

The Octagon

The Official Publication of:
THE MG CAR CLUB OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

January 2018



2018



Happy
New Year



Affiliated with The MG Car Club (UK)
and member of the
Confederation of Australian Motor Sport



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**General Meetings held at the Clubrooms on the third Tuesday of every month
(fellowship from 7:30, formal proceedings commence at 8:00 p.m.)
All members and visitors are welcome.**



*Our two winners of the double raffle
were Christine Bush and
Lis Campbell.
Just in time for Christmas*

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CASTROL CLASSIC OILS



CASTROL CLASSIC OILS





President's Piece

Having been re-elected at the 2017 Annual General Meeting, I am now starting on my second year as President.

68 Members attended the AGM and we were all treated to an excellent hot supper, expertly prepared and provided by Colleen and David Hardie. The drinks fridge was almost empty by the end of the evening. The General Meeting preceded the AGM and it enabled me to present to the members, the principals of the changes in Membership Classes and Fees that the Committee need to enact for 2018. These have come about because of the subject of Public Liability Insurance for MGCC members when taking part in events organised by/through the club. You will all have had the opportunity to see the full text of my presentation as it was circulated to all members by e-mail and post for those without e-mail.

The changes have been made in the Membership Application and Renewal forms which are accessible on the

Club Website, including the minor Fee changes as the new membership year is upon us and for those members with Code 404 vehicles, they must renew before 31-12-2017.

We must make a minor change to the Club By-Laws and that will be done at the Special General Meeting on Tuesday 16th January.

The first Social Run of 2018 will be the Brunch Run on Thursday 11th January organised by Eddie Preston and thus members have their first chance to shake off the old year and blow the cobwebs away with some MaGical driving on country roads. See later in this edition for information on the event Calendar.

Peter Hagarty, Bill Hildebrand and Rob Hagarty stood down from the Committee at the AGM and I wish to publicly extend my grateful thanks to all three for the valuable support they have given me over the past year and their service to our members. I also welcome two new Committee members, Peter McGrath who has taken on the Competition Secretary role and Neale Cooper who becomes the new Club Captain. Your club still needs a volunteer to undertake the Social Coordinator role on the Committee. The task is not too onerous. The 2018 Event Calendar is already organised and is published in this Octagon. Fundamentally the job requires the post holder to coordinate with the event Organisers, assist with CAMS Permit Applications and pen a few words each month regarding the events, for the Octagon and Website. Bill H is very willing to provide guidance to any volunteer.



Your Club needs you!



I am looking forward to a great New Year and hope that all members will get those MaGic cars out of their garages and enjoy driving them, that was what they were built for.

Wishing all readers a MaGical New Year

Doug Bush



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web – www.sportscargarage.com.au**

We would like to introduce the
2018 Committee of the MGCC of WA



Competition
 Peter McGrath

A Big thank you and welcome to our two new committee members who are also relatively new members who have stepped forward to fill committee vacancies.



Club Captain
 Neale Cooper



**Social
 Co-ordinator**



President
 Doug Bush



Vice President
 Mike Smith



Secretary
 Alley Mulcahy



**Treasurer/
 Regalia**
 Chris Hart



Webmaster
 Ian Campbell



Membership
 Richard
 Gusterson



**CAMS
 Delegate**
 Tony Ford



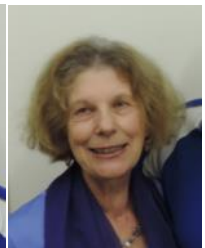
Librarian
 David Pitcher



**Catering
 Co-ordinator**
 Christine Bush



Editors
 Moyra & Graham
 Mitchinson



Safety Fast
 Terry & Wanda
 Banton

SOCIAL REPORT

Brunch Run

Thursday 11th January 2018

MEETING POINT 1. Car park Labouchere Road, South Perth (opposite Perth Zoo between Amherst & Richardson Streets) 7.45am for 8.00am Start OR
MEETING POINT 2. for Southern Group, Shell Service Station, South West Highway/ Nettleton Road Byford 8.45 for 9.00am Start to Dwellingup (Blue Wren Café) via Waroona.

MGCC WA and Rolls Royce Club

Sunday 14th January 2018

Meet at Tomato Lake, Oats Street, Kewdale at 10.30 for 11.00 departure. Heading to Lake Leschenaultia, café food is available or bring everything for BBQ or picnic plus chairs, drinks etc

Brunch Run

Thursday 1st February 2018

Meeting point at Narrogin Inn, Albany Highway, Armadale. 08.15 for 08.30 departure to Beverley (Red Vault Café) via Brookton Highway and returning via Talbot Road West and the Lakes

Southern Chapter Run

January 21st 2018

Meet at Crooked Carrot Cafe on the Forrest Highway 9-00am Depart 10-00
Heading to Balingup. [Golden Valley Tree Park]. Picnic Lunch .
Bring Lunch, Chairs, Drinks, Sunscreen etc.
Steve Jess Mobil 0409958589

THE FASTEST BEE!

We are seeking expressions of interest to find the fastest car in the club. A quarter mile dash at the Mutiplex is proposed under approved safety conditions with each participant receiving a certificate showing their time for the quarter mile.

Now is the time for the truth - pedal to the metal!

The winner will receive a magnificent trophy suitable for the event plus a free doughnut to show who is the real champion, male or female.

Email Mike Smith if you wish to be considered for selection.

PS The organizer cannot win!

GARAGE VISIT – TECHNICAL GET TOGETHER

9th DECEMBER 2017

Saturday morning 0930 -1330 hours was the garage visit at unit 6 – 110 Briggs Street, Welshpool.

At 9 o'clock the first M.G. arrived and they steadily increased to 38 cars by just after 10 o'clock. Over the morning a total of 51 people visited the garage and talked, poked and prodded M.G cars, gearboxes, axles, seats, wire wheels (shiny brand new ones), overdrive M.G units and a myriad of go faster add-ons for hill climbs and track events. On the hoists were a TF plus two MGB'S and on the floor an MGA rolling chassis with the newly painted body alongside ready to be fitted, plus two body shells sandblasted and painted (neither of them were red!)



Out in the car park amongst the MG cars people were devouring hotdogs and talking “stuff “ lubricated by tea and coffee - and so it went on! Hotted up engines, overdrive units, special springs and shockies, plus many questions regards tuning for hill climbs and sprints plus where to get panel beating and painting done at a reasonable cost.



The gathering comprised an interesting and diverse well-informed group from the club keen on owning a better MG car.

The greatest compliment to Tav, Howard and myself was “WHEN IS THE NEXT ONE?”

The response to the garage visit has been amazing with club members and strangers asking about the next planned one, hopefully around April 2018.

In order to make the next visit more personal and meaningful please email or fill out a “Technical Request Slip” at a club meeting asking about a specific technical interest. We will then address it at the garage open day.

Email Mike Smith to say you plan to attend the next Technical Garage visit and you will automatically enter a free draw to have a engine coolant inspection and pressure test.

It’s a good club, lets make it better.



Mike Smith

Date	Event	Type	Organiser
<u>January</u>			
Tues 2nd	Committee meeting	Management	MGCC
Thurs 11th	Brunch Run	Social	MGCC E Preston
Sunday 14th	Lunch with RROC	Social	MGCC Mike Smith
Tues 16th	General Meeting	Social	MGCC
<u>February</u>			
Thu 1st	Brunch Run	Social	MGCC E. Preston
Tues 6th	Committee Meeting	Management	MGCC
Sun 18th	Social Run -Twilight	Social	MGCC Doug Bush
Tues 20th	General Meeting	Social	MGCC
<u>March</u>			
Tues 6th	Committee Meeting	Management	MGCC
Sun 11th	MGA Register EMR	Social	MGA Register
Sun 11th	Show and Shine	Social/Comp	MGCC
Sun 18th	Classic Car Show Ascot	Social	MGCC
Tues 20th	General Meeting	Social	MGCC
Sun 25th	MGF Register Run	Social	MGCC Iain T
Tues 27th	Jaguar Car Club Track Day	Competition	JCC Richard G
Fri 16/04-Sat 14 /05	NatMeet Tas	Social/Comp	MGCC TAS
<u>April</u>			
Tues 3rd	Committee Meeting	Management	MGCC
Sun 8th	Northam Flying 50	Social/Comp	VSCC/MGCC
Thurs 12th	Midweek Run	Social	Austin Healey Club
Tues 17th	General Meeting	Social	MGCC
Sun 22nd	Social Run	Social	MGCC
<u>May</u>			
Tues 1st	Committee Meeting	Management	MGCC
Sun 6th	Moondyne Joe Toodyay	Social	MGCC P Hagarty
Thurs 10th	Midweek Run	Social	Austin Healey
Tues 15th	General Meeting	Social	MGCC
Sun 20th	British Car Day Gingin	Social	MGCC
<u>June</u>			
Sun 3rd	Albany Classic Weekend	Competition	VSCC
Tues 5th	Committee Meeting	Management	MGCC
Thurs 14th	Midweek Run	Social	TBA
Tues 19th	General Meeting	Social	MGCC
Sun 24th	Social Run	Social	MGCC Doug Bush
Tues 26th	Jaguar Car Club Track Day	Competition	JCC Richard G

<u>July</u>			
Tues 3rd	Committee Meeting	Management	MGCC
Thurs 12th	Midweek Run	Social	TBA
Sun 15th	Winter Woolies Run	Social	MGCC Ian & Lis C
Tues 17th	General Meeting	Social	MGCC
Sun 22nd	MGF Register Run	Social	MGCC Iain Trainor
<u>August</u>			
Sun 5th	Economy Run	Social	MGCC Tony Ford
Tues 7th	Committee Meeting	Management	MGCC
Thurs 9th	Midweek Run	Social	TBA
Sun 12th	MGA Register Lunch Run	Social	MGA Register
Tues 21st	General Meeting	Social	MGCC
Sun 26th	Banton's Big Breakfast	Social	MGCC (T&W Banton)
<u>September</u>			
Tues 4th	Committee Meeting	Management	MGCC
Thurs 13th	Midweek Run	Social	TBA
Sun 16th	Grass Gymkhana	Social	Austin Healey Richard G
Tues 18th	General Meeting	Social	MGCC
Sun 23rd	MGF Register Run	Social	MGCC Iain T
Tues 25th	Jaguar Car Club Track Day	Competition	JCC Richard G
<u>October</u>			
Tues 2nd	Committee Meeting	Management	MGCC
Fri 5th	MGA Register Midweek Run	Social	MGA Register
Thurs 11th	Midweek Run	Social	TBA
Tues 16th	General Meeting	Social	MGCC
20/21/22 nd	Safety Fast	Social	Safety Fast Committee
<u>November</u>			
Tues 6th	Committee Meeting	Management	MGCC
Wed 7th	Have-A-Go-Day	Social	MGCC
Thurs 8th	Midweek Run	Social	TBA
Tues 20th	General Meeting	Social	MGCC
Sun 25th	Bell Boy's Bash	Social	MGCC Colin & John Bell
<u>December</u>			
Sat 1st	Gala Dinner/Dance/Pres.	Social	MGCC
Tues 4th	Committee Meeting	Management	MGCC
Tues 11th	AGM & General Meeting	Social	MGCC
Sun 16th	MGF Register Run	Social	MGCC Iain T

MEMBERS SURVEY - NOVEMBER 2017

INTRODUCTION

10 years ago we held our first and very successful Members Survey.

In comparison, we have now maintained a very high degree of member interest with a response rate of 38% compared to 37% previously. (Surveys are normally considered "good" with a response rate of only 10 to 15%). 38% equates to 2 in every 5 members. Time and effort by members supporting this survey is much appreciated.

It is very important for members to have the opportunity to contribute their views and have their say. Equally it is a bonus to the Club to have a lot more feedback to work with in future planning for everyone's benefit.

As an overall assessment, to have 88% of contributors happy being a member of the Club, I think is a very good starting point. 12% of contributors were in the "Yes and No category with some area that can be improved". Overall there were some 76 personal comments. Some fine tuning looks to be the order of the day?

To keep you informed, from here, Mike will walk you through and share the results on screen for each survey question with any appropriate comments or observations.

Where will this lead? Based on your votes, comments and requests, we have compiled a list of recommendations to be presented to the Club Committee for consideration and we trust approval. As we approach the AGM and election of the 2018 committee we recommend the recommendations are tabled and form part of the January 2018 Committee Meeting.

We will share those recommendations with you at end of this presentation.

Mike Smith & Richard Gusterson

MEMBERS SURVEY - NOVEMBER 2017

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation 1

Members are seeking General Meetings with more interesting content.

Recommend, simplify and reduce the official parts of the meeting to create more time for personal interaction of members (like Noggin Natter), guest speakers, experienced Club members presentations, DVDs etc. Avoid repetition of information in the Octagon, for instance. Clearly Club constitution and legislative requirements as an incorporated association, would remain. For this to succeed all Club members and committee would need to be enthusiastic and put in to "find" guest speakers, DVDs etc, to make this work. Topics of very general interest welcome, not limited to MGs & motoring.

Recommendation 2

Members are positively seeking more technical/mechanical experiences and information.

Recommend, hold quarterly gatherings on Saturday mornings at MG workshops.

Specific topics and questions to be added to lists available in the Clubroom, prior to each gathering, for the MG expert to answer at each gathering plus impromptu questions on the day. This provides an authentic environment to increase your knowledge and experience. Tim Harland and Tav to be approached to seek their support. Both have centrally located workshops.

Recommendation 3

A "buddy system" for the first 12mths of a new member has been proposed. This would be difficult to implement satisfactorily but all members and committee members need to actually use the "new member" green sticker on name badges to make those new members actually feel welcome. Just a few moments and a few questions will work wonders.

Recommendation 4

Personal comments under questions 6 & 8 of the survey featured requests for "Technical, Information, Maintenance, Hands on Repairs, Speakers, DVDs, Films, Presentations" as popular items in 12 of a total of 35 comments. Can be treated as a separate issue but Recommendations 1 & 2 above provide the best and most attractive outcome to these requests.

Recommendation 5

Competition was not the subject of an individual question but positive comments did come up in personal comments and as a sports car club competition events are part of our program and available to those members who want it. Recommend, to assist "potentially" a new Competition Secretary's appointment at the AGM, we consider a sub-committee or team of say 2 other members enthusiastic about comp events. This would be subject to the new Competition Secretary being consulted for his views. Accepting we are not in a position to run our own competition events, pursuing opportunities with other clubs being the priority. (Triumph Sports Club, Mini Car Club etc).

Recommendation 6

Personal comments under question 10 on social events totalled 9 out of 27 comments. Overall the comments are very informative and constructive. They were varied, mainly with individual personal views on some particular aspect of social runs and didn't consolidate as an issue for a recommendation. The comments are nevertheless welcome and informative and the Social Co-ordinator, for instance, would benefit by reading and being acquainted with them and they are certainly useful in that regard for the future running of social events.

Looking at the "Mid Year Bash" - (Theme Night/Dinner Dance) - in question 1, it rated last in popularity and warrants a rethink. The low rating may have been influenced by lack of details of a specific event?

GENERAL MEETING. 12th December 2017: Minutes

Meeting opened at 19.54pm.

Club President in the chair.

Visitors: nil

Apologies: David and Marion Blaxall, Ray Morgan, Richard Whitehead, Maxine Robbins, Ernie & Lyn Whitehurst, Mr & Mrs Forbes, John Cearns.

Minutes of previous meeting: 21 November 2017 published in the Octagon: Motion to accept Minutes: Proposed by Alley Mulcahy seconded by Tony Ford and agreed by as a true record.

Correspondence. Chris Hart advised 4 x Newsletters from other clubs, 3 x Membership Renewals

Out: Nil

Business arising: Nil

REPORTS:

VP's Report: Nothing to report

Secretary's Report: Nothing to report

Treasurer's Report: Chris Hart advised that the club funds Year to date, total of all accounts is \$xxxxxxx.

Chris Hart then advised that the following cheques be proposed for payment; D Pitcher – Raffle prizes \$60.15, C Hardie – Supper \$356.22. Approval moved by Doug Bush seconded by Mike Smith and approved by the meeting.

Membership Sec's Report: Richard Gusterson advised we now have 264 memberships, 9 more than last year.

No new member nominations.

Competition: Nothing to report.

Social Report: Bill Hildebrand all runs have been advertised in the Octagon.

Editors: Graham & Moyra Mitchinson asked all articles to be in by Sunday 17th for the December edition of the octagon.

Safety Fast Run: Terry Banton asked member to register their interest in the 2018 Safety Fast run to be eligible for early bird prize and to book accommodation.

Club Captain: Mike Smith gave membership badges to Neale Cooper, David & Barbara Allen

Regalia: nothing to report

Librarian: Nothing to report.

Webmaster: Nothing to report.

Any Other Business:

Doug Bush gave out awards to **Rami Brass, Kevin Ball & Dennis Fair**

Doug Bush also advised changes to membership regarding CAMS P/L insurance, memberships to change to Membership \$90.00, Pensioner \$70 – (renewable now by 31 December 2017 for concession cars)

Email to be sent out by Doug Bush to all members.

Mike Smith asked to define Pensioner, either state pension or age / income, was agreed by all that it be state age pension.

Doug Bush thanked **David** and **Colleen Hardie** for an excellent supper, also on behalf of **Christine Bush** asked if anyone is interested in helping with the monthly supper roster.

Christine Bush thanked all the ladies who helped with this year's supper roster

Meeting closed at 20: 12pm



Vintage Sports Champion:

Rami Brass

Awarded to the club member who achieves most points during the year for competition events organised by the Vintage Sports Car Club.

Outstanding Club Member:

This is awarded to a non-Committee member in recognition of an outstanding contribution to the club. The Committee decided that two members should share the award for this year, they are'

Dennis Fair & Kevin Ball



President's Annual Report 2017:

This is my report on my first year as your President. It has been a very enjoyable and challenging 12 months and I have been well supported by the Committee, to whom I extend my grateful thanks.

The MG Car Club of Western Australia continued to grow in member numbers during 2017 and the club provided a comprehensive programme for all members. There were over 40 'Social' events on the 2017 calendar, offering a good variety of driving and socialising opportunities. As the club is affiliated to CAMS, WA, all social Runs must have a 'Social Permit'. This is to ensure that CAMS public Liability Insurance is provided to the car's occupants during the run. It is a simple process, each entrant, who must be a club member must 'sign on' on the Attendance Register for the event. It assists us when entering information in the OCC database if the names are legible and that is why we request entrants to please print their names.

Social runs continue to be popular and there has been a welcome increase in competition participants, especially by our lady members. Many of the social runs are organised by club member volunteers and that is a pleasing aspect of the club. It is not a major challenge to organise a social run and there is lots of guidance and assistance available to likely organisers, so why not step forward in 2018 and have a go yourselves. I will be publishing a basic guide to organising Social Runs, in the February Octagon.

The Club now has three sub groups actively providing events for members. The MGF Register, the 'Fast Forwarders' led by Iain Trainor with an increasing number of MGF & TF owners joining in, Iain also welcomes any other Club members in their MG's to join their runs. To quote Iain, "it is not an exclusive group". The MGA Register group has a new organiser, with Neale Cooper having volunteered to take over from Colin Cleaver, who has moved to Tasmania, with his MG's. Last but by no means least, the Southern Chapter, organised by Colin & Karen Bell have attracted even more members from 'Down South' and the group is successfully expanding the geographical coverage of MGCC WA member events. Thank you, Iain, Colin, Karen and Neale, for your contribution to club members MG driving enjoyment.

This year saw the 25th anniversary of the Safety Fast Run, ably organised by Terry & Wanda Banton and their band of happy helpers. The 3-day event was an outstanding success, with 78 cars taking part. The day time weather was kind and the country road driving superb. The bar has now been set high for the future.

2017 also saw the first full year of the operation of the new 'Code 404' for Concessional Licenced vehicles. The MG Car Club of WA is a DOT 'Approved Historic Motoring Club' and thus our members can gain Code 404 licence approval. Vehicles must be over 25 years old. This means that RV8's built in 1993 [launch date 31/3/1993] will be eligible for Code 404 licensing as they reach their 25th birthday.

Vehicles must be 'unmodified' and an authorised Club Representative must check the vehicle and sign the CMC 1 form stating that it is unmodified. One significant plus with the new system is the availability of the 'Impromptu Run.' approval. *Simply put*, Code 404 licenced vehicle owners can with at least 1 hours' notice, e-mail the Club at:

info@mgccwa.com with brief details of the run they plan to do.

The use by the Club of the OCC [Our Car Club] database has significantly enhanced the data storage and retrieval capabilities of our membership database. Our erstwhile Club Captain, Mike Smith did an excellent job this year entering all the Event Attendance Register information. That enabled us to let the database do the calculations for the 2017 awards. Information on many Members MG's, e.g. Chassis /Vin No; engine No: Year: Colour etc is absent from the database. The club will appreciate it if members would ensure that they supply/have supplied at least the above info on all MG's they own.

The Octagon monthly magazine, edited by the Mitchinson's, continues to grow in quality & content but room will always be found for articles/reports/pictures from members. Many thanks to M & G for their excellent production work. We still print and post out about 30 magazines per month to members who do not have access to e-mail. Bill Hildebrand, Peter Hagarty and Rob Hagarty are standing down from their various Committee posts at this AGM. I wish to publicly thank them for their Committee service to members over the past year. Luckily for the club, they are retaining their membership.

The 2018 Natmeet is being held in Tasmania and there are several members who are taking their MG's to the event. I am sure it will be a great weekend. Registration is now open.

Your club committee, led by our Social Coordinator, Bill Hildebrand, have already organised a Calendar of Events for 2018, with most months having at least two Social Runs. Thus, we can all look forward to another year of MaGic driving, with fun and fellowship. Lastly my information source at MG Australia, tells me that they are trying hard to get an MG dealership in operation in Perth in 2018. They now offer the MG3. MG6 and the new MG ZS, a baby SUV. Thus, we may see some new MG's on our WA roads next year.

I close by wishing all members and their families, a

Merry Christmas and a MaGic New Year

**Doug Bush
President 2017**

Our next General Meeting to be held on 16 January 2018 will be our first
Technical Meeting.

“HOW TO RESTART YOUR PUMP AND RESUME AIRFLOW” ----- A HUMAN
ONE not the car! We will refresh your emergency response and show a film on
how to use a defibrillator.

What would you do if your child said “Why is daddy asleep on the garage
floor? ”

This will be the new format meeting with a short introductory report followed
by an item of interest - just what you asked for in the survey.



Action Update # 1 - Safety Fast Run – 20th, 21st & 22nd.October 2018

Welcome to the start of the planning process for the 2018 MG Safety Fast Run planning process and we do hope that the 2018 event will be enjoyed and remembered by all that participate.

EARLY BIRD NOMINATIONS

Your **FIRST** task will be to register for **The Early Bird Prize** (Reimbursement of your Entry Fee - \$390.00)

terwan@iinet.net.au is the email address for your official registration for this prize to assist both Wanda and myself in the planning process PLEASE register your interest by return email – please note this is **only an indication of your interest and to allow us some idea of the SFR entrants for 2018.**

PLEASE BOOK EARLY – REMEMBER LAST YEAR

The overnight stay will be at the STAY Margaret River Resort in Margaret River and the attached pdf file outlines the registration process. Please note that your credit card booking will not be deducted from your account **until four weeks prior to arrival.**

Entry Forms should be available early April – will keep you informed.

Terry & Wanda Banton

2018 MG Safety Fast Run Coordinators - Wednesday, 13 December 2017

**We would greatly like to thank all of our 2017 magazine contributors,
you are truly appreciated.**

*Without your valued input we wouldn't be able to produce what we do.
If we have missed anyone out we sincerely apologise .*

Cheers M & G

David Pitcher	Rami Brass	Tony Ford	Jim Clark
Iain Trainor	Maxine Robins	Ray Smith	Neale Cooper
Peter McWhinney	Peter & Glennis Naisbitt	Val Goff	Patrick Reed
Nick Hunt-Davies	Bill Hilderbrand	John Bell	Colin Cleaver
Robyn Higgins	R & A Gusterson	Ann Witt	Sarah Fry
Ian Campbell	Karen & Colin Bell	David Lovette	Peter Mittler
Chris & Doug Bush	Colleen & David Hardie	Rob Hagarty	Pam & Bernie Dorizzi
Peter Hagarty	L & E Whitehurst	Eddie Preston	Terry & Wanda Banton
Alley Mulcahy	Karen & Allan Newton	David Blaxell	Bruce Youngberg
Reg McKinley	Colin Morrison	Steve & Jessie	Peter McGrath
Mark Rookledge	Lesley & Nigel Emmans	Mike Smith	Renee & Don Wylie
Peter Harper	Kerren Stokes	Lindsay Campbell	



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The Burgeoning mgBs of Busselton

In the 2016 January edition of Octagon I wrote about 4 MG enthusiasts who met for coffee on Saturday morning at their local Port Geographe coffee shop “Sensations”. We loosely called ourselves the PGMGCC.

Now, two years on, there have been some developments.... The group has 12 MGBs and 1 MGY.

The story continues....

A few new MGB owners arrived at Sensations Cafe from the other side of town saying that they had heard we met every Saturday for coffee. As numbers grew we decided to move our coffee location to a more central position. So we now meet at Stilts Cafe on the last Saturday morning of the month.

Most of our group are members of the local Veteran Car Club. Some of us belong to the MGCC of WA and intend participating in next year Safety Run.

The Bowdens (#10) moved from Perth and live in Cowaramup. The newest members (#12) are the McKenzies of Augusta. #11 on the books was a different story...



I entered my MGB “Norma J” in the Albany Classic round the houses car race in June 2017. Between races in the pits this bloke in a bomber jacket wanders up and introduced himself as Miles Kennedy and says he has a 1969 MGB in Dunsborough. As I always carry the MG File. I got his details and signed him up there and then.

So we are a friendly (no grumps allowed) mob of MG Owners who get together once a month, love our cars, and go for the odd excursion. This is not hard in this magnificent MGB friendly countryside with plenty of beaches and wineries to visit.

Last year's Christmas Run, for example, (thanks to Peter and Jan Fort) was to Sues Bridge for shared morning tea then on to the Augusta Bakery for lunch. Patrick Ayres (#3) as usual gives us a rollocking Pam Ayres poetry recital. This year on our Christmas Run (thanks Patrick) we arrived at Goanna Cafe & Gallery to find a big table reserved and prepared with decorations Patrick had organised and paid for tea, coffee, scones, jam and cream for us all.

Every Christmas in the past someone has provided gifts to the group. So far we have had second hand sports car books; MG key tags; frozen barramundi and bottles of wine. Well done and thanks to Patrick for this year.

This year Peter Fort (#2) and I did a Easter Egg drop. For the rest of the year we just have random drives.

We will try to support the Southern Chapter when they come a long way south.

We always try to have a bit of fun. Last year on a VCC Run we stopped at Nannup (a run organised by Neville Tanner of the Lone Studebaker Club Nannup) for morning tea.

Neville knew there were at least 7 MGB coming so had a sign made up - MGB PARKING ONLY. MGers thought it was very good; not too sure about the rest.

Continued over



Being an ex School Teacher I use my MG, along with Peter, to deliver school kids to their local Balls.



So there are lots of good reasons to come riding with us in this beautiful part of the world. If you are in town in your MG you are most welcome to come for coffee; (except December) then it's your shout. At least one of us will be racing in Albany next June, so see you there.

Colin Morrison
Keeper of the MG
File - Busselton





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Birthday Calendar

If you aren't on the list please send through your information to the Editors.

So for those celebrating a January birthday,
the committee would like to wish you a **MaGic** Day



January Birthdays

Friday 5th

Lindsay Campbell

Sunday 7th

Shawn Moore

Thursday 18th

Iain Trainor

Sunday 21st

Alley Mulcahy

Sunday 28th

Dennis Fair



Wishing you all a very happy time
On your special day



The Kanga Cover™ - Peter Mittler

Have you ever looked around for a shade tree when parking your car? Just like a mob of Kangaroos, a herd of cattle or a flock of geese, we all gravitate towards the shade trees. At the park, the beach, a car show, Bunnings car park or, like these four, on the edge of Death Valley enroute from MG2017. We seek shade always trying to locate that 'cooler' spot. Simply put, the Kanga Cover™ gives you that shade and protection WHILE YOU DRIVE from spot to spot and especially when you are stopped at those infernal, interminably, long Perth traffic signals!



Figure 1: Heat respite in Death Valley

My interest in sun protection started some years ago through a family history of skin cancer on my wife's side. This was followed by a trip to the North American MGB Register (NAMGBR) MG2006 convention in Gatlinburg, Tennessee, where I literally cooked from the heat and decided to run with the top up, back window down and still felt like a baked, soggy wet noodle from perspiration and humidity. I arrived exhausted.



Figure 2 ITCH sporting a Kanga Cover (TM)

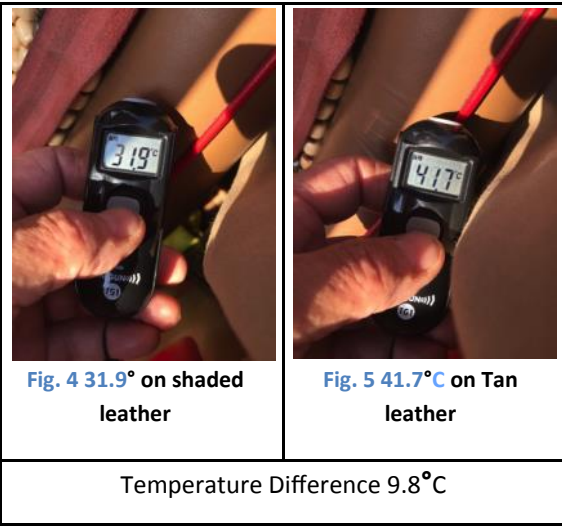


Figure 3 American Bimini on a 1980 MGB

Later I saw an article on an MGB "Bimini Top" [MG Driver Nov/Dec 2012]. It looked like a promising solution to an ongoing problem: I want the top down whilst Patty wants the top up!

My wife hates “hat head” and will avoid wearing a hat at all costs. Basically her attitude was ‘let's take the comfortable car’ and so, with marital deference, the B often sat at home. To be honest, she was a trooper for club events and wore a hat but it was out of love for me and not the car. I needed to solve this problem: improve the B’s comfort whilst maintaining visual appeal and top-“down” experience.

I ordered a Bimini top to give it a go and experienced dramatic results. Now I know why boaters use Bimini Tops and where the colloquial term “made in the shade” comes from! In fact, if you look at these photos of my MGB, you can see the temperature difference on the seats with and without the shade.



As you can see there is a significant temperature reduction benefit. Furthermore, according to a UK burn center:

“Burn is damage to your skin is caused by a temperature as low as 44 degrees Celsius (109.4 Fahrenheit) for a long time. The photo are close to this range already and that was on a 33C degree day in direct sunshine.”

Ref: http://burncentrecare.co.uk/about_burned_skin.html

Sitting in a car that has been parked for a while in the sun and then touching a metal seat belt buckle will make it obvious that providing some sort of shade cover in an open cockpit will have huge potential safety benefits. So we have a temperature reduction benefit. What else?

A huge bonus with the Kanga Cover™ for my navigator is that she does not have to wear a hat that messes up her hair. What more could you ask for? A top ‘down’ experience for me with heat and UV sun protection for her (and me)!

But there is even more. On one trip home I saw a thundercloud in my path. Anticipating hail, I preferred to not take the time to stop and remove ITCH’s Bimini to put up the hood. Being only a couple of kilometers from home I pressed on. The myth in sports car circles is that if you drive fast enough the rain will just go over the windscreen and you will stay dry. Well, on the highway, maybe; in the city? no way! Three or four turns from home the skies opened up. With wipers and lights on the Bimini was working!!! I got a few drips but managed to make it into the garage in relative dryness.

Kanga Cover™ really does improve the B’s comfort and appeal. Mission accomplished!

Things to consider before acquiring a Kanga Cover™:

The RV8 Kanga Cover™ prototype to production

Bimini tops are available in North America for MGB, MGA, MG TC, MG TD and Miata MX5 1990 up to 2006. There is no demand for MG RV8 Bimini’s because those cars were never exported to North America.

To prove concept and get some acceptance feedback from RV8 owners here and before spending a lot of time and money to replicate the header rail, we used an old RV8 hood and some PVC pipes.

The Mark I prototype utilized PVC pipe for the support frame and the original hood from the RV8 donor. Figures 6-9

The Mark II prototype used the donor’s steel header rail and black fabric with a stainless steel support frame from an MGB Bimini top as seen in Figure 11.

What its like	Why that’s good
Packs own into a bag 5” D x 39” long (130mmx1000mm)	Fits nicely in the boot. When rolled up the intrinsic curved shape works well with most small sports car boots.
Installs in less than 2 minutes	On or off in any short pit stop!
Shades your head	No need to wear a cap to reduce UV skin damage
Shades the interior surfaces	Helps to avoid skin burning temperatures
Stable at all speeds	No wind noise, no flapping
Works with rear wind blocker guards	Sun shade without losing the wind blocker
Width narrower than a full sized hood (top).	Getting into a sports car with the hood/top up usually strips off your cap. The Kanga Cover’s narrower width permits easier entry and egress from the car.
Made from water resistant fabric	Rain protection from a brief shower
Sun resistant canvas	Sun shade, fade-resistant.
Comes in Black, Tan, Biscuit	Match your car’s paint or the interior.



Fig 6 Mk 1 prototype PVC pipe frame

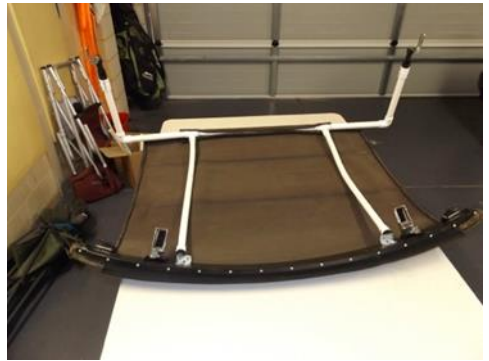


Fig 7 Mk 1 prototype frame with donor hood



Fig 8 Mk 1 prototype concept works



Fig 9 Mk 1 complete but not attractive



Fig 10 Mk 1 prototype stowage size



Fig 11 Mk 2 with MGB frame

Everything was looking fine but now we needed to figure out a way to make the header rail so that it could be repeated at a reasonable cost.

The question came, how to do it? The complex compound curve of the hollow header rail, made of two parts of steel welded together, had to be duplicated, be light enough to maneuver but still be strong and easy enough to make multiple copies.

3D printing was dismissed because the ~\$3000 price tag was out of the question.

Wood was dismissed because that would take many days of hand carving with a *Spoke Shave* tool or similar.

We decided to opt for a two-sided silicone rubber mold, which would be supported by a mold box and later a “buck”. This would facilitate either a solid pour of resin to make a copy OR a two-sided fiberglass cloth “lay-up” to make a hollow copy. Being familiar with fiberglass work from doing auto body repairs and re-building a canoe, we opted for that method. It was also the least expensive and would yield a light-weight replica as long as we molded in some sort of anchoring material for the hood clasps and fabric hold-down strip.

The silicone rubber is very expensive at \$300 per gallon so in order to minimize the material required it was decided to make a wooden frame from bendy-ply to match the two compound curves, then pour the underside whilst supporting the upper half mounted upside down into modeling clay, then flip it over, remove the clay, use a release agent on the other side and pour the second half. [Many thanks to Will Huntley at Kirkside Products in Osborne Park for guidance during this process].

Mold and Header Rail fabrication in pictures:



Fig 12 Mould box 18mm laminated particle board



Fig 13 Donor rail held in place with modelling clay, one side poured



Fig 14 (left) cardboard tubes to pour silicone

Fig 15 (below) showing bolts to create index points for mould halves



Fig 16 Ply and clamps save expensive rubber Fig 17 pouring second side



Fig 18 (left) oops - a \$300 goof

Fig 19 (right) the reveal





Fig 20 (left) steel donor with one half removed.



Fig 21 (right) release agent assisted removal

Fig 22/23 (below) mould box converted as support buck to prevent flexure of rubber during fibreglassing



Fig 24 (left) first a gel coat, then three layers of fiberglass cloth

Fig 25 (right) two halves of header rail with embedded steel anchor points for fabric rail and jarrah blocks for clamps





Fig26 (left) trimmed halves glued together

Fig 27 (above) imperfections filled, sanded and painted



*Fig 28 Finished RV8
Kanga Cover*

In conclusion

We now have a working prototype and have made two production MG RV8 Kanga Covers™ for members cars. If you are interested in one for your RV8 or indeed for your other sports car please send an email to mymgitch@gmail.com and we will see what can be arranged.

Peter Mittler

AGM 12th December 2017

Meeting opened at 20:15

Apologies:

David and Marion Blaxall, Ray Morgan, Richard Whitehead, Maxine Robbins, Ernie & Lyn Whitehurst, Mr & Mrs Forbes, John Cearns

Confirmation of Minutes – AGM 2016:

The previously published Minutes of the 2016 AGM held on 13th December were proposed for adoption by Doug Bush, seconded by and unanimously approved by those present, with no business arising.

President's Annual Report:

Doug Bush presented his Annual Report, on pages 16 & 17

Financial Statement: Chris presented his Treasurers report:

[MG Car Club of WA - Financial Period 1st July 2016 – 30 June 2017](#)

A full financial report has been presented to the President & Committee at the December Committee Meeting.

A copy of the 2016/17 Financials are available from Chris via email should you wish.

Election of Office Bearers for 2017:

The Club President declared all Committee positions vacant and vacated the Chair.

John Goff [Club Patron] then took the Chair for the election of the President for 2017. John said it's quite amazing it's the largest gathering he's seen MG, thinking back to early 1970's, never before have we had this kind of numbers of people at an ordinary meeting, apart from general meetings which have always been less successful.

John commented on a comment which was raised at the last general meeting, regarding the club survey.

In that survey people had asked for more competition, historically, this club was very involved in competition but this has faded out in a period of time, now I don't think we have more than half dozen competitive members, not a constant number.

John asked for those who are looking for more competition to get together to putting their own time into organising it, you as members are the club and if there is anything the club is required for, obviously, the members are required to produce it. Though, I think that's very good thing that people proposing to get back into competition, and I think everybody welcomes that, something other than just getting into the car, driving around, having lunch and going home again.

So, with no further ado, John called for nominations for president, John then stated that there was only one nomination for the post of President for 2017 namely

President: **Doug Bush** Nominated by Chris Hart and elected unopposed.

Doug thanked John for his wise words. Seeing what goes on going through the MG world, there's still lots of competition, including pre-war cars, as well as others.

Obviously in WA we need to work on being involved in Competition. It can be fun, e.g. non-damaging to your vehicle but possibly to your pride, if doing a gymkhana.

Vice-President: Mike Smith. Nominated by Ernie Whitehurst and elected unopposed.

Secretary: Alley Mulcahy. Nominated by Doug Bush and elected unopposed.

Treasurer: Chris Hart. Nominated by Moyra Mitchinson and elected unopposed.

Club Captain: **No nominations received, Position Vacant.**

Competition Sec: Peter McGrath. Nominated by Sarah Fry and elected unopposed.

Social Coordinator: **No nominations received, Position Vacant.**

Editors: M & G Mitchinson. Nominated by Mike Smith and elected unopposed.

Safety-Fast Co-ordinator: T. Banton. Nominated by R. Gusterson and elected unopposed.

Membership Secretary: R. Gusterson. Nominated by T. Banton and elected unopposed.

Webmaster. Ian Campbell. Nominated by Moyra Mitchinson and elected unopposed.

Non-Executive positions on the Committee:

The Following members were appointed to the Committee >

Librarian: David Pitcher

Regalia: Chris Hart

Technical events co-ordinator: **No nominations received, Position Vacant.**

CAMS Delegate: Tony Ford

Catering Co-Ordinator: Christine Bush

Trophy Organiser: Yet to be decided but will be picked up by new club captain.

Doug thanked all the Committee members for their excellent support during the year and to the new members.

Doug said we had no nomination for Club captain and under the model rules, I am allowed to call for nominations from the floor, obviously because we didn't get a nomination in time under the Constitution.

Graham Mitchinson **then** nominated Neale Cooper, in the absence of any other nominations from the floor - Neale was elected as Club captain.

Meeting closed at 20:43

Alley Mulcahy. Secretary. MGCCWA

The Deadline for articles to be included in the February edition of the Octagon will be Thursday 25th January 2018

Thank you **M & G** *Editors*

FOR SALE AND WANTED SECTION

Wanted 5 WIRE WHEELS for 1949 MGTD

Prefer Chrome bolt on, but will consider all others. Tyres not necessary
Please contact: Warren McEvoy 0487 799 007 number correction

Wanted MGB or MGB GT

Good condition, chrome bumper, overdrive
Please contact: Barry Ash 0422 935 356 or ashbe@iinet.net.au

WANTED TO BUY

MGTF 135 or 160 - Manual
WA car if possible—would prefer an enthusiast's car.
Must be in excellent condition.
Please contact: Jason Clack 0423 121 172 or jason@jtcwoodwork.com.au

For Sale : **RV8 Private Plates**
Contact: 0415911536
or robynoel@bigpond.com.



1971 MGB GT - \$13,500

Good condition, good runner

For further information contact:
TANYA 0422 645 306



For Sale - 2003 MGTF 160 Manual - \$15,500

Metallic silver, soft top, excellent condition

Contact: COLIN BELL 0417 212 140 or 9353 3037



Model: MG TF - 1954

Colour: Red
Price: \$34,900.00
Contact: PETER
Mob. 0438 432 244

1972 MGB GT - \$16,900

Excellent condition

Contact: Kevin (08) 9161 4834
Anita (08) 9402 3495



1980 MGB - \$20,000

Converted to chrome bumpers
Re-painted, extensive panel replacement

Contact: JOHN LEGG 0400 654 343
jwlegg@westnet.com.au

1998 MGF Green - \$6000

New hood, new clutch and head gasket
Regularly serviced

For further information contact:
DIANA CAMPBELL
0417 908 410



Sebring TARGA Top for MGB - \$2000

Fully upholstered roof panels,
Excellent condition

Contact: BERNIE 0408 902 845

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