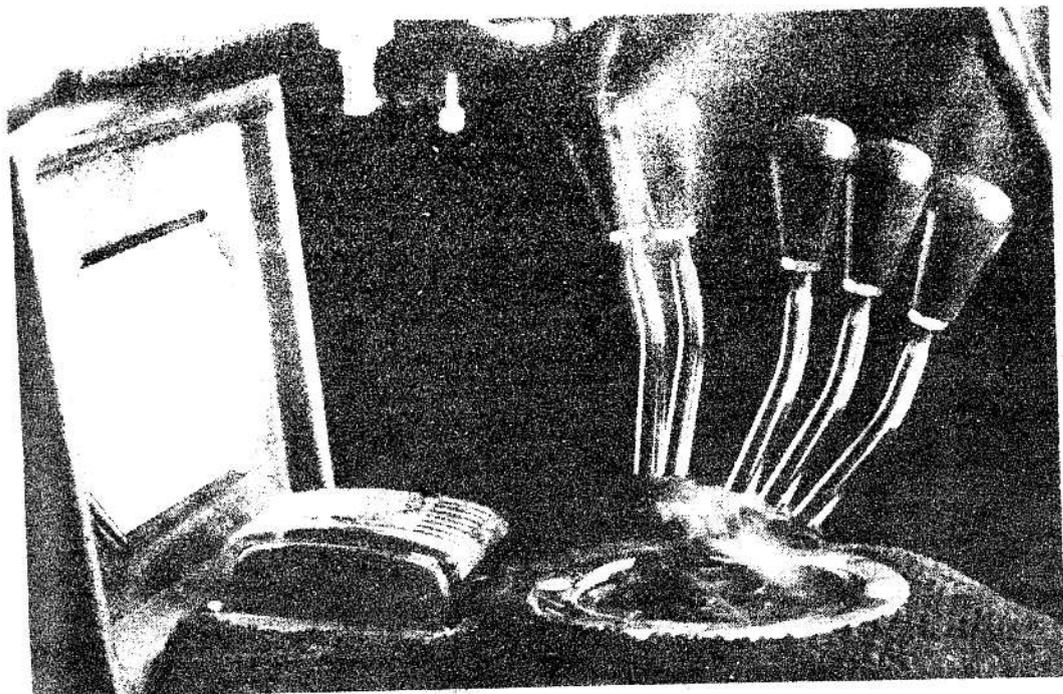


OCTAGON

nov 65



THE MG. CAR CLUB.
QUEENSLAND CENTRE.



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- T H E O C T A G O N -

November, 1965.

THE M.G. CAR CLUB (QUEENSLAND CENTRE).

Affiliated with the Confederation of Australian Motor Sport.

Proprietors: The M.G. Car Club (Prop.) Ltd., Gt. Britain.

Patron: Lord Lambury of Northfield

Gen. Secretary: F. Wilson McComb

OFFICE BEARERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, 1965

		Business	Private
President	J. Clark	68 1131	96 1348
Vice-President	D. Kennedy	-	4 1805
Past President	B. Tebble	47 1327	97 5872
Hon. Secretary	J. McCarthy	-	68 3474
Hon. Auditor	D. Lovejoy	-	56 2730

COMMITTEE: L. Tocque, D. Bright, P. Nurcombe,
Miss E. Swan, D. Lovelock.

OCTAGON SUB-COMMITTEE:

D. Kennedy, Miss E. Swan, D. Monroe.

CLUBROOMS: 620 Wickham St., The Valley, BRISBANE.

POSTAL ADDRESS: Box 1847 W, G.P.O. BRISBANE.

THE M.G. CAR CLUB - BUILDERS OF THE FIRST PERMANENT
HILLCLIMB IN QUEENSLAND.

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E D I T O R I A L

In this, the final Octagon for 1965, we bring you a summary of the year's activities in the various reports and while reminiscing on the past, look forward to the future by bringing to you a "Rogues' Gallery" of those people nominating for positions for next year's Committee. We trust trust that this will help you in your decision next Friday Night (26th) as to whom you think would serve the Club best in the next year - a most vital and important year for the Club. So we would ask you to consider your vote very carefully so that the BEST Committee is chosen to carry on the work for the Club.

We told you last issue of the formation of a Hillclimb Management Committee and of the foundation members of this Committee. These members have now been allotted as responsible for specific duties concerning the Hillclimb and any enquiries may be made to the particular member concerned with the organization of that aspect. These are as follows :

Maintenance of Equipment : J. Clark (96 1348)

Working Bees, thier arrangement and organization

: D. Kennedy (4 1805)

Planning and Design:

J. McCarthy (68 3474)

B. Huntington

Finance and Organization : B. Tebble (97 5872)

P. Bucknell (58 3251)

Pip and Brian report that some donations have been made towards the cost of the Hillclimb and all others will be very welcome. If you are willing to help in this way - maybe because you are unable to help by attending working bees - they will be more than happy to hear from you at the above numbers.

In conclusion, we would like to add another reminder of the two most important events of the year - both in the immediate future - the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING on FRIDAY, 26th NOVEMBER, and the ANNUAL DINNER DANCE AND PRESENTATION OF TROPHIES on FRIDAY, 17th DECEMBER.

In case we don't see you at either of these functions- we wish you a Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year, and look forward to seeing you in the New Year.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following members to the Club and extend to them our best wishes for a long and happy association with it.

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| E. Everett | Dodge |
| Mrs. J. Everett | Hillman |
| S. Jackson | Cortina |
| D. Statham | Holden |
| D. Traut-Weiler | Sprite Mk III |

* * * * *

A reminder to all members of the addendum to the New Rules which requires all members to fill in the form of membership provided with the notice of the Annual General Meeting and which is to be filled in and returned to the Secretary as soon as possible.

* * * * *

SPECIAL NOTICE FROM B.M.C.

The B.M.C. has requested us to advise all members of their policy on the buying of "new" second hand cars from dealers other than authorized B.M.C. dealers.

We quote from their letter:-

It is in the best interests of your members and the good name of the M.C. and Austin Healey that those products be bought from authorized B.M.C. outlets who are encouraged by us to provide the very best facilities and trained staff to service them. The alleged "new" MG B and Austin Healey Sprites are in fact, secondhand, having been passed over by retail buyers immediately after registration to unauthorized dealers. Such cars are subject to new car warranty only at the discretion of this Company.

* * * * *

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

With the year 1965 drawing to a close, we wish to review the progress made in all the Club's affairs. Again I must say that the progress of the Club depends on the effort of all members, and not solely on the Committee's work. No Club can survive without the wholehearted support and co-operation of each and every member.

FINANCE:

The balance sheet for the Financial year 1964-65 provides a detailed explanation of the finances of the Club and I will ~~not~~ go into detail. Again the Club has made a near-record profit of over £300. We must consider this aspect of the Club's affairs most important with the Hillclimb to be constructed.

Barbeques and social nights have contributed to the success and we must thank members for their support of these functions. Apart from our social functions once again speed events were most popular, with motor-khanas second. Film nights are also popular and the standard of films shown was high.

We thank Q.R.D.C. for the use of Lowood Circuit as it is an ideal venue for our sprint meetings. In return we have provided assistance through working bees and gatekeeping. We hope this association will continue.

COMMITTEE:

We have had a stable committee over the past year although perhaps not the most experienced. All have been keen and members are reassured by this example. Our Treasurer, Ian Campbell, was absent for a couple of periods through the year because of his work - this being rather unfortunate. Recently we lost Roly Jenkins and Ian Campbell from the Committee but we thank them both for their work over the last few years, and this year in particular.

CONSTITUTION:

Owing to growing difficulties with the old constitution a new one was drawn up by a Sub-Committee consisting of Brian Tobbie, John Muller, Ray Lovejoy, Pip Bucknell and John Clark, with much typing done by Elaine Swan. This Constitution was adopted and we hope it will provide for the growth of the Club. We hope that members have studied their Constitution as it provides an insight into the workings of the Club as well as defining the members' rights.

EVENTS:

These were well supported, with sprints being most popular. Unfortunately the number held does not compare with last year's number. Because of the resurfacing of Lowood Circuit some time through the year was lost. Motorxhanas were also restricted in the latter part of the year because of the thoughtless actions of some members and non-members. Our motorxhana grounds were lost to us as the owner found some people were using the ground outside of official motorxhana days. This caused the owner considerable nuisance. The grounds were made available to us for the Interclub Motorxhana but our obtaining them for future use is still very doubtful.

Night runs and the like provide a welcome change on some Friday nights and were reasonable well supported. This year saw the introduction of an all-night run and as a result of its success another is planned and anticipated in the new year.

Most of the success of the Night Runs and Motorxhanas was the result of the work of Les Tocque, Denis Bright, Roly Jenkins and their keen and of helpers and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for the good work they have done consistently throughout the year.

HILLCLIMB:

With the purchase of the land over a year ago, progress

HILLCLIMB (contd)

has been slow. Lack of members at working bees has been a major factor in the delay. A Hillclimb Committee of Management has been formed to present a policy which may be adopted by the General Committee. It was felt that the General Committee was spending too much discussion time on the Hillclimb matters with not enough action.

A survey was completed and a design for the Hillclimb has been adopted after much discussion and modification. This has now been accurately pegged out with the help of modern survey equipment.

As mentioned above this Hillclimb is an ambitious project and will require large amounts of finance. This can only be obtained by the enthusiastic support of our events and working bees by all our members.

MEMBERSHIP:

With the year beginning with a rather small number of members (approximately 150) we have now increased this up to around 220 with 32 percent owning MG's and with a total of about 60 percent owning B.M.C. cars. It is a pity that B.M.C. have not brought out the M.G. Midget as a companion to the always popular Austin-Healey Sprite.

We must strive to increase our M.G. percentage and again members must try to encourage all M.G. owners they may see or know to join the Club. To encourage this, the long - awaited "Join the Club" should be ready for distribution in the new year.

OCTAGON:

Throughout the year the Octagon has been published regularly and has been given a sparkling new cover by two talented members - Jenny Brand and David Monroe. Elaine Swan has again been carrying the load of typing the stencils.

THE FUTURE:

The most important task for all members is to finish the Hillelimb. Again I must reiterate that a Club is not a Club without the help and enthusiasm of its members. A Committee gets very little thanks and can only keep going if they feel the members' enthusiasm for the Club and its affairs. Please do your best for the Committee so the Club may prosper.

I should like to thank the Committee for their efforts and support through the year and also all those members whose support we received throughout the year. I hope we can together, both members and Committee, make next year the biggest yet.

J. E. F. Clark
President.

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The Committee of the Club on behalf of the Club would like to extend its sympathy to Roly Jenkins on the recent and sudden death of his father and also to the relatives and friends of Mr. Porter (who so generously allowed the use of his grounds for the Club's motorkhanas) who also passed away recently. Our particular sympathy goes to his Club-member relative Gary Young.

* * * * *

It is for a happier reason that Ian Campbell has resigned from the position of Treasurer and we congratulate him on his engagement and wish him and his fiancée all the best for the future.

We would also like to extend our best wishes to Jenny Brand and David Monroe soon to take the big step into married life.

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ROGUE'S GALLERY

(Some information about members nominating for positions on the 1966 Committee. This is to help you with your voting on Friday 26th November so that you elect the BEST Committee for next year.)

NOMINATION FOR PRESIDENT: Brian Michael TEBBLE.

Brian who lives at 21 Castor Avenue, Camp Hill (PH. 97 5872) has the lowest Club number of the nominees for Committee, this being Number 155 which is indicative of the length of time he has been a Club member, namely 8 years and a few months. During this time Brian has been no ordinary Club member as he was on the Executive Committee and filled the position of Secretary for two years, was President for eighteen months and is at the moment, immediate past President. As well as this he has been on numerous Sub-Committees, responsible for several Octagons and is now on the Hillelimb Management Sub-Committee - a particularly good thing as he owns ten acres of land adjacent to the Club's at Mt. Cotton.

As well as being extremely active in an administrative capacity, Brian has been equally active in a competitive way - he has raced between the years 1957 and 1964 in an MG TC, an MG TD (Gortie) and a Mini, he took out second place in Class "A" of the Lowood 4 Hour Race in 1964 with co-driver Bruce Neville, he has competed in Club trials and in the Mobil Economy Run, in M.G.C.C. and Q.M.S.C. Gymkhanas; he won the All Round and Speed Trophies (1959), the Trials Trophy (1964) of our Club and has acted in an official capacity as Steward at race meetings at Lowood and Lakeside.

He is our delegate to C.A.M.S. and is the Deputy Queensland Delegate to N.C.C. and is also a member of the Q.R.D.C., Q.M.S.C., and Q.M.R.O.A.

Between all these activities he seems to have found time to conduct a Buy - and - Sell game with cars as he has owned "about" twenty-six cars including two

TC's, another TD, a Jaguar Mk V and an XK 120. At present he has an M.G.TD (the same "Gertie"), a Morris 1100 and a Morris Cooper "S". As you would expect Brian's work is vitally involved with cars - he was in the sales division of G.M.H. and B.M.C. before taking on his present position as Advertising and Promotion Supervisor for B.M.C.

Brian is proud to boast that he has been flying "MG's Forever" flag for years - and also that he hates VW's - so what better man could we find to fill the most important position as President of our Club. Welcome back to the position, Brian !

P.S. To end with a typical Tebble quote -
he hates drag racing - he prefers understeer!

* * * * *

COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS - in order of length of Club membership

Pip BUCKNELL - Pip is another member who has been flying the "MG's Forever" flag for a long time; his impressive list of cars is sufficient support for this as he has owned an MG TC and a TR 3 and at present owns an MG K3 (the only one in Queensland - and the one on which many hours of toil are being spent), an MG R-type, an MG record-breaker EX 127 (in each case the only one of its kind in Australia) and an MG 1100.

Pip claims that his previous occupations include that of Tourist - and it is true that when you force him to talk of his experience overseas you go green with envy - and that his present occupation is changing (into what, he didn't tell us)! However one thing is temporarily permanent and that is his address, 70 Barker St, New Farm (PH. 58 3251).

Among his administrative activities are included that of Secretary of the M.G.C.C. of Victoria for 3 years, and a position on the Hillclimb Management Committee of this Centre. As well as this, in an unofficial capacity Pip contributed greatly to the redraft-

ing of the Constitution and more than capably filled the position of unofficial assistant to the unofficial assistant to the assistant secretary of this Centre.

On the competitive side, he was the M.G.C.C. of Victoria Gymkhana Champion and was Associate Champion from 1960-61 as well as being a competitor in numerous sprints and navigation runs.

At the moment one of his greatest problems is that he needs much help and more money to get his old cars going.

* * * * *

Jon McCARTHY - Jon's name is a very familiar one to all of you as you carry his autograph around with you on your membership card (What a fan club!) as he has been Secretary of the Club for the past twelve months. Jon joined the Club in 1960 (Club number 331) and since then has found time between his University exams (Jon completed his architecture course successfully last year) to compete in sprints, navigation runs and to race competitively.

He has owned numerous cars including a Riley, a Sprite Mk I, an Austin, a Singer and a Salmson and at present owns and races a Sprite IIA - though there are rumours of a change some time next year!

Jon lives at 49 Woodville St, Hendra and can be contacted there or by phone (68 3474) if you have any enquiries to make of him. Jon is also a foundation member of the recently formed Hillclimb Management Committee, a good person for the job as his education as an architect included a great deal of surveying.

* * * * *

Jack H. READ - Jack has been a Club member for two or three years, he can't remember for exactly how long but is almost pleased to boast that "some people say too long"! Jack is a colourful competitor, the great variety and originality of his cars and his beard (and thongs) contributing towards this image. His present cars include an MG TC/Holden, two Austin

7's (one with a Milano body) a DB 18 Daimler, a Morris Minivan 1100, a Morris minor/Holden and a Triumph. The Morris/Holden has a preslector gearbox and he claims the MG/Holden to be very fast in a straight line. It seems to follow from this that his occupation should be that of a motor mechanic, a contrast to his earlier "occupation" as a University student in which capacity he appears to have spent his time with cars anyway as he won numerous University Car Club Championships in the years 1954-55. His championship wins in this Club are three for this year, those of Allround, Trials and Navigators.

Jack is married with three children and lives at 105 Porteous Drive, Seven Hills (Phone 98 5134) when he is not busy competing in club events or working at the Hillclimb.

If elected to the Committee, it will be Jack's first administrative (official) position in the Club, although unofficially he has been a great help to Les Teeque in the organization of Motorhomas and Trials.

* * * * *

Don KENNEDY - Don, a 22 year old University student - who hopes that now he has completed his exams he has graduated to Engineer - of 953 Stanley St., East Brisbane (Phone 4 1805) has this year very capably filled the positions of Vice President of the Club, and Chairman of the Octagon Committee as well as helping to organize and official at Sprint meetings. In the latter capacity he has filled the positions of Clerk of Course, Steward and Timekeeper, a position in which his engineering studies has been useful.

He is at present driving a Holden but hopes to graduate to something better in the near future. He owned and raced the ex-Bruce Neville and now-Roger Ealand owned MG Special and his proudest boast is that he spun only once in four meetings. He has been a Club member for over two years and in that time has competed in navigation runs and helped in the organization of social events. He is also a foundation member of the Hillclimb Management Committee, being in charge of the organization of working bees.

* * * * *

John CLARK - John's main contribution to the Club was in taking on the difficult job of President at the beginning of this year and in carrying out the duties associated with this position capably throughout the year, a job in which he was ably assisted by Don Kennedy and advised by Brian Tobble and Pip Bucknell. Although a qualified A grade mechanic, John prefers the sedentary white collar job of an oil company rep. - and who wouldn't if they drove around all day in their 3.4 Mk I Jaguar?

John's other administrative experience in the Club includes a position on the Executive Committee in 1964, and foundation membership on the Hillclimb Management Committee where his mechanical knowledge and ability is being put to use as he is principally concerned with the maintenance of the Hillclimb equipment.

He has also competed in many club events including night runs and sprints, though in the latter he has spent most time officialing as Clerk of Course, Steward or Timekeeper, positions which are sure to make him an extremely valuable asset when the Hillclimb competition actually starts.

He has made a very capable President for this year but is quite happy to stand down and let Brian take over the reins again and to help him as a member of his Committee.

* * * * *

Don SAMPSON - Don has been a member of the Club for two years and in this time has achieved most fame for his driving in Gymkhanas which earned him the Gymkhana championship of 1964. He has also competed in many other types of events including sprints, navigation runs and hillclimbs. He is a motor mechanic with U.K.Motors in their sports car division and at present drives an MG A 1600. His previous cars include a Holden, a Singer Sports, a Triumph TR 2 and (ugh!) a Volkswagen (but let's not hold that against him!)

Don is a regular competitor in race meetings at Lakeside and Lowood - when his brake line is holding

together - and is a member of that mystic clan of MG A owners who co-operate to the fullest extent in helping each other with their problems.

Don lives quite handily to the clubrooms at 331 Sandgate Rd, Albion.

* * * * *

Elaine SWAN - The only girl nominating for Committee, she has been a member of the Club for two years and has spent most of the last year at the typewriter as her contribution towards being a member of the Executive and Octagon committees. Part of her leisure time from her teaching is spent taking out her frustrations incurred in that noble profession on her Morris Cooper in which she has competed in Gymkhanas, navigation runs, and sprints organized by the Club and in the Mini Monte Rally (with co-driver/navigator Carole Palmer) and in Hillclimbs at Grafton and Tamworth. As a result of sheer perseverance she won the Ladies Trophy for this year.

* * * * *

Les TOCQUE - Les, the "unbearded one" is best known in the Club for his organization of Motorkhanas and navigation runs, jobs which he has done extremely ably as demonstrated last Sunday with his expert organization of the InterClub Gymkhana. (Congratulations, Les, on a job well done!) Les is at present a professional driver (of trucks) and his previous occupations include such interesting work as dispatch rider, insurance salesman, farm hand, policeman, soldier, long-distance truck driver and as a hobby, car building; for it was Les who had spent many hours of toil in England building the Rochdale which he brought out here with him only to see it burn before his eyes. (Down with C.C. bus drivers with unused fire extinguishers.) Other cars he has owned include a Hillman, Ford, Sprite, Talbot as well as 31 (that is no misprint) motor cycles! Les is now driving a Ford Anglia and lives at 309 Vulture St., South Brisbane.

* * * * *

Gordon PEARCE - Gordon is another member of that MG A clan which was referred to before (and in the "Wheels" article in the August Octagon) and, also, as Don Sampson discovered to his dismay, is the owner of a broken brake line.

Gordon previously owned an MG TD but since his acquisition of the A has become more active in Club events competing with quite a measure of success in motorkhanas and navigation runs. He has also been active in the Club as an unofficial assistant to Les and Roly at motorkhanas.

* * * * *

David MONROE - David is a relative new comer to the Club but during his time in it he has been very active both in competition, mainly navigation runs, and in assistance with the Octagon, social events, such as party nights, and gymkhanas. He has also been good in lending Jenny go work on the Octagon cover.

Very recently he and Jenny made a wise investment in the form of an MG B, an ideal car in which to set out on a honeymoon, something to happen very shortly. Previously David had owned a "bitsy" TC and was a member of the T-type register.

* * * * *

Well, there they are - now it is up to you to come to the Clubrooms on Friday 25th and cast your vote!

S E E Y O U T H E R E !

STOP PRESS ! ! ! INTERCLUB MOTORKHANA RESULTS .
THE interclub gymkhana was won by our sister club the Morris Mini and 1100 Car Club. Congratulations to them and to the Interclub Motorkhana Committee under the direction of Les Tocque for their management of the event.

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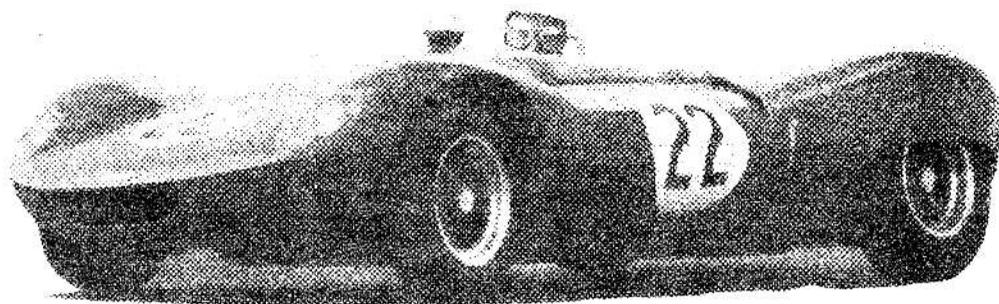
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