



GARDEN ROUTE MOTOR CLUB

TORQUE – DECEMBER 2013



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

Date	Host Club	Events	Quays Start
<u>JANUARY</u>			
Tues 14th	MG	Noggin/Sundowners Brenton on Sea	16h00
Sun 26th	MG	Breakfast Run Sao Goncalo's (Old Nicks)	09h00
<u>FEBRUARY</u>			
8 th and 9th	George	George Old Car show	08h00
Wed 19th	GRMC	Pensioners Brunch – Enrico's	10h30
Sun 23rd	MG	Breakfast Run – Views or Zucchini	09h00
<u>MARCH</u>			
Sun 16th	MG	Fun Run to Glentana B & B	10h30
Sun 30th	MG	Breakfast Run – Sao Goncalo's (Old Nick)	
<u>APRIL</u>			
Sun 13th	GRMC	Storms River Passes run and Tsitsikama Inn Lunch	
Sun 27 th	MG	Breakfast Run – Views or Zucchini (long week-end)	09h00
<u>MAY</u>			
Sun 11th	MG	Hillclimb and Scrutineering. Parking and Marshalling.	
Sun 25th	MG	Breakfast Run – Sao Goncalo's (Old Nicks)	09h00
<u>JUNE</u>			
Sun 8th	MG	Ebb and Flow Bring and Braai	10h30
	GRMC	Last Night of the Proms	
Sun 29th	MG	Breakfast Run – Views or Zucchini	09h00

CHAIRMAN'S CHIRP

Since September my life has been on a roller coaster ride and here we are now in December !!!!. The AGM is behind us and the minutes were distributed to all members reflecting the details thereof. I will thus not repeat the highlights of 2013, but focus on some of my personal highlights since September.

My overseas trip in September was a pure “ petrolhead “ experience, which was thoroughly enjoyed. Some of the highlights were :

ST JAMES CONCOURSE ELEGANCE 2013. - The event was staged on 5-7 September on the Royal lawns of St James in Central London. The cars were displayed in the grounds of the 300year old Royal Palace Malborough House. Over 6000 visitors attended this exclusive Concours, and raised in excess of 250,000 pounds for cancer charities. The 60

very rare and special cars on display came from the UK, USA, Europe, Argentina, Mexico and Russia and many of the cars had never been seen by the public before. The display included a 1928 Bugatti Type 35B , winner of the first Monaco Grand Prix in 1929, 1969 Porsche 917K 023 , winner of the 1970 24-hour of Le Mans , 1995 McLaren F1 GTR winner of the 1995 Le Mans, 1954 Ferrari 375 MM designed by Scaglietti , 1936 Mercedes-Benz 500K Erdmann and Rossi Streamline Roadster , 1963 Ferrari 250 GTO /64 , 1933 Napier-Railton 24 litre special and a 1937 Delahaye 135M and the list just goes on. (Some photos are included to give you a taste)



As the name suggests, a traditional Concours would normally include a judging panel selecting a “winning car”. Not so at St James’s Concours as the organisers maintain that if a car has been invited, it was already a winner. However the owners of the 60 cars were asked to vote for the best car and thereby a “best” on Show was selected. The car selected was a 1930 Bentley Speed-Six Gurney Nutting Sportsman Coupe. The car was originally commissioned by South African diamond heir Woolf Barnato. The Speed Six is the model considered by many to be the peak of Bentley perfection, a driver’s car with superb handling, speed and reliability and looks that perfectly expressed the gentleman sportsman !!

The event is the equivalent to Pebble beach in the USA and is growing in popularity.

GOODWOOD REVIVAL 2013. - This was my second visit to Goodwood Revival and it only gets better!! . This event is still regarded as the best classic car weekend in the world and if you have experienced it you can see why!! . I met up with Graham Yendall, Silvia Harvey and Fred Mullany. A great time was had by all. A sell-out crowd of almost 150,000 motor sport enthusiasts attended the 3 day event held over 13-15 September in West Sussex, England. While rain intermittently plagued this year’s event, spectators were still able to enjoy the very best from the classic motor sport world. The spectators still came dressed in their finest 1940/50/60 fashions and it was a magical step back in time. The event is firmly established as a “must attend”, so I would suggest that you add it to your bucket list.

This year’s event included tributes to Jim Clark, marking 50 years since he won his first Formula 1 World Championship, to Henry Ford and the Ford GT 40 celebrating 50 years since the launch of the program to beat Ferrari and win Le Mans, to Aston Martin celebrating their centenary and even two laps of bicycles celebrating the 110th anniversary of the first Tour de France and it’s 100th running.

The cars eligible for racing had to be manufactured prior to 1966. Whether it was celebrity races, sports car races, single- seater races, Salon car races or motorcycle races, the quality of the racing was exceptional with many nail-biting races and some spills and thrills along the way. The experience just to see these cars is something words cannot describe (See the photos included.)





The racing is but just one part of the event. To experience the car park of amazing classic cars takes almost a day, then there are all the exhibitor stalls, The Earls Court Motor Show, the Air Displays, wandering in the pits (where permissible) and marvelling at the amazing vehicles.

In conclusion, the Goodwood Revival offers you an opportunity to leave “ the modern world “ behind and enjoy flat-out, wheel to wheel racing around a classic racetrack, untouched by the modern world -- if you have not been there, go and enjoy !!!

Turning now to the **GRMC Great Gatsby Dinner/Dance** held at the Simola Hotel on November 23. What a great evening it was and enjoyed by the 66 people who attended. Everybody embraced the Gatsby theme and how wonderful to see the outfits and the trouble that everybody went to - many thanks for this.. It was extremely difficult to judge the best-dressed couple, as in my mind everybody was a winner. However in the end three couples were recognised - Richie and Veronica Jute, Otto and Rosie Witzmann and Tony and Elsbeth Albisser. Well done to them and everybody else. It was the first time that we have incorporated dancing and I believe it was a great success and enjoyed by everybody. It was fantastic to see people dancing to the 60/70 songs. Simola Hotel also did not disappoint us with the food and it was good value for money, particularly as Avril Kaschula donated a bottle of white and red wine per table!!! See photo's below.





A personal thanks must go to Sylvia Harvey for going to so much trouble in arranging the tables. They looked beautiful and all within the Gatsby theme right down to each one's nametag on the table. We hope to make the 2014 Xmas dinner/dance also a success and it will be fantastic if we can have more of our members join in the fun.

Thank you to everybody for bringing a small gift along. We will be distributing them to some needy folk who are not as fortunate as us over this festive period.

With 2013 now almost history it is time for a few special thanks. Firstly to the GRMC Committee who have supported me this year. We have had a very successful year and I believe we have a sound base to grow the GRMC into a special and enjoyable club. To our members please give it your full support. To Peter Hollis who looks after the GRMC web site, thank you very much. I know it has been difficult during your studies and work. To Christine who quietly and so willingly and professionally handles the Small Torque, communication with all members and sorts out all kinds of problems that come up during the year. (Even if a call her pretty late sometimes) It is greatly appreciated and a big thanks for your contribution. Lastly to our members who have contributed in making a success of our club and communication.

Finally, may I wish all of you a happy enjoyable holiday, a very merry Xmas and may 2014 be a great year. Please drive safely and enjoy your respective families / friends over the festive period. I look forward to seeing you in 2014 at the events lined-up for your enjoyment. Please give it your support and come along.

Kind regards,
PETER

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

The year has once again come to an end with a bang with the Christmas party. From all accounts this was a huge success and enjoyed by all. To all those who worked so hard to make the evening the success it was – thank you.

To all those members who have kindly contributed and sent me articles for the newsletter during 2013 – thank you. To Peter Hollis, a personal thank you for all the work you have put in to the upkeep of our website (www.grmc.co.za) and getting our quarterly newsletter done and onto our website. Also for putting up with me bugging you with questions and changes to the website. Peter has been extremely busy over the last few months and yet he has managed to get this done.

Reading the article Tony submitted on his win of the Fairest Cape Rally, reminds me of my last trip to Spar to do my weekly shopping. As many of you know, I am wheelchair bound. My wheelchair I had used for the past 5 years suddenly would not go in the direction I wanted it to go and kept veering off to the right. I had a good look at it and found that the frame was bent. I decided the best way to fix this was to take a hammer to it (women!!) and see whether I could straighten it This of course did not help. I ordered a new wheelchair from Cape Town, which was bought down by my family. Two days later while doing my grocery shopping in one of our local supermarkets. I wondered why everyone I passed was laughing or smiling at me. Putting the wheelchair back into my boot I noticed on the back and arms the Hell's Angels logo my brother-in-law had gone to a lot of trouble to get off the internet but had changed to read – "Hells Angels Knysna. "

The silly season is almost upon us. It is also a time for spending with our families and friends. May you all have a blessed Christmas and a joyous New Year - enjoy the holidays.

If you are travelling over this period.....drive safely

Till the next time.....

Christine

SAVVA Technical Tip No 79 – Electric fans

The hot weather is with us again, or just around the corner. Hurrah, but think of your cherished oldie – they don't appreciate the warm weather like we do.

Our older cars were never made to sit in the heavy traffic we experience today and the old fan turning at idling speed isn't going to help very much. One needs a good gust of wind through the radiator to keep it cool - which can only be accomplished by the fitting of an electric fan.

I've just had a radiator cleaned out and whilst it was out I thought it may be worthwhile investigating the possibility of converting to an electric fan and the cost thereof. A trip to the local Silverton radiator shop soon answered my curiosity. The proprietor knew exactly what I required and placed in front of me a fan switch (thermostat) and a brass receptacle that needed to be soldered into the bottom of the radiator. They apparently do this on a regular basis.

Installation of the electric fan is very simple and no special expertise is required. You must however check how much space you have available at either side of the radiator then decide which type of electric fan would best fit - a "push" or "pull" fan. Pull fans are used in most front wheel drive cars and are obtainable from various spares outlets. Push fans can be a bit difficult to find - the best source are the car aircon dealers and they carry them in stock. They usually come in 10"12"14" sizes. The cost of a 10" is around R310.00. A warning however - the contacts in the thermostat switches are extremely light and cannot take much current so it is *imperative* that a relay be used – at least 35 amps or even heavier if you can find one.

Attached is a picture of a typical thermostat switch and the brass receptacle (socket) which fits into the bottom of the radiator. The black unit is an alternative receptacle which can be fitted into the bottom hose (rather than taking the radiator out) and takes the standard thermostat switch. If you can't find these sockets in your part of the world they are available from Silverton's in Greymont, Johannesburg and sell for R150.00 each. They can be ordered by contacting them on 011 022 7056 or 078 633 4770.

Total cost of an installation, including the switch, socket, relay and the fan, should be between R500.00 and R600.00.



OUR MEMBERS.

AN UPDATE ON MY HOMEBUILT AIRCRAFT.

Most of the Leisure Isle residents and in fact, some Knsyna'ites, know of "that chap on the island that builds aircraft in his garage". Usually this is mentioned in the same breath as "mad" "weird" etc etc. Anyway I thought an update on the progress of the homebuilt aircraft, may be of some interest.

The Kitfox (my first homebuilt) now lives at Plettenburg Bay airfield and I am told is flown quite often (apparently has well over a 100 hours of flying time !!).



Unfortunately, my son Mike, who holds a quarter share and was the only tail wheel rated pilot in the family, is now living and working in Germany, so I do not get to have the occasional "flip" with him. I say unfortunately, mainly because it is really sad that our young people feel obliged to go overseas to get a decent job and income. Before he left all three of my teenage grandsons had flown in the Kitfox (with different degrees of enjoyment !) with Mike. Who knows maybe one of them will pick up grandfathers "flying bug".

My new project is a single seat homebuilt called a Rans S4. This is a conventional high wing aircraft, constructed in the main of aluminium tube sections, bolted or pop-riveted together with flat brackets. So far I have completed the fuselage structure, together with all the "tail-feathers", flaps and ailerons, which are complete and covered. Next steps will be the wings to build and cover....at the moment all the pieces still fit in my garage/workshop under the house.



Technical specification, wingspan 9.0 mtrs, length 5.2 metres, empty weight 145 kgs, maximum gross weight with fuel and pilot 270 kgs. Power plant is a Rotax 503 of 42 hp running a three-blade ground adjustable prop through a 2.58 to one gearbox.

At my age I doubt if I will fly the aircraft, but the joy of building it is enough.....please feel free to pop in and have a look, if the garage doors are open, I am in the workshop.

Another "not a car story"..... **Allan Hamilton.**

TONY'S WIN AT THE 2013 FAIREST CAPE RALLY

Herewith a little detail regarding the recent rally success.

The bike I rode in the 2013 Fairest Cape Rally is a 1928 model CS1 Norton, a 500cc overhead camshaft with the traditional 79mm bore and 100mm stroke! I have owned it since 2000, completely rebuilding it and entering it in many rallies since then.



The Fairest Cape Rally is organised by the Cape Vintage Motorcycle Club and is based at the Goudini Spa resort near Worcester.

It is a spider rally held over two days, covering some 500kms in total with the route covering many of the Cape mountain passes in the area. The scenery is breathtaking and it takes some willpower to concentrate on the route schedule, keeping on time, and not admiring the majestic mountains and pretty valleys!

I have ridden in the event a number of times and did manage a 2nd place a few years ago. Apart from taking first place, I was also the oldest bike to complete the course and the best performance by a ride over 60 years of age - the latter I'm not so proud of!!



This is my first win in one of the four major events held in South Africa. I always ride the DJ which is also a two-day event, running from Durban to Johannesburg and will again be riding this bike in the 2014 event!

Tony Lyons-Lewis

Well done Tony. Ed.

EXEMPLORY SERVICE

It is not often in ones motoring life that you get service beyond what one normally expects, but when you do you want to shout about it from the roof tops.

Some years back I took my green Lotus Esprit Turbo in to George to have a cam belt replaced and I was mortified to receive a bill from the company that carried out the work for in excess of R 9 000, even though they never removed the engine from the car. I was either paying for their total incompetence or they thought that a Lotus owner must pay for the privilege of ownership.

Well, I must just tell you of the opposite experience that I have just had with a father and son team in Port Elizabeth.

My red Lotus Esprit Turbo, after 7 years of use, required a new cam belt fitting and also suffered from an oil leak. Well I drove the car to Auto Perfection in Port Elizabeth, the father and son team of Eric and Chris Dorfling. I left the car with them knowing that they would have to take the engine out to work on it. Whilst it was out I asked them to remove the water pump and send it in for an overhaul as should it fail in the future, and they do, it would mean the engine would have to come out again. This they did and they sent it in to a local pump rebuilder in P.E. They found the oil leak which was under the alternator mounting bracket that had not been fitted correctly and covered an oil way! They overhauled the rear inboard brake callipers, replaced petrol pipes and cleaned the fuel tanks. They also made up a silicon rubber hose and stainless fitting for the air cleaner to Turbo ducting. Replaced the cam belt and tensioner. They also replaced the rear main oil seal. Once the water pump was returned from the "specialist" in P.E. they put the engine back into the car and filled up liquids before checking all was OK for me to collect. Well, they were dismayed when the water pump started spraying water like a fountain. Out came the engine again and the water pump was removed and back to the ""specialist". He once again replaced seals and said it was fine, but before installing it they filled it with water and blew down the tell tale holes. Bubbles appeared in the water. The pump was now sent to an old pal of mine, Robin Rich Pumps in Cape Town and on return from him, it felt right and no leaks so back in the engine and the engine back in the car.

Unfortunately, that was not the end of the story as it was found that on run up the new rear oil seal was leaking, but instead of pulling the engine out, they dropped the gearbox off and removed the flywheel. Long story but I had sent down two new oil seals and the second one was perfect and the car was once again assembled and tested.

These guys went well beyond what I had asked them to do and what I could not believe was that the bill I received for all this work was less that the guys who took me for a ride in George with my green Lotus Esprit, just for a cam belt change.

Auto Perfection, Port Elizabeth - you guys are the greatest.

Roger Davis

NEW MEMBERS

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

Bernard and Lynne King and Michael and Alice Barber.

BIRTHDAYS CELEBRATED DURING DECEMBER.

Jane Jones	6th
Lorna Lyons-Lewis	6th
Clare Miller	6th
Mike Griffiths	7th
Silvia Harvey	9th
Philliipa Jarman	10th
Kate Smart	13th
Jan Mentz	14th
Laurie Smart	14th
Dennis Dunlop	17th
Peter Pope	19th
Don Steenkamp	20th
Pierre Cronje	21st
Bernard King	21st
Sheridan Renfield	23rd
Charles van Niekerk	26th

WANTED

Peugeot 404 3-stud wheel rims.

Please contact Derek Noyes-Smith on widevision@icon.co.za or 083 722 1957

CLUB REGALIA

We have 13 GRMC shirts in stock at for both men and women.

Those interested in purchasing a shirt should call Alistair Gibb on 0833761066 and arrange to come round and try them on.

Payment - Price: R185 if paid by EFT and R200 if paid in cash

Bank Details:

Garden Route Motor Club

Bank: FNB

Branch Knysna - 210-214

Acc. No. 62012813178

As the reference – your name/shirts.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Peter Pretorius	Chairman/Car Show Organiser	044 533 5114	peterp@epweb.co.za
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