



GARDEN ROUTE MOTOR CLUB

TORQUE FOR FEBRUARY 2016



Convenors:

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FOR YOUR INFO.....

- Regular Breakfast Runs are held on the last Sunday of each month
- Meeting places – KNYSNA – The Quays at the Waterfront at the end of Grey Street
- SEDGEFIELD – Engen 1 Stop

From my side.....

Hopefully we have all enjoyed the “Month of Love” – and Leap Year as well!!..

Why are there 28 days in February??

According to a popular legend, July was named after Julius Caesar and hence it **had 31 days**. Later, when Augustus Caesar took over the Roman Empire, he wanted August, the month named after him, to **have 31 days** as well. Hence, the two extra **days** were taken from **February**, which was then left with **28 days**...

February is identified with Valentine’s Day...I believe that it is the time of year (and why not every month!) to be kind to ourselves more than we have done in the past. Like going for a manicure, or massage, doing more activities that please our soul, doing the things that we love. And if you have someone special to share love with, count your blessings twice.

Even though the origin of Valentine’s Day is a bit muddled, William Shakespeare helped romanticize Valentine’s Day in his work, and so it gained popularity throughout the world.

I have always believed “Love Wins” ...may you have everything you love.

Till next time...wishing you lots of miles and smiles

Sylvia

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2016

Date	Host Club	Event	Quays Start	Convenor
Jan 2016				
12 th :	MG	Sundowner Picnic –Brenton	16h00	TC
17 th :	GRMC	New member braai @ Plett Angling Club	GRMC Committee and new members	PP
31 st :	MG	Breakfast Run Zucchini Run Timber Village	09h00	TC
Feb 2016				
7 th :	MG	Glentana Bring and Braai special event	10h00	TC
13/14 th :	GRMC/MG	George Old Car Show	07h30	PP
28 th :	MG	Breakfast Run Sao Concalo – Plett	09h00	TC
March 2016:				
1 st :	MG	MG AGM – Angling Club	18h00	MG ONLY
16 th :	GRMC	Pensioners Brunch Enrico’s	11h00	PP
20 th :	GRMC	Belgium Car Tour Visit		PP
20 th :	MG	Breakfast Run Zucchini Rest	09h00	TC
27 th :	MG	Bonnets Up – Waterfront	08h00 -	MG’s ONLY
April 2016				
10 th :	MG	Pepperboom Rest. Groot Brak Rivier	10h00	TC

13 th :	GRMC	Plett Wine Tasting Tour/Lunch	TBA	PP
17-19 th	MG	Brian Davidson's T-Type Tour	MG ONLY	
24 th	MG	Breakfast Run – Sao Concalo's Plett	09h00	TC
May 2016				
1 st	GRMC	Knysna Motor Show		PP
6/7/8 th	MG	Jaguar Simola Hill Climb		BH
14-15 th	GRMC	Last Night of the Proms		PP
29 th	MG	Breakfast Run – Zucchini Rest	09h00	TC
June 2016				
5-10 th		Austin Healey National Midlands Tour		AH
12 th	MG	Braai @ Jubilee Creek	09h00	TC
26 th	MG	Breakfast Run – Sao Concalo's	09h00	TC
July 2016				
17 th	GRMC	Storms River Passes – Lunch at Tsitsikamma	09h30	PP
31 st	MG	Breakfast Run – Zucchini Rest	09h00	TC
August 2016				
14 th	GRMC	Braai – Plett Angling Club	10h00	PP
28 th	MG	Breakfast Run – Sao Concalo's	09h00	TC
September 2016				
11 th	GRMC	AGM	GRMC members only	
24 th	MG	National Model Planes – Oudtshoorn		TC
25 th	MG	Breakfast Run – Zucchini Rest		TC
October 2016				
11-13 th	GRMC	Technical Tour to PE		PP
30 th	MG	Breakfast Run – Sao Concalo's	09h00	TC
November 2016				
20 th	GRMC	Xmas Party	TBA	PP
27 th	MG	Breakfast Run – Zucchini Rest	09h00	TC
December 2016				
Friday	MG	Prawn Braai	MG members only	
Friday	MG	Street Braai – Bodge Eng/NF/BB		

George Old Car Show

Once again this event was well attended with members from both GRMC and the MG Club. Special thanks to all our participants who joined us for the day. A great weekend was had by all, great weather, good crowd and loads of interesting cars.



The day started quite overcast, with a spit and a spot at times, but by lunch time most of the clouds were gone, which then turned into a very pleasant day.





This year there were 1050 registered cars, tractors, motorcycles and stationary engines on display, which lead to an increase in public attendance figures.



Getting to know you.....

Name and Surname: Brian and Karin Gibson

Where were you born and where did you grow up?

Brian: Born in Johannesburg, grew up in Florida, studied at Florida Park High and then Wits.

Karin: Born in Johannesburg, grew up in Randburg, went to Bryanston High and Johannesburg College of Education.

What Classic vehicles do you have?

Currently only the TR2, which is in a rebuild at Zerwick Engineering. Hopefully the two BMW's will become classics.

Where did your love for classic cars begin?

When I was 16 I bought a 1957 TR3 which I rebuilt on my own. It probably weighed two tons as my panel-beating skills were very poor, lots of body putty used.

What do you think is the greatest quality a person can have?

Honesty and Integrity.

What is the one thing in life you regards as priceless?

Your health. The pace of life does not worry me, it's the sudden stop at the end that does!

What is your profession, and, as a child what did you want to be when you grow up?

Brian: I am a Metallurgist

Karin: Educator, as a child I wanted to be a Vet.

What do you do to relax?

Brian: Walk our dogs twice a day, and do a bit of cycling. Have completed 19 Argus Races. I also make knives as a hobby.

Karin: Walking, cycling, reading

Where did you go on your last holiday?

We sailed in the Ionian Islands in Greece.



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The Petersen Automotive Museum in LA re-opens....

Will sculptural curves, in the form of 135 tons of steel and aluminium on the museum's exterior, intrigue visitors enough to venture inside?



Twenty-five new galleries on three floors will be packed with interactive technology telling three overarching stories about the automobile: its history, its industry and its artistry.

An Xbox gallery equipped with 13 gaming simulators enables guests to virtually race on tracks in Daytona, Fla., Le Mans, France, and more. A digital experience and iPad tour created for children by Pixar uses characters and voices from the popular "Cars" movies. A motor sports gallery outfitted with a 180-degree projection wall places visitors inside racing events. A glass-walled classroom has been built for students and professors from Art Center College of Design in Pasadena crafting the transportation of tomorrow. And a floor devoted to the automobile as art will feature BMW's famous art cars adorned with work by talents such as David Hockney, Alexander Calder and Matazo Kayama.

Then there's the collection of Tinseltown cars that has been a main draw of the museum since it opened 20 years ago.

Visitors will see the 1982 Ferrari 308 GTSi convertible driven by Tom Selleck in "Magnum P.I.," the 1965 Lincoln Continental from the TV show "Entourage" and a yellow 1971 De Tomaso Pantera with a bullet hole in the steering wheel from when its owner, Elvis Presley, shot it for not starting. Other highlights include the 1979 Volkswagen Transporter van used in "Little Miss Sunshine," the 20-foot-long Batmobile piloted by Michael Keaton in "Batman," the 2016 Aston Martin DB10 featured in the latest James Bond film, "Spectre," and Steve McQueen's 1956 Jaguar XKSS.

This last car is among the museum's most prized acquisitions. Only 16 of the cars were built, and in 1959 McQueen implored his wife (the main breadwinner at the time) to buy it for \$5,000. McQueen vehicles are commanding sky-high prices at auction, so the car is worth at least eight figures, the museum says.

Anecdotes like this oil the gears at the Petersen.

"It's the stories that we're selling," Karges says. "And we'll reopen as a 21st century automotive museum taking full advantage of future technology for a more rich storytelling capability."

When the museum closed in late 2014, it had seven flat-screen TVs. It now has more than 160 types of screens, including 35 interactive touch-screens and an 8-by-20-foot LED billboard. Some of the 47 projectors play clips from films behind the cars that were featured in them.

Karges and his interior design team travelled to 32 museums around the world to study automotive-related exhibits and find out which features best resonated with viewers. Destinations included the BMW Museum in Munich, Germany, the Museo Ferrari in Maranello, Italy, and the International Spy Museum in Washington, D.C.



The Petersen Automotive Museum announced today a property and cash gift valued at about \$100 million from the widow of its founder.

The gift from Margie Petersen and the Margie & Robert E. Petersen Foundation includes the 300,000-square-foot building the museum has occupied at 6060 Wilshire Blvd. on "museum row," a car collection, unspecified amount of cash and a matching challenge.

"I am thrilled to make this gift which continues what Mr. Petersen and I began two decades ago, to build the most important automotive museum in the nation," she said.

The museum, which was started in 1994, will be getting about 135 new cars from the Petersen's private collection, including a 1925-26 "round-door" Rolls-Royce Phantom I and Steve McQueen's Jaguar XK-SS.



Thrown in for good measure are about 133 more cars, **the museum's Wilshire Boulevard building**, and a wad of cash (plus matching challenge). Museum Executive Director Buddy Pepp says the donation will "catapult the museum into world renown status," so watch your back, Henry Ford Museum in Detroit.



Steve McQueen in his Jaguar XK-SS

BIRTHDAYS

BEST WISHES TO THE FOLLOWING WHO CELEBRATE THEIR BIRTHDAY DURING MARCH AND APRIL.

MARCH

2nd Elmor Leo

2nd Bert Scheepers

6th John McCallum

7th Sean Mansfield

9th Jose Davidson

12th Michael Barber

16th Jill Bourlay

24th Veronica Jute

25th Rick Zerwick

27th Tony Albisser

APRIL

2nd Margaret Day

3rd Jim Cleland

8th Simon Leppard

9th Jenny Frost

9th Allan Waterson

11th Sarie Exton

15th Billy Matthee

17th Neville Mayhew

19th Sally Falla

20th Duncan Paton

21st Brent Watts

26th Paulene Franklyn

26th Ann Griffiths

28th Otto Witzmann

28th Tabita Rossouw

29th Johan Kruger

29th Eddie Parfett

29th Peter Turner

30th Rose Hewitt

30th Jinny Price

Technical Tip 105 – Cleaning chrome

This tip comes from Roberts cycle in Chicago and seems to have merit. Feedback on it's success would be appreciated.

A simple solution

A simple and inexpensive way to remove rust from **and** polish chrome surfaces by hand is to rub it with aluminium foil dipped in water. This process yields two advantages. First, since the aluminium foil is softer than steel, it will not scratch the surface. And second, a by-product of the process produces a fine metal polishing compound that smoothes the chrome surface to a bright shine.

Geek Stuff- Oxides are the key

Cleaning Rust is basically oxidized metal or in other words metal that has taken on extra oxygen atoms. As heat is generated by the friction of rubbing the aluminium foil on the chrome, a portion of the aluminum will oxidize to produce aluminum oxide. Aluminium has a higher reduction potential (i.e. a tendency take on electrons and in the process reduce or break itself down) than the chrome, and will therefore leech oxygen atoms away from any rust on the chrome surface which changes the chemical properties of the rust and breaks it down.

Polishing Aluminum oxide is harder than steel, and the microscopic grains of aluminium oxide produced during the cleaning process creates a fine metal polishing compound which, mixed with the water you added, creates a paste that smoothes and polishes the chrome surface.

In English - How it works

A common way to clean a rusted chrome surface such as a fender is to use a fine steel wool. However, when you use this method you have to use a lot of elbow grease and you still end up with a slightly dull surface with some amount of scratching not to mention the messy 'dust' left over from the steel wool. That's because you are physically scraping off the rust.

When you use the aluminium foil method you are dissolving the rust chemically so you don't need to rub nearly as hard and since the aluminium foil is softer than the chrome, you are left with few if any scratches. This method also allows you to get the rust out of some minor pitting without having to dig into the surface.

The aluminium oxide that is created by friction when you rub the surface of the chrome leeches the rust away and when combined with the water you added creates it's own polishing compound so you end up with a clean, smooth, shiny surface.

Step by step - By the numbers people

- Step 1** Cut the aluminium foil into small squares. 3" by 3" should do.
- Step 2** Wipe down or wash the surface to remove any surface dirt.
- Step 3** Dip a square into some water or sprinkle some water on it and spread it around on the surface of the foil.
- Step 4** Cup the wet square over the surface you want to clean so you get a nice even coverage.
- Step 5** Start rubbing a 6 or 8 inch area and remember you don't have to rub very hard. As you rub, you'll feel the surface get smoother and smoother until the foil just glides over it. You will also notice a light brown paste building up. This is the polish that results from the chemical reaction.
- Step 6** When the surface is nice and smooth and you have polished it, take a clean cloth and wipe the polish off.
- Step 7** Once you finish cleaning and polishing the item you need to cover the surface to protect it from the elements. At a minimum you can wipe it down thoroughly with a clean cloth. Since cloth inherently contains some amount of oil, this will give you at least some protection. The best method would be to use a small amount of chrome polish or maybe something like turtle wax or an equivalent kind of

wax or polish. Make sure you wipe the surface down with a paper towel first instead of a cloth because paper doesn't contain any oil so you will have a clean and dry surface for the wax or polish to adhere to.

Limitations - There's always a catch

If the surface is severely pitted or some of the chrome plating has peeled off, there is a limit to how much you can do. Since this method removes the rust chemically, you should still be able to get rid of most if not all of the rust. And since it creates its own polishing compound, you should be able to feather (taper) the peeled off edges to help prevent more peeling in the future. Again, once you have the surface as rust free and smoothed down as much as possible, don't forget to apply some form of wax or polish.

Things we noticed along the way

Use a little extra water if you want a super fine finish.

Wad up a larger piece of foil when you work on pitted areas. The edges created will help smooth down the pits.

Don't rub too long with the first 'paste' created. Once the surface feels nice and smooth and you've wiped the gunk off, you can use a new piece of foil with some more water to get as much shine as you like.

Don't waste your time with a severely pitted surface since the rust has probably eaten down through the chrome to the bare metal. Smooth it down as much as you can with steel wool then use the aluminium foil method to remove as much rust as possible.

The aluminium foil method also works pretty well on steel. It removes the rust well, but don't expect that super shiny finish like you get with the chrome because it never had that to begin with.

To get the best results, remove that fender or other part so you can work on it easily without having nooks and crannies to dig into.

If you're working on severely rusted rims, you might want to use a steel brush to remove the worst rust spots first. This will also remove any caked on road gunk so you have a better surface to work with.

A final Note – Parting is such sweet sorrow...

We hope you will be as amazed with this method as we are. It has saved us a lot of time and effort and has yielded much better results than we've gotten in the past.

Back in the day.....

Development of the Ford Thunderbird began in February of 1953, just one month after GM debuted their Corvette Dream Car at the Motorama in New York. Ford would use parts off existing models for their new car, as did Chevy. Ford would also copy the long-nose/short tail and 102-inch wheelbase of the Jaguar XK120 as did Chevy. But Similarities ended there – Ford's answer to the Corvette was not a bare-bones sports car, but rather a stylish and practical personal luxury car.

Dates to diarize....

5/6 March: DJ Motorcycle Rally – Hillcrest/Newcastle/Germiston

12/3: Midas Historic Tour – Redstar Raceway – Delmas

13/3: Any Dam Wheels Day – Tarlton Raceway

19/20 March: OD Inngs Memorial Run – Port Alfred
20/3: Piston Ring Swop Meet – Modderfontein
27/3: Blairgowrie Toy Fair - Blairgowrie

Our Website address is

www.grmc.co.za

To get on to our Facebook page Google Facebook and go to “gardenroutemc

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Submitted by Brian Gibson

A MG owner is having a few pint's too many in a pub , when it's time to go home, in the pouring rain, he get into the MG and manages to get 500 meters down the road where the car comes to a halt.

He get out and opens the bonnet and stares at the engine, along comes a horse and tells the man to dry his points, he duly does this and low and behold, the car starts . He turns the MG around and goes back to the pub for another pint.

He say to the barman , "you are not going to believe what happened,I got stuck in the pouring rain and along came a horse and told me to dry my points."

Barman say " was it the white horse or the black horse?"

MG owner " the white horse"

Barman " you lucky the black horse knows nothing about cars "



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