



The MG CAR CLUB GEELONG Inc

# ANNUAL REPORT 2020

D.A. Collins                      President

R.B. Hutchinson                Secretary

2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2021

# **MGCC GEELONG ANNUAL REPORT 2020**

## **PRESIDENT'S INTRODUCTION**

I report to members that your club has had very different year in 2020. Just like the community and world we live in, the club was not as active because of COVID 19 restrictions and with the prime intent to keep our members safe, we were unable to conduct monthly meetings for most of the year between April to November and had to cancel our planned social program and most of our competition events. I report that because of these challenges and with dedicated effort, we coped and achieved club connections via Zoom meetings. In December we were able to have both social and competition end-of-year events. This brought the family together to make it another successful club year.

2020 has seen many hours devoted by a keen EC that has delivered our COVID policy. We made background steps with the establishment and main building of our Technical Facility (the Shed) and when able, the fit out and equipping of the facility. The Executive Committee monthly meetings ensure proper governance and importantly, the forum for decision making based on member and gender feedback. The Executive Committee has managed in 2020 the administration and operations of the Club with propriety and fairness and where possible, provided a range of activities that catered for all member interests. Non-executive support to the Executive Committee was outstanding for the year, especially given the unique challenges brought on by the COVID emergency.

The club has complied with all Governance requirements with our statutory reporting including the Financial Management Statements and an independent audit. The audit is attached to the this report for members to review. This year we have expended accumulated funds as were budgeted and used in provision of our new facility and planned club corner. Planning has continued for the next two stages including a strategy for obtaining of grants. The club acknowledges the effort of the planning and implementation teams now that the facility is to be opened in early 2021. The outstanding personal effort of Vice-President Nick Wood and Lawrie Ulph has been supported by many others. The separate achievement report by Nick Wood details the outcomes only possible by these members.

Overall the club has:

- maintained our membership levels despite the unprecedented environment of 2020
- Maintained our member to Marque ownership ratio.
- Our competition and social programs although disrupted were conducted when able.
- We have met our budget goals with positive revenues to cater for our operating costs and finishing the club year with a surplus.
- Our Audited Financial Report demonstrates our ability to deliver the mandatory and responsible management of club finances.
- We continued to work toward improved member facilities in the short term with the establishment of our Technical Facility (workshop) in a very restricted environment.
- Our forward planning team continued to plan for improved club facilities and source grants and other income streams.
- Our vision for the club includes both medium and long term plans including an amenities facility followed by the final stage of a club room. The goal of

providing a plan for improved amenities and a more suitable clubhouse within the medium and long term is the main goal of 2021, It should be noted that the Welfare portfolio was active and due acknowledgement of the kind efforts of Barb and Mac McKane must be saluted. They intend to step back in 2021. Thanks wonderful members.

## **VICE-PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT**

COVID certainly knocked a hole in 2020, however it didn't stop Club activities completely. My main responsibility has been the oversight of the Club's new Shed. While it was supposed to be finished by the end of 2019, delays in the construction meant it wasn't handed over until March 2020. Then, of course, we had COVID to contend with. It didn't stop the electrical and plumbing rough-in's being done, but it did hold up the fit-out work for which we needed a team of Club members.

As luck would have it, the Shed was ram-raided almost as soon as it was up. Fortunately, the Shed was empty and a damaged roller door was our only loss. With that covered by insurance it was soon replaced and we had a rethink about security! Clearly, the place was going to be a target. Spending priorities were changed and bollards immediately installed in front of the roller doors and the person door, along with an alarm and a security camera system.

Once restrictions eased enough, a couple of teams of club members spent a few days lining the walls with sheets of yellow-tongue flooring, and multiple sheets of corrugated iron in the wall cavity as a break-in deterrent. That done, the electrical fit-off was finished. Next came the partition wall to separate off what we're calling Club Corner (a small meeting area), from the workshop area. A large roller door in the partition wall allows the whole space to be opened up should we need it.

Having the floor professionally coated with an impervious, polyurethane finish came next. Then it was time for another team of members to transport and install the car hoist we'd bought from a member in Torquay. The hoist was used almost immediately at the February outdoor meeting to display an MGF that had been converted into an electric vehicle, something that gained a lot of attention.

At the time of writing, the most recent activity has been the purchase and transportation of some shelving units from the Ford factory auction by yet another team of members. The planned activities from here are to plaster the Club Corner side of the partition wall, install a suspended ceiling in Club Corner, install the benches for the sinks in Club Corner and the workshop, then have the plumbing fit-off completed. Painting Club Corner will happen at some point and extra equipment still needs to be purchased for the workshop, but the project is close to completion. The challenge then will be to set up an appropriate management process for the use of the Shed, ensuring it is available to Club members in a safe and secure manner. To that end, a Shed Manager position has been added to the Executive Committee and that role will head up a Shed Subcommittee to take care of the Shed from here on in.

While I have been the lead on this project, there are many other people whose involvement needs to be recognised. None of it could have happened without the City of Greater Geelong's much-needed grant of \$46,899. Striproll donated a large amount of corrugated iron for use in the walls (thanks John Abikhair). Norm Lyons, via son Steve at Lyons Construction, used their buying power to get us the best price on the Yellow-tongue flooring, McCann's helped out with extremely cheap prices on plumbing supplies (thanks Ray Abikhair). Darren Thornburgh of AWM Electrical in Thompson's Rd donated an expensive set of overhead lights and helped with cheap prices on other electrical goods. Grant St Quentin sold the Club a near-new car hoist

at a very cheap price. Lawrie Ulph has been instrumental in getting so much done, devoting time, construction ability and his mobile scaffold to the effort. Then, in alphabetical order, there were Mel Baldock, Rod Birrell, David Brook, Don Collins, Rob Hutchinson, Nigel Lang, John Maxwell, Graeme Ruby, David Selway-Hoskins, Max Simpson, and Brendan Sullivan, all providing their time and effort in one way or another to achieve what we have (and my apologies to anyone I've missed!). Isn't it great to be a member of such an active Club of people prepared to help?! My thanks to you all. I am sure many members will not just appreciate, but will benefit from your efforts.

Nick Wood.

Vice President

## **GOVERNANCE**

In a year where Club activity was disrupted severely by Public Health regulations in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Executive Committee was able to continue meeting regularly from January to November. Face to face meetings were only possible until March 2020. At the March meeting, the EC resolved to suspend all regular Club activity until further notice.

The EC acknowledged the importance of adhering to Public Health directives for management of the pandemic, has monitored the regulations carefully throughout the year and conducted all matters of the Club accordingly. A COVID sub-committee chaired by Phil Jacobson was established to guide the Club through the regulation mine field. This resulted in publication of the Club COVIDSafe Plan and appointment of the Secretary as the Club COVIDSafe Officer. The COVIDSafe Officer has been monitoring the conduct of all Club activities since appointment.

The EC was able to continue regular meetings until November through use of Zoom teleconferencing. The next in-person meeting of the EC was held in December. Through teleconferencing technology, the Club was able to maintain active management of its affairs, Public Health regulations notwithstanding.

Maintaining connections with all members during this challenging period was a focus for the EC and with assistance from members of MGCC Vic., we were able to re-establish monthly meetings via Zoom in June. This presented it's own set of challenges but with perseverance and member support, we were able to resume some of the rhythm of normal Club life and present guest speakers from remote locations - an opportunity previously unchartered. We welcomed "new" members to our Zoom monthly meetings who were previously unable to attend due to distance or other limiting factors. We acknowledge the generous assistance of Rhys Alexander MGCC Vic., who assisted with Zoom meeting procedures and involvement of our members in a quiz based on a Broadbent's Map of the Geelong region from days when small country schools were dotted around the district and distances were recorded in fractions of miles! George Broadbent researched many of his maps on bicycle!

Attendance records for EC meetings and correspondence transactions are documented in EC Meeting minutes and all important Club documents are backed up to Google Drive (Cloud) .

Consumer Affairs Victoria (CAV) requires Incorporated Associations to lodge an Annual Return. The M.G Car Club of Geelong Inc Annual Return was completed and lodged. Receipt of the Return was acknowledged and no further information was required by CAV.

The Club's Annual Financial Statements were finalized and submitted to Barkley's in January for Audit and have been returned with the necessary declarations to the Treasurer for presentation to the AGM.

We were fortunate to have Christine Simonsen, Jan Field and Judi Baldock as E.C members this year and aim to continue inclusive representation of all members in our management structure.

Officers with portfolio have carried out their responsibilities diligently during this disrupted year. Although it was not possible to conduct usual Social, Competition or Technical activities for nine months, the officers have applied themselves to whatever issues have been brought to the EC table with diligence. The EC continues to share its focus on short and medium term issues affecting current member satisfaction with strategic issues affecting the long term viability of the club as a whole. Reports of these events and activities are minuted.

Those Club members who may have contact with children via Club Competition, or in other specific events have the necessary Working With Children Certificate. Mac and Barbara McKane have continued their attentive and caring role as Club Welfare Officers during this Club year. Their quiet, thorough and sensitive management of this important role is appreciated by the Executive Committee and all members. We wish them good health and happiness as they retire from this role at the AGM.

All MotorSports Australia (formerly CAMS) Applications for social events were submitted and Permits granted. MotorSport Australia Permits are a requirement for validating MotorSports Australia Insurance cover for participating members and visitors. These are noted and filed in Club records.

Club Rules and By-Laws have been consulted on occasions for the guidance and direction of Members and the Executive Committee. Guidelines for the conduct of members while driving on club runs have been ratified by the EC, included in the Club By-Laws and published on the website.

The E.C. endeavours to source an interesting range of guest speakers for the Monthly Meetings. We thank Members who have provided leads and made arrangements for guest speakers to attend. Members are encouraged to keep this matter in their thoughts and assist the EC with suggestions.

Our Librarian David Selway-Hoskins continues to provide a wonderful service for Members and cares for our collection with tireless dedication. We are blessed to have an enthusiastic Librarian with such a strong technical pedigree. The E.C. commends and thanks David for his service most sincerely.

Not all sub-committees were active this year, however, the Shed sub-committee has had a busy year planning and completing various tasks as permitted. The opportunity for Members to provide feedback to the E.C. and support for Club activities is highly valued by the E.C. Sharing knowledge and assisting with the physical demands of Club events and activities is essential for the long-term health of the Club. The E.C.

encourages all Members to participate in sub-committee activities and event management.

OCC (OurCarClub), our web-based data file records all Club member and vehicle data records required by CAV and VicRoads in a manner compliant with Privacy and Incorporated Associations legislation. This is maintained by the Registrar and Club Permit Officer and managed by the Club OCC administrator. Events recorded on OCC continue to grow and we endeavour to record all Members and guests participating in Club activities. OCC is the backbone of the administration and operation of the club. Accurate data regarding Member's vehicles is always a priority. Club Officers monitor the performance of OCC and communicate regularly with the software developer regarding functionality and possible improvement. However, information recorded on OCC depends in great measure on the accuracy and timely supply of information from Members. Data such as currency of ownership, date of acquisition / disposal and compliant photographs must be supplied accurately and contemporaneously. A security of data review during the year revealed hourly back-up of OCC data on their server and daily back-up to an external server.

We engaged the services of an expert insurance broker to review our cover on completion of the Club Shed. Unfortunately we had need to call on the protection of this cover following a ram-raid incident on the 9<sup>th</sup> of May. Repairs were fully funded and attended in a timely manner from an insurance perspective. We appreciated the professional assistance of the broker in managing this claim. Investment of Club Funds is reviewed regularly. To date, Bendigo Bank Term Deposit facilities have been used for this purpose. In a low interest environment, the return is minimal but security is high.

As members of the Management Committee of the Geelong Motor Sports Complex we have been involved in discussions relating to the program to invest funds promised by Vic Government prior to the last election in upgrading facilities at the complex. Part of this process involved meeting Vic Gov requirements for governance. Hitherto, a long-standing group of volunteers has been managing the affairs of the complex but without a set of Rules or By-Laws that meet current CAV requirements. Our representatives on the Management Committee, Brendan Sullivan and Richard Oakley supported by Graeme Ruby have been involved in establishing compliant Rules of Association and the ongoing development of By-Laws. This will involve reference to the Deed of Agreement executed by the four member Clubs.

Rob Hutchinson  
Secretary

## **MEMBERSHIP REPORT 2020**

Membership as at 31 December 2020 was 540 compared with 545 for the same period in 2019.

There were 34 members/partners/family members who did not renew their membership in 2020, but with new memberships received throughout the year, the numbers are slowly increasing.

Sadly the club said farewell to the following long standing member in 2020.

Richard Harvey

Christine Simonsen  
Registrar

## **CLUB PERMIT ANNUAL REPORT**

2020 was a challenge for everyone, but given the considerable difficulties, members need to be congratulated for their adaption to the changed procedures we needed to put in place to administer the Club Permit Scheme. The postal process worked well in the main with only a few getting caught by the Australia Post back log but these were the minority.

We continue to grow our CP fleet with 315 now being in the system. This is a moving number with about 20 new CPs this year and 10 going off the system after being sold. With the renewals and the new applications, the workload has been constant, but it's great to see that this provides the opportunity for more of our marque being out on the road.

The mix of vehicle remains very constant with around 81% of our CP fleet being MGs. The remainders of the vehicles are from all over the world with the UK being a significant contributor.

VIC Roads have started a review of the scheme and plan to continue that review through 2021, so there are changes to come. So far we've seen initial application cost and renewal cost increasing and clarification of the ability for VIC Roads to enforce the rules. Whilst increases in costs are not appreciated, the scheme continues to offer very good value and is envied by many from other states.

Lawrie Ulph  
Club Permit Officer

## **SOCIAL**

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, our social activities were significantly curtailed from March to November 2020. We did however develop a detailed list of events for the year that we can mostly implement in 2021, if Government guidelines allow us. Towards the end of 2020 we had excellent turnouts at those events we could run, and it was obvious that members had stayed engaged with the Club.

We did have a number of members run small group activities, and to these members we are thankful.

## **WEBSITE and DIGITAL MEDIA**

Again due to Covid-19, we had much more communication with our members via our website, email and social media. We started a new Facebook Group for members

only, and got nearly 100 members to join this new group. This Facebook Group met on a weekly basis for a “Happy Hour” and this proved very popular.

We completely redeveloped our website and thanks go to new member Adam Lloyd for the work he did on this.

As we could not do “real life” activities for most of the year, we did have some virtual rallies and these were popular with those members who did compete.

John Roker  
Social and Digital Media Director

### **COMPETITION ANNUAL REPORT**

The 2020 Competition Program was originally planned to include a total of eighteen events consisting of nine speed events and nine non speed events. It was additionally intended that a representative team from the MGCC Geelong would attend the MG Club Challenge in South Australia which was to include a Sprint event at Tailem Bend and a Hill Climb at Mt Collingrove.

Following the first three scheduled events on the club competition calendar, the introduction of restrictions on public gatherings due to the coronavirus forced the suspension of any further events. Whilst initially hopeful that competition would be able to resume later in the year, this proved not to be the case and the competition program was formally abandoned. Consequently the club will not be awarding competition prizes or trophies for the 2020 competition season.

The three events held prior to the cessation of competition were reasonably well attended but the small sample size makes it impossible to meaningfully gauge the overall trend in competitor numbers compared to previous years.

Brendan Sullivan  
Competition Director

### **G-TORQUE EDITOR**

The year started with a new process whereby the new editor, Phil Jacobson, co-ordinated input and the magazine was put together by Geelong Printworks, who also print and distribute the magazine.

This was because no-one was prepared to take on the role using Adobe InDesign, the software used to create the magazine. The April magazine was done this way.

This process worked but turned out to be very costly and I volunteered to take over and perform the traditional editor role, gathering contributions and creating the magazine in Microsoft Publisher.

This proposal was accepted and I have produced the rest of the magazines up until now.

Microsoft Publisher is considerably easier to use than Adobe InDesign and it will be possible for anyone with moderate computer skills to create the magazine going forward.

Chris Freeman  
G-Torque Editor



## **REGALIA**

2020 saw an interrupted year due to Covid 19 impact and restrictions. The All British Car Display was a huge success for the Regalia taking \$1005.50 in income on the day and receiving orders of over \$400. During the restriction period the Regalia continued to provide regalia items on request to the value of over \$800, shipping as far as Darwin and Adelaide

At the request of the President we arranged the ordering and delivery of the new Life Member, Octagon Member and 25 Year Member commemorative badges for the Club while negotiating a saving of \$150 on the initial setup cost.

2021 will see a change of Responsible Officer to Anna Hoskins. We thank the members for their patronage and supporting the Regalia throughout our time with the Regalia.

John and Barbara Penning

## **MEMBER WELFARE REPORT**

We never thought 2020 would end yet here we are rushing through 2021. This year, which we all hoped would be so much better, has unfortunately started with the Covid Pandemic very much in the daily news. I think we all survived fairly well and learnt to cope with the face masks ~ we certainly hope so.

If we missed any members who had downtime with their health we are extremely sorry. We do thank the folk who contacted us and gave news of those who had hospital stays or health problems. We were of course not able to visit but hope the phone calls and cards helped to let you know the Club Members were certainly thinking of you.

For those who lost family members we were all very sorry and we had you in our thoughts and still do.

We are sure that the occasions when we have been able to have time together have renewed our friendships and have us looking forward to being able to enjoy every club event on the day it is scheduled.

Barbara and Mack McKane

## **DELEGATES**

We are fortunate to have a delegate who attends all AOMC meetings and reports to the EC any change to our interests. He is in active collaboration with the peak body on club matters, especially in CP issues.

We also have delegates to Motorsport Australia (formally CAMS), the Geelong Motor Sports Complex and The Geelong Traffic Safety Centre. The E.C. appreciates the

time and commitment of Members in representing the interests of the Club in these various bodies.

### **AWARDS**

No club awards have been considered for 2020 with the exception of Octagon due to minimal events and club activities.

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

I personally thank all the EC members for their individual support to me in 2018, 2019 and 2020. It has been a period where we have maintained momentum and coped with different challenges, especially in 2020. I sincerely acknowledge the many hours given freely in making our club run effectively and being a respected and friendly club.

Don Collins  
President

Rob Hutchinson  
Secretary