



## GARDEN ROUTE MOTOR CLUB

### BIG TORQUE – MARCH 2014



Please note:

- Regular breakfast runs will take place on the last Sunday of every month and will be organized by the MGCC – GRMC members are invited.
- GRMC members are invited to MGCC events shown in red. MGCC members are invited to GRMC events.
- Meeting place will be the Quays at the Waterfront in Knysna and Engen One Stop in Sedgefield.

#### CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2014 . Please note changes.

Date	Host Club	Events	Quays Start
<b>MARCH</b>			
9 <sup>th</sup> – 14 <sup>th</sup>		Austin Healey National Tour	
Sun 16th	MG	Fun Run to Glentana B & B	10h00
Sun 30th	MG	Breakfast Run – Sao Goncalo's (Old Nick)	

<b>APRIL</b>			
7 <sup>th</sup> – 9 <sup>th</sup>	MG	T C Tour – Brian Davidson	
Sun 13 <sup>th</sup>	GRMC	Storms River Passes run and Tsitsikama Inn Lunch	
Sun 27 <sup>th</sup>	MG	Breakfast Run – Zucchini (long week-end)	09h00
18 <sup>th</sup> to 21 <sup>st</sup>		Easter Week-end	
<b>MAY</b>			
9 <sup>th</sup> – 14 <sup>th</sup>	MG	MG Indaba	
Sun 11 <sup>th</sup>	GRMC	.GRMC Motor Show	
16-18 <sup>th</sup>	MG	Hillclimb – Scrutineering, Parking and Marshalling	
Sun 25 <sup>th</sup>	MG	Breakfast Run – Sao Goncalo's (Old Nicks)	09h00
Sat 31 <sup>st</sup>	GRMC	Night of the Proms - Port Elizabeth. To make your reservations please contact June Turner on 044 533 0843 or 082 344 3285 or e-mail turnerjp@mweb.co.za	
<b>JUNE</b>			
Sun 8 <sup>th</sup>	MG	Ebb and Flow Bring and Braai	10h30
Sun 29 <sup>th</sup>	MG	Breakfast Run – TBA	09h00

## **CHAIRMAN'S CHIRP**

2013 Ended with a bang and 2014 is off to a fast start already!!! . The first two months have flown by and we are in for an exciting year ahead. Over the past few months we have seen a marked increase in the GRMC membership and we welcome all of our new members. The committee works tirelessly at arranging events for our members so come along and join in on these outings and those arranged by the MG club. All are most welcome.

The first two outings of the year were a great success. The George Old Car Show was held over the weekend of February 8/9 and the participation of GRMC and MG members was outstanding. In total 53 cars participated. The display of our cars was one of quality and variety and attracted much interest from the public. We certainly again were the pick of the stands at the car show. While the weather started off as a bit dodgy it turned out to be a beautiful day enjoyed by all. Thank you to all who participated. Please see some of the photos included. (Pages 4-6)

The next event was the Pensioners lunch to Enrico's restaurant. The event was well supported by 30 members and the display of our classics looked great at the entrance to the restaurant. A great meal and socialising was held by all. Some photos are included. (Page 6-7) If you were not able to make this outing see what you missed!!!

The main charity event for the year will be the Knysna car show, which takes place on Sunday May 11. Preparations are well under way for the car show and based on the progress thus far we will have a bumper show again. For 2014 we aim to build on last year's show with a select display of Classic, performance, speciality and featured one- make cars and Motorcycles. The emphasis again will be on quality rather than volume. A further spectator attraction will be the MG Indaba being held in Knysna over the car show week-end and there will be more than 150 MG's, covering all models, gathered on the fields. Included with the MG display there will be various levels of Concours being held.

Other displays for this year will include three 50-year celebrations, namely, the Mini Cooper's first win in the Monte Carlo Rally, the birth of the V8- powered Sunbeam Tiger and the start of the Muscle/Pony car revolution - the introduction of the Ford Mustang. As a precursor to the

following weekend's Jaguar Simola Hill Climb, a special Jaguar display of modern and classic cars will be featured. Some of the other Hill Climb entrants will also be on view.

Classic & Performance Car Africa is once again sponsoring two concours trophies. The winner decided by a panel of judges and the other voted for by the attending public. In addition a new Style et Luxe category has been created and this will go to the most elegant and luxurious car on view.

To achieve the aspirational vision of GRMC we need your support in the following two areas:

- Please urgently register your car for the show. The notice has gone out, but the response to date has been poor. To assist the committee in planning the layout we need you to respond urgently. The registration is now electronic and will only take a couple of minutes to complete.
- Traditionally we relied on the assistance of MG club members to assist with the layout of the field and then marshalling cars to their respective parking bays on the day of the car show. As the MG Indaba will be on the go at the same time, many MG members will be involved in their own activities. We thus will need many more of the GRMC members to assist in completing these activities over May 9 – 11. Please diarise these dates and make yourself available when the request for marshals is sent out. If you have friends who can assist please bring them along.

LETS MAKE IT A BUMPER ATTENDANCE CAR SHOW !!!!

In closing a sad note. Two of our club members, Veronica Jute and Willie Putter are not well at the moment and we pray that they will have a speedy recovery. Please bear them in your thoughts during this difficult time.

Until next time.

**Peter**

### **FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK**

When I started compiling the newsletter +- 9 years ago. I remarked. and I quote "I am not too sure why I have offered to take on this responsibility as I don't know too much about cars". Unquote. I don't seem to have learnt too much since then and obviously do not know the difference between a TC and a Morgan..... see February Small Torque.

My apologies to all.

They say you can't teach an old dog new tricks and they could be right so maybe it is time to hand over the reigns to someone who does know the difference.

Any takers???

Until next time.....Happy Motoring

Christine

**PAST EVENTS**

**PHOTO GALARY FROM THE GEORGE CAR SHOW**







**PHOTO GALARY FROM BREAKFAST RUN TO ENRICO'S**





## SAVVA

### Technical Tip 82 - Dirty Bulbs

Recently I had the task of replacing a taillight lens in an elderly car and was quite surprised at the dirt that had accumulated on the bulb. As can be seen in the photograph the dirty one is next to a new one and the difference is quite obvious. When it was re-assembled with a new bulb I compared

it with the other side rear light which still had it's dirty bulb and to say the least the volume of light emitted was dismal in comparison.

On the road, especially on freeways, we are usually travelling slower than the mainstream traffic. It is imperative therefore that we offer whatever warning possible to passing cars of our existence on the road – especially at night. Over the years there have been some ugly accidents in which cars have smashed into the rear of slower cars – not necessarily older cars but there have been a few cases.

Let's ensure that at least our tail and stoplights are operating 100%.

When last did you clean the bulbs on your car?



An Irish Mother's Letter to Her Son...

Dear Son,

Just a few lines to let you know I'm still alive. I'm writing this letter slowly because I know you can't read fast.

We are all doing very well.

You won't recognise the house when you get home - we have moved. Your dad read in the newspaper that most accidents happen within 20 miles from your home, so we moved. I won't be able to send you the address because the last Irish family that lived here took the house numbers when they moved so that they wouldn't have to change

their address.

This place is really nice. It even has a washing machine. I'm not sure it works so well though: last week I put a load in and pulled the chain and haven't seen them since.

Your father's got a really good job now. He's got 500 men under him. He's cutting the grass at the cemetery.

Your sister Mary had a baby this morning but I haven't found out if it's a boy or a girl, so I don't know whether you are an auntie or an uncle.

Your brother Tom is still in the army. He's only been there a short while and they've already made him a court martial!

Your Uncle Patrick drowned last week in a vat of whiskey in the Dublin Brewery. Some of his workmates tried to save him but he fought them off bravely. They cremated him and it took three days to put out the fire.

I'm sorry to say that your cousin Seamus was arrested while riding his bicycle last week. They are charging him with dope peddling.

I went to the doctor on Thursday and your father went with me. The doctor put a small tube in my mouth and told me not to talk for ten minutes. Of course your father offered to buy it from him.

We were really worried because it took him two hours to get me and your father out. The weather isn't bad here. It only rained twice this week, first for three days and then for four days, Monday was so windy one of the chickens laid the same egg four times.

We had a letter from the undertaker. He said if the last payment on your grandmother's plot wasn't paid in seven days, up she comes.

About that coat you wanted me to send you, your uncle Stanley said it would be too heavy to send in the mail with the buttons on, so we cut them off and put them in the pockets.

John locked his keys in his car yesterday. We were really worried because it took him 2 hours to get me and your father out.

Three of your friends went off a bridge in a pick-up truck. Ralph was driving. He rolled down the window and swam to safety. Your other two friends were in the back. They drowned because they couldn't get the tailgate down.

There isn't much more news at this time. Nothing much has happened.

Your loving Mum.

**P.S. I was going to send you some money but I had already sealed the envelope.**

## **ROLLS-ROYCE EXHIBITED AT THE BMW MUSEUM IN MUNICH**

While Rolls Royce can trace its roots back more than a century, Rolls Royce's automotive unit in its current form has only been building cars for the past decade. Yes, it was only ten years ago that the first of the latest-generation Rolls-Royce Phantom sedans was delivered to its owner, marking the reign of the prestigious British brand's ownership under German automaker BMW.

Now, to mark ten years of success running Rolls Royce, BMW has opened a new exhibition at its official museum, located next to its headquarters in Munich, Germany.

The unique exhibition, entitled 'Strive for Perfection,' also commemorates yet another key milestone in the history of the Rolls-Royce brand--the 150th anniversary of the birth of one of its founders, Sir Henry Royce (he was born on March 27, 1863, and died on April 22, 1933).

The displays tell the story of Rolls Royce in chronological detail; from the meeting of the company's founding fathers, Sir Henry Royce and Charles Stewart Rolls in 1904, through to the present day.



### **NEW MEMBERS.**

We would like to welcome the following new members to the club

Bob and Lindsey Hunt  
Johan and Ilse Kruger

### **SICK BAY.**

Veronica Jute underwent surgery last week. Please keep her in your thoughts as she recovers.

I have had an update on Willie Putters progress after his surgery. He is doing well. Please keep him in your thoughts as he now undergoes treatment. Willie, we hope to see you back at club outings soon.

### **BIRTHDAYS FOR MARCH 2014**

Elmor Leo	2nd
Bert Scheepers	2nd
Nita Davis	3rd
John McCallum	6th
Sean Mansfield	7th
Jose Davidson	9th
Mike Barber	12th
Jill Bourlay	16th
Veronica Jute	24th
Rick Zerwick	25th
Tony Albisser	27th

A GPS left on dashboard in the sun - WOW!

Looks like a good lesson to learn. I would bet this also applies to Cell phones, tablets, digital cameras, and other devices that use lithium batteries.

You think this may be a reason why the US Postal Service will not ship electronic devices that contain lithium batteries any longer?

GPS was placed in its bracket in the windshield and left in the sun. The battery overheated and exploded!



**Submitted by Tim le Feuvre**

### **MINI REMEMBERS IT'S FIRST WIN AT MONTE CARLO 50 YEARS ON.**

Mini's recent foray in the [World Rally Championship](#) was sadly a [very short one](#), so the least the carmaker can do now is console itself with past triumphs. Of course, the recent [Dakar wins](#) are important, but by far its biggest rallying victory was the 1964 triumph in the Monte Carlo Rally with the legendary Paddy Hopkirk behind the wheel of the [classic Mini](#) rally car.

This month, Mini celebrates 50 years since that event, as on January 21 1964 the Mini Cooper S won the Monte Carlo Rally for the first time. Paddy Hopkirk and his co-driver Henry Liddon pulled off a big surprise, managing to win the world's most famous rally in the small British car, beating rivals that were seen as superior.

Nevertheless, the nimble 90hp Mini Cooper felt at ease on Monte Carlo's narrow winding mountain roads, winning it again in 1965 and 1967 with Timo Mäkinen and Rauno Aaltonen, respectively. For the United Kingdom, Mini's first victory in Monte Carlo was a matter of national pride.

Hopkirk, now 80 years old, received a congratulatory telegram from the British government and even the Beatles were quick to congratulate him. "I got a telegram from the Beatles," remembers Hopkirk. "That was followed by a photograph of the four of them autographed to me saying: 'You're one of us now, Paddy.' And it's very nice to have that nowadays," the legendary driver recalls.

Hopkirk says the Monte Carlo victory was due too many factors, but the car's lightness, nimbleness and size were crucial.

"Its front-wheel drive and front-mounted transverse engine were a great advantage, and the fact the car was smaller and the roads were ploughed, they were quite narrow, so I suppose that was an advantage," the driver said. "The Mini was particularly good downhill, and all the tests were up and downhill, so what we lost going up, I think we made up for going downhill," he adds.



**Written by Dan Mihalusca**