

# MG Car Club Northern Centre Newsletter

February 2015 — Issue 399



## **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](http://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

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

## Annual Subscriptions

Please be advised that annual subscriptions are due at the end of the year. Please note that the subscription rate has increased to R250 from 1st January 2015. (If paid by cheque or cash into the club account an extra R25 is required to cover bank charges). Joining fees

## New Members

Welcome to Richard & Avril Grover who joined during January 2015

## **2014-2015 Committee Members**

Chairman / Treasurer Steve Eden	082 372 8740	stevejreden@gmail.com
Secretary George Dehlen	082 492 1806 012 991 1754	gdehlen@iafrica.com
Records Management Jennifer Bradley		bradley.jen@gmail.com
Clubhouse Refreshments & Trophies Jay Westaway	079 528 1954 012 329 5533	jayw@vodamail.co.za
Motorsport Liaison and Competition Dave Westaway		dvwestaway@gmail.com
Newsletter Stephen Grover	082 818 0540	Stephendgrover@gmail.com
Pepi Gaspari	082 410 1569	marpepi@iafrica.com
Claus Pille	084 521 0419	pillecd@gmail.com
Vehicle Valuations Carel Wilken	083 391 1611 012 386 2136	Hercar Restorations

## AGM - 2 February 2015

Please diarise and make sure you attend, nobody will be press ganged - Honest!!

In terms of the Constitution of the MG Car Club Northern Centre (MGCC-NC) notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the MGCC-NC will be held on Monday Feb 2, 2015 at the Clubhouse, 26 Umgazi Road, Menlo Park Pretoria, at 20h00.

In terms of the Constitution three existing Committee members must be carried over to serve on the 2015 Committee. These will be Steve Eden, Stephen Grover and Dave Westaway. Nominations are required for a minimum of a further four candidates to fill the remaining positions.

Nominations, signed by the nominator and nominee, must be submitted to any Exco member before 20h00 on Feb 2, 2015

Any member, wishing to add an item to the AGM agenda for discussion must submit a suitably motivated request, signed by five members, to the Secretary before January 26, 2015.

### Nomination Form for 2014 Committee

I, ..... Being a member in good standing of the MG Car Club, Northern Centre, hereby nominate ..... to stand for election to the Club's Executive Committee.

Nominator Signature: ..... Date: .....

I accept the nomination and agree to serve on the committee if elected.

Nominee Signature: ..... Date: .....

# Jacaranda Jottings



## Jacaranda Jottings

What a good start to the year, a very successful pub night, despite the missing Grover MGA. Thanks to Stephen and Bronwyn for the post nuptial celebratory drinks.

We then had a well supported run to Bronkhorstspuit Image Café, via a coffee/beer stop in Cullinan. How often do we have 4 red MGAs on a run, pity the Iris Blue one was missing? Thanks to Claus and Julie for organising. Perhaps changing the weekend from the same as the pub night has made a difference.

This run gave us a nomination for the 2015 BGT (Ed: Bally Great Twit) Trophy, just ask the Admiral!



It is a pity that the Natters & Noggin do not seem to be as popular, I suppose there are too many other things to do these days, and some of our more elderly members do not enjoy driving at night.

Coming up next we have our AGM on Monday Feb 2nd. Please come along and make your feelings known to allow us to keep MGCC NC as the good centre it is. We actually have enough volunteers for the minimum requirements of Exco so you need not feel worried that you will be press ganged!!

However, if you do wish to join the Exco you will be most welcome. Remember, you need to have paid your subs to be able to participate in the AGM.

Following recent year's poor attendance at prize giving functions, we have decided not to organize a lunch or dinner

this year. Prize giving will take place at the February pub night. Come along to see who has won what. You never know, you could be a winner. I promise to keep it short.

Northern Centre member's Indaba Registrations are very low at present. I know it seems a long time in the future from your point of view, but the organisers need to have final numbers soon to continue with event planning. If you start now, you won't miss the small instalments required to pay the miserly R4500 per couple.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the AGM.  
Drive your MG.  
Steve

# SAMCA Run to the Vaal

Steve Grover

SAMCA hosted their annual Run to the Vaal on Sunday 11 January. While it was decided that this was not to be an official run for the Northern Centre the Johannesburg Centre was out in full force.

Claus and Julie were in attendance in their smart Yellow MGB, and I went along with my dad in the MGA. This event marked a year since Claus and Julie were introduced to the club and it was great to be able to share the event with them.

As is customary at this Event the MG's were parked within the "inner circle" of the museum, while the other clubs were parked

*(Continued on page 4)*



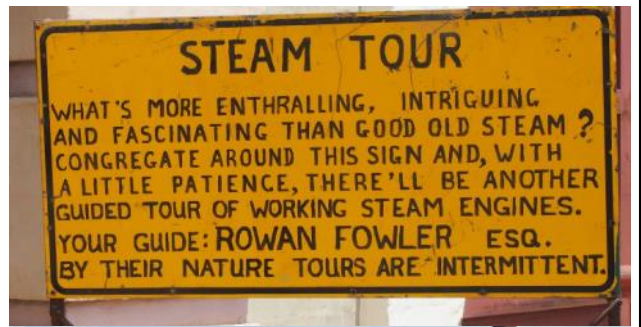
(Continued from page 3)

outside in the general parking area. The MG's were quite a spectacle and it was good fun to be involved.

The museum has expanded somewhat since the last time we visited, with the addition of an extensive collection of bicycles and a substantial collection of classic bicycles. Besides the MG's, the highlight of the event was that the museum now has three operational stationary steam engines which were fantastic to see.

SAMCA held a raffle where various automotive items, kindly sponsored by Midas and Castrol, were given away to lucky members.

An interesting morning.





Last month we introduced our new Facebook page which was launched on 9 December 2014. Thus far we have received 69 likes, some members, some international friends of the club, and some prospective members with an interest in MG.

We post updates on events while they are underway and retrospectively. Facebook Events are created for upcoming events which contain all the information you need to know about upcoming club events—noggins, pub evenings, and runs. Content which is of general interest to an MG Enthusiast is shared. Certainly, the Facebook page can be a great tool to any member of our club.

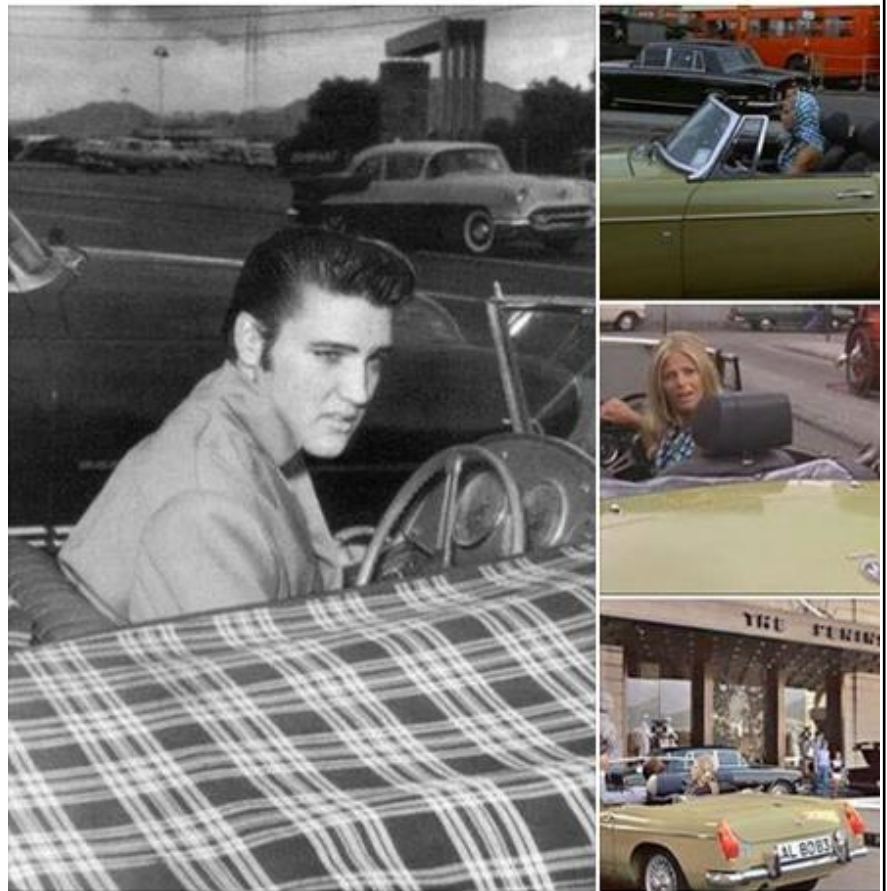
Our Facebook page can be found at the following url: <https://www.facebook.com/MGCarClubNorthernCentre> You do not need to be a member of Facebook to view the page, although you will need to be a member to post to the page. If you are a member of Facebook, please *Like* our page. This will cause the posts made to the page to show up on your newsfeed. If you think that our posts are interesting please *Share* the post - this will put the post onto your Friends newsfeeds and that is how we really generate interest in the page. In short please ***Like the Page*** and ***Share the Posts***.



MG Car Club - Northern Centre

January 22

Throw back Thursday .....MG's used in movies, can anyone help with naming the two movies this MGA and MGB were used in. Besides the male actors can anyone name the female actresses in these photos ? (9 photos)



274 people reached

Boost Post

# January Run Imagine Café via Cullinan

Claus Pille

On Sunday the 25th January we had our first club run.

A new year, new date for the club run and me as a newby since this was my first attempt in leading a club run. I guess all good (at least I hope it was good) things happen in three's.

Early morning I still had to give my yellow B a quick wash since the Saturday was taken up fixing Dirk's A's braking problem. Then check that the GPS was telling me where to go and we were ready.

At the club I nervously was waiting to meet everybody and to my delight more and more MG's pitched. I was especially glad to see Dirk with his A there and take my hat off to Dirk and Sharleen in putting their lives on the line by taking the A out after having had only a very short test run the day before. You guys deserve a medal.

10:00 we had a short drivers meeting and then it was off to meet Steve and Hazel Eden along the R104 where we regrouped.

Then we drive along the R104 up to Rayton where a brief stop to regroup caused Trevor's TD to complain about the heat under the bonnet and fuel starvation forced us to let things cool down a little. It was great to see, at that point, we had 13 MG's all parked in a row. From Trevor's TD, 4 MGA's, 5 MGB's and 4 modern TF's. The moment the TD spluttered back to life we quickly jumped into our cars and a short drive later we were in Cullinan for our first stop. We were treated like royalty by Brillante La Mia and had our own private VIP lounge to enjoy some refreshments.

From Cullinan we made our way, via some pretty scenery, to Bronkhorstspuit where we took time off to take photo's of each MG going over an old single lane bridge across the river.

We waved Bronkhorstspuit good-bye and it was only a short drive to our lunch stop at Imagine Café, next to the Bronhorstspuit dam. One of the benefits of leading a group is that one gets the best parking spaces and I was looking forward to one of the parking spots under the shade cloth since by now the temperature had climbed to nearly 30 degrees. Only the last little hill and in the valley we would turn left to the café.

Hold on!!!



I looked into my rear-view mirror and Trevor was nowhere to be seen. Eventually the TD made it over the hill but was crawling .... no .... rolling along in the yellow lane. Oops, something wrong with the as yet not really run in TD. As it turns out that all internal combustion engines do like petrol to perform and as Trevor put his fuel gauge into the tank and removed it again the picture was clear. A bone dry measuring stick.

While the rest of the group carried on to the café (and took all the shaded parking!!!!) we quickly towed the TD back to Bronkhorstspuit and VOILA after petroleum was added to the tank the TD was ready to roar.



*(Continued from page 6)*

Very thirsty we made it to the Imagine Café where the aircon was quite a relief. A great time chatting (as usual at these club runs) was had by all. Those that had a lot to say had to order another round as a thunderstorm surprised us all. Once the raindrops had subsided we all made our way back home.

I was relieved that all went pretty smoothly and I guess I'm up for it again to organize another ride.

Thanks to all that attended.



# Loosing my Head

The year is now well underway, and the club seems to have gotten off to a busy start. An enjoyable Noggin where we enjoyed an audio-visual presentation of last year's Jacaranda run. The presentation has now been loaded onto youtube.com, and is available to view through our Facebook page, or via this url: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6RMWvwrDf1A> – many thanks to Dirk Putter for putting it together for us.

Bronwyn and I thoroughly enjoyed hosting the January pub-evening. It was wonderful to celebrate our recent marriage with our many friends from the Club. We had a wonderful evening, and eventually locked up and left the club around 23:30 – thank-you to all those that made it such a memorable evening, with particular thanks to Claus and Gary for manning the braai and to Jay for spending the evening behind the bar. Also, I must make a special mention of Peter Noeth who was at the club in his Grey Lady for the first time in a long time - it was wonderful to see him. We do hope to see more of him in the coming weeks.

Unfortunately the planned “reveal” of our recently acquired MGA wasn't destined to happen at the pub evening. The car developed started ping-pong on the way home from work on the afternoon of the pub evening, which rapidly developed into a misfire – she was certainly in no shape to take the trip from Johannesburg to Pretoria at 17:00 on a Friday – Bronwyn's plastic car was pressed into service, and the MGA left to be looked at over the weekend. What I originally thought was an ignition problem actually proved to be a blow cylinder-head gasket between No. 1 and No. 2 cylinder. The MGA will now be off the road while we replace the head gasket. I am trying my absolute best to resist the temptation to take more apart than I need to...



The January club run was good fun, as so well reported on by Claus in this newsletter. With the MGA off the road the MGB GT was pressed into club-service for the day, which in retrospect – given the heavy rains encountered on the way home – was a good thing. It was fantastic to see so many cars out on the run, and it was especially good to see Trevor's TD out!



Coming up this weekend is the racing at Zwartkops which is well worth making a day of – although I find myself in a state of turmoil as to whether I will be going to watch the racing or working on the MGA... Decisions, Decisions...

Club events for the upcoming month include the AGM, pub evening (which will include the awards presentation and dinner arranged by Pepi Gaspari) and the monthly run. All of these events promise to be very enjoyable, and if the current weather continues to hold so well the pub evening and run will be great opportunities to enjoy the summer. Looking forward to seeing you there.

On a personal note, it was with great excitement that my mom and dad, Avril and Richard Grover, have joined our centre! My dad is responsible for putting me inside, underneath, and on top of MG's for as long as I can remember and I am forever indebted to him for fostering MG enthusiasm in me (Bronwyn regularly questions why he thought this was a good idea...) I am very excited that they have decided to join the club, and look forward to sharing many club events with them.

Octagonally,  
Steve Grover



# Club Points Summary

## Introduction:

Leading up to the awards evening, to be held on 13 February 2015 at the club house, the Club's Exco felt that it was worthwhile to discuss the manner in which points are allocated for the Victor Ludorum and Clubman awards.

During the upcoming year we will be publishing the points standings in the monthly newsletter to keep all members abreast of where they are in the standings, and to encourage members to attend and participate in events.

## Clubman Trophy:

The Clubman Trophy is awarded annually to members or their spouses who obtain the highest number of points, which are awarded:

- for attendance at an official Northern Centre function – 10 points
- for attending the function in an MG, whether as a driver or passenger – 10 points
- for organising and promoting an official Northern Centre function or assisting the organizer – 5 to 20 points at discretion of Exco
- for proposing a new member – 5 points
- for organising a non-official event such as a pub-evening or a midweek run – 5 to 20 points at discretion of Exco

## Victor and Victrix Laudorum

The Victor and Victrix Laudorum Trophies are the MG Car Club Northern Centre's awards for members competing in official competitive events during a year (compared to the Clubman Trophy which is the Centre's award for members providing service to the club and participating in official club events not necessarily of a competitive nature). The competitive events qualifying for Victor Laudorum points are nominated and announced by the Exco early in each calendar year.

Points are awarded as follows:

- |   |  |           |
|---|--|-----------|
| a) Competing Points:  |  |           |
| For competing in any competitive event nominated for VL by the MGNC Committee.  |  | 10 points |
| b) Bonus Points:  |  |           |
| For competing in the competition in an MG, whether as a driver or passenger as follows:   |  |           |
| Pre-war (pre 1940)  |  | 16 points |
| T or Y types (all models)   |  | 14 points |
| MGA (all models), ZA, ZB or Magnette  |  | 12 points |
| Midget, MGB, MGBGT, MGBGT V8, MGC, MGCGT, Metro, Maestro or Montego   |  | 10 points |
| RV8, MGF, MGTF, ZR, ZS, ZT, ZTT, MG6, MG3   |  | 8 points  |
| c) Placing Points:  |  |           |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> place or Gold award   |  | 6 points  |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> place or Silver award   |  | 5 points  |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> place or Bronze award   |  | 4 points  |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> place   |  | 3 points  |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> place   |  | 2 points  |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> place   |  | 1 point   |
| d) Organising Points: Where the organiser of a nominated competitive event is ineligible for competing in that event, he or she shall receive points for participation (a above), bonus points (b above), and 3 points in lieu of placing points (c above). |  |           |

# Club Points Summary

(continued)

## Other Trophies

Other awards listed as active are listed below;

- Speed Events
- Driving Tests
- Circuit Racing / Track Events
- Regularity Rally Events
- Best Restoration
- Club Condition Concours
- Cats Eyes Trial

All of the regulations for the active awards, those listed above as well as the Clubman and Victor Laudorum, can be reviewed on the club's website at <http://www.mgcc-north.co.za/mgcc-trophies>

## Upcoming Events

### AGM

**Monday 2 February 2015**

Full details of the AGM are on Page 2 of the newsletter. Please attend.

Date: **Monday 2 February 2015**  
Time: **19h30 for 20h00**  
Where: **MGCC Northern Centre Clubhouse  
Corner of 26th Avenue and Umgazi Road  
Menlo Park**

### Pub Evening & Awards Presentation

**Friday 13 February 2015**

The February pub evening to be combined with the annual awards evening. As usual this is taking place on the second Friday after the noggin.

There will be dinner on sale at R25/person, and Pepi Gaspari is preparing something different.

The bar will be open and all are welcome to come and join us for a social evening.

Date: **Friday 13 February 2015**  
Time: **17h30 onwards**  
Where: **MGCC Northern Centre Clubhouse  
Corner 26 Avenue and Umgazi Road  
Menlo Park**

# Upcoming Events

## Club Run Magaliesburg Sunday 22 February 2015

We will be doing a run out to the West in February. We will meet at the club house from 09:00 for a 09:30 departure, and will then rendezvous to gather and to refuel at the Total Garage on the N14 West at 10:00 for a 10:15 departure - members are welcome to meet at either of these locations depending on convenience.

Maps or directions will be available to avoid total dependence on the convoy for route-finding.

We will have a stop for coffee for other refreshing beverage at around 11:30 and then carry on to a lunch stop at around 13:00. The lunch stop will be an a la carte or pub-style lunch, and not a buffet as was the case for the January Run.

The event promises to be good fun, and take in some scenic roads. Please join us.

Date: **Sunday 22 February 2015**  
Time: **Meet at 09h00 for 09:30 departure from clubhouse**  
**OR**  
**Meet at 10:00 for 10:15 departure from N14 West Total**

## Condition Concours – Sunday 22 March 2015

*To be held at the MG Northern Centre Clubhouse, this will take the usual form of bring-and-braai (fires will be available) or bring a picnic lunch. The bar will be open, of course. The gates will be open at 08h30, and cars should be in place by 09h30.*

*The Condition Concours is not as serious as Concours d'Etat as it uses the straightforward "Tops Only" Judging format. This means that only the exterior and interior of the cars are judged for cleanliness*

*and condition*

*– authenticity is not judged. The engine compartment, boot and chassis are also not judged.*

*So – get stuck in and see how your pride and joy fares against maybe one or two new restorations that we might see for the first time.*

*If you can assist Jay Westaway (he still needs some helpers) please call him on 079 528 1954.*



# Upcoming Events

Greetings from Scottburgh

The Scottburgh Classic Car Club will be hosting its annual car show again this year on **Sunday 19th July**. **Please note that the venue has changed and the Show will be held at the Scottburgh High School (SHS)**. We were compelled to move the Show due to irreconcilable differences with the Country Club on financial and logistical issues. More information about the SHS will be sent to you in due course.

So, I wish to invite your Club again to this event to enjoy a day of fun and nostalgia with hundreds of other classic car enthusiasts while raising money for charities.

Last year's event was our fifth show and it was extremely successful with over 5000 visitors and about 450 classic vehicles. In addition to the History of my Car Parade, there was also a Concours d'Elegance Parade where people dressed up in the period of their vehicle. Two entrants won cash prizes of R500 each for their efforts. **Big** prizes are to be won again this year so please encourage your club members to dress up and enter. I am confident that I can arrange another special accommodation deal with the Blue Marlin Hotel again for this year's Show and details will follow soon.

Each year we feature a different marque and to date we have showcased MG, Triumph, Jaguar and Austin Healey. This year will be the turn of the **Great American Classics** with their fins and chrome.

I would remind you again that the cut off date for motor vehicles and motor bikes remains unchanged at **1975**. Later models will be admitted provided that they come as members of their Classic Car Club which has been invited to the Show. Some of these club members drive plastics and these cars will only be admitted if they display a "Special Invitation" disc on their windscreen. There will be no exceptions and these discs will be supplied by me with pleasure upon request. It is also mandatory that all classic cars entering the showground must carry a fire extinguisher. I am confident that all cars will have them anyway because you will not get classic car insurance without one.

Supercars and other classics of special interest will be invited by "Special Invitation" and windscreen stickers will be issued to these exhibitors before the Show. Please understand that these qualifications are necessary to ensure that the SCCS does not degenerate into a display of modern vehicles whose owners believe that their modern plastic is a "classic". It will remain a "Classic Car Show" for genuine classic car enthusiasts!

Gates open on Sunday at 07h30 for classic car exhibitors and 09h00 for visitors. The show is in aid of local charities and institutions. This year's beneficiaries will be announced on our website and their names will be clearly displayed at the Show entrance. A voluntary donation of R5 will be requested from each classic vehicle/bike that wishes to exhibit on the field.

I hope that you will again incorporate the SCCS into your Club's calendar. Please would you let me know nearer the time, how much space we should reserve on the Show field for your Club's cars/bikes. Please visit our website for updates on the SCCS.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards,

Peter Fielding - Event Organizer - Website: [www.scottburghclassiccarshow.co.za/](http://www.scottburghclassiccarshow.co.za/)  
039 976 1995

## Birthdays

We would like to take the opportunity to wish the following members a very happy birthday.

2 February: Mike Cooney

5 February: Stanley Dawson

9 February: Paul Metcalf

10 February: Gerhardt De Jager

12 February: Francois Andre Du Toit

18 February: Gus Heinze

20 February: Trevor Beddy

**Note:** Our records regarding birthday's are a bit sketchy in places. If your birthday occurs in February and your name is not listed here please contact the editor, or Claus Pille, to allow us to update the records. Thank-you.

# Forthcoming Events

Point allocation c=Clubman, v= Victrix/tor Ludorum

## January 2015

Fri 30 Sat 31	Zwartkops International Historics Racing		<b>Historic Racing</b> The Annual Historics Race Meeting at Zwarkops. Not an official run, but an interesting day out.
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## February 2015

Mon 2	MG Car Club Northern Centre Annual General Meeting	NC	<b>MGCC NC Clubhouse</b>  20h00 <i>See Page 2 for Details</i>	c
Fri 13	Pub Evening and Awards Presentation	NC	<b>MGCC NC Clubhouse</b>  17h30 onwards <i>See Page 10 for Details</i>	
Sun 22	Monthly Run to Magaliesburg	NC	<b>MGCC NC Clubhouse</b> at 09h00 for 09h30 departure <b>OR</b> <b>N14W Total Garage</b> at 10h00 for 10h15 departure	c

## March 2015

Mon 2	Natter 'n Noggin	NC	<b>MGCC NC Clubhouse</b>  20h00	c
Fri 13	Pub Evening	NC	<b>MGCC NC Clubhouse</b>  17h30 onwards	
Sun 22	Condition Concour	NC	<b>MGCC NC Clubhouse</b> Gates open 08h30, cars in position by 09h30. <i>See page 11 for full details</i>	c



**Our Sponsors so far - get your Logo in here ASAP!**



You are invited to join us for the 2016 Indaba.

The event will be held over 3 days, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, 2nd, 3rd and 4th September 2016.  
Registration forms are available on the Club Website

Concours, and other competitive events will take place, we will provide you with the opportunity to visit some places of interest in and around Pretoria.

Web-site; [www.mgcc-north.co.za/Indaba2016](http://www.mgcc-north.co.za/Indaba2016)

E-mail: [indaba2016@gmail.com](mailto:indaba2016@gmail.com)  
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**Trading Post**

The classifieds section of the newsletter is still active - although no new items have been received for some time.

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

**For Sale**

None

**Wanted**

None