



Greetings All,

A very busy month for me. Quite a challenge for yours truly, with a steep learning curve dealing with the run-up to the AGM. We had a feisty committee meeting beforehand on the evening of the 10th October at the Cedar Lodge in Woodmead. This paved the way for a smooth, if lengthily AGM at the Noggin evening of the 16th; the outcome of which found myself elected as Chairman and some new office bearers who, I'm grateful to say agreed to stand. May I thank all the other committee members who agreed to stay on the team for the coming year and those who supported me last year whilst holding the position of Vice-Chairman.

May I welcome Norman Bull nominated as Vice-Chairman. Martin Worth nominated as Treasurer. Rob McLeod who will be organising the Events, Gary Booyens who has agreed to manage Marketing/Sponsorship and Eric Steele who will help with the development of our long awaited Website. I'm most thankful to the continued support of the Membership Portfolio, Eddie Steele. Regalia, in the hands of Mark Hirst. Elaine Castlemaine has agreed to handle the Editorial of the Newsletter for one more year and the distribution of information and newsletters will be taken care of by John Crowther. Rene' De Villiers has big shoulders to take on both Spares – Nationwide and be the representative for SAMCA. My thanks also goes out to Harry Fairley for the points scoring and to both Dave Sawyer and John Craig for the door prize. Quite a large team indeed. Both Gino and I must pay homage to Bev Muranduzzo, who excelled with her portfolio of Finances, especially over the trying period of the Nationals in 2010 and she has given generously of her time for a number of years. As I said at the AGM, tongue in cheek – you understand – that Bev has a way with money, the same as Luigi has a way with pastry! THANKS BEV.

I cannot claim to be a well-travelled individual, but I have to say that our family trip to Washington DC and New York impressed me immensely. I can't think of anything that disappointed; from my first encounter of an immigration official, services from restaurant waitresses, courteousness by other road users to the New York Policemen (who were more than willing to be photographed with the girls), they were all friendly and courteous. Our principal reason for the trip was a family garden wedding. It all went well, including the weather despite ominous clouds on the horizon and I was so impressed with the way the organisers made it all come together like clockwork. My first introduction to driving on the wrong side of the road was behind the wheel of a 5.7 litre Dodge Ram. I even rode a hired 1600cc Harley-Davidson Soft Tail. This huge bike was a cinch to ride and remarkably comfortable. Of course as expected, they are a dime a dozen there but I was quite surprised to see how few BMW 1200GS bikes were on the road. I saw a total of three Triumphs, one of which drove alongside our car and was able to have a brief chat with the driver after waving my Triumph Cap, to identify myself. He was driving a perfectly restored TR3B, that's the car with the bigger 2100cc motor. Naturally I proudly passed on good wishes from the Johannesburg Centre.



Whilst I was away, I unfortunately missed the Inter-Club Quiz organised and held at the Pretoria Centre Clubhouse. As ever, well organised by Nols and his team. Well done to Pretoria A Team!

Here are the results.

For the first time ever it was a three way contest between Johannesburg, Pretoria and the MG Car Club Northern Centre. Since there were far more Pretoria members at the well-attended event it was agreed by all teams present that Pretoria would enter Teams A and B and would compete independently. Strictly speaking it therefore became a four way contest.

The quiz consisted of two parts. The first round focussed on motoring matters and counted 25 points. Round 2 dealt with general knowledge questions also counting a maximum of 25, resulting in the total score to count out of 50.

TEAM	MOTORING MATTERS 25	GENERAL KNOWLEDGE 25	TOTAL SCORE 100	PERCENT
Pretoria A	18,5	15,5	34	68
Pretoria B	12	16	28	56
Johannesburg	11,5	15	26,5	53
MG Car Club	11	15	26	52

I can see that the aerial photos bears witness to the well supported 50th Anniversary of the Triumph Spitfire. There were no less than seventy cars in attendance, twenty five of which were Spitfires to form the number five zero for the photography. This time the weather held out and for everyone to enjoy themselves. I think it was also a fitting tribute to one of Nols' last well organised events before stepping down and of course the committee. Great work chaps.

Some Japanese tourists got an unexpected treat for their memoirs whilst snapping shots of the Union Building in Pretoria. No less than thirty sports cars, mostly Triumph and MGs assembled at the departure point for the Jacaranda Run. After an hour's drive through the tree-line avenues and streets, (yours truly having no idea where we were) we suddenly made a rendezvous at the MG Clubhouse for a quick beer before a much reduced contingent set off to Benoni and Dawie Gouws' motor collection. I had to spare a sympathetic thought for the two Ferrari drivers who had to negotiate farm roads on the last stretch to the farm; there were man-made humps that tickled the belly of my Mazda 6, imagine what the Ferraris had endure? Didn't stop them though! What a sight for sore eyes on our arrival. A whole parking-lot of Triumphs from the Johannesburg centre had arrived earlier, their owners well settled in having a braai. Our arrival must have swelled the parking lot to thirty five cars – impressive!



You have had sufficient time to get your eye in for playing champion darts. We are going to do just that at our next Noggin, Tuesday, 20th November, organised by Jean Coppens. Plans are well in hand for another car collection visit, this time in Alberton for the 25th November Run; details of which will be advertised in due course. The invitations are out for the Christmas Lunch at Kloofzicht Lodge in the Muldersdrift together with our compatriots from the Pretoria Centre. Complimentary drinks will be served on the veranda before entering the dining room. Both clubs will be integrating their prize-giving ceremonies and the handing out of Christmas presents.

Great times ahead! I wish you all well for Christmas and the New Year ahead.

During this time, I on behalf of all our members, wish Chris Ferreira and Alistair Kennedy continued progress back to good health and to Rodney Keyser who, whilst enjoying the trip down a ladder, the landing was not what he would like to remember.....speedy recovery Rod !

Regards, Mike