



NEWSLETTER NO. 10/2019 OCTOBER

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Computer compilation (for email distribution) - Peter Hollis.

Find us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MgCarClubSC/>

Check our Web Page : www.mgcarclubsc.co.za

FROM THE HIGH CHAIR, October 2019

The end of the year is nigh and signs of Christmas are already all around us. Most festive at this stage is the Spar's Christmas tree but the invitation to the GRMC lunch is already closed and our committee is completing arrangements for our annual prawn braai on Friday 6th December and the street party on December 13th. Where has the year gone to?

At least we can keep going through-out the year; spare a thought for those in colder northern climes where MGs are often put into hibernation for the winter. The UK MGCC T Register newsletter of 1st October describes their final outing of 2019 attending a hillclimb in most glorious English Autumn weather in September. The MGs on winding country lanes in most magnificent countryside made me really envious. The pictures and videos of the many T Types would stir up nostalgia in the most disinterested of onlookers! However, only 19 cars were counted on the pictures. In this context, the South Cape annual T Type Tour this year attracted 9 entries, one of which had to cancel at the last minute for a health issue; not bad numbers for a relatively new MGCC Centre near the southern tip of Africa!

This year's short T Tour was efficiently organised by Tony and Lorna Lyons-Lewis and was thoroughly enjoyed by the participants. Despite not having a T Type, the Hendersons offered a sweep car in the form of an MGA and benefitting from chairman's privilege, we were allowed to join the group for which we are most grateful. Travelling wherever possible off the main roads, a brief pit stop at Groot Brak was followed by a short drive towards the Robinson Pass to a Pecheron horse stud farm called Outeniqua Moon. This visit was most interesting. Originating in France, these mighty gentle giants (they weigh up to 1.25 tonnes!) are still bred as work horses in this country although not much used for their original function of pulling felled trees from the forests. Horror was expressed when we were told that these good-natured, amiable and intelligent animals are bred for their meat in France. We were taken on a carriage ride pulled by one of the huge beasts whose acceleration was far more rapid than any MG. Fortunately, the journey was short as the suspension of the carriage made a T Type seem like riding the clouds. After a tasty light lunch at the farm, we overnights at the comfortable Eight Bells Hotel and then made our way slowly home via the pass, Oudtshoorn and a pizza stop at the Roadside Deli. A few relatively minor T complaints were dealt with by the owners and Ricky and all cars made it safely home (including the A sweep car fortunately!). Many thanks go to Tony and Lorna and to all the participants for their company.

Our thanks go to Ricky for hosting us at his Glentana Caravan Park where the usual bring and braai was much enjoyed by the big crowd.

Our treat for November's main outing is a bring and braai at the farm of Karl and Tilly Reitz. We look forward to seeing you there and at the Zucchini breakfast run.

I hope that most if not all of our members are regularly enjoying the sparkling entertainment provided monthly by our editor. Dave is doing a fine job including interesting articles about us and our cars and I thank him for that. However it would add to the enjoyment and make Dave's life easier if our members would contribute articles for publishing. *Anything* of interest would be welcomed. We also request you to look out for 'tear out' articles relevant to our centre or to MGs in general to hand over to Ross Lawson for the club scrapbook.

Drive safely and enjoy your MGs

Bruce

2020 OUDTSHOORN NATIONAL INDABA IMPORTANT NOTICE:

The arranged accommodation for this clearly popular event at both Kleinplaas and at the Protea Hotel is now full. The good news is that the organisers will be able to accommodate a few more entries to meals and events provided that the entrants arrange their own accommodation in B&Bs in the town – there are several nearby.

If you are not already one of the lucky ones attending the Indaba, please, without delay, contact the organisers as below and make an arrangement to attend. 18 South Cape members are already entered and it would be great if a few more could join us.

Email indaba2020@gmail.com to obtain more information or let me know on brucejhenderson@gmail.com and I will assist you.

EDITORIAL

Most of the South Cape members of the MGCC love their cars so dearly that they carefully check the weather reports before even thinking about taking them out of their snug garages for a gentle run. And “gentle” is the right word for the way in which most of us drive our cars, but not all of us! One very active and relatively young (which possibly explains it) member makes full use of his MG in the way in which her designers intended. Peter Hollis in his Midget has been a regular competitor in the annual Knysna Hill Climbs, doing very well indeed. He and his hot little “Piglet” are thus a worthy choice for **Car of the Month** this October. (Story & photos by Peter Hollis)

The Story of Piglet

Piglet is a 1964 MG Midget Mk1 which I have owned since 2012. Why the name? My father has an MGC named Miss Piggy, so Piglet was the next logical step in the Bodge naming convention. The Sprite, which spawned the Midget, was a collaboration between Donald Healey and the British Motor Corporation to sell a basic sports car at the bottom end of the price spectrum. Using modern unibody construction and offering sharp handling, the Spridget got its power from the famous BMC A-Series engine – very similar to the engine used in the Mini. As a big fan of the classic Mini, a Midget made a perfect addition to the family.



Piglet on the day I bought it

When I bought Piglet, I was impressed by how fantastic it was to drive, comfortable and with its previously installed 5-speed gearbox conversion, a breeze on the open road. My original intention was to do a rolling rebuild over a couple of years to really make the car special. Somewhere along the way, I changed direction and slowly Piglet has morphed into a lightweight racing car (albeit still road legal).

The first major work began with replacing the original 1098cc A-series with a 1275cc unit from a later Midget, along with some weight reduction by removing the bumpers and windscreen. In 2016, I decided to use Piglet to compete in the Knysna Hillclimb, and set a fastest time of 1:07.395 – which I was very pleased with. From here, the bug had bitten, and modifying became a little more earnest. Next was a limited slip differential, stiffer front springs, an anti-roll bar, a lower ratio diff kindly donated by Pat Clough, higher ratio rockers, and an electric water pump paired with an aluminium radiator. I also found a big valve head in my stash of Mini spares which was quickly bolted on. The wire wheels were sold & replaced with a set of Minilites shod in semi-slick Dunlops.



Indaba 2014



2017 Knysna Hillclimb

2018 saw my hillclimb time fall to sub-1 minute - 59.759 seconds, and a first in class. I was over the moon with these results, as this had been a long-term project with my Dad, with the majority of the parts either made ourselves, or locally in Knysna. Finding locally sourced alternatives to prohibitively expensive imported parts was a big part of the challenge, and made the project extremely rewarding. Another challenge was my desire not to cut the car in any way. I have kept all the stock parts and they could be bolted back onto the car at any time.



2018 Knysna Hillclimb

This however wasn't the end of the journey, with 2019 seeing uprated sashes installed, along with more weight saving which helped shave another second off my hillclimb time, making it the fastest ever A-series engine car up the hill. Improvements for 2020 are well underway in the form of a completely Bodge engineered rear telescopic shock absorber conversion, front camber adjustment and other suspension modifications to reduce understeer. Also in the works are a few other engine modifications. A significant bucket-list item for me has been to race Piglet at Killarney in Cape Town, and I was lucky enough to fulfil this in August. Unfortunately, in qualifying, Piglet was hit from the rear by one of the much faster Ford Escorts running in a different class, which made my first outing in a circuit race an initiation of fire. Luckily it was possible to patch the car enough to keep racing and continue to compete in the event. None-the-less, racing at Killarney was a fantastic experience, and something I would like to repeat in the future. Piglet performed admirably, remaining totally reliable and quite quick enough to keep up with the more seasoned competitors.



Piglet racing at Killarney

To me, Piglet is what classic car ownership is all about. It's a project that will likely never be finished, and I think that's what I like the most about it. Classic cars all have a story to tell about what they have accomplished, where they have been, and who owned them. The scratches on the paint, marks in the leather are not imperfections, but a record of the car's history, adding to its character and the story of its journey so far. There's only one Piglet, and it's mine!



2018 Hill Climb – 1st in class

(We wish Peter all of the best luck as he shortly emigrates Down-Under . Ed.)

MGCC - ACE-KNITTERS DO IT AGAIN:

Jo Mullany and her Aussie sister Cath have featured before in our newsletter as Ace-Knitters for charity and are still beavering away. This time it was the Sivuyele School for deaf kids, which has benefitted from our Hill Climb donation fund in the past, that was their target.

A whole load of neatly knitted beanies was delivered to the school and the joy in the faces of these children who have so little else in their lives was priceless.

Thanks on behalf of our MG Car Club to Jo and Cath for their on-going kindness and enthusiasm.



Collena, head of Sivuyele School for Deaf Kids, hands out beanies to her delighted charges

PAST EVENTS

Glentana Braai - Sunday 13th October:

Once again our club was able to enjoy Ricky Cooper's generosity for the annual MG run to his Glentana Caravan Park. It was a lovely day for the run, although a sneaky wind got up in the afternoon to encourage an early, after lunch, departure for most. The run was well supported with a variety of club MG's and an interesting selection of cars from the GRMC.



A stately arrival at Glentana.



Most of the cars found shady parking.

To make the run more interesting, a route was suggested past the airport and off the N2, which was followed by most but the faster N2 seemed to be a popular option on the way home. The braai venue was superb and excellent fires were prepared by Peter Morse, our official Braai Master.



Braai Master Peter Morse did his stuff and was given full approval by his customers



T-Type Tour - 18 & 19 October:



The annual T-Type Tour was well organized by Tony and Lorna Lyons-Lewis following an interesting and stress-free tour on tar roads via Great Brak to the Outeniqua Moon, Pecheron Stud for lunch. Then, after a comfortable night at the Eight Bells Hotel, over the Robinson Pass and back via the Outeniqua Pass with a pizza lunch at the popular Roadside Deli.



MG inspired Pecheron making a Mustang ?



Jenni Parfett tries her hand at riding



Old style Horse Power



meets

Newer Style Horse Power

(Thanks to Bruce, Tony and Tersia for info and pics.)

Moss & Maple Breakfast Run – Sun 27th Oct.

There was a smaller than usual turn-out for this popular run, with only 9 MG members and 5 guests signing the register. Half of the usual number, but there was stiff competition from the Rugby World Cup match on T.V. when South Africa defeated Wales.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Congratulations to: Keith Slade, Jimmy Keefer & Phillip Rosser 2nd; Elmarie Jones 3rd, Marion Bush 6th; Bunny Mentz 8th; Wilf Parker & Herman Jeuschenak 11th; Tony McMahon 14th; Nick Jones 15th; Pat Cooper 17th; Dave Hodgson 21st; Dave Battison 25th; Marche Cooper and Vicky McMahon 29th; and Ross Lawson 30th.

FUTURE EVENTS

GRMC Century Run–Sun 3rd Nov. : Contact Dennis Cook gardenroutemc@gmail.com .
Car & Driver must total 100 years and entry restricted to 100 cars. All in aid of charity

MGCC Events Calendar 2019

Date / Day	Event	Quays Start	Host – Invited
November			
3 Sun	Century Charity Run	09h30	GRMC/TSCC – ALL
10 Sun	Bring & Braai, Woodville Dairy Farm courtesy of Karl & Tilly Reitz	10h15	MG – ALL
24 Sun	Breakfast Run, Zucchini's, Timberlake	09h00	MG – ALL
December			
6 Fri	Prawn Braai, Knysna Angling Club	18h00	MG – ONLY
13 Fri	Gasoline Alley Braai	16h30	MG/GRMC

MGCC Events Calendar 2020

Look out for the exciting list of club events, together with those of our GRMC sister club which will appear in the November Issue of our Newsletter.

Thanks to Peter Morse and Jill for their hard work in putting this together as well as for all their dedication during 2019.

No.	Event	Date	Attendance	
			Mbrs.	Non Mbrs
1	Sundowner Picnic	2019/01/15	28	6
2	Zucchini's B'fast	2019/01/27	45	14
3	Forever Young games	2019/02/17	10	1(C.T.)
3	Moss & Maple B'fast	2019/03/03	29	4
4	AGM	2019/03/05	26	
5	Let's Lunch	2019/03/20	19	5
6	Zucchini's B'fast	2019/03/31	27	5
7	Ebb & Flow braai	2019/04/07	16	6
8	Moss & Maple B'fast	2019/04/21	18	7
9	Knysna Hill Climb	3-5/5/2019	27	
10	Cape Centres Cradock	15-20/5/2019	19	
11	Zucchini's B'fast	2019/05/26	29	12
12	Sop 'n Dop, Pembrey's	2019/06/12	18	7
13	Moss & Maple B'fast	2019/06/30	20	9
14	Lunch, Fat Fish	2019/07/18	16	2
15	Zucchini's B'fast	2019/07/28	35	6
16	Roadside Deli Outeniqua	2019/08/14	19	5
17	Moss & Maple B'fast	2019/09/01	18	4
18	Treasure Hunt	2019/09/08	11	2
19	Zucchini's B'fast	2019/09/29	20	4
20	Glentana Braai	2019/10/13	16	3
21	T-Type Tour	18- 19/10/2019	8	
22	Moss & Maple B'fast	2019/10/27	9	5
23	Woodville Farm braai	2019/11/10		
24	Zucchini's B'fast	2019/11/24		
25	Prawn Braai	2019/12/06		
26	Bodge Street Party	2019/12/13		

Attendance Register Members name	Partner	YTD Oct. 2019 TOTAL
Baker Lew	Heather	4
Battison Dave		0
Bechlars Philipp	Martina	0
Betton Dave	Astrid	2
Bickley Fred	Cheryl	31
Bowers Geoff	Norma	12
Bruce Brian	Gwendolyn	10
Burton Keith	Ella	3
Bush Marion	Gavin	0
Cairns David	Susie	2
Clary George	Carole	8
Cleland Jim	Glen	4
Clough Pat	Ali	17
Cool Wilhelm	Joeleen	12
Cooper Ray	Pat	6
Cooper Ricky	Tersia	25
Cox Stuart	Dottie	2
Craig John	Tracy	0
Cross Graham	Joan	4
Davey George	Margie	11
Davidson Brian	Jose	14
Davidson II Brian	Bernie	24
Davies John	Babs	0
Day John	Margaret	5
Douglas Murray	Anne	7
Etridge Derek	Jil	4
Fisher Roger	Alva	9
Friedman Frank	Merle	2
Frost Norman	Jennie	1
Giersing Bo	Donna	0
Gough Dave		0
Gregory Mike	Jan	2
Hamilton Allan	Brenda	0
Hardcastle Stephen	Jeanette	0
Hartzenberg Louw	Sarah	0

		YTD Oct. 2019 TOTAL
Koncki Heinz	Paula	10
Konig Harold	Andree	6
Krahe Alexander	Andrea	9
Kruger Johan	Ilse	9
Lawson Ross	Antoinette	1
Le Feuvre Tim	Sheila	4
Lodder Hugo		0
Lyons-Lewis Tony	Lorna	30
Mackey Ray	Angela	14
Madeley Brian	Lyn	11
Malan	Niel	0
Marsden Susan	Kevin	1
Marucci Oscar		0
McGee James	Gene	6
McMahon Tony	Vicky	0
Mentz Bunny	Jan	11
Metelerkamp Neil	Norma	16
Miller Garth	Shirley	18
Miller Tom	Jenny	19
Milton Podge	Merrill	9
Monk Roy	Elizabeth	2
Morse Peter	Jill	36
Mullany Fred	Jo	26
Orsmond Ret	Julie	0
Parfett Ed	Jennie	6
Parker Wilf	Jenny	6
Posniak Peter	Patti	0
Pretorius Peter		11
Putter Willie	Linnea	0
Reitz Fritz	Madene	11
Reitz Karl	Tilly	9
Rist Beth	Chris	9
Rosser Phillip	Amanda	0
Scheepers Bert	Renate	0
Slade Keith	Yvonne	8

Henderson Bruce	Dianne	27
Hewitt Lionel	Rose	8
Hirschberg	Ken	6
Hodgson David	Kathy	5
Holliday Clive	Charlotte	8
Hollis Peter		1
Hollis Ron	Dee	13
Holt Dave	Heather	13
Horak Leish	Ingrid	5
Houseman Marilyn	Dennis	9
Jeuschenak Hermann		9
Jeuschenak Hermann	Nicola	0
Jones Dave	Fay	29
Jones Ian	Gay	0
Jones Keith	Elmarie	6
Keefer Jimmy		0
Kells Trevor	Hilary	0
Koch John	Jillian	0

Smart Laurie	Kate	2
Spencer Mike	Jill	0
Stead Heyns	Ann	1
Stockdale Brian	Dawn	0
Tops Paul	Barbie	2
Vadas Peter	Vivian	12
Vadas Robert	Annabel	4
von Zeil Margie		13
Warne Alan	Jill	0
Waterston Allan	Pam	18
Wessels Jane	John	0
Whisken Doug	Irene	11
Whitehead Neville	Enid	3
Williams Denny	Pat	10
Winter George	Liesel	4
Woodgate Geoff	Merceda	8

REGALIA

A sample view of what is on offer to MGCC S.Cape Members:



The following are the current regalia prices: (All garments carry the MGSCCC badge and approved wording where applicable.)

Item	Price
Fleece Beanie – blue (see above)	R 65.00
Golf Shirts – navy/white (see above)	R 250.00
Caps with peak - navy/white	R 75.00
Embroidery of badge on own clothing (see below)	R 50.00

(Please note that the above regalia pricing includes the embroidery of **one logo only**)

Special orders can be arranged to have the approved badge embroidered on any garment of your choice. Contact Liesel Winter - 073 721 8922

Club accessories (bumper badges, key rings, special orders, name tags etc.) via Ross Lawson.

(See below for the kind of hard-badges, available.)

Official Club Bumper badge



Club Key Ring



Special Order Bumper Badge



MEMBERS' ADVERTS:

(Would members please contact the Editor if they have any MG cars or spares for sale)

For Sale :

For used MG /MG Magnette spares and repairs. Contact Ricky Cooper 082 822 2146
rickycooper111@yahoo.com

For Sale (other centres):

MG Magnette 1957. Maroon, in excellent running order, contact Dave Hawkins 082 453 2618.
(Advert. at request of Alan Fromm - Port Elizabeth Centre)



MGB V 8. Totally original with only 50 000 miles and fully re-commissioned at a cost in excess of R 100 000 after 20 years in storage. Five new Michelin tyres. An urgent sale. R 400 000. Contact Jolyon Simpson 082 416 2527. (Advert. at request of Mike Johnson – C. Town Centre)

MG TC. Recently rebuilt but still needing small jobs for completion. To view in Durban. Please phone Chris Swale for details 082 920 3914 .

Wanted:

MGB Works Hard Top. Please phone Ray Mackey 082 922 6106 .

SERVICE PROVIDERS:

(If members are aware of other reputable service providers, please let me know. Ed)

Car Care Products:

For all your **Autoglym** requirements contact Sylvia at : 082 958 2498

email: sylvia.vintagerose@gmail.com

Mechanical Repairs and Servicing

Bodge Engineering, Ron Hollis 0828598771

Classic Car Storage:

Ricky Cooper 082 822 2146 rickycooper111@yahoo.com

Radiators and Fuel Tank repairs

Silverton Radiators, Knysna Industria

MG Spares

Sports Car Centre Alan or Denise 011 4860021

Teds Spares, Knysna (parts/consumables for older cars) Oscar 044 3821335

Panel beating, Spray painting.

Tino 0782543643 Sedgefield/Karatara area – (including full restorations)

Spotless Knysna Industria Hein 0824706213/0793807337 (including valet service)

Rubber seals/sections

Rubberman 61 Albert St., George 044 8732502 sales@rubberman.co.za

Ash framing, dashboards, door cappings, veneer repairs & refinishing etc.

Classic-Dash Ray Mackey 0829226106 brmprojects@telkomsa.net

Chrome plating

African Electroplating Peter Posniak 0825535032

Supreme Bumpers Glen Brits 011 6262304/5/6 or 0834503745

Chromeworks Peter Rist 041 4841533 / 0828558628 or chromeworkspe@yahoo.co.za

Exhausts, brakes, suspension, steering etc

De Graaf Undercar, Knysna Industria, Johan/Doreen 0820993164 / 044 3820806

Windscreens and Glass

Classic Car Windscreens - Contact julien@classiccarwindscreens.co.za

Disclaimer: The above list of service providers is included in good faith and no responsibility will be accepted for inferior workmanship or poor service. Members availing themselves of these services do so entirely at their own risk

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