Off-Side Undo Published by the English Motoring Club







Finally! Some contributions to the OFF SIDE UNDO.

I am pleased to include several items from club members in this issue. I hope this welcome trend will continue.

Keith Anderson in vintage race in Michigan by Keith Anderson

In order to "dice" with a number of other MG's this summer, I towed my MGA 1,140 miles to Waterford Hills Raceway near Detroit. My son Brian came along as my pit crew and we pulled the trailer with my trusty Aerostar van with 195,000 miles on the clock. It ran like a champ at 72 m.p.h. all the way up and back.

The tight, twisty track is set up for MG size cars. In fact, a British Mini-Moke, known as the "beach buggy from hell", was putting out 125 hp and was one of the fastest cars on the track. It was whipping the Trans Am cars, the formula cars, and sat on the tail of the two Ford GT 40s until a piston decided to see if the sun was shining.

I had a great time drifting through the turns side by side with other MGs and finished right in the middle of the group. We were all brothers in arms fighting each other during the race and helping each other tune and repair cars after each heat.

Unfortunately, one of my "brothers" got a little too close and my back end got a little crunched. We shook hands afterwards with the understanding that we were both having just too much fun.

I cracked awheel due to stress but caught it before it broke. Compression is a little

low in one cylinder, so it looks like I'll have some winter projects ahead. Pontiac Motors sponsored the race in conjunction with the Meadowbrook Hall Concours that took place. Meadowbrook is said to be the second most prestigious concours in the country and the quality of the cars there proved the point. All the officials were dressed in blue blazers and khaki trousers while the ladies were elegantly dressed and sipped champagne. MG was the featured margue at Meadowbrook and the world speed record MG "EX-181", driven by Stirling Moss and Phil Hill to 254 mph was brought over from England for the show.

Area British Car Show Round Up

There have been many car shows since the last issue of the OFFSIDE UNDO. I may have more complete stories in the future but my correspondents are not available at the present. Barbara has gone to Arkansas for a week on quilt activities and John Simmers is once again touring the country at tax payer expense.

Fairhope, Alabama

It rained!!!! Or at least there was typical English weather or maybe a hurricane. Any way it was a bit moist.

John Simmers was the only EMC member I know of who attended. Perhaps his Wellies are more water proof than those of most other members.

I have been there when it poured and still had a most agreeable time. We really should remember that our cars were built for a most damp environment and go on to shows even if there is a threat of rain.

Montgomery, Alabama

Is there a connection here? It rained and it rained in Montgomery a week later. The whole Cashman family trailered to Montgomery in the rain. We showed in the rain and we started the drive home in the rain. About 20 miles out of Montgomery the rain stopped and blue skies emerged.

We took the Armstrong Siddeley (Daphne) to the show and got a second place in our class and best of show. Simmers got a 1st in the MGB GT class. Barbara said that she now knows what it feels like to walk around in a field of turnip greens. Water was up over your shoes for most of the day.

Memphis, Tennessee

Who was that man in the RAF bomber jacket? Simmers and Florence left at THREE AYEM for the bounce to Memphis! Would you do that?

Again the Cashmans, Simmers, Wardell Conway, Dennis Loftin, Joe Speetjens, Wilbert and Jean Easom, Pres. Steve Collins were at the Memphis show.

Other "almost EMC" regulars were the Bill McNeelys, the Finches, Whittens, Johnsons and Halbauers.

Best of Show was awarded to the Halbauers SS1 tourer. What a car!

The weather was just about perfect and a good cross section of fine cars made for a great day. I guess the only down side was at the drawing for the TR4. The announcer mispronounced my name so badly that it sounded like Terry Jackson and not Pat Cashman. I tried but they would not draw again. Maybe next year. My daughter sure thought that she was going to drive home in a nice brg TR4. The fact that she can hardly drive a manual gearbox was no problem . She and mom would make the drive. Keith Anderson also sent along a list of British terms from "Sheldon" in California. Peter Egan had a few of these things a while back in Road & Track. I'll save a few for later and maybe some of you have a few to add to these from time to time.

HAMMER... Once employed as weapon of war, the hammer nowdays is used as a kind of divining rod to locate expensive car parts not far from the object we are trying to hit.

MECHANIC'S KNIFE...Used to open and slice through the contents of cardboard cartons delivered to your front door. Works particularly well on boxes containing convertible tops or tonneau covers.

ELECTRIC HAND DRILL...Normally used for spinning steel pop rivits in their holes until you die of old age, but it also works great for drilling rollbar mounting holes in the floor of a sports car just above the brake line that goes to the rear axle.

PLIERS...Used to round off bolt heads

HACKSAW...One of a family of cutting tools built on the Ouija board principle. It transforms human energy into a crooked, unpredictable motion and the more you attempt to influence its course, the more dismal your future becomes.

VICE GRIPS...Used to round of heads of bolts. If nothing else is available they can be used to transfer intense welding heat to the palm of your hand.

WHITWORTH SOCKETS...Once used for working on older British cars and motorcycles. They are now used mainly for hiding six month old Salems from the sort of person who would throw them away for no good reason.

TIMING LIGHT...A stroboscoscopic instrument for illuminating grease buildup.

Terry Trovato sent in these pictures from the Highland Games Show held last August in Jackson. We welcome any contributions!





TOP: Judge Alex Wade gets to the bottom of the matter. "Do these things really leak oil?" LEFT: Best of Show was awarded to Sue and Bob Mason's rare and resplendent MGB GT V8. BOTTOM: The Prince of Darkness strikes without warning! With the starter refusing to turn over and with Wardell Conway offering advice and counsel Pres. Steve Collins tries the old bypass the ignition trick.



ENGLISH MOTORING CLUB





EMC CHRISTMAS PARTY Saturday December 14

Home of Barbara and Pat Cashman. 237 McAuley Drive, Vicksburg. 638-3240. Take Exit 4-B Clay St. Turn right at 2nd light. One block turn left, go right at flashing light onto McAuley. Come at 4:00PM and bring a goodie to share.

NEW ORLEANS 7TH ANNUAL BRITISH CAR DAY FRIDAY-SAURDAY MARCH 21 & 22 Call Mike 504-466-2717.

Share the Hobby!

Get someone to join the EMC. We need new members to keep the club alive. If each club member would get one new member just think of the things we would be able to do.

Alex Wade has the information for new members. Contact him at 601-825-9611 or write to: 63 Willowbrook Lane, Brandon, MS 39042.

Do it today!

FOR SALE

1966 Mustang convertible, 289 auto, a/c,pony interior, GT package. Tom Cole 601-636-7728.

1963 MGB original, Meridian car. Bill May 601-679-8126.





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237 McAuley Drive Vicksburg, MS 39180



Alex & Tere Wade 63 Willowbrook Lane Brandon MS 39042-2