



# King of the Road

August 2023

*The marque of friendship*



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**MG Car Club Port Elizabeth Centre**

*Founded in 1976*

*Affiliated to the MG Car Club England*

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## ***"King of the Road"***

### ***NEWSLETTER OF THE M.G. CAR CLUB - PORT ELIZABETH CENTRE***

Website: [www.mgccpe.co.za](http://www.mgccpe.co.za)

Facebook page:

**Meeting Venue:** EPVCC CLUBHOUSE, Conyngham Street, PE

**HONARARY LIFE MEMBER**

Ron Doubell

#### **COMMITTEE**

<b>CHAIRMAN</b>	Dirk Putter	083 293 1195	chairman@mgccpe.co.za
<b>TREASURER &amp; REGALIA</b>	Chris Hanekom	083 299 0492	treasurer@mgccpe.co.za
<b>SECRETARY</b>	Tracy Yoko	072 261 5121	secretary@mgccpe.co.za
<b>MEMBER</b>	Thijs Lindeijer	082 578 0072	ragtime@icon.co.za
<b>MEMBER</b>	Andre Nienaber	063 247 9852	elpeandre@gmail.com
<b>MEMBER</b>	Don Dye	067 277 8389	donalddye@telkomsa.net
<b>NEWSLETTER EDITOR</b>	Alan Froom	082 432 8857	newsletter@mgccpe.co.za

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***Monthly Meetings are held on the 1st Wednesday of each month at the EPVCC CLUBHOUSE,  
Conyngham Street, PE from 18.30H onwards.***

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***Legal Disclaimer:*** Every effort is made to ensure that all information contained in this Newsletter is correct. The Club however does not accept any responsibility for the accuracy of articles and readers are required to verify all information before undertaking any operations that may have safety and legal implications.

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## Chairman's Chirp September 2023

Greetings and Salutations to my MG Family.

Spring is in the air!!! Or so we thought (ha ha!!! winter is still here and just does not want to abate). It is the end of September and we are still wearing our winter woolies. I'm sure it's not too long now and we will be driving tops down to our events.

Due to some work commitments and a visit from my daughter who lives in Sydney, Australia, yours truly has been out of club circulation for a while. I am now back and will once again give my full attention to club matters.

The September events were all well attended, one which I can attest to, was very raucous. We mentioned at the September Noggin that our Midweek event for September will be a trial which will take place in the evening and not be a midday event as usual to cater for the "working class". The event was a success as it was well attended and much fun was had by all. We will most certainly do an evening Midweek from time to time in the future to also accommodate those who have day jobs. I will not comment on the monthly run here but rather leave it to our Newsletter Editor to shed more light on this and the other events which took place during September.

Upcoming events for October will be the Noggin, Midweek and Monthly Run as usual. Details of each of these events will be communicated to our members by email and on our social media platforms.

We have made good progress with a number of Administrative matters which needed some attention.

Some records were unfortunately lost as time went by and we will have to ask some current members to give us new membership forms and Indemnities in order to have a complete record for each member. Please bear with us as we update our records.

We plan to finalise our revised Club Constitution at a Special General Meeting on Wednesday 4 October just before the Noggin. The meeting will start at 6:30 and we invite all club members to attend. Once finalised and accepted by the members, the document will be available to all club members before the end of October. It will be published on our website and emailed to each member. It will also be available in hard copy for our BC (before computer) members.

Once the Constitution has been finalised our regalia items will be reactivated and we will request members' input and suggestions of what regalia we will want to create.

In conclusion I would like to encourage all our members to come and join us at club events. They are well organised and a good spirit exists. While we are primarily petrolheads and like-minded car enthusiasts, we don't only focus on our cars. We would like to involve the whole family and ensure that they can also participate in our events and have fun and laughter together.

Octagonally yours, until next time.

### Down memory lane

I thought that it may be amusing to call back some history of our club over the years. The memories that were created in times gone by, by the club and its members should not be lost to the current generation. I have started this section of our newsletter by publishing the first ever edition of the club's newsletter.

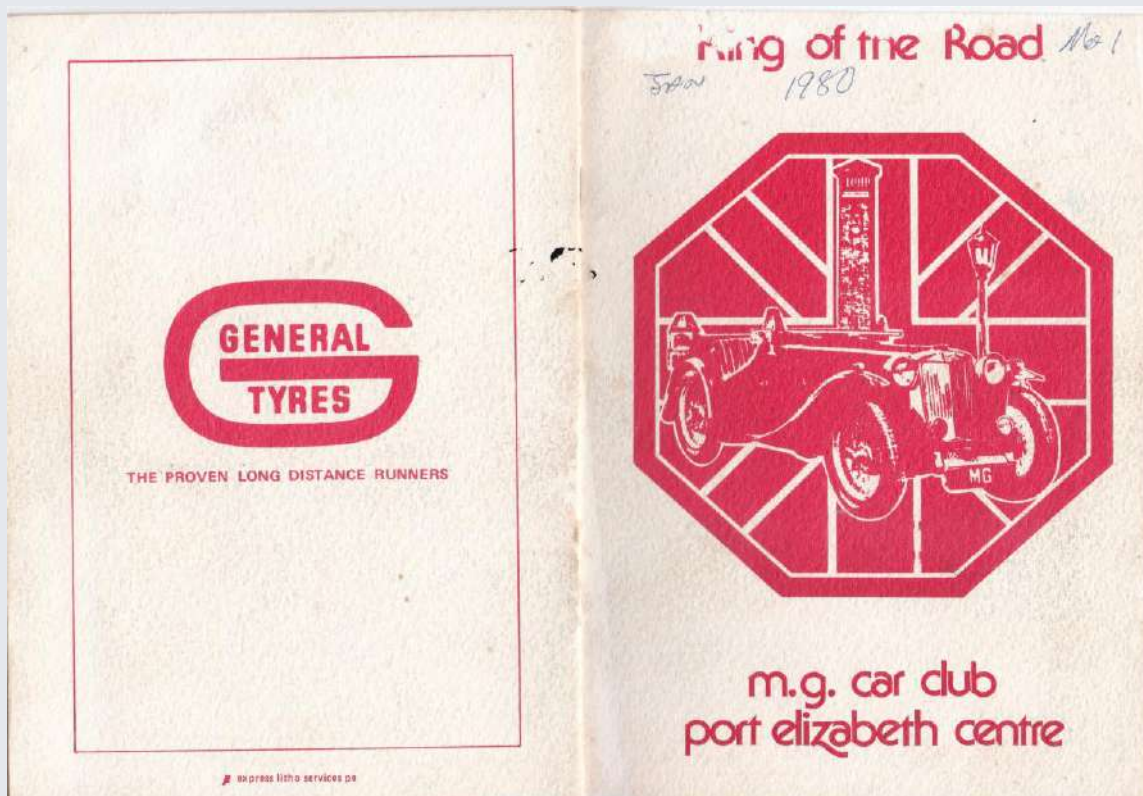
Ronnie provided the number 1 publication of "**King of the Road**" dated January 1980. I wonder who still remembers the Committee members of that time, also whether the companies that advertised in the newsletter still exist (I doubt it). I think that as I did, most members will find the story of Ping Doubell and his MGs very amusing and informative. He is after all an Honorary Life Member, a title deservedly bestowed on him.

Please note that this is a scan of a very old document and may not be as legible as you would like it to be, so get out those magnifying glasses. For those reading it on a computer you can zoom it to say 200%. It may be a bit easier to read. I'm sure that this will bring some good memories to most of our club members, especially those long serving stalwarts.

I would like to continue with this section of our newsletter in future editions, but we will need inputs from, especially our longer serving members. Please send your memories to me or our Editor - Alan Froom at the following email addresses:

[chairman@mgccpe.co.za](mailto:chairman@mgccpe.co.za) and/or [newsletter@mgccpe.co.za](mailto:newsletter@mgccpe.co.za)

It does not have to be in the form of memorabilia or the like, you may want to put pen to paper and share some of your own stories or memorable moments with us. I think that this club has a rich history, we just need to tap into it.





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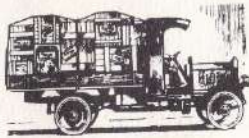
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S. BOSCH

## "King of the Road"

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE

M.G. Car Club - Port Elizabeth Centre  
P.O. Box 1122, Port Elizabeth. 6000

### Committee

CHAIRMAN:	ROGER HILLS	TEL. H - 27494 B - 528951
SECRETARY:	PETER THOMPSON	TEL. H - 662782 B - 544550
TREASURER:	DAVID BRIGGS	TEL. H - 335764 B - 21954
SPARE S:	IVANO PERINI	TEL. H - 333303 B - 48261
CLUBHOUSE:	BRIAN BIRD	TEL. H - 523246 B - 521170
LIAISON:	PETER BOSCH	TEL. H - 337407 B - 612178

A Satter and Hoggins is held at the Clubhouse on the first Wednesday of every month.

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### FROM THE CHAIR

The first issue of "KING OF THE ROAD" is a big step forward for our Club. Our thanks must go to Peter Thompson who has done virtually all the leg work in getting the project off the ground - well done Peter! A big thank you also to our sponsors. To produce a Magazine of good standard twelve times a year, we need a big contribution from everyone - come along Members, put your pens to paper - all contributions gratefully accepted.

Our next outing, the last before the National, is our Show Day to be held on the green opposite the Marine Hotel on the 28th September, 1980. Our last Show Day was a great success so let us make the next one even better. If you have to drive, push, tow, or carry your M.G.s, please turn out.

For some years now, we have been trying with very limited success to get our M.G. Register in order. It has been decided to start again from scratch and Registration forms are attached for completion. Please send these back as soon as possible to P.O. Box 1122, Port Elizabeth.

Our Clintsa Bay Sub-Committee reports that our Club has the biggest entry for the National which is very pleasing and a compliment to our Club and the Sub-Committee. All that remains is to get your little beauties sparking for the big week-end.

As a closing note, I would like to extend on behalf of the Club a very warm welcome to George Arnott, a new Member from Port Alfred, who has introduced the first Magnette to our Club.

Well, well look what's here.  
Our Magazine, I do declare  
Thanks to "Litho" being Express  
In time our news rolled off the press  
And thanks to Advertisers every one  
Cause without them this couldn't be done.

I hope that this Magazine will be looked upon with pride by all of you, as this is no mean achievement for a Club the size of ours, and obviously the whole venture would have come to naught if it was't for our ADVERTISERS. Please support our Advertisers.

As you no doubt know by now a contingent of South African M.G. owners went to the United Kingdom for the "Golden Jubilee" Celebrations and some of their observations appear in "Thanks Up", "The Breed" and "Maintaining the Breed", and are worth reading.

Well we too had a member abroad. None other than the goodly Dentist, Alan Brown. Not at the gathering though, because he heard that Dumble and Moonshine were not acceptable. However, the million dollar question is:- "Which suitcase went where?" For the uninitiated the last time Alan and Willie went overseas they bought so many M.G. spares, which they naturally kept with them in their suitcase that they had to send their clothes back by boat in a trunk. Should this again be the case, I am sure the Club wishes them fine and sunny weather on their return, because from birthday suits on cold days come goose pimples and blue complexion..

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WHAT'S IN A NAME?  
WHAT'S IN A NAME?  
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WE CARE ABOUT YOU AND YOUR M.G.'S  
IN FACT, EVERY CAR GETS  
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In Luck world when it shd be worstest here in Port Elizabeth and this kept some of the less hardy spirits near, which resulted in a disappointing turn out for what turned out to be super day. However, it was very nice to see the "Barbados" and "Marais" again. Keep coming on and all. On the way to the Coast Ranch, a few questions had to be answered, amongst them "What sport is played at a certain number in Church Street, Eliterra". At this moment I cannot remember the number, but I do remember the suggestion put by one Roy Collins and the answer given by Peter Bosch. As prizes for guessing who said what, but a massage parlour was mentioned by one and the other one suggested something that led one to believe that Xavier Hollander was in residence. Yours truly had a bit of a panic on for a while because question 1 was, "How many books titled "On Demand Books Marais" are in the window at C.E.R. North". Although I checked on this on Saturday afternoon I kept receiving the answer Nil. This went on and on, and I was called various types of cheer, trickster etc until, and thank goodness the last couple in had the correct answer. They were Mr. Chelmsom and Doreen Jager, who also won the count with a 100% score. In any event there has to be a women specialist, and this time it could'n have happened to a nicer couple namely Mr and Mrs Bowen. Inclement weather and all they turned out on their two wheeler because their "A" is busy being spruced up for clinics. They got wet on their way to the Club, but nothing daunted they arrived for the fun. Well then, because spirit like that is what it is all about. This can also be said of Dave Richardson and Kerry who joined us for the day and then had to motor back to East London where they now live. Incidentally there is no truth in the rumour that Doreen Briggs is giving a bus for the next run. Mr. Briggs arrived with two nannies, three kids, beer and no wife. Having completed the run he had to turn back to Port Elizabeth and could'n travel with us because of another engagement. A good effort all round because to have some, nannies, kids and all.

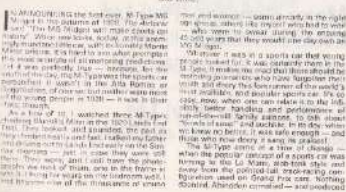
Nature also had her way, because some of us actually saw a cow kidding, and later saw another cow dying from tickfever. At least nature was kind in that two kids minus one was still left one life profit. When the sun set, the crowd came back to Port Elizabeth having spent a super day.

TPE 411005-28/2-9

THE GIRL WHO STOPS TO CONQUER USUALLY WEARS A LOW-CUT DRESS.



Wuff, aren't you going to finish me?





#### PAST EVENTS

6th August, 1980 : "VIVA ITALIA!"

#### ROUND THE HOUSE (TOWN) RUN

Irene had quite a battle to get everyone to let go of their beer bottles etc. as time was getting on.

Eventually, all got away to a very confused start. Everyone seemed to go in circles, overtake each other and pass each other. Anyway once we got going, my driver, P. Thompson put his foot down and amidst some heavy cornering and braking, I the navigator, had to give directions, clues and other various bits of information.

Once we arrived down it was pretty plain sailing. One could almost anticipate where we were heading.

In my opinion, it's hate off to Irene. He put a lot into it and it turned out a very pleasant evening, albeit slightly exhausting and thirsty work.

Griffin McKillen

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To the Motorist,

Hi there you R.G. Fellows. Here is just a hint for the day, from your local "Dreame Monkey".

We fellows are always looking for some spares for our R.G.'s. There are lots of parts from numerous makes of cars which can fit R.G.'s as well.

For instance:-

Universal joints on R.G., T.D., T.F., M.C.A. and R.G.E. are interchangeable with Corvair.

Rubber boots on R.G. T.D., T.F., and R.G.A. steering are interchangeable with Triumph 2000.

Clutch plates are interchangeable with the Austin 1800.

Well that 's all for today.

HAPPY SMILING

Yours,

The Coloured Chap, P. Bosch

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Ever hear the expression "if the shoe was on the other foot"? If you're not sure about whether it should be so the other foot or not ask Roy Harrison. Roy has won a Nation wide competition regarding the future of the Shoe Industry in South Africa. "FANTASTIC" Heartiest congratulations from all of us, Roy.

Did you know that the right shoe is normally the faster wearing? It is, and if you want to know why ask Roy.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### FUTURE EVENTS:

3rd September, 1980 : Sucker and Nigger. This will be a Clinton Regalia night and possibly a slide show to go with it.

28th September, 1980 : This will be our Shin Day. This event last year saw our biggest turn out. We are hoping to have the same venue, which is in front of the Marine Hotel. After the Commemorative judging we will return to the Club for a BEAST. We need you all there, even if we have to tow you there.

\*\*\*\*\*

The little boy was pulling faces at the Twinkl holiday, and so his Mum said to him: "WHY ARE YOU PULLING FACES AT THE DOLL?" "WELL MOM, HE STARTED IT," came the prompt reply.

We would like to welcome the new members to the Club and hope they enjoy a long association with our Club:

Charles Venter - R.G.E.T.

George Brown - R.G. RIDGE

\*\*\*\*\*

## J.A. Bosch Garage (Pty) Ltd.

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## ROUND ABOUT THE REBUILDS

ROGER MILLS 1960 MGA 1600 ROADSTER

THIS CAR WAS FOUND IN A SHED ON A FARM IN THE BEAUFORT WEST DISTRICT, ORIGINALLY FROM CAPE TOWN. THE PREVIOUS OWNERS INTENDED REBUILDING BUT DUE TO FARMING ACTIVITIES NEVER SEEMED TO FIND THE TIME SO FOR THE LAST SEVEN YEARS IT PROVIDED MILES OF WINE FOR THE MICE TO CHEW AT, AND AMPLE POKEY PLACES TO HOUSE WASPS NESTS. UPON FIRST APPEARANCES THE CAR SEEMED DECENTLY ORIGINAL ALTHOUGH IT WAS NOT DIFFICULT TO NOTICE A LARGE HOLE WHERE ONE NORMALLY FINDS THE GRILL. HOWEVER AFTER SOME DISCREET INQUIRY A DUSTY BOX FROM THE LOFT CAME TO LIGHT AND EUREKA - BRAND NEW TEETH!

J. A. BOSCH GARAGE KINDLY PROVIDED A TRAILER AND THE CAR WAS SUBSEQUENTLY STRIPPED AT ROGER'S HOME ONLY TO FIND THAT SUSPENSION, BRAKES, GEARBOX AND MOTOR ALL REQUIRED A COMPLETE OVERHAUL.

NOT UNDAUNTED, PROUD NEW OWNER SLOWLY BUT SURELY TACKLED EACH JOB WITH VARIOUS HELPING HANDS. THE MAJOR PROBLEM EXPERIENCED, I WAS TOLD, WAS WITH THE RIGHT FRONT HUB WHICH CLUNG TO THE STUB AXLE LIKE A LEACH APPLYING SO TONG IN A PRESSURE MERELY RESULTED IN A HORRIBLE MESS OF BENT RIM AND SPOKES. HENCE A COMPLETE FRONT UNDERCARRIAGE WAS NOW NECESSARY.

THE BODY IS AT PRESENT RECEIVING ITS FINAL COAT OF PAINT WHICH IS PALE YELLOW - CHOSEN SIMPLY BECAUSE ROGER HAS OWNED RED, WHITE AND GREEN MG'S PREVIOUSLY.

THIS CAR SHOULD BE COMPLETED IN MID 1981 WHEREUPON I'M SURE ALL WILL BE EAGER TO HAVE A GOOD SQUEEZE.

HOU TOU

BRIAN

## "PING" DOUBELL - Ambassador of our Club

"Ping" has had rather an illustrious career with the M.G. Car Club. He has distinguished himself by being a charter member and the Club's first Chairman, and by winning the Clubman award on more than one occasion.

Ping's interest in M.G.'s started way back in the 50's, when he was given a toy sports car by an ardent admirer. He spent many hours dreaming of owning the real thing, until one lucky day in 1972 his dream turned to reality when he saw and bought "Princess", his first M.G.

The T.C.'s car number was 4447, engine number 5121 and registration number CR 92618. When Ping bought the T.C. on that fateful June 29th for a mere R500, it was a nondescript blue, with tatty upholstery and a T.D. style dashboard. It came with a working spare engine, presently owned by Louis Ryan.

Ping spent many happy months working on his "Princess". He personally resprayed the car Shaloo Green (British racing green was unheard of then), redid the upholstery, and fitted an indigenous stickwood dashboard to house genuine T.C. instruments.

The "Princess" has accompanied Ping and his family on many an exciting trip. Wilderness, Sedgemoor, Fort Alfred, Frimley and Zumburg all bring back happy memories to his wife and daughters Robyn and Leslie.

The Aldo Scribaute Race Track saw "Princess" racing on more than one occasion, and even coming second once out of more than two starters.

Ping has recently bought a silver M.G.B. in Concours condition, for an undisclosed sum in excess of R300, and is planning to win the Concours at Cinzia Nationale with her. She has been named "Queen". He has already travelled to Queenstown (Ping's idea of a short cut to Stone Creek Hotel) and to Fleitenberg Bay, where he averaged well over 35 m.p.h. while cruising above legal limits in electric overdrive.

When asked what the biggest improvement was to M.G.'s over the years, he said without hesitation "The Suspension sure is better these days!" Also it doesn't seem to get so draughty.

An M.G.B.G.T. also belonged to Ping's racing stable for a couple of years in the mid 1970's. It is distantly related to the fellow M.G.B.G.T. presently owned by Marcello Thompson.

Ping's other hobby is his baseball. For 35 years he has been active playing and organising the sport and is presently secretary of E.P. Baseball, and Vice Chairman of the Red Hearts.

On his many overseas trips, whether he be in Canada, America, Europe, or the Free State, he always keeps his M.G. interests alive, visiting M.G. people, talking obsessively about M.G.'s truly an "Ambassador of our Club."

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## Mid Week Supper 21<sup>st</sup> September

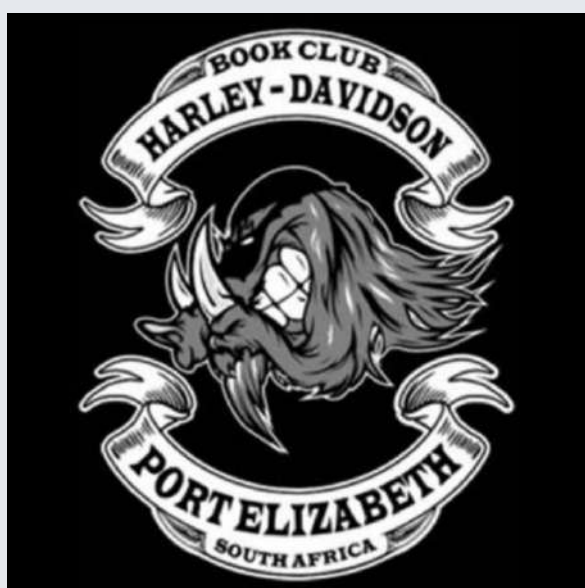
To accommodate our members who are unavailable for our mid week runs it was decided to have a supper at the Greek Club. The meal consisted of two chicken legs cooked Greek style with a salad. A prtty good meal it was too and of course great company.



## September Event Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> at the Harley Davidson Club

Our member Stefan Dielman who owns a 'Harley' invited the club to a braai lunch at the Harley Davidson Club which is situated at the end of the Kragga kamma Road behind the Elephant walk Restaurant. It is a small club with 15 members but they have their own clubhouse with all the facilities.

It had been the plan to initially have a short scenic drive to be called the Spring Run but the weather was against us with rain and a howling gale so we made it straight to the club. Words cannot describe what a welcome we had. There was a big braai fire ablaze, the club supplied delicious salads and to top it all - live entertainment. Of course he sang all the songs we knew so that needed plenty of lubrication to join in! Many thanks to the Harley Club for a wonderful welcome.







In addition we celebrated 46 years of married bliss for Liz and Tony Greenwood. Good to see Liz looking so fit after her recent stay in hospital.



**Our Canadian correspondent Rodger Webb** sent us these two photos taken at the Oakville Car Show near Toronto. They certainly have great MG's across the pond. Note the MGs behind.

I am no expert but I think the yellow car is a M-type Midget circa 1930. Love the exhaust pipe. And the black one is a F-type Magna circa 1932.





## Gearbox Oils

This article below is interesting. It seems in our older cars we should use the GL4 oil and avoid GL5 which attacks yellow metals.

To sum up, early bulky straight cut gears with low tooth contact pressures were adequately protected by oils with minimum levels of additives, such as those designated GL-1 to 2. The introduction of helically cut gears and improved materials resulted in designs with higher tooth contact pressures, which in industry are protected by oils with API ratings from GL-2 to GL-5. For automobile oils, GL-4 and GL-5 gear oils seem to be universally available. GL-4 is suitable for most gearboxes and spiral bevel differentials and has modest levels of high-pressure additives, which do not attack "yellow" metals. GL-5 oil is suitable for hypoid gears, where extreme pressure additives are needed, and should not be allowed in contact with "yellow metals" unless the specifications say otherwise.



Other brands are available.

## October Birthdays

Lots of birthday girls and boys this month. Congratulations to you all!

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Kathy Bosch
- 7<sup>th</sup> Linda Nienaber
- 13<sup>th</sup> Mark Filmer
- 18<sup>th</sup> Sylvia Dunstan
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Mannie Milner





The new MG EV

Cool but does it make the right noise?

## BANK DETAILS

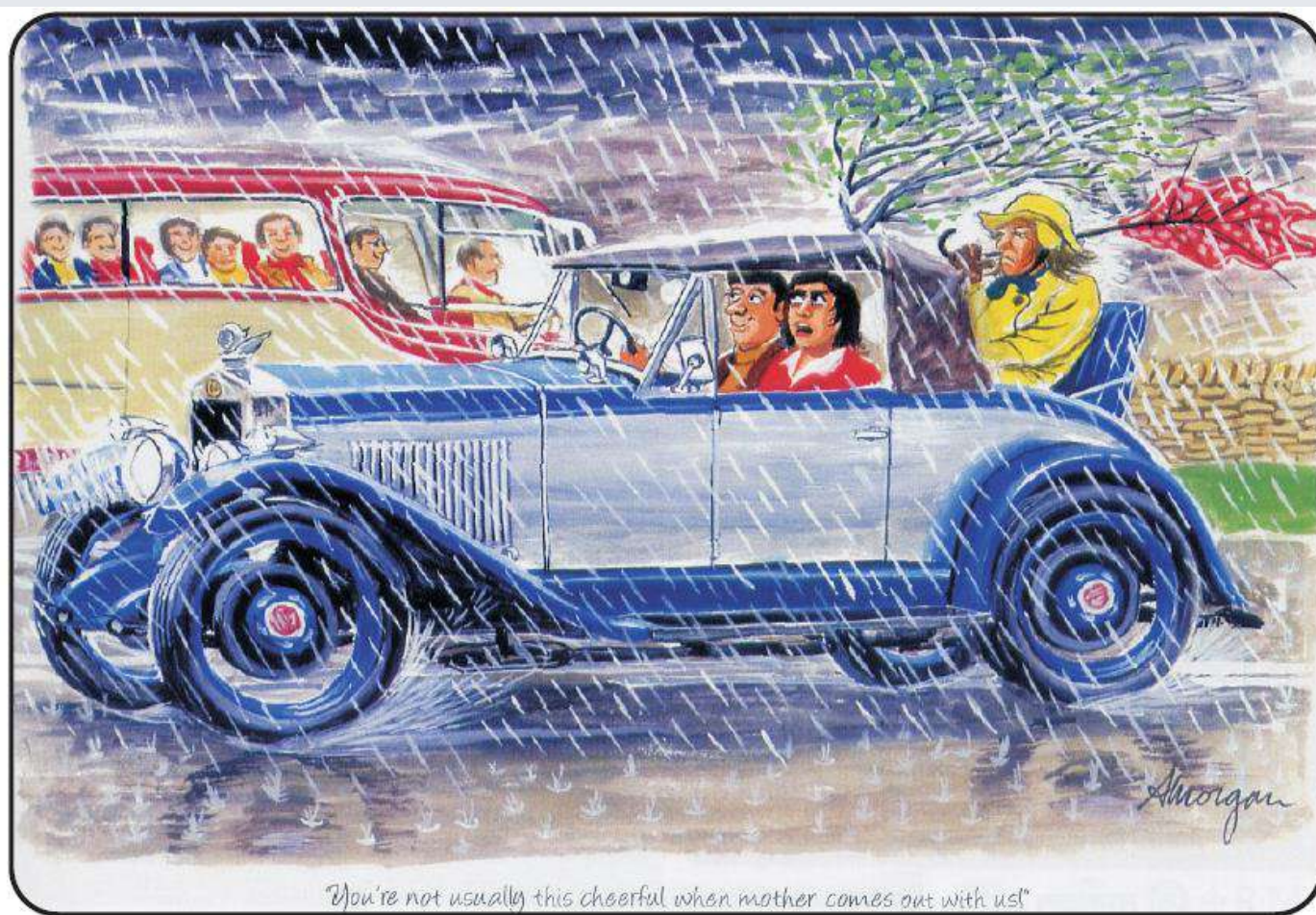
**Account Name:** MGCC PE Centre

**Bank:** FNB, Walmer

**Branch Code:** 211217

**Account No:** 5459 1143 994

*Please identify any deposits with your name and surname.*



*"You're not usually this cheerful when mother comes out with us!"*



## Service Providers

Service Provider and Address	Telephone	Email/Website	Type of Service
Ace Auto Electrical 3 Todd St North End P E	0414842640		Good diagnostics (Paul Allen)
Bearing Man 320 Kempston Road Holland Park P E	0414537330		
Cableman, 303 Kempston Rd Sidwell PE	0414536007	cablemanpe@telkomsa.net	Cables for speedos rev counters and Accelerator
Cape Parts Distributors 11 Paterson Rd North End PE	0414871471		Brake & Clutch Hydraulic Components
Chromeworks, (Peter Rist), 6A Sidwell Avenue Sidwell	0414841533 0828558628	chromeworkspe@yahoo.co.za	Chroming (PETSCC Member)
D N Atomotive, 25 King Edward Street Newton Park PE	0413641017	dnauto@lantic.net	Service and repairs on modern MG's (F & TF) Also Electronic diagnosis
East Cape Clutch and Brake	17 Rundle Street Sidwell	0414511669	clutch and brake components fitment
East Cape Mountings, 39 Rundell St Sidwell PE	0414515968		Re- manufacture of engine mountings
Edwards (John), 20 Murrel Cresc. Framesby PE	0724444398		Retired autoelectrician Experience with classics
Emgee Workshop Cameron or Paige	0828220175 071 938 8027		MG Spares
Generator House, 5 Goldsmith St North End PE	0414845867	<a href="http://www.theauto.co.za/generator-house">www.theauto.co.za/generator-house</a>	Aubrey Autoelectrical Repairs
Guscott's Engine Rebuilders 55 Kempston Road Sidwell.	0413747300		Specific engineering work on engines of classic cars by Jeff Guscott
Holden- Jones (Russell), MGCC Member	0832566927	russellholdenjones@gmail.com	Water pump and other components repair
Industrial Rubber, 15 Richard Street sidwell	0414534437/0837491876	peindrubber@telkomsa.net	wide selection of rubber profiles
Lokhose, (A & A Murphy), - MGCC Members, 18 Sutton Rd Sidwell PE	0414532974 0825683605		Hydraulics & Pneumatics
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Ronnie Reed Clutch	75 Haupt Street Sidwell	041 4532227	brake and clutch
The Sports Car Centre, 11 Westmeath Rd Parkview Jo'brg	0116461631 0114860021	sportscar@mweb.co.za	MG Parts Alan & Denise Uzell
Tyler (George) 17 Gonubie St. Sherwood	0829617601		Upholsterer
Wheeltech, 31 Fettes Road N End P E	0413733052		bushes etc
Classic Car Windscreens		julien@classiccarwindscreens.co.za	
Pop's Auto Shop	0829012442 041 0040349	www.popsauto.co.za	Vehicle Repair and Maintainance Club Member
Instrument Technician Richard Grover	011 8962627 082 650 2079	RichardGrover@me.com	MGCC Northerns Member Ex Aero Instr. Technician

DATES 2023	EVENTS	VENUE	MEET AND TIME
4 October Wednesday	Noggin – Catering Braai Special AGM 6.30pm	EPVCC	7pm
11 October Wednesday	Midweek Run	Richmond Hill Brewery	TBD
22 October Sunday	Monthly Run Combined Morris and Triumph	Thornhill Hotel	TBA
8 November Wednesday	Noggin – Prego Rolls	EPVCC	7pm
16 <sup>th</sup> November Wednesday	Midweek Run	TBD	TBD
25 November Sunday	Monthly Run – Bowls day	TBD	TBD
6 December Wednesday	Noggin	EPVCC	7pm
10 December Sunday	Christmas Lunch	German Club	11:30

***Events Calendar 2023/2024***



Can anybody guess what happened here? Here's a clue. It occurred in Sweden in 1967.

A beer for the winner at the noggin for the right answer.