

THE



T H E

Q C T A G O N

J U L Y, 1963

THE M.G. CAR CLUB (QUEENSLAND CENTRE)

Proprietors: The M.G. Car Club (Proprietary) Ltd., Gt. Britain.

Affiliated with the Confederation of Australian Motor Sport.

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Hon. Auditor:	I.H. Shaw	7 6387	2 3774
Club Captain:	K.F. Horgan	48 3145	48 1064
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Committee: L.E.Batterham, R.H. Hiley, M.E. Hunter,  
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"OCTAGON" Sub-Committee: K.F.Horgan, B.M. Tebble, I. Cornes  
V.J. Appleby, I.G. Sanker.

e d i t o r i a l .....

We do hope that the "Octagon" will reflect a little different flavour this month as one or two new contributors have joined us. This is the sort of thing that we are constantly seeking... articles by members... of interest to other members. The principal purpose of the "Octagon" is simply to act as a means of communication with members actually a "Bulletin" or "Newsletter", but we seem to have outgrown this idea during the past year or two and our mailing list includes quite a number of non-members now.

Production problems are unlimited the main ones being.. non-arrival of promised articles (if every person who promised us an article actually produced same we would never have a thing to worry about). Covers... some members will remember that we used to feature advertising on the covers... we still wish to but the problems involved are too numerous to mention.. now this edition may feature the new covers which we have planned... at the time of writing it was not known whether they would be ready! Printing... we print the "meat" section of this magazine ourselves on the club's own duplicator... takes all night...then we still have to compile, fold, put on covers.. place in envelopes and post!

This all means work for a few of our very keen members, we hope their efforts are appreciated, we think their efforts are worthwhile... please remember that we do mean it when we ask you for a contribution for the "Octagon".

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P R O G R A M M E

JULY	21st	Working Bee & Barbecue at Lowood. (See Page 5)
	26th	Scavenger Hunt. Starts Clubrooms 3 p.m.
	28th	Treasure Hunt. Starts Clubrooms 2 p.m.
AUGUST	4th	Motor Racing at Lowood
	11th	Sprints and Timed Lap. Lowood.
	16th	Open Forum. Clubrooms 8.15 p.m.
	18th	President's V Club Captain's Team Gymkhana.
SEPTEMBER	1st	Club Run and Barbecue.

"m o t o r" -- S U P P E R D A N C E -- "sport"

On Friday night September 9th a "Motor Sport Supper Dance" is to be held at the Milton Tennis Club Hall. It is hoped that all the Motor Sporting "Fraternity" will be there as any profits from the night will go to the Lakeside Motor Racing Circuit. If the night is as successful as present indications suggest it will, then another will be held later to assist Lowood Circuit.

The charge for the evening will be £2 per head including drinks etc. and we hope to see a worthy representation there from the M.G.Car Club. For details you may telephone Mrs. Lionel Ayers at 95 5559.

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1963 M.G.C.C.Q. ANNUAL DINNER DANCE & PRESENTATION OF TROPHIES

"Shangri-La" will once again be the venue for our "Annual Dun Fight". Last year we enjoyed the presence of one hundred and seventy five members and friends and everyone enjoyed themselves very much. Friday December 6th is the night to remember and tickets will be available some time during October.

Keep a sharp eye on the points score board at the clubrooms... who knows.. you may be well in the "running" for one of our trophies to be presented on the night!

Remember last year's motto! If you don't dance, don't drink, don't eat, don't like girls, don't like people, don't like noise, don't like trophies... please come because you will be in good company!

REMEMBER... "SHANGRI-LA"... (on the "mad mile" on Wynnum Road)  
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PARKING AT CLUBROOMS IN WICKHAM STREET

Members are requested to leave the driveway from A.W.Barrs showroom clear at all times, as quite often Barr's staff are working at night and need to use the driveway for cars being worked on in their premises.

SPRINTS MEETING AT LOWOOD 11TH AUGUST

Entry forms are available at the clubrooms or by writing or telephoning the secretary, and entries close on Friday August 2nd. A timed lap is to be included in addition to two runs at both the standing and flying quarter mile. (The timed lap will only be held if sufficient officials are available on the day.) Members are reminded that they must be in possession of their current membership cards on the day... nobody will be permitted to start unless the current card is produced.

Scrutineering will take place at the circuit, anybody arriving late for scrutineering may be excluded from the meeting, and worn tyres, loose spokes etc. will not be accepted. Fire Extinguishers must be securely affixed in the approved manner, (refer N.C.R.'s), and only approved crash helmets may be used. It will be permissible to borrow helmets and extinguishers from other competitors but a proper extinguisher bracket must be in each competing car and the extinguisher in place before any practice or timed runs commence.

Intending competitors should read the Supplementary Regulations attached to the entry forms as ignorance of any rule could mean exclusion from the meeting. The new type of entry forms are simple to complete and will not be accepted unless this is carried out correctly. Persons under the age of twentyone years will note a special section on the entry form.

WE ARE STILL IN NEED OF OFFICIALS FOR THE MEETING.. RE-MEMBER THAT NO TIMED LAP WILL BE HELD UNLESS ENOUGH OFFICIALS ARE PRESENT.

A meeting of officials will be held at the clubrooms on Friday night August 2nd.

THE MEETING WILL BE CANCELLED IF LESS THAN TWENTY ENTRIES ARE RECEIVED.

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A TROPHY will be awarded to the driver of the fastest M.G. at the Sprints Meeting in August providing that he is not the holder of a C.A.M.S. licence and providing there are sufficient M.G.'s entered at the meeting to be considered worthy of the Club in the opinion of the donor.

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ANNUAL CONCOURS D'ELEGANCE

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The judging for our most immaculate car will take place this year probably during October, and a record entry is hoped for. It is likely that a valuable prize will be awarded to the highest scoring M.G. providing a respectable number are entered. A perpetual trophy for the Concours winner was donated last year by Denis Geary and was won by Tom Armstrong then, and we hope rivalry will be keener this year than ever before. Apart from the winning car, the standard of entry last year was generally poor but undoubtedly members will have learned something from their previous mistakes. Actually the rules are simple. All you have to do is clean your car! EVERYWHERE.

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barbeque and working bee

We highly recommend that all who enjoyed the barbeque which followed the Club run on 30th June should make a point of attending the combined Q.R.D.C./M.G.C.C. Barbeque at Lowood 21st July. (The Treasure Hunt scheduled for this date has been postponed until 28th).

We wish to support the Queensland Racing Drivers' Club by lending a helping hand at Lowood before the Race Meeting on August 4th. Don't forget that we do not pay for the use of the circuit for our Sprints meetings, so our support in return is a must! A working bee will be held at the circuit from 10 a.m. This will be an official M.G.Car Club event so will count for All Round Trophy points!

Eats and drinks at the Barbeque will be free to those assisting at the working bee! Names of those attending will be needed by the Secretary or Club Captain on the Friday Night preceeding the event so that catering can be arranged.

You won't have to work very hard! You will have to enjoy yourself at the Barbeque. Don't let us down by not attending. Its not often we give anything away.... "Bee" in it! (please)

DO NOT FORGET to give your name together with those of any friends you may wish to bring along to either Kerry Horgan or Chris Harding, otherwise you may starve!

We still don't know who enjoyed the gymkhana held on June the most.. the hundred or so spectators or the thirty or so cars.. then maybe the thirty or so passengers enjoyed it more!

PASSENGERS!?? We introduced a new event called the Balloon which could be appropriately described as a frustrating affair led by a sadistic minded practical joker. The rules looked so simple. Line up four cars bearing a driver and a passenger in each, the driver a wooden pole equipped with a sharp wire spike... starter drops the flag... four cars start then stop at the first four stakes placed twentyeight feet apart.. tied to each of which a balloon.. the driver leans out of the car wielding the aforesaid spike,, stabs at the balloon... but what's this???... the balloon hasn't burst! Why? (After struggling for eight minutes during which time the spark plugs oiled up, the driver, now in tears, passes the pole to the passenger and they drive to the next balloon)! " (thinks the passenger) "I'll show this fool how to burst a balloon with a sharp piece of wire tied to a pole!" But no! It didn't burst! Two poor broken bods crying on each other's shoulders returned to the finish having burst only one balloon... pity them! The whole dirty secret is that the wire is not securely fixed to the pole, but is cunningly arranged so that it swings freely away from anything at which it is aimed... Heh, Heh)!

Apart from the smell of the body of the person who made the pole swing from the nearest tree, the day was pleasant indeed though rain threatened during the afternoon it did not actually rain. It was in one of the best gymkhanas of the year. The grounds were a little rough due to the working bee (fifteen arrived) having been worked out and so unable to doctor the area up with more earth, but not unduly so, in fact several parts of the ground were almost perfect. FUN was the order of the day and yet another new event called the Flag Race was run.. Voted one of the best events seen at Gymkhanas the Flag Race will almost certainly be a regular feature in future. It is a fast event calling for a high degree of concentration from the driver and this fact gives even greater credit to the GIRL who won the event. Yes, an attractive and fast moving car manipulated a blue Sprite with sufficient gusto to down the rest at their own game. One male competitor was so surprised to see Luback level pegging him on the fast turn to the "home garage"

A few new faces popped up the most notable being that of Roland Jenkins and his shiny black T.F. "Roley" discovered that gymkhanas can be fun and you'll see his name in the results too. Gary Young and Doug Roelofs battled for the honours in a T.F. and T.D. and our old friend Alf Chappel figured well in his T.C. Sprite pedaller Geoff Hawley was wrestling a Ford Scapher through the events so needless to say that Geoff did not figure in the results. The only Morris 850's having success on this occasion were those of Quick T.C. owner Bruce Neville, Kevin Johns (who will soon be replacing it with an M.G.) and Earl Proudley whom we are still trying to talk into it!

Gymkhana Trophy points score leader Doug Partington added still more to his credit.. if the T.D. lasts the year out he will be a good bet to be showing that particular piece of silverware on his mantel-piece, although he cannot afford not to try hard as a glance at the points score board at the clubrooms will show. Kerry's new car displayed near perfect gymkhana type handling qualities and although treated very gently still showed many the way around.

We have not seen a Magnette in gymkhanas for some time but David Bruce brought his out for the day to battle it out with the other sedans and brought the total of M.G's competing to twelve.. a percentage we are hoping to raise as time goes on.

A reverse Bending Race was staged instead of the usual Forward and Reverse.. this event certainly showed up the "city" drivers.. having to reverse the entire way through the event should assist those who have trouble parking their cars. M.G's. dominated this which proves the advantage of having little bodywork projecting and being able to "see the road" from the driver's seat.

The next Gymkhana will be held at Tinglpa on Sunday August 18th and will be the annual President's versus Club Captain's team event. For those who have not attended this event before it simply means that two teams are made up of those present. The President and Club Captain toss a coin for first "pick", then name in turn those whom they wish to be on "their teams". The usual points score applies but the rivalry is always keen... we predict more than ever this year as Kerry is busy running in the M.G.B. and we have it on good authority that the "Presidential Gertie" will be running in "Gymkhana tune". (Brian and Kerry are busy making double headed coins).

had fun on kerry's club run"

The sunny morning of June 30th saw twentysix cars assembled at the corner of Ipswich and Beaudesert Roads, for the second club run of the year.. this one "dropped in" to the programme on a week's notice by popular demand of the members.

Once again perfect weather was with us and apart from a brush with a belligerent officer of law who was propelling a Falcon far too fast (for that steering), the run was pleasant and scenic. Apparently some members did not realise that the club captain always leads our club runs as several cars took off from the starting place before the Club had turned around, and they promptly took the wrong turning! It was well however and within a few miles we were all together again.

We lunched at Natural Arch (those who brought lunch, anyway) and then took the short walk down to the Arch to admire the view. Here the Club demonstrated how to get wet free of charge.. the girls were out for photographs, then we continued on our way. To Murwillumbah via an "alpine" route, then Tweed Heads, Surfers Paradise to the Tweed River where we settled down for a barbecue (which was a riot).

Certainly a pleasant day out it is pleasing to see Club Runs regaining the enthusiasm they used to a few years ago. Nothing is more pleasing than a pleasant day out amongst good friends, so we are planning another run for September 1st and if members indicate that they are interested we may hold a two day run with overnight stop maybe 28th and 29th Sept! Please tell us if you would like this.

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---    F I L M                    E V E N I N G    ---

A pleasant evening was spent at the clubrooms on Friday 5th where Brier Thomas showed us one of the best selections of films we have had the pleasure of viewing.

A Castrol film called "Sliding into Danger" demonstrated the correct technique of correcting varied types of skids, and one or two spectacular deliberate slides were a feature of this film. Safety belts were the subject of much thought following "seven Tenths of a Second", another dramatic film which certainly illustrated the advantages of

several members left their cars and went home by tram, having seen the macabre accident scenes depicted in this. Perhaps it is food for thought for the few of our members who do not agree with the Club's policy of adopting "Road Safety"!

"Rouen Rouge" showed excellent shots of the French Grand Prix on the fast and spectacular Rouen circuit, and the Porsche equippe's lucky win thereon. "British Racing Green" featured some of the British drivers hurling Jaguars around with even more abandon than we have seen on Australian circuits, and Stirling Moss winning the British Tourist Trophy at Silverstone in a mouth watering Ferrari G.T.

Needless to say that Donald Duck helped to make the night amusing, also a record number of members and friends stayed after the films for tea and bikkies!

The next film night will be on September 13th... "The Black Friday Film Night".... Chris Harding swears that he will place a ladder outside the clubrooms for everyone to walk under!

Will somebody please bring along a black cat? !!

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#### Results of Gymkhana, 23rd June.

##### Forward Bending

1st	D. Partington	M.G.T.D.
2nd	L. Nott	Sprite
3rd	R. Jenkins	M.G.T.F.

##### Reverse Bending

1st	D. Partington	M.G.T.D.
2nd	F. Chapel	M.G.T.C.
3rd	R. Jenkins	M.G.T.F.

##### Balloon Race

1st	L. Nott	Sprite
2nd	D. Lovelock	M.G.A.1600

##### Flag Race

1st	Miss J. Luback	Sprite
2nd	K. Johns	M/850

##### Autocrosse

1st	K. Horgan	M.G.B.	24.5 seconds
2nd	B. Neville	Morris 850	24.6 seconds
3rd	E. Proudley	Morris 850	24.8 seconds

The "Bob-Ding" was won by Doug Partington who kindly donated his winnings to the Club.

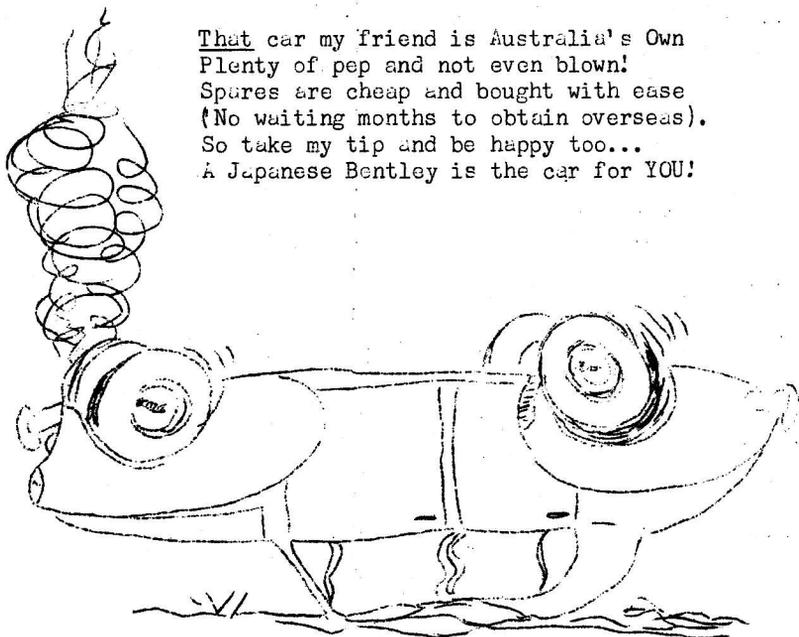
## M.G. L A M E N T by Alec....

Four little pistons going up and down,  
 Thousands of revs to get across town..  
 Piston rings and bearings the order of the day,  
 Fit them, run them in... all you do is pay.  
 (And pay you will my laddie boy..  
 For after all its just a toy!)

Toys racing to their destruction  
 Blow-up with great eruption...  
 Bits and pieces everywhere  
 Raining con-rods in the air!

But then again will you ever learn?  
 Perhaps one day you'll really yearn  
 To drive a car without any fears  
 Whilst accelerating through the gears!

That car my friend is Australia's Own  
 Plenty of pep and not even blown!  
 Spares are cheap and bought with ease  
 (No waiting months to obtain overseas).  
 So take my tip and be happy too...  
 A Japanese Bentley is the car for YOU!



RESULTS OF NIGHT NAVIGATION RUN 14/6/63

We would dearly love to print an article describing the antics which took place on the night of the Fourteenth of June, but nobody has written one (although several promised)... so the best we can do is as follows.....

A Night Navigation Run took place on the night of June, 14th and about fourteen cars competed.

The End.

			<u>Points Lost</u>	
1st	J. Suggars	navigated by	I. Walker in M.G.A.	Nil
2nd	G. Hiley	" "	B. Slack in G.M.	40
tie	G. Ramsay	" "	K. Johns in Sprout	40
4th	R. Grimley	" "	R. Jenkins in Cooper Brick	80
5th	D. Roelofs	" "	G. Young in M.G.T.D.	90
6th	D. Partington	" "	G. Lax M.G.T.D.	100
tie	I. Michels	" "	L. Gisler and E. Proudley (& Co. Pty. Ltd.) driving an ordinary brick	100
8th	B. Neville	" "	N. Whip another brick	120
9th	J. McCarthy	" "	D. Cork Goodness knows	125
10th	K. Spencer	" "	P. Godman Sprout	160
11th	C. Henchen	" "	V. Feilding Daddy Healey	210 (m.p.h.)
12th	E. Birbeck	" "	J. Philpot Sprout Mk. 2	240
13th	B. Scott	" "	R. McNeill ???	280
14th	L. Nott	misguided by	R. Tummon Sprout	360!

Will somebody write us an article next time

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... YOUR GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY

..... to write the next article for the Octagon will be on the night of 26th July when we will be holding a Night Navigation Run ... or ..... Sunday 28th July... a Treasure Hunt starts at the clubrooms at 2 p.m. and Rod Hiley assures us of a good time (a rumour has it that the 1st Prize is a fortnight's vacation) with a Miss C.K. Eeler!

How's that for a good reason to be there at 2 p.m. 28th July?

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Kerry Horgan claims to have said that he is "getting a bar made to support his tonneau cover ". We still think he said that he is getting a tonneau cover to support his bar maid!

If you need any advice about growing tomatoes see Hon Treasurer Nessie Hunter .... she'd be tickled pink!

WARNING! All girls in the Rockhampton area beware! Barry Huntingthemdown is amongst you! (Luckily he left his M.G. in Brisbane).

Denis Geary is now agent for J.W.S. Fibreglass hardtops for M.G's., Healeys, Sprites, etc. Believe he has one to fit the M.G.B.

Members considering the purchase of a new M.G. should be certain that it comes from an authorised dealer as complications could arise in the servicing otherwise.

Needless to say that all interested members will be at the clubrooms on the night of the Open Forum on August 16th. This is the time for you to grumble, praise or help... as the case may be!

The first meeting of the M.G.Car Club sponsored "Motor Race Officials' Club" was held at the clubrooms on Monday 15th July. Enthusiasm was notable and the first "Flag marshalls' class" will be held at the clubrooms on Monday 22nd at 8 p.m. All interested parties are invited to attend.

Watch out all female members of the M.G.Car Club! If you hear the throbbing tones of a guitar from beneath your balcony one night... it could be Norm Wright! Norm gave us a demonstration one night when we were working at the clubrooms... he is teaching Noel Whip, too.

If you are lucky enough to receive this Octagon by the week-end please attend the working bee at Lowood on Sunday... but don't forget to phone Brian Tebble at 97 5872 so he can arrange to feed you on steak etc!

Congratulations to Lynn and Mike Thatcher on the arrival of a brand new baby girl.