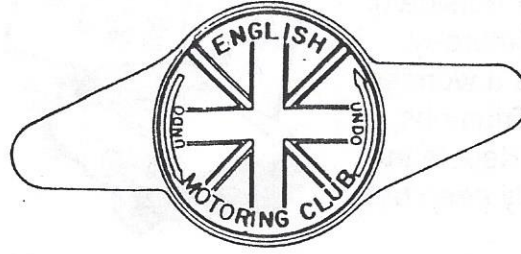


Off-Side Undo



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MAY 1996

It's English. A Daimler that seats two, has a soft top, 5 speed pre select transmission (like the 1930s five litre Siddeley Special), Rolls Royce B-60 in line six cylinder engine. It sounds like many typical English sports cars we know of.

Well, this one has full time four wheel drive with a top speed of about 60 mph. Great for off road, but not exactly what you want for a twisty mountain road with sharp switchbacks or fast sweepers.

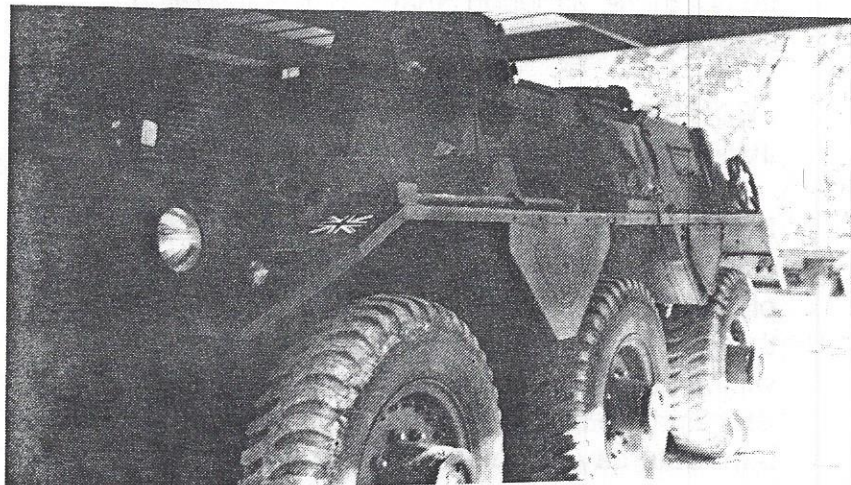
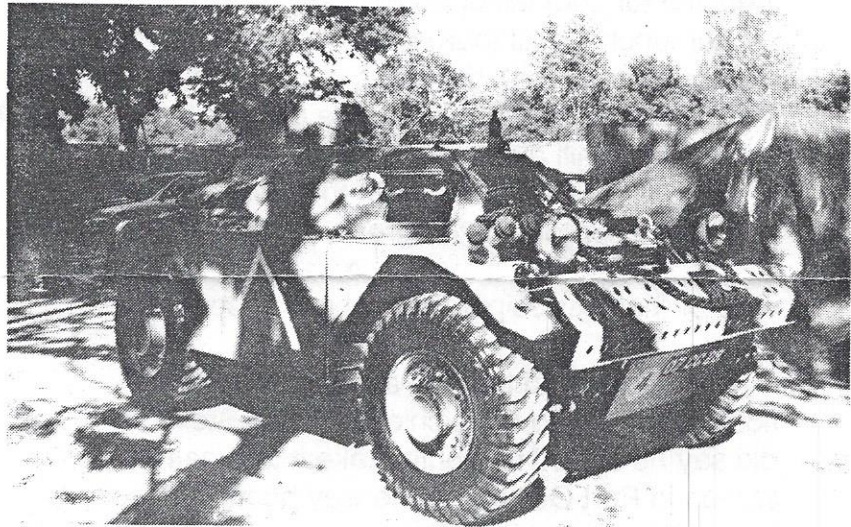
What is it? A 1960 Daimler Ferret armoured scout car. The Ferret carries a crew of two, and some models come with an armoured turret. Armament varies and can include heavy machine guns.

Richard Lane of Vicksburg has quite a collection of military vehicles, which includes this and another Ferret, a 1943 U. S Army half-track, a six wheel British Saracen, and several jeeps.

The Ferret pictured here is one of several vehicles Richard has imported from his native England. Quite the military buff, Richard has a complete English uniform and full kit to wear when at the controls of the Ferret. He has used it in several parades, and as Richard says, "It's a blast to drive in the dirt".

People are attracted to it much as they are to a shiny E-type Jaguar. Well, maybe some people.

Anyway, the Ferret points out that English



vehicles and their owners are all around if you just take a little time to seek them out. If we can persuade Richard to bring it along to the Highland games in August we should have no problem in getting the exact spot we want.

Grand Gulf Picnic

Only the "regulars" drove down the Natchez Trace to the Grand Gulf State Park outside of Port Gibson for a great picnic on Saturday, May 4. New members sure missed a wonderful afternoon at the park. We had Triumphs, a MGB, Healey, Rover, and Gordon Keeble in the parking area. It would have only been better with a few more cars.

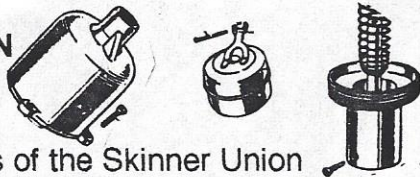
President Steve Collins, Shannon, Rivers, and Campbell, Keith, Pat, Brian Anderson, Wilbert and Jean Easom, Barbara, John and I all enjoyed the contents of several well stocked picnic baskets.

The park has a pavillion complete with a sink with running water along with charcoal grills and ovens. There is even a wood burning fireplace for cool fall or spring days.

After lunch we all toured the museum and park buildings. Keith talked us into driving the narrow twisty road that led to the observation tower on the hill overlooking the camping area. There was also a trail through the woods for the more energetic of the group. Anyway, once up in the tower, we were presented with a view of the Mississippi River about three miles away.

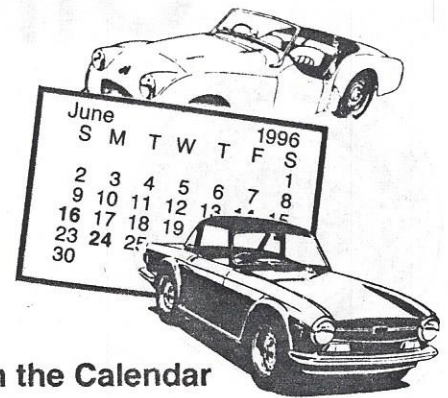
No one seemed to have any mechanical difficulties getting to the picnic, although Steve did say he hoped he could make it to a gas station in Port Gibson on the way home. Hope he got there, although Shannon was following along behind in the Honda.

TECH SESSION JUNE 15



Do the products of the Skinner Union Company remain a mystery to you? Come pierce the veil of confusion when you attend the next English Motoring Club tech session. It will be held at Dennis Loftin's home at 2356 Breckinridge in Jackson. It will start at 1:00 p.m. Saturday, June 15. Call 372-6576 for directions.

Expert or novice, there will be plenty to see and learn when rebuilding an SU carburetor.



On the Calendar

Birmingham, Alabama
May 24-26

Sponsored by Birmingham British Motoring
Club

Contact: Dan Perkins (205) 967-0974

British Car Day with the Highland Games
Jackson, Mississippi
August 24

At the Jim Buck Ross Agriculture and Forestry
Museum
Harvey Hotel 5075 I-55 N.
(601) 366-9111

Fairhope, Alabama
September 21

Sponsored by The Mardi Gras MGs
British Car Day returns to Fairhope's beach
front park
Contact: Mardi Gras MGs (334) 928-5366

British Car Day
Memphis, Tennessee
October 12

Contact: Bill Cravens (901) 683-7195 or Jim
Hoffer 800-344-9683

English Motoring Club Picnic
October 19

FOR SALE, WANTED TO BUY, OR SWAP

1966 Mustang GT convertible...maroon with pony interior. A/C, PS, PB, auto, 289 four barrel with Cobra valve covers (just like ole Shelby used when he stuffed the 289 into the AC) You see, there is a British connection.

\$12,000. Call Pat Cashman (601) 636-4545 or home (601) 638-3240.

Kent Turner has wheels that fit a Bugeye, but are not Bugeye wheels. (601) 638-8005.

Hayden electric fan. Pat Cashman (601) 636-4545 or (601) 638-3240.

Club Officers

Steve Collins, President (601) 982-7151

Dennis Loftin, membership chairman (601) 372-6576

Keith Anderson, social chairman, (601) 829-2573

Barbara and Pat Cashman, OFFSIDE UNDO, (601) 638-3240.

All Italian Car Club Show

John and I took the Gordon Keeble to Hot Springs, Arkansas for the third annual gathering of such exotics as the Lamborghini Diablo, Ferrari 288 GTO, Lancia Beta Monte Carlo, Alfa Romeo, Lamborghini Espada and a bevy of other Italians.

We encountered, I believe, every tractor that was sold in Arkansas during the last 10 years out on Highway 65 north. Each was pulling 12 row discs, and some managed to get up to 20 mph just before slowing to cross the endless number of bridges. Don't get in any kind of hurry.

Sunshine and 60 degree temperatures greeted the crowd as the cars drove in and parked in a beautiful wooded area in Hot Springs Village. The village is about 15 miles out from Hot Springs on Highway 7. It was most enjoyable driving along the winding road in the company of two Lancias and an Alfa.

The Keeble and a beautifully restored Triumph Stag were the only British cars to be seen. Bertone designed the Keeble, while Michelotti did the Stag. Most folks had only a

vague knowledge of the Keeble, but were interested in learning more about the Italian connection. The day presented a good opportunity to exchange Lucas versus Marelli electric stories.

This is a non-competitive event with no judging, so daily drivers are as welcome as show cars. It's a good chance to see an extremely broad selection of Italian sportscars and sports sedans.

CORRECTION

All of the typewriters I have used seem to have been full of mistakes and typos, so this computer must be the same.

In the last issue we noted that Mike Schrantz bought our old Mk II Jaguar. Well, he did want it, but it was really sold to Bob Murphy from Alabama. Sorry Mike, it was just another case of brain fade.

Another guy wanted that car as well. He stopped me in a gas station in Mobile as we were returning from last year's Pensacola show and asked about the Jaguar. He said he wanted to install a Mercedes engine in it.

That didn't appeal to me as the best use, so I'm glad Bob has it. Sure hope to see it back on the road or at a show sometime soon.

Pensacola Beach British Car Day

by John Simmers

If I had known that I would have to write about this show, I would have paid better attention. First of all, the hurricane last year caused the loss of some local cars, and even by the end of April, some hotels had not reopened. So the Pensacola people had less than ideal circumstances. As usual, there was a fine reception with red beans and rice and other goodies prior to the show. The weather for the show was excellent. The club has an excellent location that is easily accessible to beach goers and has many spectators. Perhaps more than most larger shows.

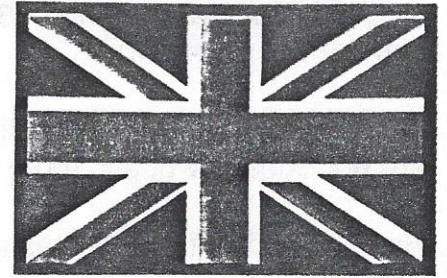
The actual show participation was light. Often only one or two cars represented a class. While out of town participants were from diverse locations, there were just too few par-

ticipants to build up the attendance. Memphis, Jackson, Vicksburg, Fair Hope, Mobile, New Orleans, and Montgomery clubs were sparsely represented.

Just about everyone, if not everyone, took home a trophy as well as a well executed dash plaque and a bit of a sunburn.

Our trip was uneventful and made even more pleasant by my Washington assignment being delayed for two weeks. I will not take the MG to Washington until after our Highland Games, so the next few months should be boring. In September I anticipate touring the BlueRidge and Smoky Mountains to end up at the Fair Hope Show before getting back home.

You can leave messages with Florence-638-0968, answering machine 634-2803, or e-mail at simmer@ex1.wes.army.mil or of course snail mail.



Off-Side Undo



237 McAuley Drive
Vicksburg, Ms 39180