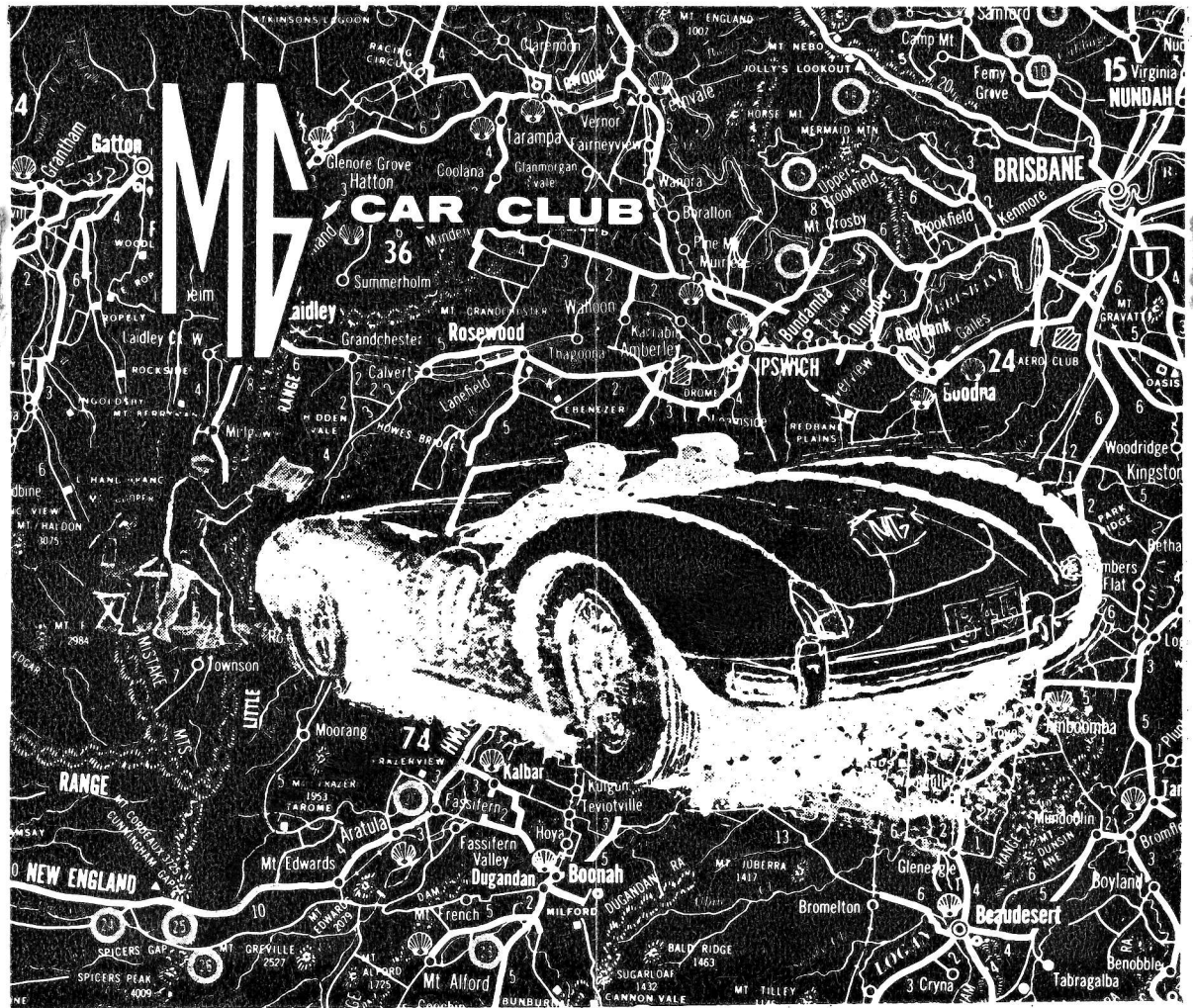


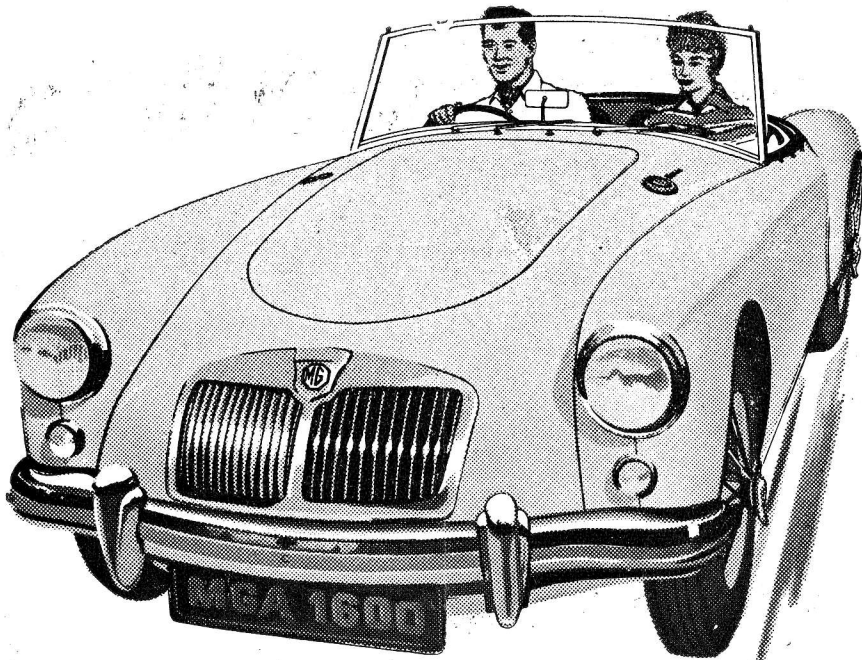


the

Official Journal of the MG Car Club — Qld. Centre.

# OCTAGON





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# THE OCTAGON

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1962

The M. G. CAR CLUB

( QUEENSLAND CENTRE )

Proprietors: The M.G.Car Club (Proprietary) Limited Gt. Britain.

Affiliated with the Confederation of Australian Motor Sport.

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Hon. Secretary	Brian TEBBLE	97 5872	Private
		5 4581	Business
Asst. Hon. Secretary	Nan HUNTER	48 1627	
Hon. Treasurer	Merv. HEAD	7 1207	
Club Captain	Ian MICHELS	51 1384	
Past President	Ray LOVEJOY	56 2730	
Committee	W.J. THOMAS, D.G. COLES, B. MARCOVICH (Miss), R.E. BLUNT, L.C. GISLER.		

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Brisbane

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## E D I T O R I A L

In this, the first Octagon for 1962, you will find a number of changes. However, the basic layout will be similar to previous editions although we will be constantly working for new ideas and material.

In keeping with past tradition, we will also be searching for new gossip and anything you hear which incriminates your fellow Club Members will be eagerly snapped up.

Editorial cont'd

We will be open to criticism, of course, and the job of Editor will be relinquished at short notice to anyone who is sure he can improve on the present. If any of our readers would like to write an article we will enjoy publishing same.

Our new cover is a first of a series depicting Club activities and thanks go to Ritchie Greenlaw for this.

Don't forget that gossip and we will do our best to present a readable Club magazine for 1962.

o o o o o o o o o o o

SPRINTSIOWOOD21st January 1962

We were fortunate to be blessed with fine weather and a good entry for our first Sprints for the year at the Iwood circuit and we saw some particularly good times set and a few records broken.

The timing traps were placed at the end of the main straight with the finish a mere four hundred yards from Mobilgas corner. This resulted in extremely good flying quarter speeds giving a true indication of a car's potential.

A little trouble was experienced setting up the timing gear as we were all new to the game and our thanks go to Lex Batterham, who is hereby elected our Honorary Electronics Expert.

Once away from the late start, very little trouble was experienced except from those competitors who insist on having exhaust pipes trailing on the ground and so neatly removed the timing wires on their way past.

The first record to fall was John Gill's long standing M.G.Y. Saloon class time of 20.87 for the standing and 12.31 for the flying. This was modified in no uncertain way by John Fresser in the Sunbeam Rapier to 20.04 and 10.39 respectively.

Lionel Ayers carved a large hole in the Holden record with 17.74 for the Standing Quarter and a shattering 8.72 for the Flying. Unfortunately Bob Jenyns was not there to give Lionel opposition and it is well known that Bob's car recorded 17.2 at Lakeside which is considerably slower for Sprints than Iwood.

Ian Michels won the Denis Geary/ Brian Tebble trophy for the fastest M.G. and also broke the class Flying record which was also held by John Gill. Some good times were recorded by the Sprites and Ritchie Greenlaw's flying time of 10.88 was outstanding.



SPRINTS cont'd

The record for this class is held by Jim Bertram in the Lotus Eleven, so keep working Ritchie!

On the lighter side of the day, we were amused by the little romance conducted on the field telephone between the girls doing the timing and the boys working the traps. (Ross Robertson is his name, Ron!). This was spoiled by Des Coles who persisted in saying just what he meant.

A poor innocent spectator spent two or three hours untangling a quarter mile of wires after some clot twisted them together. We understand that he is now in Goodna and has to be given wire everyday. Anyway, our thanks to Gary Cowan for his patience and to an unnamed person who put him out of his misery with a pair of wire cutters... Really!!!

The feature of the day was Denis (Revs) Geary who recorded a rather good time in his Cooper Maserati which he has extensively modified by fitting a Cooper chassis and a Maserati engine. What will they think of next?. This record was held by Kerry (Ha Ha) Horgan. Times for Revs were 12.93 for the Standing (No not the Flying) and SIX (WOW) seconds for the Flying which is an average of 150 m.p.h. Or, as a wit on the timing gear said, 'One sneeze and we are gone!'. We are pleased to report that Denis does not suffer from hay fever.

Les Gisler and Denis McGrath battled with the scrutineering ably assisted by Phylis; Nan, Pam and Joan did the recording and there were numerous bods scattered about the circuit... the point is they all did a fine job and we do hope that they will all be with next time.

RESULTS		Fastest times for each competitor.		
Competitor	Car	Standing $\frac{1}{4}$	Flying $\frac{1}{4}$	Timed Lap of Circuit
B. Broomhall	Morris 850	21.79	12.03	2M 52 Secs
T. Armstrong	M/Minor	24.3	13.57	3 8.7
E. Proudley	Wolseley 4/44	25.32	13.31	-----
J. Fresser	S/Rapier	20.04	10.39	2 38.4
R. Lovejoy	M.G.Magnette	21.78	12.56	3 8.6
L. Ayers	Holden	17.74	8.72	2 20.6
K. Herron	Jaguar 2.4	20.98	10.18	2 42.7
A. Priest	Zephyr	20.74	10.85	2 40.8
K. Anderson	Chevrolet	20.35	10.11	2 42.8
D. Bruce	M/Minor	23.92	14.12	3 3.2
E. Geary	Falcon	21.31	11.97	3 2.2

		4			
C. Lind	Falcon	20.83	11.10	2	45.8
M. Kruger	Ford	20.75	10.29	2	39.9
P. Kinnane	A/H Sprite	20.44	11.32	2	40.9
R. Greenlaw	A/H Sprite	20.75	10.88	2	40.7
N. Groundwater	M.G.T.F.	23.62	12.66	3	3.5
A. Killips	M.G.T.F.	23.01	-----	-----	-----
B. Neville	M.G.T.C.	19.04	10.10	2	34.8
I. Michels	M.G.T.F.	18.31	9.68	2	25.2
W. Brenner	M.G.A.	20.65	10.65	2	44.9
B. Wickland	TRIUMPH TR3A	18.06	8.84	2	24.9
A. James	A/Healy	18.70	9.78	2	27.1
D. Geary	C/Maserati	12.93	6.00	1	53.4

The following broke class records:- J Fresser (Stg & Flying)

L.J. Ayers ( Stg & Flying), I. Michels ( Flying),

B. Wickland (Flying), D.S. Geary (Stg & Flying).

HANDICAP RESULTS	Place	Standing	Flying
	First	D. Geary	K. Anderson
	Second	P. Kinnane	R. Greenlaw
	Third	R. Greenlaw	B. Broomhall

+ + + + + + + + +

### SCAVENGER HUNT

26th January

They say that there is 'one born every day'. Well, twenty eight turned up at the Clubrooms the other night to compete in a Scavenger Hunt. Our Social (or is it anti-social) Subcommittee staged their first event for 1962 and left fifty six raving drivers and navigators foaming at the mouth, each clutching green leaves, tram tickets and NUTS.

Those tram tickets! Talk about making grown men cry!!!  
 Scene: Queen Street; Time 9.30 p.m. Friday 26th Jan...  
 A car screams to a halt, brake discs glowing white (left the handbrake on), two bods argue at length, smallest of two emerges stealthily from car, approaches small article marked 'Keep your city clean', glances furtively about and plunges hand into bin. 'Fish and chip paper', 'Cardboard box', cigarette (Craven A) packet' then he lets out a piercing scream... 'I've got one!' and rushes back to the car, tears of joy in his eyes. Driver of car hurles him back to the footpath and beats him furiously with chrome plated tyre lever. 'We want a threepenny one, you fool!' You see what I mean?.

Many parks were stripped of foliage as though a swarm of locusts had been there. I am certain that there are not nine different plants in the whole of Queensland/ Not now, anyway.

And Nuts! Everybody tried to present the same nut, which resulted in a stand up fight at the finish.

If you are wondering what this is all about, why not come to the next Scavenger Hunt. Anybody interested in joining the 'I hate the Social Committee Club?'

\* \* \* \* \*

COMING                      EVENTS

Night Navigational Run. The Trials Sub-committee invite members to test their navigational ability (and patience) at the Night Navigational Run on Feb. 23rd. This run is designed to compromise for the beginner having a night out and the expert chalking up points. Be at the Clubrooms 7.30 p.m. Friday 23rd February.

TREASURE HUNT. Starting from the Clubrooms at 12.30 p.m. on Sunday 11th March. Catering for open sports cars as well as the sedans. These are always one of our most enjoyable activities. So. Be there won't you!!

\* \* \* \* \*

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YOUR COMMITTEE FOR 1962

Ron. DAVIS. President. Married to Del.. Drives immaculate Magnette ZA. Member of Committee 1959. Vice President 1961 and Chairman of Trials committee. Won Concours 1960. Used to be consistant trials competitor. Ambition.. to own K3. Address Lymm St. Mt Gravatt. Phone 49-1140. Joined Club June 1955. Flag marshall ar race meetings.

Vince APPLEBY. Vice President. Married to Club champion pikelet cook. Drives Pontiac. Committee 1960 and Chairman Gymkhana committee. Joined Club April 1959. Address 48 Armentiers St. Kedron. 57-1561.

Brian TEBBLE. Hon? Secretary. Single (and likely to stay). Drives T.D.. Won Speed and All-round Trophies 1959. Committee 1960. Hon. Secretary 1961.and member of House Committee. Raced T.C. 1957/ T.D. 1958-59-60-61. Official at most race meetings. Competes occasional gymkhanas. Address 21 Castor Avenue, Camp Hill. Phone 97-5872  
Joined Club September 1957.

YOUR COMMITTEE. cont'd.

Merv. HEAD. Hon. Treasurer. Drives Triumph Herald. Active competitor in Treasurer Hunts etc.. Treasurer from July 1961. Wants to buy M.G.A. Coupe. Is auditor by profession. Address 22 Burns Rd. Indooroopilly Phone 7-1207. Joined Club- February 1960.

Ian. SHAW. Hon. Auditor. Married and drives Holden. Used to be very keen T.C. owner, then Riley. Has been auditor since 1958 and active in guiding the Club. Joined Club- November 1955. Lives Payne St. Torwood. 7-6387.

Ray LOVEJOY. Immediate Past President. Single. Drives Midgette Z.A. Competes in most Treasure Hunts etc.. Committee 1959, President 1960/61. Looks like being regular Sprints entrant. Lives 11 View Rd. Enoggera. Phone 56-2730. Joined Club- August 1957.

Eugene BLUNT. Committee. Married. Drives Austin Healy Sprite. Used to own T.C. in which he won Concours 1959. Winner Gymkhana Trophy 1961. Address. 127 Gilliver St. Holland Park. Joined Club April 1959.

Des. COLES. Single (but we predict, not for long). Drives tank now. But used to own Sprite and T.D. Runner-up for Gymkhana trophy, and scored particularly well in the last Inter-club Gymkhana. Address 14 Fosbery St. Windsor. Joined Club- February 1959.

Les GISLER. Single. Drives Lancer and tunes Barry Campbell's M.G.A.. Used to own Austin Healy and previously had a T.A. Acts as Scrutineer at Sprints. Very patient type. Lives 604 Wynnun Rd. Wynnun. Joined Club January 1959.

Beverley MARCOVICH. Single (engaged to Ian Michels). Rides in T.F. 1500. Acts as timekeeper for Gymkhanas. House committee 1961. You will be seeing a lot more of Bev. in 1962. (Whoops). Joined Club- December 1960. Address 165 James St. New Farm. (Look out, Ian).

Ian MICHELS. Drives M.G.T.F. 1500 Buchanan. Winner All-round and Speed Trophies 1961. Second place in Concours. Consistant performer in Gymkhanas. Raced at Toowoomba and Lakeside. Class record holder Flying Quarter Mile for 'Centre' Sprints. Club Captain now. Single but engaged to Beverley. Sorry, girls! Address 8 Allison St. Mayne. Phone 51-1384. Joined Club- April 1959.

Bill THOMAS. Single. Drives M.G.T.F. 1500. Holds class record saloon cars. (Sunbeam Talbot). Committee 1959, Vice-president 1960 Was elected to committee 1961, but retired. Has been C.A.M.S. Delegate for two years. Active official at race meetings and Chairman Gymkhana committee. 1960. Runs in all Australia Day Processions.

Address 74 Lloyd St. Camp Hill. Joined Club- April 1958.

This gives you an idea of who is 'at the helm' for 1962.  
Please help them by competing, attending and offering your services.

=====

The PRESENTATION OF TROPHIES AND DINNER DANCE FOR 1961 proved to be so much of a success that we will almost certainly be holding it at Shangri La again this year. One hundred and fifty five members and friends seemed to enjoy themselves so much that we can see no alternative. Only, this year, lets make it two hundred and fifty. Shall we?.

-----

### R A C I N G T E A M

With the organisation already underway, you should see the Centre's first racing team competing at Lowood in April. We have long felt that we should take a more direct interest in our members' activities in motor racing, but, exactly what to do, we did not know.

The origin of the idea was formed last year when the Centre sponsored the Restricted Sports Car Race at Lowood which was won by member Mrs Ann Thomson.

Why not be more direct in our approach? we thought. And with the N.S.W. Centre's Scuderia Octagon competing at Warwick Farm, the idea began to take form.

A definite policy is now being laid down for the team which will consist of entirely M.G.s as it is to be known as the M.G.CAR CLUB Queensland Centre. Needless, to say there is more to a team than cars and drivers- all aspects of competing will be covered including tuning, lap scoring, pit work and public relations.

Since this was announced at the Clubrooms a few weeks ago, interest in the project has exceeded all expectations and a meeting has been held at Brian Tebble's house to discuss just what we are going to do. It is hoped that the team will be a great advertisement for the Centre and, at the same time, an asset to the Sport.

Later on, we will call for volunteers to help, the main problem now being finance and a place to work on the cars as a group. If you have any ideas, inform Brian Tebble or Ian Michels or write to this magazine. More news of this project, next issue.

=====

### SKID PAN===HILL CLIMB DRIVING TEST.

We are seeking a suitable site to build a 'skid-pan' also one for a 'hill-climb'. Report anything you consider suitable to



the Committee.

We hope to hold a 'gymkhana type' of driving test on a bitumen surface. (Yes. a drive-in shopping centre will be ideal). How about a few ideas for a site for this?

-----

SOCIAL RUBBISH AND ALL THAT TYPE OF THING. (Scandal provided by members.)

ENGAGEMENT. Col. Reeve-Smith has been trapped by a lass named Nancy Sincla No doubt, will be trading the T.C. on a tank. All happiness to both.

We believe that Mike Thatcher is good at 'burning off' Started 'small' fire to clear land and incinerated half the North Coast, before the Brigade regained control.

Kerry Horgan stepped neatly off boat to meet friend, who stood ankle deep in water. (What Kerry did not know was, friend was standing on boat trailer). Exit Horgan in 4 ft of water, fully dressed, too! We still prefer Esther Williams.

Denis and Elaine Geary have unique way of cooling off in hot spells. They pour glasses of iced water over each other in office. Watch out, visitors.

Ron Davis (who, we understand, takes bubble baths), (perhaps he's really foaming at the mouth), was seen driving automatic Yank Tank (Ugh) at Lowood working bee. Del. too! Still has the Magnette, though.

Lex Batterham bending down while Hon. Sec. pretended to hit him on head with shovel. Then Lex stood up! Very, very realistic.

Working bee at Lowood very enjoyable. Four girls cleared grass on Mobilgas Corner whilst husbands and boy friends out of sight on Bardahl Curve enjoyed smoke and rest. Fifteen members attended.

Tom Ross has eye-opening new car coming. Strictly for racing. Should be a formidable combination. Look out for it. We will be barracking for you Tom!

See Denis Geary is back in sports car business and also at the old address. Good luck, Revs.

Also. member Jim Bell in business at Revs old site.

xox

AUSTRALIA DAY PROCESSION.

Sixteen sports cars took part in the Australia Day Procession, thirteen of which were M.G.s. How's that for a percentage?. All looked immaculate and were a credit to the owners' and to the Club.

A/Day Procession cont'd  
(The girls looked alright, too!).

Overheating did not create much nuisance this year although one or two seemed to be minus a cylinder or two towards the end of the procession. Allan Killips looked very busy acting as chaperon and we'd love to know who the little sunburnt number was with Glenn Robertson. Kees Kopenall had Old Father Time with him, complete with Scythe (or was it a flag). Really, we must organise this better next year.

John Whitlam was wearing his new B.R.G. 1600 and Dan Casey came all the way from Woodford for this event. He did not seem to be complaining, though.

Bill Thomas made several attempts to throw his fair passenger over the back of the T.F. You must learn to tell when your car is really in neutral before you rev. the engine. Bill.

Everyone enjoyed themselves one way or the other and we look forward to the same, next year.

x-x

#### NEW MEMBERS.

The following new members have joined us since the last issue of the Octagon and we wish you all a happy association with the Centre and hope to see you at ALL our events.

Michael Thompson	415 Swann Rd. St Lucia	S/Gazelle	7 2354
Earl Beesley	14 Stuart Rd. Bulimba		
Douglas Partington	5 Dollis St. Salisbury	Peugeot 203	47 2244
Ross Robertson	18 Bundah St. Camp Hill	M/Minor	98 1560
William Grigor	85 Carbury St. Grange	Simca	
Donald Hooper	Water St. City	Renault	2 4139
Paul Kinnane	56 Iandor St. Elkhin	Sprite	48 4830
Glen Robertson	18 Bundah St. Camp Hill	Herald	98 1560
Jan Ljback (Miss)	8 Pine St. Greenslopes	Sprite	97 5329
Kees Koppenol	Weedon St. Mt. Gravatt	M.G.T.C.	49 2479
Noel Whip	125 Mildmay St. Fairfield	M.G.T.C.	
Gary Cummings	27 Augustus St. Toowong	M.G.T.F. 1500	7 5208
Robin McAllister	40 Gotha St. Camp Hill	M.G.T.C.	
Neil Tomkinson	26 Racecourse Rd. Hamilton	M.G.A.	6 5873
John H. Johns	10 Plt. B. Coy. Enoggera	M.G.A.	

If you are out their way, why not drop in or at least phone?.

MORE ON THE MELBOURNE EASTER EVENTS

To date, it seems that about six of our members are going to the Melbourne Cebtre's Easter Events and, I am sure- judging by the reputation of that Centre, that they will have a wonderful time.

All being well, two of our racing team will be able to compete in the Hill Climb there and also, two of our road cars for the Motorkhanas. Of course, all personel will attend any social events that Melbourne care to stage.

All others interested, please contact Brian Tebble or Ian Michels.  
DON'T FORGET THE M.G.CAR CLUB EASTER EVENTS, MELBOURNE, VICTORIA !!!

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SECRETARY'S CORNER

I am pleased with the interest shown in the award offered by the committee for the member who introduces the most M.G. owning new members this year. I have noticed that among the keener competitors two are non-M.G. owners which indicates that they really have the interests of the Club at heart.

With regard to the Easter events in Melbourne: I do hope to be able to go myself, I know it is a long way but, if you are interested, please see me and I will help you, all I can.

No doubt, most of us are pleased that England has not made us to enforce the proposed 75% M.G. ownership. I came in for a lot of criticism with regard to my stand on this idea and possibly still do. Nevertheless, I will always have in mind that this is principally a 'one make' car club, and, although all others are welcome, I am, and always will be, for M.G.s. That is why I joined the Centre and is the reason why I continue to act as Secretary. I am sincere in my belief and you know that I have good reason to be so. I am well aware that many of our best supporters are non-M.G. owners and that many of our M.G. owners do not bother to attend meetings. This does not alter the FACT that this IS the M.G.CAR CLUB. Nevertheless, let us all have a good time together, let the non-M.G. members be big enough to accept this and the M.G. owners big enough to strengthen it. Having got this off my chest in print, I trust that nobody will continue to try to influence me to think otherwise.

I hope that you will all help the new sub-committees this year by competing and attending the events that they work so hard to arrange for you. I am offering a trophy this year for the best performing T.C. in Gymkhanas and guarantee that you will be able to fit the

SECRETARY'S CORNER cont'

beam axle buggies around the events. Hope to see many of you at the Gymkhanas.

I am very pleased that I will again have Nan Hunter's assistance this year as I could not possibly cope without her knowledge and help.

For those who seek me during the week, I am at Motors Pty Ltd which is nearly opposite the Clubrooms and can be contacted there at intervals during the day. Please do not call unless the matter is important (or unless you wish to buy a Cresta), but rather ring me at home in the P.M.

As we have a few ambitious projects this year, and as you all now know how we stand with regard to membership, may I again give a reminder to those who have not as yet paid their two guineas subscription, as you do place an increased burden on those who have paid.

Listed below are your Sub-committees and Officers for 1962.

Club Captain	Ian Michels
Asst Secretary	Nan Hunter
Public Relations and Publicity	Glen Robertson.
Racing Team Director	Yet to be decided.
House Committee	V.J. Appleby (Chairman), R. Todd, T. Hamwood, I. Michels, N. Groundwater, B. Marcovich (Miss)
Trials Committee	R.E. Blunt (Chairman), L. Gisler, I. Michels, V.J. Appleby.
GYMKHANA Committee	I. Michels (Chairman), R.E. Blunt, D. Coles, L. Gisler, W. Thomas, N. Groundwater.
Speed Committee	W. Thomas (Chairman), R.T. Lovejoy, V.J. Appleby R. Davis.
Octagon Committee	B.M. Tebble (Editor), V.J. Appleby, B. Marcovich C.J. Anderson, R. Davis, R. Greenlaw.
Social Committee	I. Michels, L. Gisler, B. Marcovich, B. Tebble.
Library	V. Appleby, D. Davis (Mrs), N. Hunter (Miss).
Points Score	R.T. Lovejoy.
C.A.M.S. Delegate	W.J. Thomas.
Overseas Correspondent	B.M. Tebble.
New Members Committee	R. Davis, V. Appleby, I. Michels, B. Tebble K. Horgan, B. Marcovich (Miss).

Undoubtedly, these will be added to as the year rolls by and perhaps a few will retire (from exhaustion). Should any of you be interested in becoming a member of any of these sub-committees and I hope that you will be, just see me or the Chairman of the

one you wish to serve on .

Before the next Lowood race meeting, in April, we will be organising a working bee to prepare the circuit. I hope that all the fourteen or so who came to the recent working bee, will come to the next and that a dozen or so more will come too. Please see me if you are willing .

B.M. Tebble.

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This month we have great support from our advertisers. Howards Ltd. feature the M.G.A. 1600 inside the front cover as is their usual practice I notice that a few of our members have been buying 1000s, lately. If our luck holds out and if negotiations with England are successful, we will be able to buy Midgets from Howards, after all. So, hold out and hope. Don't be rash and buy 'another sports car' as there is a good possibility that we will see the M.G. Midget here.

A.W. Barrs, we all know of course and old friends, Marshall Batteries Don't forget to support them. A new face this month. Dave Evans, who's ad. appears on our new cover and who specialises in 'good things'. Quite a few of us have already been there, (and I know a few who intend paying Dave a visit soon). As is mentioned elsewhere, Denis (Revs) Geary who is an ex-committee member of the Centre is back in the Sports car business. 'Nuff said!!.

Has anyone thought about filming club events such as Gymkhanas, Sprints, the Start and Finish of Treasure Hunts etc..? Plenty of members have movie cameras). Then one night we could have a Club film evening. (Suggest to a committee that a few bob on the door could pay for the film

	MORE	ON	THE	CENTRE	PROGRAM.
February	18th	GYMKHANA	at	Gymkhana Grounds	Tingalpa.
	23rd	NIGHT NAVIGATION RUN.		Clubrooms	
March	11th	TREASURE HUNT		Clubrooms	12.30 p.m.
	25th	GYMKHANA & BARBEQUE		GYMKHANA Grounds	
	4th	DRIVING TEST		(WE HOPE)	
	9th	GUIDED TOUR		(Of what, we don't know yet).	
	30th	FILM EVENING		Clubrooms.	
April	8th	SPRINTS		(Venue to be decided).	
	27th	NIGHT NAVIGATION RUN			
	29th	CLUB RUN & BARBEQUE			

Please do your best to support these events. The Club Run will be all bitumen roads so there is no excuse for the sports cars drivers not to turn up by the dozen.

We hope to have the 'driving test' on a bitumen surface. If anyone has ideas or contacts for a suitable site, let us know.



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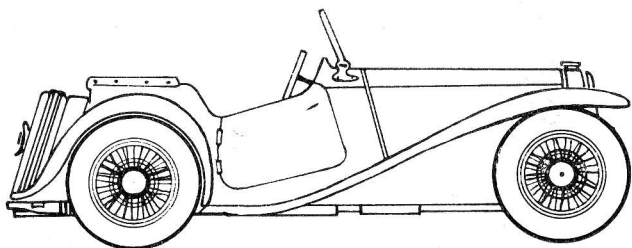
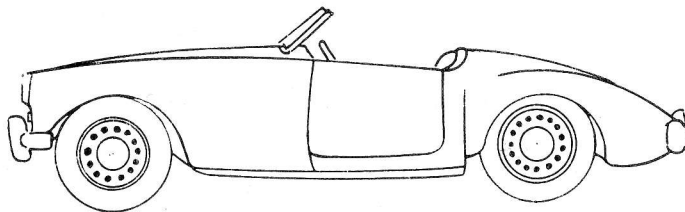
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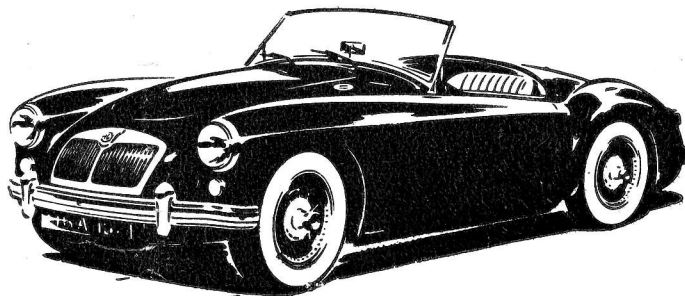


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