



March 2023 Newsletter

A BIG HELLO FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Well, where do I Start? I will start with hoping that everybody in the club is in great health and that it continues that way for the future.

Those of you who unfortunately could not make the F.A.T missed a real treat, extremely well organized by Rod and Paddy Ann Pemberton. Most of us stayed in Gore on the Friday night at the Croydon Lodge, waiting in anticipation for our Saturday morning run start instructions.

16 of the 17 registered cars wore on the starting grid on Saturday morning, I think this is the biggest number of cars on a rally since I joined the club, the only absentee being Margaret and Ross Weir because of Covid, not sure which one got it first but they are all over it now and Rossi is back playing bowls, and according to Margaret is doing very well, Good on you Ross.

Well, I am not going to give you a full run down on the F. A. T, but I will say that Rod and Paddy Ann had put a lot of work into the run. From leaving Mosgiel to our return we travelled 917 kms and that was without getting lost and having to double at any stage. We travelled some of the most interesting back country roads that you would find anywhere in New Zealand, one of the instructions said enjoy your ROLLER-COASTER RIDE, you could not describe it any better, as we came around the corner there in front was a straight stretch of undulating country road (fantastic).

After our lunch stop we were given a new set of instructions that took us on some more wonderful country roads and magnificent scenery of rolling country side with the back drop of mountain ranges, a truly beautiful site right here at our back door step. The back country roads were smooth with sweeping corners in many places and it just suited our MGF perfectly so I was able to blow a few cobwebs out.

Our final set of instructions were given to us at Roxburgh which sent us heading for Alexandra, and finally to our destination at Dansays Pass. At The Dansays Pass Hotel we had entertainment by Paddy Ann and Brenda on ukuleles and plenty of folks chatting, which was followed by a nice meal put on by the Hotel. Congratulations must go to the organizers Paddy Ann and Rod thanks again guys and also the winners which are one of the club's newer members Kate and Graeme Rise, looking forward to next year's run, I am sure you guys will make it very interesting for all.

Once again Alistair's run to Dunback was well attended and was a nice, relaxed afternoon with MG people having the first catch up since Christmas thanks Ally.

As most of you will be aware that MG CENTENNIAL is coming up and as a club, we too would celebrate it. To this end we are lucky to have Graeme Rice on board to help with promoting the event. Russell Walker our archivist is also willing to help and if there is anybody interested please let one of your committee members know. Graeme has done a lot of ground work and has some great ideas for display etc but he will be looking for some help. We are hoping to be able to use some of the display material at the Autospectacular this year. We will have some more information after our committee this month.

Cecil Kimber Birthday run this year is planned for the Sunday the 16th April and Ngaire Donaldson has it all under Control Hope to see a good turnout.

In the Next Newsletter I would like to start a TECHNICAL COIUMN where we can get ideas on maintenance, Repairs, tricks of the trade and help in trouble shooting, MGs, so all you guys that have some mechanical knowledge please put your thinking caps and send some tips in to me and we will get some articles in the next newsletter.

President Bill

Recent Activities

Further Afield Tour 2023

Instruction number 1. Be at Gore for instructions and departure at 8.30am on the 18 March. The 2023 version of the Further Afield Tour was about to get underway. With a mystery destination we were all wondering if the dinner menu previously circulated was just to put us of the track. Were we really going to Danseys Pass Hotel?

Well with the first instructions in hand and the direction we were heading in it certainly didn't seem so. With the Danseys Hotel being in the Maniototo District of Central Otago heading towards the south coast did seem to be a little odd. The GPS indicated Danseys was about 250km and a three-hour drive away. We were heading for Winton and Blackmount in exactly the opposite direction. Anyway, follow the instructions and let's see what happens was the call.



So away through Central Southland over into Western Southland and to the lunch stop in Mossburn. That's 250km under our belts and lunch at Bracken Hall where they were expecting us. Just as well as the place was pretty busy and it's not a large dining area. Great touring roads to get to the lunch stop although some couldn't stand the drive and had to stop at the new Café at Blackmount (Brunel Peaks Café). Made them a little late for lunch but they arrived in time to receive the next instructions.



Clifton Suspension Bridge

After lunch it was of again but still not really heading towards Central Otago. Back across Central Southland and into Eastern Southland. Apart from the Coast there wasn't much of Southland we didn't see. They really are such good touring roads and very little traffic to contend with. At last though as we entered South Otago the direction of travel was towards Roxburgh where we pick up our last set of instructions. A pretty quick trip for the organisers to get to the check point as the first cars were right on their tail.

Final instructions and yes, we were heading for the Danseys Pass Hotel for the night. The run up through Alexandra and onto Naseby and Danseys was pretty easy. About 14km of gravel to make sure the cars all looked as though they had been out for the day and the we drive from Gore to Danseys was over. About 525km for the day so plenty to keep the

drivers busy. Once checked into the accommodation it was socialising time in front of the very large open fire in the Bar area.

Paddy-Ann led a group in a Paddy's Day sing along but the guys in the group were noticeable by their absence.

Our thanks to Rod and Paddy-Ann for a great run. Not too many questions but enough mystery to keep us going. Congratulations to the Further Afield Tour winners Graeme and Kate Rice. We look forward to the variations and challenges you will place before us in 2024.



It's Sing Along Time



Graeme & Kate with winners' trophies



Or IS It?



Coming Events

Cecil Kimber Birthday Run 16 April 2023– Organised by Ngaire & Clive

Planning for the Cecil Kimber Birthday Run is underway, the date is Sunday 16th April,

This will be a morning start with a luncheon at a venue that has already been booked (numbers are required). The venue is handy to Southlanders, Central and Dunedin and a wee bit farther to go for North Otago but I am certain will be enjoyed by all.

Could you please send you expressions of interest to take part in this event to Ngaire email leidon220@outlook.com or phone 022 049 7821 or to Clive email clived049@gmail.com or phone 022 678 4500. We would love to see you all come along, after all, it is a great way to enjoy your MG, the company of fellow Club members and the amazing scenery of the area.



From The Club Archives

From the Club Archivist Russell Walker (dated 16 March 2023)

As and when time permits, I enjoy going through the Club archives looking for interesting and enlightening stories from the past to re-present for your enjoyment.

The interesting item that follows is from the Club's August 1974 Newsletter (yes, from almost 50 years ago)

It was penned by one of our members who was significantly instrumental in the advancement of the Club in the early days. When I joined in 1974, he had the reputation of being fun loving and mischievous. One needed to have their wits about them when he was about. But I did enjoy his company. Sadly, he passed away in 2022.

When reading the item bear in mind that the episode described was probably after an MG Rally and the poet was ready to enjoy himself. Enjoy.

Performance

There is a young man in our club
Who likes to perform in the pub
And this he decided with audience provided
from rugby boys straight from the mud

What kind of act shall I play
Went through his mind this day
To please these young men so strong
I must not do anything wrong

By this time the club members knew
the performance was nearly due
What will he do this time
Went through everyone's mind

The club members rushed for the door
Leaving quietly but four
The rugby boys filling on Gin
Waited patiently for him to begin

He looked around adjusting his stance
"I know" – a Russian Dance
So, onto the table he sprang
Then everything went with a bang

Jugs, glasses and potato chips
The lot smashed into little bits
The result as you can guess
Turned into one hell of a mess.

At this stage the girls "shot through"
Leaving me and him, making two
The rugby boys thinking this great
Cheered loudly, anticipating his fate

The Proprietor came into the room
In his hand a small shovel and broom
With not a word spoken he surveyed all that was
broken and left with a face full of gloom

We quickly cleaned up the glass
Amongst shouting, laughter and harass
There was only one thing in our mind
To get out leaving this lot behind

We drove away from the car park
Having left an embarrassing mark
I drove off, setting the pace
Thankful for leaving the place

To look back at what was fun
And really there was no damage done
For the Licensing Trust never went bust
And the rugby boys that day had won

By B E Russell

(Barry and Bev received their Life Memberships of the Club at the time of the MGB50 celebration in 2012).

A Short MG History

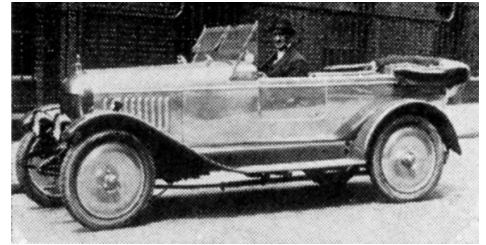
MG Through The Years

For over 90 years MG has been making cars people love to drive. Grip the wheel of an MG and you can feel generations of good times built into its DNA.

Cecil Kimber (1888-1945), Morris Garages sales manager, wanted to make modified Morris cars that were faster and sportier.

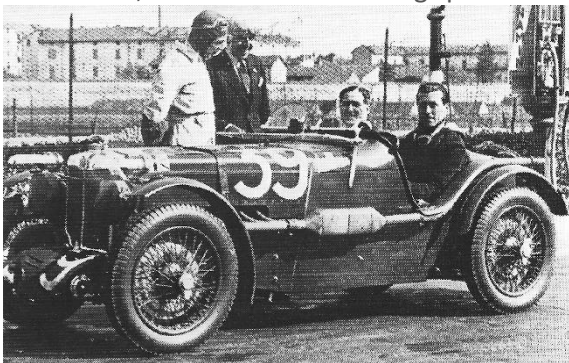
1924

The Octagon badge was registered as an MG trademark. MG's 14/28 Super Sports model went on sale. The first MG sports car was the Old Number One: small, fast and fun to drive.



1930

In 1930, MG made their first big splash on the racing circuit at Brooklands, the world's first banked concrete racetrack. The tiny MGs beat the powerful Bentleys. One Bentley driver said, "We've been invaded by fleas."



MG dominated racing events throughout the '30s: winning the Irish Grand Prix, Isle of Man Tourer's Trophy, the Ulster TT as well as wins in Italy (the first non-Italian team to do so), Germany and Monaco.

A class win with the K3 at the 1933 Mille Miglia road race was the first time a non-

Italian team had won. Then MG turned their focus onto speed records.

1932

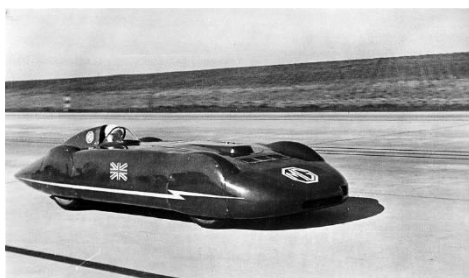
The Magic Midget reached 87mph, breaking the previous speed record of 85mph.

The EX 127 reached 140mph on the German Autobahn before being acquired by Mercedes Benz for study.



1935

EX 135 hit a record breaking 331.5 km/h.



1938

The MG TC was produced just before WWII broke out.



WWII 1939 - 45

MG stopped car production and helped with the war effort, repairing Matilda tanks and assembling British bomber cockpits.

Production of the MG TC resumed. It was tiny, handled well and was a lot of fun. It was a big hit in the US. More than half the TCs built ended up in the US.

1947

The Duke of Edinburgh was the most famous TC customer.



1955

MGA was the streamlined, next-generation sports car.

1957

British legend, Sir Stirling Moss, broke the land speed record in the mid-engine MG EX 181,

nicknamed 'Roaring Raindrop', at Salt Flats, Utah. He smashed the previous record, driving at 395.31 km/h, 20% faster than the previous record holder.



1962

The MGA model was strengthened by the addition of the more comfortable MGB model. Great fun to drive with a shorter chassis and larger cabin. Produced until 1980, it was the most successful MG ever made.



1975

The one millionth car was built; a unique LHD MGB roadster finished in Brooklands Green with Jubilee GT livery and wheels.



2000

MG Rover Group is formed following separation from the BMW Group.

2014



MG celebrated its 90th year with a spectacular event at Silverstone and unveiled the MG3 and MG6 90th Limited Edition models. MG wins the BTCC Manufacturer Championship.



2016

MG Motor Australia and New Zealand is officially launched in Sydney.

2017



MG is the first Chinese-manufactured vehicle to be awarded a five-star rating from the Australasian New Car Assessment Program (ANCAP).

2018

MG enters a three-year sponsorship deal with the National Basketball League.

2020

MG ZS EV is launched as the most affordable electric vehicle in Australia.



2021



MG Motor breaks into top-10 selling automotive brands in Australia for the first time. It also reveals a refreshed logo as it moves towards a new energy future.

MG4 Wins UK Car of the Year 2023!

Article from The MG Car Club website on 21/March 2023

18th March 2023

The MG4 EV has been named as UK Car of the Year 2023, with a panel of experts selecting the all-electric hatchback as the best new car on sale in the UK today.

An expert panel of 27 automotive journalists praised the MG4's design, quality and outstanding value for money – recognising that the new fully electric hatchback puts zero emissions motoring within reach for more people than ever.

The MG4 has been crowned as the overall winner from a final list of seven popular new cars, ranking ahead of models from Dacia, Land Rover, Lotus, Kia and Toyota.

The 'UK Car of the Year' title is the fifteenth major award achieved by the MG4 EV in the last six months, including four overall Car of the Year titles and the recent 'Best Family Car' title received during the UKCOTY semi-final last month. The model has also received recognition from Euro NCAP, achieving the maximum five-star safety rating following a rigorous testing process.

Guy Pigounakis, Commercial Director of MG Motor UK, was presented with the award at MG Piccadilly, the company's flagship showroom in the heart of London.

"We couldn't be prouder of what the MG4 has achieved in such a short time," said Guy. "Winning UK Car of the Year demonstrates the immense capabilities of our new all-electric hatchback and there's much more to come in 2023. I would like to personally thank each expert who took part in the judging process."

UKCOTY head judge and founder John Challen said, "The MG4 proves that electric cars can be affordable, practical and appeal to all areas of the automotive market. Fully charged, it offers more than enough miles for the vast majority of journeys, while the design and driving dynamics tick two other important boxes for consumers. A deserved winner for the electric future."

The independent awards ceremony is designed specifically for the UK car-buying public, judged by a panel of experts that includes some of the most respected names in motoring journalism.



Tom Ford, who writes for BBC Top Gear and expert EV title Electrifying, said: “In a world where practical electric cars are all SUVs and priced to the sky, the MG4 offers genuine value-for-money – bringing EV ownership closer to reality for more people.”

Priced from just £26,995, the MG4 is positioned as an extremely competitive model, significantly undercutting rivals without compromising on design, technology or electric range.

“No other EV comes close to offering so much for relatively little outlay,” said Paul Hudson, motoring editor at The Telegraph. “It looks good inside and out, drives way better than you might imagine and the range is more than competitive. Whether you’re new to EVs or not, you won’t be disappointed.”

MG Motor UK remains the fastest growing car brand in the UK, with the MG4 EV spearheading its hugely successful start to 2023.

Paul Barker, managing editor at carwow, described the MG4 as, “*The car several other manufacturers will wish they had built – and one that proves electric cars can be strikingly good looking while also relatively affordable, practical and usable.*”

Jonny Smith, journalist, and host of YouTube channel The Late Brake Show, noted, “*MG4 does everything better than anyone could have imagined for the budget.*”

Tim Pitt, Managing Editor of Motoring Research, said, “*A budget EV that doesn’t feel built to a price. A very practical and credible family car.*”

“A watershed moment for EVs,” commented Alex Grant, freelance motoring journalist. “*It’s great to drive, has a usefully long range and fast-charging capability and all the space and safety kit families are demand from a car like this. It’s a real game-changer. MG has quietly*



found its niche with a line-up of great value, well-rounded electric cars, but the MG4 has the credentials to shake up the market.”

Keith Jones, motoring journalist and researcher, described the MG4 as, “*Extraordinarily good value, wrapped in a visually desirable pseudo-SUV hatchback body.*”

Car Dealer magazine’s James Batchelor, said, “*An MG you can finally recommend on style, quality and value-for-money.*”



Alisdair Suttie, freelance motoring journalist, added, “*MG has come up with the perfect car for our times. The MG4 is fun to drive, affordable to buy or lease and it looks the absolute business. With plenty of range and quick charging, it also takes the chore out of EV ownership and makes it a desirable way to travel. It’s simply a fantastic all-round family car.*”



Accommodation and Registration details

It has been a very busy last few months, but we can now advise the accommodation and registration details for the Rally. We have arranged accommodation as below, please quote MG National Rally 2024 when booking to get the special rates.

Auckland – 13th – 16th January 2024 (3 nights)

Travelodge Wynyard Quarter

Situated in Wynyard Quarter alongside Auckland Viaduct with access to endless cafes and restaurants.

Note that parking must be booked separately, at \$15 per day as below

\$209/night – city view

\$259/night – harbour view

Accommodation: [book here](#) promo code: TH15130695

Parking: <https://wynyard.mycarpark.co.nz/>

Taupo – 16th – 18th January 2024 (2 nights)

Wairakei Resort

Situated by a golf course and popular thermal pools. 10 minute drive to Taupo. Note we will provide bus/taxi on the Wednesday evening for dinner.

\$180*/night – double room

Please book via this [link](#), Ph 0064 7 374 9004 or email: reservations@wairakei.co.nz

*Wairakei Resort will not commit to confirmed room rate until less than 1 year out, however have confirmed 10% off best available room rate for Rally entrants.

Napier – 18th-21st January 2024 (3 nights)

Scenic Circle Te Pania Hotel

Across the road from Prizegiving dinner – a 60m walk! Napier hot saltwater pools also across the road.

\$260/night – double room

Please book by filling in attached form and emailing to: tepania@scenic-hotels.co.nz

Quality Inn Napier

Situated southern end of Marine Parade, 900m to Saturday night function. Limited to 50 rooms

\$169/night – double room

Ph 0064 6 835 3237 or email: reservations@qualityinnnapier.co.nz

Registration

We have been working hard to put together a spectacular rally that provides excellent value for money. The registration fee includes;

- Welcome pack
- Route book
- Entry to all events, including the track day and motorkhana
- Meet and greet function in Auckland
- Entry to Gala Day, Opening Ceremony and evening function
- Experience Auckland events, including lunch at one of Auckland's top vineyards
- Welcome to Napier function
- Lunch at one of Napier's best vineyards
- Prizegiving dinner and end of rally party, featuring a special guest speaker and live band

The registration fee has been set to \$525 per person. However, this will be to \$425 per person if registered and paid before 30 June 2023.

In addition, all entries received and paid in full prior to 31 January 2023 go in to the draw to win their registration fee back. Two individuals – drawn separately – will win their registration fee back. The draw will take place on 14 January 2024, at the Gala Opening Ceremony.

Please see attached registration form. Completed forms should be emailed to registrations@morally.nz.

For further information, please contact us at info@morally.nz





Registration Form

ENTRANT 1	Name		Model	
	Date of Birth	(if under 18)	Year	
	Driver Licence No.		Colour	
	Club Centre/Branch		Registration No.	
	Dietary requirements			
	Address	(street, suburb)		
		(city)	(country)	
Email		Phone:		

ENTRANT 2	Name		Model	
	Date of Birth	(if under 18)	Year	
	Driver Licence No.		Colour	
	Club Centre/Branch		Registration No.	
	Dietary requirements			
	Address	(street, suburb)		
		(city)	(country)	
Email		Phone:		

Event entries – please indicate your interest in the following

	Entrant 1	Entrant 2
Concours (car to be judged)		
Track Day		
Motorkhana		
Register Dinner – please indicate as below		
<i>Pre 50 (incl MGA)</i>		
<i>Midget</i>		
<i>MGB</i>		
<i>MGC</i>		
<i>V8, incl RV8</i>		
<i>1960-2005 saloons</i>		
<i>MGF/TF</i>		
<i>Modern (post 2005)</i>		

Note: this table is for indicative purposes only to aid in planning, and is not binding.
The Register Dinners will be held in Taupo, and are not included in the registration fee.

PAYMENT

Payment can be made by direct credit, the account number is: Main Account - 06 0145 0198708 00 in the name of MG Car Club New Zealand Inc. Please include your surname, initials and MG100 as a reference. If you have any issues with payment please contact us.

	No. of entrants	Total fee paid
Full registration fee:	\$525	
Discounted registration fee ¹ :	\$425	

¹To qualify for the discounted registration fee, this form and the accompanying fee must be received by the organisers by 30 June 2023.

IMPORTANT: ALL PARTICIPANTS

ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST SIGN THIS INDEMNITY Statement

In consideration of the acceptance of this entry and of my being permitted to take part in the MG 100 New Zealand / MG National Rally 2024 Rally, I agree to save harmless and keep indemnified, the MG Car Club (Auckland Centre) Inc, MG Car Club Inc, MotorSport NZ, the MG 100 New Zealand / MG National Rally 2024 organising committee, all owners and tenants of private property traversed by this Rally, the respective officials, other competitors and their servants, representatives and agents, from and against all losses, actions, claims, costs, expenses and demands in respect of death or injury to or damage to the property of myself, my driver, passengers, mechanics or any other persons arising out of or in connection with this entry or my taking part at an event.

DECLARATION BY DRIVER:

I declare that I agree to abide by the rules of the M.G. Car Club (Auckland Centre) Inc (which is running this event) and comply with the directions of its officials and that should I at the time of these events be suffering from any disability of any kind whether permanent or temporary which is likely to detrimentally affect my control of my automobile or my fitness to drive in these events, I will not participate in these events. I further declare that the vehicle detailed on this entry form shall be presented at all times in every respect complying with safety and eligibility requirements, including being road legal.

CONSENT:

I consent to the collection of the details on this entry form by the MG Car Club (Auckland Centre) Inc for registration and promotional purposes and for it to retain and use for statistical purposes. I acknowledge my right to access and correction of this information. The consent is given in accordance with the Privacy Act 1993.

Signature Entrant 1..... Date.....

Signature Entrant 2..... Date.....

IN CONSIDERATION: of the acceptance of the entry of the above named (if under 18), I the parent/guardian of (the above named minor) **HEREBY UNDERTAKE AND AGREE TO** the indemnity terms and conditions set out above and agree to his/her participation in the event.

Signature:..... Date:.....

Please also be aware that if you are an entrant into the MotorSport NZ permitted events there will be a separate MotorSport NZ form for you to sign at Registration.

Please return this form via email to registrations@mgally.nz

If you have any questions, please email info@mgally.nz

