



King of the Road

May 2026

The marque of friendship



MG Car Club Port Elizabeth Centre

Founded in 1976

Affiliated to the MG Car Club England



Safety Fast

“King of the Road”

**NEWSLETTER OF THE
M.G. CAR CLUB - PORT ELIZABETH CENTRE**

Website: www.mgccpe.co.za

Facebook page:

Meeting Venue: EPVCC CLUBHOUSE, Conyngham Street, PE

HONARARY LIFE MEMBER

Ron Doubell

COMMITTEE

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TREASURER	Tony Greenwood	083 6009537	treasurer@mgccpe.co.za
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Monthly Meetings are held on the 1st Wednesday of each month at the EPVCC CLUBHOUSE, Conyngham Street, PE from 18.30H onwards.

***Legal Disclaimer:** Every effort is made to ensure that all information contained in this Newsletter is correct. The Club however does not accept any responsibility for the accuracy of articles and readers are required to verify all information before undertaking any operations that may have safety and legal implications.*



Chairman's Chirp – May 2026

Greetings and salutations to my MG Family!

We say it so often that it has almost become a cliché, but once again the year is racing by at a rapid rate of knots. Winter has also properly arrived, and perhaps a little earlier than expected. While we are truly grateful for the much-needed early rains, spare a thought for those who suffered damage and personal loss during the recent storms.

Both May events once again enjoyed excellent participation from our club members.

Kleinemonde Weekend Away

Our first event for May was the ever-popular weekend outing to Kleinemonde. Twelve members, travelling in five MGs and one Fortuner (the Chairman's MG was unfortunately still out of commission), hit the road bright and early on Friday, 18 May.

Apart from Chris, who somehow managed to take a wrong turn, and honestly, how anyone gets lost driving from Port Elizabeth to Kleinemonde only Chris would know, we all met up in Alexandria for our now traditional pie and coffee stop at the Lunch Box. Eventually, after realising his mistake somewhere near Grahamstown, Chris turned around and rejoined the group, allowing all the cars to continue on our merry way.

Upon arrival in Kleinemonde, Manny joined us and the weekend festivities officially began.

Friday evening saw us enjoying a wonderful braai at the Kleinemonde Golf Club, where the club kindly provided the braai fires and live music. Suffice to say, what happened at the golf club stays at the golf club! (LOL)

On Saturday morning we travelled through to Port Alfred to meet up with members of the Albany Classic and Vintage Motor Club. We were treated exceptionally well, with coffee, tea and a very generous spread of snacks and cakes. We were truly spoilt. A huge thank you goes out to the members of the Albany Classic and Vintage Motor Club in Port Alfred for their warm hospitality and friendship. While there, their ACVMC members also undertook the judging of the MGCCPE vehicles for the evening's prize-giving which took place at the golf club.

From there we headed off for a beer tasting at the brewery situated in Wharf Street, the oldest street in Kowie. The beer tasting went very well as you can imagine, after which we were shown sections of the fascinating underground tunnel network below the brewery, once used to transport goods delivered directly from the Kowie River. It is here where Ronnie NO ENTRY took the law into his own hands and went against the traffic on a one-way street causing a major traffic jam in the small town of Port Alfred, right up there with Chris GRAHAMSTOWN for mamparra of the weekend.

After lunch at a restaurant overlooking the marina, everyone retired to their respective cottages to prepare for the evening braai and prize-giving back at the Kleinemonde Golf Club.

Regrettably, the golf club had suffered a break-in the previous evening and several items, including their music speaker, had been stolen. As a result, there was no music for the evening, but that certainly did not dampen the spirit of the group.

The winner of the Concours event was announced and it was none other than our country member and also a member of Albany Classic and Vintage Motor Club, Kenny Bosch, with his immaculate MG TC. A thoroughly deserved winner. Congratulations, Kenny! Runner-up, by the narrowest of margins, was Ronnie's V8. Well done to both of you.

Sunday morning started off a little subdued, but fortunately that did not last long once the champagne started flowing during brunch! We were also joined by our newest members, Marc and Magali, for what remained of the weekend.

After brunch, many of us enjoyed a long walk along the beach on what turned out to be a perfect, windless coastal day.

Monday morning arrived far too quickly and, after a thoroughly enjoyable and successful weekend, we packed up and trundled our way home to PE. Thank you to each and every participant, it is your enthusiasm and camaraderie that make weekends like these such a pleasure.

Breakfast Run to Apron Strings

Hardly had we returned to our normal routines before the next event was upon us.

On Sunday, 24 May, no fewer than twenty-five members attended our annual breakfast run to Apron Strings. The convoy consisted of nine MGs, a Mini, a Sunbeam and three "plastics".

Once again, the weather could not have been better, and together with great company and excellent food, the day was another resounding success. The club generously supplied champagne and fruit juice, both of which were thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Once again, my sincere thanks go to every member who participated. Without your continued support and enthusiasm, this club would not be nearly as successful or enjoyable as it is.

A Proud MG Moment

Lastly, I would like to brag a little about the car my daughter, who lives in Sydney, Australia, recently bought for herself. It is an MG ZS Essence Hybrid model, which is not yet available on our shores.

So far, she absolutely loves the vehicle and cannot stop talking about its power, comfort and all the bells and whistles it offers. Perhaps a chip off the old block or did her dad just have a little influence in her purchasing decision after all!



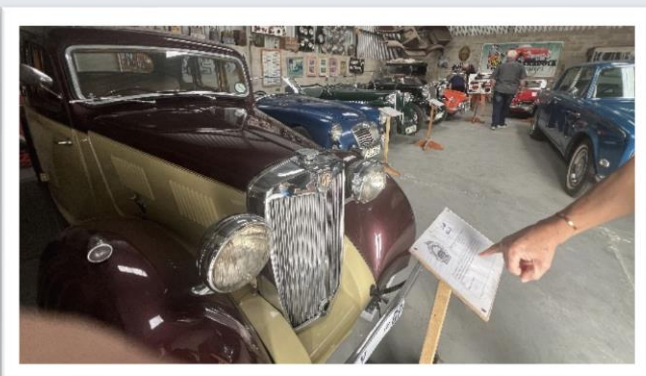
Kleinemonde Weekend



Welcoming at the Albany Classic and Vintage Motor Club



Our cars lined up for judging



Some beauties inside the Albany Classic and Vintage Motor Museum



The spread of spoils at ACVMM - Yummy!!!



Our newest Country member, Jackie Viner received this car for her 83rd birthday the day before. Congratulations!!!



These are the ladies who supplied all the sumptuous eats....and Linda.

A BIG THANK YOU!!!



In deep conversation



Some more beauties in the Museum



Beer tasting at the brewery



Linda: am I getting any? Andre: I don't think so!



Lunch on the Marina





Our cars lined up at the Kleinemonde golf club for public viewing and prize giving



Say no more!!!



Kenny Bosch accepting the prize for car of the day.
Congratulations Kenny.



The Manne having a few at the club!!!



Our Braaimaster!!!



And then the wheels fell off!!!



Chilling on the deck



Some more chilling on the deck



Beautiful people



Nice smile Ronnie



Back to back we face each other





Is Kimbear trying to tell us something???

Apron Strings Breakfast Run 24th May



We gathered at Prestons in Mount Pleasant. A short drive took us to Apron Strings.





Good company, champagne and orange juice and bacon and eggs – nothing to beat it.



Forthcoming Events

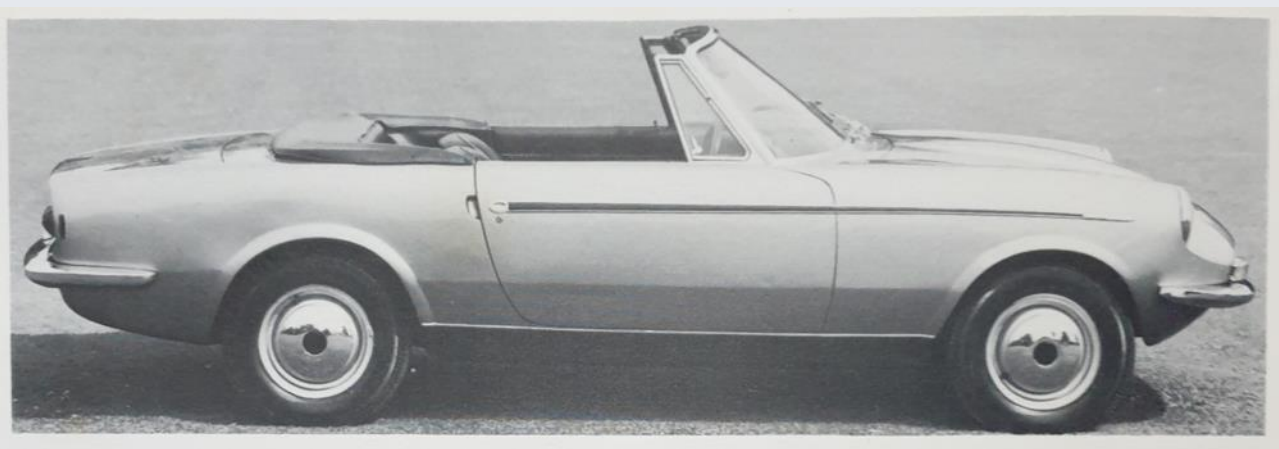
- Wednesday 10th June** Noggin – postponed from 3rd June. Bring & Braai
- Sunday 14th June** Mystery Run with the Alfa Club. See below
- Wednesday 17th June** Mid week run to 3 Legged Pig
- Sunday 28th June** Monthly Run to Jeffrys Bay
- Wednesday 1st July** Noggin Soup and Sherry
- Sunday 26th July** British Classics at the EPVCC



MG's You will never see on the road!

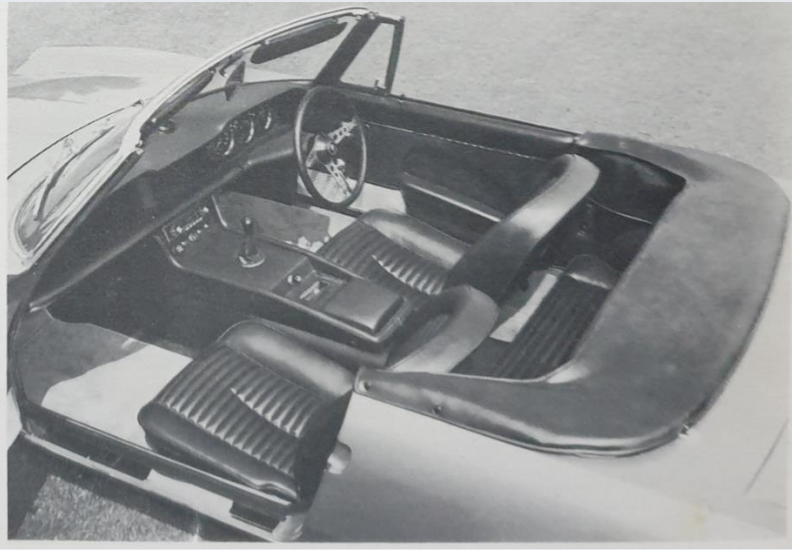
How would you like to buy one of those MG prototype sports cars designed in the 1960's? A monocoque 2 plus 2 model intended to replace both the MGB and the Midget, with alternative engines and all-independent suspension with Hydrolastic units? A rebodied MGA with coachwork finalized in Italy and an option of V4 or V6 engines! Of course you would! After all, they were not fantasies, and indeed there were other fascinating projects which never saw the light of day. All these sports cars ran on the road or were partly developed. They were all intended to be built in large numbers at Abingdon but never realized! Prototypes of several sports cars still exist today but are rarely seen on the road or shown to the public.

In fact, many under-cover MGs originated at Abingdon. The complex ownership situation and the often-changed business structure which affected MG's operations, meant that new MG projects sometimes failed at the BMC and British Leyland empires. However, with so many "masters" struggling to get their own designs approved, it is not surprising that many were shelved and never saw the light. Furthermore, there is also the business aspect that need to be considered in developing a new prototype MG for mass production. The capital layout and manufacturing cost could be enormous and may lead to disastrous consequences, should the product not succeed in meeting sales figures. The motoring press could also become a main risk, should "over critical" journalists don't approve of a new EX234, model. The car buying public are also often highly susceptible and influenced by comments of motoring journalists. All these circumstances may have influenced the cancellation of many prototype sports cars such as the EX234.



This beautifully shaped EX234 is an example of a prototype failure for a rationalized sports car with which MG wanted to replace the MGB at the end of

1960. This new prototype was styled by MG but constructed by Pininfarina in 1968



As conceived, it could have replaced both the MGB and the Midget. Designed to use either the 1275cc engine or the 1798cc power plant it was expected to be a huge success. It had an 87-inch wheelbase, all-independent suspension as well as hydrolastic suspension units and 13-inch wheels. The superbly finished interior provided a 2 plus 2 seating arrangement and the facia and tunnel-console layout were excellent for its time. It was designed to be built in large quantities. What would it have been called as both the MGB and MGC were still in production? Logically it would have become the MGD!



Another sensational MG project that never saw the light was the ADO 21 project, engineered by Abingdon in 1970. This car had a transverse mid-engined lay-out. It was proposed to have either a Maxi 1750cc or a E6 six-cylinder 2200cc engine with appropriate transmission. There was provision for a water-cooling radiator low down in the nose. The three quarter rear-view housed the mid-engine and

was highly advanced for its time. A slot ahead of the rear wheel was to get cool air into the engine bay. Tragically, although constructed in pressed steel, it was shelved in 1971.



These prototype sports cars, although never produced in large quantities, paved the way for today's modern MG sports car designs. What a pity that they don't receive the recognition they deserve in MG's history analysis.

Deon Rousseau.

Reference:

Robson, G. The MGA, MGB and MGC. Motor Racing Publication 1982.

Thanks Deon for another fascinating article.



Service Providers

Service Provider and Address	Telephone	Email/Website	Type of Service
Ace Auto Electrical 3 Todd St North End P E	0414842640		Good diagnostics (Paul Allen)
Bearing Man 320 Kempston Road Holland Park P E	0414537330		
Cableman, 303 Kempston Rd Sidwell PE	0414536007	cablemanpe@telkomsa.net	Cables for speedos rev counters and Accelerator
Cape Parts Distributors 11 Paterson Rd North End PE	0414871471		Brake & Clutch Hydraulic Components
Chromeworks, (Peter Rist), 6A Sidwell Avenue Sidwell	0414841533 0828558628	chromeworkspe@yahoo.co.za	Chroming (PETSCC Member)
D N Automotive, 25 King Edward Street Newton Park PE	0413641017 Dave Heckroodt	dnauto@lantic.net	Service and repairs on modern MG's (F & TF) Also Electronic diagnosis
East Cape Clutch and Brake	17 Rundle Street Sidwell	0414511669	clutch and brake components fitment
East Cape Mountings, 39 Rundlell St Sidwell PE	0414515968		Re- manufacture of engine mountings
PE Paint Correction. Andre Meyer	067 3896 042	meyerlunen6@gmail.com	Paint reconditioning
Emgee Workshop Cameron or Paige	0828220175 071 938 8027		MG Spares
Generator House, 5 Goldsmith St North End PE	0414845867	www.theauto.co.za/generator-house	Aubrey Autoelectrical Repairs
Guscott's Engine Rebuilders 55 Kempston Road Sidwell.	0413747300		Specific engineering work on engines of classic cars by Jeff Guscott
Holden- Jones (Russell), MGCC Member	0832566927	russellholdenjones@gmail.com	Water pump and other components repair
Industrial Rubber, 15 Richard Street sidwell	0414534437/0837491876	peindrubber@telkomsa.net	wide selection of rubber profiles
Lokhose, (A & A Murphy), - MGCC Members, 18 Sutton Rd Sidwell	0414532974 0825683605		Hydraulics & Pneumatics
Motor Mod		Fettes Road N End P E	Mechanical Modifications
Nel's Motor Trimmers, 21 Hancock Street N End	041484222	nelsmotorspe@gmail.com	Upholsterer
P E Hydraulics, 46 Sidwell Ave. , Sidwell P E	041451 4332	rakesh@pehydraulics.co.za	Hydraulics components
Powerflow, Frank Street Newton Park P E	0413655855	newtonpark@powerflowexhausts.com	Stainless steel exhausts and repairs
Pro Seals and Bearings, 2 Commercial Centre Commercial Rd PE	0414534678	sales@proseals.co.za	Good selection of seals & Bearings Take sample
Pro Tek Heads, 6 Hammond Street Sidwell	0414539765		aluminium welding ie. Thermostat housing
Ronnie Reed Clutch	75 Haupt Street Sidwell	041 4532227	brake and clutch
The Sports Car Centre, 11 Westmeath Rd Parkview Jo'brg	0116461631 0114860021	sportscar@mweb.co.za	MG Parts Alan & Denise Uzell
Adrian Conte Classic Car Lenses Knysna	083 702 0128		Classic Vehicle Light Lenses
Wheeltech, 31 Fettes Road N End P E	0413733052		Bushes etc
Classic Car Windscreens		julien@classiccarwindscreens.co.za	
Pop's Auto Shop	0829012442 041 0040349	www.popsauto.co.za	Vehicle Repair and Maintenance Club Member
Instrument Technician Richard Grover	011 8962627 082 650 2079	RichardGrover@me.com	MGCC Northerns Member Ex Aero Instr. Technician
A & B Differential & Gearbox	041 2050920 0823896936		Diff & Gearbox repairs
Ludick Trailers	0878222978	john@ludicktrailers.co.za 491 Cape Rd Westering	Car Trailers Reasonable rates