

Clubtorque

The official publication of
MG Car Club Newcastle Inc.



MGs & Motorsport

FEBRUARY 2018



PETER HOUGHTON COMPETING IN THE VICTORIAN ALPINE RALLY

See page 22 for report

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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)

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Ted Dial

(M) 0408 562 748 (Not after 9.00pm)

Email: edial@exemail.com.au

Other enquiries

Contact the Secretary at the club address or
 phone **0418 611 610**

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Coming Events FEBRUARY 2018

| | | | |
|----------|-----------|---------------------------------|--|
| Thurs 1 | | Dads Army | Ringwood |
| Fri 2 | | Bathurst 12 Hour | |
| Sat 3 | | Bathurst 12 Hour | Mt Panorama |
| Sun 4 | | Bathurst 12 Hour | Mt Panorama |
| Mon 5 | | Magazine Assy | Mt Panorama |
| Tues 6 | | School Term Start - West | 2:00 pm Cobby St |
| Thurs 8 | | Dads Army | |
| Fri 9 | | Club Night | Ringwood |
| Sun 11 | MGCC N | Khanacross | 7:30 pm Cobby St M Ringwood M KC1 CC2 Dirt/Tar |
| Thurs 15 | | Dads Army | |
| Sun 18 | MGCC N | CAMS Club Challenge A2 | Ringwood |
| Sun 18 | WAC | STATE Khanacross Rd 1 | Ringwood M |
| Tues 20 | | Board Meeting | Awaba |
| Thurs 22 | | Dads Army | 7:30 pm Cobby St M |
| Sat 24 | MGCC N | YDDC 1 | Ringwood |
| Sun 25 | MGCC N | Club Run | Ringwood M |
| Sun 25 | WAC | STATE Motorkhana Rd 1 10am | TBA M R3 Awaba Dirt |

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 2018

| | | | |
|---------------|---------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Thurs 1 | | Dads Army | Ringwood |
| Sat 3 | BLCC | STATE Hillclimb Rd 1 - Esses | Bathurst |
| Sat 3 | ARDC | STATE S'sprint Rd 1 | SMSP GP |
| Sun 4 | MGCCN | Motorkhana | Ringwood M MK1 CC4 Dirt |
| Sun 4 | BLCC | STATE Hillclimb Rd 2 - Mt Straight | Bathurst |
| Mon 5 | | Magazine Assy | 2:00 pm Cobby St |
| Thurs 8 | | Dads Army | Ringwood |
| Fri 9 | | Club Night | 7:30 pm Cobby St M |
| Sat 10 | AHRG | Fluffy Duck TR | TBA TR1 CC3 Dirt/Tar |
| Sun 11 | Club Lotus | CSCA S'sprint Rd 1 | Wakefield Park |
| Sun 11 | WAC | STATE Khanacross Rd 2 10am | Awaba |
| Sun 11 | MX5 Club | Private Hire Hillclimb | Ringwood |
| Wed 14 | | Speed Panel | 7:30 pm Cobby St M |
| Thurs 15 | | Dads Army | Ringwood |
| Sat 17 | TSCC | Tri-Chall Rd 1 Pr | Tamworth |
| Sat 17 | Mer- cedes | All German Day | Wickham Park Invite |
| Sun 18 | TSCC | Tri-Chall Rd 1 | Tamworth TC1 |
| Sun 18 | WAC | STATE Motorkhana Rd 2 | Awaba Dirt |
| Tues 20 | | Board Meeting | 7:30 pm Cobby St M |
| Thurs 22 | | Dads Army | Ringwood |
| Fri 23 | | Australian F1 GP | Melbourne Albert Park |
| Sat 24 | MG HR | 2017 Concours re-run | Lambton Park Invite |
| Sat 24 | | Australian F1 GP | Melbourne Albert Park |
| Sun 25 | MGCCN | Hillclimb A4 | Ringwood M TS2 CC5 |
| Sun 25 | | Australian F1 GP | Melbourne Albert Park |
| Thurs 29 | | Dads Army | Ringwood |
| Fri 30 | | Easter Friday | |
| Fri 30 | MG TAS | MG Nationals | Tasmania Reg |
| Sat 31 | MG TAS | MG Nationals | Tasmania Concours CC6 |

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RINGWOOD PRIVATE PRACTICE/TESTING

Limited availability on **Thursdays only**
\$35

Due to changes in our CAMS insurance we are obliged to notify CAMS at least two days prior to the day

Contact

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Michael Snow 0432 772 044

Greg Hunter 0412 493 711

PRESIDENTS REPORT

By the time you get to read this, the 2018 Club year will be underway with the Club Run on Australia Day to Murrays Beach on Lake Macquarie, having been an amazing success with over 50 people attending. Round 1 of the Ringwood Hillclimb Series and Club Championship already over, unfortunately for some the event was oversubscribed with those entering late being placed on the reserve list or missing out altogether.

We have a full calendar to give everyone the opportunity to be involved in the Club's activities in some way throughout the year.

Everyone is watching with interest (and a degree of impatience) the development of Circuit Italia. I can report that when we attended our last Dad's Army day for 2017, on Thursday 14th December, that there were a group of Surveyors working on the site, with many new white pegs to be seen. When we arrived on 18th January work with heavy equipment was underway. We can now be very confident that by the latter part of 2018 there will actually be a "Circuit Italia".

There is a lot to look forward to in 2018, however, I think it worth reflecting on some of the achievements of 2017.

Ringwood has certainly been the key to the Club's success from both a financial and motorsport perspective. The crew affectionately known as "Dad's Army" have achieved quite a bit during the year, all aimed at maintaining and improving the facilities for our members and visitors.

The ongoing maintenance tasks are now taken care of by a dedicated few, who are self-directed and take care of things like the large areas that require mowing on a regular basis, the emptying of bins, cleaning of toilets, track cleaning before events, cleaning of offices and Canteen etc. Maintenance of the track and surrounds involving repainting of "ripple strips", white lines and guardrail is ongoing, as is maintaining the back fill along the track edges etc. The 3 motorkhana grounds have been prepared for the events as has the dirt track used for Khanacross events. The ever-growing fleet of machinery also gets maintained to ensure its ongoing reliability and longevity.

The list of "projects" carried out is also impressive, given the amount of work involved in some of them.

As a result of work done in 2017, we now again have the large screen displays for the Hillclimb timing system, a grassed "Competitor Paddock", two new tanks at the toilet block, with the old ones put back into service elsewhere. Permanent anchors have been installed for the Club marquee tie down ropes. Due to falling limbs, a couple of dangerous gum trees had to be removed from the Paddock area. The REDARC solar battery charging system is now in and working so that the vehicle batteries never go flat during extended periods of idle time. The "Training Room" has had a new shade roof erected and two new air conditioners installed. These are just the bigger jobs! There have been many smaller "projects" completed.

During 2017 over 500 people came through the gates for Dad's Army working bees! (OK some of them were the same person counted many times!!) In all there were 30 people who attended at some of the working bees during the year. The lowest being just 4 to the highest being 15, the average being 9 each day. (I won't report the average age of the participants!) I will however thank each and everyone of the team for the work that they do for the Club.

To make the work at Ringwood a bit easier we have made a couple of significant purchases which were reported during the year. The major outlay being on the replacement of the 60-year-old Chamberlain with a new Apollo 85HP tractor fitted with a 4-way front bucket and a backhoe. (The power steering is most appreciated by those who drove the Chamberlain in the past!) Needless to say, it has taken a bit of getting used to the size and layout of the new machine, but the regular operators are getting up to speed now. During the year, we also purchased another Ride-On Mower to supplement the 9-year-old unit we have.

After all of that we still managed positive cash flow for the 2016/2017 year and should go close again in 2017/2018.

Thanks to the strong financial position the Club is in, the Board has again decided to absorb the inevitable cost increases we incur and NOT pass them on to members, by way of increased membership fees.

This year, there were some very close results in the various Pointscore categories, and in several, the final outcomes were not decided until the final event of the year. Congratulations to all who featured at the Presentation Night back on 8th December. It was a great pleasure to bestow Life Membership on Michael Snow, in recognition of his very significant service to the Club and Motorsport in general.

2018 in many ways, will be "More of the Same", (why would you change things that have worked well?) Having said that, we can't rest on our laurels either, we need to be always on the search for improvements and new ideas that benefit our members.

This year, I am keen to see Club Nights be more interesting, with some guest speakers to entertain us, the first of these is a very experienced race car driver, most recently in a V8 Ute at the Newcastle Supercars weekend last November. Some of you will recognise the name - Richard Mork, a few have even raced against him in years gone by! I'm sure he will be entertaining.

The Ringwood facility is set for more improvements and upgrades as the list of projects was updated at a full meeting of Dad's Army on 15th December. One of the next major projects being the erection of a shade marquee in the main spectator area, this is well underway and hopefully can be completed in time for the CAMS Club Challenge on the 18th of February.

The year ahead will be an exciting one, but not without some challenges for our motorsport menu. With the progress on the circuit next door, we will have to find a way to completely suppress the dust from the Motorkhana Grounds and Khanacross tracks, or cease running these events. I know there are some (many) within the Club who have no interest in these disciplines, but they are the lowest cost forms of

PTO

Con't.

motorsport available to us and are a great way to develop skills required to get the best out of a driver and car in most other types of competitive motorsport. I will be disappointed if we can no longer cater to these events.

Another challenge for the Board, is trying to find ways to engage more of our members in the activities of the Club, we have many members with MGs that we never see and equally, too many cars on Historic Registration that are never seen.

Ken McLeod has, and continues to organise Club Runs to interesting places, both mid-week and at weekends, all of which involve short distances of travel on good sealed roads, so there is no barrier to bringing the MG or older classic car out, and most of all enjoy the company of like-minded members.

Bernard Corbett's return to the Board as Rally Panel Co-ordinator, will see us better informed about the events that make up our Road Events Series. (Touring Assemblies). Most of these are run by AHRG, with one event to be run by us. Hopefully we can increase the level of interest in these events and get back to the numbers we attracted in the height of popularity for the "Rat Dog" Rallies of the late 90's.

The MG National Meeting for 2018 is rapidly approaching and hopefully those intending to make the trip to Tasmania, have their travel and accommodation arrangements in place.

I am looking forward to another big year of MGs & Motorsport.

I hope to see you at an event soon.

Dave Atkins

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NEW MEMBERS

New members approved by the board to join the club: 16th JANUARY 2017

BRADLEY HOPE – ASSOCIATE MEMBER – 1987 MITSUBISHI COLT

NICOLE BELL – ASSOCIATE MEMBER

THOMAS SHERWOOD – ASSOCIATE MEMBER

LESLIE SCHWEBEL – FULL MEMBER – 1954 MGTF, 1971 MGBGT

CRAIG STYLES – ASSOCIATE MEMBER – 1963 VOLKSWAGON

MADDISON CLARK – JUNIOR MEMBER – MAZDA 3

ELIJAH CLARK – JUNIOR MEMBER

BRENDAN CHASTON – ASSOCIATE MEMBER – F TYPE JAGUAR

HOPE TO SEE YOU AT A CLUB NIGHT OR EVENT SOON

LOOK

HAVE YOU BEEN LATELY?

IT'S CLUB NIGHT THIS FRIDAY 9th FEBRUARY 2018
 COME & ENJOY A CHAT WITH FELLOW CLUB MEMBERS
 ENJOY A TEA OR COFFEE WITH
 SUPPER AFTERWARDS. ITS YOUR CLUB

LOOK



**MG CAR CLUB (NEWCASTLE) – CLUB NIGHT
 AT THE CLUB ROOMS – COBBY STREET,
 SHORTLAND
 FRIDAY 9TH FEBRUARY 2018**

Guest Speaker

V8 Ute Driver – Richard Mork.

(Richard is a very experienced race driver having competed in over 160 races in the last 20 years, competing in a wide range of categories.)

Richard will give us a first hand impression of the Newcastle Street Circuit – Ute Racing and more....



HILLCLIMB RINGWOOD 28 JANUARY 2018

OUTRIGHT RESULTS

| Place | CarNo | Name | Vehicle | Class | Time |
|-------|-------|------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|-------|
| 1 | 213 | Christian THOMPSON (J) | JB Clubman | Jun Spec | 74.83 |
| 2 | 444 | Mitch CRAIG | Gemini Coupe | Tp 4 o 2 ltr | 75.61 |
| 3 | 32 | Stephen BUTCHER | Stinger 014iX | Tp 5 u 2 ltr | 75.66 |
| 4 | 151 | James PEARSON | Mazda RX7 | MS Modern o 2 ltr | 75.72 |
| 5 | 153 | Nathan ABBOTT | VW Beetle | Tp 3 u 2 ltr | 75.89 |
| 6 | 183 | Warwick BERGE | Datsun 1200 | Tp 3 u 2 ltr | 77.39 |
| 7 | 83 | Steve BRYDIE | Datsun 1200 | Tp 3 u 2 ltr | 77.53 |
| 8 | 71 | Raymond BROMLEY | Locost 7 replica | Grp 2A/2C u 2 ltr | 77.73 |
| 9 | 68 | Chris CATHERSIDES | Stinger FV 015 IX | Tp 5 u 2 ltr | 78.35 |
| 9 | 10 | Steve WOODS | Renault Megane RS275 | Tp 2 o 2 ltr | 78.35 |
| 11 | 99 | Rick VINCENT | Lotus Elise 111R | Special Vehicle o 3 ltr | 78.45 |
| 12 | 89 | Bill TOCHER | Renault Megane RS250 | Tp 2 o 2 ltr | 78.54 |
| 13 | 118 | Tony LAWRENCE | Ford Escort | Tp 4 o 2 ltr | 78.98 |
| 14 | 327 | Dylan THOMAS | Toyota 86 | Tp 3 u 2 ltr | 79.42 |
| 15 | 712 | Adam FORD | Ford Perana | Tp 4 o 2 ltr | 80.33 |
| 16 | 117 | Wayne GROSSER | FPV GS | Tp 2 o 2 ltr | 80.64 |
| 17 | 841 | Mark GRANGER | Ford Falcon XR6 | Tp 3 o 2 ltr | 80.72 |
| 18 | 11 | Tom CLEMENS | VW Beetle | Tp 3 u 2 ltr | 80.75 |
| 19 | 180 | Russell WEST | Datsun 180B | Tp 3 u 2 ltr | 81.13 |
| 20 | 999 | Ryan BATES | Nissan Pulsar | Tp 4 u 2 ltr | 81.26 |
| 21 | 80 | Gregg NOONAN | Mazda MX5 | MS Modern 1.4 - 2 ltr | 81.52 |
| 22 | 279 | Wayne LEWIS | MG F | MS Modern 1.4 - 2 ltr | 81.54 |
| 23 | 777 | Garry CHRISTOPHERSON | Holden Monaro | Tp 2 o 2 ltr | 81.61 |
| 24 | 847 | Matt GRANGER | Ford Falcon XR6 | Tp 3 o 2 ltr | 81.64 |
| 25 | 157 | Ben HALL | Nissan Skyline R33 | Tp 4 o 2 ltr | 81.69 |
| 26 | 366 | Mark DE GIOIA | Datsun Sunny | Tp 3 u 2 ltr | 81.70 |
| 27 | 53 | Harry HARRIS | Honda Integra | Tp 2 u 2 ltr | 81.95 |
| 28 | 263 | Andrew GOUGH | Nissan 200SX | Special Vehicle o 3 ltr | 82.30 |
| 29 | 236 | Luke KILBY | Toyota Soarer | Special Vehicle o 3 ltr | 82.31 |
| 30 | 857 | Brian FORD | Castrol Celica GT4 | Special Vehicle o 3 ltr | 82.37 |
| 30 | 997 | Tyler CANNON | Mitsubishi EVO V | Special Vehicle o 3 ltr | 82.37 |
| 32 | 369 | Matthew BATES | Nissan Pulsar | Tp 4 u 2 ltr | 82.45 |
| 33 | 47 | Andrew WALKER | Turnham Bandit | Grp 2A/2C u 2 ltr | 82.50 |
| 34 | 553 | Adam HARRIS | Honda Integra | Tp 2 u 2 ltr | 82.62 |
| 35 | 48 | Jeff NEWEY | MG B | MS Classic 1.4 - 2 ltr | 82.97 |
| 36 | 15 | Daniel DALMAZZO | Holden Commodore | Tp 3 o 2 ltr | 82.98 |
| 37 | 78 | Andrew RIGG | Toyota Starlet | Tp 4 o 2 ltr | 83.34 |
| 37 | 70 | Brian SUTTON | Caterham BDR O/C | Sports 2A/2C u 2 ltr | 83.34 |
| 39 | 219 | Michael WHITEMAN | Monaro CV8 | Tp 3 o 2 ltr | 83.45 |
| 40 | 109 | Andrew FRASER | Corvette | MS Classic o 2 ltr | 83.52 |
| 41 | 54 | John FINCH | Mazda MX5 | MS Modern 1.4 - 2 ltr | 83.53 |
| 42 | 136 | Andy PETERS | MG B | MS Classic 1.4 - 2 ltr | 83.86 |
| 43 | 31 | Robert JACKSON | Honda Integra | Tp 2 u 2 ltr | 83.88 |
| 44 | 51 | Lyall CLARKE | MG F | MS Modern 1.4 - 2 ltr | 84.29 |
| 45 | 330 | Jeff SCHMITT | BMW M3 | Tp 1 o 2 ltr | 84.33 |
| 46 | 360 | Darren LINDSAY | VP Commodore | Tp 3 o 2 ltr | 84.37 |
| 47 | 791 | Bronwyn LEWIS | MG F | MS Modern 1.4 - 2 ltr | 85.31 |
| 48 | 12 | Damien SPINKS | SRT Mk1 F Vee | Tp 5 u 2 ltr | 85.37 |

SPEED PANEL REPORT

Good afternoon all

The first Speed panel meeting was held on Wednesday night 10th January.

Item covered were as follows:

CAMS Club Challenge Team Make-up: Discussions where had as to the possible make up of our MG Car Club Newcastle team for this years Cams Club Challenge to be held at Ringwood on February 18th. Several scenarios where put forward as to the team make up with further analysis to be conducted prior to confirmation

Verification of tracks to be used during the 2018 Tar Series Hill Climbs: tracks for this years Tar Series Hill Climb will remain as per calendar

Speed Panel: Discussions where had as to the viability of the Speed Panel in it's current format, a decision was made to table a motion the the Speed Panel Meeting in is current format be scrapped and a new panel raised - The Competition Panel comprising representatives from Speed, Auto -Test and Rally. The possibility of including other disciplines was also discussed. This new panel would meet every second month on the second Wednesday at 1930 at the Cobby Street Rooms

It was also discussed that the Tar Series would be run as a Multi Club event similar to last year

Your Sincerely

Steve Mcleod

Cont'

| | | | | | |
|----|-----|-------------------|------------------|-------------------------|-------|
| 49 | 43 | David HARRIS | Honda Civic | Tp 2 u 2 ltr | 85.81 |
| 50 | 246 | Paul WHITWORTH | Subaru Liberty | Special Vehicle u 3 ltr | 85.98 |
| 51 | 172 | Alex FRODL (J) | Renault Clio | Jun Prod | 86.30 |
| 52 | 65 | Andrew FERENCE | Mazda MX5 | MS Modern 1.4 - 2 ltr | 86.31 |
| 53 | 359 | Matthew WHITWORTH | Subaru Liberty | Special Vehicle u 3 ltr | 86.45 |
| 54 | 808 | Ben SOUTHCOMBE | Suzuki Swift Gti | Tp 2 u 2 ltr | 86.94 |
| 55 | 744 | Luke GARLAND | Ford Focus Zetec | Tp 2 u 2 ltr | 87.03 |
| 56 | 19 | David ATKINS | Datsun 240Z | MS Classic o 2 ltr | 87.95 |
| 57 | 161 | Terry PERKINS | Mazda MX5 | MS Modern 1.4 - 2 ltr | 88.35 |
| 58 | 605 | Richard GRANT | Mazda RX7 | Tp 2 o 2 ltr | 88.64 |
| 59 | 29 | Kevin AKERS | Subaru Impreza | Special Vehicle u 3 ltr | 90.03 |
| 60 | 116 | Allan EVANS | Triumph TR7 | Tp 1 u 2 ltr | 91.31 |
| 61 | 40 | Jeffrey RIMES | Toyota Corolla | Tp 3 u 2 ltr | 91.47 |
| 62 | 296 | Gary PIPER | MG B | MS Classic 1.4 - 2 ltr | 92.12 |
| 63 | 67 | Randolph FERNANCE | Chrysler Galant | Tp 2 u 2 ltr | 96.14 |
| 64 | 162 | Raewyn PERKINS | Mazda MX5 | MS Modern 1.4 - 2 ltr | 97.93 |
| 65 | 242 | David MILLER | Volvo 242GT | Tp 2 o 2 ltr | 98.60 |

My own Fabulous Adventure—Richard Swinton

Way back when I was a fit and callow youth of twenty years around 1968, I sold my lovely MG TD (originally rescued from a dodgy car yard in Melbourne) and bought an 'old racing car' - an Austin Healey 100S. A classic English sports racing car, 55 of them were built to race to bolster the image of the standard Austin Healey 100. All alloy body, disc brakes all round, special Weslake head, etc.



I was an impecunious University student, and in retrospect, I can't imagine a sillier car for me to own at the time—no fan, no windscreen or weather protection, and no garage at home! It had a streamlined front after an earlier owner had a hill climb accident.

Still, I loved it and enjoyed taking girls for 120mph trips down the Geelong freeway (quite legal back then). I bought it for \$2000 (half borrowed from my mother) and sold it at the end of the year for the same so I could repay my mother when I went to work in the NT for a year. And I'm listed as an owner in John Blandens book—'Historic racing Cars in Australia'

After abandoning an academic training and marrying a farm girl, I went farming for 25 years—eventually kicked out of the industry by Keatings "the recession we had to have". But while farming, a mate and I visited the 1983 Winton Historic Races and, lo and behold, there was my Austin Healey 100S now owned by a Sydney guy. We chatted and I got a photo of



my self sitting in it. He offered to let me drive it around the pits paddock, but I refused the offer—too demeaning after the Geelong freeway trips! Still it was exciting to see the old girl again 15 year after I sold it.

Then time went by, I abandoned farming, joined the Department of Agriculture as an irrigation Officer and then came to the north Coast as a Water Policy Officer and eventually joined the NRCMCC as a proud owner of a BMW R100S.

Reproduced with kind permission from the author Richard Swinton & the Northern Rivers Classic Motorcycle Club magazine

My children are still in Victoria—my daughter living in Gisbourne, about 60 km north of Melbourne, and my son buying and improving a 500 acre cattle farm on the edge of the Stony Rises an hour or so west of Geelong near Camperdown. (Yes, this is part of the story, not just filler)

On one trip some years ago I went down to see them and visited the Autoclassica, a display of classic cars in the Melbourne Exhibition building. And there, to my surprise was another AH 100S, fully restored and owned by a guy in SA. I contacted him and he told me that my car was now in Switzerland and recently sold for 600,000 euros!

A couple of weeks ago, I flew down to Melbourne to visit my kids again, but mainly to help my son design a set of cattle yards incorporating the old dairy yards on the property. My daughter collected me from the airport and the next day my son collected me and we drove down to his property. A hard weeks work and then back to my daughters place.



Now Gisbourne, where my daughter lives, is only 20 minutes from Bacchus Marsh through which we drove and I had only recently learnt from a magazine that the guy who restored my old AH 100S before it went to its new owner in Switzerland, had his workshop in Bacchus Marsh. So I rang him and he invited me down to talk about my car and look at his setup and have a coffee.



When I got there he had another Healey—a 100M, the club racing version of the Healey, but this one modified so it was more powerful than even my old girl. And he handed me the keys, jumped in and said lets go for a run!! So nearly 50 years after I bought and sold the Healey 100S, I was able to relive the experience. We even found a stretch of road to top the mythical 100 mph! A wonderful experience!! It cost \$240,000 to restore my old girl—still well out of my reach, but lots of memories.

RS

AUTO TEST CO-ORDINATOR

My position last year was as Director Assisting No. 2. My main duties were looking after the drinks in the Cobby St Clubhouse and assisting Libby with the Ringwood Canteen. For this year my position is Autotest Co-Ordinator. So far I have organised the major officials and drawn up draft Supp Regs for the Khanacross on 11.2.18. A permit application was sent to CAMS on Thursday evening and as soon as that comes back entries will be opened and I will organise some promotional material to go on Facebook and the website. I already have a couple of members that have expressed an interest in competing.

The next event I will be organising will be the Motorkhana on 4.3.18 so I will be starting on that event shortly.

To help with my role I have been organising to do training with CAMS and at our own events, along with being a trackside official at events such as the Bathurst 12 hour. Hopefully in the near future I will be available as a Clerk of Course or other senior official for our events.

Cheers,
Chris.



RINGWOOD PARK – MULTICLUB DIRT/TAR KHANACROSS

Sunday 11th February 2018

Enter on the day for just \$40.00 (\$20 for Junior Drivers)

Do the whole event or just the Tar Tests, it's your choice.

For Supplementary Regulations and Entry form go to:-

www.mgcarclub.com.au



**Spectators are
welcome –
Admission is
free.**



REGISTER SECRETARY REPORT

There are now approximately 122 Historic Vehicles registered with the RMS through the car club.

In December two new vehicle registrations have been processed including the following:

1926 Rolls Royce 20HP

1974 VW Transporter

Fourteen vehicles previously registered processed registration renewals.

So far in January a further nine registrations have been processed that includes three new vehicles.

Do not forget that Historic Registration is conditional on maintaining full paid up membership of the car club so timely renewal of your Club Membership prior to the end of March deadline is required.

Allan Evans – Register Secretary.

Thursday Working Bees

Contact: Doug Rae 0434 141 501

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THE CONTINUING STORY OF THESE THREE HISTORIC CARS AS TOLD

BY ROB ROWE

Page 32 of Clubtorque December 2017 shows a photo of some interesting Hillclimb history that was in action at a test and tune day whilst Dads Army toiled away on Thursday 23rd November 2017

Right to left in the photo is The Walton Jap; built and raced by Bruce Walton in the 1950s. The car has an 1100cc JAP vee twin air cooled engine mounted behind the driver (unusual in the day) Bruce Walton was Australian Hillclimb Champion from 1958 to 1964.

The Walton JAP is pictured with current custodian and driver Terry Wright. Terry was sorting out fuel pressure problems; not uncommon with the Amal carburettors, designed for gravity feed, when pressure fed as in this application.

The centre car in the Clubtorque photo is a 1928 OM 672 Superba Special, jointly owned by Tony Caldersmith and Paul Hamilton. Tony bought the bare chassis in 1979 and a long restoration is coming to fruition with the car's first drive on a race track at Ringwood that day.

The OM brand was Italian and eventually taken over by FIAT in the 1930s. This special uses a 6 cylinder 2.5 litre supercharged side valve FIAT 521 engine and gearbox in the well designed OM chassis. The period styled body was built by Woods and Woods at Woy Woy.

Paul Hamilton is pictured with the car and drove it to try and sort out teething issues with the brakes and steering (very hard to do in the driveway at home!) both are now much improved. Paul was comfortable driving on Ringwood being the former NSW Hillclimb champion from 1980 and 1982!

The car on the left of the Clubtorque photo is The Day Special, last raced as a modern car at Bathurst in 1954 by Gelnigite Jack Murray.

The car started out a Type 39 1.5 litre straight eight Bugatti in 1925 taking part in Grand Prix at Montlhery (France) and Monza (Italy), it won the Australian grand Prix, at Phillip Island in 1931.

After an engine failure in the 1933 Australian Grand Prix the car became the first Australian Special to be fitted with a Ford V/8 engine first running in this form in 1936. The Day Special was the original outright record holder at Rob Roy Hillclimb in 1937. In 1938 the Grand Prix body was modified into the single seater still fitted.

Current custodian of this car is Rob Rowe; Rob was sorting out some brake problems at Ringwood.

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.

INTERESTED? THE 2018 MG NATIONAL MEETING IS BEING HELD IN TASMANIA

DETAILS & BULLETINS CAN BE FOUND ON THE MGCC TASMANIA



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Prop: Noel Anderson.

BITS & PIECES

SHERATON 4.1/2" LATHE

The "Dads Army" team at Ringwood Park is restoring to good health this lathe which has stood derelict and unloved for some time in the back of the shed. It is a Model "A" which was widely used in schools and industrial training establishments and was manufactured from the 1950s by GL Sheraton at 445 Heidelberg Road Fairfield, a suburb of Melbourne. The company moved to the district of Knox in 1981 but subsequently ran into difficulties when the Australian Government removed import duties, opening the way for customers to buy cheaper Chinese models.

It is a "work worn" lathe fitted with a 3 phase Higgs motor manufactured in Birmingham England and the specification plate states that it is a type 14H 3 phase 0.5 HP 415 volts 50 cycles motor running at 1410 rpm.

The problem is that the Ringwood electricity supply from the generator is only 240 volts single phase and it is, therefore, not compatible.

Can you please look in your shed, talk to your mates in industry and see if you can locate, for the team, a single phase 240 volts 0.5 HP 50 cycles 14H motor of similar specification to power up this lathe.

Please ring Brian Redford on 02 4031 8952 and he will be delighted to speak to you about this project.

WANTED

Are you able to help?

Our hard working canteen organiser Libby Fernance would really like some help in the canteen, Its just a few hours mostly on hillclimb days & if enough people offer to help it could probably be split to mornings & afternoons.

Libby's phone & email are at the front of the magazine ,page four ,listing board members .

So many hands make light work, make that call & give Libby a hand!

BITS & PIECES

Link for MGCCN Vehicle Rules for 2018

mgcarclub.com.au > Motorsport > Getting Started

<https://mail.mgcarclub.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/MGCCN-Vehicle-Rules-2018-Ver-1.pdf>



Link for MGCCN Pointscore Rules for 2018

mgcarclub.com.au > Motorsport > Point Score

<https://mail.mgcarclub.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/MGCCN-Pointscore-Rules-2018-Ver-1-How-they-Work.pdf>



Entries are now open for Round 1 of the CSCA Supersprint for 2018 and Supplementary Regulations and Entry is available via the links below;

<http://www.clublotus.com.au/lotus-events/>

<http://www.clublotus.com.au/2018/01/entry-form-supplementary-regulations-available-for-csca-2018-round-1/>

For your reference, future correspondence will be from your new CSCA Delegate for MGCC Newcastle, John Garroway who can be reached at john.garroway22@gmail.com



WHY IS MICHAEL SNOW FEATURED HERE?
SEE NEXT PAGE!

YOUNG DRIVER DEVELOPMENT COURSE

DATES AND INFORMATION FOR 2018

NOTE ALL Events are conducted at Ringwood Park Motor Sport Complex

Finishing time is approx..3.00pm, for all events.

DATES REGULAR YDDC TRAINING EVENTS Held on sealed and unsealed surfaces. Starting time 9.00am

Event One / Sat 24th Feb Event Three / Sat 12th May Event Four / Sat 18th Aug

DATES YDDC INTRODUCTION COMPETITION DRIVING "MOTORKHANA" Held on sealed and unsealed surfaces. Starting time 8.30 am sharp.

Event Two/ Sat 28th April Event Five/ 30th June.

No late arrivals please be on time. Minimum age 12 years.

DATE YDDC INTRODUCTION COMPETITION DRIVING "KHANACROSS" Held on unsealed and sealed surfaces. Starting time 8.30 am sharp

One event only 17th of November.

No late arrivals please be on time.

Minimum age 12/13 years, only with approval of the YDDC Panel.

Helmet must be worn, and clothing and foot wear to Speed Event Regulations.

In-car instruction will be conducted by YDDC instructors at on all above events.

SPECIAL NOTICE FOR ALL YDDC STUDENTS

ALL STUDENTS TO ADVISE AND CONFIRM THEIR ATTENDANCE on the 6/7 DAYS before the dates LISTED ABOVE-----FAILURE TO ADVISE COULD LEAD TO THE EVENT OVER SUBSCRIBED----IN WHICH CASE YOU COULD MISS OUT.

For NEW STUDENTS please note there is no special dress requirements for beginners, EXCEPT that ENCLOSED footwear must be worn, Thongs, Open sandals, High-Heeled shoes and Joggers are forbidden.

It's possible that above programme can change during the year, please check the above list, it will be updated as soon as changes come to hand.

However, it is not always possible to meet the Club Torque magazine deadline, event confirmation can also be check by using the club's website, www.mgcarclub.com.au.

If in doubt please call on 0412493711 or email Greg Hunter at gh.hunter@bigpond.com.au

CONGRATULATIONS MICHAEL SNOW.

Michael Snow joined the club in July 2008 and was awarded “The Bill Martin Memorial Trophy for Best New Member” & has worked tirelessly for the club in many capacities ever since.

He has done so much work over the years that is “behind the scenes” such as: -

The significant number of hours he put in during the building of the extensions to the Ringwood Hillclimb, with Alan Bates.

On the development and maintenance of the first-class timing system for the club, which we enjoy today.

He has ensured that the two-way radios and PA system are always ready to go with a supply of fresh batteries are always on hand.

He has become our default chief timekeeper for Hillclimb events, and goes above and beyond, doing work that would normally be the responsibility of the event secretaries, sending out the results to the competitors as well as generating the awards tags, that go to trophy winners for Club Events.

For the major events, he has arranged the purchase of trophies and then the distribution of the trophy labels to the winners.

He also maintains the “Records” data for the classes against each hillclimb course.

He manages the Key Register, which is a task that requires extreme diligence as the keys are the most important resource when it comes to the security of our properties.

He has been a constant participant in the Dad’s Army Thursday working bees at Ringwood, attending to the ongoing maintenance of the timing system, picking up fuel for the generator, and working on any electrical issues at Ringwood.

He regularly assists with the set-up of Khanacross tracks before events and has assisted with distribution of results as requested.

He is one of the instructors for the Young Driver Course.

Is a contact person for Ringwood Private Practice

Can advise on just about anything I.T. Related or electrical. He has had very significant inputs into the Club website development and ongoing updates.

He has served on the Board with distinction, as Club Captain (2 terms) and Event Co-Ordinator (for 5 terms.) He has been a very active member of the Club particularly in officiating roles at our events, attending Magazine Assemblies, Club Nights and Board Meetings and pretty much any other advertised event that earned him Club Member Points.

This has seen him awarded the “Mick Nielson Memorial Trophy” for Club Member of the year for 2010, 2012, 2013, 2015, 2016 and now 2017.

Michael Snow, a most worthy recipient of Life Membership of the MG Car Club (Newcastle)

VICTORIAN ALPINE RALLY

I had been to Victoria on a couple of occasions to spectate at the Victorian Alpine Rally when in 2013 my nephew suggested entering my Datsun 1600. He has been in the winning car as a navigator with Ian Hill in the past so knew how it all worked.

We had our entry accepted & finished 15th from a field of a 100 starters.

Thoroughly enjoying the event I ran again in 2015 this time getting a 22nd place.

The quality of the field & the popularity of this event always increasing ensured 2017 would be challenging to obtain a start. Entries opened & a field of 145 filled the entry in a little over three hours! The organisers planned to start 125 cars expecting about 20 cars to withdraw for one reason or another before the start.

The Newcastle area provided the following starters & with their finishing positions (provisional)

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| Jack Wightman / SteveBeaufoy | Datsun 280Z | 8 th outright |
| Michael Bramble / Michael Bannon | Datsun 1600 | 20 th outright |
| Peter Houghton / Julian Bylhouwer | Datsun 1600 | 37 th outright |
| Mark Pickering / David Boddy | Datsun 240Z | 40 th outright |
| Ian Hill/Phillip / Phillip Bonser | Ford Escort BDA | Retired |

Sadly I would think that only three of these starters would be MGCC Newcastle members

An additional ex Newcastle person & ex MGCC Newcastle member was Jim Gleeson navigating for Bryan Van Elk in a Toyota Alteza finishing in 6th place

The field for the event is seeded according to information provided by state seeding lists so given entries from all or most states its quality is questionable. To counteract this, two approximate 7km seeding stages were contended on Friday ahead of the main parts of the event on Saturday & Sunday.

The choice of roads for the seeding stages spoilt the event for many as it rained on the Friday & Saturday providing very different conditions for competitors on their stages. I would expect many competitors thinking of entering in 2019 would need



to be assured that roads capable of standing up to the passage of 125 cars wet or dry without serious degradation will be chosen.

The event presented the Historic Rally Association with an enormous amount of challenges as the rain made many stages require changes as surfaces deteriorated & rivers rose, so to provide an event at all was a great effort.

The Alpine has quite a history & I believe was first run in 1921 but am liable to be corrected on this. It has continued with some gaps WW2 for instance. It is now run every second year. It is quite an effort & all entrants are required to provide an official to help with, for example road closures on roads entering complete stages, managing the start area, refuelling & service areas etc.

I was grateful to have Russ Baldwin & Doug Rae to go down to fill that position & hope they enjoyed the trip

MGCC Newcastle despite its history has moved away from loose surface events so I can only assume fewer members are interested in the dirt rally style events. It is enjoyable for me to see the following at events & to keep the rally flag flying & hopefully they have been or are MGCC members.

Bruce Durham,
Doug Grimes
Stuart Baverstock

Brian Ford
Mark Pickering
Dylan Grant

David Boddy
Andrew Chapman
Craig Whyborn

I hope there are many more names I have missed (with apologies) that compete in these events.

The English MG owners seem less reluctant to run MG vehicles, I followed an MGB GT while officiating at the last London to Sydney & I remember a group of small MG front wheel drives in the London to Capetown. So I can only hope that there will be a resurgence of interest in the art of rallying!

Peter Houghton



THE FLUFFY DUCK

10TH MARCH



**THIS YEARS START IS AT THE
M.C.G. CRICKET GROUND.**

**A BIT FURTHER TO TRAVEL THAN FREEMANS
WATER HOLE BUT IT'S A TICK OFF THE OLD
BUCKET LIST FOR YOU TO BE IN THE
MEMBERS STAND OF THIS ICONIC GROUND.
THEN RUN IN THE EVENT OVER 200 KLMS OF
TAR (65%) AND (35%) GOOD GRAVEL ROAD.
FIRST CAR LEAVES 9:30AM FROM THE M.C.G.
CRICKET GROUND VINCENT STREET. MULBRING.**

FOR MORE DETAILS SEE AHRG WEBSITE

REGISTER CAPTAINS REPORT

The New year got off to a great start with the traditional Australia Day Brunch on Friday 26th January at the Lakehouse Café at Murrays Beach with 50 attendees – the most ever at a Register Run. The food was very good and thanks to manager Karen and her team for looking after us. The meals arrived about 35 - 40 mins. after ordering so they did well. It was a great social day and thanks to everyone for your response by supporting this event as these things do take a bit of organising.

Our next Register Run will be to Tea Gardens for lunch on Sunday 25th February. Details will be available later and will be emailed to those on my email list. If you would like to be on my email list, please let me know.

There is no Club Run set down for March as I will be on leave. The Club Run for April will be a midweek run for coffee on Tuesday 10th April.

Ken McLeod

Register Captain



CSCA Supersprint Series - 2017 Roundup & 2018 News

After a full year of competition, the Combined Sports Car Association (CSCA) concluded with the annual presentation of trophies just prior to Xmas.

Our MG Car Club fielded on average 16 cars per meeting during the 7-event series, with several drivers achieving good results throughout the year.

The Class winners for our club were: Peter Kotz in his well-presented XU1 Torana (Class 2BC)

Laurie Movigliatti in his faithful yellow Mitsubishi Galant (Class 3AC)

Club Lotus once again won the overall Club Championship with their large array of impressive and very well-presented cars. As usual, our club representatives were very consistent with many achieving class minor trophies, personal bests, and several round wins at both Wakefield Park and Sydney Motorsport Park circuits.

This year our club will have a new delegate to the CSCA, with Ted Dial stepping down after a couple of years at the helm.

John Garroway has volunteered to be the 2018 delegate, so if you have any enquiries please have a chat to John about this very popular series.

MG Newcastle will be assisting the Sydney MG club in running a round of this year's series on the 25th August 2018, at the SMP North circuit. We look forward to having both competitors and officials from our club in attendance.



Photo from left to Right
Peter Kotz, Gregg Noonan, Laurie Movigliatti,
Bruce Tresidder.

THE FLUFFY DUCK

IF YOU HAVE READ PETER HOUGHTON'S ARTICLE ON THE VICTORIAN

ALPINE RALLY YOU WILL BE KEEN TO HAVE A GO!

READ THE AD FOR THE FLUFFY DUCK ON THE PREVIOUS PAGE & ENTER!



Happy 2018 to members of the MG Car Club Newcastle.

Firstly, thank you to those members and guests who attended the 2017 Xmas Party and Presentation Night at Cardiff RSL Club. It was great to see so many smiling faces and awards presented on the night. If you were a trophy recipient and was unable to attend, you can still collect your trophies. Just let one of our Board members know and they will arrange a place for you to collect at a time convenient to them.

At our last board meeting in January the committee decided to hold "Natter Nights" once again at a member's home. So, if you would be interested in hosting a bar-b-que night or afternoon get together at your place, could you please call me on Ph 0431 656 663, so we can arrange a suitable date.

At our February Club Night, Dave has arranged a special guest speaker for the evening so please attend and be informed as we are looking forward to catching up with one and all.

Cheers

Chris Finch.



Hi Guys,

Welcome back to another full year of motorsport and social events, your hard working Board members have scheduled many events for this year.

On my many visits across the ditch to New Zealand, I must admit every visit always as-tounds with so many attractions aimed at the many tourists that visit both islands.

One such visit travelling on the main highway to Wellington, is the Southward Car Museum in the town of Paraparamu, the museum was founded by Sir Len Southward and his wife Lady Vera, they began collecting cars in 1956, their first purchase was as new a Model T Ford, and remains the show piece, at the start of the exhibits.

Sir Len has been associated with the New Zealand motor industry, for many years and been able to collect over 500 brilliant exhibits, including makers such as McLaren Bugatti and Bentley, the main exhibition hall covers some 4400 square meters, ranging from vintage veteran classic and modern cars, also fire engines motor cycles and even aeroplanes .

Some of these rare exhibits include an 1895 Mercedes Benz 5 HP Phaeton, an 1934 V16 Cadillac previously owned by film star Marlene Dietrich, a 1915 Stutz Indianapolis racer, 1956 250 F Maserati , 1955 Mercedes Benz 300L also a Gullwing Mercedes, one similar to this car with only 1500 Km,s was sold in the USA recently for US\$1.2M.

On display are many other relics of the past , including pianos, household appliances also a few Vampire Jets to make it interesting.

The museum is set on six hectares of park – like grounds, and attracts many local and overseas car clubs, and always a start and maybe a finish for tar rallies.

Just in closing the roads in and around New Zealand are brilliant for cruising, particularly the West Coast of South Island, magic in an open top sports car.

See you at Ringwood, keep your tyres hot.

Regards,

Rick

TIME FOR A LAFF

Murphy says to Paddy,
 "What ya talkin into an envelope for?"
 "I'm sending a voicemail ya fool!"

19 Paddies go to the cinema, the ticket lady asks "Why so many of you?"
 Mick replies, "The film said 18 or over."

I went to the cemetery yesterday to lay some flowers on a grave.
 As I was standing there I noticed 4 grave diggers walking about with a coffin. 3 hours later and they're still walking about with it.
 I thought to myself, they've lost the plot!!

My daughter asked me for a pet spider for her birthday, so I went to our local pet shop and they were £70!!!
 Blow this, I thought, I can get one cheaper off the web.

Statistically, 6 out of 7 dwarfs are not Happy.

My neighbour knocked on my door at 2:30am this morning,
 can you believe that 2:30am?!
 Luckily for him, I was still up playing my Bagpipes.

The wife has been missing a week now.
 Police said to prepare for the worst.
 So I have been to the charity shop to get all her clothes back.

Sat opposite an Indian lady on the train today,
 she shut her eyes and stopped breathing.
 I thought she was dead, until I saw the red spot on her forehead
 and realised she was just on standby.

Local Police hunting the 'knitting needle nutter', who has stabbed six people in the rear in the last 48 hours, believe the attacker could be following some kind of pattern.

Just got back from my mate's funeral.
 He died after being hit on the head with a tennis ball.
 It was a lovely service.

Paddy says "Mick, I'm thinking of buying a Labrador.
 "Bugger that" says Mick, have you seen how many of their owners go blind?"



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:

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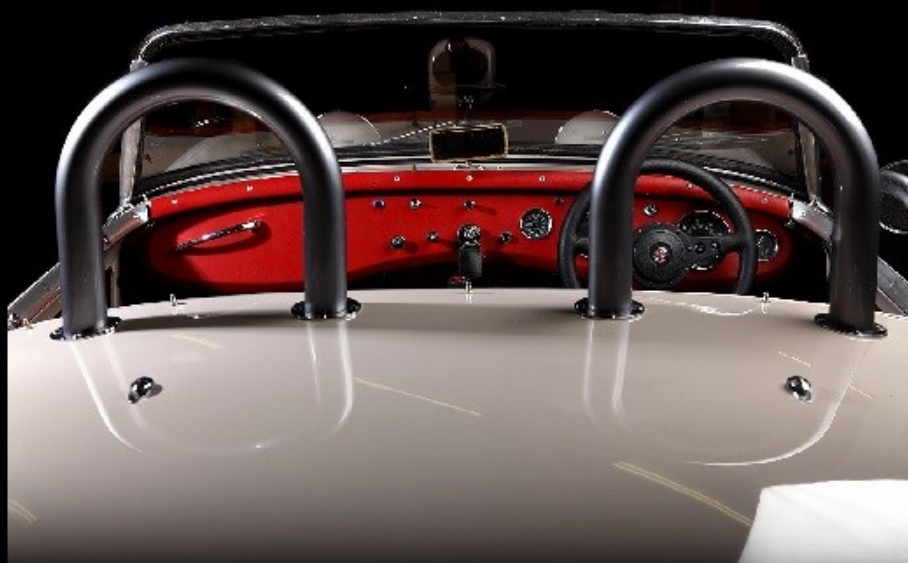
Instructions in matters relating to other aspects of the law will also be accepted.

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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CLASSIFIED ADS



Classified will be advertised for up to 3 months. If the item(s) is/are sold please contact the editor so the ad can be removed. Once the 3 months has expired contact the editor if you wish to relist your item(s).

WANTED

MGB RoadsterV8- \$25000

I'm currently looking for a V8 MGB Roadster, preferably with the RoverV8 and 5 speed but will consider others. I'm based in NSW but am willing to travel to promising vehicles, road registered cars would be considered a big plus but not vital so long as it is road registrable.

I have cash set aside and waiting for a suitable car, willing to pay a fair market price, and a little more for a really good example. Red, White, Blue or Green are the preferred colours but all colours considered. Car will be used as a father/son/grandson weekend adventure vehicle and tinkering project.

Please contact by email initially as I travel very frequently benjaminhk@gmail.com

1960 Austin Healey Bugeye Sprite Mki

Do you find motoring un-exciting? Then this car will change that!

Just looking at it will make you smile. Drive it and you will giggle like a loon!

Powered by a modified 1310cc MG Midget engine built by Colin Dodd's. It not only sounds fabulous but goes as good as it sounds.

Very good condition without being excellent, it still has the original steel bonnet! When a car full of young petrol heads, with caps on backwards, pull up alongside this car waving and yelling "Fully Sick Man!" - you know this is the Sprite for you! Car currently lives in Cardiff.

\$25,000. Contact Cliff 0439 561 313



CLASSIFIED ADS



FOR SALE MG MIDGET

I am selling my Midget after 12 months of competition, the car had been prepared with a completely rebuilt motor, new pistons, rings, bearings, cam shaft, water pump, oil cooler, weber carby and many more parts which I have receipts for. Seats are in good condition, roll bar, paint in reasonable condition.

The car is on Historic Plates and used on the road. Asking price \$8000.00.

Also for sale registered trailer to suit small car \$2000.00.

Contact Doug Rae 49447356 or 0434141501

FOR SALE

Suzuki DRZ 250 2010 model 2540ks New tyres intermediates (road and dirt also a set of dirt tyres 90 % good) \$4000.00 ono . Rego 24th May 2018

Dale (M)0429450548 (H) 49477766

FOR SALE

I have Midget Mk II or III parts as listed.

LH Door, LH front guard, Boot lid, Boot luggage rack, RH Steering Rack, RHD Dash, Drum to Drum Diff. Housing (no centre) 2Rear Shocks.

Most parts in reasonable to good condition. All offers considered.

Eric Ph. 49435171 or 0449002410. NSW.

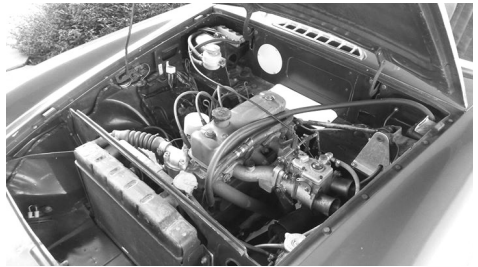
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 tors,
 Heads etc) Would comply with group
 SB



Contact Phil Horn - 0412020207 Lo-
 cated in Newcastle area NSW.



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