



NEWSLETTER NO 11:03 MARCH 2011

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FROM THE HIGH CHAIR

With this year's AGM behind us, my first duty is to inform you about changes to the club's committee. Both Jennie and Norman Frost decided not to make themselves available for re-election. They have played a valuable part in the starting-up process of our club for which we are very grateful. On behalf of all members, I thank them and look forward to their on-going participation in club events. Ray Mackey has volunteered his services as a committee member, was voted on to the committee with the remainder of the members from last year and we warmly welcome him and thank him for stepping forward.

Our constitution provides for the election of chairman and committee members only. At the first committee meeting after the AGM, the various portfolios will be allocated to the members. At this stage, I can inform you that Duncan Paton has kindly agreed to be our treasurer and that Ray has agreed to take over the portfolio of Editor from me. The latter arrangement is a delight for me and you will already have noticed that the 'Editorial' and 'From the High Chair' have again become separated in this, his first edition. We look forward to the 'new broom effect' which is essential to avoid boredom in the newsletter. These offices will be confirmed at the next meeting. I was unfortunately not able to shake off my position as chairman!

Ray has a history of MG association and I hope that by way of introduction, he will tell us about this in one of his early editions. I urge members to support him by forwarding contributions – before he press gangs us into it!

On the charity front, the R5000 passed on by the Hillclimb organisers has been warmly received by the Lukhanyiso Safe House and a letter of thanks from Penny Mainwaring is published elsewhere in the

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newsletter. Also in this edition is Merceda Woodgate's description of the tour, a visit obviously well worth experiencing. Negotiations with the organisers are under way for this year's Hillclimb on May 21 and 22. In the meantime, it is hoped that members will support the commendable efforts of Graham and Sylvia Yendall to raise funds for orphans at their car show at Plett on March 19th.

I spent this past weekend in the Rooiberg Mountains between Calitzdorp and Van Wyksdorp with a group of car enthusiasts. Fortunately 'classics' were not required because the road was vicious. We were told about a 4x4 trail up into the mountains and set off with two 4x4's and a Fortuna with diff-lock. The reason for the title soon became obvious when the latter vehicle refused to go further. The remaining two allowed us to climb to 1000m above sea level from where the views were spectacular. The descent proved to be a challenge with at times, only three of the vehicle's wheels on the ground! The drop of 370m over a distance of only one km gives an indication of the steepness. Fortunately we then had a relaxing interval before the excitement of the closing stages of the Proteas'/ India cricket match. The accommodation at the Rooiberg Lodge was excellent and the venue is highly recommended.

Rod Paxton of the East London MG Centre puts together a National For sale and Wanted list which is forwarded to me. If anyone wishes to see this, they should please contact me and I will forward it to them.

You are again reminded about the Cape Centres event in Graaf Reinet in October – don't miss this great weekend.

Drive safely

Bruce

EDITORIAL

Well, here goes with the first attempt at filling the Editor's boots. There is no doubt that our Chairman has done a great job in managing both portfolios and has produced an informative and entertaining issue of *Forever Young* each month for some time now. At this stage I should say that the rumour circulating to the effect that I only joined the committee to lower the average age, is not really the case.

I don't believe that the newsletter should have a fixed agenda so the content may vary from issue to issue but always with the intention to maintain or improve quality of content. On that subject I would encourage members to offer material which may be of interest to others in the club and in that way contribute to what is, after all, **your** monthly Newsletter. I would suggest that there is scope for contributions under the heading of "Technical Tips" or "The one I should have kept" (that refers to cars really but former girlfriends might be an entertaining alternative) I am also aware that there are several members who have a long association with Classic Cars so expect an entertaining story or two for future issues.

As reported in the last newsletter, Lionel Hewitt has raided his piggy bank and acquired a concourse quality MGTC. As a result I have been able to buy Lionel's MGB and will no longer have an excuse for pitching up at future events in a plastic Audi. This will be my seventh MGB during a lifelong involvement with cars and as Bruce has prompted above I will relate my story in the next edition starting in North Yorkshire in 1947 to impending retirement in Knysna.

Following on from our AGM held on 1st March I was encouraged to accept the invitation to visit Cobus Halliday's car collection at Great Brak on 6th March. This was a combined event with GRMC and attracted a good turnout of circa 40 people. Those of you who were unable to attend missed a treat. I counted 47 cars



in the main building with at least another 20 in a second building. The majority of cars were American but there was a very nice Jaguar 1.5l saloon circa 1947, a 1975/6 BGT and a Morris Minor convertible amongst about 10 British cars. Accommodation for a further 40 cars is under construction and you would be hard pressed to believe that the collecting only started in 2003. Even more impressive is that they are all licenced, running and in very good condition.

The hospitality shown by Cobus and his family was exceptional and there is a standing invitation for a return visit in the future. I trust that in return we will encourage his participation in our Car Show on May 15th.

Ray

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Fred and Cheryl Bickley of Sedgfield + dark red MGB GT with sunroof.

Brian and Dawn Stockdale + '69 blue B GT (I think they live in Cape Town and come to Knysna frequently).

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Sunday 27th March Breakfast run to Old Nick's - Will leave the Quays at 0900.

Monday 4th April Combined Winelands Tour

N.B. Sunday 17th April: Breakfast run to Cafe Francois - Please note that the April Sunday breakfast run has been changed to this day to avoid the holiday masses that will inevitably be on the Garden Route for the Easter Weekend.

Sunday 15th May: GRMC KNYSNA CAR SHOW - Early notice is given of this event which has now been confirmed. It will take place from 9am at the Knysna High School Field, Lagoon Drive (opp. CALTEX garage). For the first time the Show will be a part of the week-long KNYSNA FESTIVAL OF SPEED, which culminates in the KNYSNA HILLCLIMB at Simola the following weekend, on Saturday 21st May. Please note that we have arranged with the Hillclimb folks that ALL PARTICIPATING CARS IN THE GRMC KNYSNA MOTOR SHOW WILL BE GIVEN FREE PASSES TO THE HILLCLIMB (in the form of windscreen cards showing details of their cars), PROVIDED THEY ARRIVE IN THEIR SHOW CARS & HAVE THEIR WINDSCREEN NOTICES WITH THEM. (Cars will be on show in a specially designated and supervised area within the Simola Hillclimb precinct. Once parked, members will be free to go off and watch the Hillclimb). Furthermore, I believe there will possibly once again be some form of Concours judging for the Classics up at Simola, with prizes sponsored by Car Magazine. All in all a free and fun day out!

Finally, the announcement has been made about this year's Cape Centres Gathering being hosted by the PE MGCC and being held in Graaff Reinet from 27 to 30 October. Registration has been called for and you are encouraged to enter as soon as possible to obtain accommodation in the Drostdy Hotel, the main venue. We look forward to another enjoyable weekend. If you have not received the registration form, please notify a committee member who will forward one to you.

Bruce.



FROM THE SICKBAY

I hear that Ross Lawson has been in Hospital recently but is now free again, get well soon Ross!

QUOTES FOR THE MONTH

I guess this section was not included for Insurance quotes but those of you due for Insurance renewal should digest it – 3 quotes received for comprehensive cover on a restricted Classic Car Policy - 1976 MGB GT value R75k - R1120; R985 and R595, the latter from Glenn Broadhurst of FNB Insurance Brokers in PE (tel 041 3916800). If you go to the SAVVA website you will see that the link to Insurance gives these contact details for FNB as their Brokers.

FROM THE RUNNING BOARD

We received the following letter which is self-explanatory.

Hi Bruce and all the Members of the MG Car Club,

We want to thank you very, very much for the great donation of R5000 towards our projects in the Township. We would very much like to put these funds towards a new building at the Safe House to house more people. We hope to make a decision on this as soon as possible, once we get a quote on the new building.

I am sure we will have enough now, with your donation to build another bedroom and bathroom.

Thanks again for your great support.

Our best,

Ella and Penny

Emzini Tours/Lukhanyiso Safe House

Merceda Woodgate and Joan Steenkamp were recently most impressed by their township tour and we are grateful for Merceda's article as follows:

On a hot Saturday morning Joan and I and an American couple went on a township tour with Penny Mainwaring from Emzini Tours.

What an experience. We were picked up at the Total petrol station in town in her combi and driven into Concordia. First we were introduced to the township Big Five, a cow, pig, goat, dog and cats. Penny and Ella run the tour company. The funds from the tours are for their basic running costs of the safe house, creche and soup kitchen as well as feeding the numerous township dogs.

Driving through the township one realises what a dedicated and loved couple they are. Children of all ages come running for their sweets and even dogs recognise the Kombi, knowing they will be fed from the large bags of dogfood in the back of the vehicle.



After visiting a typical township shop, we were taken to the safe house run by Nandipha. It consists of only one bedroom with three double bunkbeds, small kitchen/lounge and bathroom. At the time she had three children staying. There really is a wonderful sense of community spirit with children everywhere and everyone sharing what little they have.

For tea we were taken to Ella's house where we met Tandi, one of the women with her own sad story taken in by Ella. She now lives there as well as Ella's mum, daughter and whoever else needs to be given help and comfort. In fact the night before our visit, the police brought an eighteen-month-old toddler whose grandmother was found in a drunken state at two in the morning. Ella is also now housing the little boy's alcoholic mum and granny in her little house. Fortunately she has received finance and has already started extending her little house.

Going on the tour was such a humbling experience. One realises what love and dedication Penny and Ella give in such abundance and how much it is appreciated by the ones in need. Amazingly they all seemed happy and grateful for what little they have.

Merceda Woodgate

THE GOOD LIFE

A FEW GLASWEGIAN NICKNAMES :- (I SUPPOSE THIS COULD HAVE GONE UNDER "MAINTAINING THE BREED" ED) SOME NICKNAMES THAT HAVE BEEN GIVEN TO GLASGOW CHARACTERS BY THEIR FRIENDS AND WORKMATES:

Two Soups - his real name is Campbell Baxter.

Norrie Two Bonnets - the Glasgow taxi-driver who wears a wig under his cloth cap.

The Colostomy - the girlfriend of a married man (i.e. the wee bag on the side).

The Boomerang Kid - whenever anyone at work asks a question, he always replies: 'I'll get back to you on that.'

The Parachute - lets everyone down at the last minute.

Vaseline - his real name is Willie Burns.

Rembrandt - loves saying to colleagues: 'Let me put you in the picture...'

Bo Derek - a chap called Derek with terrible body odour.

The Genie - magically appears whenever anyone opens a bottle.

Dulux - his pals reckon he's only got one coat.

Soapy - washes his hands of any problems that crop up.

The Yeti - always on the sick. Many unconfirmed sightings of this guy, but nobody can prove he actually exists.

The Gas Man - he's serviced loads of old boilers.

The Hostage - when anyone asks for help he always replies: "Sorry, my hands are tied."

The Olympic Flame - He never goes out



MAINTAINING THE BREED

MAKE YOUR OWN

Note: This is an American story and the numbers should be interpreted as comparisons only since they do not represent actual torque (Torque is defined as Force x perpendicular Length of lever arm).*

Machinist's Workshop magazine actually tested penetrating oils for break out torque on rusted nuts. Significant results! They arranged a subjective test of all the popular (USA) penetrants with the control being the torque required to remove the nut from a "scientifically rusted" environment.

PENETRATING OIL	AVERAGE LOAD*
None	516
WD-40	238
PB Blaster	214
Liquid Wrench	127
Kano Kroil	106
ATF-Acetone mix	53

The Automatic Transmission fluid (ATF)-Acetone mix was a "home brew" mix of 50 - 50 automatic transmission fluid and acetone. Note the "home brew" was better than any commercial product in this one particular test. A local machinist group mixed up a batch and all now use it with equally good results. Note also that "Liquid Wrench" is about as good as "Kroil" for about 20% of the price.

I wonder how our local 'Q' range would compare?

AND THEN THE TROUBLE STARTED....

A bride on her wedding night says to her husband - "I must confess darling, I used to be a hooker." He says - "That's alright dear, your past is your past, but I must admit I find it very erotic, tell me more." The bride says, "Well, my name was Koos and I played for Western Province."

OUT OF THE MOUTHS OF BABES

A three year old boy was examining his testicles while taking a bath..... "Mom, he asked, are these my brains?" "Not yet" she replied.

THE CLUB CAR REGISTER

Would new members please let Keith Burton have their car's details asap. We wish to keep the club car register up to date and the information is passed on to the relevant model registers. Please send details to Keith (keiella@telkomsa.net or P O Box 1154, Sedgfield, 6573).



PAST EVENTS

As you will have read in my Editorial, the visit to Cobus Halliday's car collection was a successful and pleasant day out, the pictures below will give you a better idea of the extent of his commitment.



Ebb and Flow picnic, 20th February: A large crowd from both the MGCC and the GRMC in 18 cars, 11 of them MGs gathered on a sunny day at Ebb and Flow. Despite several notifications that we were coming, SanParks seemed totally ignorant when we arrived but fortunately John Day had secured a shady area for us. The fires were soon lit and the braaing was on the go. Our cars were immediately the subject of scrutiny by many of a large crowd picnicking next to us. We were pleased to welcome Fred and Cheryl Bickley on their first outing in their dark red B GT.



Café Francois Breakfast 27th February: Another great turnout with 18 cars including 10 MGs. The service had undoubtedly improved and the usual enjoyable breakfast was appreciated by all.



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REGALIA:

"For Club Regalia, please e-mail your requests to Ron Hollis (rphollis@gmail.com). For T-Shirts (Blue) and Windbreaker Jackets (Dark blue with taffeta-lining), please give sizes - check with other members that already have the item you want. Available items:- Key rings (Club logo; "MG" in a variety of colours), Club Grille Badges (2-hole flat type for badge bar mounting, or with rear screws for grille mounting - please specify), Club Licence Stickers, Smaller Club Logo Stickers, Coasters, "MG" Zip pull-tags (various colours). Note that Club Jackets and T-Shirts usually need to be ordered - we keep little or no permanent stock of these items".

Thanks, and kind regards,

Ron

For those without access to email, contact Ron on 082 859 8771 or visit him at Bodge Engineering opposite Frost Brothers.



(When you visit Ron for your regalia, look also at the fine car covers that he has in stock and treat your car-Ed)

The committee has agreed and arranged for members to have the Club badge and 'Forever Young' embroidered on their personal 'civvies' clothing. Please contact Linda after 16h30 (she is at work until then) on 044 382 4025 or 083 461 9730 or linda@inkfight.com. Bruce has several items already satisfactorily embroidered as a trial and will show these on request.

FOR SALE OR WANTED

(This is a free service for members. Please make use of it as it helps to keep our cars on the road. Just send your advert in to The Editor well before the end of each month. The committee has agreed that commercial adverts can also be accepted but these are charged for.)

For Sale: MG TC Complete but partially restored – mechanicals rebuilt, new interior kit, loom, tyres, and exhaust system. List too long to publish R100000. Further details Charles Rilett 033 3442284

For Sale: Tony McEwan writes: Due to the arrival, at last, of another Classic Car in my garage and somewhat limited space, I have decided to part with my blue MGA roadster. It was originally delivered to Durban on CKD form in 1957. It is a 1500 model but has been uprated with a 1622cc engine which makes a significant difference to performance. It has been completely rebuilt some years ago. It is not in concours condition, but is pretty immaculate. Contact Tony on +27 44 384 1789, 0722 784 532 or a.m.mcewan@gmail.com **

For Sale: MG Midget for sale, white, 1971 wind-up windows, R52000 negotiable. Contact Kobie van der Merwe on kobiev@global.co.za or on 082 411 0753 or 021 782 6758, and at 15 Woodway, Glencairn. Photos available from our Chairman. ** (This could be the ideal Midget for you to purchase and join us on the trip to Namibia in November - Bruce)

For Sale: The following TC spares:-

Gear box	Recently refurbished generator	Compatible engine blocks, heads and camshafts
Front axle	Half-shafts/hubs	
Brake drums	A crack-tested XPAG crank	Various items of chrome work

Contact: Ron Hollis, 082 859 8771 / ron@bodge.co.za / www.bodge.co.za **

For Sale: For used MGA and MG Magnette spares, contact Ricky Cooper on 082 822 2146 or rcooper@cyberperk.co.za.

For Sale: Set of 4 octagonal (ie no ears) wire wheel spinners off a 1992 Morgan 4/4, good chrome. Contact Ray Mackey on 0829226106 or brmprojects@telkomsa.net *

Wanted: Ricky Cooper is looking to purchase scrap MGs and other sports cars for spares. Please contact him on 082 822 2146 or rcooper@cyberperk.co.za.



SERVICES: Advertiser Glen Brits writes as follows:

For future reference, if the guys from your club would like to send me goods for restoration, please ask them to mention the fact that they are from your club and I promise to ensure they get a good deal.

Many thanks,

Glen Brits CA(SA) ACCA(INT)

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WEBSITES WORTH VISITING

<http://gallery.mac.com/djwardell> (Website for MG 80 gallery)

www.speedfestival.co.za (Knysna Hillclimb)

www.mgcarclubsc.co.za

www.mgcc.co.uk.

www.motoring.co.za

www.1000miglia.co.za

www.bridgetthemidget.co.uk

www.mgcc-north.co.za

www.motorheads.co.za

www.motorheadsdiary.com (for motor sport / Historic racing diary)



MGCC SOUTH CAPE EVENTS CALENDAR:

MEETING PLACE: KNYSNA – THE QUAYS AT THE WATERFRONT END OF GREY ST.
SEDGEFIELD – ENGEN ONE-STOP.

A provisional calendar for 2010 follows. Details and any changes will be announced as the year proceeds.

Date	Day	Event	Convenor	Meet
Mar-27	Sun	Breakfast run Old Nick's @ Plett	Tony L-L	Quays 09h00
Apr 4-8	M-Fri	Combined Wine route tour	Jim Clelland	tba
Apr-24	Sun	Breakfast run Café Francois	Tony L-L	Quays 09h00
May 14	Sat	GRMCKnysna Car Show	Bunny Mentz	tba
May 20-22	W-E	Knysna Hillclimb	Bruce	tba
May 21-22	W-E	Last Night of the Proms - PE	Jim Clelland	tba
May 29	Sun	Breakfast Run to Old Nick	Tony L-Lewis	Quays 09h00
27 Oct	Thurs	Cape Centres Graaff Reinet	Brian Davidson	

The early warnings are for inclusion in your diaries. Unfortunately it may be necessary to change some of these nearer the time so please review the calendar monthly. Details to follow.

In view of the advancing years of many of us, there may be problems with print size, etc. Any CONSTRUCTIVE criticism of the Newsletter and how it can be improved will always be welcomed as will of course, your contributions.

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CLASSIC & VINTAGE CARS
Norman & Jennie Frost

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