

# Clubtorque

The official publication of  
MG Car Club Newcastle Inc



**MGs & Motorsport**

**May 2022**

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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

**Club Rooms:**

Northcott Park, Cobby Street, Shortland

**Monthly Gathering:**

2nd Friday of the Month, 7.30pm at the  
 Cobby Street, **Club Rooms**

**Ringwood Park Motorsports**

**Complex:**

53 Italia Road Balickera, 14Kms North  
 of the Heatherbrae Roundabout

**Website Address:**

[www.mgcarclub.com.au](http://www.mgcarclub.com.au)

**Facebook:**

<https://www.facebook.com/MGNewcastle>

**Membership Enquiries:**

**David Atkins**

**(M) 0415 963 515 (Not after 9.00pm)**

**Email: [datkins49@optusnet.com.au](mailto:datkins49@optusnet.com.au)**

**Other enquiries**

Contact the Secretary at the club

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United Kingdom



[www.motorsport.org.au](http://www.motorsport.org.au)



# COMING EVENTS — MAY

Sun 1	Private Hire	Come and Try Event 8am	Ringwood
Sun 1	HDCC	State Motorkhana Tar Rnd4 9am	Nirimba
Thurs 5	MGCCN	Dads Army 8am	Ringwood
<b>Sat 7</b>	<b>MGCCN</b>	<b>Khanacross Dirt/Tar D/N M KC2 CC9 2pm</b>	<b>Ringwood</b>
Sun 8		<b>Mothers Day</b>	
Mon 9	MGCCN	Mag Assy 2pm	Cobby St
Thurs 12	MGCCN	Dads Army 8am	Ringwood
<b>Fri 13</b>	<b>MGCCN</b>	<b>Club Night M 7:30pm</b>	<b>Cobby St</b>
Fri 13		Bathurst 12 Hour	Mt Panorama
Sat 14	KSCC	State Hillclimb Rnd 4 Mt. Cooperabung Pract 9am	Kempsey
<b>Sat 14</b>	<b>MGCCN</b>	<b>YDDC-2 M 9am</b>	<b>Ringwood</b>
Sat 14	NSWRRC	State S'Sprint Rnd3 4pm	SMSP Gardner GP
Sat 14		Bathurst 12 Hour	Mt Panorama
Sun 15	KSCC	State Hillclimb Rnd 4 Mt. Cooperabung 9am	Kempsey
Sun 15	WAC	State Rallysprint 2pm <b>Postponed</b>	Awaba
Sun 15	RCC	State Motorkhana Rnd5 9am	Nirimba
Sun 15		Bathurst 12 Hour	Mt Panorama
<b>Mon 16</b>	<b>MGCCN</b>	<b>2022 Natmeet Meeting M 7:30pm</b>	<b>Cobby St</b>
<b>Tues 17</b>	<b>MGCCN</b>	<b>Board Meeting M 7:30pm</b>	<b>Cobby St</b>
Thurs 19	MGCCN	Dads Army 8am	Ringwood
Sat 21	TSCC	Tri-Challenge Rnd2 Oakburn Park Practice 9am	Tamworth
<b>Sun 22</b>	<b>MGCCN</b>	<b>Motorkhana Dirt M MK3 CC10 9am</b>	<b>Ringwood</b>
Sun 22	WAC	Khanacross Dirt 10am	Awaba
Sun 22	TSCC	Tri-Challenge Oakburn Park TRI2 9am	Tamworth
Sun 22		Tilligerry Motorama 9am	Tanilba Bay
<b>Wed 25</b>	<b>MGCCN</b>	<b>** Mid Week Run M R7 12pm</b>	<b>TBA</b>
Thurs 26	MGCCN	Dads Army 8am	Ringwood
Sat 28	NESCC	State Khanacross Concrete Rnd3 9am	Armidale
<b>Sun 29</b>	<b>MGCCN</b>	<b>Hillclimb A4 M TS3 CC11 9am</b>	<b>Ringwood</b>
Sun 29	NESCC	State Khanacross Concrete Rnd3 9am	Armidale

# COMING EVENTS — JUNE

Thurs 2	MGCCN	Dads Army 8am	Ringwood
<b>Sat 4</b>	<b>MGCCN</b>	<b>Members Working Bee M 9am</b>	<b>Ringwood</b>
Sun 5	TCC	State Motorkhana Rnd6 9am	Nirimba
Sun 5	NSCC	All Japanese Car and Bike Show 9am	TBA
Mon 6	MGCCN	Mag Assy 2pm	Cobby St
Thurs 9	MGCCN	Dads Army 8am	Ringwood
<b>Fri 10</b>	<b>MGCCN</b>	<b>Club Night M 7:30pm</b>	<b>Cobby St</b>
Sat 11	GSCC	State Hillclimb Rnd 5 Mountainview Practice 9am	Grafton
Sun 12	GSCC	State Hillclimb Rnd 5 Mountainview 9am	Grafton
Mon 13		<b>Queen's Birthday Holiday</b>	
Thurs 16	MGCCN	Dads Army 8am	Ringwood
<b>Sun 19</b>	<b>MGCCN</b>	<b>Khanacross D/T M KC3 CC12 R8 9am</b>	<b>Ringwood</b>
Sun 19	HDCC	State Khanacross Rnd4 2pm	Hampton Foreshore Park
Sun 19	MGHR	Euro Motorfest 8am	Newcastle East
Sun 19	AHRG	Des West Memorial Touring Assy Dirt & Tar TR2 9am	TBA
Sun 19	MX5 NSW	MX5 Club Hillclimb 9am	Ringwood
<b>Tues 21</b>	<b>MGCCN</b>	<b>Board Meeting M 7:30pm</b>	<b>Cobby St</b>
Thurs 23	MGCCN	Dads Army 8am	Ringwood
<b>Sat 25</b>	<b>MGCCN</b>	<b>CSCA Supersprint Rnd3 Pheasantwood M 9am</b>	<b>Marulan</b>
Sat 25	WAC	Rallysprint 2pm	Awaba
Thurs 30	MGCCN	Dads Army 8am	Ringwood

**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.

# THE BOARD

**PRESIDENT****Chris Fernance** (Libby)

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**DIRECTOR ASSISTING No 2**

~\*Vacant\*~

**AUTOTEST CO-ORDINATOR**

~\*Vacant\*~

**RALLY CO-ORDINATOR**

~\*Vacant\*~

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**WESTLAKES AUTOMOBILE CLUB**

Ben Semple

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**PRIVATE PRACTICE & TESTING AT RINGWOOD.**

Available most Thursdays, check in advance to ensure track works are not planned by the Land Panel on that day. Other days can be arranged, provided a suitably qualified "Supervisor" is available. CAMS have now implemented the MIDCAR protocols under which we must operate to be covered by their insurance policy.

Contacts :-

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Michael Snow 0432 772 044

Greg Hunter 0412 493 711

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# PRESIDENTS REPORT

I nearly always start off my monthly report by saying how busy the previous month has been. It will be hard to say that again in the future after the experience of April with the 2022 National Meeting. I was expecting a busy weekend, but WOW, I was not prepared for just how hectic it would be.

Five days of early morning starts, often before sunrise to ensure everything is set up and in place, then followed by a full day of events and competition. Then to top it all off, more functions in the evening. To think I was playing just one small part amongst a small army of volunteers who pulled together to make this event happen makes it even more surreal.

Our members and volunteers who have given so much of their time and effort towards this event really do deserve our thanks and appreciation.

One particular club member that put in a mammoth effort towards the Nat Meet was none other than Fran Hodgson. Fran has been a club member since 1983, filling numerous positions on the board, and playing an instrumental role in the organisation of numerous National Meetings. She has also excelled in competition, winning the Ladies Championship on nine occasions. At a National Meeting level, she has won the Joan Richmond Trophy for best lady competitor four times, and the Cecil Kimber Trophy for National Meeting Overall Champion.

It was with great delight to see her awarded for her efforts, being presented with a lifetime membership to the Newcastle MG Car Club on the Presentation Night. Being awarded by the MGCC UK Overseas Director, Peter Cook, made it an even more of a special moment.

In other news from the Nat Meet, the club was involved in an historic moment, being the first time the Nuffield Oceania Trophy has been jointly awarded to two clubs. The Nuffield Oceania Trophy is awarded based on the results of the Concours and Motorkhana. Being joint winners along with Hunter Region certainly raised a few eyebrows, but I'm pleased to announce that we are working through our differences and have reached an agreement on joint custody of the Trophy with visitation rights.

Coming up this month things will be busy for our hillclimb regulars with the State round at Mt Cooperabung on the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>, then Round 2 of the Tri-Challenge at Oakburn Park the following weekend. We also have our third round of our club Tar Speed series coming up the weekend after on the 29<sup>th</sup>.

Other notable events on the calendar include the third round of the Motorkhana series on the 22<sup>nd</sup>, and a members working bee at Ringwood on the 4<sup>th</sup> June.

We are also still on the lookout for a talented person to join the committee and take over the role of Treasurer. It is an essential role in the running of the club, and not one that can simply be left vacant or relied on by other board members to make up the shortfall.

As always, I look forwards to seeing you all at one of our events, so be sure to take the chance to blow the cobwebs out. Come along and join us at an event before the really cold weather hits with the arrival of winter.

Chris Fernance — President



# WANTED

## TREASURER – AUTOTEST – RALLY

The Newcastle MG Car Club is on the hunt for more members to join our committee. We are in particular need of someone to fill the role of **Treasurer**, with John Finch looking forward to a well deserved break.

The treasurers position is vital to any club in managing its financial affairs, and ours is no exception. It's your opportunity to help ensure the club has a solid financial future, and help us to achieve our goals and meet our financial requirements into the future.

Also vacant is the position of **Autotest Co-ordinator**. The purpose of this role is to assist in the organisation of our Motorkhana and Khanacross Events, helping to improve the popularity of these enjoyable events.

We are also looking to fill the role of **Rally Co-ordinator**, who assists in organising and keeping the club and our members informed of events such as our Touring Assembly

And finally we also have the position of **Director Assisting No.2** available. This is an entry level role and a good introduction to the running of the club, its business and activities.

# 2022 MG NAT MEET PERPETUAL TROPHIES

**John Wratten Memorial Trophy**

1	Victoria	570.38
2	Queensland	275.47
3	Newcastle	240.00
4	Tasmania	157.41
5	South Australia	116.60
6	Hunter	104.16
7	New South Wales	98.56
8	Gold Coast	21.12

**Nuffield Oceania Trophy**

1	Hunter	12.80
1	Newcastle	12.80
3	Queensland	12.33
4	Victoria	10.45
5	New South Wales	4.38
6	Tasmania	3.60
7	Gold Coast	2.00
8	South Australia	1.78

**Jean Kimber Cook Trophy**

Tyler Edwards South Australia

**Joan Richmond Trophy**

Name	Club	Pts
Marjorie Halford	Victoria	24

**Chris Dodds Memorial Trophy**

Name	Club	Pts
Graeme Ruby	Geelong	19

**New Zealand Plate**

Name	Club	Pts
Wayne Kirwan	Queensland	27

**Golden Gudgeon Trophy**

Name	Club
Jason Edwards	South Australia

**Cecil Kimber Centennial Trophy**

Name	Club	Pts
Wayne Kirwan	Queensland	27

**TC Owners Pre War Plate**

No competitors qualified for this trophy

**Outright Concours**

Pre MGA	Jeff Newey	Newcastle
Post TF / Pre 1980	Mal Davies	Newcastle
Post 1980	Fran Hodgson	Newcastle

**Outright Motorkhana**

Name	Club	Class
Michael Fraser	Newcastle	ZB

**Outright Hillclimb**

Name	Club	Class
Darren Hodgson	Newcastle	Y

**Outright Touring Assembly**

Granville Harris (NSW) / Ivanna Arpel

**Magazine Trophy**

MG NSW - Opposite Lock

**Web Site Trophy**

Canberra

**Photographic Competition**

Best Creative Digitally Enhanced

	John Fransen	Queensland
Best Still	Delia Rayment	Queensland
Best Action	Naomi Horsfield	Canberra
Best Novelty	Matthew Magilton	Victoria

**Hard Luck Trophy**

Not Awarded



## LIFE MEMBERSHIP FOR FRAN HODGSON

At the recent 2022 MG National Meeting Presentation Night (Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> April), Fran Hodgson was presented with Life Membership of the MG Car Club Newcastle, as approved by the Club's Board at their recent meeting.

The announcement and presentation was made by Mr. Peter Cook, Overseas Director and Vice Chairman of the MG Car Club United Kingdom who was visiting the Club for our National Meeting.

In presenting the Life Membership, Peter made mention of some of Fran's involvement with our Club including some of the following points.

Fran joined the Club in 1983 and attended her first MG National Meeting in Geelong

In 1986 she became a member of the Club's Committee

She was Club Secretary from 1981 to 1987

In 1992/1993 she was elected Club President and became the Club's first female President and the second female to preside over an Australian MG Car Club. She became Vice President in 1993/1994.

In 1992, she was the first Person awarded Club Person of the Year in conjunction with David Walker

She was Event Secretary for King Edward Park Hillclimb in the 1990's and Event Steward for 5 years

Fran has been instrumental in organising the Club's Concours for the past 20 years, a role that she has again fulfilled this year's National Meeting At MG National Meeting level, Fran has been Newcastle's Coordinator for over 30 years, Chairperson and Concours Director in 2000, Organising Committee Secretary and Concours Director in both 2011 and our current 2022 Meeting.

In Competition, Fran has been our Club's Lady Champion from 1987 to 1990, 1992, 1996, 2000, 2001 and 2003.

At National Meetings, Fran has won the Joan Richmond Trophy for best lady competitor 4 times and the Cecil Kimber Trophy for National Meeting Champion

Fran's cars have won the Outright National Meeting Concours Trophy for Post 1980 twice, and she had numerous class wins

She has been "ALL THINGS MG" to the Club and a major supporter of "MAINTAINING THE BREED" in all her endeavours

Peter also said that **"FRAN HODGSON is a worthy and deserving recipient of the status of LIFE MEMBERSHIP".**



# 2023 MG National Meeting 7-11 April

## Bulletin 1

[www.natmeet2023mgcc.com.au/](http://www.natmeet2023mgcc.com.au/)



Welcome to fabulous Adelaide and its stunning surrounds for the 2023 MG National Meeting.

Adelaide's renowned for the ring of parklands surrounding the City, the wonderful beaches in one direction and cool green Mount Lofty Ranges in the other, and of course, the best wine districts in Australia just a short and pleasant MG-ride away!

Whatever you like doing (when you're not in your MG), you'll find it in Adelaide, in abundance.

And it's not just the food and wine that's mouth-watering.

The Easter National Meeting Program is already filling out with great events like these:

### **Friday April 7**

Registration and scrutineering – Kauri Community and Sports Centre, Seacliff

Noggin'n'Natter (including Rocker Cover Racing) – Festival Function Centre, Findon

### **Saturday April 8**

Concours – Wigley Reserve in beautiful Glenelg. The Concours is always a highlight of a National Meeting and everyone who brings an MG to Adelaide will be encouraged to display their car.

Theme party – Stamford Grand, arguably Glenelg's top venue overlooking the State's best-known beach.

## Sunday April 9

Motorkhana – The Bend Motorsport Park, Tailem Bend. SA's newest and arguably best motor sport venue with full facilities including on-site accommodation.

Kimber Run – Southern Adelaide Hills Wine Region with lunch at the Hahndorf Oval in the heart of one of SA's most loved tourist precincts.

## Monday April 10

Super Sprint – The Bend Motorsport Park, Tailem Bend.

Observation run & Social Run – Northern Adelaide Hills Wine Region

Presentation dinner – Festival Function Centre, Findon

## Tuesday April 11

Farewell breakfast – return to the Stamford Grand at Glenelg to catch up once more before heading home or spending a few more days exploring what SA has to offer.

Delegates' conference – Glenelg North Community Centre.

Adelaide, the Hills and the Glenelg area have many different types of accommodation available to meet everyone's budget, and we encourage you to make bookings directly with your choice of venue.

You can find local accommodation here: <http://www.glenelgsa.com.au/>

While there are many options, we know that Glenelg is always popular during National Meets in Adelaide.

It's easy to get from Adelaide to Glenelg by tram and it has much to offer when you arrive. There is plenty to keep the whole family amused such as fishing charters, sailing, beach volleyball and activities, walking trails, bike hire, the famous Dolphin swim or watch or even a twilight cruise, reserves, playgrounds, BBQ areas, lots of history and an amusement centre.

Expressions of interest and enquiries to:

Tim Edmonds, President, [Chairman2023natmeet@adam.com.au](mailto:Chairman2023natmeet@adam.com.au)

Chris Bray, Registration, [Registrar2023natmeet@adam.com.au](mailto:Registrar2023natmeet@adam.com.au)

Sandra Cardnell, [Secretary2023natmeet@adam.com.au](mailto:Secretary2023natmeet@adam.com.au)

See you in Adelaide next Easter!!

Tim Edmonds  
President,  
MG Car Club of SA



# NEW MEMBERS

## We Welcome the Following New Members

**Mr Aaron Brown** - Associate member

**Mr John Fraser:** - Associate member

**Mr Lucas Crampton** – Associate member

**Mrs Kristy Crampton** –Associate member

**Mr Glen Bennett** – Associate member

**Mr Daniel Cherry** – Associate member

**Mr Alex Rolvink** – Associate member

We look forward to having you join us at future events, be it a Club Night, Social Outing or a Competition event. It is indeed pleasing to see additional MG owning members join us as well as those who have expressed an interest in the competition side of the Club's activities.

**Dave Atkins** – Membership Secretary



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## SOCIAL SECRETARY

The next Club Night will be at the Cobby Street Club Rooms at 7.30pm on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2022.

Easter was a very busy time for many of our MG Members with the MG National meeting happening in Lake Macquarie and Ringwood.

Many trophies were won and MG Newcastle along with the MG Hunter Club won the final amazing trophy.

MG Clubs from many states were represented and were so happy to be at a National Meeting due to the lack of one for 2 years due to COVID.

It was catch up time for many people and now they are looking forward to catching up again in Adelaide and participating in the events to be run at Tailem Bend Race Track at Easter 2023.

While one Nat Meet comes to an end, the next one starts gearing up!

2023 Nat Meet Coordinator for Newcastle MGCC Team:  
Fran Hodgson Ph: 0414 449 252

Fran is looking into booking accommodation for 2023. Please contact Fran if you are interested in attending and require information.



# INVITATION TO MEMBERS

**Wednesday 22nd of June 2022**

To

**“COFFEE AT THE CLUB ROOMS”**

(Tea & Soft Drink also available )



**From 9.45 am until mid-afternoon.**

Just call in for 'as short or as long' a break as you please.

Meet like-minded members and share your passion.



This is an opportunity to get involved in a low-key social outing during the day.

- Check out what the Club Rooms have to offer.
- Play some of our extensive collection of motor sport and motoring DVD's.
- Visit the Library, look through archived Magazines, minutes etc.
- Use the morning to go for a run in your favourite car and share the story with others with a similar interest.
- Swap stories from the past, present. (Or future!!)

## **This year sees the MGB reach a milestone with the celebration of its 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday!!**

The MGB is arguably one of the most recognised sports cars ever made. All of you would have either owned a MGB, ridden in one, been able to drive one or just admired one parked in the street. Most of the older generation, grew up with them and maybe aspired to own one.

Between 1962 to 1980, over 500,000 were produced, a record only surpassed in the year 2000 by the Mazda MX5, making it the biggest selling open-top sports car of its time.

The MGB was launched in 1962 after work was begun in 1959 on a replacement for the MGA. Initially designated EX205, this car was to have a monocoque body and boasting more interior room than its predecessor. Mechanically the first MGB closely resembled the MGA with the faithful "B" series engine bored out to 1798cc and a higher rear axle ratio.

It found favour with the motoring public because of its modern design and the fact that it had windows and door handles that were lacking in the MGA. It did away with the makings of the MGA, with a monocoque chassis that made a significant improvement to handling

The engine improvements and the change to 1.8 litres resulted in 71kw and a top speed of 100 mph (160 k/hour). Although performance was not exhilarating, the car was fun to drive, providing sharp (although somewhat heavy) steering, and handling.

With a roomier cabin and improved luggage space over the MGA, it seemed that MG was onto a winner. Its affordable price helped too, at around \$1800 when new in 1962.

Numerous changes and face lifts were introduced over its production run to try and keep the model somewhat competitive with more advanced contemporaries. Over the 18 years of its production, over 30 minor and major changes were made, sometimes 2 and 3 times a year.

### **The Australian MGB's**

Not all MGB's were made in Abingdon, with just over 9,000 made in Australia between 1963 – 1972, and this is of more interest to us Australians.

Mechanical components and body parts were imported from the UK.

The Mk 1 MGB was assembled by Pressed Metal Corporation at its factory in Enfield, Sydney, as were some 2,500 MGAs that were built there between 1957 to 1962.

The following picture shows cars rolling off the assembly line at Zetland.



Engines were hot run tested at the BMC Zetland works then transported to Enfield. Suspensions were assembled and painted at Zetland then sent to Enfield. Springs, electrics, paint and a progressively larger proportion of trim were locally sourced. As a result colours, although similar to the UK, were unique to Australia.

Because of the relatively small production numbers, all Australian MGBs were similarly specified.

Only roadsters were produced locally. All cars had wire wheels, oil cooler and front anti-roll bar as standard. The pack-away soft top was offered and because of the harsh local climate, only vinyl trim was offered. Contrast piping disappeared after 1964, and from then until 1971 black was the only trim colour.

Dark blue was available in some 1971 and 1972 cars. The only option apart from the colour was the rarely fitted heater and dealer fitted radio. Overdrive was not available, even as an option, until the last 200 or so MK1 vehicles assembled in 1967 or early 1968.

While the Australian built MGB was built up locally from the most basic panels, the early cars were just skinned in Australia with the guards, doors bonnet and boot lid being fitted here. Rust proofing was rudimentary at best, with some early cars showing signs of rust after just 4 years.

BMC eventually purchased Pressed Metal outright and production of the MGB was transferred to the dedicated CAB 3 building at the main BMC plant in Zetland, Sydney, just before the introduction of the MK11 model. Jigs were commissioned from Dormans in Victoria so that the "floor pans-tunnel-sills-bulkheads" under-structure could be built up on site in Sydney.

Rust proofing was improved with bodies going through the "Rotodip" process, where the entire body shell was immersed in primer.

Options were again limited, while some MK 11's were available with automatic transmission or non overdrive gearboxes. The "pack-away" hood survived until the Michelotti" top was introduced in 1970.

The Australian MGB Mk 11 had the indicator/side light reversed compared to the MK1 (and all Abingdon built MGB models), with the amber indicator segment outboard of the clear lens.

Australian assembly of the MGB (and the MG Midget) finished in late 1972, coinciding with the Government's change to tariff arrangements, whereby 85% local content was required for a favourable import duty. At this time the public was losing interest in low powered sports cars, with "muscle cars" coming on the scene.

The end of local production was announced to the media and the factory staged a funeral wake to mark the occasion. The lack of interest in the history and tradition of MG was shown by the company (British Leyland), with the headstone having the letters MG surrounded by a hexagon rather than the traditional octagon.

Australian Production numbers were:

1963 – 444, 1964 – 802, 1965 – 915, 1966 - 1084,  
1967 – 1228, 1968 – 1026, 1969 – 1089, 1970 – 1053,  
1971 – 883, 1972 – 800(approx), Total = 9324 (approx).

The revised MK11 model which featured the black grille was referred to in Australia as MG BL (for British Leyland).

MGB production continued in the UK until the last cars rolled off the assembly line on October 22, 1980. The last two MGBs were numbers 523001 and 523002.

Happy 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, MGB!!

**Lyll Clarke**



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## HAPPY 60TH BIRTHDAY MG 1100!!

With 1962 in mind, we should also remember that not only was this the year for the launch of the MGB, it also was the also the year that the MG 1100 arrived as the first front-wheel drive MG, yet it ended up being sadly neglected for decades.

Project ADO16 was devised as a modern front-wheel drive replacement for the Morris Minor and Alec Issigonis would be responsible for the engineering and main structuring, with Pininfarina responsible for the body styling.

The Morris 1100 was launched in August, 1962, with the MG version following two months later at a cost of 90 pounds (approx \$165) more as it came standard with a heater, twin carburetors and Downton cylinder head. New price was 742 pounds (approx \$1,350)

By 1964, the Morris 1100 was the best selling UK car, with the MG 1100 and its all independent hydroelastic fluid suspension making its rivals, such as the Triumph Herald 12/50, pale by comparison. The MG's main competitor came from BMC's own Riley 1.5.

In 1968 the MG 1100 Mk11 was released with duotone paint work and chrome slatted radiator. This was the car marketed as the "most advanced MG of all time", and enjoyed huge acclaim and was received with enthusiasm by the motor magazines of the era.

British marketed cars were four door, but in North America it was sold as a two door MG sports sedan.

Spring 1968 saw the MG become available only with two doors and a twin-carb version of the 1275cc engine and the MG 1100 was gone

With its "bus-driver like" driving posture and lack of synchromesh on first gear was a little disconcerting, but its front-wheel drive and handling was at its best.

The last MG badged 1300 was sold on the UK in 1971 and the few remaining MG 1100's are now receiving the respect they deserve.

Acknowledgement "The Sporting Edge MG"; by Classic Cars

**Lyall Clarke**



# REGISTER SECRETARY

One new vehicle has been added to our Historic Vehicle Register since the last magazine report: -  
1961 Austin Healey

14 historic registration renewals have been processed throughout April up to 29th. We now have approximately 214 Historic vehicles listed on our club register.

The next car show coming up is the All German Day Autofest on 7<sup>th</sup> May at Newcastle Foreshore Park. Hosted by Mercedes Benz Classic Car Club 8am – 2pm. Open to all German Historic and Classic cars there is a \$15/ vehicle entry fee and awards will be presented at 12.30pm.

Sadly, April saw the Club loose one of our keen Historic Vehicle collectors due to the sudden death of John Tarran son of long-term members Rosemary and John Tarran Snr.

John was a larger-than-life character, who had many interests including collecting and restoring historic Landrovers as well as racing a formula Ford. John's collection of 8 Landrovers included his favourite Snowy Mountain Fire Truck which escorted John off the funeral home premises with the sirens blaring, a fitting tribute. My condolences to his Partner, Parents and Family.

Allan Evans – Register Secretary



## Cover Photo

Trophy

## Photo Credits

Various Club Members

**Johns Favourite Fire Truck**



# REGISTER CAPTAIN

You will see from the photo below from our last Register Run to the Cookabarra Farm, quite a few MG's made it to the event.

The next Register Run is midweek on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2022 leaving the Club Rooms at Cobby Street Shortland at 9.30am with the first stop at McDonald's at Williamstown and then for an enjoyable drive through country areas. Lunch will be at Morpeth around 12.00 noon.

Can you please let me know if you will be going on this Register Run so that I can make a reservation for lunch.

Still organizing Christmas in July on 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> July 2022 and will let you know the details in the June magazine.

John Collins M 0412260343



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.

## FOR SALE

Tyres and wheels to suit Improved Production Racing (IPRA) or Motor Racing Australia (MRA) etc., road or tarmac rally 4 Stud:

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4 x Yokohama ADVAN AO 50 205 50 R16 87V Medium UNUSED, with two more part-worn free. BIG reduction on receipted cost (available) Will fit the above alloys: **\$1100**

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