

The Octagon

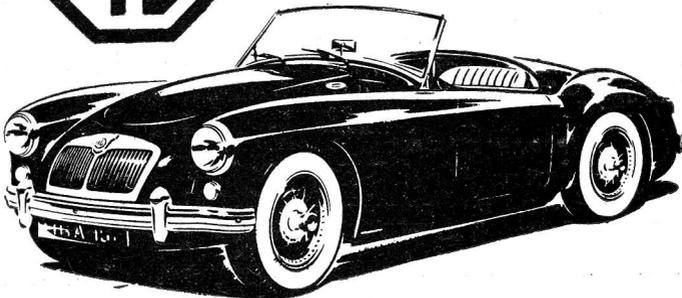
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Secretary: B. R. McMillan 67 3395 (Private)

Treasurer: E. A. Hunter 48 1627

Club Captain: T. Ross 6 2276 (Private)

Committee: G. MacNicol, I. Hamilton, J. Mash, S. Pollard,
T. Connolly.

Club Rooms:
620 Wickham Street,
Fortitude Valley.

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

FOREWORD.

C.A.M.S. NOTE ON HELMETS

Present indications show that Members of this Club will provide a large number of competitors in Road Racing events this year, so please heed this Bulletin on "Protective Helmets."

Below is an extract from a very comprehensive report submitted to the National Council by a C.A.M.S. Medical advisor, Dr. L. E. Buley. It is for the guidance of competitors and scrutineers.

The following helmets have been tested and are now "Cams Approved."

- (1) "Cromwell low-crown competition helmet, brown peakless, with superior finish."
- (2) "Cromwell cam-racing helmet."
- (3) "I.P.C.O. motor cyclist hard hat"—with proviso that a type identification mark is incorporated in the helmet shell.
- (4) Baker "Skidlid."

Now is the time to look at your head protective gear and see that it is the approved item according to Regulations; if you have any doubt ask your Club Captain and he can advise you on this matter.

OVERSEAS MAIL BAG:

This time it was "little Jim" who received a short epistle from Greg. Newton (wandering Centreite). Apart from the rather obscene type of cover on the card, Greg's report consists of the following news:—

The lads (John and Greg.) have joined the "Sporting and Alfa Romeo Car Club" which from all accounts is rather an exclusive type of organisation (all very PUKKA).

John has a job with an M.G. car dealer, and spends most of the time rocketing around the country side (English type) in a double Knocker "A."

Don Muller paid the boys a visit, and is at present "En Espana" (probably fighting Bulls or something).

The boys are looking forward to seeing "Spider," and mention something about forming a London Branch of the G.B.U. (Yeah! I'll bet!)

Coming Events

March 21st, is the date set aside for the first "BAR.B.Q" of the year, always a popular event with members. As usual, a good fare will be provided, and at the usual 10/- per head. Some form of "Gimmik" will precede the Barbecue (to enable members to find their way to the spot), and this will commence at the Club Rooms, 620 Wickham Street, at 6 p.m. Roll up and bring your friends, female or otherwise, and have a bonzer time.

More of the Organised night, 24th April, later—FILM NITE.

The previously advertised Sprint Meeting for the 25th April will not be held on this day. A slight oversight has occurred here, and, as will be noted, this day is Anzac Day. However, the committee have already started negotiations re the changing of the date of this event. It has now been decided to hold this event on the 9th May.

THE M.G. CAR CLUB TROPHIES.

There seems to be little known by the Club Members about their club trophies, so in this article we will endeavour to tell you what the trophies are for and how the successful competitors are decided.

First of all here are the perpetual trophies :—

1. Best all-round competitor trophy.
2. Sprints trophy.
3. Trials trophy.
4. Navigators trophy.
5. Gymkhana trophy.
6. Best all-round lady competitor trophy.
7. The Centenary trophy.

This year an additional two trophies have been added to the list.

Howards Ltd., have kindly donated a handsome centenary trophy. The exact nature of the award has been left to the discretion of the committee, with the stipulation that it has to be equally attainable by the Ladies as well as the sporting types. The committee after considerable deliberation have decided to award the trophy to the "Best Club Member." The best club member will be defined as one who attends club nights most regularly; a register is being kept for this purpose. As one who enters our competitions throughout the year, though not necessarily being a winner in each event. As one who displays sportsmanship at all times and does as much work as possible to help the club generally throughout the year. Naturally Committee members are debarred from this award.

Acting on a suggestion by the ex-vice-president, Mr. E. Ansell, the Committee have decided to award a Navigation Trophy to the best navigator for the year. This trophy will be in the form of a shield with the name of the best navigator for the year engraved thereon. This trophy is confined to navigators who are club members. The navigators trophy is similar to the Concours D'Elegance, in so much as it is not a condition of the all-round trophy.

The winner of the trophy for any particular type of event will be the competitor who gains the most points during the year. The points will be allocated as follows :—

THE BEST ALL-ROUND COMPETITOR TROPHY :

Competitors must enter at least one of each type of event during the year (sprints, trials and gymkhanas). Points will be converted from all events. One point for Petrol and other Competitive runs.

THE TRIALS TROPHY :

First—6 points, Second—4 points, Third—3 points. Starters 1 point, and finishers 1 point. No starting point will be given to place getters.

The same number of points will contribute towards the all-round trophy, but for the best all-round Lady competitor trophy, the following points will be allocated :—First—4 points, Second—3 points, Third—2 points.

THE NAVIGATORS TROPHY :

The navigators trophy has the same points allocation as the trials trophy, but it is not a condition of the all round trophy.

THE CONCOURS D'ELEGANCE :

First—5 points, Second—3 points, Third—2 points. Starters 1 point. No starting point will be given to place getters. It is not necessary to enter the Concours to qualify for the best all-round or Ladies trophies, but one fifth of the points gained in this event will be added to your points score for these trophies where applicable.

THE GYMKHANA TROPHY :

First—4 points, Second—3 points, Third—2 points. Starters will receive 1 point if they compete in 50 per cent. or more of events. One fifth of the points gained will be added to the points score the best all-round trophy or the Ladies trophy, where applicable.

THE SPRINTS TROPHY :

The points allocation for sprints will also apply to hill climbs. First—5 points, Second—3 points, Third—2 points. Starters 1 point. No starting point will be given to place getters. Points will be allotted for both the standing and flying starts. In all classes (sports, racing and closed), where less than four cars are entered, the following points shall apply :—

Where only one car is competing : First—2 points.

Where only two cars competing : First—3 points, Second—1 point.

Where three cars competing : First—4 points, Second—2 points.

The same number of points will contribute to the best all-round trophy or the Ladies trophy, where applicable.

ROAD RACING :

Under 50 Miles	Over 50 Miles, 100 Miles	Over 100 Miles
First—6 points	First—7 points	First—8 points
Second—5 points	Second—6 points	Second—7 points
Third—4 points	Third—5 points	Third—6 points
Fourth—Nil	Fourth—Nil	Fourth—5 points
Fastest time—Nil	Fastest time—Nil	Fastest time—1 point
		Plus start and finish

One point to starters and one point to finishers except to the place getters in the under 50 and under 100 miles events. The same number of points will contribute towards the best all-round competitor trophy. Prize money will be decided when the type and length of the races is known.

For the best all-round Lady competitor trophy, points will be converted from all events. In an event where there is more than one Lady competitor, full points will be given, but where there is only one Lady competing, only two points will be given.

Last but definitely not least on the list, is the "G.B.U." Trophy; this is possibly the most coveted trophy in the Club. It appears to be looked on with disdain by the married types, possibly because they are not eligible. Or is it because it brings back memories of those happy carefree days ? The winner of the Gay Batchelors Union is decided by Mrs. Pres., and due to the keen competition, it must be quite a task deciding.

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SCENIC TREASURE HUNT.

Well, the challenge was accepted, and a record 15 competitors had a good afternoon trying to beat us. We feel that the results prove that we won, however, the challenge still stands and we would like, even more, to pick up the gauntlet next time.

We, officials (sadists one and all), found that the work in organising the Treasure Hunt well worth the effort, as we were amply repaid in mirth at competitors' misfortunes. To repay you, in past, for some of the low tricks to which we stooped, and just to show you that we are all in the same boat, here are some of the amusing incidents which occurred during the afternoon.

First of all, in the "WERE OUR FACES RED" department—Ours Were. Owing to a slight ? misunderstanding, the instructions for the second half of the Trial were in a green Magnette at Settlement Road, instead of a black Magnette at Mt. Cootha. (Were the organisers colour blind ? They must be, because Phil Thew had the Esky, and you know Phil). Some very fast motoring was done by the Black Magnette going back to the Club rooms to collect the instructions, and the green one going to Mt. Coot-tha—simultaneously—Sam Pollard seemed surprised to see the control car approaching him at speed half way down Mt. Coot-tha. Ron, are you practising for the Mountain championships in Europe next year ?

At about the same time a green Magnette was seen heading towards Mt. Coot-tha by Mr. Pres. at the secret control at Government House. His comment on the control sheet was—

LOVEJOY, R. M.G. MAGNETTE NAN 798 (time) 3-13½.

Comments—Exceeding speed limit and how.

Now for the "WERE YOUR FACES RED" Department. One competitor, obeying the first rule of trial driving, refused to follow three cars into Lamington Avenue (a piece of cake, remember), when he could see the control in Nudgee Road, and thereby saved himself a most necessary trip to the airport. He had seen the planes before, anyway—you weren't the only one Lou.

Judging by the frequent appearance at the first control by Barry Weston, we wonder that he had enough petrol to complete the course. Incidentally was it your driving of the T.C. Nev, or Les' enthusiasm as a navigator, that caused him to start climbing out halfway up Nudgee Road, to get the number of the Phone box ? Bill Thomas swears he was bailing out.

Ann Thompson turned down Lloyd Street, instead of Bank Street to deposit her money—no, Ann, Lloyds are Insurance Brokers, not Bankers. By the way, we assume you charged your trammy passenger a fivepenny fare for his trip around the block. Incidentally, while we are on the theme, it is amazing the numbers of pensioners in the Club. Did you know that 5d. fares are available only to pensioners ? We didn't.

Don Heather was running short of water at Mt. Coot-tha. He says the trouble started during a short (?) detour to Mt. Nebo. It takes a good navigator to get to Mt. Nebo from an instruction sheet to Mt. Coot-tha. Other detours, which proved popular, were to Sandgate. They tell us that a certain Wolsely was running short of petrol half way round—detour trouble, we believe.

Congratulations to the three place getters, Bruce, Sam and Vince, in that order. You gave the challenge a bit of a shaking, but we are still game for the next time.

With congratulations always go commiserations, so we would like to say that we were sorry to hear of your misfortune Lou. Still, not everyone gets the opportunity to drive down Mt. Coot-tha without breaks. Tough cheddar, old man. Vince also was unlucky having had petrol pump troubles, but they didn't prevent him from getting a place.

P.S. Would the gentleman who forgot to pay his entry fee please pay Mrs. Hunter at his earliest convenience, to enable us to balance the books.

Finally full results are as follows :—

TREASURE HUNT RESULTS.

DO YOU KNOW BRISBANE ?

Driver	Navigator	Car	Points Gained	Points Lost	Total Points	Place
B. McMillan	A. Nichols	A/Healy	140	20	120	First
Sam Pollard	I. A. Gillies	Standard	145	34	111	Second
V. Jordan	N. Jordan	M.G.A.	140	45	95	Third
E. Weston	P. Christenson	T.R.3	140	61	79	
N. Stevens	M. Barron	M.G.Y.	140	68	72	
A. Reed	A. Thomson	A/Healy	155	95	61	
D. Lawson	R. Anderson	V/W	125	70	55	
K. Heron	L. Hedges	A/Healy	125	72	53	
N. Gay	L. Gisler	M.G.T.C.	125	95	30	
G. Perkins	P. Tinney	M.G.T.F.	145	117	28	
R. Pringle	F. Beresford	M.G.T.C.	95	96	-1	
E. Proudley	J. Prout	Wolseley	105	168	-85	
E. Armstrong	F. Wilson	Humber Hawk	80	227	-147	
R. Jones	I. Machie	M.G.Y.	—	—	—	Withdrew
D. Heather	N. Jackson	Rover 16	—	—	—	Withdrew

SOCIAL NEWS

Fred Coull seen sporting very sun-burnt head, guess the company was so interesting he forgot all about his hat.

Our Club Captain was very disappointed he could not take part in Miss Australia turnout. It appears that certain Austin Healey developed troubles at the last moment, and so Sam just looked wistfully at passing parade. Sure you didn't have something to do with that "genny" packing up, Barbara ?

Lou and Jeff. decided on important date at altar, 7th March.

Belated congratulations to John and Maria Gill on birth of son, date December. Daresay Junior is another prospective "G" driver, especially if John is his tutor.

New member Bill Armstrong and friend Betty Millay, are regulars at Club rooms. Betty proves to be sound reinforcement to Ladies' corner.

James "Hammish" McAnderson recently returned from holidays at Newcastle, tells us he was inveigled into swimming in rain and wind, turned blue with cold. Recommends this only for the very young and robust types, AHEM !

One of our spies reports having seen Bill and Kay Makeham winding their way through the City streets with a very large case protruding from the boot of the Minor. As they drew near our source of "infor," Bill was seen actually handing Kay a £1 note. Only comment—(?)

Remember that burst last month about Ian Hamilton occurring a flat tyre at "Charlie's" ? Well, as Ian is most anxious to hit back at "Charlie's" (bitter enemies, these two, you know), he reports that while procuring said tube, along comes this Sweet young thing AND (just imagine) mistaking Q.T.C. for a service station(!) enlists the aid of "Charlie," who, of course, being most obliging, picks up watering can and sets off down the road beside the aforesaid S.Y.T. Now the S.Y.T. made out her radiator had boiled dry. What do you say, Barbara ?

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FILM EVENING.

By E. A. Hunter.

One hundred and twenty-five members and friends attended the film night held at the Club rooms, on 30th January. Interesting motor racing films, by courtesy of B.P. Aust., plus several bright supports, were shown. Certainly all tastes were catered for with these. Brier Thomas spent the three hours screening, hard at work on the projector. Noticed Bill Riordan and Brian Tebble in front row taking every corner with the drivers on the screen. We expect to see something from this stable in the not too distant future.

The Keith Bowens hit the jackpot at last, Val and Keith usually manage to arrive on the wrong night. Member of long standing, John Hoffensetz, very welcome face after such a long absence, also Dud Anderson, who holds the coveted No. 1 Membership Card. Graham Muller gave our Hon. Treasurer invaluable assistance on the door collecting admittance, managing to eat a belated meal at the same time. The night was well supported by the Ladies, so look out boys or you will soon be outnumbered. We just could not list everyone who came along, but mention must be made of Mr. and Mrs. Williams, Sydney M.G. Car Club Members, who paid us a visit. Great to see newlyweds, "Yummy" Allans, John Finnimores and also Brian Shelleys, keeping up their interest in the Club, not forgetting Kay Laun and Glenda Smith.

Thanks to Brier Thomas once again for his work on the projector, and Tom Ross as his aide, and other members who helped make the night a success and a pleasure.

A hearty welcome is accorded to the following new Members :—

N. N. Goy, L. C. Gisler, D. Ballarino, D. Lovejoy, M. Thatcher, D. R. Pringle, A. E. Proudley, R. B. Anderson.

You know there must be something about the G. Club that keeps drawing the odd box or two into our merry throng every so often. Whenever anyone reaches for the Membership Application form clip hanging on the wall, the dear old Treasurer's eyes light up with that Cash Register sign.

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COMMITTEE NEWS

As was included in Stop Press last month, Sam Pollard has been elected Club Captain for the year. Sam has already been quite active in club administration, chiefly, so far, in the organisation of the cars for the Australia Day procession. Quite an amount of work went into this, and apart from the usual overheating troubles, all went well. On behalf of the committee Sam wishes to thank all participants in this event.

One more thing—in our lists of Sub Committees for the various events, we omitted to name our V.P on the Speed committee—well, apologies, Bill, you're on!

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