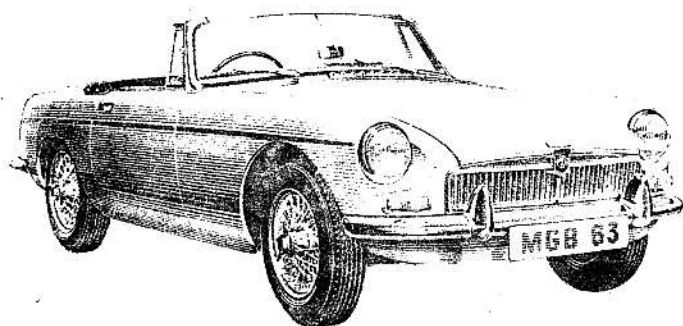


OCTAGON



THE M.G. CAR CLUB.
QUEENSLAND CENTRE.

THE OCTAGON

March, 1966.

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, 1966.

		Business	Private
President	B.Tebble	47 1327	97 5872
Vice-President	D.Kennedy	-	4 1805
Past President	J.Clark	68 1131	96 1348
Hon. Secretary	P.Bucknell	-	-
Hon. Treasurer	Mrs. A. Thomson	-	78 1368
Minutes Secretary	Miss E. Swan	-	95 6010
<u>COMMITTEE</u>	J. McCarthy	-	68 3474
	P. Nurcombe	-	95 1074
	J. Clark	68 1131	96 1348
	L. Whittaker	31 1461	98 1887
	G. Cowen	26 489	98 2609

OCTAGON SUB-COMMITTEE

Miss E Swan, D. Kennedy, G. Maynard, D. Monroe,
Mrs. D. Monroe.

CLUBROOMS 620 Wickham St, The Valley, BRISBANE.

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

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every page plea for articles

NEXT EVENTS - MOTORKHANA, March 13
BARBEQUE, March 19

d o n ' t - f o r g e t - t h e m

e d i t o r i a l - - - -

"Well, now we have the ball at our feet ! A full scale hillclimb is ours - with just an occasional weekend spent at Mt. Cotton slashing down an occasional tree, raking up some gravel . . and hey, presto! . . a Hillclimb" - these words are taken from the editorial of the November Octagon, 1964.

Well, we now know that it is NOT that easy, though the above description is basically true. This has been proved by the amount of progress made at the hillclimb site since the formation towards the end of last year of a Hillclimb Management Committee. And what a mighty job they are doing! Hardly a weekend goes by without one member of the Committee at least either working at the site with a group of helpers or working on some aspect of it away from the site,

Saturday, 5th March was typical of their work - four workers, three of whom are club members, armed with two chain saws and under the direction of Jon McCarthy (who is included among the workers) succeeded in clearing the track of trees as far down as the hairpin corner; this almost at the expense of the named person !

Not only is the hillclimb progressing fairly well at the moment but the club event year is getting well under way - the events so far have been reasonably well patronised but we are looking forward to even bigger attendances at the motorkhana (M.13th) barbeque (M.19th) social night (A.2nd). This is in spite of the setbacks which the Committee is receiving from resignations from within its members for various reasons.

Remember that any offer of help from you, no matter how small, will be gratefully accepted, and you will find that efforts you make to help make the Club a success will be well rewarded; membership of a sub-committee is particularly advantageous and no sub-committee can have too many members. You find that work done en masse with your friends all sharing a common interest and a common goal is not only rewarding, but also enjoyable.

If you can't assist on the organization side remember that you can assist by competing. Our first motorkhana for the year is on next Sunday, come along and compete - you will enjoy it - or help with the organization; just offer on the day and you will be welcomed with open arms.

Finally, remember in all things, SUPPORT YOUR CLUB-at the get-togethers every Friday night at the Clubrooms, at events and at working bees.

P.S. - new supplies of windscreen transfers are available; cost 30%.

N E W M E M B E R S

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

P. Jolly	Holden
S. Mathers	Sprite Mk III
S. Maloney	Sprite Mk IIA
G. Truasheim	Valiant
R.J. Bukala	Sprite Mk IIA
D. Muller	Cortina GT and Holden
G. McIntyre	Anglia 113E
R. Shaw	MG B

.....

R E N E W A L S

We also welcome back for another year the following members . . .

G. Cowen	MG B
D. Kennedy	Holden
Miss E Swan	Morris Cooper
I. Stevenson	Studebaker Lark VIII
A. Chappell	Morris 850 Van
I. Cornes	MG A 1500
A. Gardiner	MG B
D. Wilkins	MG B
G. Littlemore	Morris Cooper "S"
I. Stewart	-
R. Iland	MG A Twin Cam
B. Howard	Valiant
N. Wright	Morris 850
J. Whitlam	-
L. Whittaker	Sprite Mk IIA
R. Hiley	MG TB
G. Hawley	Jaguar 3.8 Mk II
K. Littlemore	Cortina GT

5.

W. Heraghty	Sprite Mk I
R. Upton	MG A
G. Anderson	Prince Skyline GT
J. Ricketts	MG TF 1500
K. Johns	Morris Cooper "S"
D. Tomkins	MG TF 1500
K. Townsley	Sprite Mk III
G. Hansen	Austin Lancer
M. Hart	Sprite Mk III
G. Gettons	VW
R. Johnson	Holden
P. O'Leary	-
P. Glynn	MG TF
L. Iland	Austin Healey Mk II 3000
D. Sampson	MG A
D. Lovejoy	Fiat 1500
W. Davidson	MG TC
F. Taylor	Morris 1100
R. Lovejoy (LIFE MEMBER)	Morris 1100
J. Morley	MG TC
G. Ramsay	MG Y
K. Cook	Bellett
J. Lewin	MG A
R. Jensen	Holden
D. Miles	MG TC
J. Vonhoff	MG A Twin Cam
Miss J. Eckart	Austin A 30
L. Muller	Sprite Mk I
N. Bohill	Morris 850
D. Hughes	MG TC
D. Partington	MG M type
K. Horgan	Triumph 2000

.....

An analysis of the above cars reveals the following statistics -

MG's number TWENTY - 4 MG B's
 6 MG A's of which 2 are Twin Cams
 4 MG TC's
 3 MG TF's
 1 MG TB
 1 MG Y
 1 MG M type

and previously renewals included the President's TD and the Secretary's K3. Quite a variety of MGs but who owns all those brand new MG B's we see driven around the town?

SPRITES number EIGHT - 2 Mark I's
 3 Mark IIA's
 3 Mark III's
 as well as which there is one Healey 3000.

Other cars include 10 B.M.C. cars of various makes, two of them Morris Cooper "S"s, and many of the other cars belong to people who have previously owned MG's, Sprites, or other B.M.C. cars.

A P P L I C A T I O N S F O R C . A . M . S .

L I C E N C E S

The following members have submitted applications for C.A.M.S. Licences -

G. Anderson	B. Neville
K. Johns	I. Cornes
D. Sampson	

We draw your attention to the availability this year of a new C.A.M.S. Licence, a LIMITED COMPETITION LICENCE, which covers the entrant for all speed events with the exception of race meetings - i.e. it is for open trials, hillclimbs and sprints - why not apply for one, then YOU can compete in the GRAFTON HILLCLIMB (OPEN) when you go on the Two Day Club Run on May 7-8. BUT make sure you are financial first or your application, on a direction from C.A.M.S., will be refused.

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" an octagonal reminiscence "

January's edition of the Octagon contained an appeal by the Editor for readers to relate memories of MG Car Club Race Meetings at Strathpine. Being a conscientious reader, I gave this some thought, and realised that many pleasing memories of club events and aspects of Club life were stored away in my mind.

Here are a few of them : I hope other members will give us the benefit of their own memories.

. . . . The "MG's ONLY" Race at Strathpine . . MG Car Club members assembled on the back of a large truck to form a lap scoring team . . . nine MGs roaring around the track, the first two locked in battle, only inches apart . . both drivers are well known members and the duel is for the Mildara Cup, a trophy partnered by a dozen bottles of fine wine . . member Bill Thomas is calling the times through a microphone to the lap scoring team. The second last lap, and the two leading MG's streak out from the "Loop" into the straight, side by side, and cross the line, both over-revving furiously for a photo-finish . . and Bill has been calling the times into the STOP WATCH instead of the microphone for the last lap !

. . . . The Concours D'Elegance held at Tingalpa a few years ago. Over twenty immaculate cars are assembled, and the judges have narrowed the field down to two cars, one a beautiful TF, the other Ron Davis's gleaming Magnette. The judges go underneath the cars again looking for the dreaded patch of dirt, a streak of oil, ANYTHING, so as to decide the winner between the two faultlessly prepared MG's. Suddenly a judge has a brainwave !!! he dives into the inside of Ron's Magnette and pulls a knob off the RADIO SET !! The crowd gathers round, an awed hush settles over them . . . WILL HE FIND DUST ? (Ed; Well, did he ?)

. . . . The 1963 Australian Tourist Trophy Meeting at Lowood - Seven MG 's were entered by the Centre's Racing Team, and a great spirit of camaraderie existed amongst the crews. During my second lap of practice my TD broke a valve, and although
(over)

this was repairable, it meant over half an hour's work and the practice sessions were nearly at an end. The Clerk of the Course said that the TD must complete the lap by crossing the finishing line, otherwise I could not race.

By this time we had removed the cylinder head, and only a few minutes of practice were left. So the team decided that the TD was going to race, and I was virtually lifted into the driver's seat, and with some fifteen "MG MEN" pushing, I left the pits, the TD gathering a surprising turn of speed to cross the line at an estimated twenty miles per hour - apparently under its own power as the G men disappeared once the car had gathered sufficient speed!

.....

Now, a few shorter but equally pleasant memories of Club life ..

.... The "Sled Races" at motorkhanas, when a small wooden sled carrying a "driver" was towed behind cars through the Forward Bending Race Course.

.... The Guy Fawkes Night Gymkhanas, preceded by a Treasure Hunt and concluded by a barbeque. Competitors had to drive the autocrosse by the light of their own headlamps.

(Ed: Must have been some barbeque if that were sufficiently "lit up" for that !)

.... Club Runs when as many as twenty MG 's plus others took a pleasant day or weekend away ..

.... The "tea and bikkies" nights at the Clubrooms when members got together for nothing other than a good chat.

.... The "putting the Octagon together" nights at Miles and Nessie Hunters' home - these were riotous, but we always managed to complete the job

.....



Many thanks to Mr. BMT (alias the President) for sharing those memories with us - I'm sure he has many others, some shareable and others not so shareable -- Like those of our Treasurer, Mrs. Ann Thomson who, when requested to share some of her memories with us, replied that she could not do this as she would lead the "young ones" astray ! It must be true that they were THE GOOD OLD DAYS !!

However, in the GOOD OLD PRESENT, let us reminisce on a few more recent

P A S T E V E N T S

FEBRUARY 4th

... the night run which did not start out with the intention of being an all night run, but became almost this for those who tried to follow the directions which, apparently, took the form of a Chinese crossword - three people would disagree, of course, and they are the two John's who planned it and Jack Read, who demonstrated his right to the Trials and Navigation Trophies which he won last year by solving the "puzzle" and coming in winner to receive the prize of a chamois which was donated by Brian Tebble.

FEBRUARY 11th

... Film night . . . good films as always with a bit of local interest added by the showing of the film of the 1965 Mini Monte Rally in which two of our members (Carole Palmer and Elaine Swan) competed and were shown map-studying and windscreen-cleaning.

FEBRUARY 27th

... Sprint meeting at Lowood; there were 19 entries of which 17 actually competed - these including only four MG's. Isn't EVERYONE aware of the special trophy for MG's !!

Highlights of the meeting were the appearance of two live dragons - er, sorry, dragsters and the appearance of a new member, Jeff Trausheim in his Violent Valiant which recorded a shattering 15.95 secs for the standing quarter and 8 seconds flat

for the flying, which when translated into miles per hour, reads 112.50 miles per hour - his lap time for first time out was a very good 2 mins 22 seconds as well !

Best times for each competitor are listed below and make for interesting comparisons - -

		stg $\frac{1}{4}$	fly. $\frac{1}{4}$	Timed lap
B. Neville	Holden Dragster	13.5	-	-
C. Wained	V8 Dragster	14.6	-	-
J. Read	Morris Mini-Van	21.4	12.3 (73 mph)	2.43.00
C. Timms	MG Midget	21.0	11.2 (80.3 mph)	2.44.00
T. Holliday	Sprite Mk I	20.9	11.5 (78.2 mph)	2.47.00
J. Vonhoff	MG A Twin Cam	19.1	9.0 (99.9 mph)	2.33.00
G. Cowen	MG B	17.1	9.0 (99.9 mph)	2.21.00
W. Charlton	MG B	17.6	9.1 (99 mph)	2.28.00
W. Grady (M.G.C.C. of Victoria)	Cortina 1500	19.7	10.8 (83.3 mph)	2.45.00
K. Johns	Morris Cooper "S"	17.75	9.9 (91 mph)	2.23.00
L. Mitchell	Anglia	18.1	9.7 (92.8 mph)	2.33.00
K. Cook	Bellett	19.25	10.3 (87.4 mph)	2.29.00
K. Horgan	Triumph 2000	18.8	10.4 (86.5 mph)	2.34.00
G. Anderson	Skyline GT	18.0	9.0 (99.9 mph)	2.17.00
J. Trausheim	Valiant	15.95	8.0 (112.5 mph)	2.22.0
J. Fraser	Dodge Phoenix	16.75	8.2 (109.7 mph)	2.17.00
G. Sorrenson	Jaguar	22.85	10.7 (84.1 mph)	2.41.00

.....

BITS AND PIECES

from the A.G.P.

* impressive display of impressive MG 's aroused much interest - cars were an M-type, P-type, K3, representatives of the T-types, a MG a Twin Cam and a MG B - all looking very immaculate.

** the president had a ball driving the A.G.P.-winning P-type around, leading the procession of MG's - came around the ex-Esso Esses - now - Shell wearing a look of sheer delight mixed grim determined ecstasy !! Thanks go to Wally Magilton of the MG Club Melbourne for loaning us the car and to Pip Bucknell and John Muller for organizing the procession.

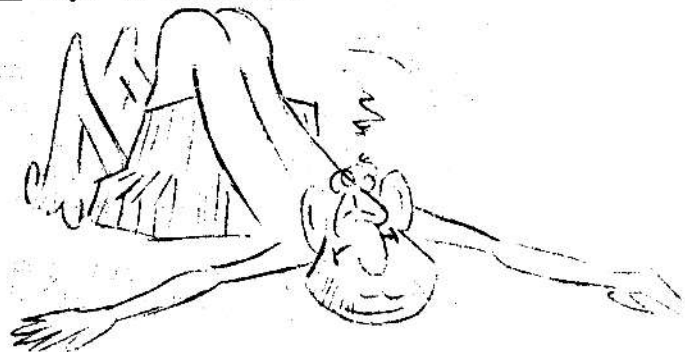
*** George Diggles didn't realise how old his MG was until that day . .

**** Hard luck for Don Sampson who lost his MG A in a big way at the meeting, and managed to give it matching side patterns, and to Iain Cornes whose MG A broke a piston and made him a spectator .

**** Carole Palmer wasn't feeling on form at Lakeside either - we'd blame the champagne, you know!

***** Hear there was a barbeque given by well known Club member after the A.G.P. attended by Southern drivers of some reputation - not only that of being a good driver ! Stories are flying of guests disappearing either in clouds of black smoke or showers of cold water... for the teller of these stories, three days of A.G.P. was followed by four days of sick-bed.

A HOISING
ANYONE ?



INFORMATION ON COMING EVENTS

motorkhana

this is to be held on march 13 and is being organized by don kennedy who will appreciate your help either by competing or assisting with the organization on the day ..

the events will include the ever popular forward and reverse bending races, cloverleaf, autocrossee and some novelty events

prizes will be awarded on the day, including a special prize for T-types; these are extras to the points which are awarded towards the gymkhana and all round trophies

the venue is once again tingalpa, the grounds having been returned to us for use under the following conditions -

* there is a speed limit of 15 miles per hour on the approach road - to spare the local people the joys of a dust-ridden house

** there is to be no driving on or around the trotting oval under any conditions - this may be crossed only

*** no-one is to go to the grounds on any day other than that on which an authorised working bee or gymkhana is held

these are three very simple and easy conditions to comply with and we anticipate your co-operation to the fullest extent - remember lack of co-operation in these points could lead to the Club's loss of the grounds and your being disciplined by the club . .

we look forward to seeing you there on sunday, 13th when it is back to the "good old days" type of motorkhana .

. . . s e e y o u t h e r e . .

cogswappers festival

... this is a closed event, open only to members of the organizing clubs - the q.m.s.c., the mini car club and the m.g.c.c. and is to be held on the long weekend of april 22-25.

it will be a full weekend of motor sport incorporating a night navigation run, a motorkhana, a trial and a sprint meeting.

... the navigation run will be on the friday night, the 22nd april, and entries for it will be received on the night. it will commence from the q.m.s.c. clubrooms in wickham street at 8 pm and will cover about 30 - 35 miles, all in brisbane.

... the motorkhana is on the saturday and starts at 12 noon in order to give competitors from the navigation run time to partially recover.. it will be held at lakeside and the events, which include such things as braking tests as well as our conventional type events, will be conducted some on grass and some on bitumen. once again, as for the night navigation run, entries will be received on the day. entry fee is 60¢.

... lakeside is the starting place for the trial on the sunday. this will cover 400 miles. all of which are guaranteed to be bitumenized. starting at 10.30 a.m. it is anticipated that it will (should) finish at 12 midnight - but who knows where? entries for this must be in one week previous to the event, that is the 18th.
(entry fee \$4)

... monday's event is again at lakeside and is a sprint meeting. cost of entry is \$3. the sprints will start at 12 noon and will consist of standing and flying quarters and a timed lap. entries once again must be in on the eighteenth. should prove an interesting experience for the "g" men used to the lowood circuit.

... although part-organized by our club, there will be no points towards annual trophies awarded for the events, these being regarded as social events.

... however all members are eligible for the prize offered for the best competitor over the four events, the inviting sum of \$20 !

* * * * start planning for it * * * *

b o d s a n d b e n d s

Iain Cornes and Trevor Brewer have moved their business "Sportspares" to 591 Logan Rd. Greenslopes. If you require second hand T-type parts, then that is the place to go.

.....
Hear there is a move to name John French as "Father Christmas of the Year" following his performance at the Car Club Christmas party - particularly in view of the "present" he brought to the Clubrooms !

.....
Flushed with the success of the other party nights at the Clubrooms, the Social Committee is letting their imagination run wild planning the next - the day after April 1st, to be the April Fools Night Plus One, and anyone who misses it W I L L be a fool !

.....
Remember that this will be our last communication with you until you become a financial unless it is an account, and this might include a joining fee for late payment.

.....
We know you enjoyed the barbeques held in the past two years - remember the first one at Norm Wright's, and last years at Geoff. Anderson's ???? this years is at John Miller's and a highlight of it will be a novelty navigation run, in which you don't have to leave the grounds !!! So don't forget this years BARBEQUE on Saturday, 19th March.

See the Le Mans start?
It is very colourful.
The driver jumps into his car.
He accelerates very hard.
He is in reverse.
They will make him pay for the hole.

.....

b o d s a n d b e n d s

Did you know that you could keep up to date with the Club affairs (i.e. events) weekly by tuning in your radio to 4BH on a Friday night between 5.30 and 6.00 p.m. The session is the U.K.Motors Pit Stop in which news of motor sport - local, national and international - is reported.

.....

Bon Voyage to a few well-known members leaving shortly for overseas - John Whitlam, Jeff Sugars, Nowm Wright and David Lovelock.

.....

Have you noticed that the bar is now a "dollars and sense" bar - though "nonsense" is still current. Cigarette prices are now 35¢ for Rothmans and 36¢ for Stuyvesants.

.....

Did you observe that we have two new young and enthusiastic committee members, MG B-driving Gary Cowen (17.1 for the standing quarter last sprints - no, stupid, the CAR, Gary's not that fast) and Lester Whittaker who is the proud possessor of the ex-Ramsay Sprite IIA.

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↑ COMMITTEE
MARCH 66

While on the subject of Committee, I wonder if you realise how academic it is - now has three graduates from the University, Bachelors of Engineering, Architecture and Arts - and one's not!

.....

WANTED A few enthusiasts with one or two nights per week to spare. APPLY to the President for a job on one of the sub-committees.

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C O M I N GE V E N T SM A R C H :

- 13: Motorkhana - first for the year; be sure
you're in it - full details
elsewhere.
- 19: Armchair Trial and BARBEQUE
- a social event now on the
SATURDAY night !
- 27: Lowood 4 Hour Race Meeting

A P R I L :

- 2: SOCIAL NIGHT at the Clubrooms with the
intriguing name of
"April Fools Night PLUS One"
DON'T MISS IT!
- 22- Cogswappers Festival organized by the Club
25. in conjunction with Q.M.S.C.
and the Mini Car Club - a full
weekend of motor sport; this
includes a Night Run, Gymkhana
(at Lakeside) a trial (all
bitumen roads) and a SPRINT!

M A Y :

- 1: Lakeside Race Meeting
- 7-8: CLUB RUN a Two Day club run to Grafton
for the Open Hillclimb - a week-
end guaranteed to be enjoyable.
- 22: Surfers Paradise Race Meeting
- 29: SPRINT MEETING.
-