

MG NATIONAL MEETING OVERVIEW BY BEV WATERS

Following twenty months of organizing for the 2023 MG National Meeting in Adelaide, the event went by in a flash it seemed. As the event neared the work load for the organizing Committee and the working bee volunteers intensified, and the delay in the supply of trophies and regalia put everyone under more pressure. The forecast for heavy rain in the lead up to Easter had everyone on edge and trying to find an alternative venue to the Wigley Reserve for the Concours should it be too wet for the grassed area, had everyone anxious.

Why did we worry? Most things went to plan and the weather almost perfect with clear skies following us for all the events.

Being able to set up for Registration Day at Kauri Sports & Community Centre at Seacliff the afternoon prior was a bonus, and with the many volunteers Registration Day proceeded smoothly. Thankyou to everyone who worked inside, or outside in the car park controlling traffic, scrutineering or conducting the Observation Run tie breaker test.

We all felt for Wes Bray who had worked tirelessly for the National Meeting and contracted Covid prior to Easter. He was missing for most of the weekend, however still working behind the scenes back home.

Friday night at the Noggin n Natter, our club Patron Ed Ordynski welcomed every one and people caught up with their Interstate friends. A special presentation to our overseas visitors was made, followed by the Rocker Cover Racing which attracted 42 entries.

Next day, again numerous volunteers were at Wigley Reserve early to set up for the Concours, and welcomed the 180 cars from around Australia. The Glenelg venue was an ideal setting to show off the array of MGs and with many rare models on display kept the enthusiasts entertained. The volunteer judges were kept busy while the spectators basked in the sun.

Saturday night it was time to let your hair down at the Disney themed party at the Stamford Grand at Glenelg. A great venue with good food, lots of frivolity and dancing to Final Touch featuring club member Rob Hall. Everyone was seeing spots with the 101 Dalmatians from Victoria, Micky and Minnie Mouse were popular as was Woody from Toy Story. Alice in Wonderland was a hit with Joy Pearson (97yrs) up on the dance floor all night. People put a lot of effort into their costumes and made for a memorable night.

An early start for the next two days for the Motorsport enthusiasts with the Motorkhana and the Super Sprint at The Bend. The West circuit was used for the speed event which many interstate people were very keen to be a part of and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. With many officials and flag marshals required to run this event, assistance from the Marque Sports Car Association was sought along with help from car clubs within this group together with many of our own club members to which again we were most grateful.

It was the first time our club had used The Bend Skid pan for a Motorkhana and it worked out well with plenty of room for 3 tests, and were a little more difficult than other years causing a large percentage of WDs (wrong directions) even for some of the more experienced. The crowd control barriers surrounding the venue are unfortunately placed too far back from the skid pan itself and did not support good viewing for spectators.

The Kimber Run was very well attended on the Sunday and the feed-back from the participants expressed their appreciation of the drive and the scenery, and the lunch supplied by the Hahndorf Football Club.

For the competition Observation Run on Monday entries were down from the previous year but met up with the Social Tour group for lunch at the Bierhaus at Lobethal which received raving reviews. The Presentation Dinner Monday night saw medals and trophies passed out for the winners and place getters for events over the weekend. (Results from SA members in June magazine).

Congratulations to all, and a thank you to all participants and the hundreds of volunteers who made the 2023 MG National Meeting the success that it was.

The farewell breakfast at The Stamford Grand, was a fitting farewell to a fabulous weekend. The numerous congratulations and positive comments from the participants should make everyone proud of what they achieved with the organizing and running of this event.

Lastly we must thank our major sponsors and advertisers for their contribution and support in the running of the National Meeting.



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