



Incorporating the
MG Sports Car Register

The BREED

MG Car Club, Cape Town Centre, Suite 276, Private Bag x16 Constantia 7848

www.mgcc-ct.co.za



Affiliated to the
MG Car Club - England

Issue 2019/3

MARCH 2019



Frenske Otzen Photography



Frenske Otzen Photography



Frenske Otzen Photography

Frenske Otzen Photography

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Moderns Register Captain Vacant

There are some interesting articles this month and in particular the story on (pg.10) 'Me and My MG'. This was sent in by Deon Rousseau, a member of the MG car club Port Elizabeth.

A good number of members will 'step back in time' when they read his story. Deon used to be a Cape Town member, as you will gather from his letter on (pg.11). Encouraging to know that there are members from other MG centres who read 'The Breed'. Certainly 'one for the books'.

Come on Cape Town members don't be left behind, get cracking and send your MG stories in. (There she goes, nagging again!)

Please ensure you read the information on pages 13-16 regarding the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

All articles for the April issue of this newsletter are due in by 23rd March.

In the words of the great Oscar Wilde:

*"To live is the rarest thing in the world.
Most people exist, that is all."*

Fran

Front page MGB owners:

Top: Brian Aslett

Centre: Bokkie Markus

Bottom: Philip Roux

Our bank details are:

Bank: Standard Bank
Account: MG Car Club – Cape Town Centre
Branch code: 036 309
Internet Branch code: 051001
Account number: 271157925

Disclaimer:

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FROM THE CHAIR

In the past month we have held two events. The January Veterans' run was very well organised by Stuart and Pam Leach, they certainly went out of their way to include some interesting and fun activities along the way. The event was very well supported with 43 members and guests present. The Chairman's run in February unfortunately clashed with other events on the same day, but we nevertheless enjoyed the outing and had 30 members at the lunch venue. Reports on these events can be found in this issue of The Breed.

We have recently heard our President deliver his State of the Nation address, as well as the Finance Minister with his annual Budget speech, I did not find either of them particularly inspiring. What is relevant to us is that once again the Fuel and Road Accident Fund Levies will be increasing (15 cents and 5 cents per litre respectively) and a new Carbon Tax is being introduced at 9 cents per litre. All in all that comes to 29 cents per litre, which is a lot less than the 52 cents that was added last year. I guess that the lower increase this year is partly due to the fact that it's not good practice to fleece the electorate too much in an election year.

Speaking of elections, I hope that you will nominate suitable candidates for the club committee. Many of the committee roles are becoming vacant and we need nominations to fill these positions, so please give it some thought – we really do need a committee that you want to steer the club in the next year. The AGM will be held on Saturday, 9th March, please get your nominations in and come along to the AGM to ensure that you have your say in the composition of the next committee. A bring-and-braai will follow the AGM, come prepared and enjoy the afternoon with your fellow club members.

The Cape Centres Gathering in May is approaching fast, I am pleased that our club will be well represented at this event.

Keep an eye on The Breed to make sure that you are aware of other club events.

I hope to see you at our AGM.

Philip



OUT AND ABOUT

MARCH		
Saturday	9th	Annual General Meeting at The Crankhandle Clubhouse, Riebeek Street, Wynberg at 2.00pm - followed by a 'bring & braai"
Sunday	17th	Club run - details below
Thursday	28th	Veterans' Run - <i>to be advised</i>
APRIL		
Tuesday	9th	Natter & Noggin - Crankhandle Clubhouse, Riebeek Str, Wynberg @ 7.30pm
Sunday	14th	2019 British Sports Car Run - <i>to be advised</i>
Thursday	25th	Veterans' run - <i>to be advised</i>

Club run - Sunday, 17th March

The MG club has been invited to attend a 'Vintage Market' at the False Bay Rugby Club in Constantia on Sunday, 17th March. In this respect our MGs will be on show to members of the public. I need to arrange security in this respect with the organiser.

This will be a breakfast run where we can breakfast at the Bay Restaurant and Sports Bar in the club grounds.

I will initially arrange a relatively short run in our MGs before setting ourselves up on the sports ground. Times to be announced when more details become available.

Contact: Martin Davies 021 712 0762 S email: mgtddavies@gmail.com

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COMMITTEE & SOCIAL NEWS

New Members

1363 Vic & Kathy Matthews, Gordons Bay (MG TC 1946, MG TC 1948, MG TD 1952)
021 856 5298 / 083 262 9327 email: vicmat3006@gmail.com

New email address

John & Eileen Perkins - the_perkinspair@gmail.com

Resignations

550 Philip & Jo Hitchcock
#1117 Christian Opperman
#1258 Jon Taljaard
#1310 Chris Flynn
#1306 Gavin & Esilene Kemp
#1356 Jay & Malika Moodley

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

3- Joan Parker	5- Andrew Lewis
6- Sue Terrapon	7- Dave Hendry
8- Suzette Squire-Howe	10- Rosa Ballantyne, Buddy Mockford
13- Shirley Hill	15- Bill Cox
17- Len Victor	18- Peter Haley
21- Samuel Katz	22- Gavin McNaughton
26- Arthur Owen	27- Ronnie Grace, Shirley le Roux
29- Lucille ten Oever	31- Bruce Hodkinson



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Hell hath no fury like the Cape South Easter

(31st January)

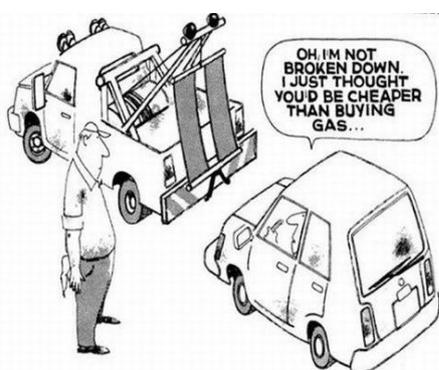
Our initial plan was a walk about the Bo Kaap with David Walker giving a talk on the history of the area. That was to be followed by lunch at the Cape Vineyard in Noordhoek. Due to the unrest in the Bo Kaap about planned development in the area, we had to cancel that. The Cape Vineyard had indicated their willingness to offer burgers or similar as long as it was not on a Thursday. It would have been easy to arrange a change of date however, we were advised that as it was still mid-season the management would only offer their daily 3 course meal at R390pp. So exit that idea with a dash of speed!

With time no longer on our side we decided to turn the run into a fun event and have our members enjoy areas of the South and act like tourists. We organised 2 stops on the way in order for a task to be completed at each point. The run would be 64km long with route instructions from Constantia, Hout Bay, Chappies, Noordhoek, Kommetjie, Scarborough, Misty Cliffs and Red Hill then lunch at *Three-One-Six* restaurant in the new Harbour Bay Mall in Simons Town. All participants were to bring along a pair of scissors and pen. On Sunday, 27th 'Capie' the South Easter arrived with a vengeance at between 30 - 40 km winds. (This continued for 2 weeks).

Task one: Stop half-way up Chapmans Peak where a piece of card paper, 100x100mm was handed to each car. The object being, to see how long a line of card could be cut without snapping the line. Dieter christened this task the 'Nifty Gasket Snipper Competition'. It was far from the fun experience expected as 'Capie' was pumping which made things very difficult. The longest string of card was 3m 94cm in length, won by John and Veronica Taylor.

Task 2: Took place on the beach at Kommetjie. The plan was that each driver would throw 2 boules at the pin and the distance would be measured. However, the route showed turning right at Beach Road instead of Beach sign. Confusion all round however, 50% of the members on the run realised the error and made it to the beach car park where 'Capie' forced us to use plan B. (This was a picture of 2 MGAs of which there were 14 errors on the one). Owing to the ink being a bit lighter on some of the copies we had to concede that there were 17 errors, this was won by Tina Irvin.

On arrival at Harbour Bay there was plenty of parking under cover for those who wished to use it, at no charge. Unfortunately owing to the variety of food choices the food took awhile to arrive and to crown it all the card machine was playing up. However, we're sure a good time was had by all.



Neville's MGB

Editor's note: 'Swallows', Tina and Ian Irvin attended the run in their 1936 Riley Lynx Tourer, following along behind as *Tail-end-Charlie*. Near the bottom of Red Hill they came across Neville Wyness who had broken down in his MGB. Much to Neville's surprise the Riley towed him in his MGB to the undercover car park at the Harbour Bay Mall.

Coinciding with the Classic Car Show at Timour Hall on 20th January, we had two visitors from Germany. Firstly Eugen Kohler, who drives an MGBV8 in Germany and who recently signed up as a full member of our club and secondly his friend Jürgen, who is a specialist on matters MGB. To be precise Jürgen runs a little factory in the south of Germany and converts humble Bs into horsepower monsters, which are propelled by the well-known Rover V8 motor unit. Approximately 50 of his masterpieces are on the roads in Germany, England, USA and some other countries and they frequently confuse drivers of Mercedes, BMW and Porsche when they are overtaken by an ordinary looking MGB.

One particular car is currently waiting for a willing buyer, Jürgen was extremely proud to give me details and specifications of this **B**(rute)!

The base of the car is a 1994 RV8 with 24 000 km on the clock. It was originally sold to a buyer in Japan, but was re-imported into the UK in 2001. The last owner of the vehicle was a Mechanical Engineer in the UK, who pursued the idea to discard the standard manual gearbox and fit a 4-speed ZF automatic box. Also, the standard 3.948ccm block was replaced by a 4.8 litre unit as is used in the latest Range Rover models. Whatever the reason was to remove the fuel injection system and replace it with an Edelbrock 500 carburettor, will have to remain a mystery. If requested by a prospective buyer however, the injection system could be reinstalled. As with all VR8s exported to Japan, the car is equipped with a powerful, efficient air conditioner.

Jürgen recalls his first drive in this motor car and how it literally took his breath away. With 350HP plus, on tap, the car, thanks to the auto box seemed to accelerate seamlessly on an empty stretch of Autobahn, way beyond any speed limit that would be applicable to roads in the rest of the world. Road holding and driving comfort had benefitted greatly by the installation of the coil over shock front suspension and thanks to the five-link rear suspension, power was delivered positively to the surface of the road. Jürgen says he was particularly impressed with the interior space gained by the installation of the auto box. With his body size of 1.85m he always experienced difficulties in getting his clutch foot in-between handbrake lever and steering wheel. With no clutch pedal this problem was solved. At best Jürgen emphasized, he would like to keep the car for himself. Although, the right number of zeros behind a certain figure could persuade him to part with his very favourite MGB.



Sunday, 17th February



Imagine our surprise when we approached the meeting point in Milnerton to find cars and people everywhere. There were people parked alongside Marine Drive and walking across the bridge towards our MG meeting point in the car park. Well how's that for the popularity of the MG runs these days, there were throngs of people coming to see us and our cars! Unfortunately the truth is that everyone was there to see the air display put on by the Air Force during the Armed Forces week. Nevertheless, the 13 MGs squeezed into the parking area, where we handed out the route schedule and the quiz info.

The route took the cars (and their drivers) through the Durbanville winelands, then towards Klipheuwel and on to Agter Paarl, where an incorrect route instruction sent half the cars on the wrong road towards Wellington, instead of turning right towards Paarl. However, we all arrived safely at the lunch destination, the Domaine Brahms Wine Estate. At the venue we were also joined by Brian and Eileen Dallimore and their daughter and partner, as well as Tony and Bronwyn Bruton who had travelled directly to the venue.

The Toeka Stoor restaurant on the estate was the venue for lunch – it has an amazing display of memorabilia from olden days which brings back memories. There is a large collection of tractors and agricultural implements, as well as cars, bicycles, typewriters and bits and pieces of every description.



I could see many of the MG members drawing some inspiration to the possibility of what they can do with their garages full of similar artefacts!



I had thought that the quiz, which was just a fun activity, would be too easy, but there were only 5 who arrived at the correct answer, a lucky draw between the correct entries decided which 2 were lucky enough to be rewarded with a bottle of wine from the Estate. Congratulations to those who succeeded in the quiz and thank you all for sharing the run with us.



Tracy & John Craig



'MG budgies' Angela & Roger Manton



Stuart & Pam Leach



Chris & Pauline Nel

NEW SAFETY STANDARDS ON MG RUNS

Shirley Roux

The events co-ordinator will ensure that all vehicles on club runs are:

a) in a presentable condition



b) all tyres and mechanics will be inspected

for safety



c) all brakes and controls will be checked



MG GOLDEN JUBILEE 1924 - 1974
FLASHBACK TO 1974 NATIONAL RALLY - EAST LONDON

The year 1974 was a very important year for MG fans all over the globe. All the MG car clubs celebrated 50 years of MG motor cars and South Africa was no exception. A National Rally to celebrate the occasion was held in East London on the 11th, 12th & 13th October of that year. A committee from the Johannesburg Centre of the MGCC, together with the Cape Town Centre, arranged a National Gathering of all MG enthusiasts in Southern Africa. Apart from the two official Centres in the country, there were nevertheless many other enthusiastic groups in different towns and cities joining.

It was expected to have between 100 and 150 cars at the rally but due to the long distance to travel (700 miles from Cape Town and 610 from Johannesburg) more-or-less 90 cars attended the rally. At the time the country's fuel economy measures allowed no fuel to be sold after 6pm on a Friday until 6am on a Monday. A public holiday fell on Thursday, 10th October however, so the organisers had taken the opportunity to arrange the economy run on that day for the early arrivals. During the course of Friday, most participants from Cape Town, Johannesburg and Durban arrived and a welcoming spit braai was held in the evening.

On the Saturday morning a parade of MGs through Oxford street in the city was held, after which all the cars (approximately 85) were parked in a display of the Octagon-emblem. This happened on an open space in front of the King's Hotel on the Beachfront. A driving test 'to sort out the men from the boys' was held in the afternoon. On Saturday evening a very grand dine and dance event took place in Leroy's Night Club at the King's Hotel with alive band! A very sumptuous menu was prepared.

Accommodation in East London was arranged at the King's Hotel at R10.50 per double room per night, bed and breakfast included. The dinner-dance at Leroy's was R3.50 per head! All drivers of MGs who made the journey were eligible for a commemorative plaque. On Sunday morning the Concours D'Elegance was held so the spit and polish teams had to get up early. In the afternoon a scenic drive around East London had been planned.

From Port Elizabeth I remember the following club members joining me at this unforgettable event: the late Simon Bosch in a TC, Peter Bosch (TC), Michael Knowles (TC), Reginald Drew (MGC), Aunt Lettie (MGA) and Oom Soon Van Eck (MGA) and myself (MGB). From Cape Town I remember John Saunders (Chairman of the Cape Town Centre) and Mike Jenkins, also from Cape Town. Needless to say, as most of us were at the time young and unmarried we had the time of our lives!

Three cheers to the Octagon Society of which we were privileged to have been members!



East London beachfront



LETTERS

Dear Fran,

I am so glad that our Chairman, Allan Froom of the PE MG car club, is now sending us newsletters from the other centres in the country. If you still have hard copies of 'The Breed' you will notice that I became a member of the Cape Town Centre in August 1974. That was before the PE Club became a Centre on its own. At the time, John Saunders was your Chairman. I knew him well and met him in East London at the Golden Jubilee celebration. I recently dug up some photos of the 1974 rally and wrote a short article of this event for our club's newsletter. Based on your request for stories about 'Me and my MG' I am sending you my story! I still have my 1969 MGB which I bought brand new in Bellville at the time for R2800.00! I also have a MGF, also bought brand new in Cape Town in Jan. 2002. I hope to meet you folks at the Cape Centres gathering in Cradock in May this year.

MG greetings from a lifelong member of the Octagon Society.
Deon Rousseau (MG car club - Port Elizabeth)

* * * * *

It might be of interest to members to hear of our entirely trouble-free run to the George Show and back in our MG. I only realised as we drove into Sedgefield that I had not filled up since Somerset West! Travelling at a steady 65 - 70 mph where conditions allowed, we averaged 22 miles per gallon, which was really pleasing.

Regards
Tony and Bronwyn Bruton



* * * * *



The 1987 Christmas card of Johnny and Nelly Lurani with a 1953 MG TF

Editor's note: *The above photograph refers to Norman Ewing's story "How Count Lurani went to Silverstone". (The Breed - February 2019) Unfortunately due to the unreliable S.A. postal system, the photo arrived too late for publication.*

FOR SALE

2004 MG TF 135 Colour: Silver Grey with black interior (44000km) Price: R79,500
Contact: Brian Armstrong 082 4427 744

2004 MG TF 160 Colour: Silver and in immaculate condition (46000km). Price: R40,000
The car is in the Northern Cape. **Contact:** Carl Benson 083 545 0624

MGA 1622 cc low compression motor plus gearbox, no carbs or manifolds. For sale in Durban
for offers on R2000 **Contact:** Paul Gilman-Able 072 4555 70

MG TF - Hard top roof. Colour: Silver. Price: R7,500
Contact: Brian James 082 552 0586 or
email: brian@brabek.co.za



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MG CAR CLUB - CAPE TOWN CENTRE
NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday 9th March 2019

In terms of Clause 9.1 of the constitution, notice is hereby given of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the MG Car Club Cape Town Centre to be held as follows:

Date: Saturday, 9th March 2019

Time: 14.00

Venue: The Crankhandle Clubhouse, 9 Riebeek Street, Wynberg, Cape Town

The committee has arranged for a Natter "*bring and braai*" to be held immediately after the AGM, members are both encouraged to attend the meeting and socialise afterwards.

As this is the most important meeting in the club's calendar, all members are encouraged to attend at least the meeting itself.

Agenda: See attached AGM agenda

Minutes of the previous AGM were published in **The Breed** in April, 2018. Please refer to these if needed.

Proxies: If you are unable to attend, please appoint a proxy (using the attached proxy form) to vote on your behalf. Proxy forms must be handed to the Honorary Secretary before the meeting or, preferably, scanned and sent to him prior to the meeting.

Reports: The reports of the President, Chairman and Treasurer will be circulated ahead of the meeting, to enable all members to read these in advance.

Roy Zazeraj
Honorary Secretary

**AGENDA FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF
THE MG CAR CLUB, CAPE TOWN CENTRE
to be held on
Saturday, 9th March 2019
at THE CRANKHANDLE CLUB, CLUBHOUSE
9 RIEBEEK STREET, WYNBERG
at 14H00**

- | | |
|---|-------|
| 1. Welcome and apologies | PR |
| 2. Verification of quorum | PR |
| 3. Remembering those who have passed away (<i>Reflective quietus</i>) | PR |
| 4. Adoption of the minutes of the previous AGM (10th March 2018) | RZ |
| 4.1 Corrections and proposer and seconder for adoption | |
| 4.2 Matters arising from the previous AGM (not covered below) | |
| 5. President's report | DR |
| 6. Chairman's report | PR |
| 7. Secretary's report | RZ |
| 8. Treasurer's report and adoption of accounts | BA |
| 9. Trustees' report | RR/JP |
| 10. Acceptance of Committee nomination for President | PR |
| 11. Appointment of Trustees | PR |
| 12. Nominated Cape Town Centre delegates to the National Council | PR |
| 13. Approval of Honorary Life Membership for Robin & Hildegard Rich | PR |
| 14. Presentation of awards | PR |
| 15. Election of committee members, appointment of <i>ex officio</i> members
and thanks to outgoing officials | PR |
| 16. General | All |
| 17. Thanks and closure | PR |

**MG Car Club Cape Town Centre
2019 Annual General Meeting**

9 March 2019

PROXY FORM

To The Honorary Secretary,
MG Car Club Cape Town Centre.

I, _____ being a member of the
MG Car Club, Cape Town Centre, *in good standing*, hereby appoint

or failing him/her, the Chairman, as my proxy to attend, speak and vote for me on my behalf
at the Annual General Meeting of the MG Car Club, Cape Town Centre, to be held on
9th March, 2019 and any adjournment thereof.

Signed: _____

Name in full: _____

NB: This form is to be sent to and registered with the Honorary Secretary **before**
commencement of the AGM.

**The Annual General Meeting of the MG Car Club, Cape Town Centre,
will be held on Saturday 9 March 2019
at the Crankhandle Club Clubhouse, 9 Riebeeck St, Wynberg, at 14.00**

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The following committee positions will be automatically vacated at the AGM.
Retiring committee members are eligible for re-election, should they be willing.

1. Chairman
2. Honorary Treasurer
3. Honorary Secretary
4. Membership Secretary
5. Register Secretary
6. 'The Breed' Editor

Nominations are hereby called for election to the Committee, to fill the above 6 positions. These are to be in writing, addressed to the Hon. Secretary, preferably via e-mail (roy@artique.co.za), to be received by him no later than 25 February 2019.

When nominating a member, please remember to state the member's name, position nominated for and their willingness to stand. A member nominated to be Chairman, must have been a member of the MGCC Centre for at least two years, while other nominees must have been members for at least one year.

Election of the new Committee members will take place by a show of hands at the AGM, as per the agenda distributed.

Roy Zazeraj.
Honorary Secretary
29 January 2019