

Clubtorque

The official publication of
MG Car Club Newcastle Inc.



MGs & Motorsport

February 2015



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Clubtorque

Official Publication of
MG CAR CLUB NEWCASTLE INC

ABN 96 210 450 708

NSW Inc Assn Reg'd No Y0354245

Founded 1955 - MGs and MOTORSPORT

Club address:

PO Box 632, HAMILTON NSW 2303

Website address:

www.mgcarclub.com.au

Clubrooms:

Northcott Park, Cobby Street, Shortland

Monthly Meetings

2nd Friday of month 7.30pm

**RINGWOOD PARK
 MOTOR SPORT COMPLEX**

corner Italia Rd & Pacific Hwy, Balickera
 (12km north of Raymond Terrace)

Membership enquiries:

Judith Rae

20 Barraba St, Whitebridge NSW 2290

phone **4944 7356**

Other enquiries

Contact the Secretary at the club address or
 phone **4943 6239**

Cover: Australian Hillclimb Championship action
 photo courtesy of Owen Hammond Photography

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Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed within Clubtorque are those of the individual or organisation and not necessarily those of the Editor or MG Car Club Newcastle Inc.

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Coming Events - February 2015

Sun 01	WAC	Motorkhana	Awaba 10am MK1 CC1
Thurs 05	MGCCN	Working Bee	Ringwood
Sat 07		State HC 1 practice	Marulan
Sun 08		State Hillclimb Rd 1	Marulan
Mon 09	MGCCN	Magazine Assembly	Cobby Street M
Wed 11	MGCCN	Speed Panel	Cobby Street 8pm M
Thurs 12	MGCCN	Working Bee	Ringwood
Fri 13	MGCCN	Club Night	Cobby Street 7:30p M
Sun 15	MGCCN	Hillclimb	Ringwood M CC2 R2 TS1
Sun 15	HDCC	State Khanacross Rd 1	Hampton
Tues 17	MGCCN	Board Meeting	Cobby Street 7:30p M
Thurs 19	MGCCN	Working Bee	Ringwood
Sat 21	MGCCN	Young Driver Training Day	Ringwood
Sat 21	MGCCN	Natter Night	Ken McLeod
Sun 22	WAC	STATE Motorkhana Rd.1	Awaba 10am
Thurs 26	MGCCN	Working Bee	Ringwood
Sat 28	MGCCN	Dirt Facilities Meeting	Ringwood 10am
Sat 28	BLCC	State Hillclimb Rd 2	Bathurst Esses

Legend

M - Club Member

R - Register pointscore

CC - Club Championship

KC - Khanacross

MK - Motorkhana

TA - Touring Assembly

TC - Tri-Challenge

TS - Tar Speed Series

Please contact the respective Panel Chairman or Michael Snow to confirm that an event is still being conducted. Also check the website as late cancellations do happen.

Coming Events - March 2015

Sun 01	BLCC	State Hillclimb Rd 3	Bathurst Mountain Straight
Sun 01		Morpeth Motorama	Invite
Thurs 05	MGCCN	Working Bee	Ringwood
Sat 07	FOSC	Race meeting	SMSP North Circuit
Sun 08	MGCCN	Come & Try Hillclimb	Ringwood
Sun 08	ARDC	State Supersprint Rd 1	SMSP GP circuit
Mon 09	MGCCN	Magazine Assembly	Cobby Street M
Wed 11	MGCCN	Speed Panel	Cobby Street 8pm M
Thurs 12	MGCCN	Working Bee	Ringwood
Fri 13	MGCCN	Club Night	Cobby Street 7:30p M
Sat 14	KSCC	Tri Challenge Hillclimb Practice	Mt Cooperabung
Sun 15	KSCC	Tri Challenge Hillclimb Rd 1	Mt Cooperabung
Sun 15	WAC	Khanacross	Awaba 10.00am CC3 KC1
Tues 17	MGCCN	Board Meeting	Cobby Street 7:30p M
Thurs 19	MGCCN	Working Bee	Ringwood
Sat 21	MGCCN	Young Driver Training Day	Ringwood
Sat 21	AHRG	Fluffy Duck Rally	CC4 TR 1
Sun 22	WAC	STATE Motorkhana Rd.2	Awaba 10am
Sun 22	CLA	CSCA Supersprint 1	Wakefield Park
Thurs 26	MGCCN	Working Bee	Ringwood
Sat 28	MGCCN	Young Driver Training Day	Ringwood
Sun 29	MGCCN	Hillclimb	Ringwood M CC5 R3 TS2

THE BOARD

No phone calls after 9.00pm. Thank you

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Vacant

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Vacant

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THE BOARD

No phone calls after 9.00pm. Thank you

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MG Interclub

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David Walker MGCCN 4958 4941

HIRING OF
RINGWOOD HILLCLIMB FOR
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Limited available

PRESIDENT REPORT

G'day all,
Well we are off again another year of MG car clubbing & all it means to you the club member, hopefully you will all find something within the club that gives you a rewarding experience either as a MG owner, competitor, the social side of club life or whatever reason to belong to the MGCC. This being a "special" year as it's our Diamond jubilee year, That's right the clubs 60 birthday! We really should celebrate this milestone with some sort of event or party ,dinner dance what have you. Any ideas? I'll look forward to some suggestions as to how we can recognise this diamond jubilee.

The club logo came up in conversation the other day & a piece of paper came to light as to how & why the present logo was chosen back in 1988. Might be worth showing again for people who have come into the club after this time as a bit of background.

The calendar for this year is as busy as ever & finding dates to run everything always seems a challenge & speaking of which we still do need an event coordinator to fill a position on the board,

interested? Ring Dave Atkins or myself for more info.

The MG nationals are on soon so if you fancy a trip to Victoria in your MG at Easter now is the time to get motivated, there is quite a few making the trip so get on to Fran Hodgson for details & come & join us for the Easter weekend.

Looking back in last month's magazine end of year report I mentioned the ongoing problem of workers & officials for events etc. Well we have made a start with training & we will already have had a training night for the timing system at Ringwood by the time the magazine gets to you, But don't feel distressed or left out call either Dave Atkins, Rick Vincent or myself if you wish to be involved, we will be trying hard to build the numbers of officials this year so if you're bored on a weekend & want to get amongst the action make the call!

Martin Reeves has a call out to all those interested in dirt events to get started on some ideas for the dirt, so if you're interested give Martin a call.

That's me for this month look forward to seeing you all at a club do somewhere sometime.

Cheers Bryn

First Printed 1988

NEW LOGO



Yes, at last we have a new logo; one which reflects the independent nature of our Club, but still represents the fundamental reasons for the Club's existence. A relatively simple and uncluttered logo was chosen, but there are significant reasons for the various features of the design.

They are:-

- A) It is a balanced design, centred about the initials "M.G.", just as our club is balanced about the central theme of the M.G. Marque.
- B) The 'open' octagon surrounding the MG initials is significant in two ways. Firstly it indicates that the club is NOT closed to MG owners only and secondly, you may have already noticed, it forms an octagonal 'C' for competition, again centred around the MG Marque.
- C) Obviously the name NEWCASTLE MG CAR CLUB is very important to us and this design leaves no doubt about that aspect.
- D) The octagonal border is there to reinforce the MG theme. It is obvious that the 'Octagon' is a multi-sided figure, just as our club is one which covers the widest range of activities covered by the interest in MG cars, Motorsport and social activities.

A secondary design has also been adopted to be used where it's shape is appropriate. It also covers all the above design criterion.

THANKS AGAIN to all those who had an input into the selection of our new logo. It is now up to us all "To make it great in '88"and thereafter.

SOCIAL SECRETARY REPORT

2014 proved to be an extremely busy year for the club with the King Edward Park Event and a very successful Australian Hillclimb Event.

At Club nights new members are being welcomed and in 2015 we are looking forward to having more guest speakers, if you have any in mind please contact me. During 2014 we had several one being a representative from Headspace Brain Acquired Injury Service and a representative from the local Prostate Cancer Organisation.

We do have a room at the club room where children can play if they wish to and this year we will be updating this area.

There were also two movie nights held at the club rooms "Rush" and "The Plank".

The next Club Night will be February 13th at 7.30pm,

The Presentation night/Christmas Party held at the Cardiff RSL club proved very popular with an excellent attendance and it's good to see families attending these functions.

NATTER NIGHT

The first Natter Night for 2015 will be held on Saturday 21st February at Louise and Ken McLeod's home at Kotara. For further details on the address etc please contact them on 49436239 or Ken's mobile 040868242. This is a barbeque and BYO night.

If you would like to put your name down for a Natter Night please let me know the next one will be April then June, August, October.

Rose Collins 0413222828

Social Secretary

Thursday Working Bees

Contact: Alan Bates 0412 280 093
or Doug Rae 0434 141 501

HAVE YOU SENT BACK YOUR MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL YET ???

The Club financial year starts 1st March 2015 If you have not paid by then you are **UNFINANCIAL**. If you are entering an event you require a financial club membership and a current CAMS Licence (**check it out now**)

Please advise any change of details (address / cars etc)
As per our club constitution if you are not renewing your membership a letter of resignation is required. If your membership is not paid by the end of MARCH
YOU WILL NO LONGER RECEIVE A MAGAZINE

Judith Rae

Membership Secretary

Ph 4944 7356 or 0413 333 105

YOUNG DRIVER DEVELOPMENT COURSE PROGRAMME DATES 2015

PLEASE NOTE THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THAT DATES BELOW MAY CLASH WITH A TRACK HIRE. SHOULD THIS HAPPEN THEN TRAINING WOULD BE CONCENTRATED ON LOOSE SURFACES SUCH AS GRASS AND GRAVEL, ALSO CLASSROOM EDUCATION WILL BE INTRODUCED THROUGHOUT 2015.

1. Saturday 21st February, Starting 9.30am SHARP, Finishing at 3.00pm
 2. Saturday 28th March, Starting time is 9.30am SHARP, Finishing at 3.00pm
 3. Saturday 11th April, Starting time is 9.30am SHARP, Finishing at 3.00pm
 4. Saturday 11th July, Starting time is 9.30am SHARP, Finishing at 3.00pm
 5. Saturday 12th September, Starting 9.30am SHARP, Finishing at 3.00pm
- Saturday 28th November, Stating time is 9.30 am SHARP, Finishing at 3.00pm

The programme above can change during the year, please check as the above list will be updated with changes as soon as they come to hand. However it's not always possible to meet the Club Torque deadline.

If in doubt please phone me on 0412 493711 or email Greg Hunter at gh.hunter@bigpond.com.au.

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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Robert Baldwin - Full - MGB

Darren Lindsay - Associate - Commodore

Fay Pritchard - Associate - Hilux

Bradley Palmer - Associate - Subaru

We hope to see you at an event in the near future, either competition or social.

Trivia Spot

The MGB is always identified with the classic BMC 'B' series engine but when the MGB was being conceived the BMC parent company was also hatching plans for a family of V4 and V6 engines. The MGB was to have been the recipient of a 2 litre V4 but when the new engine project was scrapped it was back to the trusty 'B' series.

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DIRT FACILITIES MEETING

28/2/2015 at 10.00 am

With the hillclimb well established we are looking for people interested in getting involved in developing the dirt facilities. The meeting will look at available area, layouts, developing a workgroup and looking at budget requirements. The Car Club committee is behind this as it an expansion of our great facility and also another gateway for new members of all ages.

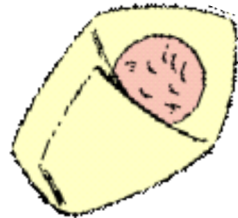
I would hope some of the old faces and current members/friends will want to get involved in the group and it is intended that the group will be a social event as well as a working group with regular working bees. No matter how old or young we will find a job!

An initial meeting will be held onsite at the Ringwood Complex at 10.00 am Saturday 28 February 2015. A sausage sizzle will be held after the meeting. Please contact Martin Reeves on 0419165671 if you have any questions and it will give me a hint how many sausages to cook!

Regards

Martin Reeves

**Congratulations
on the safe arrival
of a baby boy Riley
Charles to Jennean
and Damien. The first
Grandchild for Alan and
Gina Bates. Enjoy!!**



POSITIONS VACANT

Following the AGM and Election of Board Members for the 2015 year we were left with three unfilled positions.

These are:-

Publicity Officer

The role is to inform members of the general public of our activities.

Works to get information about our Club and it's activities into newspapers and magazines, to radio and TV stations and via social media connections that are now in place.

May assist the Register Captain with displays and parades, and the Editor with information for the Magazine

The work is aimed at keep a high profile of the Club whenever possible. This person would ideally assist with extra promotion for large events such as State Hillclimb events at Ringwood, King Edward Park, etc.

The Publicity Officer should enlist the support of other members to assist in the Role by forming a Publicity Panel.

Chairman of Equipment Maintenance Panel

This panel is responsible for the maintenance of equipment at the Ringwood Complex. Does not have to fix it personally, but organises necessary work to be done by others, so that equipment is fully functional.

This Panel can make recommendations to the Board re equipment needed or major repairs required.

Event Co-Ordinator

Is an important part of setting up the year's calendar along with the Club Captain to construct the Club Championships. The Event Co-ordinator liaises with the Event Panel Chairs on upcoming events that they must have organised in advance.

The main function of this role is to keep the calendar updated, with event changes that may happen, and to supply to the Magazine Editor a list of coming events for insertion into the next the edition. You will monitor CAMS Calendars and in particular the calendars of local clubs.

Should you wish to know more details on any of these Positions Please contact Dave Atkins (Vice President) on 0415 963 515





YOUNG DRIVER DEVELOPMENT COURSE & COME TRY EVENTS 2015

Our home grown YDDC conducted by the MGCCN is starting to come of age; the course which commenced in 2000 will celebrate its 15th year in February.

Many things have changed during the 15 years; the original course not only catered for students under the age of 18 years, the original concept included seniors as well.

Over the years between 2000/03, the senior's participation rate grew at an exceptionally fast rate, so much so, that it became apparent after 3 years that it was no longer practical to accept senior and junior students in a combined program. Records show numbers of 40 plus were not unusual.

Looking back, I am amazed how we ever coped with such large numbers of students. Along came the CAMS Come & Try format, now it was possible to involve senior students into a training programme that was totally specific to their needs.

I have vivid memories of certain drivers who shall remain unnamed, they though it was fair game to give instructors the fright of their lives. Eventually the seniors learnt that just by slowing down a little, they would actually go faster, Thank God, these terrifying experiences appear to have mellowed, if not disappeared altogether.

For those of you who are new to our club, those who have not yet participated in a motor sport, COME & TRY event, please read the information ad-

vert elsewhere in this issue of Club Torque. The event will be held on Sunday 8th of March, meanwhile for more information ring me on 0412493711.

Looking forward into 2015 our objective is to increase our YDDC student level. It's possible this may be achieved by gaining support of the other motor sport CAMS clubs in the district.

In the past we have worked with the Jaguar Drivers Club of Australia Newcastle Branch. During this period excellent results were achieved for both clubs.

The Jaguar Club awarded student scholarships, which were funded by their club, the MGCCN in-turn carried out the practical training.

2015 will be a milestone year us in other ways, a nice clean and comfortable Training Centre to work in. Three years ago, Don Anderson arranged a donation of two ex mine sited demountable buildings. After delivery to the club's property, Dad's Army have been busy with the renovation, air-conditioning, new furniture, kitchen, full paint job etc.

YDDC team congratulate and thank all those involved in the renovation.

And of course we have for 2015 a new track, and a new paddock area, both of which will provide endless opportunity for designing new practical exercises and tests. Again our best wishes and thank you to the Ringwood Development Team... NOW wouldn't be fantastic if Daniel Ricciardo won the 2015 F1 World Championship!!!!.....and McLaren came last!!!!



JENSEN PARTNERS

SOLICITORS

Graeme Jensen has now established a new law firm, JENSEN PARTNERS and is the sole Principal of that firm.

Graeme has in excess of 35 years experience in the legal profession, having been admitted as a solicitor in New South Wales in 1977.

Jensen Partners adopts a practical approach to the law and is committed to the use of plain language and regular communication with clients in servicing their legal needs.

Graeme Jensen has particular expertise in the following areas of legal practice:

Residential and commercial conveyancing, including major strata and land developments;

Commercial leasing;

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Litigation;

Wills and Probate;

SMF acquisitions and borrowing; and

Liquor licensing, including new grants, transfers, boundary re-definition and breaches.

Instructions in matters relating to other aspects of the law will also be accepted.

The office of Jensen Partners is located at Carrington and Graeme is available for home or office visits by appointment.

For assistance please contact Graeme on 0419 279 959 or visit our website at www.jensenpartners.com.au



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Mick Saide 0448 203 025

CLUB CAPTAIN REPORT

G'day Member,
Welcome back everybody to what should be a great year of motor sport. I had a good first year in the role of Club Captain and learnt a lot from it. I hope to further improve on my recording and reporting of the point scores this year and continue helping in club events. There have only been a few events so far so no scores this month, but they will appear in the March

magazine. One of the key features I am planning on building into my scoring is to have a link on the car club website to an up to date point score report. In order to do this I have to re-write part of the application I developed last year. I hope to get this feature out within the next couple of months and will let you all know when it is available.

Hope to see you all at an event soon!



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FIFTY BOB

Both the November and December Clubtorque magazines have featured a strange looking polished aluminium and blue painted veteran sports car. That car is the 1914 Vauxhall known as Fifty Bob.

The "A" type Vauxhall was introduced in 1910, but the factory special, chassis number A210 was made in 1914. The chassis number, years later, giving Hope Bartlett the chance to try to denigrate the car as just 50 bobs worth (or two pound ten in the currency of the time) when it beat his new Bugatti.

The car made a name for itself by competing very strongly and frequently winning all types of motorsport events, before and after the First World War.

Boyd Edkins was not only a very capable driver of the car but capitalised on the advertising value of motorsport by sometimes changing the body on the car to surprise the press and other competitors.

Hill climbs, circuit events, reliability trails, speedway and intercity runs were all success stories for Edkins and Fifty Bob.

The times that Fifty Bob achieved



breaking the Artillery Hill record, on the Heathcote Road south of Sydney are difficult to achieve even today in a modern car on the sealed bitumen road.

In 1916 Edkins lowered the Sydney to Melbourne record to 15 hours with the car.

The specifications of the car were not unique for the era but the balance and coherence of the components resulted in performance, handling and reliability which were outstanding for the time and even noteworthy today.

The engine is a three litre, four cylinders with non detachable head and dual ignition with eight spark plugs. The breathing is enhanced by a large Claudel Hobson barrel throttle carburettor and four into one fabricated tube exhaust manifold. The valve timing features some overlap at top dead centre (unusual for the time) and an amazing twelve mm of valve lift, made possible by roller cam followers. Crank handle start of course, as only Cadillac's had electric self starters in 1914.

The transmission begins with an enclosed multi plate metal to metal clutch that is lubricated with graphite powder; there is a clutch brake to quicken the up changes. The gearbox is four speeds, non synchromesh, with second gear a delight to use for all those interesting corners. Torque tube drive to the final drive ensures

that all possible weight is transferred to the rear wheels to improve traction on the unsealed roads that the car was designed for. Similar drive line to a modern Sprintcar.

The chassis was shortened and front wheel brakes were added in 1923 to keep ahead of the newer post war models. The car continued to race up until the late 1950s when finally cars like the new MG A could see it off.

The car was featured at the 2014 Australian hill climb championships because of the connection with hill climbing and the coincidence of its 100th birthday. This was news worthy enough to achieve front page photos and editorials in the Saturday Newcastle Herald; the articles mentioned Ringwood and the Australian hill climb championship.

At 100 years of age Fifty Bob is still getting people interested in Motor Sport!

The Herald article along with local media of all types, organised by other members of MGCC of Newcastle, attracted a good turnout of spectators at Ringwood; some seeing hill climbing for the first time.

Rob Rowe

COME & TRY HILLCLIMB**SUNDAY 8TH MARCH 2015****Held at RINGWOOD PARK HILLCLIMB
organised by MGCC Newcastle Inc.****Italia Rd BALICKERA****(12 Km North of Raymond Terrace)**

Are you tired of being a spectator and would like to join in the fun? Hillclimbing is one of the safest ways to get involved in Motorsport. It is only you against the clock – no one else to worry about. You don't have to be a current member of a CAMS approved Car Club, you can just come along and try it out for a \$35 entry fee. By purchasing an L1 Come & Try Licence for an extra \$25 this gives you day membership and day insurance for a non competition event.

If you like it and you wish to continue to compete you have 6 months to cash in the L1 Licence on a 12 month L2S licence, costing \$119. CAMS approved safety equipment will be available on the day i.e helmets (provided with hairnets), fire extinguishers and any other CAMS requirements. Experienced hillclimbers will be available as passengers if required. Entrants will walk the track where comments on approaching and leaving corners will be given, where to brake and other valuable information.

You don't need a fancy competition car you can just bring the shopping car. Just relax and have some fun we will take care of all the CAMS paperwork.

Supplementary Regulations will be available on the website.

www.mgcarclub.com.au

For further information and to register your intention to enter -

please contact

Greg Hunter 0412 493 711

Email: gh.hunter@bigpond.com.au

Doug /Judith Rae 4944 7356 / 0413 333 105

Email: hooraedj@bigpond.com

REGISTER REPORT

Well, what a great start to the year!! With our first Register Run and 20 attendees all up. Unfortunately, at the last moment I was unable to attend, so I called upon our stand in Coxswain and very capable Helmsman - Ken McLeod to take over in my absence.

With 17 starters the crew left the club house and from all accounts had a good run to Tea Gardens via Medowie Road for a little side detour to get away from the potential holiday traffic.

A couple of members made their own way to the Boat Shed and met the main group taking the numbers to 20. Ken reports that the staff appeared a little overwhelmed, although I had pre-booked tables for 15 with a note that this number could change, the staff were very accommodating and were very responsive in being able to meet everyone's needs with their usual coffee, cakes and assorted morning tea condiments.

A big thank you must be given to Ken for the last minute call-up. Well done, and thank you. Also thank you to all who turned out and helped make for a great morning.

Our next run Register Run

I have been advised that the Natter Night (being held by Ken Short), that had been scheduled for March has regrettably been cancelled. So it was suggested to me if a register run could be considered.

After reviewing the calendar it was further suggested that Sunday, 22 March could be a worthwhile register run, as the HSRCA (Historic Sports Car Racing Association) have hired Ringwood for a Closed Club Hillclimb for their members. Being an Historic Sports Car Club it is expected that there will be some interesting older vehicles there.

The event is scheduled to start at 9.30am on the Sunday morning, so I would suggest that we met at the Club House at 9.00am for a 9.15 start, that way the track events should be underway upon our arrival. As always, I am happy if members wish to make their own way and meet us at the venue. If you are planning on meeting the 'Runners' at the venue, could you please let me know so I can chase you up and ensure your name/s are reported on the run sheet. Also, just as a thought, its probably a good idea, particularly if you are running a vehicle on conditional plates and something goes pear shape, then I (and the MGCCN) can ensure you are covered under the RMS Conditional Plate rules, just a thought.

Rose and the Club ladies will also be in attendance running the canteen so as always tea and coffee and a kind smile will be on hand

Please be advised that there is no scheduled Register Run for February.

Until our next run,
Fletch & Yvonne

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Michael Potts
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JOKE CORNER

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