

# 18th BUCO HARDWARE / OD INGGS MEMORIAL RUN - 21-22 March 2015

by Ron Gush

"They say stress is a killer. But I think no stress is equally deadly, especially as you get older. If your days just seem to slip by without any highs or lows, without some anxieties and pulse quickening occurrences, you may not be really living." Actress Helen Hayes

Well the OD certainly has its "anxieties and pulse quickening occurrences" both for the competitors and organisers, so I guess we are really living.

The "welcome braai" on Friday evening was a pleasant reunion of old friends and sharing a beer and food. The weather was perfect and it was a lovely evening. Chairman Charles welcomed all to the event and gave a brief summary of the history of OD Inggs, the man and his collection of cars. He thanked the organisers, mentioning them by name, and wished all well in the coming event. It seemed a pity that there were only 4 visitors in our midst but I am sure that others were due to arrive in the morning.



Saturday 21 March saw us all bright eyed and bushy tailed and ready for scrutineering at 08h00. Route schedules were handed out and feverish calculations began - an interesting route unfolded. Mike Newlands gave the briefing at 09h00. We were relieved to hear that there would be a piss- top - oops, a slip of the tongue!! - pit-stop at about 150km. There was even more relief at the pit-stop.



At 08h31 Pam and I were on our way, trundling gently through Port Alfred and out towards East London, duly picking up blue kilometre markers and controlling our speed as required. It was quite relaxing and Pam might tell you that at one point I broke into song and had to be reminded to concentrate on the task at hand. Left off the R72 and up to Peddie. Right onto the N2 towards King Williams Town. What a lovely new highway! A pity that more trucks don't use it instead of our bumpy old R72. Must be decades since we went to KWT, but then why would one want to go there?

The pit-stop at the Engen garage was a welcome break, and time to refuel, for those with limited tank capacity. Um, would that be cars or competitors?

Couldn't resist a pic of the 2 oldies on the road and a new car on a trailer, parked next to us at the pit-stop!



In due course we were on our way through KWT and its pedestrians and traffic lights and onto the R346/7 towards Zwelitsha and Kidds Beach. We were delayed by traffic and steep hills and thus batted along trying to catch up. But every downhill seemed to have a herd of cattle or goats to frustrate the effort.

We did catch up eventually and trundled down to the sea for lunch at the Beach House. Given that they had had unplanned load shedding since 10am that morning, they did a pretty good job of feeding us all on chicken-a-la- king followed by ice cream etc.



Drivers and navigators in the A speed group had time for a stroll on the beach before we had to set off. A brief turn around the houses and then back onto the R72 into the wind. You notice the wind in an 1125cc side valve Austin. Much of the run home required a great deal of discipline, driving along the highway at 40 or 45km/h. The nice wide yellow lined shoulder allowing fast traffic to overtake.

Back in Port Alfred, I was glad that we had arranged to garage the Austin in town (Many thanks George!) and drive home after dinner in a modern car with halogen lights!

The beer never tasted so good! Fish and chips for supper was also superb, as only the Port Alfred River and Ski Boat Club can do.



Sunday Morning dawned a perfect sunny day with none of the rain forecast earlier in the week. 08h31 sharp saw us, as first car out, on the road towards Kenton.

Right to Merry Hill and that is where the wheels fell off, figuratively. We missed the right turn to Skelton Street, or more correctly we took the first turn and not the second. The route schedule was perfectly clear. We had simply not calculated the distance as we should have before the start - or taken cognisance of the difference between 10 seconds and 45 seconds at 40km/h. And realising our error, we did not immediately do a 3 point U turn and go back. We, like all but 3 cars, went past the marshal in the wrong direction, incurring 600 penalty points. That sorted the men from the boys.

Out to Boknes and Cannon Rocks. 25km/h for ever around Boknes and then along Alice Street with nothing to measure speed except the seat of your pants. That resulted in a lot of cars stopping for an inordinately long time at the Stop sign!

Tea at the Sand Bar Floating Restaurant was great. Idyllic setting. Beautiful day. Boats cruising past. What more could you want? Eats were not quite up to Fish River Sun standard but then the Sun lacks the view, the setting and the character and so-what if you actually have to chew on your Muffin? There was much to discuss and many a team was gloomy about missing the turn in Merry Hill.

Back to Port Alfred for lunch and The Results. There were no objections.



Charles welcomed all, especially guest of honour Pat Lee. He thanked our sponsors, BUCO Hardware and welcomed their representative, Geraldine Avis, and her family. Thanks again to all officials and organisers, whose task started some 9 months ago. He noted that only 2 cars had failed on the run, but declined to name them! Consolation prizes, donated by BUCO were given to those who had not won an official prize.

On receiving the First Place and Oldest Car Trophies, Carel Buchner also thanked the sponsors and organisers and begged the Club to organise another rally next year.

Results were as follows, trophies handed out by Geraldine Avis:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place - the OD Inggs Memorial Trophy
- Best Navigator - the Norbert Drager Trophy
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place - the Linden Wheels Trophy
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place - the Arch Car Sales Trophy
- Club Team Trophy (most places in the top 6)
- 1st Lady Driver - the John Lee Trophy
- Oldest Vehicle - the Viv Hill Memorial Trophy

- Carel and Margaret Buchner
- Margaret Buchner
- Neville and Susan Koch
- Div and Wilma De Villiers
- AVCMC
- Delene Hawkins
- Carel Buchner in a 1933 Ford V8 coupe



1<sup>st</sup> - Carel & Margaret Buchner



2<sup>nd</sup> - Neville & Susan Koch



3<sup>rd</sup> - Div & Wilma De Villiers



Best Navigator - Margaret



Best Lady Driver - Delene Hawkins



Club Trophy

All in all, a great rally. We missed some familiar faces from Port Elizabeth and elsewhere, and they missed out on two days of fun playing with our cars.

Many, many thanks to the organisers and their team of workers on a job well done. A full list of competitors follows:

Position	Driver & Navigator	Car	Club
1	Carel & Margaret Buchner	1933 Ford V8 Coupe	AVCMC
2	Neville & Susan Koch	1975 Alpha Spyder	AVCMC
3	Div & Wilma De Villiers	1960 Rover P4	QAC
4	Norbert Drager & Trevor Hoole	1964 Porsche 356C	AVCMC
5	Brian Harris & Peter Owen Smith	1956 Peugeot 203	EPVCC
6	Ron & Pam Gush	1934 Austin Ten	AVCMC
7	Mike Legg & Jenifer Wansel	1961 Morris 1000	AVCMC
8	David & Verena Salzwedel	1960 Humber Hawk	BVCC
9	Rodney & Ruth Idris	1951 Morris Minor	EPVCC
10	Edward & Paula Johnston	1955 Austin A55	EPVCC
11	Joe & Paulette Janssens	1968 Mercedes 280SL	AVCMC
12	John Pringle & Enrico Contrardo	Citroen	BVCC
13	Jeff Sansom & Norman Hickel	1969 Mercedes 280S	BVCC
14	Charles & Glen Pellew	1983 Mini Clubman	AVCMC
15	Martin Schofield & Charmaine Ahrens	1972 Lancia Fulvia Coupe	VSCC
16	Rob Mears & Sue Darkes	1969 MGB Coupe	AVCMC
17	Dave & Daphne McNeill	1957 Triumph TR3	AVCMC
18	George Armstrong & Des Hill	1970 Lancia Fulvia Coupe	AVCMC
19	Bruce Yendall & Eden Bradfield	1941 Chevrolet Coupe	AVCMC
20	Delene & Dave Hawkins	1957 MGA	AVCMC

