



Incorporating the  
MG Sports Car Register

# The BREED

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



Affiliated to the  
MG Car Club - England

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Even though 2019 is still very much in evidence this issue will be ringing in a New Year for the Club.

As we make New Year resolutions and wishes for a brighter future, thoughts will turn to loved ones far away. Although the distance may keep them apart, they will be close to our hearts.

Read all about our wonderful Show Day on *pg. 6* and if you could not be there have a look at the photos on *pgs.7/8* to see what you missed!

Roger Lewis keeps us updated about brake issues on *pg.10*

Please be sure to send in your articles and reports by *23rd January* for publishing in the February issue of the newsletter.

**Youth is when you are allowed to stay up late  
on New Year's Eve,  
Middle Age is when you are forced to!** - Bill Vaughan

Wishing you all a wonderful, safe 2020.

**Fran**

### **Front page photographers:**

Top: Tony Bruton  
Middle & Bottom: Viv James

### Our bank details:

**Bank:** Standard Bank  
**Account:** MG Car Club – Cape Town Centre  
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## FROM THE CHAIR

Whilst writing this monthly chit-chat on our wind-free patio I realised how fortunate we were on Show Day when the good old 'Cape Doctor' decided to boycott the MG gathering in Hout Bay. What a very pleasant day it was thanks to club members Janet & Dave Lyons who graciously hosted this annual event at their home. More about the event further on in the newsletter.

Talking about the summer South Easter, we T-type drivers know how unpleasant it can be in a strong crosswind, especially with cut away doors. Unlike genteel folk in their modern MGs with wind-up windows, we hardy types persevere. A bit annoying though when one has to suddenly pull over while the lady editor yet again has to remove and clean her contact lenses. Goes to show that goggles are a necessity for old-style sports cars. Guess those Brooklands screens in my spares cupboard will not be fitted to our TD !

One must wonder if the Tesla electric cars will become an everyday vehicle on our South African roads. Most certainly doubtful if Eskom cannot even reliably provide sufficient power to boil the kettle for a 'cuppa' let alone charge batteries. Imagine vast numbers of electric cars stranded by the roadside whilst we whizz by in our classics.

As the year draws to a close and another holiday period begins please take care on the roads. Last week an extremely close shave in the TD left Fran and I spooky white and shaken, this in a quiet street in Melkbos, when a joker in a suburban tractor (4x4) decided stop signs were meant for others and not for him. Or maybe he had over indulged on too much 'gravy' at lunch time!

Congratulations are in order for Hilda Clark, widow of the legendary Ralph, as she celebrates her 90th milestone this month. Happy Birthday from all of us at the MG Car Club.

Thanks to all club members and the committee for their active involvement in club events and affairs this past year. Let's make this happen again in 2020 and beyond - the Indaba is fast approaching.

Just a reminder, to keep the Treasurer busy and contented this month please pay your 2020 subscriptions which are due by 1st January.

Enjoy the Christmas season and a Happy MG fun-filled 2020 to everyone.

**Mike**

<p>2020 MG INDABA OUDTSHOORN 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> September 2020 Indaba accommodation is now fully booked. We will gladly add your name to a waiting list - please email us at <a href="mailto:indaba2020@gmail.com">indaba2020@gmail.com</a> Alternatively, should you wish to make your own B&amp;B arrangements in Oudtshoorn, please check with us first as we can only accept a few more entries. View the latest Indaba accommodation status on our website <a href="http://www.mgcc-ct.co.za">www.mgcc-ct.co.za</a></p>	<p>OUDTSHOORN</p>  <p>2020 INDABA CAPE TOWN CENTRE</p>
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## OUT AND ABOUT

### JANUARY

Saturday	11th	Braai Natter & Noggin at Crankhandle Clubhouse, Riebeek Str. Wynberg @ 2-5pm
Sunday	19th	Timour Hall Classic Car Show 2020 - <i>details below</i>
Thursday	30th	Veterans' run - <i>details to be advised</i>

### FEBRUARY

Tuesday	11th	Natter & Noggin at Crankhandle Clubhouse, Riebeek Str. Wynberg @ 7.30pm
Sunday	16th	Chairman's Run - <i>details to follow</i>
Thursday	27th	Veterans' Run - <i>details to follow</i>

### **Classic Car & Bike Show - Timour Hall, Plumstead**

Sunday - 19th January 2020

The Annual Classic Car and Bike Show takes place at Timour Hall on Sunday 19th January 2020. As in previous years the MG Car Club has been allocated 15 spaces at the usual spot on the grass to the left of the driveway. We would like to maintain a cross section of MGs: *Pre-war, T-Type, MGA and Twin Cam, MGB and Modern*. If you wish to join us and show your MG please **Contact:** Martin Davies 083 269 5483 email: [mgtddavies@gmail.com](mailto:mgtddavies@gmail.com)

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## SOCIAL NEWS

### RESIGNATIONS

#1266 Brian Crawford - sold MG  
#1212 John Taylor - sold MG  
#1355 Lance Setzer - sold MG

\* \* \* \* \*

### JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

2 - Douline Markus, Andrew Hood	4 - Johann van Heerden, Ken Price
5 - Kathy Katz, John Craig	7 - Richard Urisohn
11 - Jenny Mockford, Brian Armstrong	12 - Andy Hennings
13 - Mike Cohen	17 - Brian Aslett, Justin Moore
19 - Roy Engledow, Wolfgang Thomas	24 - Anne Ribbans
31- Jane Beck, Colin Cromhout	

\* \* \* \* \*

### SUBSCRIPTIONS - 2020

Subscription Renewal notices were sent to all members and are payable on or before the 1st January 2020. If you have not yet paid your subscriptions, please ensure that you do so soon. Please use your membership number and surname as the reference. Thank you to those members who have paid their subscriptions promptly.

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\* \* \* \* \*



*Importers of Classic and Modern Car Parts*

	<b>Peter Flowers</b>	
	Cell: 078 639 0151	
	Email: <a href="mailto:info@cbparts.co.za">info@cbparts.co.za</a> <a href="http://www.classically-british.com">www.classically-british.com</a>	

## MG SHOW DAY

Last year at the MG Club's Show Day we celebrated our 70th anniversary in grand style at the regular venue, Timour Hall. This year MG members, Janet and Dave Lyons hosted the event at their impressive property and home in Hout Bay. As most people are aware Dave is an avid collector of classic cars, preferring only 2-door sports type cars and coupes.

The turn-out of MGs and members was unprecedented, over 40 cars, 78 members including a number of guests amongst who were: Keith Brown an ex-Border club member, Pio Brönnimann and his wife who are members of the MG Club in Bern, Switzerland.

Many interesting MGs were on show with a ND, K2 and PA from the early 1930s attracting keen interest. Keeping these beauties company was a line-up of T-types including a 1954 TF belonging to Glynn Barton and a TD owned by John Elliott, both cars meticulously restored and making a first time appearance at a Club event.

Four cars were entered for judging; Concours d'etat (2) and Tops (2). The results are to be announced at the AGM in March 2020. The regular Show Day event of 'Ladies Choice' was won and deservedly so, by Glynn Barton from Saldanha Bay with his 1954 TF. Indeed this was a most impressive example. Sincere thanks to the judges who gave up their time, in the heat of the day to judge the cars.

A special feature at Show Day was presenting a birthday cake to our oldest CT member Bokkie Markus, who in September celebrated a *4 score and ten milestone*. Bokkie still drives his pristine, red MGB having been an MG addict since his early twenties with a TC. In reverence to his age 2 candles were on the cake which Bokkie managed to extinguish with help from a gentle breeze! Congratulations 'oom' Bokkie, we now all believe that MGs contribute to a full, long life.

Thank you to all the members who were able to attend this year's club event, many of whom came from afar to enjoy the day with their families and friends. Photos on the following pages are proof that the day was a tremendous success.

- Mike Johnson

\* \* \* \* \*



TF - Glynn Barton

photos: Viv James



TD - John Elliott



K2 - Rod Green



ND - Fred Phillips

photos: Viv James



PA - Viv James



photos: Viv James



photo:  
Tony Bruton

Judging underway:

Dieter + Geoff



**or** Mutt and Jeff



MGA - Steve London



photos: Tony Bruton



The Chairman about to be fired!



Janet and Shirley



'Happy 90th birthday Bokkie'

photos: Frenske Otzen



Douline and Bokkie



Barton family and friends



photos: Viv James



Ballantyne and van den Oever families

## VETERANS' RUN TO NOORDHOEK

On Thursday 27th November we met at Constantia Village for the club run to Noordhoek. There were 15 cars made up as follows:- 4 MGTD, 1 MGA, 5 MGB, 3 MGBGT, 1 MGTF and 1 plastic.

The run started in sweltering weather with a drive through Constantia/Tokai behind Westlake Golf Course onto Boyes Drive through Fish Hoek and Sun Valley. Here we were stuck in a traffic jam for about 30 minutes because of roadworks which was dreadful due to the extreme heat, on the plus side no vehicles overheated even the MGBs which all had electric fans.

The venue was the Red Herring where we had a lovely cool breeze and just as well as we had a very long wait for our drinks and food. The food was tasty but maybe anything may have been after the wait. After Martin had his say we all found our way home – *not* through the traffic in Sun Valley!

- Peter van Breda

\* \* \* \* \*

## *SEASONS GREETINGS*

we wish you a very

*MaGical Christmas*

*and a safe, fun, filled,  
prosperous  
2020*



EWING - THE BOUNDARY HOUSE 40 IVY ROAD - NORWOOD - 2192 - SOUTH AFRICA

## TECHNICAL TALK

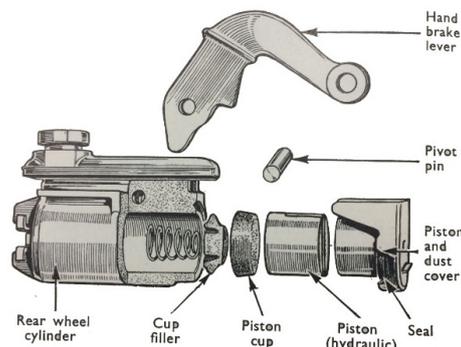
### TD / MGA Rear Brakes

Recently my TD brakes were telling me something was wrong, well after more than 20 years since restoration it was to be expected, not that servicing and regular changes of brake fluid had not been undertaken.

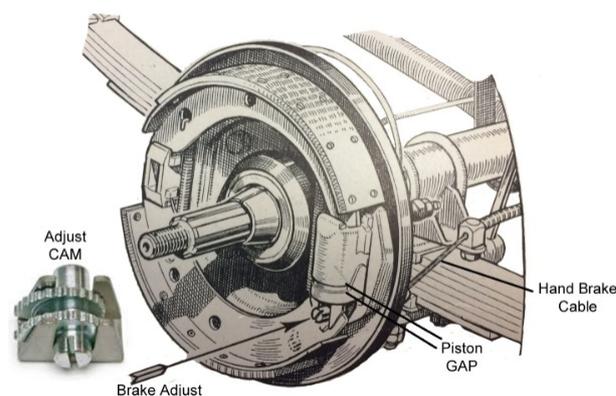
On investigation the front brakes were contaminated with grease and seepage of brake fluid. The front hub seals needed replacing and for good measure the bearings were also replaced. The brake pistons were showing their age, with some pitting inside the bores, a good hone did improve things, but whilst they were off I sent them to be stainless steel sleeved. CBF in Diep River arranged for the work to be done, a couple of days later new, shiny cylinders were received to compliment new brake shoes which were radiused to match the drums.

I learnt something new when dealing with the rear brakes, over the years the handbrake cables have been adjusted, thinking that the need was due to stretch in the cables, to a degree, but here is the cautionary bit. The cables were in fact too tight and were overcoming the action of the hydraulics of the rear cylinders.

As the handbrake lever is pulled the 'front piston and dust cover', pictured below, is pushed out, which in turn pushes out the brake shoes leaving the rear piston free to take up the gap. On replacing the rear cylinders the handbrake cables were attached, the drum fitted and the adjustment set to first lock up the brakes, before backing off a click so the drums were free to turn, all good?



Then I had a good look at the piston through the adjustment hole and noticed that the front piston (Piston GAP in the image below) was already a little way out of the cylinder, after releasing the handbrake cable the piston was fully home, the drum now fully free requiring further clicks on the adjuster to take up slack.



If you get to the end of the adjustment range without locking up the drum, or if after too many clicks then you need to rectify the situation as you have little adjustment left for the future. If it's really bad you can turn the adjuster all the way round.

The link below is to a *youtube* video by University Motors, here the situation is explained together with a practical remedy.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q2-0Vqje1LM>

My rear brake adjusters needed some help, so I fitted spacer shims. The handbrake cables were adjusted in accordance with the workshop manual, if all else fails read the instructions. Now the braking system is good with very little pedal-free play, the car pulls up nice and straight and relatively smartly, all good for a 70 year old design.

Happy birthday TD.

- Roger Lewis

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**1968 MGB GT 1800**

Price: R130, 000

**Contact:** Frank Strydom 083 677 7773



**2003 MG TF** comes with hard top. 67000km

History file available - ex Bokkie Markus car.

Price: R85,000

**Contact:** Kris Nel 060 960 8818

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