



Maintaining the Breed

86th Year

**THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE
MG CAR CLUB KWAZULU-NATAL CENTRE
FOUNDED 1939**



**November
2025**

MG CAR CLUB
KWAZULU-NATAL CENTRE
Established: 27 March 1939
Affiliated to the MG Car Club, Abingdon-on-Thames, England

Web Site: <http://www.mgcarclub-kzn.co.za/>
6b Heaton Nicholls Rd, Kloof, 3610
Bank Account: MG CAR CLUB KZN CENTRE
STANDARD BANK DURBAN NORTH A/C NO: 050200887 BRANCH CODE: 040026

Executive Committee:

<u>Chairman:</u>	Trevor Burnett	083 652 5151	trevor@safxmarine.co.za
<u>Secretary:</u>	Chris Brown	083 440 1136	chrisjill@worldonline.co.za
<u>Treasurer</u>	Arnold Leibowitz	083 781 9221	elray@mweb.co.za
<u>Editor:</u>	Lawrence Sysum	083 785 0340	lawrence@ictmail.co.za

Committee Members:

Kevin Cox	082 413 8181	kcox@europa2023.co.za
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Regalia

Trevor Burnett	083 652 5151	trevor@safxmarine.co.za
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Events, Technical Advisor

Chris Swale	082 920 3914	reception@chrisswalemotors.co.za
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North Coast Coopted Representative

Vacant

RAF Run Coordinator:

Richard Holmes	083 409 6053	holcombe@telkomsa.net
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Ladies Liaison:

Margie Burnett	083 654 7644	margie@safxmarine.co.za
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INDEMNITY:

All Members, their spouses, partners, participating Family and
Friends are required to sign an Indemnity at no charge.

Newsletter:

Views, comments, opinions, advice or suggestions in this newsletter are those of the contributors and are not necessarily those of the Club or its Executive Committee. Availability, condition and veracity of items advertised for sale are not guaranteed by the Club or the Executive Committee. Whilst every care is taken in compiling the contents of the newsletter and the advertisements, the Club, Executive Committee, officials or representatives assume no responsibility for any effects arising there-from.

MEMBERSHIP FORMS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITE

EDITORIAL - November

Greetings All,

We held two very successful events during the month.

First, Sunday 5th October.

The "Build a Burger" held at the Augusta Country Estate was a great day with the weather being particularly kind to us. Many thanks to the following people who helped make it the success it was:

Rob Pengelly - on the committee of the Estates' social side who arranged the golf carts to help carry all the paraphernalia required to for the event

Arnie Leibowitz for the Chips, and the ice cream cones for pud. **Rob Carpenter** for cooking the Burgers. **Chris Swale** who cooked the onions. And last but not least, **Chris and Jill Brown** who spent hours chopping up onions, tomatoes and lettuce for the salad, as well as purchasing all and sundry for the event!!

The RAF Run on Wednesday 22nd to the Point Watersports Club was well supported and by all accounts was an enjoyable event with good food and good company!!!

Pics of all events are under the Pictorial Review.

I Now have a new section called bring back the past!! I've been having a big clear out!!! Chris Swale has contributed to this month's past!!

Drive your MG's !!!!

Lawrence



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Chairman's Chat November 2025

Our spring rains have been slow in coming this year, much later than last year according to my record book, maybe climate change is a reality and is now affecting us as well, NO, I am not going to change my V8 for an electric motor, I am only a two wire lecky not a three wire lecky!

The price for our Christmas lunch has increased slightly from our last newsletter, this was due to a change in the menu as requested by the Committee, no doubt, it's still good value for money at R200 per person, the Club is sponsoring the meal alone at R165 per person, the actual cost of the meal alone is R365 per person, seating is limited so first come first served.

In correspondence with the organizers of the 2026 MG Indaba, it was questioned as to the lack of entries from KZN, my report to them, and I believe I speak for most of us, the venue is, to our minds almost in the middle of Johannesburg, this does not really excite us, money is tight especially as some of us visit our children overseas once per year, the events are the same over the 3 days as they have been for many years and finally, the majority of us who have attended Indaba's in the past are getting on in years and the travelling to and from the venue is not much fun anymore with the old bones in an old MG seat.

Would Members please return their trophies to Chris Swale, the have to be engraved and polished in preparation for next year's AGM

The Committee at the next meeting will be discussing the subs. for 2026, rest assured the increase will be minimal, SAMCA have increased their yearly charges hence the increase will have to incorporate their increased fee, but we will try to keep the increase to the minimum, notwithstanding Members who have attended this year's Club sponsored events have got more than their money's worth!

Talking about the AGM, some of the Committee Members will probably have to stand down, I do not have the figure off hand, so please give this matter some thought, many thanks.

Hope you see you all at the Spring Run on Sunday, even if it does rain or is miserable, come in your modern car and enjoy the event and the company/braai afterwards

Drive your MG's and enjoy the forthcoming events.

TREVOR BURNETT

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SECRETARY'S NOTES - NOVEMBER

The Club wishes all the best to the following members who have birthdays in November:

16th Janet Sawkins
19th Lydia Gates
26th Lynda Hammond

We hope you all have a very happy birthday and a good year ahead.

That's it for this month - stay well and enjoy your MG's.

Chris B

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER

What: Winter Fun Run

A short Fun Run to exercise your brains !!!, beginning at Maytime Centre Outside the Fin & Scale, and ending at the Burnett's. Organized by Chris Swale & Lawrence Sysum

When: Sunday 2nd November 2025

Where: Meet at Maytime Centre

- Arrive - 10.30am
- Drivers Briefing - 10.45am
- First car off - 11.00am

Other Details:

- Bring your picnic or braai meat and of course your chosen refreshment. Braai fires will be lit. The club will provide puds on the house!!!
- In order to know how many schedules to print please WhatsApp or call Lawrence on 083 785 0340 or email lawrence@ictmail.co.za
- Please respond by Friday 31st October 2025

DECEMBER

XMAS LUNCH: FULLY CATERED XMAS LUNCH (With all the trimmings) SPECIAL NOTIFICATION!!

When: Saturday 6th December

Arrive from 11.30 - 12.00

Lunch served at 1.00pm

**What: Xmas Lunch at the Springside Cafe, 20
Springside Rd Hillcrest**

In order to book your place we are asking for R200 per person, deposited into the Club bank account.

Your booking will be confirmed once the payment of R200 per person has been received ***The Club will be sponsoring the balance!!***

Details below:

The lunch will be a fully catered lunch with all the trimmings and we will be supplying the following;

- Champers & Orange Juice on arrival!!
- Wine on the tables! A choice of red or white
- Crackers, Choccies and Nuts on the tables
- As the venue is not licenced, you can bring your own beer or spirits. However soft drinks can be purchased from the restuarant

BOOKING CUT OFF IS FRIDAY 21st NOVEMBER!

**WhatsApp Chris Brown on 083 440 1136 or
Lawrence on 083 785 0340 or Email Chris on
chrisjill@worldonline.co.za or Lawrence on
lawrence@ictmail.co.za**

Please pay into the following account:

**Bank Account: MG CAR CLUB KZN CENTRE
STANDARD BANK DURBAN NORTH.
A/C NO: 050200887 BRANCH CODE: 040026**

- Please send proof of payment to either Lawrence or Chris Brown. Please include your name!!

The full menu will be sent out later

RETIRED AND FREE !!

NOVEMBER – Tuesday 18th November

Probably North Coast

Please let Richard know if you are coming by Thursday 13th November, noon

MG CAR CLUB – 2026 INDABA

MG Indaba – Fairways Hotel 2026

The cost of entry for the Indaba is R12950 per couple sharing. This includes 3 nights' accommodation with all meals at the venue. (see option 1A on the entry form)

The cost of entry for the Indaba is R8500 for an unaccompanied adult. This includes 3 nights' accommodation and all meals at the venue. (See option 1B on the entry form)

An option has been offered for participant that live in close proximity to the venue to fully participate in the Indaba inclusive of the hotel breakfast on day 2 and 3 but sleep at home for the first two nights. Hotel accommodation on night 3 – the gala dinner evening - is however included. The price for this option is R8500 per couple sharing (see option 2 A on the entry forms), or for an unaccompanied adult R5010 (see option 2B on the entry forms). This rate is not restricted to Gauteng residents, should "out of towners" have friends or relatives staying close by that may accommodate them for two nights.

Please note that lunch on day 3 will be for participants accounts.

Hope to see you in Johannesburg in 2026

Happy and safe MG motoring to all

Robin Clarke

PICTORIAL REVIEW

Build a Burger Run to August Country Estate



Cars parked by the Bowling Club prior to proceeding to the Coservatry



Table laden with the burger makings!



Members enjoying a relaxing day



Perfect weather and a nice relaxing day.



The burgers were great too!!!!

RAF RUN TO THE DURBAN SKI BOAT CLUB

Wednesday 22nd October



Lots of happy members enjoying the good company and great food



Arnie having a little doze!!



Wow!!! The food looks great!

Bring Back the Past!!!!

**MG CAR CLUB 60th ANNIVERSARY EVENT
SEPTEMBER 1999**



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MG Club's Diamond Anniversary



THE Natal Centre, included a TC, a Y-type gymkhana to test

The MG Car Club, Natal Centre, turned 60 years old this year and celebrated with a grand gathering at the Everglades Hotel in the Midlands last month. Lawrence Sysum reports.

Left - A 1937 MGSA Sedan stands beside a 1962 MGA Coupé
Below - The newest car on show, an MGE, 60 years younger than the MGSA.





Renault Grand Espace Road Test Page 5



New Jetta4 Page 7



THE Natal Centre, formed in Durban on 27 March, 1939 with an annual subscription of 2/6 (25 cents), is known to be the oldest MG club outside the UK and may well be the first branch that was formed away from the mother club.

To mark this historic event, 45 MGs of all ages and over 100 people participated in the fun-filled anniversary weekend. The oldest car was a 1937 MG SA Saloon owned by Dudley Leander.

Other models included a TC, a Y-type saloon, several MGAs (coupees and roadsters), two Magnettes and plenty of MGs, an MGC GT and a couple of V8s.

Friday evening was a gentle gathering of old friends before the hectic Saturday morning treasure hunt/fun rally around the Midlands Meander. The cryptic clues 'got the drivers and navigators going', and some did not speak to each other for some time afterwards!

In the afternoon the bravest of the drivers took part in a driving

gymkhana to test their skills, having fun and amusing those less brave spectators.

At the dinner in the evening, which took on a 'Grand Prix theme' in honour of Les Miller, a founder member and the first elected chairman of the club.

He raced MGs in the SA Grand Prix in the 1930s and spoke about his experiences as a race driver and the early days of the club. The talk was interrupted by a telephone call which was broadcast from the mother club in the UK to the gathered enthusiasts.

Combined Centres Chairman Norman Ewing presented the club with a special plaque. It was accepted by Les Miller in his capacity as honorary president.

The cars were then cleaned and polished for a Concourse d'Elegance event which took up most of Sunday. The ladies judged the cars.

Several cars from the MG Owners Club in Pietermaritzburg joined the others for this event which was held on the lawns of the hotel.

Congratulations **WHEELSPOKE** adds its congratulations to the club on reaching such a milestone. Long may you continue.

Car and Bike Club Chatter
Page 10



Win a two night stay at the Drakensberg Sun
See back page!



RARING TO GO: Dudley Latimar polishes his 1937 MG saloon for the MG Car Club's 60th anniversary celebration rally which finishes today at the Everglades Hotel, near Mooi River in the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands

Picture: **JACKIE CLAUSEN**



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SMART toys: The MG Car Club celebrated its 60th anniversary at the weekend. Club members met in Pinetown, in their prized vehicles, and then drove in convoy to the Midlands where the celebrations were held.

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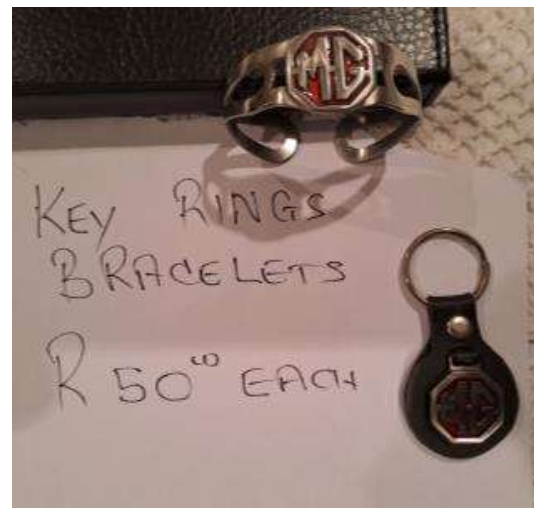
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