



Incorporating the  
MG Sports Car Register

# The BREED

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

[www.mgc-ct.co.za](http://www.mgc-ct.co.za)



Affiliated to the  
MG Car Club - England

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SEPTEMBER 2016

## FROM THE CHAIR

August has been a busy month for the Club. The usual evening Natter was replaced by a Saturday afternoon braai which was very well attended. It was great to see old friends discussing their cars as they braaied.

We also enjoyed a Chairman's breakfast run on Sunday 21st August to the little west coast village of Philadelphia. The restaurant staff excelled themselves, both with the delicious food and friendly service. The shop was well stocked with delicious jams, breads, fresh farm eggs and gifts, which many members bought on their way home afterwards.

The weather was fine when we met at the Milnerton lighthouse, albeit blowing up a pretty nippy NW wind with a forecast of rain later in the day. Just as we were leaving the 'Peppertree' the rain started and we all departed in a hurry. The drive home was a good test of MG reliability as the rain came bucketing down. I've not heard of any breakdowns from members which is a relief!

Just prior to writing this about 20 members in 10 cars enjoyed the most delightful drive from the vineyards of Constantia, via Hout Bay, over Chapman's Peak to lunch in Noordhoek. The weather and views were sublime and lunch at 'The Toad' was convivial with excellent food. I probably say this too often, however I do believe that we are very lucky to live in Cape Town.

In September, Colin Cromhout will be bringing along samples of some promotional MG clothing for members to look at and he will be taking orders, please diarise to come to the Natter on Tuesday September 13th.

Finally, are you interested in how economical your MG is? You will be able to find out if you come along to the Economy run that Richard Grinstead and I are organising in September. We shall manage the filling of each car at the beginning and the end of the run. The route has a good selection of both fast and slow roads, together with some hills, which will all add up to give a realistic consumption of your car.

More details about this run can be found on page 3.

**Brian**

## CONTACT DETAILS

### CLUB OFFICIALS

2016-17

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## EDITOR'S CORNER

It's the final countdown to the 2016 Tshwane Indaba and a few of our Cape Town members will be joining this lively, exciting MG event.

Good wishes go to everyone taking part in the Indaba. Whatever Province or town you are travelling from, please take care on the roads, enjoy the journey and your time in Tshwane. Keep the MG flag flying!

Thank you Tony Price (Adrienne de Jongh's brother) for readily agreeing to write the very descriptive report on page 6. Tony was a guest on the Vets' run to Darling in July.

Last date for articles for the October issue of The Breed is 23rd September.

### Fran

#### Dates to diarise:

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| 11th September | Multi-car Club run organised by the Sunbeam Club           |
| 1st October    | Hermanus Whales and Wheels Show                            |
| 23rd October   | Century Classic car run organised by the Triumph Club      |
| 6th November   | Cape Motor Show at Killarney organised by W. P. Motor Club |

#### Our bank details are:

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

#### Disclaimer:

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## OUT AND ABOUT

### SEPTEMBER

Tuesday	13th	Natter & Noggin at CHC Clubhouse, Riebeek Street, Wynberg 7.30pm
Sunday	18th	Economy Run - details below
Thursday	29th	Veterans' run to Kleinmond - details on page 4

### OCTOBER

Tuesday	11th	Natter & Noggin at CHC Clubhouse, Riebeek Street, Wynberg 7.30pm
Thursday	27th	Veterans' run - details to be advised

### **Sunday Economy Run**

A great opportunity to benchmark your car's fuel consumption!

On Sunday 18th September the Club is organising an economy run. The route will start at the Foresters Arms in Newlands, where all cars will fill up at the BP garage across the road and leave at approximately 09h45. The route will then take us to the top of Constantia Nek, down through Constantia, over Ou Kaapse Weg and through to Kommetjie. There will be a short coffee and comfort stop in Scarborough at the Hub coffee shop, then the route will continue past the Cape Point entrance, before returning through Simonstown, Clovelly and back to Sun Valley, where all cars will be refuelled.

After this we head for lunch at Dixies in Glencairn. The route is 84km long which should allow us to calculate everyone's fuel consumption accurately. We will supervise filling of tanks at the beginning and end to ensure that all cars are filled to a similar level.

There are no prizes, however the John Skaife award will be given for the car with the best fuel consumption.

Lunch will be available at Dixies in Glencairn from 12h15 onwards. Dixies offer a Sunday roast @ R72.50 together with a reasonable a la carte and drinks menu. Prices exclude gratuity. There will be tables of 6 or 8 on the veranda, if the weather is fine, otherwise inside. Tables will be billed separately and one person at each table should manage the collection of money, please. They have a wide choice of drinks which must be paid for when ordered. To book please contact **Brian Aslett** (email: [brazzle@iafrica.com](mailto:brazzle@iafrica.com)) or 083 267 3742

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September Veterans' run is along the scenic Clarence Drive to Kleinmond, where we have an opportunity at 11h00 to visit the workshop of The Potter's Gallery. Here we shall be able to see how Corinne has been making her well-known, functional, ceramic pottery for more than 25 years.

As there is so much to see/do along the way we will not meet-up and travel together, thus allowing everyone to stop whenever and wherever they wish. Those who leave early enough could take along a flask of tea/coffee and stop at one of the many lay-bys to do a spot of whale watching or to simply enjoy the view.

Along the drive we shall pass through the Kogelberg Biosphere area, Stony Point Nature Reserve at Betty's Bay and Harold Porter Botanical Gardens. Please feel free to stop at any of these interesting places either on the way there or on your return journey home.

***Directions from Somerset West to Kleinmond:***

(51.2kl from Sir Lowry's Pass - N2 turn off - 47minutes without stops)

Travel on the N2 past Somerset West until you reach the Sir Lowry's Pass Road.

Turn RIGHT onto Sir Lowry's Pass Road.

At the T-junction turn LEFT onto Faure Marine Drive R44. This will take you along the coast on Clarence Drive.

Continue on this road past Rooi Els, Pringle Bay and Betty's Bay until you reach Kleinmond.

Turn RIGHT into Harbour Road and drive down to the car park.

You will be able to park either half way down Harbour Road (see sign pointing to the left), or you can go on to the end of the road where there is plenty of parking on the left.

Stroll back up the road taking in all the quaint art galleries and shops and meet outside the Potter's Gallery and Bistro 14 at 11h00.

**Lunch has been arranged at Bistro 14 for 13h00.**

**Menu:** (Welcome glass of orange juice on arrival)

- (a) Bobotie with spiced carrots, yellow rice and sambals
- (b) Hake & chips with salad - prepared Classic
- (c) Hake & chips with salad - prepared Cajun
- (d) Beef burger with chips
- (e) Beef burger with salad
- (f) Quiche and side salad

All meals are R78 pp - gratuity IS NOT included.

There are a selection of reasonable wines, including 250ml carafe @ R30, as well as MCC (sparkling wine), beer and Belgian beer. There is a corkage fee of R35 per bottle.

Please inform Les Wilson of your choice of meal. The final numbers need to be confirmed by Friday 23rd September.

**Contact:** Les Wilson 083 324 6852 (email: les@wilson.st)

## SOCIAL NEWS

### SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

*Happy Birthday to you all!*

2- Gertie Montauban    4- Frenske Aslett    5- Ian Glass    6- Paul Wilcox  
8- Steven Perry    9- Eric Detering, Cathy Swanepoel  
11- Peter Rademan, Janine Hendry, Neville Wyness    13- Jenny Armstrong, Hybre Lombard  
14- Carol Victor, Shirley van der Hoek    15- Richard Ratcliffe, Tamsyn Flynn  
18- Viv James, Annalie Wesson, David Knott, Lionel Baird  
19- John Perkins    22- Beverley Frew    25- Willem Burger    26- Bokkie Markus  
27- Carol Schroenn    28- Brian Dallimore, Brian Crawford    30- Celia Baylis

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**Change of email address:** Roger and Angela Manton (mantons@afrihost.co.za)

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### **THANK YOU**

Eileen Dallimore wishes to convey her sincere appreciation for the lovely fruit hamper she received on behalf of the MG Car Club Committee and members. Eileen is slowly but surely improving and hopes to be back on Club runs in the not too distant future.

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Though some went separately to Darling on the inland route, a cool morning saw several members meet at the Farmstall at Melkbosstrand before setting off north down the West Coast Highway towards Darling. The bow-waves of numerous trucks made for exciting overtaking into the great unknowns beyond and offered immediate detection of undetected apertures, with the promise, on detection, of an instant cold shower to boot.

Darling Olives the first destination, proved a scenic spot, albeit with a deep treacherous gully running across the road, just where one turned in. Lush green everywhere, accentuated by the odd clump of arum lilies (or sometimes horses).

Inside the warmth of the old milking room, we were treated to an extensive sampling of the surprisingly huge range of products made from olives, including dried olives, olives prepared with a hint of chilli, olive marmalade and so on, along with a lecture on the number of varieties, differences caused by picking at different stages of ripening, legislation, labelling. Good value indeed for R30!

Thence everyone proceeded to Brigs Barn on the Darling main street for lunch. We filled the place nicely. The restaurant was already warmed by a fire and a pleasant atmosphere quickly developed. Service was fast and efficient, despite there being only one waitress. The bobotie looked very good indeed. The brave also sampled some of Darling Breweries produce, but having checked the condition of the brewery's approaches, none dared to attempt sampling the remainder of the thirteen strong product range. Pity!

Overall 3 MGB GTs, 3 MGBs, 4 plastics (!), 1 each of MGC and TD participated in making it a great day.

The visit terminated with a farewell to Maggie, Celia's MGB, which was on its last outing before reluctantly emigrating to Gauteng. Poor thing! Everyone gathered round for farewell photos before heading back to the city.



## Farewell to Maggie

**Ceila Baylis**

This was "Maggie's" farewell to Cape Town, taken on her last run to Darling in July. She will shortly be leaving for Gauteng to take up permanent residence there with Dudley, my son.

A sad and fond farewell, to a loyal little MGB who has been my companion for about 32 years!

I trust she is going to a good home.



Photography: Frenske Otzen



## TECHNICAL TALK

### Auto Electrical Upgrades

Firstly let me say how much I enjoyed reading Roger Lewis's article "Claiming back the years" in the August Breed. Articles like this, I am sure, are of great interest to the majority of club members, so let's have more of them. It is a pity though we did not get to see this first hand as a B register garage meet, especially seeing that the percentage of B owners in the club exceeds 40%.

This led me to putting pen to paper and writing some more articles on electrical upgrades (gadgets) to incorporate into your car and make the transition from driving your modern car to your classic, easier.

About 2 years ago I wrote 2 articles on electrical upgrades I did to my car, to which I received no response. Let's hope the following articles will generate more interest as these are ready made components which you can purchase from me and all you do is follow the diagram and DIY.

How many of you drive in daytime with your park or headlights on and forget to switch them off when you stop? This I noticed often happens on veteran's runs and has happened to me on occasion. Left long enough it will obviously lead to a very flat battery.

Upgrade number 1 is the "lights on reminder" which is connected from the ignition, so that when the lights are on and the ignition switched off, a buzzer sounds and therefore reminds you to switch your lights off, just like your modern car. The enclosure is small and light and can be fixed with double sided tape to any flat surface behind the dashboard.



I connected mine: ignition - (blue wire) to the line terminal on the indicator flasher unit (usually marked B) but do check with a 12v test light to make sure you have the power wire. I used this connection as it is an easily accessible point to pick up the ignition circuit. The light - (red wire) I connected to the instrument lights bullet connector joint behind the dash as there is a spare way.

The instrument lights switch on with the park lights on the first position of the light switch, so the red wire from the "lights on reminder" can be connected anywhere to the park light circuit. It is the park lights most often forgotten and left on.

Some will say, why do I need this gadget? I can reconnect my lights through the ignition switch and never forget the lights on. Avoid this, the ignition switch is only rated at 6 amp and your headlamp and park light circuits together draw 12 amp, in time you will burn out the ignition switch.

If you find your instrument lights don't work, check the rheostat (the knob between the speedometer and rev counter) if faulty just connect the 2 wires at the rheostat together, then you should have power to the instrument lights. The black wire connects to the body (easy) so with this all done your system should work. The "lights on reminder" can be obtained from me at a cost of R70.

This (gadget) can of course be connected to any car not having a lights on signal, not just MGs.

My contact numbers: 021-8525020 / 0824958380 I shall not be available until after 16th September.

**Len Victor**

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### **Windscreen washer conversion to electric**

The MGA and early MGB were fitted with a bellows manual pump. To convert the manual washer pump to electric is fairly simple. Remove the rear pump cover which has the bellows attached.

You need to decide if you want to retain the original push button/knob or upgrade to one more easily operated. Retaining originality, a small push button switch fitted into a 35mm film container or similar with a nice fit into the pump body. This is held in place with a small self-tapping screw. A suitable spring is needed to keep the tension on the outer knob. The alternate is to use a small Lucas starter button or a toggle switch. This can be wired to a newer MGB washer pump and bag set-up or combined pump tank set-up. Connect to a suitable fused power supply.

While the combined set-up will offend the originality nuts it is by far the most efficient. A "TUDOR" sticker on the tank helps. Extra washer tube can be cheaply bought from a good hardware store. The combined pump tank set-up includes a quantity of suitable tube.

I have used all the switch/tank/pump options. - Pat Coyne

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**FOR SALE**

**1973 MGB GT** I have owned for almost 40 years. The intention was to restore it in my retirement years but I have found other interests - I have decided to 'give it away' for around R20k. As it has been standing outside for a while there is a bit of (surface) rust and the interior obviously needs attention. To my surprise the engine turned the other day - it was in working order when I 'parked' it years ago. I have new front and back windscreen rubbers for respray and the papers are all in order (still licensed). **Contact:** John Hesom 021 715 8606 / 082 336 7218 email: john@propworks.co.za

Set of 4, 15" 60 spoke wire wheels, R600 each. Wooden steering wheel R600  
**Contact:** Stuart Leach 082 491 0687 email: autolea@netactive.co.za

Tonneau cover for rubber bumper MGB – like new condition R800.  
**Contact:** Robin Dunstan (Port Elizabeth MG Car Club) 041 585 2614 / 078 266 7752

**MG TF160** (2003) engine rebuilt with updated gasket/stiffer oil rail. New cylinders, belt, water pump, tyres etc. Gunmetal grey, black leather. Car in excellent condition and runs very well. Bargain at first R80 000. **Contact:** Brian Crawford 082 783 6921

**WANTED**

**MG Midget** chrome bumper model (with 'teeth') - not opposed to a vehicle that requires some work, but not a basket case. **Contact:** Peter Morse (Knysna MG Car Club) 071 735 7389 email: petermorse101@hotmail.co.uk

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*What on earth was Mike Johnson thinking? Swopping his MG for a bicycle! (albeit a rather impressive one). Owner and keen cyclist, Marlin Lottering, stopped for a breather on top of Chapman's Peak and was delighted to sit in the TD for a photo shoot. By the way, Mike changed his mind, his 'wheels' are far more comfortable.*

