

# Off-Side Undo



A publication of

THE ENGLISH MOTORING CLUB

P. O. Box 5263  
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## NATCHEZ TRACE PICNIC

The First Annual Natchez Trace picnic began with ten British cars paravanning from Northpark Mall, up the Trace, to the "Cypress Swamp" scenic trail. We enjoyed a thirty minute walk along the trail and even learned a little along the way. Another short drive up the Trace brought us to River Bend Park, overlooking the Pearl River. It soon became apparent that the twenty or so British car enthusiasts were becoming more interested in food than in cars, so I began roasting a few weiners on the grill. Some of the more hungry looking souls began making cannabilistic threats, so I quickly lowered the weiners closer to the heat. Before long, 38 of the 40 hot dogs had been consumed, along with a few bags of chips and a variety of dips. All in all, a good time was had by all, so we'll do it again next year.

Keith Anderson

## FROM THE PREZ

I want to give my personal THANKS to Frank & Tricia Peel for the fine job done in arranging for a successful BRITISH CAR DAY, held September



6 at the Jackson Zoo. No significant hitches occurred, we had an excellent turn-out, and I heard lots of positive comments about the event! Also THANKS to Alex Wade for the Trivia Quiz, Jack Pool for his eloquent MC-ing, Jane House and Tere Wade for womanning the registration tables, and Keith Anderson & Steve Cappello for directing the fun & games department! A VERY SPECIAL THANKS goes to our sponsors and the Jackson Zoo for their valuable assistance. In a nutshell . . . WHAT A FUN DAY!

Craig House  
President

## SHORT CIRCUITS

. . . the MGA owned by Lowery Collins will soon be shod with re-worked wire wheels . . . John Simmers and his daughter are planning an adventurous trip to the Arctic Circle for the summer equinox. John plans on three weeks from Vicksburg to Alaska and back via MGBGT! . . . the Wades, Andersons, Frank Peel and Dennis Loftin recently returned from the Vintage Grand Prix at Road Atlanta. Keith campaigned his MGA again and WAS PASSED BY A TR-3! Full details in the December OSU . . . the Houses 3000 frame has been sandblasted, magna-

fluxed, and on its way to a full restoration . . . the front bumper of the Kingsafer 3000 is now right-side up! How Jack Pool won so many awards with it the other way 'round may never be known . . . The English Motoring Club had a good turnout at the Memphis British Car Fest - details in the November issue . . . overlooked in our last issue was the fact that John Simmers won the Trivia Award at the Jackson British Car Day. He also won the award at the Memphis British Car Fest, leading him to recently announce his retirement from the contests. (After all, didn't Mercedes once retire from racing saying that they had nothing left to prove?) . . . The Roadster Factory now has TWO of the Le Mans TRS dohc racers . . . Graham Robson, the noted automotive writer and historian, is scheduled to be the featured speaker at next year's VTR National Meet at Road Atlanta. (I, personally, voted for Vanna White) . . .

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#### TECH TIP

Be sure and use ash instead of pine whenever you need to replace any of your car's wooden structural components (MG-T's, Morgans, some parts on early Triumphs). Southern pine is not dense or strong enough to do the job.

Most wood components are available through the major marque suppliers and are slightly oversize from the original dimensions. These pre-cut parts are reasonably priced and need only slight rasping and sanding for a good fit. Be certain that you use a good wood preservative prior to final fitting.

If you are interested in cutting your own parts from ash stock, call Alex Wade



for the name of a local supplier.

### TEN BEST

Many of you probably read Peter Egan's recent article in Road & Track concerning the ten cars he would most like to own.

One of our members also wrote in to us to share his "ten favorites", but, as part of the publication rights, I had to find some other members to list their favorites as well. If you would like to have your favorites listed, jot down your list of your favorite British cars and tell us why you chose them - then send your list to the chapter's P. O. box.

We'll start with my list, which was the other part of the bargain:

1. Jaguar C Type
2. Jaguar D Type

Both of these cars can be classed together. Powerful, sophisticated, and beautiful, these cars dominated the international race scene in the mid fifties and carried the British flag to victory at Le Mans for many years.

3. MG K3

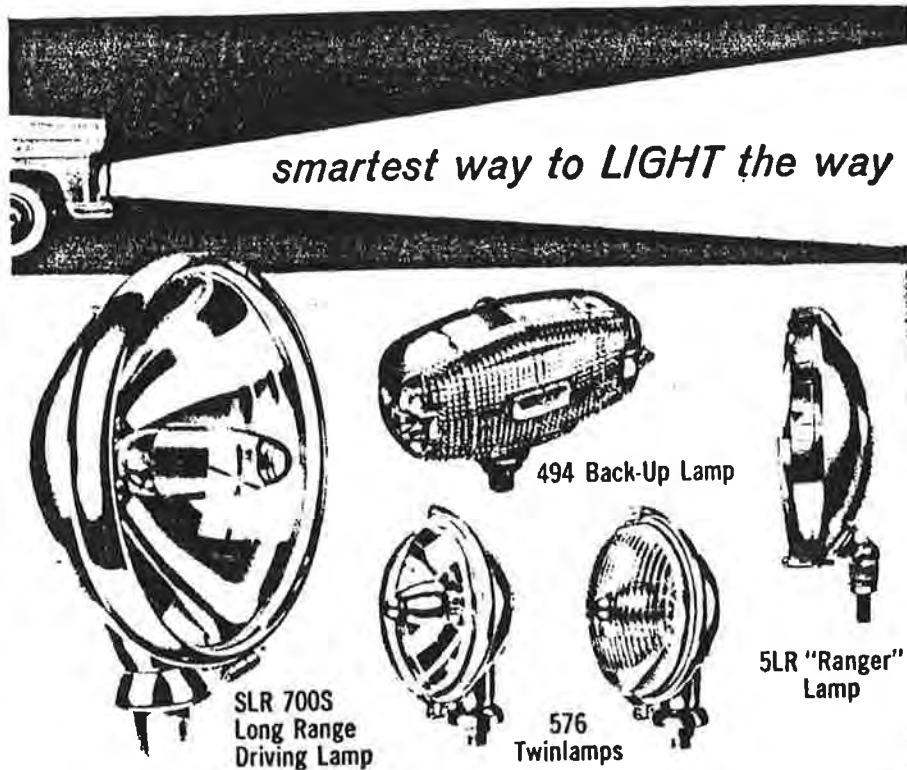
This powerful car (for 1100 cc's) brought international fame to Britain when it appeared on race circuits in the mid-thirties. An ohc 6-cylinder, it was raced to great success by Lorani, Nuvo-lari, and many others in an era when other British cars were "also rans".

### 4. "Blower" Bentley

In the twenties, Wolf Barnato and the Bentley Boys achieved international fame in these truck-like brutes. I would rank this car in stature to the racing Bugatti's of its era (which I am not allowed to list).

### 5. Allard J2X

There is no substitute for cubic inches. If you've ever seen one of these thunder around a race track you'll understand, even though this car was built more for hill climb events.



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## 6. AC Cobra

Come now, wouldn't you? Although this is a British-American hybrid, just as the Allard, this car epitomizes all that a sports car should be: blindingly fast, outstanding handling, simple construction and handsome styling at (even then) a reasonable price. We shall never see its likes again.

## 7. Jaguar SS 100

I keep coming back to Jaguars! This is a first rate car, combining power and elegance. Its appeal is diminished only by the sheer number of disgusting Pinto and VW-powered replicars out there. Who'd believe that you had an original?

## 8. Austin Healey 100M

The handsome brute; as close to a Ferrari Barchetta as I'll ever get to ride in.

## 9. MG-TC

This is the definitive small-displacement British sports car. Its classic lines make it one of the most beautiful cars ever made and, despite its anemic performance, is great fun to drive.

## 10. TR-3

Gutsy performance in a simple, distinctive package. Most fun per dollar spent than any other car on this list!

Well, there you have it. Now if we were to consider the top twenty, we could add a Morgan, an Invicta, several As-

Alex Wade

## CHRISTMAS PARTY DECEMBER 6 - 6 pm

The English Motoring Club and the Alfa Romeo Club will be hosting a joint Christmas Party this year in the home of our mutual members,

Mike, Bitsy, Bonnie & Mike Hemsley, Jr. The Hemsley's live at 1700 Huntcliff Way in Clinton, and you may call them at 924-0319 for directions. No official business at this meeting, so please come!

### TRUTH INJUSTICE DECISIONS REWARDS

You can't please all the people all the time, I should know better because trying to decide the winners has not been easy and I'm sure we'll still be discussing NEXT YEAR! This is the moment of truth.

We couldn't settle on first place so I'll let you choose your favorite. I've combined the 1st and 2nd places and split the prizes between the top places, \$750 credit to each entry toward a John's Cars Conversion.

"Joy And Grief Under A Roof" by D C Stuckey, Wingham, Ontario, Canada and "Jumpercables and Garagemen Unquestionably Are Required" by Joesesh LaVallo, Stamford, Connecticut.

#3 "Jaguars Always Get Ultraexpensive Automotive Rigormortis" from Jon Allen, Los Angeles, California, \$250 credit.

#4 "Jealousy Always Gets Us A Ride" from Adams Hudson, Montgomery, Alabama, with \$125 credit coming.

The following list is our honorable mentions category. Each person will receive \$25 credit towards products that are John's Cars exclusives.

"Jaguars Avoid General User Automotive Repair Skills", John Matthews, Austin, Texas.

"Jaguars Are Gallant Upon Anyway Roadway", Ron Stephenson, Kearney, Arizona.

"Jackrabbit Acceleration Generally Unleashes Alarming Repairs", Paul Allen, Cincinnati, Ohio.

"Juggle Accounts Greatly to Underwrite Another Repair", Linda Carey, Carrollton, Texas.

"Jaguar Autos Get Uncertain About Running", John Criswell, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

"Jaguars Are Great Under a Radiant Sky", J. D Boskos, Shavertown, Pennsylvania.

"Jags Are Greasy Underneath And Rust", Tom Charles, Shasta, California.

"Jaguars Are Guaranteed Unbeatable After Retrofit", Scott Dudley, APO, New York.

"Jaguar Ain't Going Until After Recovery", Greg Pierson, Santa Clara, California.

"Jazzy but Always Garaged Undergoing Additional Repairs", John McManus, Santa Barbara, California.

"Jags Are Great Using American Running Gear", James Deck, Lakewood, New Jersey.

"Just imagine Going withoUt Another Repair", Joseph Benjamin, Indian Harbor Beach, Florida.

"Jaguars Are Gems Under Acrylic Reflections", Richard Pearse, Greenville, Pennsylvania.

"Just Attempt Getting Usual Average Repairs", Ulo Pulles, Springfield, Virginia.

"Jewellike Auto Gives Unexcelled, Aristocratic Ride", Sherrill Hagenson, Lompoc, California.

"Just Another Greasy Unpleasant Afternoon Repair", Cyrus Faryan Hilo, Hawaii.

"John Always Gives Us Another Retrofit Special", Mike Newhouse, Colorado Springs, Colorado.

"Just As Great Using American Reliability", Ruth Rinker, Arlington, Virginia.

"Just Another Gigantic Unexpected Auto Repair", Holly Sanders, New York, New York.

Now for a very biased favorite from Hal Magida, New York, New York.

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YOUR GENERAL PLEASURE  
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CERTAINLY RESTORE YOUR CAR'S HEALTH

I hope y'all have enjoyed the contest as much as I have. We've certainly scratched our head on the deal and wondered how we could ever decide. I may do it again so now that you've missed the deadline send it in anyway and I'll keep it till next time. We hope that your New Year will be a happy one. See you next month.

John Radovich

P.S. We sell Jaguar Parts & Conversion Kits

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