



# WESTERN CAPE MAZDA MX-5 CLUB

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## SECRETARY'S REPORT: CLUB RUN 2014-06-29

*“I must go down to the seas again, to the lonely sea and the sky,  
And all I ask is a tall ship and a star to steer her by.”*

It would seem that every member of our club shares the same longing for the sea that John Masefield had when he penned his famous poem, **Sea Fever!**

Forty four people accepted the invitation to lunch at the Black Marlin at Miller's Point, Simons Town. This turnout would have broken the record for largest attendance of the MX5 Car Club ever...well done, everyone!

Unfortunately, Steve and Mari Ashton had to cancel early Sunday as Steve was nursing some bad sniffles – some advice Steve... ‘feed a cold, starve a fever’...whatever you do – get better SOON!

(Even though Steve and Mari couldn't make it...I think we can leave our record as 44 accepted!)

So here goes with all the names of attendees: (forgive me if I miss anyone ☺ )

Yours truly and Paul, Mike & Maryann Little, Liz Morgan and daughter Samantha, Alex & Maureen Paterson and two friends, Ivan Gee and Wendy, George & AnnaMarie Slade, Rod Manson, Derrill and Barbara Papendorf, Julian and Jenny Seymour, Brian and Avril Roy, Keith and Christine Clark, Charmaine Jackson and son Richard, Chris and Daphne Foster, Deon Labuschagne and Gordon Dreyer, Gerald and Jocelyn Poswell, Brian Lewer and son James, late-comers Bernie and Joanita Koch. Allan Sheard seemed to appear at our first rendezvous but apparently he had family duties so didn't make the lunch.

We also welcomed some new members Di and Neville Norton and Julie and David Dyer – great to meet you all!

Apologies were received from:

David Wantling – overseas somewhere (are you at Wimbledon, perhaps?!), Soné Mouton and Paul Burger (Paul – hope you will have thrown away those crutches by next run), Andre and Nerine Davis, Phil and Julia Wilmot, Luke, Marj and Matthew Van Wyk, Peter and Carla Truter and Andrew and Sandy Duffell-Canham

So, onto the run –

The ‘Northerners’ gathered at Limnos Bakery and, led by the very experienced ‘man-in-the-front’, Alex Paterson, the convoy arrived at the rendezvous at the top of Ou Kaapse Weg right on time – 11.45p.m.

The Southerners all made their way individually to the OKW spot.

Paul and I were the first to arrive at OKW meeting place and from our vantage point we had a great view of each little MX5 cheekily popping its nose over the rise of the hill. What a sight!

It was a real ‘lump in the throat’ moment for me. It reminded me yet again why [Jeremy Clarkson](#) wrote:

*The fact is that if you want a sports car, the MX-5 is perfect. Nothing on the road will give you better value. Nothing will give you so much fun. The only reason I'm giving it five stars is because I can't give it fourteen.*

And so say all of US!

At OKW we all stretched our legs and a few people took the opportunity to take some photos of the spectacular view of the Constantia Valley and False Bay.

The short 20 minute trip to our venue took us over the Glencairn Expressway and down onto the scenic coastal road along the picturesque False Bay Coast. Always a great ride, especially on a beautiful, still, sunny day as it was on Sunday..... topless.....of course..... Priceless!!

The history surrounding this beautiful part of the False Bay Coast – Miller’s Point is so interesting.



In 1814 Tomas Drury was first to be granted use of this land site for cattle. It was later sold to Edmund Miller and inherited by his son James William Miller in 1838 and used as a whaling station. Fortunately this practice stopped in 1850 and for almost a century the area lay dormant. The Millers Point property was bought by the Molteno family in the 1920s and used as a private family retreat (see pic on left) for many years. In the 1960s the family donated their property to the city and the original homestead became the Black Marlin Restaurant.

The restaurant did not disappoint. The Maître d’ had arranged for our group to be seated on the outside terrace overlooking the spectacular view of the bay.



Service was great and the food exceptional. The Millers Point Platter seemed to be the most popular choice at a great price! R99!!

As I circulated around all the tables everyone seemed to be having a great time of ‘catch-up’ with each other and the feedback about the food and venue was very complimentary.

Only our inimitable Chairman and his ‘way better half’ seemed to have had an utterly frustrating drive over from the North! Bernie and Joanita have never missed a run since joining the club and they were not going to let a small matter of ‘business’ prevent them from attending this one. So they raced over as soon as they could, BUT, got caught up in the weekend traffic along the False Bay coastal road via Kalk Bay. Oh dear!.....I don’t think they enjoyed the view quite as much as they should have! At times like that you just have to chill and say “No escape... if this is inevitable, let’s lie back and enjoy it!”

All things considered...it was a very successful day, I would say! Thanks George for your recommendation.

Now to the business end of this report.

### Club Clothing

Our Treasurer – bless him for doing a GREAT job with all this regalia – has become quite despairing about trying to run a hugely time consuming ‘Debtors’ system of having to reconcile EFT payments made through the Club bank account to orders placed via email !

The committee has made a unanimous decision that **ALL CLOTHING ORDERS MUST BE GIVEN TO GEORGE SLADE (TREASURER) AT THE MONTH-END RUN AND CASH PAYMENTS MUST BE MADE WITH EVERY ORDER.**

### Venues

Bernie has quite correctly made this observation –

*The Black Marlin proved once and for all that we don't have to go for a set menu. They served us all quickly and efficiently from the Al a Carte Menu. Most of the venues that the Events Co-ordinator has approached this year have demanded that we use the Set Menu option. This is almost always a rip-off. If a restaurant is not willing to take us as a group and have us eat off the menu, I suggest we skip that place.*

We would like some feedback about your thoughts of venues, prices that you think are reasonable and distances we should be travelling for a Sunday (or any other day!) run.

### Facebook:

Apart from supplying us with good pics of our meets, Rod Manson has established a presence for us on Facebook – I note that some of our Members had already visited the page! Please go there and, as always, your comments are not only welcome but invited. Thank for the efforts, Rod!

### July run

I am not sure when our July run will take place. Closer to the time we will let you all know.

### Personal note from Secretary

Once again yesterday I was struck by what an amazing group of people that we are in the MX5 Car Club. Exceptional! Wonderful! I enjoy you ALL!

Till next time.

**Diane Novitzkas | Secretary**  
**Western Cape Mazda MX-5 Club**

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