

THE OFF-SIDE UNDO



“A gentleman does not motor about after dark.”

Joseph Lucas

April 2023



MG - Classic British Sports Car is a painting by Jack Zulli

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TOPS DOWN 2023

By Toocool MacDavish



A group of hardy EMC members traveled to Rocky Springs for the anticipated welcoming of spring. I say “anticipated” as the weather was overcast and cool on March 18, 2023. That didn’t wither the thirteen members that made the drive. It did seem to limit the turnout of British Iron and there were no tops dropped at this year’s outing. Patrick O’Cashman was quick to light up the firepit, which added a bit of welcome warmth. Yes, we did enjoy celebrating St. Patrick’s Day with some traditional Irish dishes and a small cup of nectar brought warm sláinte to all those in attendance. The food offerings included the traditional smoked salmon with capers and cream cheese, soda bread, corned beef with cabbage and new this year a serving of bangers and mash with onion gravy and mushy peas. All the food dishes were great and enjoyed in the spirit of celebrating St. Patrick’s Day. As we broke camp, we wished each other Slán agus beannacht leat. We are headed for warmer weather following the false spring that we were tempted with just the week prior to Tops Down. We hope to see more folks at upcoming EMC events.





THE PERFECT PICNIC

From Hilda Leyer's *The Perfect Picnic*

Menu No. 16

Hot Potato Soup

Marinade of Halibut

Cucumber & Gherkin Salad

Coffee Cake

Cheshire Cheese & Oat Cakes

Hot Potato Soup Peel and boil three large potatoes until soft, put them through a sieve. Cook a tablespoonful of onion in a pint of milk until soft, then add to it pepper and salt and the potatoes. Let them boil, pass through a sieve, then stir in two tablespoonfuls of butter, a level tablespoonful of flour and bring again to the boil, stirring all the time. Add four tablespoonfuls of whipped cream and put boiling hot into the thermos.

Marinade of Halibut Cook some halibut and, when cool, skin and bone it. Arrange it in nice pieces at the bottom of a salad bowl. Then, slice as thinly as possible some onions and pimentos and put a layer of them over the fish together with two cloves, a bay leaf, cayenne, and black pepper and salt, and add a few drops of olive oil. Repeat these layers of fish and seasoning till the fish is used up and pour over the whole a glass of white wine or white wine vinegar. Leave it for several hours.

Cucumber & Gherkin Salad Peel and slice thinly a small cucumber, cover it with salt and put it on one side for an hour. Then take some gherkins and chop them. Drain the cucumber and dry it in a cloth. Put a layer at the bottom of the salad bowl and then a layer of gherkin, and so on, and leave a few whole gherkins to decorate with. Pour over the salad a dressing of oil, vinegar, pepper, salt, and mustard.

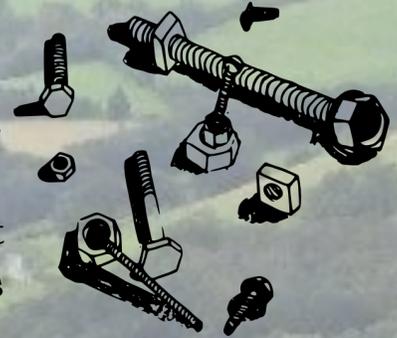
*No recipes for coffee cake or oat cakes included in this section of the book.

NECESSITY IS THE MOTHER OF INVENTION

HOMEMADE VALVE ADJUSTING TOOL

By Charlie Durning

This is another installment of tools that can be made at home to solve a challenge that may or may not exist. Previously I shared a repurposed screw driver and box end wrench for making valve adjustment easier. I also shared a tool that I made out of some flat steel strap with 2 sockets welded in place. The sockets are $\frac{1}{2}$ " and $\frac{7}{16}$ " 12 point. Both sockets are $\frac{3}{8}$ " drive. The tool was made to access the front pan bolts on an MGB and lower front cover bolts on the Morris.



It occurred to me that the tool made for access to difficult bolts could be used with the repurposed screw driver to make valve adjustment a little less frustrating. What brought this to my attention is the sockets are $\frac{3}{8}$ " drive and the tube on the screw driver is $\frac{3}{8}$ " OD. HMMMMM. If I drill a $\frac{3}{8}$ " hole straight through the center of both sockets that will keep the screwdriver aligned. The tools working together made a test valve adjustment a breeze.



Fit over the adjuster



Guide Hole



Drilling through



Through the socket



End view



Working together

BRITISH CAR DAY NEW ORLEANS STYLE

MARCH 25, 2023

By Al B Earlee

Several members of the EMC traveled to New Orleans for the British Motoring Club of New Orleans British Car Day 2023. The 31st edition! Saturday's weather was perfect and the grounds at St. Mary Magdalen were the perfect spot for the show. Thanks to the members of the BMCNO for the quick registration and placement of about 100 cars on the field. The classes were well organized, and the field layout was perfect. The show started mid-morning and concluded just before 4:00pm on show day. The St. Mary Magdalen Dad's Club was on hand to serve some great jambalaya and burgers, and I heard the fried fish was some of the best to be had. The club had Bruce Spizer in again this year to speak on his recently published book *The Beatles: Rubber Soul to Revolver*. Members of the EMC garnered several awards as the photos show. Thanks to the BMCNO for hitting a homer with their 2023 show!







UPCOMING EVENTS

April 20-23, 2023 – MG GOF South / Gainesville, FL – GOF-South 2023 welcomes all MG cars from the Marque's production conception in the Abingdon Works, a few Later Models, and nominated Classic Variants. In addition, we have teamed up with the North American MGA Register to Showcase the MGA series cars by featuring a NAMGAR Regional Event within GOF-South 2023. Details: <https://www.gofsouth.org>

April 20 - 23, 2023 –The Natchez Concours d'Elegance / Natchez, MS - 1st Annual Natchez Concours d'Elegance. Show date is Saturday April 22. Open to all European Cars over 20 years old and all ages of Rolls-Royce and Bentley's and all ages of European "Exotic" cars. Meet Hotel / The Natchez Grand Hotel. Details: www.natchezconcours.com or Richard Branyan (601) 807 – 4081.

June 12 -16 2023 – NAMGAR GT- 48 / Memphis, TN – If you are into extended driving in your MGA join this group of drivers/riders for the 2023 Gathering of the Faithful. Just a hop and skip up the road and you'll be glad you made the trip for the 48th annual national gathering. Details: <https://namgar.com/gt-48>

June 17, 2023 – EMC Tech Session / Brandon, MS - If our Tech Guru calls for a tech session, you know it'll be a real challenge. Join us to see the answer to whatever puzzle Keith has up his sleeve. Wrenching starts at 11:00am and lunch starts at 12:00pm. Details: Keith / Pat Anderson (601) - 829 - 2573.

BLAST FROM THE PAST

This new feature comes from the photo stash of Terry Trovato. This edition's photo is John Turbeville with a TR8 at the 2002 Brits on the Bluff in Natchez.

