGB GT V8 on display. There was also a remarkable turn-out of T-types, including a very nicely turned out TA.

We spent the Friday night before registration with Heyns Stead in Wildernis, and after drinking too much & solving all the world's problems were ready to start the event Saturday.

The event kicked off with registration and "meet & greet", which was followed by a dinner in the evening. Some wonderful footage of period Les Miller racing had been prepared for the evening, and we were pleased to be able to honour Angus Macleod with a copy of The Hawke History, a comprehensive history of MMM cars in racing.



On the Monday we did a roadtrip into the hills around Knysna, and I was exceedingly lucky to be offered the opportunity to drive Rodney Green's J2 on this run. This is the car which has always inspired by build, having an all-Aluminium body, cycle wings, bucket seats, and a front mounted blower it is very much along the lines of what I am hoping to build and it was thrilling to have the opportunity to drive the car. It performs remarkably well, and is a true joy to drive. After having driven a few P-types, it was lovely to drive a J2, and provided great inspiration for the build of J23395.

The dinner on Sunday night was a real treat, being hosted at the Knysna Yacht Club, which is set out on the pier in the lagoon and has wonderful panoramic views of the water. Here some "awards" were presented to the participants, and were regailed by Viv James with the story of his P-type rebuild, and the subsequent drive from Cape Town to



Knysna for the event. We were all impressed by the drivability and reliability of the P-type, and found inspiration in Viv's drive. Hopefully, over the next few years, more MMM owners will make similar drives in their cars.

On Sunday we visited "Gasoline Alley", the centre of the Knysna classic car community, where Frost Brothers, Bodge Engineering and Brian Bruce's museum are all based. The event concluded with a wonderful dinner at Belvidere Manor, where we discussed the highs and lows of the event.

All in all the event was highly enjoyable, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all who partook. We are looking forward to arranging the next event, at which – hopefully – the Grover J2 will be closer to complete! I would like to thank the organising committee, as well as the Northern Centre Participants – Pepi & Raymond, Liesl & Robin Clarke, Peter Posniak, as well as our German friends Brigitte & Walter Kallenberg for making the event so memorable.



Upcoming Events

COMBINED CENTRES SHOWDAY

The combined centres show day will take place on **Sunday 25 June 2017** at the Pretoria Botanical gardens in Cussonia street in Pretoria. A map is attached. The gates will open at 08h00. An **entry fee of R50.00** per car includes entry to garden, usually R33 per person, as well as the event dash plaque and program.

While the concourse is the main event, the gardens also provides a great venue and destination for a Sunday run and a social gathering of MG enthusiasts

The concours event is important to maintaining the breed. I do not believe it critical to enter only with the aim of winning but participation also allows one to benchmark your car. An opportunity to take notes on the best of the best provides information and motivation to hit the "to-do" list with vigor again.

Briefly, the D'état entrants will have cars judged on condition, cleanliness, functionality and originality. The "tops" entrants will be scored on condition and cleanliness only. General regulations as they appear on the Northerns' Centre website are attached and form the guidelines for such competitions. Supplementary regulations pertaining to the event on the 25th June have also been issued and should be available on the club websites.

Club members are encouraged to participate by bringing their cars along for judging. Entry forms appear on both club websites and need to be forwarded to Robin Clarke by 15 June 2017 at rjc@mweb.co.za. Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the chief judge.

Those members that have cars "in mid-build" or laid up can also participate in the event by volunteering as marshals

and assistants to the judges. Anyone willing to where to find us assist can contact Robin Clarke for marshalling and admin assistance at ric@mweb.co.za, and Westaway judging duties Dave for at dave@shelhurst.co.za Pretorla City Pietersburg Pretoria Road Church Street stree Witbank CSIR Lynnwood Road-Menlopark Atterbury Road Johannesburg

MG CAR CLUB COMBINED GAUTENG CENTRES SHOWDAY SUNDAY JUNE 25 AT PRETORIA BOTANICAL GARDENS

CONCOURS d' ETAT AND TOPS ONLY ENTRY FORM

1	ENTRY No			
2	ENTRANTS NAME			
	ADDRESS			
	E-MAIL			
	TEL No			
3	CENTRE			
4	MG MODEL		DESIGNATION	
	BODY TYPE		YEAR	
	REGISTRATION No			
5	CLASS			
6	EVENT ENTRY	CONCOURS d' ETAT	YES / NO	
		TOPS ONLY	YES / NO	
		CONCOURS d' ELAGANCE	YES / NO	
		CONCOURS d' COMIQUE	YES / NO	

7 UNDERTAKING I hereby acknowledge that I am acquainted with the MG Car Club Combined Southern African Centres Concours d' Etat Standing Regulations and the Additional Concours Regulations applicable to this event, and that I understand them and that I will abide by them.

ENTRANTS SIGNATURE

Forthcoming Events in Brief

Point allocation c=Clubman, v= Victrix/tor Ludorum, RR=Regularity Rally, HR=Historic Racing					
June					
Mon 5	Natter 'n Noggin	NC	Clubhouse 19:30 for 20:00		
Fri 9	Pub Evening	NC	Clubhouse 17:30 onwards		
Sun 25	Combined Centre's Showday	NC/JHB	IC/JHB Pretoria Botanical Gardens		
		July	,		
Mon 3	Natter 'n Noggin	NC	Clubhouse 19:30 for 20:00	С	
Fri 14	Pub Evening	NC	Clubhouse 17:30 onwards		
Sun 23	Proposed long run. Circa 100 miles. NC Details to follow		Details to follow	С	
August					
Mon 7	Natter 'n Noggin	NC	Clubhouse 19:30 for 20:00	С	
Fri 18	Pub Evening	NC	Clubhouse 17:30 onwards		
Sun 27	Monthly Run	NC	Details to follow c		

Trading Post

FOR SALE

Stainless steel OE pattern Midget boot rack. Never fitted. £204 from the owners club. Yours for R1200

Steve Eden 0823728740

1948 MG TC Recently restored. Shires green with tan Connoly Leather Upholstry and trim. All new wood frames and black carpeting. Accident Free. Supporting Manuals and Parts Invoices. R420000. Newlands area, Pretoria. Winston Thackwray 0828805766

WANTED

- 1. MG Related Magazines & General Classic Car Books & Magazines
- MG, Motoring & Motorsport Related Books.
 3. 1622cc B-Series Connecting Rods
- TA / TB / TC parts for long term build project. Bare chassis & Body have been acquired... What else?

Stephen Grover 082 818 0540 stephendgrover@gmail.com

Should you wish to advertise items for sale, wanted or to swop please e-mail the editor at Stephendgrover@gmail.com, or call on 082 818 0540

TC's Forever More

Mike Sheryl, the author of the definitive MG TC restoration book *TC's Forever* has released a sequel—TC's forever more. The book promises to be very insightful, and offers advice for running TC's in the modern era.

We have arranged for a shipment of books locally, and a few are still available. The costs is estimated at R964 per book, subject to final ROE when imported.

Please contact Pepi Gaspari at marpepi@iafrica.com should you be interested in a copy.

"While 'TC's Forever' is an appreciation and reference of the Factory Spec. car, this new book is again an appreciation, but also an expansion into owning, enjoying, and operating the wonderful, time-defying chariots into the 21st Century." Mike Sherrell





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INVITATION TO ATTEND THE UKHAHLAMBA M G INTERNATIONAL INDABA

THE KwaZulu-Natal Centre cordially invites all M G enthusiasts to attend the 2018 Ukhahlamba M G International Indaba to be held from Thursday 3 May to Sunday 6 May 2018 in the MaGnificent surroundings of the world heritage Drakensberg Mountains.

Our venue is going to be the ATKV Drakensville Resort, billed as a "Breakaway Paradise in the Mountains". We will be presenting the usual selection of Indaba activities as well as some interesting scenic drives and visits to some of the local attractions.

In terms of accommodation, Drakensville offers a limited number of 3 star one-bedroomed units in addition to two and three bedroomed houses for shared accommodation. The attached sheet has more information in this regard.

Facilities at Drakensville include two outdoor pools, a large heated indoor pool, putt-putt, snooker, pool, hiking and bird watching. There is also a Beauty Salon and Spa for the ladies. The resort is fully licensed and there is a Bar and à la carte Restaurant for lunches as well as a convenience Fast Food outlet for snacks if required.

All bookings will be transacted on line at the KwaZulu-Natal Centre website <u>www.mgcarclub-kzn.co.za</u> and all fees should preferably be paid by EFT. Payments by cheque or bank deposit will attract the prevailing bank surcharge which must be added to the deposit.

The non-refundable entry fee for the Indaba is R500 and is included in your total cost which is dependant on your choice of accommodation. For full details see the attached.

We look forward to welcoming you to our Indaba in 2018

Chris Brown. Indaba Chairman.







UKHAHLAMBA MG INTERNATIONAL INDABA

ACCOMODATION DETAILS AND COSTS



1.

There are three types of accommodation available to us at Drakensville. These are:

- A limited number of one bedroomed units.
- 2. Two-bedroomed houses to be shared. One bathroom and separate toilet.
- a. Three-bedroomed houses to be shared by 2 couples. Bathroom, separate shower and Separate toilet.

For those who prefer not to share, it is possible to utilize a two-bedroomed house for one couple only. For those who would prefer their own bathroom facilities but don't mind sharing the rest of the house, it is possible to utilize a three-bedroomed house for two couples. These two options will cost a bit more per head.

Details of total cost depending on which accommodation options is selected:-

- 1. One-bedroomed unit some with double bed and others with single beds, shower & toilet. Single occupant: **Cost R5240.00**
 - NB. Limited number only first come first served.
- 2. One-bedroomed unit some with double bed and others with single beds, shower & toilet. One couple: Cost R7700.00.
 - NB. Limited number only first come first served.
- Two-bedroomed house, 1 x double bed & 2 x single beds, separate Shower & Toilet. One couple or two singles: Cost R8000.00
- 4. Two-bedroomed house, 1 x double bed & 2 x single beds, separate Shower & Toilet.

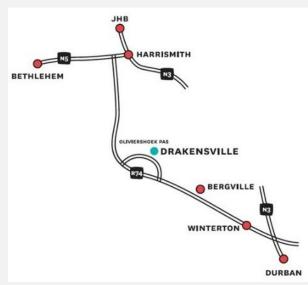
 Two couples sharing:
 Cost R13000.00.
 (R6500.00 per Couple)
- 5. Three-bedroomed house, 1 x double bed, 4 x single beds, separate Bathroom, Shower & Toilet.
Two couples sharing:Cost R14500.00
(R7250.00 per Couple)

Notes:-

The above total cost includes dinner and breakfast. Lunch and bar charges are excluded.

Having made your decision on your choice of accommodation and with whom you would like to share if applicable, please visit our website <u>www.mgcarclub-kzn</u> for the registration forms. Units will be allocated strictly on a first come first served basis. **Registration opens on 16th September 2016.**











2018 uKhahlamba MG Indaba Newsletter 1 – January 2017

This newsletter is the first in a series to keep you up to date with developments in the planning for the 2018 Indaba.

Firstly allow me to thank you for making your reservation. We have had 49 bookings to date which we are very pleased with. As a booked participant please encourage any other members of your Centre who may not have booked yet to do so soon. Registration forms are available from our website <u>www.mgcarclub-kzn.co.za</u>.

The committee has had a number of planning meetings and has compiled a programme for a relaxed Indaba with opportunity to view the glorious countryside and places of interest in the Northern Berg which is where the resort is situated. The 3-Star ATKV Drakensville Resort is very popular with motoring and motorcycle clubs and has hosted a number of rallies and conventions such as ours. We have chosen May as the recommended month weather-wise in the Berg.

In the close vicinity of the Resort is the Drakensberg Pumped Storage Power Station and we are in negotiations with the publicity office of the power station to arrange guided tours for Indaba participants. These tours are extremely informative and we are trying to dovetail possible tours in with our programme. There will be more information in this regard in future newsletters.

We are also planning to lay on some excursions and activities for the ladies, bearing in mind that there is a heated swimming pool if you prefer a bit of aquatic exercise.

In future newsletters we will discuss possible routes to follow to get to the Resort

Chris Brown. Indaba Chairman.







Registration Form for the MG Indaba - 3rd to 6th May 2018

Entrant

Title	First Name	Surname	MG Centre

Accompanied by

Title	First Name	Surname		

Contact Details

Postal Address	Pho	ne Numbers & Email Address
	Home	
	Cell	
	Fax	
	Email	
Postal Code:		

Car/s Entered

Model	
Year	
Colour	
Registration Number	

Accommodation Options and payment details:- Please tick your selection

Option Selected	Туре	Full Cost Indaba and Accom.		Registration Fee	First Payment	Second Payment	Third Payment	Tick
Option 1	Single Person Flat	R5240.00		R500.00	R1580.00	R1580.00	R1580.00	
Option 2	One Couple Flat	R7700.00		R500.00	R2400.00	R2400.00	R2400.00	
Option 3	One Couple or Two Occupants 2 Bedroom House	R8000.00		R500.00	R2500.00	R2500.00	R2500.00	
Option 4	Two Couples 2 Bedroom House	R13000.00	Couple 1 Couple 2	R500.00 R500.00	R2000.00 R2000.00	R2000.00 R2000.00	R2000.00 R2000.00	
Option 5	Two Couples 3 Bedroom House	R14500.00	Couple 1 Couple 2	R500.00 R500.00	R2250.00 R2250.00	R2250.00 R2250.00	R2250.00 R2250.00	

Notes: The <u>Full Cost</u> includes dinners and breakfasts, lunch is for your own account. Please <u>do not</u> pay the full <u>Cost</u> immediately as there may be an adjustment to the third payment due to possible sponsorship or other savings.

If sharing, who will you be sharing with:

On receipt of payment of the registration fee, you will be allocated an Indaba Number on a first come first served basis.

Registration opens on 16th September 2016.

Invoices will be emailed to you informing you of due payments.

Please note that the resort charges per Unit, not on a per person basis. Where you have selected to share a unit, and the second couple that you intended sharing with does not take up the option, you will then default to Option 3, or we reserve the right to try and assign another couple to share with you.

Preferred and safer payment is by EFT. Prevailing bank charges must be added to cheque or direct bank deposits.

Bank Details:Standard Bank Durban North.Acc. Name:MG Car Club KwaZulu-Natal CentreBranch Code:042826Acc. No.014 800 209Acc. Type:Savings

I hereby confirm my intention to attend the 2018 MG Indaba and submit/have submitted the non-refundable R500 registration fee.

I accept that the Organising Committee reserves the right to adjust costs should an unforeseen circumstance arise. I understand that the three subsequent payments must be fully paid by the dates specified on invoices or my reservation may be transferred to other members on the waiting list.

This form together with your Proof of Payment of the registration fee is to be emailed or faxed to:-

Email: mgindaba@telkomsa.net

Fax: 086 4352543

Signed:

Date:





