



Clubtorque

Official Publication of

MG CAR CLUB NEWCASTLE

PO BOX 632 HAMILTON NSW 2303

Founded 1955 MG's and MOTORSPORT

Website address: www.mgcarclub.com.au

Clubrooms:

Northcott Park, Cobby Street,
Birmingham Gardens

Monthly Meetings

2nd Friday of month 7.30pm

RINGWOOD PARK

MOTORSPORT

COMPLEX Cnr Italia Rd
& Pacific Hwy Balickera
(12km north of Raymond Terrace)

Membership Inquiries:

Joy Bower 11 Nathan Close
METFORD NSW 2323
Ph 4933 2346

Other Inquiries

Contact The Secretary
at the above address or
Phone 4963 5380

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It is with great sorrow that I inform you of the passing of club member John Cooper. Our sincere sympathy goes out to his wife Kerry and children Ian and Louise. He was a close friend to me and also gave great service to the Newcastle Motor Racing Club as well as the MG Car Club Newcastle. His input to the success of Ringwood Hillclimb is immeasurable and he will be sadly missed.

The National Meeting team to Adelaide increased by a few and those members who went have done a great job promoting next year's National Meeting to be organised by our club in Newcastle at Easter 2011.

GLD planners are still negotiating with Council, Government departments and professional expert's about the Ringwood Park development. Negotiations with IRH have been completed and final preparations for the Licensing Deed and Sale is now taking place.

The interclub NAMS competition hasn't got off to a good start - the last NAMS Hillclimb had no competitors from the other clubs. We must "gee them up" so we don't steal a march on them.

The ongoing work at our Hillclimb track continues. There is a possibility that at the next Hillclimb event all 3 Display screens will be mounted in the new Secretary's building and also have 240V power hooked up. This is the first stage of solving some OH&S concerns of the committee. This comes from concerns about the congregating of

drivers, crew and spectators at the start line area to view the old white board (the display screen for the last 15 runs has been temporarily located at the same position whilst technical development has been taking place). Now, whilst viewing the information screens, the main part of the track can easily be seen. Some further OH&S concerns are also being worked on.

There is a new type of Rally Sprint happening on Monday 26/04/2010. This is an event which competitors with a Speed Event License (L2S) will be able to enter and the vehicle have no roll over protection (but it is recommended) similar to vehicles which compete in Khanacross events. Being a "speed event" it will be more expensive to enter than a Khanacross because of the CAMS permit and track licensing fees.

The permit fee is \$700.00 up to 10 competitors and an additional \$70 for each entry above 10 competitors. The track licence fee for this one event is not known as yet but at our best guess it seems that an entry fee of approximately \$135 will be required.

Without sponsors and paying spectators etc, as with all areas of Motor sport it comes down to "user pays". Entries etc will be on the Website and Vice President Bryn Baverstock may be able to answer any enquiries.

Remember, support the supporters who support your sport.

John Collins

THE COMMITTEE

No Phone calls after 9.00pm. Thank You

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Michael Snow Ph (02) 4020 3008

MEMBER'S JACKPOT \$250

**JACKPOT NOT WON LAST CLUB NIGHT.
WHY DON'T YOU COME ALONG NEXT
MONTH FOR A CHANCE TO WIN**

(Financial Club members only eligible)

CLUB NIGHT FRIDAY 16th APRIL at 7.30PM



APRIL EVENTS DIARY 2010

| | | | |
|-----------------------|--|-----------------|--------------------|
| 3/4 SAT | RALLYSPRINT - WAC. Held at AWABAWAC Contact Darren Green 4945 4372 | 4pm | Nams |
| 4/4 SUN | MOTORKHANA -WAC. Held at AWABAWAC (Incl. Come & Try) Ph Darren Green 4945 4372 | | |
| 9/4 FRI** | NOTE CHANGE OF CLUB NIGHT TO 16th April ***** C A N C E L L E D Due to Easter ***** | | |
| 11/4 SUN | MOTORKHANA DIRT - MGCC Ncle. Held at Ringwood Park, Ph John Roach 0422 558 278 | 10.00 am | C/C/N M/K/M |
| 12/4 MON | MAGAZINE ASSEMBLY- MGCC Ncle. Held at Clubrooms Cobby St Birmingham Gds | 7.00 pm | M |
| 14/4 WED | SPEED PANEL MEETING -MGCC Ncle At Clubrooms Cobby St, Birmingham Gds | 8 pm | M |
| 16/4 FRI ***** | CLUB NIGHT- MGCC Newcastle. Held at Clubrooms Cobby St ,Birmingham Gardens PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE DUE TO EASTER | 7.30 pm | M |
| 17/4 SAT | CSCA - SUPERSPRINT MGCCNSW / MGCCNcle Held at Eastern Creek. Ph John Finch 4957 3123 | 9.30 am | |
| 17/4 SAT | STATE HILLCLIMB RD 2 - BLCC Held at Mt Panorama Esses. Bathurst | TBA | |
| 18/4 SUN | STATE HILLCLIMB RD 3 - BLCC Held at Mt Panorama Mountain straight. Bathurst | TBA | |
| 21/4 WED | COMMITTEE MEETING - MGCC Ncle. Held at Clubrooms, Cobby St, Birmingham Gds- BE PROMPT | 7.30 pm | M |
| 25/4 SUN | TRI-CHALLENGE HILLCLIMB Rd1 - KSCC. Held at Mt. Cooperabung. Ph Peter Robinson (H) 4933 8167 | | T/C |
| 26/4 MON | RALLYSPRINT COME & TRY - MGCC Ncle. Held at Ringwood.Ph Dave Atkins 4956 6200 Clerk of Course | ?? | M |

MAY EVENTS DIARY 2010

| Date | EVENT | Time | points |
|----------------|--|----------------|---------------|
| 1/5 SAT | NATTER NIGHT. To be held at Clubrooms Cobby Strret Birmingham Gds. (See Page 28) | 6.30 pm | |
| 2/5 SUN | EURO DAY - MGCC HUNTER REGION. Held at Lambton Park Contact Steven Jones 4952 3486 | | |
| 2/5 SUN | NSW SUPERSPRINT CHAMP. - MX5 CLUB. Held at Wakefield Park (also Sun 16/5 at Eastern Ck by ARDC) | | |

| | | | |
|---------------------|--|---------------------|---------------------------|
| 2/5 SUN | REGISTER RUN TO EURO DAY- MGCC Ncle Contact David Walker (See Page 15) | 7.45 am | R |
| 5/5 WED | NATMEET MEETING - MGCC Ncle - held at Clubrooms . Contact Fran Hodgson 4946 9989 | 7.30 pm | M |
| 8/5 SAT | WORKING BEE - MGCC Ncle. Held at Ringwood Park to prepare for Tri-Challenge Ph Alan Bates 0412 280 093 | 8.00 am | M |
| 9/5 SUN | TRI-CHALLENGE HILLCLIMB.Rd 2 - MGCC Ncle. Held at Ringwood. Ph Peter Robinson (H) 4933 8167 | 9.30 am | C/CM-N T/S T/C |
| 10/5 MON | MAGAZINE ASSEMBLY. MGCC Newcastle. Held at Clubrooms Cobby St Birmingham Gds | 7.00 pm | M |
| 12/5 WED | SPEED PANEL MEETING -MGCC NCLE At Clubrooms, Cobby St, Birmingham Gardens | 8.00 pm | M |
| 14/5 FRI | CLUB NIGHT- MGCC Newcastle. Held at Clubrooms Cobby St ,Birmingham Gardens | 7.30 pm | M |
| 15/5 SAT | CSCA SUPERSPRINT - Jaguar Drivers Club. Held at EASTERN CREEK . Ph John Finch 4957 3123 | | |
| 15/5 SAT | WORKING BEE - MGCC Ncle. Held at Ringwood to prepare for Garage H/Climb Ph Alan Bates 0412 280 093 | 8.00 am | M |
| 15/5 SAT | NAMS 25TH TEAMS KHANACROSS - WAC Held at Awabawac Contact Darren Green 4945 4372 | 2.00 pm | N25 |
| 16/5 SUN | NAMS 25TH GARAGE HILLCLIMB- MGCC Ncle. Held at Ringwood. Contact Rick Vincent 4945 5114 | 9.30 am | N25 M/R |
| 19/5 WED | COMMITTEE MEETING - MGCC NEWCASTLE. Held at Clubrooms, Cobby St, Birmingham Gds BE PROMPT | 7.30 pm | M |
| 22/5 SAT | AHRG - EVAN GREEN MEMORIAL TOURING ASSEMBLY Held in the Upper Hunter Ph Hal Moloney 0432 227 203. Starts Stratford (see Ad Page 8) | 12 noon | |
| 23/5 SUN | MOTORKHANA DIRT- MGCC . Held at Ringwood Contact John Roach 0422 558 278 | 10.00 am | |
| 29/5 SAT | WORKING BEE - MGCC Ncle. Held at Ringwood Park to prepare for Khanacross. Ph Alan Bates 0412 280 093 | 10.00 am | M/K /M NI/C N |
| 30/5 SUN | STATE KHANACROSS Rd3 - MGCC Ncle. Held at Ringwood. Contact John Roach 0422 558 278 | 10.00 am | CC/N K/C.M |

Please contact the respective Panel Chairman or Michael Snow to confirm that an event is still being conducted on the date shown above. Cancellations sometimes happen.You can also view the event calendar at: www.mgcarclub.com.au

C/C Club Championship M Club Member R Register pointscore
N Nams N25 Nams Anniv T/S Tar Speed Series D/E Dirt Event Series
M/K Motorkhana /Khanacross RT Road Touring Series
N I/C Nams Interclub MG I/C MG Interclub TIC Tri-Challenge

ATTENTION

The latest versions of Club Calendars (Release 4) will on the MGCC Ncle website by 12th April. If anyone who does not have access to the Club website please request a printed copy from Michael Snow (H) 02 4020 3008 or (M) 0432 772 044

AHRG

EVAN GREEN MEMORIAL
TOURING ASSEMBLY

Saturday 22nd May (Supp Regs on MG Website)

Organised by **AHRG** – for more details phone

Director Hal Moloney 0432 227 203

Starting at STRATFORD at 12 noon

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MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY by Joy Bower

ATTENTION

**HAVE YOU SENT BACK YOUR
MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL YET !!!**

IF NOT YOU ARE NO LONGER FINANCIAL

(as per our constitution if you are not renewing your membership a letter of resignation is required)

Please advise if you have changed your address

**YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE ANY
MAGAZINE IF MEMBERSHIP NOT PAID
BY END OF APRIL**



Welcome New Members

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|---------------|
| Peter Mc Donald | Assoc | Stephen Wines MGB | Full |
| Luke Petrou | Assoc | Joshua Smith | Junior |
| David Mitchell | Assoc | Jamie & Tegan Meek | Junior |
| Robert Stout | Assoc | Ashleigh Palmowski | Junior |
| Rod & Irene Birt | Assoc | Bridelle Wansey | Junior |
| Timothy Byrne | Assoc | Brooke Treacy | Junior |
| Craig Hutchison | Assoc | Joshua Olsen | Junior |
| Brian Granger | Assoc | Will Dawes | Junior |

**Hope to see you at an event in the near
future EITHER COMPETITION OR SOCIAL**

**Deadline for MAY Magazine
Monday 26TH APRIL**

SECRETARY'S REPORT by Andy Peters

Since our last magazine there has been a variety of events and the weather has been kind to us. We have received lots of positive remarks from competitors at the events.

The hillclimb competitors really enjoy looking at the new timing system. We are short of officials at our events and I encourage members and or competitors who are not in an event to be an official.

We will offer you training and assistance as required and you would

not be required to work alone. There is no cost to be a CAMS official.

There is an interesting article in the UK publication "Enjoying MG" titled *The MG Scene 50 years ago*. The magazine will be available in our club rooms.

MG National Meeting is in Adelaide over Easter and my preparation is still in progress but only have a week to finish.

Happy Motoring

Andy

VICE PRESIDENT NOTES by Bryn Baverstock

Well the response to my last effort in the magazine fills me with confidence as to my literary prowess & ability to stir up a response!! I had two people get in touch with ideas!

However we had a change of plan & are going to delay the survey until we can come up with some meaningful figures & costings to show the club. In regard to club nights any ideas to promote club nights let me or Rose know, there are already some things in the pipeline but all the more the merrier

Cheers Bryn

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JOHN COLLINS 4961 4961

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It is with regret we advise of the passing of ERIC BARNES

Eric was a member of TAMWORTH SPORTING CAR CLUB and was NSW Hillclimb Champion in 1999 driving a Supercharged Farrell F2, a past champion in Karting, a successful business man and hard working member for TSCC. Eric was a regular competitor in NSW and National Championships in the 90's before trying his hand at circuit racing in sedans. Eric died as a result of a motorbike accident at Illford NSW while returning home from a motorbike event at PHILLIP ISLAND. We extend our sympathy to his family.

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CAPTAIN'S CORNER by Scott Mc Garry

I am glad to announce that this month we have our first point score tallies of the year to present. Thanks to all those responsible individuals who have been getting sign on sheets and results to me.

The Chris Dodds Memorial Trophy for Outright Club Champion point score is correct as of Round 4, held 7 March. It is interesting to see that we have junior members filling the top two places in the Club Championship, with Dylan Grant clearly in the lead. It looks like Dylan may be hard to beat this year.

This year is a great opportunity for a Junior to be the Club Champ, now that they have their own classes to compete in (Junior Production, Junior Specials). Included in the point score list are the top placed Juniors in the running for Paul Daley Memorial Trophy for Club Junior Champion. I have also included the ladies point score, although to date no lady has competed in more than one championship round.

**Club Championship Point Score
(incl. Top placed Juniors)**

| Surname | First name | | Points | Place |
|-----------|------------|-----|--------|-------|
| GRANT | DYLAN | Jnr | 56 | 1 |
| HALL | BENJAMIN | Jnr | 42 | 2 |
| SNOW | MICHAEL | | 42 | 2 |
| HAMMOND | KEITH | Jnr | 33 | 4 |
| WALLIN | ANDREW | | 33 | 4 |
| TUCKER | MARK | | 32 | 6 |
| NEWY | JEFF | | 31 | 7 |
| BRAMBLE | JAKE | Jnr | 30 | 8 |
| CLEMENS | TOM | | 30 | 8 |
| BURGESS | RAYMOND | | 29 | 10 |
| THOMAS | DARVAL | | 28 | 11 |
| WALLIN | MICHAEL | | 28 | 11 |
| BROMLEY | RAYMOND | | 27 | 13 |
| PARSONAGE | GLENN | | 25 | 14 |
| CRAIG | MITCHELL | | 24 | 15 |
| VINCENT | RICK | | 24 | 15 |
| BRAMSTON | PATRICK | | 23 | 17 |
| EDWARDS | RICHARD | | 23 | 17 |
| MORDUE | TOBIE | Jnr | 23 | 17 |
| ATKINS | DAVID | | 22 | 20 |
| HALL | GRANT | | 22 | 20 |

LADIES POINT SCORE

| Surname | First Name | Points |
|----------|------------|--------|
| ROBINSON | ELIZABETH | 15 |
| BARTLETT | DANIELLE | 14 |
| THOMAS | SUSAN | 10 |

Club Member of the Year Point Score

| Surname | First Name | Points | Place |
|------------|------------|--------|-------|
| BATES | ALAN | 44 | 1 |
| SNOW | MICHAEL | 44 | 1 |
| COLLINS | JOHN | 42 | 3 |
| RAE | DOUGLAS | 41 | 4 |
| PETERS | ANDREW | 37 | 5 |
| RAE | JUDITH | 34 | 6 |
| WALKER | DAVID | 34 | 6 |
| BAVERSTOCK | BRYN | 33 | 8 |
| SHORT | KEN | 27 | 9 |
| VINCENT | RICK | 27 | 9 |
| COGGER | ROSALIE | 26 | 11 |
| ROBINSON | PETER | 26 | 11 |
| BOWER | JOY | 24 | 13 |
| PEARSON | BILL | 22 | 14 |
| PETERS | SHIRLEY | 22 | 14 |
| THOMAS | DARVAL | 22 | 14 |
| BATES | RYAN | 18 | 17 |
| DICKINSON | GREG | 18 | 17 |
| CLARKE | LYALL | 16 | 19 |
| DURIE | DAVE | 16 | 19 |
| HALL | BENJAMIN | 16 | 19 |
| BOWER | PAUL | 14 | 22 |
| COLE | MIKE | 14 | 22 |

The Mick Neilson Memorial Trophy for Club Member of the Year point score includes all scoring opportunities bar one or two, up to 17 March. My congratulations go to Michael Snow who has managed to be in equal first position in the members competition, and equal second for club champ. Is there an outside chance he could take both trophies in the same year?

I haven't published any series point scores as only the Tar Speed series has more than one round (2) under its belt. More next month.

Keep your eyes on the prize.

Scott McGarry



**NAMS 25TH ANNIVERSARY
SPECIAL EVENTS
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OUTRIGHT PRIZES
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**ANY COMPETITOR CAN
BE A WINNER**

**15th May Team Khanacross WAC
16th May Garage Hillclimb MGCCN**

**For further details contact
Greg Hunter 0412 493 711
Michael Snow (02) 4020 3008**

REGISTER NEWS by David Walker

With a wet start and a 10.00am departure from the clubrooms we wondered who would participate topless? We waited at the clubroom doors with anticipation and Shirley and Rose won with their arrival in Shirley's immaculate MGF, - top



down, closely followed by Mike Cole in his rarely seen MGB.

Jeff and Merran kept their top firmly in place, and Martin, Alexander and Michele and David and I took advantage of our MGZ cars to keep dry and comfortable.

The rain stayed away and we handed out the maps to our small contingent, with the first stop being the waterfront at Morisset Hospital to check out all the kangaroos. It's always great to see Novocastrians find some part of our district they've not visited before. The beautiful surrounds and wildlife at Morisset were a surprise to Jeff and Merran who couldn't believe it when an "old man" kangaroo came right up to our group to check out what we were doing, they are so tame.

With the Sun out it was a great place for the kids to see first hand our beautiful coat of arms. Thanks to Martin Reeves for allowing us entry to Bargoed House at the Electricity Recreation land at Swansea. A truly beautiful spot by the Lake for lunch.

PRESS RELEASE:

This year Xmas in July will be on 24th - 25th July weekend. We are staying closer to home and are booked at the Oaks Pacific Blue Resort at Salamander Bay at Port Stephens. We have booked an option of a studio (motel like) and one bedroom apartment (bedroom & kitchen/lounge/dining) combination. The weekend including dinner, with entertainment, bed and breakfast will be from \$350.00 per couple. The resort is built around an artificial lagoon pool and most rooms overlook it. You might like to look at it on the web. As usual I've booked 15 rooms so please advise me as early as possible, so that the booking can be confirmed

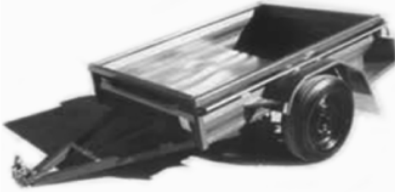
**MAY REGISTER RUN**

Sunday May 2nd will be a run to the Euro Motorfest at Lambton Park. We will leave the clubrooms at 7.45am so we can set the cars up between 8 and 8.30am. A feast of the best of British and Europe for all those who like to ogle a beautiful automobile.

B' seeing you, DAVID

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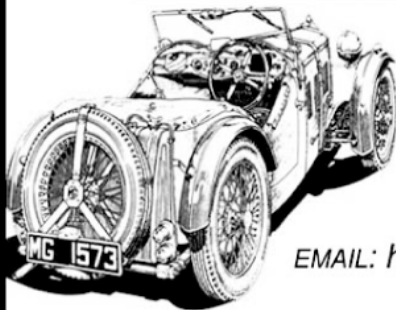
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Celebrating



KHANACROSS NEWS by John Roach

As the dust settles on Ringwood from another dirt event it is time to reflect upon a days racing and see how to push on into the future. Was the event a success, well that depends on your definition of 'success'.

The Oxford American dictionary defines success as 'the accomplishment of an aim or purpose'. My aim was to run the event and learn as much as I could from it while making it enjoyable for others.

Did I learn a lot? Hell yeah! Was it enjoyable for others? I sure hope so. Given this was my first ever glimpse at the 'behind the scenes' of an event, and I was given the responsibility of running it,

I was hoping for an easy day with no dramas so I could take away

knowledge of the normal running procedure. I gained a slight bit more than that though! The event was a state round which in turn meant we had three CAMS officials and a nice turn out of 30 entrants. We also had some quite fast cars on the day, two of which decided to 'play like fido' and roll over. Luckily both drivers were not seriously injured in these events, although I can't say the same for their cars.

Even though these events are great fun there are still dangers and great risks that one must be mindful of. In my eyes the event was a success and I hope all the entrants share the same opinion. Look forward to seeing you at the next Motorkhana or Khanacross! Cheers John .

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“COOP”



JOHN COOPER

23th June 1950 - 21st March 2010

What is a Mate? Dictionaries define a Mate as - friend, comrade, a term used mainly by men, best friend, companion, fellowworker w and a form of address among equals. A mate is also someone who is there for you. In the truest sense, John was a mate to many of us, both in our Club and the outside world.

His brothers, Wayne and Rob, said “they were fortunate indeed to be able to say we are both brother and mate to this most interesting, frustrating, strongly opinionated, loving and complex person. John was definitely a man’s man who had a very tender side, he thought he was too emotional for his own good; he was interested in everything other than his own feelings, did not care what others thought of him but would do anything for you.

John was also someone who would drop everything to fix a vital computer at your business, or help prepare a car to go racing, and then be Pit Crew to keep you company.

He spread himself around in his

travels with his occupation and managed to arrange lunchtime to coincide with jobs close to John Collins Dyno, Gosford Bolts & Bearings, Maitland Auto Parts, Gold n Tint in Kurri and Icon Motorsport and many other club member’s businesses.

John had an incredible mind for detail and facts. JC (John Collins) told the family the other day that his friends either had to buy a very good encyclopaedia or live by Google now that John was no longer here to support them and answer their questions. But it was more than this of course. If John did not know the answer you needed or could not help you he made sure he found an answer or contacted the right person who could help you.

Last week John spoke to Robbo (Peter Robinson) and JC and told them he had found the right person to fix their computers now he could no longer do this for them.

John was born in Bangalow on 23rd June 1950 to parents, Royal Mavis Gilbert and John Henry Cooper. He identified strongly with the Gilbert side of the family, particularly his Uncle Roy who introduced him to the joys of motor racing. Roy was a successful sportsman and hill climber and John later bought one of Roy’s old cars, the Gilbert JAP some years ago.

John grew up in the Byron Bay area with his brothers and was always keen to go fishing and surfing with them. His first job was at BHP in Newcastle as a Trainee Metallurgist. He left BHP and moved to Sydney commencing work at Burroughs, repairing accounting machines and

later on, computers and printers, and moving in with his brother, Wayne. During his time in Sydney, he married Kerry and frequently went to hill climbs with his Uncle Roy.

John's abiding passion outside his family, was his motorsport. He became involved in the local motorsport scene from the time he and Kerry moved from Sydney in 1978. In 1981 their daughter Louise was born and then in 1984 Ian came along rounding out his family.

He was an enthusiastic member of several clubs, including the Newcastle Motor Racing Club, serving as Secretary for several years until the Club merged with the MG Car Club Newcastle.

John also served on the Committee of Newcastle MG Car Club for many years in various positions. Whilst with the NMRC, John helped to develop in association with John Mallam and John Collins, the timing system which we enjoy today at Ringwood.

John was an able helper and amazingly reliable volunteer worker in the early days at Ringwood helping to construct the extensive facilities, with concrete pours, construction of the sheds, fencing, toilet blocks and anything that was going. He also assisted for years setting up the track for every event, looking after the Club's generator, computers, timing equipment and being one of the first to arrive and last to leave.

In 1985, John teamed with Brian Morley in Brian's Buggy and won his first motor racing trophy navigating for Brian at Dondingalong (Kempsey) coming 1st in class and 3rd outright. Although not having a

racing car, John still "competed". In the late '80s and '90s, the NMRC held, at the end of the year event, a "company car challenge" in which the rules were simple; white and a company car! Nearly every year, John demonstrated his undoubted talent behind the wheel by winning this event.

After many years of off-track service to the sport, including 20 years as the Starter and "Timing Equipment Engineer", John decided to have a serious go at competition. In 2002, he purchased the ex-Ernie Shankleton JWS Toyota, a beautifully built (by John Wright) Formula Libre open-wheeler.

John was an instant success coming second outright in 2003's Tri-challenge Supersprint at Tamworth.

He followed this up with a third at the Ringwood round and another strong finish at a very slippery track at Kempsey to be in second place in the Series going into the Mattara Hillclimb.

Unfortunately, on his third run into the tricky Pinch section of the track, John had a problem with the gearbox which finished his event. He was a front runner at most of the events he entered in and came second in the Championship in 2007.

In 2006, John competed in the Australian Hillclimb Championship at Bathurst, an event he enjoyed immensely, having his brother Wayne as his Pit Crew for the weekend.

In 2007, he raced in the Australian Championship again at the tricky Mount Cotton track in Brisbane, this time accompanied by his brother Rob and his father. John's last event was at Tamworth in 2008 where he

was beginning to be troubled by what turned out to be cancer. John was put onto a Chemotherapy programme which he endured with amazing good humour and courage until he was admitted to hospital on 21st February with a bowel obstruction. He underwent surgery and his condition deteriorated rapidly. During his time in hospital, as well as his family visiting, he also had visits on a regular basis from his friends in the car club. John passed away on 21st March and his funeral took place on 25th March with a large congregation of family, friends and motor sport mates.

We thank John's family, Kerry, Louise, Ian, Wayne, Rob and the extended families for the privilege of

sharing part of John's life with us, his Motorsport Family, and we extend to them our sympathy.

John's brother Wayne said in his eulogy " there are many ways to measure the success of a persons life By their achievements: by their wealth: and by their friends as you can see here today. John left this life surrounded by those he loved and those who loved him. Can anyone think of a better measure of a life?

John didn't push himself forward but he was always there to help or give advice with good humour and extensive knowledge. Many members of the Club and the motorsport world who knew John will miss him greatly.

EXCITMENT ON THE MOUNTAIN AT BATHURST for Festival Of Sporting Cars

For both Doug Rae in the MG ZR and John Finch in his Datsun 260Z this was their first time round Mt. Panorama (if you don't count Doug's trip in the Stewards Car). For Paul Bower in the Ford Fiesta he knew his way around this famous circuit (but not in this car). The weather was absolutely perfect, a little foggy on Friday morning which cleared quickly.

All three cars went like clockwork, a few incidents early on when people tried a little too hard and came to grief slowed things up a little. Pit crew for John was Mal Roach with extra advise from Kevin Edwards. Paul and Doug had Eric Chandler who drove down on Saturday (as Jan had gone to Adelaide with Annmaree), while Joy and Judith kept the boys feed and watered.

Paul's best time was 3.03 while John's was 3.16 with Doug's 3.25. Times were a little slow being posted which meant nominating a new time for regularity was a bit hit and miss. Doug achieved a 4th and 10th, while John also achieved a 4th as well a 13th. Paul did a much faster time than he nominated and was moved up a class, and had to go out in an earlier race and did not get to nominate a time.

Other club members working hard were John Gibson who officiated all weekend and Don Anderson who was Customer Relations Officer (well done to these 2 members). We spoke with Antoinette Redhead who was pit crew for some of her friends as the family did not make the journey down to Adelaide.

Other Newcastle people at the event were Lisa Tobin - Smith always working hard at these events and Barry Bates who was also competing.

John Cooper enjoying his competition days in his JWS Toyota Open wheeler Formula Libre



The Stars at Bathurst signing autographs for their fans.



FOSC

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DOUG RAE MGZR



JOHN FINCH 260Z



FOSC

FESTIVAL OF SPORTING CARS



PAUL BOWER FIESTA

2010 ADELAIDE N



NATIONAL MEETING





2010 Adelaide National Meeting



Words and pics by James Pearson – 2005 MG ZS

I write to you from the beautiful city of Adelaide. A good solid 18 hour drive from home, the trip over is an adventure in itself. Myself and Father-in-law David Walker chose to break the journey up into 2 comfortable days and decided to travel down the F3 to Gundagai then head west to Hay, then on to Adelaide on day 2. The desolate landscape and



what seems like endless fields just keep on appearing over the extremely flat horizon. An enjoyable trip over but not one I'd like to attempt by myself.

We stopped at a few quaint towns on the way through. The ZS attracted plenty of attention and turned many heads, including a policeman who stopped us out of

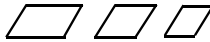


interest for a 10 minute chat about the car, then made up an excuse for pulling us over and breath tested me. We even bumped in to some fellow MG members from QLD but who weren't going to join us over Easter but again expressed interest in the unusual ZS and after they snapped off a few pictures we were on our way again.

Finally we arrived to Adelaide to find a busy, expanding and friendly town with a developing foreshore that is not too dissimilar from home. There were lots of locusts to pick out of the front grill before the Concours! Fran Hodgson loves the little things, her grill was nearly completely blocked! Some people had a few difficulties on the way over including John Collins with some troubles with the MGF but was able to get it sorted at the motel. Since we arrived a few days early we were able to take care of some errands, do some shopping, generally check out the place and even walk the track of Mallala. We picked Lesley Walker up from the airport who then joined us back at the motel which was only a 15 minute drive.

On Friday registration was held at a new "old" style corrugated iron shearers shed on "The Shores" of west beach. This rustic style venue was to be utilised for many of the formal events over the weekend. It was located literally a stone's throw from the beach - which I had to keep reminding my personal compass was a westerly direction!

Friday night saw Noggin Natter and Rocker Cover Racing. The event



was held in the shearers shed and buffet dinner was enjoyed by all. Then it was down to serious racing business. Some 34 rocker covers ranging from mild to wild raced in a knockout competition for bragging rights. Accuracy and consistency proved more important than outright speed. **Anmarie Harris** made the semi-finals and **John Collins** went



well in creations by David Walker. Rocker Cover Racing cars. **Andy Peters** did a great job also.

Great fun and lots of laughs were had by all. I can see the momentum building for our meeting and these novelty racing vehicles! So c'mon people get building before our meet, we have a test track at the clubrooms to be used on clubnights for fine tuning and experimentation.

Saturday after busily cleaning and detailing the cars to an inch of their lives, we travelled to Elder Park for the Concours. We enjoyed a beautiful spot in the park where lots of shiny MGs were arranged in front of the river not far from the CBD. Whilst the girls went out for some much needed shopping the boys judged cars as required then spent the rest of the day talking and admiring the cleanliness and seemingly limitless budgets some people are fortunate enough to have available to restore

and build cars. Saturday night we enjoyed the pirate theme evening. We went as characters from Peter Pan.

I mustn't have been the only one who thought **Fran Hodgson** looked great done up as Captain Hook as she won a prize on the night. Lots of fun and plenty of action on the dance floor. Sunday we travelled out of the city for the motorkhana at a Big W distribution centre. Yet another warm and sunny day was spent giving our best at completing the required tests with minimal fuss and lost time. A great facility with an excellent concrete surface was thoroughly enjoyable. The only shame for me is that we haven't secured a similar facility for our club members to use as we have a large number of tar motorkhana enthusiasts.

Monday we travelled early to the 2.6km race circuit that is Mallala. A very warm 32 deg day increased the challenge for everyone especially cooling cars down between runs. The front rotors on the ZS were over 400 degrees Celsius! Unfortunately Andy Peters had engine troubles in practise with a piston ring failure. Most others had a great day. What a fantastic circuit, providing enjoyment you only get when racing on a fully fledged race track. Again I was wishing we had a similar facility close to home, well hopefully we will in the very near future.

Monday night was the formal presentation dinner. We enjoyed another good meal as part of our entry fee whilst the much anticipated results were announced and trophies presented. Our club did very well with many trophy winners from various classes. Fran Hodgson was delighted

to finally win the Joan Richmond perpetual trophy that she has been aiming to attain for many years. Great job Fran!

Tuesday morning was the farewell breakfast as a final close to a great weekend of national competition. We then all went our separate ways to travel home after a great time in Adelaide. I took many photos and videos of various things and will be compiling and publishing videos on Youtube of the meeting so people who missed out can check out the action. Links to these will be put on our website soon.

Since my first National Meeting in 1999, I have grown to very much enjoy the combination of competition events at newly challenging and unfamiliar venues,

socialising with members from interstate clubs and tourist-ing in new places that these gatherings offer. It's a great experience that I highly recommend giving a go, even if you don't own an MG to compete in you may know someone kind enough to lend you one.

It would be great to see more of our club members competing in future national gatherings. Our turn next year so start your planning or better yet come along to one of the organising meetings for our 2011 meet and get involved with helping us put on a great event in any way you feel comfortable, there is lots of work to be done.

Hoping to see you at a club event soon!
James Pearson

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE FOR ACHIEVING THESE RESULTS FOR THEMSELVES AND THE CLUB

| Club Member | Car | Class | Concours | Motorkhana | Supersprint |
|---------------|--------|-------|----------|------------|-------------|
| John Collins | MGF | Y | 2nd | 1st | 2nd |
| David Walker | MGZS | Z | | 2nd | 2nd |
| Fran Hodgson | MGZR | ZF | 3rd | 3rd | 3rd |
| Andy Peters | MGB | M | | 1st | |
| Dale Powell | Midget | T | | 1st | 2nd |
| Darval Thomas | MGF | Y | | 3rd | 3rd |
| James Pearson | MGZS | Z | | 1st | 1st |

As a result the club received :
4th in the WRATTEN TROPHY (Outright Position)
2nd in the Nuffield Trophy.

Fran took out the Joan Richmond Trophy

WELL DONE FOR SUCH A SMALL TEAM

The next meeting for the Planning of 2011 NATMEET is on **Wed 5th May at 7.30 pm at the Clubrooms.**

ALL WELCOME

**PRESS RELEASE
FROM JAGUAR DRIVERS CLUB
(HUNTER REGION)**

The Hunter Region has received a boost in funds dedicated to Young Driver Training. The Jaguar Enthusiasts Club of Australia has donated \$2,000 to the Jaguar Drivers Club Hunter Region, to be used for the training of young drivers from 14 to 18 years of age, in all aspects of

Mr Geoff Bott, President JECA said "We are committed to advancing the driving skills of young people to improve their driving experiences and reducing fatalities among our young drivers, and are happy to make this donation to the JDCHR for their quest in this endeavour."

The JDCHR, in conjunction with the MG Car Club Newcastle, began the program in November, and so far eight young people, 5 girls and 3 boys have entered the training program. As well as being taught car control beneficial to better manage situations on the road, young people, if they are interested in motor sport, can enter the MG Hill Climb series as a sport.

Mr Greg Hunter of the MG Car Club Newcastle said "This course is designed for junior drivers from the age of 12 to 18 years old. The course will consist of tutorial on car control, safety and car preparation. Driving instruction is on a one-on-one basis, with instructors approved by the Confederation of Australian Motor Sport (CAMS)." One of the participants, Daniel Palmowski of Lower Belford attended the training in November, and again in March. He entered the Ringwood Hill Climb in JDCHR member Don Anderson's

Jaguar, completing eight runs. His first run was 38.6 secs, and by his eighth run this time was down to 28.6 secs - a tremendous improvement in his car control abilities in a borrowed car. Don said he was so impressed with Daniel's driving he had no problems with lending him the car.

Mr Ian Hissey, President JDCHR, said "Our Club members are very proud to be able to run a program helping young drivers in this important area affecting their lives. With this grant, we will be able to put 200 young people through the training program, and are looking for more teenagers to participate." If you are under 18, and would like to participate in the Young Driver Training program, please contact Ian Hissey, president@jaguarhunter.com.au



Geoff Bott (left) President Jaguar Enthusiasts Club presents Ian Hissey (right) President Jaguar Drivers Club Hunter Region, with a cheque for \$2,000 for young driver training.



Daniel Palmowski benefited from the young driver training program, improving his time on the Ringwood Hill Climb from 38.6 secs to 28.6 secs.



Ashley Palmowski showed a dramatic improvement in her driving from the young driver training program.



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Mick Saide 0448 203 025

HONEYSUCKLE MOTORKHANA

Words and pics by James Pearson - A changeable autumn day greeted competitors at Honeysuckle foreshore for Hunter Region's tar motorkhana. A field of 12 competitors (8 from our club, 4 from Hunter) took to the bitumen for 6 challenging tests of driving skill. The event was kindly put on for competitors to get in some practise before the National Meeting in Adelaide. Tests negotiated were Straight Slalom, Atom, Double Bone, Triple Loop, Manoeuvring & Lazy 8



Fran Hodgson in the schmick MGF, unfortunately her ZR which she will be running in Adelaide wasn't ready in time for this event.

Club president **John Collins** in a borrowed MGF belonging to **Darval Thomas** drove exceptionally well to end up 3rd outright; he will no doubt be very competitive in Adelaide once he puts Rose's MGF back together.



Steve Jones from the Hunter club flicked his MGB around the course with almost medical precision to end up 2nd outright.

Mike Cole dusted off his rubber bumper MGB and was out keeping people honest.





Andy Peters was as quick as always in his beautifully presented MGBL. Well done Andy, 4th outright.



David Walker drove my ZS (complete with baby seats in the back) and discovered just how poor the turning circle is! He cleverly applied his big circles driving style to record some quick times.

Junior member **Bailey Elliott** drove well in the midget. She's enjoying her motorsport and it's great to see junior members in competition.



I was fortunate enough to win the day in the class D ZS, I must have made up some ground later in the



afternoon as it didn't appear I was in contention after the first 2 tests. I captured some great on car footage and will have a video of the event published on Youtube soon. For me the day was a reminder of the pure enjoyment experienced when running these types of events. Not only the challenge of the competition, but more so the social aspect and light hearted banter in the pits. The

amount of public interest is substantial and if we were to run an event at this venue, I'm sure a large field of assorted cars would attract an even larger crowd and result in new memberships and fresh faces in our club.

It's a real shame we don't provide more of these events for our members as they truly are a fantastic way to get started in motorsport.

A big thanks to all officials and organisers for making the day possible.

James Pearson

**NEXT TAR MOTORKHANA FOR MARQUE
SPORTS CARS BY MGCC HUNTER REGION
SATURDAY 26TH JUNE**

SOCIAL NEWS by Rose Cogger

Once again the lucky number draw did not see a winner and now stands at \$250.

There was a lot of excitement at the last club night with the Rocker Cover racing, when several racers were tested for their reliability, steering and going straight. Of course this event is always held at the MG National Meeting with large audience participation as well. Our thanks go to David Walker for building the launching ramp, which proved a great success.

There also seems to be a move to make this a competitive event on Club Nights with other members going into the development of "rocker covers" off other makes of cars.

The next club night, has been deferred due to the Easter break with many members visiting Bathurst and Adelaide for events. It will now be held on Friday 16th April commencing at 7.30pm at the Cobby Street Clubrooms.

The Natter night at Darren and Fran Hodgson's was enjoyed by club members who attended. It was a per-

fect night weatherwise and their were final arrangements provided to members attending the MG National in Adelaide over Easter. Darren gave a very interesting tour of **one** of his garages and even let us inspect underneath his MGF racecar, which was high up on a hoist,...with new equipment he has installed.

A thankyou to Fran and Darren for their hospitality and inviting us to their home

The next NATTER night will be held at the Club Rooms on Saturday 1st May, commencing at 6.30pm this is a good night to get to know other club members and to talk about recent events. BYO food and drink.

ANNUAL BUS TRIP

The annual bus trip is to the Sydney Motor Show on 24th October 2010, this usually a fun day with some members and friends going to the Motor Show, others just doing retail or lunch therapy...Please let me know if you are interested in going...I'll need deposits soon.

Rose Cogger Social Secretary
0413 222 828



Hodgson's Natter Night Inspection



Ladies Auxillary purchase for Ringwood

EDITORIAL by Judith Rae

Well we are making progress with the production of the magazine. I wish to thank Mike Cole who has spent quite a bit of time helping to set things up and to make me understand how it will work. They all kept saying it would be easy and I was so surprised when it all just happened.

We are still having a problem

inserting some of the ads but the printer is happy to place them for the time being, until we work it out.

The good news is that you don't need any elaborate software to produce the magazine **if I can do it anyone can**. I have been lucky that the committee have been very supportive by sending in plenty of articles and photos and getting them in on time (many thanks keep up the good work).

We had a great turn up to the March Magazine assembly, it certainly makes a big difference in the time it takes to prepare the magazine for posting, and means it is not such a late night.

Articles can be submitted by mail, fax or email and must be a Word Doc. Letters to the Editor no more than 1 A5 size page.

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NAMS NEWS

by Greg Hunter

The first two NAMS 25th Anniversary events have been conducted. The first event was the Night Motorkhana held at Awaba with 62 entries and rave reports of its success. Club members David, Beau, Nathan, and Dylan Grant, Dannielle Bartlett, Bevan Tanner, Jake Bromley, Mark Tucker, Dann Jolly and Ben Hall all competed but without success. With 62 competitors the opposition was too strong for our team with the WAC teams taking home the cash prizes.

The WAC event consisted of a night Motorkhana, run with and without glow sticks also two identical events set-up side by side with the competing cars running side by side, which was nicked named a Motorkhana Drag.

The competitor's response has been outstanding with repeated requests for more similar events to be conducted in the future. WAC may run another night event later this year after considering what they have learnt, then tweaking the various test formats. The following Sunday we conducted a Regularity Hillclimb as our first 25th event. A very difficult event with wet and dry condition making the competition extremely difficult to anticipate. Winners of the cash NAMS prize's were Outright 1st. Andy Peters \$ 100, 2nd Andrew Wallin \$ 80, third place was a draw between Glenn Parsonage and Darval Thomas who will receive \$ 25 each for their effort. The team's cash was won by Andrew and Michael Wallin in their Celica with a total of 242 points receiving \$ 50 each, only just clear of

the Peters/Clarke team on 247 points.

These cash prizes from the NAMS Committee together with the support of the club's prize of Free Entry's will make a substantial reward for all the winners, certainly not often seen in club motor sport. The cash prizes will be presented at the NAMS Presentation Night, date to be advised later in the year. I draw your attention to the remaining two events of the series, a Teams Khanacross conducted by WAC at Awaba on 15th of May and the Novelty Hillclimb conducted by the MGCC Newcastle at Ringwood Park on the 16th May. Please see ad elsewhere in this issue. **(See Page 13)**

It is unfortunate that Bill Pearson has resigned from the NAMS committee. Bill tendered his resignation last month and will move on to other activities. Bill has worked tirelessly over the past 18 months, last year he completed the task of the NAMS point score which in itself is a challenge, he also arranged the design and manufacture of the annual trophy's which included taking most of the photos used. Everybody who attended the presentation night remarked on the creativity Bill had shown with the concept. Bill's effort certainly contributed to a very successful year for NAMS. I take this opportunity to sincerely thank Bill for his contribution.

Michael Snow has accepted the responsibility to replace Bill on the Committee, whilst filling the shoes of the 2nd MGCC Newcastle representative.

Greg Hunter NAMS Chair Person

SPEED EVENTS by Rick Vincent

As you all aware our club is co hosting with the MG Car Club of Sydney the next round of the CSCA Super Sprint Series at Eastern Creek on Saturday the 17th April,

John Finch will be the Clerk of the Course and will be requiring at least 15 to 20 members from our club to officiate at the event, so hopefully members will assist John in offering their services for this one event that the club promotes once a year, please contact John or myself to arrange possible free transport and of course a free lunch.

The committee for the Hillclimb extension is moving forward with cost estimates for the project to be made available for the next club committee meeting, for a general discussion for all interested parties, with the long

term view to submit a DA to council.

Seeing we are talking about John Finch he and several other members of the club will be competing at Mount Panorama on the 2nd April for a regularity event, so we hope John and the other guys do well, and have a safe weekend, John will be assured of total support from his pit crew namely Mal Roach.

John is always used to having A1 accommodation when he goes to events, and this one will not be any different, views of conrod straight from the motel window will be assured, and let's hope the two boys get a good nights sleep?? Keep your tyres hot

Also competing at Bathurst
Paul Bower in the Ford Fiesta and
Doug Rae in the MG ZR



KEMPSEY SPORTING CAR CLUB Presents

MT COOPERABUNG HILLCLIMB Round 1 of the TRI- SERIES between

MGCC Newcastle on 9th May

Tamworth SCC on 4th July

Kempsey SCC on 29th August

Held on Saturday 24th April - Practice \$25

& Sunday 25th APRIL – Entry Fee \$90

Scrutineering 8am – start time 9.30am

Supp Regs/ Accomodation/ Maps

on MGCC Ncle website



OFFICIALS TRAINING

An assessors training course was held recently at the clubrooms with Dave Atkins, Judith & Doug Rae from MG Newcastle and Darren Green from Westlakes taking the course. This means we will be able to assess officials in this area now. If you wish to be upgraded or assessed for a new category please contact any of these people.

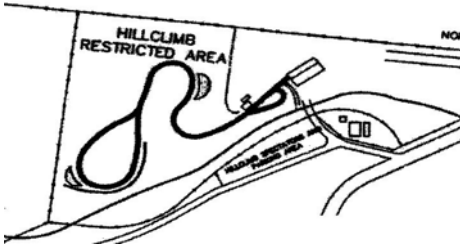
CAMS Training sessions for particular disciplines can be arranged if we can get enough people together. Our clubrooms are ideal for training as everything they need is there they just need the numbers.

Please contact Rick Vincent to sign the papers as a trainee official and after 3 events being signed off you can apply for a general official. Information regarding Officials is on the CAMS website or speak to one of the assessors for more information.

Give back to your sport
We need more officials



LAND PANEL by Alan Bates



I am sure it was only yesterday that I wrote the last report. Our new editor is certainly cracking the whip, I wonder, if I was to say the report isn't ready would I end up with concrete boots made to order.

Anyway, here we go!

The truck is now registered and on the road. Passed the blue slip inspection without a problem. The new event secretaries building is taking shape. Siding is on, doors are on and the steps are nearly finished.

With luck and good weather the interior of the building will be up to speed sooner rather than later.

When that is finished work will commence on the awning and security shutters for the front of the hut as well as improvements to the forecourt and canteen area.

We have had a run of bad luck with the tractors at Ringwood, firstly the Leyland has had some equipment failures requiring parts to be manufactured due non availability of off the shelf parts. The back hoe has decided it will have a holiday and refuses all attempts at starting. (more aerostart and a new battery)

Jim Gardiner is back on the tools, the oils has been changed on one of the tractors we are pointing him

at the rest of the equipment that needs to be serviced. Eric Chandler has been working with Jim, I'm not sure who manages to get the dirtiest during the day, is it due to work or something else?

Glenn Parsonage has been busy with the welder and produced a couple of hand rails for the new building, he is also in the process of repairing the slasher, another piece of equipment that has fallen prey to the bugger-up fairy.

Anyway, by next month I should be able to report on the success of the electrical/construction works that are being undertaken at the track.

There a several events booked in for Ringwood over the ensuing months and it would be good to see a few new faces at the working bees.

We, (**DADS ARMY**) are looking for new recruits as the ranks are thinning and there is a need to increase the home guard, just in case there is an invasion.

Cheers

**THE NEXT OFFICIAL
WORKING BEE AT
RINGWOOD PARK WILL
BE HELD SATURDAY
8th MAY
PLEASE BRING GLOVES
AND A HAT
Contact
Alan Bates 0412 280 093
or Doug Rae 0434 141 501**



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CLUB MEMBERSHIP CARD**

(Financial to 1/3/2011)

**CURRENT FINANCIAL CAMS LICENCE
LOG BOOK (IF YOUR CAR HAS ONE)
IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO PRESENT
THESE DOCUMENTS IF YOU WISH TO
ENTER THE EVENT**

**Please consider others as it holds up
the processing of entries**

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PUBLICITY by Peter Robinson

There are probably many of us within (and without) the MG Car Club who will miss that voice at the other end of the phone line. In my case it was .." Ah Pierre, What's doing " when we rang to ask about some computer glitch, or some aspect of a car we wanted a second opinion on, or wether he knew anything about a new car, or product, or the best place to buy something, or the best deal. John Cooper knew them all, and if he didn' t , he could give a reasoned argument as to why we should ,or shouldn't buy, fix, adjust, sell, or do, anything else.

John was not only a Good Bloke but also Good Mate to many of us and will be greatly missed .He did a lot of work for the club behind the scenes which only a few knew about, and for many years.

There was a large gathering at his funeral (Celebration of life) not only of family and friends, but many from the M .G . Car Club, Kempsey Car Club, the old Newcastle Motor Racing Club, and competitors from his Off-Road days.

His wife Kerry, son Ian, daughter Louise, brothers Wayne and Rob kindly asked John Collins and myself to say a few words, which we did, with difficulty.

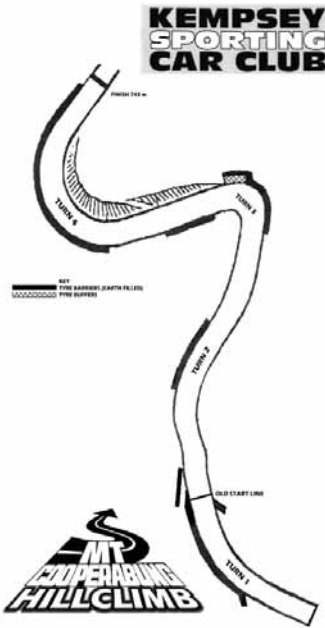
Even though he didn't compete in last year's Tri-Challenge Series he helped with the timing at Tamworth, Ringwood and King Edward Park, as he had done for years and helped me as pit crew , whilst still fighting his cancer, and I am one who will miss him at this year's events very much.

The Tri Challenge Series Starts on the weekend of the 24th/25th April (**see advertisement Page 36**) and details, supplementary regulations, and entry forms will be on our club website.

If you have any queries regarding this event, or any of the series, give me a call on 4933 8355 (w) or 0411 487 640 (m) .

See you there. Peter

If you have not been to Kempsey to the Mt Cooperabung Hillclimb this is a sketch of the track. It is a section of the old Pacific Highway. This is always a good weekend away.





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1969 MGB MK 2 with electric overdrive. Colour RED Same owner for 20 years. Trans. 4 speed Manual ,4 cylinder (1798cc). Brand new Diff. Recent rust repairs. Always fish oiled. New tyres. Black Interior (only 3 years old). Twin SU Carbies. Regular Maintenance. 2 x spare wheels. Complete Engine rebuild 10 years ago . MG Sports racing steering wheel Extremely reliable. Honest hardworking car. Rego ML1166 Reg expired Oct 2009 - Current Blue Slip.

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Email: moniquelisa@acemail.com.au

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Contact Dale Powell 4947 7766 (H)

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