



UMG AZIST

MAG

July 2024

Club details

Chairman :

Bernard Mostert

Committee:

Robin Clarke

Richard Grover

Michael Mole

Stephen Grover

Cameron Mcleod

Jaco van Vuuren

Shaun Freeman

GPS S 25 46.495 E 28 16.035

Bank account MG CAR CLUB

NORTHERN

FNB

62363284359

Birthdays

- 6 August - Mervyn
- 16 August - Geoff
- 19 August - Dave Goodrum
- 24 August - Peter Faul
- 26 August - Johnnie
- 29 August - Bill Sales

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



Meetings are usually on the
First Monday of the Month.
Please check by phone



082 902 5119



www.mgcc-north.co.za



rjc@mweb.co.za



*The opinions expressed in this
newsletter are almost certainly
not those of the Committee.*

Greetings to all Northern Club Members,

If you've been following our social media and WhatsApp group discussions, you'll know that summer in the UK has brought a wealth of car shows and activities. Highlights include the centenary celebrations of the MG marque, the launch of the MG Cyberster, and some thrilling classic racing events.

This brings us to a hot topic: the shift from internal combustion engines to electric vehicles. Be sure to read William's article in this edition for an interesting perspective on this debate.

Our new theme for the noggins involves club members showcasing (and bragging about) their cars. This month was no exception, with Jay presenting his stunning Iris Blue MGB roadster. The car was a crowd favourite and was voted Car of the Day at our combined show day.

Not to be outdone by the bustling European summer activities, we held our annual combined show day at the Pretoria Old Motor Club (POMC). Initially, I was a bit concerned about the turnout, but the day exceeded all expectations. Once all the members and a few broken-down cars were towed to the venue, it turned out to be a special day, helped along by perfect weather.



August is packed full of club activities, leading up to some members heading off to the National Indaba in Grabouw.

I look forward to seeing you at the club. Keep an eye on the WhatsApp group for all the details.

Octagonally,

Bernard

**Chairmans
Note**



Once at POMC, it seemed that the day had different adventures planned for the participants. The plan was to have cars in place at 09h30, but at 10h00 we may have had 20 cars, tough if you planned for 40! Then the effort from POMC to have food and drinks, I was worried about the day.

As they say – “things will work out in the end, if it not working yet, it is not the end” – within 10 minutes we suddenly had a group of cars arriving. Unfortunately, one of our friends from Johannesburg broke down, so Robin’s trailer was put to good work again and just like the pied piper, all the cars followed the trailer and we were ready to start the day’s planned activities.

We had about 60 MG’s on the day – the tops competition had a good number of participants and the day had the following results:

1st – Bernard with a TC

2nd – Helen and Frik with a B roadster

3rd – Gavin Knowles, also with a B

As for the Concourse competition it seems that there is still some “resistance” to enter. The day only had two entries. A 1937 VA and a 1958 ZB Magnette. A lot of effort was put cleaning the cars and at the end Marelize took the prize with her ZB.







**MGCC Combined Centres Show Day
Sun 21st July '24 @ POMC**

**MGCC Combined Centres Show Day
Sunday 21st July 2024 @ POMC**



It was the MG Showday recently and I had hoped to have the Volvo EX 30 on test because I would have entered it with a paper MG logo over the Volvo badge. And then taken a few naysayers on a drive to the path of enlightenment. I am not entirely sure I would have succeeded but in all fairness I'm not sure that it bothers me all that much either since it takes all types to make a world and it would be dreadfully boring if we all agreed with each other all the time.

But I was asked to write this and immediately my spidey senses started to tingle because if nothing else, I am quite perceptive...

But before we get there, if we go way back in the distant annals of time that are of current interest, MG was bought by SAIC in 2007. SAIC is a Chinese auto manufacturer - the Shanghai Automotive Industry Corporation. It only sold a measly, almost insignificant and menial 5 million vehicles last year.

Some of which were MGs.

As a quick aside one has to wonder why China's largest state owned auto manufacturer has not joined the Chinese stampede into the South Africa market?

The MG brand under SAIC was fairly slow out of the starting blocks with a few models being released in the early years of which the MG3 and MG6 made it to South Africa. They didn't do particularly well if we're being kind.

But since 2018 however, the MG brand kicked into high gear and since then has produced more models than I think MG ever did in the preceding 6 decades since it was sold to SAIC. At last count I see 29 different models in the current MG lineup.

That's a lot and it spans sedans, hatches, crossover SUVs, SUVs, minivans and even a bakkie! The biggest segment by far is of course the crossover SUV which has 12 models lined up. It's astonishing.

The model names vary almost as much. We find the MG3, MG4, MG5, MG6, MG7 and MG9 (I have no idea what happened to the 8 either) in nomenclature reminiscent of the hard work undertaken and pioneered in the early MG marketing sweatshops of decades prior coming up with the gems of MG TA, MG TB, MG TC, MG TD and then of course the MGA, MGB, MGC in the good old bad days.

MG Evs!

By William Kelly

Of course, this was just the beginning and when MG really let their hair down in later decades we saw the release of radical madness, borderline lunacy with the incongruous ZR, ZS, F and TF. They really pushed the boat out didn't they?

SAIC have however embraced modernity with new names for MGs such as Hector, Gloster, Marvel R and my new favourite model name ever, Whale.

The problem is that despite these glowing new names is that what is overwhelmingly and glaringly absent from what is one of the greatest sports marques the world has ever seen is a simple two door sports car. And until 2023 that gap remained obstinately, despondently empty.

MG have decades and decades of sporting heritage built around exactly this and whilst that may have reflected the times back then and the current line up now reflects our times the absence is jarring.

In 2023 however, SAIC filled it with the Cyberster. A two door sports car.



It's not the one in the foreground in case there is any confusion.

And they added these doors.



And then they made it all electric. Wow. Just wow. To say that was a brave move is to say that me stepping into the ring with the Rock is brave. Just think of the message that sends to all the petrol head loving MG aficionados around the world. Let me just add that if you think the Alfisti (Alfa Romeo fanatics) is a movement with substance let me assure you that the MG equivalent doesn't even have a name because it is just so much bigger. It's quite the statement in other words. And there is no petrol version coming either to just add extra emphasis. Even I had a moment as a dyed in the wool hardened EV evangelist.

But 375kW, 0-100 in 3.2 seconds (claimed) shut me up. You can argue all you like about any number of drawbacks EV might have but you'll find yourself at the back of the queue. And if you have petrol in your veins you'd better suit up in fire proof clothing because, well, just look at it! These are bite the back of your hand drop dead gorgeous looks.

Will it ever get to SA? Who knows? We live in hope.

MG, to their credit, had already gone a few steps down the EV road already and they have 11 EVs in the lineup. Whilst we don't know sales numbers just the measured commitment in costs for R&D, tooling and manufacturing this number of models tells us that there is a significant commitment to the EV platform and future for MG. And if the looks of the MG9 are anything to go with they are going to be awesome.



There is something satisfying in the completion of another chapter in the story of MG. It is that the story is continuing. It is that the Cyberster exists and that it will get up into the faces of just about anything out there. It's deeply gratifying and maybe in this lies the roots of a good story of "down and out coming good", of "up against the ropes and still getting back into the fight", of "the Jedi prevailing despite the odds".

Tesla? What Tesla?

It is the reboot of an iconic brand with all new stories to tell.

And sure, maybe on a personal level it is also a second life extension for my little MGB in my garage purely due to the fact that brand MG is not dead. It's just had a little rest and a think about things before coming back stronger than ever before, abreast with the times and bristling with potential at the cutting edge of EV. It is the spirit of MG of the past that allows MG of the present to continue new chapters, new developments and new markets for the future.

I believe that Cecil Kimber would approve - and that's good enough for me.



Does anyone know the background to this streamlined beast?



6th of July saw a lovely run to Jack Taylor Airfield. It was founded in the early nineteen sixties by Mr. Jack Taylor, who landed his Piper Tripacer ZS-CEX at Krugersdorp. He was a Krugersdorp resident and businessman and needed to commute from Krugersdorp where there was no airfield at the time. The lovely old Tiger Moths were a joy to behold. There was a really ascinating presentation on the restoration of an old high wing monoplane (if you think cars are demanding, this is on another level) and an excellent lunch. I think this would be a great Northernns destination again (apparently we've been there a few times in the misty past!)

Joburg Club Airfield Run

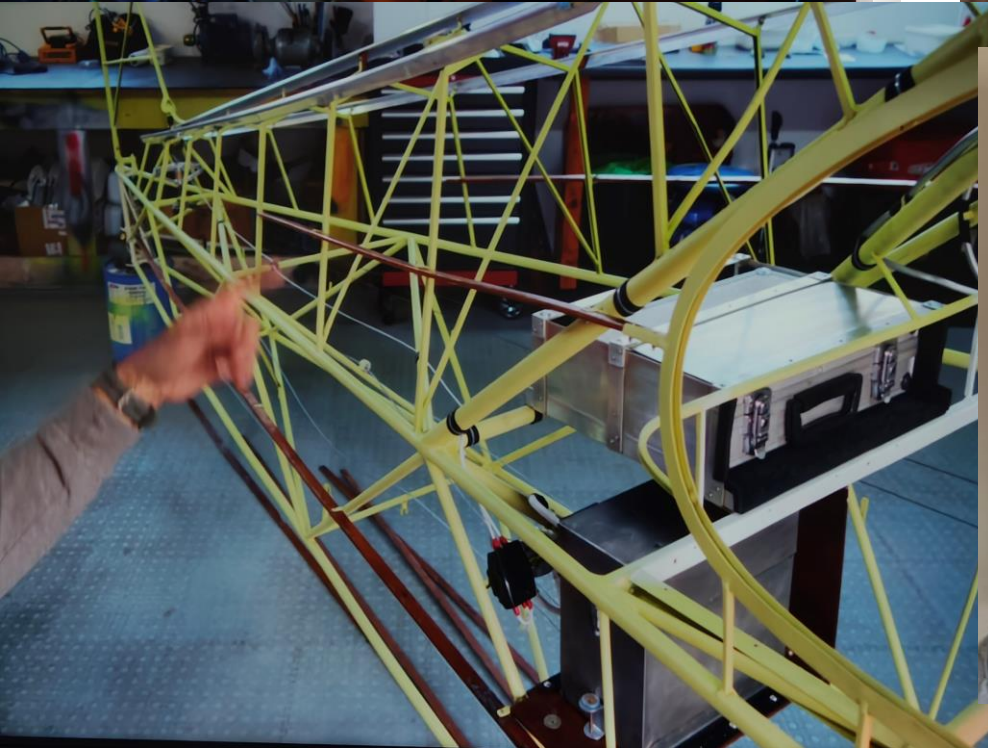








Roy De Staedler's recently completed Flying Flea. Roy's Henri Mignet designed Flying Flea or "Louse of the sky" took to the sky with Dale at the controls after an almost 18-year build. The original had its first flight in 1933. The odd name comes from the French nickname for the Ford Model T automobile: Pou de la Route, or "Louse of the Road", because Henry Ford's economy car was so common. Henri Mignet dreamed of creating a Model T of the air, an airplane for the common man.









306285 km. The engine has been completely overhauled with new pistons and sleeves, all big end plus main bearing new fitted the crank was cut and polished to suit, all new valves. I have replaced the clutch kit completely and I had new radiator and to spec from aluminium, new gaskets all round. I bought all the parts from Dover parts in Jhb, the vehicle has also a remote control music system in it.

Phone Michael Jackson 081 475 8902. I'm in the Cape but the vehicle is in Krugersdorp



For Sale
2004 MG
zr120

WATKINS GLEN
GRAND-PRIX

FESTIVAL

PRESENTED BY



Chemung Canal
Trust Company



MG
MOMENTS+
MEMORIES

SEPTEMBER 6, 2024
DOWNTOWN WATKINS GLEN

A PRODUCTION OF WATKINS GLEN PROMOTIONS
607.635.3003 ♦ WWW.GRANDPRIXFESTIVAL.COM

*Robert Colledge
2024*



Still the Number 1
SPECIALIST SUPPLIERS
OF
CLASSIC BRITISH MOTOR PARTS



In the business of supplying parts for *your* MG

For efficient and friendly service
contact
Alan or Denise

011 646 1631
011 486 0021

sportscar@mweb.co.za



11 Westmeath Road Parkview Johannesburg
P O Box 72045 Parkview 2122

Month	Noggin	Club Night	Run	Where?	Public Holiday
January	X	X	28	Leeferink Picnic	
February	5	16	25	The Shed & Silo	
March	4	15	24	Kupika	21 & 29
April	8	12	21	Brauhaus	1 & 27
May	6	17	26	Lowveld - weekend	1
June	3	14	23	Showday & Boot sale	16
July	1	12	21	Combined show	
August	5	16	25	Gymkhana	9
September	2	13	22	Cullinan run	24
October	7	18	20/27	Jacaranda	
November	4	15	24	Gymkhana	
December	2	x	7	Christmas party	



The **EMGEE**

Workshop

Quality Suppliers of British Car Parts

Paige McLeod
071 938 8027

Cameron McLeod
082 822 0175



✉ sales@emgeeworkshop.com

📘 Emgee Workshop

📍 Mondeor JHB, South





FOR
REPAIRS & SERVICING

RESTORATIONS ALSO UNDERTAKEN

**CALL GINO CAPRIN
061 959 6941**

27 CHRYSTAL ST. DENVER, JHB.



**RIMMER
BROS** EST 1962

A BRITISH COMPANY SUPPORTING BRITISH CARS



MGB - MGB GT - MGF - MG TF
MG MIDGET - MG ZR
MG ZS - MG ZT - MONTEGO - MAESTRO

ALL THE PARTS YOU NEED

FROM THE SMALLEST
NUT & BOLT TO AN ENTIRE
BODYSHELL & EVERYTHING
IN-BETWEEN

QUALITY PARTS & ACCESSORIES
FAST & RELIABLE WORLDWIDE DELIVERY
EXTENSIVE WEBSITE
VAST STOCKS AT 100,000 SQ FT HQ
KNOWLEDGEABLE STAFF
FREE COMPREHENSIVE CATALOGUES
PRICE MATCH

TRADE & WHOLESALE ENQUIRIES WELCOME



ASK US FOR A
FREE CATALOGUE



WEB - www.rimmerbros.com
EMAIL - sales@rimmerbros.com
TEL - +44(0)1522 568000

Rimmer Bros., Triumph House, Sleaford Road, Bracebridge Heath, Lincoln. LN4 2NA.



SEE OUR
SOCIAL MEDIA

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Club website: www.mgcc-north.co.za

e-mail: rjc@mweb.co.za

Membership entry form

Surname	First Names	Partner's Names
Postal Address	Residential Address	Tel. (H): Tel. (W): Fax: Cell: e-mail:
ID No.	Profession/Occupation	Membership of other Clubs:

Details of MG/s owned		Payment For:	Amount
Model		Entry Fee for new members	R200
Body Type		Annual membership fee	
Year		Full member	R530
Running?		Country/associate/student	R280
		TOTAL	
Include on Whatsapp group?		<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N	

Please note that new members pay the New Member Fee plus the Full Member Fee. Applications paid after 30th September will be deemed to have paid in full for the following year as well.

Please complete the form and e-mail it to the Membership Secretary at rjc@mweb.co.za

Payment to be made by EFT to the Club's account at First National Bank. Please put your name as the reference. :-

**MG Car Club-Northern Centre
Branch Number 252045
Account Number 62363284359**

Please provide an e-mail address. This will ensure that you will receive the Club's monthly Newsletter as well as any other relevant information.

I hereby agree to accept and be bound by the Constitution and Rules of the MG CAR CLUB NORTHERN CENTRE. The Constitution and Rules are available on the Club website.

Signature Date

Note: If the applicant is under 21 years of age, then this form and the conditions contained herein must be signed by the applicant's Parent or Legal Guardian.

Parent/guardian full name.....Signature.....Date.....

All members are required to complete and submit a SAMCA Indemnity, forms are available on the website (www.mgcc-north.co.za) under the membership tab.

FOR COMMITTEE USE:

Receipt Date.	Date assigned:	Committee Approval	Membership No.	Comments:
		<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N		



Stay Safe



**And have a
MightyGood
Month!**

