



GARDEN ROUTE MOTOR CLUB

TORQUE FOR SEPTEMBER 2015



The Garden Route Motor Club would like to welcome the following new members to the club.

Leon Strumpher and his partner Emily Stanwix who live at Rheenendal. Leon owns a 1975 Merc 450 SLC

We hope you will enjoy many happy times with the club.

FROM THE EDITOR

N.B. AN EMAIL HAS JUST BEEN SENT OUT TO MEMBERS ABOUT THE BINGO EVENING. PLEASE DO NOT REPLY TO ME, BUT TO TREVOR COOPER AS I WILL BE AWAY.

- ❖ Regular Breakfast Runs are held on the last Sunday of the month
- ❖ Meeting places – KNYSNA – The Quays at the Waterfront at the end of Grey Street.
SEDFIELD – Engen One – Stop.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2015.

Date	Host Club	Event	Quays Start	Invited	Convenor
Sept 2015					
Tues 8th	MG	Mitchells new site – Social evening Bingo	17h30	GRMC	TC
Sun 13th	GRMC	AGM - GRMC	11h00	GRMC MEMBERS ONLY	PP
Sat 26th	MG	National Aero modellers Champs - Oudtshoorn	08h00	GRMC	TC/FM
Sun 27th	MG	Breakfast Run to Sao Goncalo Plett	09h00	GRMC	TC
Oct 2015					
11-16th	GRMC	Tour to Stellenbosch and Hermanus	09h00	MG Included	PP
Sun 18th	MG	Bring and Braai/Picnic at The Slades	10h30	GRMC	TC
Sun 25th	MG	Breakfast run to Zuccini's at TimBerlake Village	09h00	GRMC	TC
Nov. 2015					
Sun 8th	MG	Picnic/Braai – venue to be announced	10h30	GRMC	TC
Sun 22nd	GRMC	Braai – Plett Angling Club	10h00	MG	PP
Sat 28th	GRMC	Christmas Party - Lunch / Dinner	TBA	MG	PP
Sun 29th	MG	Breakfast Run to Sao Goncalo - Plett	09h00	GRMC	TC
Dec 2015					
Fri 4th	MG	Prawn Braai – Angling Club		MGCC MEMBERS ONLY	All
Fri 11th		Street braai – Bodge/Frost Brothers/BB Museum		GRMC	TC

Please note that the events in blue are for MGCC Members only

Convenors – Fred Mullany – go.knysna@afrihost.co.za - 044 381 0306

Trevor Cooper – trevcooper@gmail.com - 044 3823322

Peter Pretorius – peterp@afrihost.co.za - 044 5335114

Bruce Henderson – brucejhenderson@gmail.com - 044 3821989

CHAIRMAN'S CHIRP -- September 2015

Winter is a time of gathering around the fire places, drinking red wine, indulging in hearty meals and waiting for a sunshine weekend to take the classic car out for a run. This is exactly what I have been doing!! The winter months this year seem to have been particularly harsh or is it just old age? Well I am warmed by one vision and that in a month or so spring will be upon us. The air will once again be filled with the scent of blossoms, our scenic Garden Route area will be blooming and our classic cars will hit the roads again in greater numbers. I am sure that we all are waiting patiently for spring to burst forth with new life. Until then bundle up, keep warm and make sure that your classic is ready for the upcoming outings. As a result the clubs activities have also slowed. However, my life continued working on GRMC matters, as we head for a busy period in the next few months. Who would believe it that it is less than four months to Xmas!!!



Firstly on a more sombre note.

Life is a journey - and by golly , did Graham Yendall enjoy the ride !! - 18 July 1946 to 26 July 2015

It was with great sadness that we bid farewell to Graham who passed away on July 26, 2015, a loyal and committed petrolhead, member of the GRMC and MGSCCC. He passed away having suffered a massive heart attack, one week after his 69th birthday. He was a very special person and friend and will always be remembered as someone who lived life to the fullest. A person who will sorely be missed by both clubs and far beyond.

Graham's love of wheels started with a three-wheeled tricycle, racing his dog around the yard. He had his first taste of motor racing when he entered one of his hand-built beach buggies in a gymkhana organised by the VW club. Having won all the prizes he progressed to go-cart racing where much success was achieved. This was followed with a stint in rallying. He entered the Castrol International Rally in a Daihatsu Charade and was selected twice to race for the SA team in England. Sadly a broken ankle put paid to his short but successful racing career. His love for classic cars however never waned with him owning Porsches, Alfa Romeo, and more recently the pristine MGB Roadster and Jaguar E-Type. His love for classics further extended in that he visited Goodwood Revival for three years in a row !!



In Graham's younger years he also excelled in baseball, karate, fishing, hunting, bird and clay pigeon shooting - an arsenal of accolades that won him an Atlas Sportsman of the year award for 1980 / 1981.

When moving to Plett in 1983, Graham joined the SA Police reservists for eight years and also worked his way up to become the Deputy Station Commander of the Plett NSRI.

After owning numerous businesses, Graham retired in 2010 when he sold his Amakaya Backpackers business. Never retiring from his sporting pursuits, he also competed in 11 Argus cycle tours.

Graham and Sylvia only recently moved into their newly built home in Brackenridge Estate. It was clearly evident that he found happiness in his new home and was set to enjoy life to the fullest. Sadly this has not materialised. Our condolences go out to Sylvia and Graham's family.

In celebration of Grahams life and to bid him farewell a breakfast was arranged for GRMC & MGSCCC members on Sunday August 2. We were overwhelmed with over 100 members attending the breakfast. It just demonstrated the person that Graham was and his popularity among his fellow petrolheads . A big thanks to all those who attended and apologies received!!!

Graham truly ended his autobiography with these words --

REMEMDER LIFE'S A JOURNEY ENJOY THE RIDE .

Sylvia Harvey has asked me to submit the following words of thanks to all club members.

“ As I am recovering from the devastating shock of losing Graham, I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of our members for your messages, E-mails, phone calls and big hugs. Graham (and I) loved being part of the club, thank you for the role you played in making that journey so much fun.

My deepest gratitude also to Peter Pretorius .Pete, thank you so much for taking charge, dealing with the family, and keeping things together as my world was falling apart. You are a true friend. Thank you - Sylvia “



THE GRMC WINELANDS & WHALES MEANDER

I have just completed the recci for the tour taking place between October 11th and 16th. The tour group will consist of 37 GRMC and MGSCCC members. The planning of the routes, accommodation, restaurants and activities have now been finalised and communication with participants is in progress. The tour will take us through some very scenic roads and the focus areas will be Franschoek, Stellenbosch, Hermanus and Gansbaai. All indications are that it is going to be a great tour for the 37 participants.



KNYSNA MOTOR SHOW - 2016

We have been advised that the date for the 2016 Jaguar Simola Hill Climb has been changed and will now take place on May 6, 7 & 8th. In line with this the GRMC committee has reviewed its options and it has been decided to hold the Knysna Motor Show on Sunday May 1st, being the previous weekend to the hill climb. The Sunday has been selected as Monday May 2 will be a public holiday (Workers Day), thus giving us a long weekend. It will thus allow participants/ and out of town public the option to drive up on the Saturday and leave on the Monday .

GRMC have also been advised by the Knysna High School Governing Body (SGB) that a rental agreement has to be signed in future for the use of the sports fields. Several meetings have been held with the SGB and we are now close to signing the agreement. Agreement has been reached on the rental. The 2015 base of R12000 will be used, to which an inflation factor will be applied for 2016. We are still waiting for clarification regarding the Schools insurance policy before signing. The term will be for one year at a time. Should any member be interested in seeing the agreement please contact me - peterp@afrihost.co.za.

GRMC AGM

With the GRMC financial year-end being the end of June the AGM will take place on September 13. Further details will follow. However in the interim I make the following plea:

To those who have paid their subs, many thanks. However we still have a large number of unpaid subs and it will be appreciated if these can please be attended to.

The AGM is an important event, please diarise the date of Sunday September 13 to make yourself available to attend.

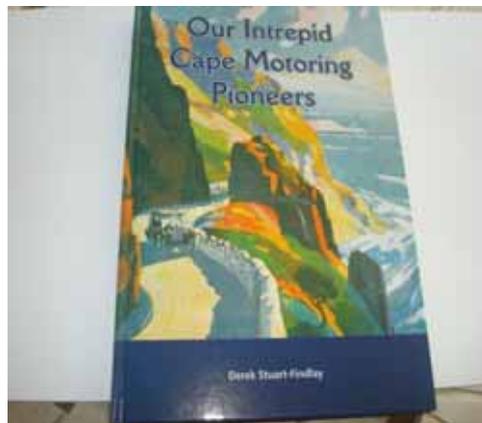
Some of our current GRMC committee will be stepping down this year and we need to fill these vacancies. Please contact me if you are able to join -- we need your support to continue the high level delivered to you the GRMC members. – peterp@afrihost.co.za

Books for sale - OUR INTREPID CAPE MOTORING PIONEERS by Derek Stuart-Findlay

Since the first car to arrive in SA in 1897, the country has been the stage for some remarkable contribution to the evolution of the automobile. Split into 10 chapters, this 183-page A4 hard cover book includes stories on the founders of the industry, the first vehicles in the country, the veteran and Edwardian years, WWI, the 1920's, motor company entrepreneurs, the racing years and the record breakers in the lead up to WW11.

The joy of the book is that none of the stories are long-winded, each told in a conversational style and everyone amplified with black and white photographs. Seldom does one come across a book of this nature that is as entertaining to read as this. If you are a Petrolhead it is a must !!!

We only have 18 copies and the cost is R250 each . Please urgently advise if I should reserve a copy for you - peterp@afrihost.co.za



SAVVA Technical Tip 96 – Work benches

Recently faced with an engine rebuild and having a back that is not too happy being bent over for hours at a time I decided to see if there was an alternative work bench that was a bit higher than my current ones, which incidentally, are 75cms (30inches) and 80cms (33 inches) high. I needed something a bit higher so that I could stand upright and work without bending over the whole time. At the local garage the proprietor showed me a “portable bench” he had built up many years ago for the same purpose which he uses daily. It was so simple I built a similar one except I used wood on the top whereas he used metal. Not only is it higher at 100cms (39inches) but also has casters so I can move it around. It has turned out to be one of the most useful “tools” I have. Apart from using it inside the garage it also goes outside for painting bits and pieces.

As one can see mine is an “EI – Cheapo” model made mainly out of 4 x 4 and 5 x 3 cm square section tubing with a piece of 4cm thick kitchen counter on the top. The casters are

10cm. All the materials were readily available at very modest prices. The tabletop cost a few Rand and came from a kitchen cupboard supplier who was only too glad to get rid of this piece and even cut it to size for me. The square “tubing” came from a local hardware store. The total cost of the bench was about R300.00 and a very worthwhile investment.



Trip Log: Susan & Brian on Silk Route 2015

Trip Start 19.08.2015 ODO 180 215

Journey start was from Rosedale, N. Yorkshire at about 07.25am. We left in drizzle on the road to Gillingham near Shaftesbury to visit Roger and Judith Grix, our friends from Joburg now living in the UK and France. Journey down was uneventful other than difficulty in locating their tiny hamlet of Fifehead Magdalene which even the locals in Shaftesbury hadn't heard of. Very nice secluded spot and if one was to say it was Far from the Madding Crowd you'd be in good company as we had a hearty meal out with R & J at Thomas Hardy's own watering hole just a couple of km down their lane. Location problems seemed to stem from a glitch with our Garmin, but this was duly sorted out on Roger's kitchen table after a bit of a fight with my old computer and Bill Gates.

20.08.15 ODO 180 712 Starting off in drizzle, made our way across southern England to the channel tunnel, passing en route Stonehenge and Salisbury plain. On arrival at Folkestone we found that recent issues with illegal immigrants were causing delays, but our Flexi ticket allowed us immediate access and we duly boarded at 11.20 as planned and had a trouble free crossing. Weather was slowly improving as we headed SE across N France and into Belgium and we duly arrived and found a campsite just outside Waterloo at about 16.00.

21.08 15 ODO 181 246 Clear sky and an early start to the battlefield. As feared, our prompt arrival at 08.00 was not matched by European time keeping and so we hung around waiting for the museum to finally open it's doors at 09.30. Still, the museum was superb, having been built and opened in time for the 200th anniversary of the battle earlier this year. Sir

Arthur Wellsley headed up his force of 70k British and Nederlands troops and faced Napoleon for a hard day's fighting which lasted well into the evening, with the Allied forces hanging on by a thread thanks to some smart tactical manoeuvres by the Duke, until the tardy, but none the less welcome arrival of General Blucher and his Prussian army sealed Boney's fate..

This was the decisive battle of the 19th century, which involved a total of 300 000 men, 40 000 casualties, and effectively determined the fate of Europe, and with it the British Empire for the next 100 years. The museum draws the threads together of the politics, which lead up to Napoleon facing the political wrath of every nation in Europe and eventually the firepower of 7 of the Nations of Europe. The museum tour ends with a superb 3 D presentation of the battlefield tactics and follows the events as the day wore on. Then there is the climb to the top of the Butte De Lion where one gets a birds eye view of the battlefield, and some idea of how Wellington used the topography to good effect by making Boney fight uphill against a blind rise, which cost him 9000 cavalry lost in charge after charge against the British squares on the lee side of the hill.

Leaving the museum at about 13.00 we then took the motorway down to a point south of Nancy where we were lucky to be allowed to bush camp beside a pond off the Moselle river by the local Cap Natur warden who took a blind eye to the fact that the spot was "Privaat" for fishing only.

En route to our camp, we crossed the border from Belgium to France and were flagged down by French customs guys in a patrol car who led us to a search spot where we were interviewed by a senior official and about 7 juniors very amicably and which ended with him explaining to us that if we took an 8km detour into Luxembourg we could fill up with diesel at only E1.1 instead of the price in France of E1.26, so we did. (is that what customs guys are for?).



Butte de Lion

22 08.15 ODO 181 624 Setting out south for Epinal to run the scenic route through to Frieburg running west to east. Very fine scenery along the way, especially after Frieburg. Finally found a spot in a rather crowded campsite in Titisee beside a small lake.

23.08.15 ODO 181905 lovely drive through Black Forest woodland until we intercepted the motorways through to Bern, Lausanne and eventually into Montreux. After a bit of struggle we located the well-hidden campsite overlooking the lake at a place called Maladaire, which used to formerly house an isolation hospital for lepers. We were intent on staying here for 2 nights because yr.no had been predicting bad weather for a week and sure enough it arrived pretty much as this forecast predicted. This gave us our first opportunity to test the awning and its side tents in rain, and our homemade flysheet for the roof top tent: both worked well and we had a dry camp during heavy rain.

24.08.15 Whole day in Montreux, my 3rd visit and Sue's 2nd. Once again we headed off to Chateau De Chillon, which is one of the world's great castles, situated on a small island just offshore in the lake. This visit was good, because facilities and info has vastly improved

over previous visits, particularly since my first visit at 11 years old, but also since Sue's visit in 74, when our 1 yr old son caused Sue's early retreat from the tour. Later we took to a lake steamer and did a 2 hour run around the east side of the lake, despite foul weather and blustery winds, again my first such trip for 50+ years. The lake boasts a fleet of paddle steamers, which are slowly being retrofitted with original steam boilers to restore them to their former glory, none of them are much less than 100 years old.



Chateau de Chillon

25.08.15 ODO 182 215 Spectacular drive over 3 passes from Montreux to Thun via Chateau D'Oex, past Interlaken, then over the Stetton pass which climbs higher than the local glacier, and finally the San Gotthard pass, on which we chose to use the original cobbled pass rather than the later motorway and even more recent trans Alp Tunnel. The earlier route twists and turns up and down and is a great drive. We were the only banger on the route, which was the preserve of Porches, Jags & Astons: a petrolheads dream route.



The long and winding road – San Gotthard Pass

26.08.15 ODO 182 511 Having spent a good night at a small campsite at the bottom of the ST Gotthard pass, we spent the day on a tour of the Italian Lake district, namely Lago Maggiore, then Lago Como, both beautiful lakes at the base of the Italian Alps, finally ending in a small quiet campsite at the picturesque village of Bellagio at the apex of the 2 southern legs of Lago Como where we stretched our legs and enjoyed a couple of hours strolling around.

27.08.15 ODO 182 750 Now starts the "trek" to Istanbul. So leaving the camp we followed the lake down to Bergamo on shocking roads until we thankfully reached the Autostrada and thence to Trieste and on into Croatia to reach our camp near Karlovac.

INTERESTING WEBSITES TO GO TO

Subject: Fwd: FW: NEON SIGNS AND OLD FORDS - Check this out an enjoy it

Until I watched this video it never occurred to me that neon signs have essentially disappeared.

I do remember many cars from those years that no longer are built: Packard, Studebaker, Hudson, Nash, DeSoto, Plymouth, Oldsmobile, Pontiac, Kaiser, Frazer and Edsel.

This list is far from complete, but it does give an idea of how many things have changed since the 1930s and 1940s.

THIS IS REALLY COOL! The Michael Dingman Collection - NEON SIGNS AND OLD FORDS

This was really interesting to me and a bit sad too when you consider people like this gentleman are regrettably becoming a thing of the past. Dingman must have had a lot of loose change to get his collection together. He put his Ford and Neon Sign Collection up for auction in June 2013.

What you have in this video is him recounting the manner in which his collection occurred and, pictures of all.

[Click Here](#)

Submitted by Dr. Mike Bird.

SICK BAY

Ruben Botha has had to have a bypass and is currently recovering. We wish him a speedy recovery.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS.

Joyce Griffin	1st
Lew Baker	3rd
Ed Alexander	4th
Christine Finlay	6th
Bob Sims	9th
Stuart Wedlake	12th
Norman Frost	13th
Tony McEwan	13th
Alice Barber	16th
Roger Fischer	19th
Libby Gibb	19th
Glenda Cleland	20th
Don Fuller	21st
Vaughan Griffin	23rd
Barbara Renfield	24th
Chris Bourlay	27th
Merceda Woodgate	27th

Our website address is
www.grmc.co.za

To get on to our Facebook page google Facebook and go
to “gardenroutemc”

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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