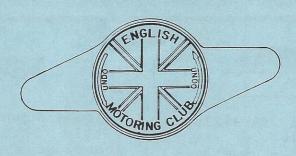
# Off-Side Undo







# ENGLISH MOTORING CLUB / CENTRAL MS VINTAGE TRIUMPH REGISTER

VOL. 9004

PO Box 5263 Jackson, MS 39236-5263

SEP

## THE EVENT OF THE YEAR!

COME ONE, COME ALL! THIS IS THE SHOW TO BE PRESENT FOR IN SEPTEMBER!
YOU'VE SEEN THE FLIERS AND READ ALL THE DETAILS,
NOW WE ONLY NEED TO SEE YOU WITH YOUR BRITISH IRON
ALL SPARKLY & SPIFFY ON SEPT 21 AND 22 FOR OUR ANNUAL

#### BRITISH CAR DAY IN JACKSON !

WITH ALREADY 25 CARS PRE-REGISTERED, AND ANOTHER 30 EXPECTED,
THIS PROMISED TO BE A GRAND TURN-OUT!
PRE-REGISTRATIONS ARE HELPFUL IN PLANNING & SETTING CLASSES,
AND THE HOSPITALITY EVENING FRIDAY AT THE BEST WESTERN
WILL BE A BLAST (ENTERTAINMENT, FOOD, & FUN)!

NOTE: I'M REMINDED BY THE JUDGES THAT ALL CARS SHOULD BE IN PLACE BY NOON FOR PROPER JUDGING! WE'LL BE SPOTTING CARS AS EARLY AS 10AM, SO COME ON OUT & HAVE A BALL!

ALSO NOTE: WE ARE ENCOURAGING YOU TO BRING ANY SPARE BRITISH CAR PARTS TO SELL OR BARTER AWAY! THERE IS A VINTAGE AUTOMOBILE SWAP MEET GOING ON AT THE SAME TIME, LET'S SHOW SOME ENGLISH SPIRIT!

#### **REGISTRATION FORM**

| NAME:     |             | PHONE:  |      |         |
|-----------|-------------|---------|------|---------|
| ADDRESS:  |             |         |      |         |
| CLUBS:    |             |         |      |         |
| VEHICLES  | TO REGISTER |         |      |         |
| (1st) YR: | MARE:       | MDL:    | FEE: | \$15.00 |
| (2nd) YR: | MARE:       | MDL:    | FEE: | \$5.00  |
| (3rd) YR: | MAKE:       | , MDJL: | FEE: | \$5.00  |

#### **GLASSY - PHIDES**

GARY MILLER, 746-7341 or 746-4622, has the following for sale:

- (3) AH BugEye Sprites one is ex-show winner (\$2750); one is solid with most parts (\$1150); one is sandblasted with most parts (\$750).
- (1) early Autodynamics Formula "V", much restoration already completed. \$2500 as is, \$5000 when completed.

(1) '79 MGB Roadster, beautifully race-modified & completely restored (\$6000).

(1) '72 Porsche 914, partially restored, all parts there. Body blasted, etched & epoxy-primed, engine/trans are good (\$2000).

(TONS) British car parts & Spridget engines!

ALL PRICES NEGOTIABLE!

Gary also knows of an ALLEN MOUNTAIN CLIMBER (is this a joke?) for sale, if you're interested!

Jerry Burns, 956-9733, has a TR6 for sale, call for details.

# FISH & CHIPS & SUN!

Talk about your typically Southern GOOD TIMES! Our Brighton Beach Party this last July held at Cashman's Place was FAB! The weather cooperated, the water invited, and Pat, Barbara & Crew PROVODED their famous English-style FISH & CHIPS. Lots of folks enjoyed a lazy afternoon by the pool, and Peel's TR3 was treated to a garden-hose variety radiator bath (too bad the hose wasn't 40 miles long, could have enjoyed a cooler trip home!).

### NEW MEMBER

Welcome Johnny & Perri Mann to our little Club! Some of you met Johnny at the Vicksburg Ralley, he will be bringing his MG-TD out to the September British Car Day!

#### **EDITOR'S LICENSE**

We must have been too much for the 60-year old MS River bridge during the May Vicksburg Trophy Ralley - the city closed it down just after our Ralley! With an 11-Ton weight limit, it must have been Bill & Shirley's blinding Morris speed that got it, not the combined weight of all our cars stacked up ahead of the CheckPoint waiting for the "proper" time to cross!

Anyone have a cure for a severely fatigued MG-TC clutch housing? Alex Wade's restoration hit a nasty slump when even skilled metal-workers turned down an offer to be local heros and repair all the hairline fractures! On a more positive note, the TR6 is looking really good, even with the wrong lower front shroud! Now if he can only find a bumper to match . . .

Got plenty of tickets left for the Memphis Show Car (1970 MGB, completely restored!). \$5 for 6 tickets, all proceeds go to charity!



The 7th Annual British Car Fest and Swap Meet Memphis, Tennessee

October 13, 1990

\$1.00 Admission — Proceeds go to the Variety Club Charities

## GRAND DOOR PRIZE



PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT VARIETY CLUB CHILDREN'S HOSPITALS



ALL BRITISH CARS WELCOME

# "Queen Victoria is in the Fuel Pump!" Are British Cars Possessed?

As I pondered what subject to address in my first (and quite possibly last) article for this illustrious newsletter, I realized that I can only discuss British cars and their "eccentricities" from the viewpoint of the passive observer. In light of this, I cannot give you long and involved mechanical humor. Nor can I amaze you with my knowledge of car histories and trivia. What I can do, however, is give you the view from the fringe of this insanity.

Being the child of one of the poor wretches known as English car owners (among other things they are often known as), I have had ample opportunity to ride in more than my share of British deathtraps. I have observed my father as he stopped for falling parts, watched strange things leak out of strange places, and came to the realization that what had not previously fallen off or leaked out was not working in the first place - or at least not in conjunction with the rest of the vehicle. I have therefore postulated a hypothesis that may explain these phenomenon that do not seem to manifest themselves in the average Mazda.

BRITISH CARS ARE POSSESSED.

It's the only logical answer, really. I'm not quite sure of the specifics, but I fancy it's a Spielburg type of thing with lots of mists and smoke and stuff. I'm also not quite

sure which spirits are involved. Perhaps the aura of that paragon of warmth, Queen Victoria. Perhaps the souls of the Zulus killed by the British at Roark's Drift during the Zulu Wars (quick allusion to an obscure historical fact to see if you're paying attention). Perhaps even a twist on A. Huxley's Brave New World, wherein "Oh Ford" becomes "Oh Healey", or something to that effect.

What exactly do these spirits do? Why, wreak havoc of course. Lure the poor unsuspecting owner into a false state of security, and then TAKE OVER. The person first spends money that he/she does not have in order to bring this monster home. This will in turn annoy the new owner's family, causing a deep "No one understands me" bond with the car. Soon the person is spending more time in the garage than the house and HE AND THE CAR BECOME ONE ENTITY! Symptoms can include using the children's college fund for the purchase of \$4,000 floor mats, sleeping with car parts, etc. It's kind of like Christine, except along with this comes British flags, gin, guinness, and funny outfits (which usually include some form of safari wear and/or a pith helment, the need for which I have yet to fathom).

The only real damage done is the indulgent looks from passersby as you motor down the road leaving clouds of smoke and trails of expensive parts. The fact that when you call Moss Motors, they recognize your voice. Noticing that sometimes the lips on your framed picture of the Queen move. Not such a big deal. There is but one way to exorcise these demons.

Buy a Volvo.

-ED NOTE - - I have it on best authority that the author of this gem 13 a young Simmers-person who shall remain un-named!

## LOCAL MEMBERS MAKE NATIONAL HONORS

Boy, are we please as punch! Local members have DONE GOOD at both the National MG and National Triumph meets held recently. Wilbur Easom & John Simmers copped honors with their MGB & MGB-GT's, and Steve Collins won a first in Concours with his TR6! I hope we can see some articles & pictures on these events and some interesting British-iron stories! Ask Steve about his trunk trim screws and radiator fins!

Contents: 100 percent Armadillo killed by British cars in quest of the coveted Empire Trophy through the highways and byways of Vicksburg, Miss., and surrounding Warren County. Armadillos selected include only the younger, juicier ones run over no more than once for your dining enjoyment.

**Serving Suggestion** 

Preheat oven to 375... remove claws with wire pliers (save claws for toothpicks) spread arms on tray...baste with barbeque sauce...heat until warm throughout. Serve with your favorite beverage and crackers.



#### THE SHORT SAD TALE OF JIM HEAGREN AND OTHER STORIES

If you follow "Throughbred and Classic Cars" Magazine you have probably been aware of Jim Heagren's rise to fame as the winner of the British National Concours and his subsequent fall from grace. It seems that Mr. Heagen, a driving instructor from Beckenham, Kent, won the overall first place award with his MGBGT V8. His award was a check for 1,000 pounds stirling and a painting by Michael Turner. Mr. Heagren became sort of a national hero with his picture and interviews in the major British Car magazines. At that time his story began to unfold and his world began to fall apart.

It appears that Mr. Heagren,s entire life, like the fireman in Penny Lane, was centered on keeping his motor clean and on one occasion he was stopped by the West Kent Constabulary for driving at 15 mph on the motorway. Mr. Heagren who was driving as slowly as possible to prevent water from splattering his (or rather the car's) undercarriage told the good officer that the car was overheating and he was forced to drive slowly until he reached the next exit.

This was the part of the tale that really loosed the cat among the pigeons. Apparently the magazines were deluged with letters decrying such behavior. In one editorial Tony Dron of Throughbred and Classic Cars, went so far in his indignation as to suggest that Mr. Heagren was a "demented custodian of a freak machine".

Apparently the Benson and Hedges National Concours will change its rules to require some road mileage during the event and Mr. Heagren will again be an anonymous driving instructor in Beckenham, Kent.

Is there a lesson in this for us? Perhaps. We have our own British Car Day to plan and this may be the best time to consider the advantages and disadvantages of the "people's choice" type of judging we have used for the last three years, and what we want to accomplish.

And now for something completely different; the British source of the Mazda Miata. "Throughbred and Classic Cars" May 1990 alleges that the Mazda Miata (or the MX-5 in the UK) is based on IAD Running Prototype V-705 built for Mazda by the International Automotive Design of Worthing, Sussex, UK. Inscrutable fellows, these Japanese, to add a British sports car to their product line.

John Simmers





English Motoring Club spo BOX 5263

