

# The Octagon

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The Official Journal of the M.G. Car Club (Queensland Centre).

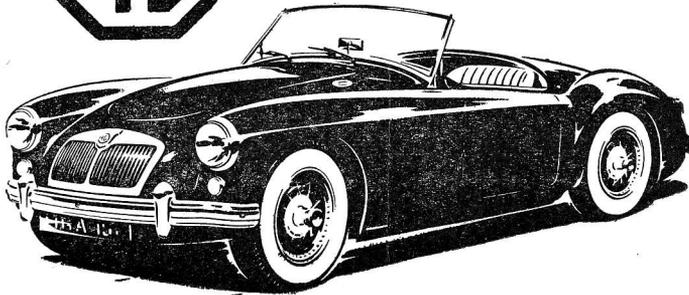
Vol. 1, No. 4.

JANUARY, 1959.

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# THE M.G. CAR CLUB

(Queensland Centre)

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Affiliated with the Confederation of Australian Motor Sport.

Patron: Viscount Nuffield, G.B.E.

General Secretary: A. Russell Lowry

President: M. E. Hunter ..... 68 0101 (Business)  
48 1627 (Private)

Vice-President: W. Makeham

Secretary: B. R. McMillan ..... 67 3395 (Private)

Treasurer: E. A. Hunter ..... 48 1627

Club Captain: S. A. Pollard ..... 2 0486 (Business)  
6 2267 (Private)

Committee: I. R. Hamilton, S. A. Pollard, T. Connolly, R. Davis,  
N. Stevens, R. Lovejoy

Club Rooms:  
620 Wickham Street,  
Fortitude Valley.

Box 1847 W,  
G.P.O.,  
Brisbane.

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## FOREWORD.

Letter received from the Director, B.P. Car Rally 1959:

To all C.A.M.S. Clubs in Vic., S.A., and N.S.W:

Dear Sir,

The above event, of about 2,000 miles, will again be sponsored by B.P. Australia Ltd. and will be directed by myself, with the assistance of Mr. John Pryce and Mr. Graham Hoinville, one of Victoria's most successful navigators and organisers.

It is particularly hoped to get a good entry from N.S.W., S.A., and Victorian country areas, and the assistance of your Club would be welcomed, both in the distribution of Regulations and the possible staffing of Controls by day or night in your area. The dates will be March 11th to 15th, 1959; the prize-money, though not constituting astronomical bribes, will be increased and the start-points—Sydney, Canberra, Broken Hill, Adelaide, Mt. Gambier or Melbourne. There will be a complete night's rest in a large Victorian town. Please advise any of your members that this will be a Rally of the highest quality and one in which even finishing will be a distinction. I would be particularly glad if you could advise me of how many forms you can distribute and how many Controls you could staff during the Rally.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) D. K. THOMSON, Director, B.P. Rally.

For further information see the Hon. Secretary, B. R. McMillan.

# COMMITTEE NEWS

At the time of going to press the Club has not yet elected its Captain for the year, but should do so very shortly. However, it is felt that the formation of a permanent Sub-Committee for each event—that is Gymkhanas, Speed and Treasure Hunts—will be of great assistance to your Committee this year.

A tentative programme will be as follows :—

- (1) Treasure Hunt, 8th February.
- (2) Organised Night, 27th February.
- (3) Gymkhana, 15th March.
- (4) Barbecue, 21st March.
- (5) Organised Night, 24th April.
- (6) Closed Sprints, Strathpine, 25th April.

As seen, the fourth Friday of each month is an organised night; organised in this respect that your Committee has arranged to have some organised activity for that night, whether it be in the form of a Film night, Navigational Exercise or Darts competition. The idea being that something will be on, on the fourth Friday of each month. So get out your brand new calenders and mark up the appropriate nights for each month.

For sale at 5/- each : a limited number of C.A.M.S. Year Books. These Books are a vast improvement on last year's effort and they contain a vast amount of interesting data on Motor Sport throughout Australia. Do not be disappointed, get your copy early.

Your House Committee for this year will be under the guidance of Ralph Davis as Chairman, and his assistants will be Ian Hamilton, Adrian Nickols and Graham Perkins.

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# Coming Events



## DO YOU KNOW BRISBANE ?

To Whom It May Concern :

We, your members of the committee, have concocted something in a cauldron. On close examination we have decided to call it "The Scenic Treasure Hunt." With it we are out to mislead and turn young sporting types with cars to match, into grey haired old men and women. He have pulled every dirty trick in the book, plus a few that nobody was game to write about.

We hereby issue the challenge that you can not go the distance without loosing points.

GENTLEMEN, THE GAUNTLET IS AT YOUR FEET, will you pick it up ?

Here are a few details to whet your appertite.

Start and finish will be at the Club rooms, commencing at 1 p.m., Sunday, 8th February. Running time is approx. 2½ hours, and will cover approx. 55 miles. The entire course is over good bitumen roads with the exception of approx. 40 feet of gravel. A detailed road map of the suburbs of Brisbane would be helpful and will be allowed. Even a Refidex is acceptable.

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As the Treasure Hunt will be run in two sections, advantage has been taken of this fact, to allow a 15 minute break at a well known Scenic View Point. At the completion of the event, post mortems may be conducted during afternoon tea at the Club rooms.

Even though you won't beat us, we can guarantee you a lot of fun and a good afternoon trying to do so.

Remember! This is the first event of the 1959 season and points gained count towards the annual trophy.

The usual entry fee 5/-, and if you require further information see one of the following gents: Ray Lovejoy, Bill Thomas, Ron Davis or Trev. Connolly. Incidentally, these Members have been elected as the Treasure Hunt Sub-Committee.

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## OVERSEAS MAIL BAG:

With the odd Member or two floating around England at the present moment it is deemed necessary to open this new section in the Magazine to share with Members the news the boys are sending back from time to time.

Greg. Newton and John Muller are in the Big Smoke—London. Greg. is back in the shoe business again, whilst John has started to learn the Motor Trade all over again—starting from the bottom. They have been on a Car Rally so far and we are definitely in the back blocks according to John as far as Trials are concerned, Clue No. 18 on the Rally runs as follows:—

“A railway line runs more or less parallel to the B4009 (Code name of a road). There are four “Halts.” If four men walked on straight lines from their prospective “Halts” and the most Southerly one travelled 4.50 miles, the second 2.6 miles, the third 1.8 miles and the most northerly 2.325 miles, they all come together at a stop. What for?”

All very interesting to say the least, so much so, that he is looking around for suitable literature to send us on the subject of Rallies. Lord help us—the poor Charlies who are competitors—if Lovejoy and Co. get one of those!

George Stratagos is down Wimbledon way, but not for the Tennis as yet. He has been out to various factories, Lotus, Cooper, etc., and he is above our class now as shown by some of his remarks on the recent London Motor Show. He was a little disappointed with the Alfa-Romeo 2000 Twin Cam, it cannot be converted to a right hand drive, price U.K. £3,000, price Italy to take out of the country £1,300 Stg. Another of his choice, painted sky blue, B.M.W. 507, price £4,651/7/0.

It was hard to get near Mike Hawthorn's stand—Ferrari, but I was lucky being from Australia, for the chap who was there asked me in. He hardly looked at heaps like these Mercedes 300 S.L., Healeys, T.R.'s, etc. They are far too common apparently. George is an aspirant for the next Cooper School, and we wish you luck fellow!

# GYMKHANA :

By N. Stevens.

Thanks to the usual enthusiasm of the spectators and entrants, the Gymkhana held at Aspley on the 23rd November, 1958, was a huge success.

On arrival at Aspley it was found that there was a large number of spectators, but not quite so many starters lined up, prepared to do battle.

The first event of the day was the Concours D'Elegance which once again was won by R. Burnett, who it seems has a mortgage on this event. However, from conversation heard competition may be more fierce next year. The judges for the Concours were S. Pollard, L. Lovejoy and B. McMillan, who performed their task efficiently and very fairly. Which Judge said that "dog?" wasn't a standard accessory for a TC.

Ralph Davis was his usual consistent self and had a good day, but I must say Brian Tebble should have been charged for 2 entry fees, when he appeared in a "battleship" from Detroit.

"Leadfoot" Broadfoot appeared anxious to pit his TR2 against the rest. Maybe next time you'll have it run in Don.

Just as well the Ladies don't enter in every event; the keenness which was shown by Mrs. Pollard, Mrs. Thomas, and Mrs. Weedmaier was most inspiring.

I would like to say goodbye to John Mash, who is a great Gymkhana helper. John is going west for 2 years, and will probably come back with some new ideas for our events.

Thanks to Mrs. Pres. Time Keepers, Officials and "Spider" who provided those welcome drinks, and also Mr. Stevens, Senr., who was official Judge. See you all next time folks.

Apologies for a noticeable lack of time for these events folks, but Masho has them, and at the time of going to Press he was down the Coast with his Honey!

## Results Gymkhana, 23rd November, 1958.

### FORWARD BENDING RACE :

1. R. Davis
2. N. Stevens

### BLINDFOLD RACE :

1. N. Stevens
2. R. Davis
3. K. Laun

### REGULARITY :

1. R. Burnett
2. E. Hunter
3. M. Hunter

### AUTO CROSS :

1. R. Davis
2. N. Stevens
3. B. Weston

### OCTAGON :

1. N. Stevens
2. G. Tait
3. R. Davis

### Results Concours D'Elegance

	Points	Average	Place
W. Thomas . . . . .	138	46	
B. Weston . . . . .	207	69	3
R. Burnett . . . . .	263	87	1
N. Stevens . . . . .	208	69	3
Ralph Davis . . . . .	201	67	
G. Tait . . . . .	207	69	3
M. E. Hunter . . . . .	179	60	
Watson . . . . .	154	51	
M. Xavier . . . . .	200	66	
Ron Davis . . . . .	214	71	2

## ANNUAL GENERAL PRESENTATION

Approximately 100 members attended the presentation of Trophies held at Howard Assembly Hendra. The presence of Mr. Val Howard and Mr. G. and Mrs. Reid, helped to make the night a success, especially as Mrs. Reid kindly consented to make the presentations. Sam Pollard and Bill Riordan wore a track between their seats and the presentation table, but judging by their expressions they seemed to be enjoying it all. As the evening progressed so did the spirits of all. A buck's corner settled down early in the evening, Bill Riordan, Brian Tebble, Graham Tait and Kev. Hansen, obviously found plenty to talk about—how I would have liked to have been a fly on the wall in that particular corner. Anyhow our ladies were not far behind, they had a circle of their own. What a lot of talent we have amongst the members—quite a few excellent exhibitions on the dance floor. The musicians who gave their time and energy really kept things rolling, to these people our thanks. Not entirely forgetting Trevor Connolly, Bill Thomas, Cliff Bosonko and Nev King who made plenty of noise if nothing else. Good show boys. Then there was our Bartender, Ian Hamilton, who did a mighty job keeping the jugs full for waiter Bruce McMillan.

Alfred D. Stewart has a sadistic streak in him, removing ties and knotting same, only snag Mr. Pres. had him beaten, or was it his size Dave?

"Charlie" MacNicol was in good voice with his interpretation of Al Jolson, but by the look on Mrs. Mac's face I'd say she has heard it before.

Barbara Pollard, Dagmar Bishop, their usual bright selves, kept things moving in the ladies' circle, and what a circle of attractives, they were. Two of the Club's most ardent supporters, Keith and Val. Bowen, were obviously enjoying everything, although I don't think Val saw very much of said spouse, as he was pretty busy here and there.

All in all I would say all who attended noted it a good night.

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Conversation between Ian Hamilton and Gordon MacNical (QTS).

Ian arrives on motor bike with flat tyre.

Ian : "Give me a tube, please, Charlie."

Charlie : "O.K., Ian; I'll get someone to put it in for you."

Ian : "No thanks, It'll be right."

Off rides Ian, tube safely tucked in bag.

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Amazed to find horticultural expert in our midst. Barbara was at a loss to explain why sudden growth of indoor pot plants. Sam provided answer—very simply; just use a pinch of well known fertiliser recommended for lawn growth. Guess that standard might get a pinch or two occasionally.

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A little curious to know if Mark Antony Thompson has had his alarm clock checked. Believe he overslept t'other morning—New Year's Day. Swears he didn't touch a drop night before—not on New Year's eve, Mark?

---

Saw member in town other day looking very pleased with himself, too, holding hands with la femme. Don't blame you, Taity.

---

Understand our Hon. Sec. has been on invalid list recently. Firstly strains his back, then goes down with a bout of 'flu. Mr. Pres., not to be beaten, strains his chest—what next, gentlemen.

---

Hear Manuel just returned from sojourn in South, complaining T.R. running or 2 cylinders.

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We like that White Healy, Peter, but making things tough for yourself. Very conspicuous.

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#### STOP PRESS.

S. A. Pollard is the Club Captain for 1959. About time too, Sam. We cannot have a Pollard benefit every year on the Trophies.

**GYMKHANA AND SOCIAL SUB-COMMITTEE.** N. Stevens, Ralph Davis and W. Thamas.

**SPEED COMMITTEE.** M. E. Hunter, B. R. McMillan, W. Thomas, and R. Lovejoy.

Any queries that competitors or members have concerning events, please contact the members of these Sub-Committees.

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