



We would like to welcome new members to the club, two of whom own TR3A's, Phillip and Bridget Lategan, and Gert and Coleen Botes and their son Vaughn. Lisa Dobbins, who owns a Capri 1600GT, has also joined the club and she made her first appearance in this red beauty at Angela's Picnic on April 1<sup>st</sup>. We all yearn to live near the coast or appreciate the views of the mountains but living in Gauteng does have its benefits especially if you are something of a petrolhead. We have Kyalami and Zwartkops on our doorstep that produce thrilling racing of all types and so many motor shows and club events that one has to plan one's calendar very carefully.

Angela's picnic, under the auspices of SAMCA is a very special event and our club has marked this as one of our official runs. We had at least twenty-two Triumphs parked in our designated area, partly supported by our friends from the Pretoria Centre. In addition to the good turnout we had a Panhard, a Capri and two Austin Healeys in our midst. The picnic draws a lot of members of the public and those visiting our area would have been disappointed if they were hoping to see a Stag amongst the TR's. Having said that, I hear that Jean Coppens has brought a very nice Stag up from the coast. All we need to do now is encourage Rhys and Cathy Collins and the Stevenson family to dust the cobwebs off their trusty steeds and join us on future runs. Our club was in charge of collecting donations from the entrants last year; Renault Club's turn this year. I had a word with SAMCAS' finance man, George Shipway last week and confirmed that the motoring fraternity is a generous one. R28 140 was collected for Hospice and may I point out that this came from the enthusiasts and not the visiting public!

From all the reports coming in from those who attended the National Gathering in Plettenburg Bay, the consensus is that it was a resounding success! Feedback also revealed how welcome and relaxed they all felt, with superb accommodation, friendly atmosphere, good weather and some great drives. Well done to the organisers. My thanks go to Gary and Cliff for representing the Johannesburg Centre in the meetings. Congratulations must go to Rene for being awarded the Ian Evans Trophy. May I extend my heartiest congratulations to all who attended and those of you who brought back awards. Be sure to read the next edition of **Classic Car Africa and Performance Car** where there will be a feature on the Nationals. I personally recommend subscribing to this magazine as it covers a great cross-section of all things motoring.

I recently attended a presentation of the planned British Bloodhound SSC land speed record attempt. They are planning for a new land speed record of 1610km/h exceeding their previous record of 1200km/h and driven by none other than Andy Green. The whole engineering project would only commence once they had found a suitable site for the attempt and after much investigation worldwide, found the site at Haksteen Pan in the Northern Cape. The design of the vehicle weighing in at 7000kg and named Bloodhound SSC is now complete and construction has started. The attempt will take place sometime within eighteen months. Education Programme Director, Dave Rowley gave a really interesting presentation. They have set themselves up in Kimberley with the intention of, besides achieving their main objective, generating a renewed interest worldwide in science and engineering

across all age groups but especially the youth in both boys and girls. Dave has agreed to do a similar presentation in the coming months if a visit to Johannesburg and a Noggin night coincide. So, hold thumbs! They do have some competition, however. In the US, The North American Eagle Challenger team are busy with a Lockheed F104 Starfighter on wheels and with cropped wings. Their aim is 1287km/h. Not to be outdone, the Australians are building a 9 tonne liquid oxygen and bio-kerosene fuelled rocket engine, named Aussie Invader 5R. They are also looking for 1610km/h.



**TOP LEFT:** Thrust SSC 1227km/h  
Wing Commander Andy Green  
Black Rock Desert USA. 1997

**LEFT:** Typhoon Eurofighter 1470km/h @ sea level  
for speed comparison.

**TOP RIGHT:** Proposed Bloodhound SSC  
Design speed 1610km/h  
Wing Commander Andy Green  
Project Director Richard Noble  
Haksteen Pan, Northern Cape

On a sad note, we mourn the passing of Carroll Shelby, 10<sup>th</sup> May 2012.

Regards, Mike.