



# The Breed

MG Car Club, Cape Town Centre, Suite 276, Private Bag X16, Constantia, 7848  
[www.mgcc-ct.co.za](http://www.mgcc-ct.co.za)



## MAY 2009 NEWSLETTER

### From the Chair - James Reinhardt

With no time to spare, in fact, possibly late,  
Your Chairman realised he was late to the gate.  
The stress was enormous; the pressure was prime  
He had foolishly promised a waffle in rhyme.

Events fast approaching, for next month (that's May)  
Include one for the women and another track day.  
Killarney, May 10 is the time and the venue  
There'll be MG's and others, fast fun on the menu.

Women's Day is really in August, I know  
The calendar was re-written later and so  
Our Women's' event is this month, you see.  
Get over it, deal with it. Just let it be.

And now some promotion: our very next meeting  
Will feature a talk that is truly world beating:  
Ralph Clark will talk, in a manner that's cheering  
Of C-Types and engines, and bespoke engineering.

Now I will cease rhyming, and you can stop reading.  
The words have been tortured, and syntax lies bleeding,  
So all that remains, is my greeting, as ever:  
Get out in your MG! Whatever the weather!

(Gentle reader: This chairman's waffle was written in (tortured) rhyme in remembrance of Annie Hogg, who I am told, used to insert poems of her own writing into the Breed when she was Editor.)

---

**CLASSICALLY BRITISH: CAR PARTS AND ACCESSORIES**  
SPECIALISING IN MG, TRIUMPH, CLASSIC MINI & MORRIS MINOR  
SPARES

WE NOW SUPPLY PARTS FOR LAND ROVER, DISCOVERY,  
RANGE ROVER AND FREE LANDER

Contact Peter Flowers 021-9754475 or 078 639 0151

[www.classically-british.com](http://www.classically-british.com) and e-mail: [info@classically-british.com](mailto:info@classically-british.com)

## CLUB CALENDAR

### May 2009

10	Sunday	TBA	Track Day at Killarney. See Below.
13	Wednesday	19h00	General meeting at the Clubhouse in Pinelands Ralph Clark will give a talk on Hoodoo – don't miss this!!!!
17	Sunday	08h00	Ladies day. See details on page 3. Don't miss this either!
28	Thursday	10h00	Meet at Constantia Village Shopping Centre 10 am to leave 10:30 sharp. Travel to Simonstown via Ou Kaapse weg to the Warrior Toy Museum. Lunch at Bertha's Restaurant. There will be reserved secure parking on the side of the restaurant.

### June 2009

10	Wednesday	19h00	General meeting at the Clubhouse in Pinelands
19/20 /21	Friday- Sunday		Weekend away to Hermanus. See April Breed
25	Thursday	TBA	Veterans run - An informative and through the back door tour of the Children's Red Cross Hospital is on the cards. See page 3.

### July 2009

8	Wednesday	19h00	General meeting at the Clubhouse in Pinelands
11	Saturday	08h00	Mid-winter wine tour
30	Thursday	09h30	Meet at Somerset West. Discover Wine Estates and places of interest in the Elgin area.

## FUTURE EVENTS:

Dear fellow petrol heads and classic car lovers.

Charles Murray Memorial Day - 10 May 2009

As members of the Jaguar / Lancia / MG / Triumph / MX6 club, you are invited to join us at a very special, new-look Charles Murray Memorial Day. In affectionate honour of the late Charles Murray, a popular and enthusiastic chairman of the Cape Alfa Romeo Club (who was tragically killed in a car accident), we are applying a new formula to the day to breathe new life into it. And of course keep it alive by making a very expensive day affordable through numbers. We trust that Charles would approve.

We believe that classics (and a few modern classics) from fellow Multi-Club enthusiasts from your clubs will spice up the day adding interest to the pit lane with some different cars to look at and interesting conversation with some fellow petrol heads from our sister classic clubs.

On the day, according to the number of entries and vehicle types, vehicles will be allocated to appropriate sessions to ensure maximum track time, with similar vehicles.

Making things even more interesting will be a very informal inter-club "Car of the Day" competition, trophies being kindly donated by Western Province Motor Club, for the winners. Also on the agenda will be a **lucky draw** between the participants for the **prize** of one Year's **free membership** to WPMC also kindly donated by the good folks at Killarney. Many thanks to Brian Smith re-elected Chairman of WPMC, whom we are proud to have as a member of our club.

There will be a catering caravan on site from about 10.30 to keep your energy levels up to standard.

Formalities on the day:

Cost per driver: R200.00 (The track will be open from approx 10.30 for the entire day, closed over lunch)

Cost per passenger: R50.00

**Registration & Scrutineering: 8.30am - 10.30am ONLY - No late registrations**

After registration there will be a compulsory driver's briefing, followed by a short period of instruction for first timers or those who would like a refresher

Open topped vehicles: Open topped vehicles are welcome - please be aware and accept that there is always a higher element of risk with such a vehicle. Convertibles will run in their own sessions or with slower cars, and drivers will be expected to sign an additional indemnity.

ONLY VEHICLES OF THE APPROPRIATE MARQUES WILL BE ALLOWED.

On arrival - please enter the pits, and drive towards the scrutineering garages (on the corner at the start of the main straight) we will guide you from there on.

If you haven't already done so - please assign a spokesman from your club to assist Stephen with communications and arrangements on the day. It would also be great if you could indicate approximate number of participants from your club up front to aid planning.

For your safety and enjoyment:

Please ensure:

Oil fresh and full (important for high cornering speeds)

Brake fluid not more than 2 years old (or it could boil & leave you with no brakes - often on the next session...!)

Newish (not new) brake pads

Tyre pressures harder than usual

Absolutely no oil (or other) leaks!!

No loose items in car, boot or engine bay. Check that battery!! & your wheel nuts!!!

Secure seats and seat belts

You bring a crash helmet

Wear non-synthetic clothing, long pants and sleeves (in case of fire - highly unlikely but let's be safe)

ABSOLUTELY 0% alcohol in blood (and stomach!)

Drivers briefing is compulsory for drivers

Late arrival and registration ONLY BY PRIOR ARRANGEMENT - Stephen also insists on track time!! (He's funny that way...)

Training sessions will be available for new timers to learn braking points, turn in points, apexes

NO OVERTAKING IN CORNERS (You *will* be black flagged)

MOVE OVER IF YOU'RE HOLDING SOMEONE UP - ESPECIALLY THROUGH CORNERS!

KEEP RIGHT - PASS LEFT!!! (Just like on the N1!!)

For the skeptics: Please note that this is a track day, not a race day. It is an event designed for you to enjoy and get to know your classic (or modern classic!) under safe and controlled conditions - you and your car are at less risk than on a public road. (No taxis, no road works, everyone going in the same direction, with strict control & safety measures). You are free to go at your own pace. And there is minimal wear and tear on your car & tyres (Unless you're *really* pushing hard). Follow and practice what your instructor tells you and you will be a better driver at the end of the day.

For more details contact Stephen - preferably at home (ie after hours) on 021 903 4422 or 0827776196.

Come and enjoy the day with us - we hope to see you there in your CLASSIC!

---

## **WOMEN'S DAY : SUNDAY 17 MAY - BREAKFAST RUN**

Sandy Domisse and Karin Champion are organising a "Women's' Day" MG event. Unfortunately with the club calendar being re-arranged to accommodate immovable events, the Women's' Day event ends up nowhere near Women's' Day.

Date: Sunday, May 17.

Meet: Engen N1 (Outbound) Service Station

Time: 8:00 for 8:30 depart for a pleasant drive to the breakfast venue

---

## **FUTURE EVENTS - VETERANS' GROUP - Jo Hitchcock.**

May 28: Meet at Constantia Village shopping centre at 10h00. Travel to Simonstown to visit Warrior Toy Museum and lunch at Bertha's Restaurant at about 12h30.

June 25: A tour through the Children's Red Cross Hospital has been organized. Exactly how deep into the workings of this amazing establishment we will go - or parts thereof - remains to be seen given internal circumstances at the hospital on the day. Depending on our numbers attending we will probably be split into two groups - one group going clockwise so to speak and the other anti-clockwise. If there are more folk than can be accommodated in those two groups then a third will be set up.

We are still awaiting details from the hospital regarding the time required to complete such a tour so for now here is the "going backwards" timing for us.

Lunch will be in the Barn at Kelvin from about 12.30 / 13.00. You will be able to order what they offer from pizzas, fish `n chips, burgers and more – at about R50 to R60 a time. Hooch is available.

To facilitate the hospital tour a meeting time AT THE HOSPITAL will be advised for any who wish to go straight there. That's for any weather softies.

For those wishing for a bit of a scenic drive to the hospital we will meet at the V & A Service station (Caltex) and proceed around the 12 apostles, Hout Bay and Constantia neck to the hospital to arrive timeously for the tour.

More details and timing will be advised. Contact person – Paul de Groot

---

## **VETERANS' NEWS - Jo Hitchcock.**

Disaster! Disaster! These were Garth Green's words on the other side of the telephone. The disaster was that "Hook, Line and Sinker", which was booked months ahead, could only seat 26 people while our list of names were standing at 41 by that time. With two days to go Garth had to make another plan quickly. After a number of phone calls to various other venues on-route, he finally found a super restaurant of which the manager was prepared to cater for up to fifty people if needed. Read all about this in Celia's report on page ..... Garth was presented with the plaque of the month for organising an excellent run.

### **SOCIAL NEWS :**

We are glad to report that both Hilda Clarke and Lucille Ten Oever are up and about and in good spirit.

What a surprise when I phoned the Plow's residence to enquire how Mike was progressing, and then to hear the man himself on the other side. He has recovered miraculously – speaking quite normally, walking unaided, even climbing stairs. He says he has restricted use of his right hand though. What wonderful news!

Bugs Crighton invested in a 1937 two-seater Morris Eight which he already stripped in order to rebuild. By the time this goes to press, I am sure the job will be done!

---

## **HERMANUS WEEK-END AWAY - Jo Hitchcock.**

There is one room still available in the private home with four bedrooms at R120 p.p.n. Remember to bring your own towels. A fee of R150 will be shared amongst the eight visitors to pay for the charlady to clean up and do the washing afterwards which will work out to a once off payment of R37.50 per couple, extra.

## **NEWS FROM REGALIA SECRETARY RE: GOLF SHIRTS**

- Jo Hitchcock

Most of the golf shirts on order, were handed out at the April meeting. I still have seven extra shirts in stock which are for sale - i.e. one med. Blue; two med. Navy; one large white – all with pockets at R90 each and one med. Blue; one large Navy and one xxLarge white, all without a pocket at R85 each. If none of these mentioned, fits you, I can place a new order as soon as I have at least ten names. An order form will be available at the regalia cupboard at meetings or from me at Veterans' Runs. Payment can be made in advance if possible or else on delivery.

---

DOES YOUR WATER PUMP NEED TO BE REBUILT OR  
MODIFIED?

Contact Robin Rich 021-9033426

---

## **CANGO 2010 INDABA - KLEINPLAAS, OUDTSHOORN - 2010**

Please remember that Kleinplaas Accommodation is limited, therefore first come first served.

You can share Accommodation with the Natal contingent and enjoy a glass of wine or, how about sharing camping space with the PE contingent - they will be tuning their V8's with 'Klipdrift' special tools!

We are 40% Reserved at Kleinplaas!

Hurry with your Registrations and Deposits - online WEBSITE MGCCCT or, download and Fax to 021 4191977 (24hrs)

Talk to Stewart if you need, at 021 4182538 (11am till 4pm) 021 5548118 (H) 084 7027785 [woodiess@telkomsa.net](mailto:woodiess@telkomsa.net)

---

## **Miscellaneous**

Looking for new contacts **for George and June STODDART now in the UK.**

Refer to Stewart Woodcock at W: 021 4191977 H: 021 554 8118: Cel: 084 702 7785: Email: [woodiess@telkomsa.net](mailto:woodiess@telkomsa.net)

## **TRIP TO GENADENDAL BY THE OVERBERG GROUP- 26 March**

**Frank & Moira Peché**

---

Margot and Larry Collins of Greyton organised the March run for the Overberg Classic Car Group which was attended by 15 members from Greyton, Montague, McGregor, Hermanus and Napier. We were met at the turnoff to Greyton from the N.2 by Larry and Margot who led the way to Genadendal. After our tour we all drove on to Greyton and had a tasty lunch on the veranda overlooking the pretty gardens of the Abbey Rose Restaurant.

The following write up on our time in Genadendal is by Bernadette Roberts, a new member to the group, who lives in Montague.

If you are one of the unfortunates who either do not know the area or are travelling on the N2 from out of town, you would be forgiven if, when you see the sign posts for McGregor and Genadendal, you think it is another little insignificant place with a funny, for some people unpronounceable, name that is easily forgotten a couple of kilometres down the highway.

As usual for the N2 there were road works again to hold everyone up, but not unduly stressful! Driving through the village of Genadendal you are thinking that you may have taken a wrong turn somewhere as you drive through a very poor area, but poor as it is there were a lot of smiles and waves on the way through. Once arriving in the Church Square it is like stepping into a gem of a photo on the page of a history book.

The tour kicks off with a lovely cup of tea/coffee and wonderful homemade muffins, delicious!!

Our guide, Dr. Isaac Balie, who is the curator of the museum and the caretaker of the whole project, has tremendous knowledge to impart to those interested in the history of this obscure place. He makes it interesting and amusing, pointing out interesting sites and giving a background of those who came to South Africa to save the "heathen" around 1738.

From the story of the Pear Tree, the information about the cemetery, the visiting of the printing presses to the pottery and the weaving, it was all interesting and enjoyable.

Those who have not visited this hidden treasure of South Africa should make time and expend the effort to visit this little gem, I am sure you will not be disappointed.

---

### **John Skaife Run 2009: 19 April**

**Andrew Blake**

As I luxuriate in my hot bubble bath with the laptop delicately perched on the thingy that is supposed to hold the soap and other trappings of a bathroom, I am able to reflect on the 2009 John Skaife run. And I do so with fond memories of a well organised and fairly straightforward "rally/mystery quiz" designed to be undertaken by a driver and navigator team.

The instruction to meet at the Engen Winelands One-Stop on the N1 outgoing at 08h00 was followed by most participants who arrived to be greeted with an MG badge shaped shortbread biscuit (and some to take along in the car!). One of the under-thirty year olds

(James Ballantyne) in his 1100 ran out of petrol within sight of the start point and the other under-thirty year old (Douglas) in his BGT saved the day.  
*(comment edited in by Margie: "under 30 year olds" get special mention because they are are such a welcome, refreshing addition & halve the average club membership age for the rest of us !)*

The weather was fairly ominous and the pre-race activities centred around some people putting soft tops up, putting jackets on and drinking take away coffee, while co organiser Margie von Zeil was running around in a short-sleeved T-shirt making everyone else feel cold! As the weather appeared to be clearing, some of those with soft tops bravely put them down again. The fleet was a TD (Geoff Ballantyne), two As, six B GTs, six B roadsters, one 1100, one TF and two plastics. All vehicles finished with the exception of the plastic of Roger and Andrea, having returned to Cape Town, to spend time with Joan Parker.

Shortly after 08h35 George Davey called all those that would listen to attend the briefing. This consisted largely of telling us that on the form he was going to hand out, the directions were in red and the questions to be answered in black! Margie then took up her position at the start line, where she allowed cars off at a sensible interval in order that there would be no copying along the route! The sight of a massive pantechicon patiently waiting to find a gap in the line of MGs after his rest at the truck stop really brought home just how low an MG is to the ground!

Once underway the route took navigators along picturesque back roads skirting Stellenbosch, up Helshoogte Pass, on to the R45 towards Wemmershoek and ending up just short of Franschoek at Goederust Farm Kitchen some 65,3km (40,57 miles) from the start. I'm not sure where it took the drivers, who were supposed to be doing as they were told! However, the number of vehicles that passed me going in the other direction and amount of moaning and complaining from navigators about going too fast to see clues, write down answers and pass on the next direction reminds me why this event is supposed to be done with a non-spouse/partner driver/navigator combination. I suspect that by the time you read this Val may be talking to Bugs again!

Having to conduct both driver and navigator duties myself in my plastic, I was somewhat disturbed to discover that the person that wins the rally organises next year's event! Since I had no navigator, I had taken the precaution of having the laptop open on the passenger seat and connected to the WWW to ensure I did thorough job. With my GPS and cell phone connected I even had the chance to phone my daughter for an answer to one question. And now I discover that I may have been just a little TOO diligent. At least none of my electronic gadgets could answer back!!

With the weather steadily worsening, we were cheered by two roaring log fires on entering the Goederust Farm Kitchen for a hearty breakfast. Proceedings started with a round of applause for George (and Margie) for the enjoyable event. A touch of sadness followed, with a moment's silence being observed in memory of the passing of the partners of two long serving club members, Vi James and John Mullen, the news of which reached us during the event.

Most participants chose the traditional breakfast, with coffee, juice and thick cut farm-style bread lightly toasted to complement the scrambled egg, crispy bacon, potato wedges, tomato, boerewors and mushrooms. I hope those that had the healthier option enjoyed theirs just as much (it looked good when it passed me by!). After some great fellowship, a lot of leg-pulling and some detailed chatting about the greatest car marque in the world, we all set off again in the steady rain to our homes.

Thanks again to George and Margie for a fun day. Let's see whose turn it will be next year!!

*PS added by Margie:*

*THANK YOU to all the participants – it would have been no fun organising a run if we hadn't had you all taking part. – 35 participants in all !*

*PPS*

*SPECIAL thanks to George because as one of the 2 co organisers, I got the easy bits to do: George thought out the route & initiated our getting the planning done early on. A mild crisis developed very suddenly when the N1 exit we intended using (and had included in the directions) was CLOSED for repairs! This necessitated George doing a rapid trip out last week, many calls to the traffic dept and a new "bit" inserted – hence the interesting "Roundabout" exit at Arboretum Road !*

## **RESULTS OF THE JOHN SKAIFE RUN 2009:**

**Final results out of a possible 28 correct answers :**

Names of Entrants	Vehicle	Final Score
Robin & Hildegard Rich	MGB GT	27.5
Philip & Shirley Roux & Lorraine	MGB	27.5
Andrew Blake & Laptop	"Plastic"	27.5
Geoff & Rosa Ballantyne	TD	27
George & Sandy Dommissie	MGB	26.5
Dieter & Lorraine Reck	MGB	25.75
James Ballantyne & Vicky	1100	25.5
Roy Engledow & Audrey	MGB	25.5
Paula & Pat Masterson	MGB GT	25.5
Celia Baylis & Jill	MGB	24.5
Douglas Whistance & Frances	MGB GT	24.5
David Davey & Britt	MGB	24
John & Jennifer Lock	MG TF	23.5
Philip & Jo Hitchcock	MGB GT	23
Don & Les Waller	MGB GT	23
Bugs & Val Crighton	MGA	20.5
Alice & Jaime & Margie	BGT	Disqualified *
* Disqualified - because for once mom DID know all the answers !		

**So who has WON the John Skaife Run ?**

**WHO will organise next year's run ?**

**All will be revealed at the next General Meeting – BE THERE !**

**VETERANS' GROUP:**  
**COASTAL EXPERIENCE TO PRINGLE BAY – 26 March**  
**Celia Baylis**

---

HOOK, LINE AND SINKER – 38 people in their 20 MG's were caught, expecting fish and chips at this renowned restaurant at Pringle Bay!

We met at the Engen garage on the N2 where Garth Green broke the bad news to us that we would not be going to the Hook, Line and Sinker after all! The restaurant was unable to cater for more than 26 and we numbered 38 – 33 members and 5 visitors. Poor Garth had had his time cut out finding an alternative, but that he did – and off we set on our Coastal Experience, not to Pringle Bay, but to Betty's Bay - to the Leopard's Kloof Restaurant at the Harold Porter National Botanical Garden. In convoy there were 2 TDs, 1 TC, 1 MGC, 4 MGB GTs, 6 MGBs, 1 MGC GT, and 5 MG TF Moderns – a great turnout!

Leopard's Kloof proved to be an excellent substitute. The restaurant only opened in October of 2008, and what is interesting about it is that it was built as a project to educate local people in the craft of stone-building. After three attempts the fire-place finally met the requirements of the builder, so the whole building was a slow process. However, it is now one of which they can all be proud.

It is interesting that Mr. Harold Porter, after whom the Garden was named, was an architect from Johannesburg whose land in Leopard's Kloof was developed as a wild fynbos reserve and after his death in 1958 his Trust donated it to the National Botanic Gardens so that it could be enjoyed by us all. Sadly, on Thursday there was not much time to wander round the beautifully kept gardens, but it is a place to go back to for one of the popular events such as the Summer Sunset Concerts or Carols by Candlelight, or just simply to enjoy the rich biodiversity.

Since Mr. Porter was from Johannesburg, it is noteworthy that there were so many MG Johannesburgers – ex and present – on this run: a whole table of them at lunch, which must be a rare event outside an Indaba!

The start of the run was at a very civilized hour (10.30 a.m.) and Garth led the way through the Strand to avoid the road works on the N2 through Somerset West: a good move. It was interesting to see how the Strand and surrounds had grown since the last time I did a run through there alongside the beach. It was a beautiful day and many were taking advantage of what the beach had to offer: in fact it was almost a pity not to be able to stop and join the walkers and get our feet into the sand!

Following the road round from Gordon's Bay we were able to note the devastation that the recent fire had left in its wake, and appreciate how terrifyingly near to the houses the fire had raged. Since I last took my MG out along that coastal road there have been many improvements made to it and the stone walls along the edge make it not only safe but very attractive, and as at least one person remarked, what a much better drive than Chapman's Peak! And without the toll! (*When Chappies is open, that is!*)

A baboon crossed our path. One must feel sympathy with the baboons which search for food in the mountain fynbos, and when the food is scarce they forage along the shore at low tide. It just happens that they need to pass through places like Pringle Bay's growing residential areas in order to get to the shore and so have earned themselves a nasty reputation. However, they were there before we were and at the rate of expansion of development in the area there will soon be nowhere for them to feed at all. A road sign warns one "Do not feed the baboons!"

Shortly before Rooi Els we stopped at one of the large parking bays, where we looked down on a perfect beach and the beautiful blue bay edged with mountains on a perfect windless day. Here we brought out our picnic teas and enjoyed chatting as we took in the vista of the bay. One enthusiastic “plastic” tourist could not stop clicking her camera and got her car jammed in between us all. In fact, who can help but admire so many shining MG’s in such a beauty spot! It was great to see such a wonderful turnout and some friends who had not been on a Veterans’ Run for a long time, like Douline!

In the distance we could see the Hangklip, a sign that Pringle Bay was near. Cape Hangklip (overhanging rock) is an impressive geological formation – an awesome 460m peak projecting into the sea, whose rocky cliffs, when viewed from certain angles, appear to overhang the narrow strip of land lying hundred of metres below. It marks the Eastern limit of False Bay, while the Cape of Good Hope marks the western limit. The two capes are geologically similar, and Cape Hangklip was known to the early Portuguese navigators as Cabo Falso (false cape) because it was so often mistaken for the navigationally more important Cape of Good Hope. Sailors making their way down the east coast would spy the sharp peak rising up out of the sea mist and would turn into False Bay, mistakenly thinking that the promontory they had rounded was the Cape of Good Hope. The broken shoreline around Cape Hangklip offers a succession of rocky points and more or less sheltered beaches, each with its own distinct character.

Continuing the short distance to Betty’s Bay we passed through the hills of desolation, and shortly came across the houses and developments that stretched for 10 or more kilometers. All the houses appeared to be shut up – holiday homes for those who wish to escape city life, no doubt, and soon will be in the midst of a new kind of city! Arriving at the Harold Porter National Botanical Gardens was like finding a lush oasis with inviting lawns but an even more inviting restaurant.

After lunch everyone hurried off home, each in their own direction. It always seems to me to be such an anti-climax when one finds the party has split up and there isn’t an MG convoy to escort one home!

Thank you Garth for such an enjoyable Coastal Experience that makes one feel privileged to be part of the MG Veterans’ Group!

=====

### **Our Chairman Soliloquising.....**

I know somebody, somebody whose intelligence I respect, who is convinced that by holding a crystal pendulum over her meal, the crystal will tell her whether she is about to be made more or less healthy (as well as less hungry) by the contents of the plate. It’s not very scientific. The scientific method involves formulating hypotheses and testing the predictions made by the hypothesis.

At its best, the work we do in tracking down problems with our old cars follows the scientific method. If I change something and observe an improvement, I expect that whatever I have changed has brought about the improvement. Things get more complicated though because attempts to find causations (x caused Y) are confounded by correlation. (I did X and Y happened.)

Correlation is why, when I was a bachelor, I had lucky underpants. Correlation is the friend of superstition. There is the old story of a person who travels in to work along the N1 to Cape Town and one day gives a lift to a colleague. The colleague is aghast that the driver keeps crumpling up sheets of newspaper and throwing them out of the window.

"What on earth are you doing?" asks the passenger.  
"This is my patented method for deterring elephants from nesting in the central reservation!" is the reply.  
"But there are no elephants in the central reservation."  
"You see!" exclaims the driver in triumph (but never a Triumph) "It works!"

And now, for some sort of point. Last summer I decided that my Midget needed some extra assistance in dealing with lead replacement petrol. I had been using an anti valve seat recession (AVSR) additive in the Ford Kent engine in my Lotus 7 race car, and felt that it might do some good for the Midget too. (There is superstition here too - in truth I had no evidence that the additive had done any good for the race car's engine, only an absence of evidence of harm.) When there are only 948cc available, the engine needs to be revved fiercely just to get out of the garage. So I added the AVSR to the Midget's fuel.

The next thing that I noticed was coughing and spluttering.

I went back to vanilla LRP and all seemed well.

This summer the Midget again ran poorly, and Ralph Clarke provided a large part of the explanation. The Midget has a mechanical fuel pump. When there is a great deal of heat, fuel vapourises in the fuel pump and creates a vapour lock. The rest of the explanation, namely, why it hadn't happened in previous summer's was provided by a colleague in the oil industry who informed me that fuel formulations had been made more volatile over the last two years or so.

The problem wasn't being caused by the AVSR additive that I had added, but by the hot weather and more volatile fuel. Correlation brought me a cropper because after I had chucked in additive I experienced a problem, but the cause of the problem was not the additive.

Once I knew exactly what was causing the problem, I got better at recognising it and anticipating it. On hot days, whenever I stopped, or even slowed down in traffic, heat soak would vapourise the fuel in the pump and the car would cough and splutter. The problem reached its worst on a hot evening when I had driven the car to work (no problems in the cool morning) but the combination of heat and slowing down for the suburban roads around Kenridge and Durbanville meant that I was unable to gain altitude to get home. In the end I parked under a shady tree and let the car cool right down, and then drove home.

Since then I have applied an exhaust wrap to the exhaust manifold in an attempt to cure the problem. The problem hasn't recurred, but like the absent elephants on the N1, that doesn't actually mean that I have cured it. Worse yet, the crystals are indicating that the car's chakra's are all misaligned, excess chi is gathering in puddles on the garage floor and my Midget is apparently a Capricorn with Venus occulted by Jupiter. People tell me I am full of Taurus.

=====

**THE SPORTS CAR CENTRE**  
**FOR ALL YOUR MG PARTS**  
**ALAN OR DENISE 011- 646 1631(T), 011- 486 0021 (FAX)**  
**e-mail: [parts@scar.co.za](mailto:parts@scar.co.za)**

---



The members of the Cape Town Centre have pleasure in inviting you to experience the

***CANGO INTERNATIONAL INDABA 2010***  
to be held at **Kleinplaas in Oudtshoorn** from  
**Thursday 16th September - Sunday 19th September 2010**

**Oudtshoorn**, the ostrich capital of the world, is situated in the heart of the hospitable Klein Karoo and part of the picturesque Garden Route of South Africa. Apart from the famous Cango caves, ostrich and crocodile farms, the surrounding area offers numerous other activities and adventures.

Accommodation can be taken up in

- a fully serviced **chalet** of the **Kleinplaas Holiday Resort**, with the option of self catering or full bed and breakfast service. The chalets are fully equipped with all necessary amenities including TV's. The resort offers a full size swimming pool as well as laundry facilities.

Approximate Rates will be:

- 1 couple sharing @ R440 / chalet / night,
- 2 couples sharing @ R630 / chalet / night.
- + Breakfast +/- R70 pp via own arrangement

with resort.

- a **hotel room** at the **Protea Hotel Riempië Estate** next door to the resort;  
Approximate Rates will be:
  - Single @ R685 per room / night,
  - Double / Twin @ R970 per room / night.incl. breakfast, VAT and tourism levy per room per night.

- a **4-star caravan** park is available for those who wish to camp (by own arrangement only).

The total cost of the gathering, for accommodation and scheduled meals is anticipated to be  
from **R2570.00 per Couple at Kleinplaas.**

For those staying at the **Protea Hotel Riempië Estate**, the costs will be slightly higher.

Details of the planned program as well as chalet and pricing information will be circulated well before the event. Nevertheless, first come first served!

**As accommodation is limited at Kleinplaas, the Registration form below should be submitted without delay together with proof of payment to the address given to avoid disappointment.**

**Enquiries: Website or [indaba@mgcc-ct.co.za](mailto:indaba@mgcc-ct.co.za)**

Stewart Woodcock (Tel/Fax) 021 419 1977 (cell) 084 7027785  
 Mervyn Corbishley 082 8245440  
 Roger Lewis 082 8877509



**CANGO INTERNATIONAL INDABA 2010**

**REGISTRATION FORM**

Member's first (preferred) Name.....  
 Surname.....

Accompanied by.....  
 Surname.....

Postal address ..... Tel No. (.....  
 ).....H

(.....).....B

.....Cell

E-mail .....  
 .....Fax

Car Model.....Year .....

Entries:	Concours d'etat	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
	Concours Tops	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
	Competitive events	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

---

**Accommodation preferred:** Hotel  Chalet  Caravan Park

**As chalets are limited, accommodation will be allocated on a first come first serve basis.**

There are various types of chalets available, for 1 couple or 2 couples sharing a common bathroom.

Are you prepared to share?  Yes  No

If Yes, who would you like to share with ?  
.....

**Payment** to be made to the **MG Car Club**, Cape Town Centre by bank transfer/deposit into following account:

**Standard Bank of SA Ltd**, Pinelands Branch (Code 03 63 09), Account No 271 157 925

**Registration Fee / Deposit: (R1250.00 per couple Admin, Plus 1 night accommodation)**

Hotel (Couple)	<b>R2220</b>	Chalet 1 couple	<b>R1690</b>
Chalet (2 couples sharing)	<b>R1600</b>	Camping / caravan	<b>R1400</b>

**Balance of Payment is Due by Thurs 29<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

**This Registration Form with proof of payment should be faxed, e-mailed or posted to:**

**The Treasurer**, MG Car Club Cape Town Centre, Suite 276, Private Bag X16, CONSTANTIA 7848

**Fax 021 4191977**      **Email [indaba@mgcc-ct.co.za](mailto:indaba@mgcc-ct.co.za)**

=====

### **FRED MULLER'S FROGEYE SPRITE HAS BEEN STOLEN.**

Fred Muller has had his Frogeye Sprite which he has owned since new, as well as a Lotus Seven style homebuilt, stolen from his residential property in Walmer, Port Elizabeth on the morning of 2nd March 2009. Neighbours saw five white guys putting the two vehicles on a truck. Fred is especially upset about the Sprite which he had planned to start restoring when he retires in June of this year.

The Sprite is cream with a red interior. Its original registration no. is painted onto the bonnet. A modification on the car which makes it easily recognisable, is the lack of seams between the body and the wings. If anyone is offered this car or knows of its whereabouts, Fred would be most grateful to hear about it. His contact no's are 041 4074124w or 041 3731755h.

-----

**WANT TO SELL YOUR CLASSIC, VINTAGE OR SPORTS CAR?  
CALL FROST BROTHERS, KNYSNA: 044-3826074 or 082-5576470**

-----

**Annie Hogg**  
**26 July 1945 – 29 March 2009**

*This is a personal tribute to Annie which Joan Parker gave at the April MG Car Club meeting.*



Annie Hogg passed away on Sunday 29th March 2009 after a year-long battle with cancer and our thoughts are with Brian and all the family.

I first met Annie and Brian way back in 1974 shortly after I bought my TD so our friendship spans nearly 35 years.

In 1974, the First MGCC National Gathering was held in East London and amongst the Cape Town contingent were Brian in his TD (Garth Green was the passenger as his car was in bits) and myself in my TD.

In true Annie fashion, and unbeknown to us, she suddenly decided to join the group and installed a cot in the back of a Mini van for 5-month old Patricia and joined up with us en route. Garth reminded me that Annie had put a MG badge on the front of the Mini.

Annie was very active in Club events during the 70's and early 80's (in spite of having two young children).

- In 1975 she won the John Skaife,
- In 1977, the Penman Trophy, the Rhodesia Petrol Trophy (in the TD) and the Candlestick Trophy,
- In both 1977 and 1978 Annie was the winner of the Duckhams Trophy (points winner for competitive events and display of cars).
- In 1980 (jointly with Dot Jack) she was awarded the Susan Tuck Trophy and
- In 1981 she won the Brian Porter Rally.

Annie joined the committee of the MGCC in 1978 and was Editor of THE BREED and brought a refreshing change to the magazine with her editorial poems.

On a more personal note.....when I completed the first partial rebuild of my TD in 1978, we had a launching party on my front lawn and Annie was the one to make a very good show of smashing a bottle of bubbly on the radiator. When it came to the time I was embarking on the complete rebuild of my TD in 1991, Annie and Brian were on hand to help remove the body of my TD off the chassis.



Annie receiving the Penman Trophy from Dennis Billingham

Another recollection .....at a club event at the Hohenort Hotel one early winters night in the 70's while chatting to Annie and Dot Jack I mentioned that I was planning to go up to Matroosberg the following weekend to take up my skis in preparation for the imminent skiing season. Quick as a flash both decided to join me. We set off from CT on the Friday afternoon and by the time we got to the bottom hut it was dark and it had unexpectedly started snowing. We trudged up the mountain and the snow got thicker and thicker - both Annie and Dot only had tackies on so had a rough time making their way to the top hut. It was so cold up there that we spent most of the weekend sitting in our sleeping bags! It was a most memorable weekend; we had lots of laughs and dined out on stories of the expedition for months!!

Annie was my 'matron of honour' when John and I got married secretly in 1989.

Annie was always game for surprises, as well as keeping secrets, so when I was organising the TD 50th Anniversary Tour in 1999, I asked her whether she would lay on a surprise picnic luncheon in Seweweekspoort for the participants. Just picture this convoy of 16 TDs snaking their way along the dirt road through the Poort, with everyone admiring the awesome rock formations, and then suddenly coming round a corner to be confronted by an MG sign and after pulling off the road being presented with a gourmet picnic lunch served from the back of Annie's Land Rover.

Annie was latterly very involved with the Land Rover Club and their events – taking part in many grueling challengers and winning. She loved her Landy and enjoyed many camping trips in it.

Annie was a person of many parts – she was a mechanic – she totally rebuilt her Land Rover (Bomber) and did all the fixing and maintenance on it. She did the most beautiful lace work, and bead work and other hand crafts. She painted and she played the piano. She loved gardening and spent many hours tending her roses. She loved her animals. She loved her family.

Many of us were privileged to 'celebrate Annie's life' on Friday 3rd April – the wonderful attendance (over 300 friends) was a fitting tribute to remarkable Annie

Annie made us all laugh.....I'll miss her.

=====

## **Register News:**

### **MGB Register Meeting:**

A workshop meeting has been arranged on Saturday the 4th. July at Nick's Classic Car Clinic, 99B Bofors Circle Epping from 10.00 to 12.00. The object of this meeting is to discuss common problems associated with the steering, brakes and suspension of an MGB. We will have an MGB on a lift and the car will be one which has had a full front end overhaul, but the back will be in progress. It will be an excellent opportunity for those members who are relatively non-technical, to learn from a respected restorer. It would also be good for any more experienced members to come along and share their knowledge with others.

There will be an opportunity to look around the workshop and view up to 20 classics of all makes which are undergoing restoration. Please notify me if you can come along, just to assist with catering. Secure parking is available.

Peter Flowers

021 975 4475

078 639 0151

[flowersp@telkomsa.net](mailto:flowersp@telkomsa.net)

### **Peter Flowers - Register Captain MGB & Modern**

I am pleased to be able to assist members as the Register Captain for MGB & Modern. I have owned two MGB's in the past 10 years. One was bought as a restored example and the current one is about 2/3 rds of the way through a full restoration. I have also owned a modern MGTF 135 since new in 2004. During my time of ownership I have built up a reasonable knowledge of both types of car and have learned who is good at doing what on them. I am more than happy to assist members with any technical questions.

During the course of the year I hope to arrange at least one technical session and one social event for both types.

I can be contacted on 021 975 4475, or 078 639 0151 or via email at [flowersp@telkomsa.net](mailto:flowersp@telkomsa.net)

### **George Davey - Register Captain MGA.**

I am here to help members who own MGA's in any form, in boxes or mint condition. My first MGA was a 1957 FHC which I owned & drove as my everyday car from 1968 till 1972. My current MGA is a 1956 – 1500 roadster, which I have owned for approx. 9 years. I encourage members with "A's" to let me have details of their cars so I can update the register & keep it up to date. I would like to plan a mini MGA tour in the middle of next year to commemorate the 2005 MGA – 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary tour. Besides this I would like to organize at least one garage meet, . . so anyone busy restoring a MGA let me know so we may come & have a look.

My contact details are as follows:

PH: 021 712 3090 ( h )

021 385 1626 ( o )

083 677 0667

E-mail: [gdavey@tuffy.co.za](mailto:gdavey@tuffy.co.za)

## **Joan Parker - Register Captain MMM & T**

If you own an MG manufactured prior to early 1955 (including Y-types but excluding ZA or ZB Magnettes and early MGAs) you belong to the MGCC Cape Town Centre MMM & T Register.

All known members of the Register have been sent a personal invitation to the inauguration run of Derek Hitchcock's TD on 3rd May. And we are hoping for a bumper turnout with not a 'plastic' in sight!

As your register captain I am endeavouring to get the register records up to date as well as getting MMM & T-type owners to get their cars on the road, or at least, available for us to peruse at a garage meet.

Register members have been requested (in an e-mail to them), to confirm the model and year of their 'pride & joy' to me. If you have not done so already, please do so asap. Also, if you can host a garage meet, please let me know.

Contact details: [joanrparker@gmail.com](mailto:joanrparker@gmail.com); 021-6718379 Tel/Fax; 082 2147561

---

## **OBITUARY - Dr John Mullen: 25.12.1922 - 19.04.2009**

With great sadness we record the passing of John Mullen who died peacefully in his sleep at the age of 86.

John was born in India on 25.12.1922 and was educated in England, completing his studies at Reading University where he obtained a PhD in Chemistry. He immigrated to South Africa in his late 20's and was employed by the State Health Department.

After a number of years of courtship, Joan surrendered to his charms and they married in 1989. Their honeymoon was a three month trip around the world and ever since then, he has been her navigator in her TD and her life.

One of their greatest achievements was their participation in an international FIVA rally in the UK in 1996 when they drove their TD over a distance of 1000 miles from Edinburgh to Stratford on Avon.

Up to very recently John was a regular and keen participant in MG as well as Crankhandle activities in fair weather and foul.

He will be sadly missed in our midst and our thoughts and condolences are with Joan.

Dieter Reck

---

## Proposed change to the MGCC Constitution

The constitution says that any proposed change to the constitution should be given in writing to the Hon Sec. Following on from the discussion at the AGM, I propose to change section 14.3 which currently reads:

All payments by the Centre with the exception of petty cash disbursements shall be by cheque authorised by two of the following: Chairman, Honorary Treasurer and an alternate signatory appointed by the Committee. All cheques issued shall be approved by the Committee and recorded in the Minutes at the next Committee meeting.

Proposed Revision with changes in italics:

All payments by the Centre with the exception of petty cash disbursements shall be by cheque authorised by two of the following: Chairman, Honorary Treasurer and an alternate signatory appointed by the Committee *or by internet transfer. Appropriate limits on individual transactions and total transactions per month will be set by the trustees and reviewed from time to time, as required.* All cheques issued *and transfers made* shall be approved by the Committee and recorded in the Minutes at the next Committee meeting.

James

---

---

## MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY - Hildegarde Rich

### BIRTHDAYS:

**MAY:** 3 -Edgar Benden; 4-Ken Preston, Sandra Mitchley; 5-Derek Mitchell, John Lock, Raymond Frost; 7-Nicola Roux, Pat Masterson; 9-Barbara Breytenbach; 10-Jo Hitchcock; 14-Brenda Bulman; 17-Peter Mitchley; 18-Douglas Whistance; 21-Garth Green; 25-Shirley Farge; 28-Ann Wolff; 29-Clive Wakeford; 30-Neville Whitney, Roger Lewis.

**JUNE:** 1 -Tinus de Jongh; 2- Priscilla Bromley; 5-Brigitte Parker; 6-Rosalie Plows, Roger Tipping; 7-Margie Gough; 10-Malcolm Dryden, Stewart Woodcock.

### NEW MEMBERS RATIFIED:

- # 1218 Andrew Hood, Cradock. 1950 MG TD
- # 1219 Dr. Mike & Shirley van der Meer, Ireland. MGB (Returning at the end of the year)
- # 1220 Harold & Helga Sandak-Lewing, Mouille Point. 1966 MGB Roadster
- # 1221 Eugene & Jacqueline Coetzee, Camps Bay. 1981 MGB Roadster.

---

---

ROBINSON SERVICE CENTRE  
SPECIALIZING IN SERVICING & REPAIRS TO BMW, ROVER & MG  
Contact Michael 072 0291342 or Johan 082 8103973  
[r.s.c.@vodamail.co.za](mailto:r.s.c.@vodamail.co.za)

## **Classifieds:**

### **For Sale:**

- 1) One B Spoke wheel (not chrome) brand new. R600.00. Ph: Deon / Somerset West on 082 896 1710.
- 2) 2002 TF135. 35000kms. Head Gasket redone by MG. Car in good condition. Reasonable offers will be considered  
Tel: Mervyn Davidson 082 4582021
- 3) MGB 1800 1973 Classic that I wish to sell. Mint Condition. Description: 2 Seater. Soft top. White Body. Black Trim; 95 000 miles. Looking for market related selling price.  
All corresponding emails to Derrick G Barnes at [derrick@dgb17.co.za](mailto:derrick@dgb17.co.za)  
DataNet Financial Services CC  
(O) 021 910 1968  
(F) 021 910 1966  
(C) 079 519 3168
- 4) 1961 MGA. Interesting Car. R125 000. Contact Richard West in Paarl. 021 8621489
- 5) MGB GT 1969, factory sun roof, Wires, new Conti's and O/Drive. Deep Burgundy colour Tan interior. 96% 'Full Strip' restoration with new factory Wiring Loom from 1993. Ex Robin Rich CT - Brilliantly restored Chrome and Rubbers / Seals. Full restoration piks, W/Shop Manuals, spares and detail.  
All the big stuff completed, only a handful of items to complete restoration.  
MG Car Club CT Centre Awards:- 2007 : Tops - Overall Bronze / 2008 : Tops - 2nd BGT. Economy run in Feb 2009. - 40.10 mpg. No garage and a new era in owner's life, forces sale.  
Realistic offers to Stewart W [woodiess@telkomsa.net](mailto:woodiess@telkomsa.net) 084 7027785 : 021 554 8118 (H) : 021 4182538 (W 11am - 4pm).
- 6) MGB Roadster 1973. Mark and Sue LOVELL's darling is for sale at around R70k, white with Hardtop. Only Black and White piks avail. Contact Mark overseas by Email only [mark.lovell@totsa.com](mailto:mark.lovell@totsa.com) or Stewart Woodcock 084 7027785 021 4182538 (W 11am - 4pm) for detail.
- 7) MG F 1.8 VVC 2002 that I wish to sell.  
The car has 90 000 km's on the clock, is British Racing Green and in good condition.  
I am wanting 94 000 – negotiable.  
Please let me know if you would know of anyone that would be interested.  
Candice Spowart
- 8) 1982 MGB GT. This vehicle has a very interesting history which the owner will gladly explain. The present owner has had it for the past 9 years. Colour BRG. Good condition except for non working overdrive. Asking price R55,000.00  
Please phone Don Lilford at 021 790 1955 or email: [didon@telkomsa.net](mailto:didon@telkomsa.net).

### **Wanted:**

- 1) A complete D, F, P, J, K or N type, front suspension and beam axle including steering box. Will consider TC complete front suspension and beam axle including steering box. Contact Peter Johannesburg – 082 4128760

-----

**The General Meeting of the MG Car Club, Cape Town Centre is held on the second Wednesday of every month at 19h00 at the M.G.C.C. Clubhouse in Cedar Avenue (off Howard Drive), Pinelands.**

**Exceptions in January (third Wednesday) & December (1st Wednesday).**

## CLUB OFFICIALS 2009-10

<b>President</b>	<b>Vice-Presidents</b> Charles Batham & Ralph Clarke	<b>Trustees</b> Ralph Clarke & Garth Green
<b>Chairman</b> James Reinhardt 082-821 9157 James.reinhardt@worldonline.co.za	<b>Honorary Secretary</b> Pat & Paula Masterson 021-7906557 pmasterson@gibb.co.za	<b>Honorary Treasurer</b> Mervyn Corbishley 082-824 5440 mgcorbishley@iafrica.com
<b>Social Secretary</b>	<b>Competitions Secretary</b> Derek Hitchcock 083-300 3011 derekH@bmh.co.za	<b>Register Secretary</b> Pat Coyne 072-348 4493 pacman@kingsley.co.za
<b>Editor/Publications Secretary</b> Ken Smith 021-5522596 gloriana@telkomsa.net	<b>Veterans' Secretary</b> Jo Hitchcock 021-939 3803 082-4461092	

### EX OFFICIO

<b>Club PRO</b> Robin Rich 021-903 3426	<b>Spares</b> Stewart Woodcock 021-419 1977/084-7027785	<b>Historian</b> Brian Hogg 021-712 9426 brianne@networld.co.za
<b>Membership Secretary</b> Hildegard Rich 021-903 3426 Hildegard@richpumps.co.za	<b>Clubhouse Managers</b> George Davey & Margie von Zeil 021-7123090/021-5319370 <a href="mailto:gdavey@tuffy.co.za">gdavey@tuffy.co.za</a> margaret.vonzeil@capetown.gov.za	

### REGISTER CAPTAINS

<b>MMM and T-Types</b> Joan Parker 021-6718379 joanrparker@gmail.com	<b>MGA</b> George Davey 021-7123090 gdavey@tuffy.co.za	<b>MGB &amp; Moderns</b> Peter Flowers 021-9754475 flowersp@telkomsa.net
---	---	---

---

Need WATCH, (Car) CLOCK or JEWELLERY repairs?  
Contact Stewart Woodcock 021-4191977  
PARKADE Jewellers & Watchmakers ~ since 1961

---