



UMG AZIST



MAG 450
July
2019

Clubhouse
c/o Umgazi Rd + 26th Ave
Menlo Park, Pretoria



Meetings take place on the
First Monday of the Month
Please confirm by phone



082 410 1569



www.mgcc-north.co.za



PO Box 11430
Silver Lakes
0054



GPS S 25 46.495 E 28 16.035

Contact the Editor
kryckt@gmail.com

All articles, photographs and ideas are
encouraged

The opinions expressed in this Newsletter do
not necessarily represent the views of the
MG Car Club Northern Centre, The Editor or
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Chairman's Letter

The busy schedule of activities through July and the start of August was only part of the reason for the July edition of uMGazi being late. The other is that the editorial team attended the **KZN 80th Anniversary** celebrations and were having way too much fun to think of the newsletter.

We are only in the first week of August and 3 of the 5 events planned for the month are complete. An excellent 80th anniversary event laid on by the KZN Centre followed by **Cars in the Park**, organized by POMC on the same weekend and our monthly Noggin on an unseasonably warm August evening. 3 events done and dusted by the 5th of the month give a breathing space from a string of events that saw the club involved every 7 to 8 days. Starting from the Noggin on Monday the 6th of May, when Marge Viljoen regaled us the memories of racing days of the 1950's + '60's, and ending with our **August Noggin**, a 3 solid months of MG activity!

The July events are detailed elsewhere in the newsletter and as chairman I must congratulate the club on a consistently high participation. Other than the coldest Noggin of the year in July, where we had low attendance, all the events have been very well supported making your committee's efforts that much more rewarding.

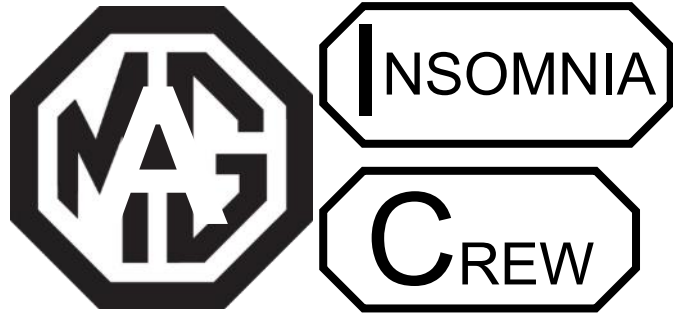
Starting with the **Durban Dash** which ended at the Scottburgh Classic Car Show; the **Krugersdorp Fly-In** at the Jack Taylor Airfield; Dave's Chilli Con Carne to warm up **Club Night**; Ian's excellent potjie to keep us warm (on what was the coldest day of the year) at the **Pretoria Shepard Dog Club Potjie Competition**; **Esra's 90th Birthday** celebration (that saw 103 people fill the club to celebrate) and then the KZN 80th Anniversary in celebration of the oldest MG Car Club Centre outside of the UK and ending with **Cars in the Park** held at Zwartkops. A real mouthful. A variety of events that cover the full range from giving you a chance to stretch the "legs" of the car and blow out the cob webs, to social events in the Clubhouse, this MG family has shown that the MG Marque is alive and growing.

The next event is the August Club Night on the 16th where the catering will be a surprise, an evening not to be missed however rsvp is essential. This month's Club run will count for Clubman and Victor/trix points. The driving tests will be held at our trusted Silver Oaks Crossing Shopping Centre on the 25th August followed by lunch and prize giving at one of the restaurants as we have done before. I will get prices and see what we can do to get specials for participants from the restaurants. Details will be published closer to the event.

In September, our Noggin will be a presentation on the Galp Rally that happened on the 16th June this year. Our member Ian Greyling a participant and Tony Barbosa the organizer will talk to us about the event with a view to boosting participation from our club in the third running of the rally in 2020.

An important date to save is our September run, which will be held on Sunday the 15th September and will be an outreach event to **Phyllis Robertson Home**. The home is a Non-Profit Organization founded in 1961 that provides residential care for young adults with various disabilities. There are 64 residents and 14 staff, a total of 78 people that we will be taking for drives on a 500m route near the home. Followed by a boerewors Braai and a social to chat with residents, the event well worth attending.

Ideally we would like to get 35 cars to spread the load and keep the rides to two circuits per car, when we did it in 2015 we managed with 15 cars, the more cars the more people the more the MG fun. The residents love a good party so there will be music on a boom box a day not to be missed.



Octagonally
Pepi

Readers Comment



Discrimination

Unfortunately today one has to point out that this club needs to take note of serious discrimination.

Discrimination needs to end, and we should put it to the powers that be in this club to investigate and as soon as possible put this skewed attitude right.

When joining the club, you are immediately aware of the great emphasis on concours vehicles. One realises that there is only one way to be accepted: have a concours car to be allowed to speak.

After a while you come to know that some standards are somewhat softened, and the circle is widened somewhat. There is such a thing as “tops only”. Well, that is, if you have an acceptable top. But if one puts all your effort into mechanical excellence, there is no way this can be recognised.

Is there any way the judges would look only at engines one Sunday?

What if one has a nice underside?

Or a spick and span exhaust system?

Maybe the committee might allow an “*exhausts only*” contest or “*bottoms only*” competition soon?

Come on, dear committee – lets have some serious fun!

Johnnie

BGT

< Show Day Judges exhaust only? Or just a lot of hot air?

Krugersdorp Fly-In



KRUGERDORP FLYING CLUB AIRFIELD FESTIVAL 13th JULY 2019:
A Round trip of 144km from Clubhouse to Jack Taylor Airfield for breakfast, Helicopter flips and a Spot Landing Competition . Add 20 MG's with a couple of stunning Jaguars, Aeroplanes, great company and a perfect Highveld winter's day and we have the recipe for an excellent MG day out



Thanks Calvin Way

KwaZulu-Natal Centre's 80th Anniversary Letter



MG CAR CLUB NORTHERN CENTRE
PO Box 11430
Silver Lakes
0054



MG CAR CLUB KWAZULU NATAL CENTRE
The Chairman
Mr Chris Swales

August 2019

Dear Chris

Congratulations to the oldest MG Car Club Centre outside of the Mother Club, on your 80th Anniversary. A remarkable achievement when you consider the number of Centers world wide and that the MGCC has 70 000 members across the globe.

Les Miller, a founder member of the Centre, epitomized an era of the Gentlemen racer. He has left a legacy, not only of the of the 3 iconic cars, Spyder, Fat Man and Jasper but also in the form of memories. Those from the early racing days and those created across South Africa in his later years, when he drove his Magnette to events or was flying himself to the East London GP Diamond Jubilee in 1996.

Les sowed the seeds of enthusiasm not only in KwaZulu-Natal but countrywide and was a true KZN ambassador making a significant contribution to building the Marque of Friendship on behalf of the MGCC KZN across South Africa and the world.

We thank you for your Centers contribution in Maintaining The Breed and may you continue to create memories in this beautiful part of our country, the Last Outpost of the British Empire.

Octagonally
Pepi Gaspari
MG Car Club-Northern Centre

POMC Cars in the Park



POMC Cars in the Park Zwartkops 4 August

Bill Sales helped keep the banners flying at the 40th annual POMC Cars in the Park that constituted the second Club Run for August. Joined by about 10 MGs the day in the sun was spent surrounded by fascinating cars. With the advertised 2500 cars on display the day is ideal for the motor enthusiast.



Thanks Deon Terblanche

Scottburgh Classic Car Show + Durban Dash



FELLOWSHIP of the RIMS

Twenty odd motoring enthusiasts in a variety of moderns and classics joined the Durban Dash to escape the bustle of city life, explore roads less travelled with their forgotten towns (with less forgotten pubs) and enjoy the company of friends with their passions for cars.

The meeting point at Petropoort Heidelberg was a reminder of the madness of the city as we joined the rich and famous on their way to the Durban July. We found a space behind the complex to gather our relatively calm forces. After a hot chocolate and first breakfast, we joined the throng of travellers in the expensive cars heading for the coast.

We were pleased to leave the motorway a few kilometres later and follow the classic DJ motorcycle route. A road less travelled by the masses though farming country, with wonderful scenery and spectacular aloes.

Vrede, a town in the Free State that is an agricultural hub, is where we had lunch, gate crashing the local pub. I can imagine it being quite rowdy on a weekend night as the local farmers descend on it.

A few of us headed to Memel (Memel-Zamani as it is now called) a small Free State town located close to kwaZulu-Natal and Mpumalanga borders, for a quiet one at the local hotel before heading on to join the main group at Newcastle where Majuba Lodge was our home for the night. There we gathered in the pub for pre-dinner drinks before enjoying a generous buffet.

The B was a treat to drive with the hard top fitted. We suspect that the road noises from the hardtop are less than we have in the GT - but certainly more insulated than the soft top. The roads were in a fair condition with stretches of brilliant driving sections interrupted by others that had severe pot holes and dreaded speed bumps.

The local car club had invited the Durban Dash Tour to display our cars at the next door shopping centre on Saturday morning. A quick morning car cleaning got everyone out for bed bright and early. The cars received a lot of attention in the parkade but whether the admirers were there for the cars or the Casio keyboard player we will never know.

It was interesting to see a fairly rare Nissan Figaro on display. Made on the base of the Micra it reflects the retro styling popularised in the New Beetle and the Mini Cooper. The cars were manufactured in 1991 with about 20 000 units made. Avril has her name down in case the owner decides to sell.

After the show, some guys in the fellowship decided to take the motorway to Scottburgh and some continued along the road less travelled. We were introduced to town names, some familiar, some not. The route eventually took us through Hilton, on and off the freeway and through Pietermaritzburg. We then ventured towards Umbumbulu winding through the sugar cane fields to finally join the motorway and arrive at our destination, Scottburgh.



Scottburgh Classic Car Show + Durban Dash



The second day's route was dominated by the road works around Pietermaritzburg. The civils caused havoc with the route schedule and traffic flow. Saturday afternoon traffic has never being too kind to the roadster but we avoided any engine overheating. As the area seems to be under major renovation works it may be wise to avoid the area for some time in the future.

We arrived at sunset on Saturday, unpacked and headed for the beach, dipped a toe in the sea and enjoyed the sunset view. Young James deciding of course that nothing short of full emersion constituted a proper sea side visit.

Sunday was the big day, the 10th Scottburgh Classic Car Show. The weather turned miserable and threatened to rain but that didn't dampen any spirits. The show was well attended with a magnificent display of MGs. The MGs from the Durban Dash joined the local Centre in representing the marque in what Peter Feilding announced as his last show as organiser. Tony and Annette's Ruby received a place in the time line display next to Chris Swale's MG3, the only one we've seen.

It was a treat to see Julie and Clause at the show, Clause helping with organising the competitors and Julie making sure the out of towners were looked after.

At the end of the day while most decent folk headed back to the hotel to indulge in the Time Warp with cabaret performer, some reprobates didn't and headed out to enjoy some live music. Contrary to popular opinion the very respectable establishment hosted a sombre and well behaved clientele.

As always Monday came too soon and we said our goodbyes to our travelling companions, the Blue Marlin and the sea to return to the real world.

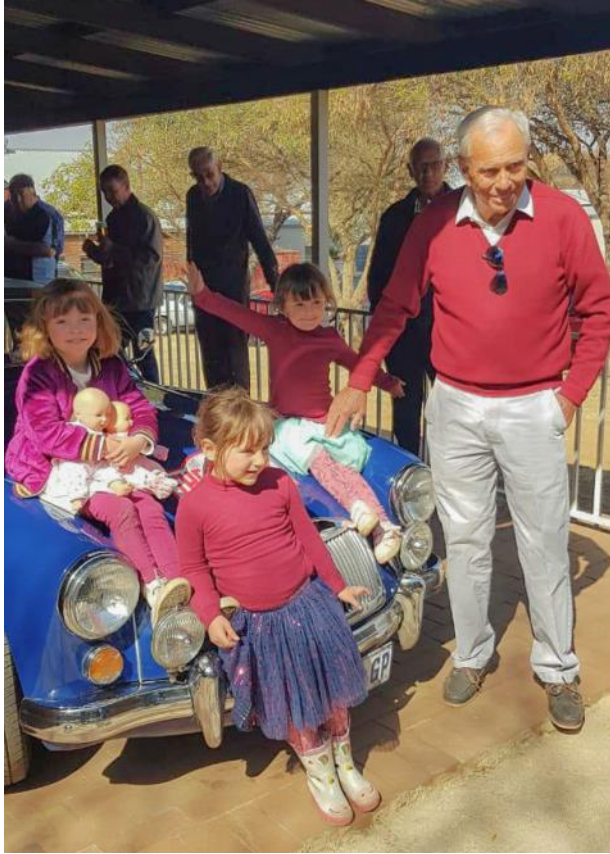
As the first run in our Tri-venture Adventures this year we are pleased to say that the B is in good spirits, the fellowship is strong and we still have another 2 trips to look forward to.

Thank to Roger Pearce for organising the Durban Dash that didn't go to Durban!

A familiar sight of the MG Car Club members gathering around an open bonnet



Esra Celebrates 90



Our dear friend and Club Stalwart Esra Martin celebrated his 90th Birthday with *the* MG social of the year at the Clubhouse.

The celebration kicked off at midday with guests from the Northerns Club, Johannesburg Club, Wheel Nuts and of course Family + Friends arriving in anticipation of a great day. The clubhouse flew banners displaying some of Esra's amazing adventures within the motoring and MG community. An MGA Rally to Moscow, Cannes and South America: Esra is the rock star of MG.

As was fitting his brave A that accompanied him on so many adventures was also honoured and displayed on the stoep.

The Clubs banded together and generously provided a harvest table with a variety of salads, breads, soup and of course dessert for guests to enjoy. Raymond kept his braai-ing skills tuned by seeing to the preparation of the sosaties. With just over 100 guests attending it was a lot of generosity.

At 90 Esra is an inspiration. William mentioned in his toast, that Esra defies the caricature of a nonagon. In place of the expected close minded, conservative and crabby character, Esra radiates optimism and openness to new ideas and technology. Perhaps it's the farmer's life but more likely its driving the wonderful MGs.

Sophia + Johan Van Graan, two of Esra's longest friendships, made a special presentation from Grey College, Esra's alma mater to celebrate the occasion.

Despite all the friends that arrived to support Esra, it was most touching to see him pose with his daughter, granddaughter and great-granddaughters in front of the club house. The family has been blessed with a strong female line.

Of course with family and friends comes history and secrets. Roger recalled the days of MG gymkhanas at Esra's farm and confessed that it was in fact his boys that started the mystery tractor 30 years ago.

The afternoon was topped with a special birthday cake, candle blowing and a chorus of Happy Birthday. The cake, brought by Tony + Annette was a beautiful replica of Esra's MGA with the boot rack, number plate and even the stitching of the soft top carefully made in icing.

Esra kindly nominated FJ Smit from the Youth Club as the beneficiary of any birthday donations. The collection is to assist with FJ's medical and prosthesis bills.

From our elder at 90 to the younger at 1 year old, the Northern Centre Club rocks.

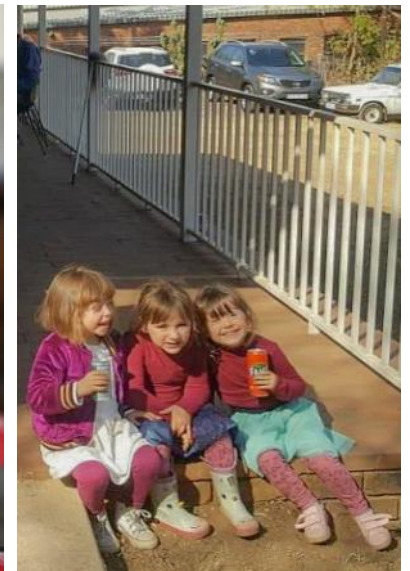
Happy Birthday Esra
from all your friends in the MG Community and especially from the Northern Centre



Esra Celebrates 90



*A photograph taken by John McKenzie at John Meiring's house in 2000 is recreated at the Clubhouse in 2019
Roger Pearce, Stuart Cunningham, Nigel Stokes, Esra Martins and Bob Baylis*



Patsy + the Champagne Castle



The TWO BERG PEAKS

The KwaZulu-Natal Centre celebrating its 80th anniversary this year. At Esra's 90th Birthday celebrations, I learnt that he is, proudly, one year older than the Mother Club. This means that the Natal Centre is only 9 years younger than the MG Car Club in the UK, a feat that I found quite impressive and highlights how involved in the marque South Africa has been.

To celebrate their anniversary, the Natal Centre hosted a weekend long celebration at the Champagne Castle hotel in the central Drakensberg. The hotel itself has a long history that includes portions of the original farmstead from 1928 to the thatched rondavels built by Italian POW in the 1943, seems an apt setting for this historic occasion.

The Anniversary provided the second destination for our planned Tri-venture of 2019 so we were eager to take advantage of the road trip and prolong the excursion as much as we could. To this end the weekend run started rather early on Thursday afternoon as we left quite spontaneously at around lunch time. Luckily we both have understanding employers. Our first stop: The Green Lantern close to Van Reenens.

A long time favourite with her country charm, creaking floors and seductive boudoir of a dining area, the Inn was the meeting place for a few of the Northern Centre contingency where we shared dinner and a fireside kuir. Bojangles, the resident donkey greeted everyone in the pub and proved again to be the highlight of the visit.

Luckily the night was not as cold as we thought it might have been and Patsy didn't struggle too much to get started in the morning. The Pass is undergoing civil work but we were fortunate that the downward traffic was not affected too badly. Taking the Winterton turn off we left the N3 on Friday and made our way to the Hotel catching a glimpse of Spionkop Dam and stopping for cake and coffee—naturally.

At the Hotel, we were greeted by a contingency of MGs and after lunch we were already on the airfield participating in a fun and relaxed gymkhana. Richard Grover pulled it out the hat as usual managing to stop on the target, squeeze through the vertical poles and keep the balls from touching the ground. Richard went on to win the event hands down (or balls up?). Patsy didn't do too well.

On Saturday morning the cool sunrise on Cathkin Peak gave way to a warm day with a clear sky. The main mission for the day was the Treasure Hunt with cryptic clues. From the 2018 KwaZulu-Natal Indaba, I recall that the KwaZulu Centre loved their treasure hunts and their clues were often detailed, not what a good inland boy is used to. A little intimidated we set off to the first stop at Monk Cowl.

The hunt turned out to be not as bad as we thought. Some off beat clues, a prickly animal being a Buffalo Thorn (and not, as some members mentioned, the esteemed Chairman) for example but we managed. The

Awesome to see Clause again!



Patsy + the Champagne Castle



second stop was a breeze and the final venue, the airfield, allowed entrants to wing it a bit to make up any missing clues. Unfortunately we didn't place as well as Richard and Avril in the event as they managed a third place.

Formal speeches and prizes were presented on Saturday night. It was great to hear Tony speaking of the many illustrious names familiar in the MG community that have been involved in the KwaZulu Centre. For a newbie such as myself, it was interesting to make the connections between the historic figures, their link to the Centre and of course, in Les Miller's case, having seen his cars at the Historic Racing Festival in East London last year. Seeing the National President wearing a Northern's shirt is awesome!

That night the big bash was themed as "Woodstock" so a psychedelic trip of hippies descended upon an unsuspecting wedding party and some unfortunate German tourists. Sgt Pepper kept an eye on the proceedings but was no match for the sit-ins and protests staged by the commune of hippies. Unfortunately The Man also brought the cops who seemed to go out of their way to ensure that free love remained taxed. Several arrests were made following a precautionary and thorough frisking. It must have been well done as several hippies came back for a second time.

Sunday morning settled on the haze of silliness and our cars were aligned below the Peak for a group photo to commemorate the event.

We had a wonderful weekend and were lucky with the great weather. We were lucky to get to meet Angela from the Pietermaritzburg Car Members Club. Angela's dad David Plows is well known in the MG community and Angela does a lot of work compiling the Club's newsletter. Angela also treated the dining room to an MG version of Bob Dylan's classic "*Blowing in the Wind*". We look forward to seeing her at future MG events.

Travelling back to Gauteng the fellowship travelled through Bergville up the Oliviershoek Pass passing the Sterkfontein Dam and joining the N3 at Harrismith. Despite the incident in Harrismith all members travelling over the weekend arrived safely home—even if young Dave got home a lot later than anticipated. Patsy ran well despite trouble with the override and her overheating issues seem to have been addressed. I still think the re-padding of her seats needs to be upped in the priority list.

Our next Tri-venture is the Johannesburg 50th Anniversary gathering in Hazyview. Another great trip to eagerly look forward to.



Club Night



Another excellent club night was held in July with Dave Westaway making his trademarked "Chili Con Carne". Often copied but never equalled, Dave's secret recipe proved to be a successful barrier to keep the winter's chill out.

The club was treated with a choice of two desserts made by Anja Prinz. Her always popular cheesecake and a pan of devious cinnamon buns. Anja's buns are bound to be the new talking point in the club with many connoisseurs coming back for a second helping.

If one's sweet tooth was not satisfied by the buns, two beautiful MGs were on offer on the stoep to admire. Ian Greyling presented his well travelled GT (recently awarded at the Combined Centres Show Day) and Derek Marsden's newly acquired B taking Centre. Both cars earned their admiration after tackling the heavy afternoon traffic to get to the club.

The best thing about Club Nightthe people. MG Truly "The Marque of Friendship".



Community Potjie Competition



Pretoria Shepard Dog Club : Potjie Competition 21st July

On the coldest day of the year and perfect weather for potjie food, some of the neighboring clubs in the Menlo Park Node got to know each other a little better around a fire sharing food and sherry.

The competition potjies were accompanied by good company, both four and two legged kind.

MGCC-NC was well represented and walked away with the "*Team Spirit Award*" with Paul + Bev Lastrucci from The Shepard Club winning the "*Best Potjie*" with a unique Gnocchi and Risotto pot.

Best dressed also went to The Shepard Club with "*Christmas in July*" theme.

Our chef Ian Greyling put a tasty pot together with an excellent chili bite. The luncheon was completed with fresh homemade bread made by Hazell Eden.

An excellent day spent with MG family + new friends.

Club Notices + Announcements

CLUB NIGHT CHALKBOARD

FRIDAY 19 AUGUST

Mr + Mrs Gaspari will throw together a surprise with
the Mosterts.

Certainly not to be missed

From 4:30pm Onwards

Northern Clubhouse : Everyone is Welcome!

*Enjoy the
MG Marque of
Friendship!*

Sunday 25th August

Silver Oaks Shopping Centre

Drivers briefing at 9am in the north west
parking area

There will be 2 driving tests to challenge
your driving skills with lunch afterwards
at the Centre

*Although encouraged, participation in the
Driving Tests is not mandatory if you
would just like to watch everyone is more
than welcome*

The event counts towards Clubman and
Victrix/tor Ludorum

[Silver Oaks Crossing Shopping Centre](#)



Indaba 2020



Dear MG enthusiasts,

Entries to the 2020 MG Indaba are now open to all MG members.

The entry form below is in a Microsoft Word format. Once downloaded, the file can be filled in on your computer, saved, and emailed back to us. There is no need to print, scan etc. For the sake of clarity, please type in your details in all blocks, save as a document using your surname as the file name, then email as an attachment to indaba2020@gmail.com together with your proof of payment of the Registration Fee of R500.00 Please note the new bank account number specifically for the Indaba - the bank account details are listed on the Indaba Entry Form.

We look forward to receiving your entry.

Kind regards,

*Indaba Committee
MG Car Club – Cape Town Centre*

<http://www.mgcc-ct.co.za/indaba2020.html>

The National Indaba will be taking place in Oudshoorn from
Thursday 3rd September to Sunday 6th September

Point allocation C=Clubman, V= Victrix/tor Ludorum, RR=Regularity Rally, HR=Historic Racing

AUGUST

2-4	KwaZulu Natal Centre 80th Anniversary	-	Weekend at Champagne Castle Hotel	-
Sunday 4	Club Run	-	POMC Cars in the Park	C
Monday 5	Natter 'n Noggin	NC	Clubhouse: 19:30 for 20:00	C
Friday 16	Club Night	-	Mr + Mrs Gaspari Clubhouse 17:30 onwards	-
Sunday 25	Club Run	NC	Driving Test + Speed Event 9am Silver Oaks Crossing Shopping Centre	V+C

SEPTEMBER

Monday 2	Natter 'n Noggin	NC	Clubhouse: 19:30 for 20:00	C
6-8	Johannesburg Centre's 50th Anniversary	-	Little Pilgrim's Hotel, Hazyview	-
Sunday 15	Club Run	NC	Spring run to Phyllis Roberts Home	C
Friday 20	Club Night	NC	Bev and Geoff Clubhouse 17:30 onwards	-

OCTOBER

Monday 7	Natter 'n Noggin	NC	Clubhouse: 19:30 for 20:00	C
Friday 18	Club Night	NC	P+P Clubhouse 17:30 onwards	-
Sunday 20	Club Run	NC	Jacaranda Run	C

NOVEMBER

Monday 4	Natter 'n Noggin	NC	Clubhouse: 19:30 for 20:00	C
Friday 15	Club Night	NC	Clubhouse 17:30 onwards	-
Sunday 24	Club Run	NC	Gymkhana + Cats Eye Rally	C

DECEMBER

Monday 2	Natter 'n Noggin	NC	Clubhouse: 19:30 for 20:00	C
Friday 7	Club Night	NC	Clubhouse 17:30 onwards	-
Saturday 13	Club Run	NC	Christmas Party Clubhouse from 10am	-

Trading Post

For Sale

Custom made number plates. Priced from R150, depending on Art-work.

Pepi
082 410 1569



For Sale

Reconditioned MGA 1500 Cylinder Head. Has been skimmed, has unleaded valve seat inserts, Pressure tested and the thickness is 80.5mm. R8000,00.

David
dmulles@gmail.com

Wanted

- 1 MG Related Magazines, General Classic Car Books + Magazines
 - 2 MG, Motoring + Motorsport Related Books
 - 3 TA / TB / TC parts for long term build project. Bare chassis + body have been acquired...
- 1 MGB GT V8 Gearbox
 - 2 EMCO Lathe

Stephen Grover 082 818 0540 stephendgrover@gmail.com

For Sale

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

Steve Eden
0823728740

For Sale

*Two piece Rotisserie to rotate bodysell
Bodyshop Dolly*

Bob: 011 468 2848

For Sale

MGB Roadster
White roadster in immaculate condition for sale. Records available from Dave Wheeler. Asking R 250 000 which is what has been spent on the car.

George Avvakoumides 083 306 1671

For Sale

MGA 1600 Coupe
Very reliable runner, papers in order and up to date. For further particulars and price, please contact :

Vernon Acton 083 647 6700 (East London)

For Sale

1955 MG 1500 TF
Nut and bolt restoration 4 years ago done 500 miles since. Excellent condition . R450,000.
Phone Julian Pringle wattpringle@telkomsa.net



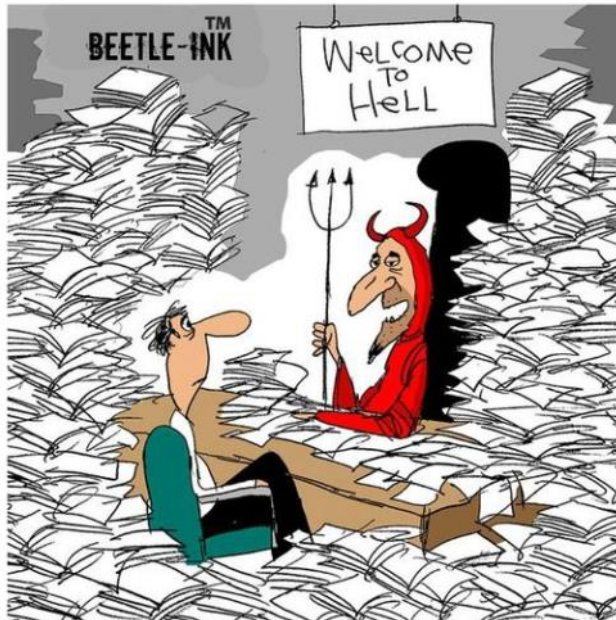
Wanted

MGA and/or Magnette gearbox
Robin at 082902 5119

Wanted

Restoration of Roof Lining
Ian Grace is looking for assistance/recommendations with the restoration of his roof lining. Assistance greatly appreciated.
iang@xsinet.co.za

Club Committee



" Yes it's a common misconception that hell is all fire. However yours is full of the receipts for the work done on your MG!"



Pepi Gaspari Chairman, Social Media	082 410 1569	marpepi@iafrica.com
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Stephen Grover Points Register	082 818 0540	Stephendgrover@gmail.com

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kryckt@gmail.com