

m.g.y. –type 70th anniversary weekend 9th – 12th june

With the theme '70 Flat out FUN' how could you not have a great time?



The weekend started on Friday and ended on Monday. A sort of a long weekend filled with M.G. activities and excellent M.G. roads twisting and climbing through the Nambour Hinterland and Blackall Range. In total, 33 Y-Types joined the runs on Saturday and Sunday.

Quota Park Nambour

Prior to leaving Quota Park in Nambour on the Saturday run a review of the 'Route Instructions' did cause me a little anxiety. The instructions contained words like: STEEP CLIMB, CAUTION, MOUNTAIN RANGE, STEEP DESCENT and RAZORBACK. M.G. brakes have never been good and MGY brakes are probably the worst. I was pleased to note the route instructions for the lunch stop were 'RICK'S DINER' where an excellent burger and an anxiety settling cold beer were appreciated.

Rick's Diner

The afternoon run included a Y-TYPE photo-shoot. In 2007, we all gathered in Maitland N.S.W. for Y-TYPE 60 Years Birthday Celebrations. As part of the celebration all cars were arranged in a large 'Y' formation and in so doing created an Australian record for the most Y-Types together at a given time. This year we broke the existing record by 3 cars with a total of 33 Y-Types in the photo-shoot.



Sunday's route instructions were also a little scary and included words such as: MOUNTAIN VIEW, Y-TYPES CLIMBING, CAUTION, RANGE and SCENIC LOOKOUT but what a beautiful M.G. day with morning tea hosted by the Blackall Range Horseless Carriage Club and lunch at the Cheese Factory in Kenilworth followed by afternoon tea at the "Koongalbe" Homestead.



Tony and Debbie Slattery did a fantastic job of organising the 'Celebration Weekend'. Excellent drives, roads and scenery not to mention the superb 'Anniversary Dinner' and organised functions including: a fashion and frills workshop, a silent auction, technical sessions, workshops and garage tours. They also organised presentations from David Lawrence (South Africa), author of 'Let there be Y's', and Paul Barrow (U.S.A.), co-founder of the International M.G. Y-Type Register.

Thank you Tony and Debbie and hope we can break another record in 2022.

Terry and Berit

On Saturday, two 'Classics' from the GCMGCC were spotted in Southport being put through their paces. For their age, their chassis stood up remarkably well to the conditions

Number 13, fitted with a new radiator performed well as did the shock absorbers considering the additional luggage being carried. The dynamo has however been sent to the Classic Car Clinic for a rebuild as it was charging at an extremely low rate. Number 14 breezed through the early morning trial without missing a beat. This 'classic' is however extremely finely tuned and in perfect race condition. Both 'classics' crossed the finish line in record time but did show some evidence of overheating. Perhaps more 'classics' could join them next year in support of cancer and men's health.



Happy motoring. Terry and Berit

mg y-type 70th anniversary weekend – friday 9 to monday 12 june 2017 - by stuart duncan



To mark the 70th Anniversary of when the first Y Type sedan rolled off the MG production line, former members of our club Tony and Debbie Slattery, now living on the Sunshine Coast, organised a fun filled weekend for MG Y-Type owners.

Debbie Slattery

MG Ys came from all eastern mainland states, with international visitors coming from NZ, USA and South Africa.

All MG Y owners in the Gold Coast MG Car Club attended, Terry and Berit Dewley in YA3392 and new members Robert & Margaret Smith in YT4265 experiencing no problems, whereas I in YT4310, my recently acquired 1950 Y Tourer which only got registered on the Friday before the weekend, only made 20km. Members Peter Kerr and Carole Cooke (in her new MG3) dropped in to some of the events.

Although the weekend's activities started on Friday afternoon with Registration, meet and greet, welcome dinner and Q&A discussion with the international guests, I started driving from the Gold Coast early Saturday morning, only to have a coolant explosive event (dropped welsh plug) on the M1 motorway. After the RACQ returned the Y Tourer to my shed, I grabbed my back up vehicle (the 1972 VW beetle) and headed north for the weekend.

Each morning (Saturday, Sunday and Monday) all participants gathered at a central carpark in Nambour and then drove the various winding, hilly and very scenic roads, visiting numerous lookouts where participants had event passports stamped and tried to guess a MGY part enclosed inside a sealed cloth bag. All items were small and unique to Y types and included a boot lid chain attachment plate, a door stop bar rubber, an under front mud guard wiring harness support bracket, the front number plate bracket, rear axle lower bump stop rubber and plate, a bumper bar to chassis pin, a boot chain clip and a boot MG Badge. I could only identify a couple of items correctly.





Saturday afternoon saw all 33 Y-Types (the largest gathering of Y-Type cars) form a large “Y” for the formal photo of the weekend. (See front cover)



Saturday afternoon, saw us descend on the Sunshine Coast Antique Car Club (SCACC) clubhouse for a technical session on clothing of the 1950s, in

readiness for the individual period photos on Sunday.



Saturday evening was a free night where we could go out on the town.

During the Sunday morning pre-run briefing, I took up an offer to ride as a rear seat passenger in a Y Tourer. I can advise Y-types may be classed as a four seater, but rear (adult) passengers need to have short legs and if of average height, be able to sit with their knees up under their chins.

Sunday morning's drive took us to the Blackall Range Horseless Carriage Club clubrooms in Maleny, where that Club's members had a display of their vehicles and put on a very large spread of cakes, etc., for our morning tea. It was during morning tea that we had our only major weather event over the weekend - a short rain shower. A big contrast to elsewhere in SE Queensland and northern NSW.

After morning tea we continued our drive visiting a number of lookouts, ending up at Kenilworth for lunch. Afternoon tea (LARGE scones with jam and cream) was at the historic Koongalba Homestead where participants were able to get photos of themselves in period clothing next to their MG Y.



It was then back to the SCACC for another technical session, which due to WiFi difficulties didn't happen, and a musical entertainment by one of the participants in his Dakota.

Sunday evening was a formal dinner at which the winners of the various awards were named. None of the GC representatives had the honour of receiving an award.



Monday morning had an earlier start (7.30 for a 8am departure) as we were using a carpark adjacent to the Nambour State College as our starting point. Due to the distance travelled to attend the weekend, nearly half the participants did not participate today, but headed home, be it to Victoria, Sydney or north to Gladstone or Mackay. We all inspected and were impressed with Gavin Donahue's A frame set up to tow his Y -Type.

A separate wiring harness connects to the all rear lights whilst an over-ride braking system activates the Y Saloons brakes. It is all legal. Here Gavin is explaining the set up to Paul Barrow of the USA.

This morning's drive was to a local MG enthusiasts' residence for morning tea and a look at his collection of MGs (5 running MGs (MGB, 2 T-Types, a Y Saloon and a Y Tourer) and 4 Saloons waiting for restoration. From here it was a short 10 mile drive to Tony and Debbie Slattery's residence for lunch where we checked out his enormous collection of MG Y spare parts and ended a great weekend.



Originally published in The Time Machine, August September 2017. The Time Machine is the official publication the Gold Coast MG Car Club. Reprinted here by kind permission.