



GARDEN ROUTE MOTOR CLUB

TORQUE – JUNE 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.

➤ **The events in blue are for MGCC members only**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2014. Please note changes.

Date	Host Club	Events	Quays Start
JUNE			
Sun 8th	MG	Ebb and Flow Bring and Braai	10h30
Sun 29th	MG	Breakfast Run – TBA	09h00
Date	Host Club	Events	Quays start

<u>JULY</u>			
Tues 15th	MG	Belvidere Supper and Quiz night at The Bell	18h00
Sun 27th	MG	Breakfast Run to Sao Gono- Plett	9h00
<u>AUG</u>			
9/10	GRMC	Art Deco in the Desert – Karoo Theatrical Hotel Steytlerville (Mini Tour)	
Tues 12th	MG	Brunch run to Peppermill – The Craggs	10h30
Sun 31st	MG	Breakfast at Zuccini's – Timberlake	9h00
<u>SEPT</u>			
Tues 9th	MG	Mitchells new site – Darts competition GRMC and MG	17h30
Sun 14th	GRMC Members only	AGM – Brenton Community Hall- to be followed with a Bring and Braai	11h00
Sun 21st	MG	Bring and share picnic/Braai at Slades	10h30
Sun 28th	MG	Breakfast run to Sao Gono - Plett	9h00
<u>OCT</u>			
Sat 12th	MG	National Scale Model Aircraft - Oudtshoorn	8h30
20-24 th (4 days)	MG	Tour to Eastern Cape around Port Alfred and surrounds	9h30
Sun 26th	MG	Breakfast run to Zuccini's	9h00
<u>NOV</u>			
Sun 9th	MG Members only	Picnic/Braai at Littlewoods	10h30
Sun 23rd	GRMC	Bring and Braai at the Plettenberg Bay Angling Club Boma	10h30
Sun 27th	MG	Breakfast run to Sao Gono - Plett	9h00
29 th	GRMC	Xmas Dinner/Dance	
<u>DEC</u>			
Fri 5th	MG Members only	Prawn Braai at the Angling Club	17h30
Fri 12th	MG	Street Braai – Bodge/Frost Brothers/ Brian Bruce Museum	16h00

Please note that the events calendar for the last 6 months of 2014 is only a draft and these dates could change.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT ON THE KNYSNA CAR SHOW

In the blink of an eye half the year is done and dusted. I can only assume it's because time flies when we are having fun and we have kept ourselves busy!!!!. In my case and the Knysna car

show committee our time over the past 5 months has been committed to delivering the best car show to date. The success of the 2014 car show places it in pole position to become one of South Africa's premiere motor shows. No doubt this brings with it many challenges and importantly having a clear strategy of sustainability for the future. The classic car environment has changed significantly over recent years and your committee has recognised this, resulting in the current Knysna car show format. Ownership of the car show should remain vested with GRMC and its members and not just with the committee. **We thus all agree that a new debate is necessary, both in the Club and between individuals who want to take it forward differently. Please put on your thinking caps and let's have your thoughts.** To give you some idea and to start your thinking process, please consider the following :

- The date and day - should it be a Saturday or Sunday and the impact of mother's day??.
- The impact of the hill climb a week later - negatives and positives Should the car show move away from the hill climb date or combine forces ???.
- Sustainability for future years - Greater GRMC member involvement versus an external events organiser ??.
- The format and structure of future Knysna car shows.

I look forward to receiving your thoughts. Once received, a further communication will follow **before calling a special meeting involving all GRMC members.**

Enough about the challenges that face us and back to the successful 2014 Knysna car show!!!

A grand total of 350 cars were on display of which about 50% were Indaba MG's. The car show is rapidly growing in stature and following the successful format of quality versus quantity, introduced over the past couple of years. This year offered more variety than before. The car show acted as a backdrop to the 2014 MG International Indaba, representing practically all the models produced during the past millennium. The Knysna High School sports fields were packed to the perimeters with a glittering display of veteran, classic, and exotic vehicles, together for the first time, with an excellent display of rare and exciting motorcycles. The quality and variety of vehicles on display was a sight to be cherished by all petrolheads!!!

A couple of surprise attractions added further interest and glamour to the car show. These include:

- The Franz Pretorius 1973 Porsche 911 that competed in the London to Sydney Rally
- The 50-year anniversary of the Sunbeam V8 Tiger and the Ford Mustang.
- The Mini Cooper's first win on the Monte Carlo rally 50 years ago.
- As part of the MG racing heritage on display was the 1932 supercharged 750cc Midget the 1950 1250cc Spider and the 1954 1250cc Hedgehog Special.
- Among the modern exotics and performance cars on view was a fantastic display of 10 Ferrari's, a McLaren MP4-12C convertible and an Audi R8 V10 Spider
- The extra ordinary Brian Bruce car collection displayed under a tent with a stand next to each car provided the vehicle details. The display included the Jaguar C Type Replica, Jaguar D Type Replica, Jaguar XK 120, Ford GT40 , Cobra Daytona and many more.

-The Jaguar Simola hill climb car display.

- The Harley Davidson truck with the fantastic display of motorcycles and the offering of test rides.

- Knysna house of Classic and sports cars held a silent auction at the show. Included in the line up were 25 classic, Vintage and sports cars, which drew fantastic attention. We are awaiting the outcome and the amount that will be donated as a result of sales concluded.

- An added attraction was the Bloodhound SSC driving experience, a simulator of the 100670 KW world land speed record breaking car being prepared for an attempt at reaching 1600 KMH at Hakskeen Pan in the Northern Cape in 2015. Visitors could experience a little of what Rodney Green will go through during his LSR attempt. This was particularly popular with kids attending the car show with their parents.

- The food court this year was a great success, offering a variety of quality food stalls. An added feature was that we were successful in getting a sponsor to pay for a tent under which people could enjoy their food in comfort.

Building on last year's awards, the Classic & Performance Car Africa trophies were awarded as follows. -

- Concours d' Elegance (best car on show) trophy went to Ron Hollis's stunning 1958 Aston Martin DB2/4 Series 3.



Ron Hollis accepting his trophy with Peter Pretorius



Kallie Erasmus accepting the trophy of behalf of Rordan Tait

- The C&PCA floating trophy for the best car as chosen by the public went to Rordan Tait with his Alfa Romeo 1750 Spider.

- A new trophy was introduced, namely " Style et Luxe " for the most desirable car on show and sponsored by AUTO GLYM. This floating trophy went to the rare 1952 Jaguar C –Type replica owned by Brian Bruce.

Without the support of the car show committee (Mike and Ann Griffiths, Cedric and Anne Parker,



Duncan Miller, Alistair Gibb and Graham Yendall / Silvia Harvey) the car show would not have achieved the success it did.

Brian Bruce's C-Type Jaguar

There were obstacles that had to be overcome: Mike Griffiths achieved the impossible in obtaining the liquor licence, Cedric Parker put in many hours to master the CAD system and enable us to have a flexible layout of the fields, Graham Yendall had to persevere with an ever changing number of MG's that had to be parked for the display. Then there were the teams that assisted with the layout of the fields under the guidance of Don Forsyth, Cedric Parker and Lionel Hewitt with their efficient marshals on the day. A Big thanks must go to them all for willingly offering up their time and in certain instances absorbing costs incurred. This all is greatly appreciated – a total team effort.

A special mention and thanks must also go to the following:

- Marck Cooper recognised the support that members of GRMC and the MG Club have given him and Gavin in developing the Cooper Healey project. This month the first Cooper Healey will be shipped to New Zealand. This shows how well the vehicle has been developed. To show their appreciation R5000 was donated towards the costs of arranging the 2014 Knysna car show. Many thanks for this kind thought and it is greatly appreciated.

- Brian Bruce this year went the extra mile in putting up a tent over the display of his 10 vehicles. The transport of the vehicles with a car carrier and the cost of the tent were all absorbed by Brian. The display certainly stood out and attracted a lot of attention and definitely contributed to lifting the standard of the car show. The generosity and support that GRMC gets from Brian is just fantastic and is appreciated. A personal thanks to him.

- As the 11th of May was mother's day we tried to recognise this. In this regard Anne Parker put in a special effort to find sponsors for gifts to mothers attending the car show. She neatly packaged these gifts and they were handed out on the day by means of a lucky draw. To Anne and these sponsors we say many thanks.

- To the following major Sponsors who contributed almost R30,0000 - PG Glass, Stone House Capital / Bay Wealth Management, House of Classic & Sports Cars, Imperial Group, Knysna Toyota, Protea Hotel and Frost Brothers. Without their support it would be difficult to deliver a show of this magnitude.

- To the 33 GRMC members who responded to my request for a voluntary R100 contribution towards the Car show costs, many thanks for this support - it is appreciated.

- A personal thanks must also go out to all the participants who showed their vehicles to the public and to the trade who put up fantastic displays of their products.

In conclusion the financial summary :

- Gate takings = R60, 000 - 42% up on 2013
- Income = R114,000 - 35% up on 2013
- Expenses = R61,000 - (27% up on 2013)

Distribution to charity beneficiaries R 53,000 - 29% up on 2013 R41,000 .

The charity beneficiaries who will benefit from the funds raised are Hospice, Animal Welfare, E-Pap, Knysna High School, FAMSA (Plettenberg Bay) and Change for Change.

We are still expecting a further approximately R10,000 which is made up of beer sales, refund on the tent, HC&SC commission and MINI SA sponsorship. This amount will be transferred to the Car Show contingency fund for 2015.

Peter Pretorius
Car Show picture gallery



(Should anyone like to have the car show pictures, please contact me on peperp@epweb.co.za and I will let you have them via dropbox.)

Please note – The GRMC annual Membership fees are due in July. A further note will be sent in this regard. On receipt on this your prompt action will be appreciated.

LAST NIGHT OF THE PROMS

WOW!! What an experience – It is rare that I will sit through an evening's entertainment with a permanent smile on my face, but that is how it was on the 31st May when a group of us from the

Garden Route Motor Club and MG Car Club met in Port Elizabeth for the “Last Night of the Proms” Concert. For any of you who have never been to the Feather Market Centre in Downtown P.E. please put it on your Bucket List. It is a stunning, classic Victorian Building, as splendid of its type I have ever seen. A perfect, inspiring venue for any large concert. On stage – flanked by South African and British Flags, assembled the 53 members of the Eastern Cape Philharmonic Orchestra and behind them around 200 singers, gathered together from no less than 8 Choirs. Behind and towering above them was the most elegant and awesome Organ.

Peter and June Turner kindly organised the tickets and arrangements and special thanks go to them to persuade the organisers to move the dates away from the Hill Climb!

Richard Cock, known to many of you, I’m sure, was the Conductor and MC. As well as treating us to his relaxed and humorous style of presenting and co-ordinating the Orchestra and Choirs, he introduced a really special solo Baritone and also a brilliant Violinist, who were just fantastic. Fun and elegance was provided by a young lady who performed from the Zip Zap Circus and a large Pipe Pin added to the entertainment. For our part we whistled to “Bridge Over the River Kwai”, but I swear the Lady next to me was singing Naughty Words!!

The whole event, the theme of which was Movie Blockbusters, was put on by the St Francis Hospice in P.E to whom all proceeds went. If you have never been to this event, do go next year if you can, and like me, just say WOW! when you set eyes on that stunningly beautiful Venue.

Roger Fisher

RECENT UK VISIT.

On our recent trip to the UK we spent a couple of days in the Cotswold area. There are numerous quaint villages dating back to the early 14th century scattered around the countryside.

We were fortunate enough to discover a lovely motor museum in a beautiful little village called Bourton on the Water, Cotswold Motoring Museum and Toy Collection -. Entry fee of £5 per person.

In this museum you will discover seven galleries packed with vintage cars, a fascinating and unique toy collection, including a Motor sports exhibition.

The museum itself features some interesting older British and a few German makes, including some old interesting motorbikes and bicycles.

With 56 vehicles in the collection, 16 motorbikes, 3 caravans, over 800 enamel advertising signs and 30 historic pedal cars and aeroplanes, we found the museum very interesting and well worth a visit.



We then ventured further north to the Donington Motor Museum, a distance of approx 100 miles from Cotswold, travelling time about 1.5 hours on good roads and thanks to our GPS. If you are a motor racing fan and you have not seen The Donington Collection, then you should! The Collection is located at Donington Park, in North West Leicestershire.

The Donington Grand Prix Collection houses the largest collection of McLaren and Williams racing cars in the world, and the only complete collection of Vanwalls. Four halls, with over 130 exhibits, illustrate the history of motor sport from the turn of the 20th century, where visitors can get close to the cars driven by such famous names as Nuvolari, Mansell, Prost, Moss, Fangio and Stewart.



One of the paths leading to the museum is lined with historic fuel pumps, leading from the gatehouse and past a series of statues and memorials, including one of Juan Manuel Fangio, and the last winner of a Grand Prix at Donington Park, Ayrton Senna.

There are cars from before the start of the Formula One world championship in 1950, like Austins from the 1930's and an Auto Union from 1940.

A special display pays tribute to the Founder, Tom Wheatcroft's protégé, Roger Williamson, who was tragically killed in the Dutch Grand Prix in 1973, when his car burst into flames during an accident.

Roger was the protégé of Donington Park and Grand Prix Collection owner Tom Wheatcroft, who first met him at a Formula 3 race at Monte Carlo, supporting the 1971 Monaco Grand Prix. They became close friends and went on to achieve fantastic success in various championships during 1971 and 1972. Tragically, in only his second Grand Prix, the 1973 Dutch event, Roger's March car crashed and he was killed. The safety facilities and marshals' effort at the Zandvoort circuit proving to be inadequate to save him

This collection is more than just the world's largest collection of Formula One cars. The site's history as a military base during WWII is highlighted with a series of large military vehicles on display.

It also displays the motorbike pedigree of Donington Park, a home for many years of rounds of MotoGP, World Super Bikes and British Super Bikes, and is shown with a collection of historic bikes.

It was certainly worth my £8 pensioner price and £10 for the younger lady.

The museum is adjacent to the famous Donington racing circuit and we were constantly aware of motorbikes going around the circuit, thinking that it was an open practice day for members of the public. We managed to find our way into the circuit, free of charge.

Upon entering the pit area we were astounded to see massive factory sponsored trailers being set up. This happened to be a Wednesday and as we strolled around the pits admiring all the Super Bikes we discovered that it was one of the World SuperBike Championship legs to be held that weekend.

We gradually made our way to one of the main grandstands looking down the main straights and had the entire grandstand to ourselves.

We spent an enjoyable hour or two watching the various super bikes practicing.

A trip well worth doing.

England has to be the Mecca of motor museums and having visited various other ones we are always excited to discover new ones, as there is such a lot of diversity of bikes and cars in the UK.

We were also fortunate enough to have an organized tour arranged specially for us at the Autoglym factory in Letchworth, UK, approx one hour from Heathrow.

We were given a guided tour of the production of the world famous Autoglym products. We were suitably impressed as they are obviously very proud of the fantastic products they produce. From what we were shown they are constantly expanding to meet the world demand for Autoglym.

Needless to say we are proud to represent them in the Garden Route. We are now looking forward to our fourth consecutive visit to the Goodwood Revival where we always have three fun filled days of motor extravaganza. Watch this space for our 2014 report back.

Graham and Sylvia.

NEW MEMBER

We would like to welcome Johan van Zyl and Elize Eksteen to the club.

BIRTHDAYS FOR JUNE 2014

John Day	2nd
Peter Vadas	3rd
Karel Zerwick	3rd
Linda McEwan	3rd
Susan Dowding	5th
June Turner	8th
Charlie Tew	9th
Pamela Waterston	13th
Barry Giggins	16th
Brian Bruce	17th
Jane Cordell	17th
Joan Giggins	17th
Haydn Franklin	18th
Lynne Dean	20th
Linnae Putter	21st
Mike Stuart	28th
Evelyn Cronje	28th
Paula Koncki	28th
Brian Madeley	29th

<p>Our website address is www.grmc.co.za</p>

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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Duncan Miller	Treasurer	044 382 6332	dunclare@telkomsa.net
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