

**2020 MG National Meeting**

**Albury / Wodonga**

**Bulletin No 8**

March 30th 2020

Dear Donald

**First of all I would like to thank all of you who emailed or phoned me and others on the Committee expressing their support for the tough decision, the early advice we gave and thanking us for all the hard work.**

**We won’t reply individually but the Committee really appreciated your kind words.**

The Committee have taken a Bex and had a lie down, regrouped and are now sorting out the loose ends so we can wrap up this year’s event.

 Our friends in South Australia have generously offered to step back from their proposal to run the 2021 event in Mount Gambier to allow us to merely postpone our meeting to next year.

**Therefore we have decided to rerun the event next year just like the Olympic Games i.e. The 2020 National Meeting in 2021.**

Of course this is contingent on the COVID 19 virus being under control and the Government lifting all restrictions on mass gatherings and travel movements. We may not know this till very late in the year.

**Entry Fee Refunds**

We are working through the final costs and establishing what monies we can recover from deposits and permit fees etc. We will update you shortly when refunds will be available.Refunds will be transferred back to your credit cards. For those who have paid by other methods, i.e. BPay you will be contacted by our Treasurer seeking your bank details to direct credit the refund.

**National Meeting Regalia**

All Caps, Pin Badges and Cloth Badges were in stock before the order window was opened. However, Polos were only obtained as orders were received.

Given our concern over the likelihood of the event actually going ahead we stopped the purchase of Polos and held off processing orders. No doubt a few of you will have noticed your payments have not been debited from your account.

To simplify things we will honour those orders received on or up to the 3rd of March 2020 and refund payments for orders processed after that date. It may be necessary to contact you about your order if we don’t have bank details.

We will bundle up the orders by Club Centres for bulk delivery for local distribution. If you are located remotely from your Club we will make arrangements to send directly to you.

This will start to happen after Easter.

**National Meeting Photographic, Website and Magazine Competitions**

Given that some of you have gone to a lot of effort to forward your photographs and Club Magazines we will still make awards for these traditional Competitions.  Judging of the Websites has been completed and the other judging is well underway. The Website award follows and the other winners will be advised in the coming weeks. Presentations of these awards will be made next year together with the 2021 Awards.

**The Website Award**

Our Judge, Andrew Seymour ( Nikki M Group ) has an extensive 17-year career in Graphic Design particularly in the Publishing Industry and Website development. He holds a Bachelor's Degree from Swinburne University.

In his role at Nikki M Group, Andrew oversees the quality of creative output across the studio that provides services to business, finance and education.

He was impressed by the various sites and made the following observations …….

***Overall Review***

*It is impressive to see the amount of work that has gone into developing all of the MG Car Club websites across the country. There is real diversity in style and design. The websites are a wealth of knowledge that has been shared not only with members, but also for the wider community.*

*For all clubs, my advice is to treat your website much like you would a classic MG.*

*1. Clean and polish it so that it looks great and is admired by others.*

*2. Get under the hood whenever possible to make sure it runs well.*

*3. Provide regular maintenance and updates to maximise performance.*

*4. Give it some juice so you get from A to B in style.*

***The Winner***

***The MG Car Club Sydney*** *is an example of a website that is well designed and thoughtfully considered. It successfully mixes style, layout, information and function in a clean interface.*

*It has great design, functions well and is a showcase of written and visual information.*

*● The user interface is easy to navigate.*

*● The design, colours and fonts give the website a unique style that forms a brand.*

*● Legibility is at a high standard across the website.*

*● It has a good balance of written and visual content.*

*Editorial content is excellent.*

*● It communicates clearly.*

*● Is helpful and considered.*

*● Is inviting for members and potential members.*

*Their website is a machine that has many functioning parts that work for the club.*

*● The design is responsive and works on all devices.*

*● It processes data using forms for membership and contact.*

*● Has a shopping cart for purchasing club merchandise.*

*● It integrates social media feeds.*

*The website works well to communicate with different audiences.*

*● Current members.*

*● Potential members.*

*● The general public.*

*● Affiliates and sponsors.*

***Highly Commended***

*Highly commended is the* ***MG Car Club of Wagga Wagga****. With so few members, the club has been able to create a website that punches above its weight. The design and content has the beginnings of a great website. It is highly legible, effortless to navigate, and uses design elements and layout to present a range of information in an easy-to-use interface*

**Well done Sydney and Wagga Wagga !!!!!!!!**

Andrew’s detailed analysis of the websites will be forwarded to each Club for their information

**2021**

It is too early to furnish details for next year, however, a Bulletin will be released at an appropriate time when the events and program are revisited and there is more clarity on the COVID 19 landscape.

Given the economic climate we may well look at options to scale back the event and thus reduce the cost of attending.

 We look forward to seeing you all at Easter next year.

 Keep Safe, Social Distance and wash your hands.

Regards

Ian Prior

Event Director

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