

THE OFF-SIDE UNDO



“A gentleman does not motor about after dark.”

Joseph Lucas

January 2024

TR6 RESTORATION PROGRESS

By Tom Brown

I bought the TR6 in December, 2022 from Joann Bailey. The car had been in storage in Port Gibson for 24 years. Scott, Keith, and I had to drag the car out of the barn. Keith's portable winch helped out greatly.

Once I got it home, I started by pulling the engine and transmission along with the finders, hood and trunk. Basically, stripping the car to a shell. I stripped the frame down to bare bones and had it sandblasted. The guy did an excellent job. Then, I primed the frame with acid etch primer, followed with Rustolem flat black paint. I then started back installing the suspension components. After the suspension was finished, I started on the engine, stayed with the standard bore, and found virtually no wear on cylinder walls. I had to replace the camshaft and lifters along with the crank and rod bearings. I had a valve job done with a new rocker shaft, all new guides and four new rockers. I went through the transmission with new gaskets, seals and o-rings. It took me three times watching Elen Yankov on Youtube to figure out how to install the lock out balls and pins on shifter shafts. Then came installing the engine, transmission, and exhaust back in the chassis.



Next step, Keith will be coming over and we will fire up the engine. More to come....

Official Publication of the English Motoring Club of Mississippi

Online at www.msemc.org/club-news/

Editor: Kelly Turner



What Was I Thinking? Not Clearly, For Sure

Part 3

By Richard Greene



Got a small break in the weather and decided to paint the trunk lid (Boot), the hood (Bonnet), and the outside of the rims that show when on the car. I added a catalysis hardener and some Japan Dryer to the paint and thinned with Acetone. Shot it with 30 PSI at the HVLP gun. While spraying the tack coat, I thought that the paint was coming out a little thick and next time

I will add a little more thinner depending the outside temp.

I set everything up in my yard and hoped that the wind and bugs would hold off. Even though I was outside I wore gloves and a respirator. I only mixed up about 30 ozs. of paint as I didn't want to waste any. Put down a tack coat and let it set up for about 10 minutes.



Followed up with three medium coats that I felt gave good coverage. I let it sit for about 2 hours outside and moved the pieces inside the garage at they felt touch dry. Upon closer examination, I only found one run and a couple of bugs that sacrificed their lives to test the tackiness of the paint. Since the paint was a little thick I experienced a slight orange peel. After completely drying, I should be able to block sand and correct any problems so far.

“Oh where, Oh where is my vacuum pump?”

DRIVE TO WESSON

By Charlie Durning

Neither rain nor sleet nor dark of night will detour MSEM members from going on a drive. Well it helps if none of that happens. Even though the weather forecast was dire, it never happened. Lucky for us. In all, 14 folks attended in 12 cars.

With great anticipation of a great drive to Wesson for lunch at Dumps BBQ and a visit to the Good Days Museum, all who attended gathered at the JR Food Mart in Florence. The best part is everyone gathered on time for the 10am departure.

The trek from Florence took us south on Hwy 469. The trick with Hwy 469 is that we had to make a right hand turn in Harrisville. Failing to do so, we would be on Hwy 540 to Mendenhall. As luck would have it, all made the turn. Hwy 469 is a fun road with sweeping turns and changes in elevation.

At the intersection of Hwy 469 and Hwy 28, we made a right turn and headed for Hazlehurst for our next turn on to Hwy 51. From there it was free sailing all the way to Wesson. Once we got to the stop sign in Wesson, it was a left turn to Dumps BBQ. The amazing part in all of this is no one got lost.



The folks at Dumps BBQ were braced for our arrival. Wisely, we were seated in the back room so we would not disturb the other customers. The service was great and the food was yummy. Once our lunch was devoured, Paul decided that he needed to get a Moon Pie Delight. A Moon Pie Delight is a moon pie with ice cream, whip cream and who knows what else piled on top. Needless to say, Paul only made it half way through before he called it quits.

Next on tap, was a drive to the Good Ole Days Museum. Currently, this is the only automobile museum, open to the public, in Mississippi. Getting there is a bit of a challenge since 2 of the intersections are not marked. In spite of that, and GPS, we made it anyway.

Brian and Mandy King have put together a nice collection of cars and artifacts. The collection focuses mainly on the Ford Model T. Kirk Hill, a co-conspirator in the collection, was on hand for conversation and answering questions. Kirk is Mississippi's Ford Model T whisperer. If he doesn't know it, then nobody does.

An interesting car in the collection is a 1919 Dodge Brothers truck. That truck is incredibly rare. It was interesting to notice to see the differences in build and design quality between the Dodge and its contemporary Model T.

In the end, we all found our own ways home. Many thanks to the folks at Dumps BBQ, and Brian & Mandy King for a day well spent.

Images captured by Martha Johnston, Dominic La Valla, and Charlie Durning







JUST MY LUCK!

By Richard Greene



A couple of weekends ago, I attended a garage tour and took the Elise. The tour was great and I had a great time. As I was returning home I decided to stop at the local Kroger's to pick up a prescription that was ready for me. As I was only going to be about 15 minutes to get the prescription, I parked as far from any other cars in the lot as I could. Got the prescription and headed home. Put the car in the garage and called it a day.

The next day I went to the garage to cover the car and hook up the battery tender. As I was doing this I noticed to my great dismay a hole and crack in the rear shell of the car. Apparently someone backed into the car while I was in the store and left without leaving a note. To me it looked like someone with a trailer hitch backed into the car and punctured a hole through the shell and also caused a stress crack. Bummer!

Using my best sailor vocabulary I summon a curse of epic proportions upon the miscreant that did the foul deed. What made this more ingenious is that this is not the first time this had happened. I have this happen on at least three occasions in the past, but only twice to the Elise. The other time to the Elise there were actually a witnesses to the accident. Turned out to not be much help. I was only told that it "was a woman in a white Ford F-150 pick-up." She hit the Elise, got out of her truck to look and then sped off.

Knowing how the composite rear clam is prone to continue cracking from the stress, I quickly reinforced the back of the damage and filled with fiber fill (angel hair) to prevent the damage from spreading. I then primed it for now and waited for warmer weather. I had to order the paint from Lotus to get a match, as the local paint shops were not much help in get a matching paint.



After about a week and a half, the paint and clear coat arrived and I was ready to continue with the repair. Now all I needed was a couple warm days with low humidity to continue. Yes I said humility, not humidity! Although that is important too.

I did more fill, sanded, primed and masked the rear for the paint. I then applied a light gray primer and 5 light coats of finish paint. I blended out the paint the best I could as the paint is metallic and I find it tough to match. I let it dry overnight and then shot two medium coats of clear coat. I will let the clear dry for at least a couple of day before I block sand and polish.



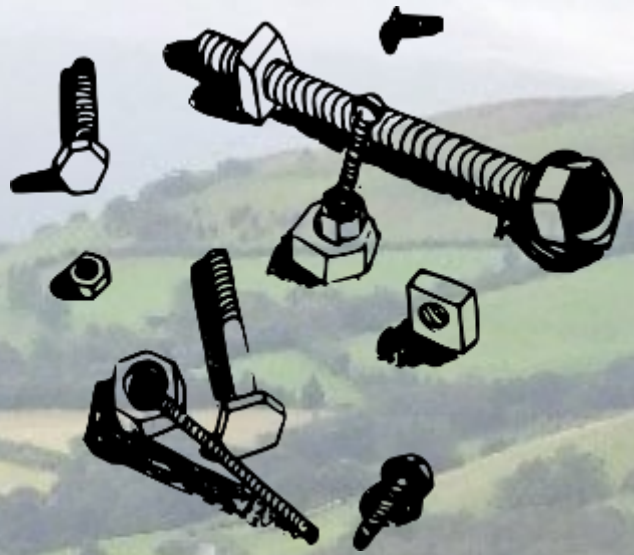
The finished repair came out great. I only have to block sand the clear coat and polish. After a little wax the repair will be undetectable to most eyes.

Now if I could only find the lowlife who hit the car and left.



FAIRHOPE 2023

Several of the EMC's members made a trip to the annual Fairhope show in mid-October, and came back with awards to show off all the TLC put into their LBCs. Among those who travelled were Mike and Alice Gloré, Gene and Martha Johnston, Charlie Durning, and Clay and Debbie Johnston. Gene placed first in the MGB GT Class and Charlie won second place in the MGB GT Class.





PAYING FOR EVERYBODY'S PLATES?

BY Pat Cashman

So, you have a Mississippi antique plate on your LBC? Do you think that that number is yours and yours alone? Well, think again.

I have received two invoices for alleged violations of toll roads on the Miami-Dade Expressway in the past year. That would not be an issue, but neither I nor my two cars were in Florida on the dates of either violation. How can that be you might ask? Well, after two days of almost useless calls to Florida, I was finally told that the plate in the first violation was a Mississippi new car dealer plate. Well, "I said, "let me send you a picture of my car and plate to show you that you are wrong." "No," said the representative, "I have picture of your car and plate." "No," I said. Well, after much talk she said I still owed the fine, which was climbing since I did not pay the first bill. I went to the MS Department of Revenue in Clinton, housed in the old World Comm building. As I approached the window, invoice in hand, the clerk said "Give it to me. We do this every week." The second time, a different staff was not so helpful, but said it would be investigated. No more bills from Florida, so I guess I may be cleared.

It seems that Mississippi has decided that two cars can have a plate with the same numbers. And the state says that a taxpayer has no right to know which dealer has a plate with identical numbers as an antique plate on another car. Sounds right to you? Nor me either. I asked our Sheriff to run the numbers involved and only my plate comes up. The new dealer plate does not appear in the system. So the antique tags on my TR6 and Lotus Europa are the same numbers as two MS new car dealer plates. Both of my plates have 6 numbers. I have six other 6 digit plates so I could get tickets on all six of those cars.

I talked with my state representative and told him about this. He was not aware of any of this. I told him that this was a stupid policy and he agreed. He is "looking into" the matter. Three weeks and I have heard nothing. So if you have a 6 digit MS antique plate, beware. You just may be a Florida outlaw. Talk to your state Representative or Senator and see if you can get an answer to this what is to me a stupid policy.

DECEMBER 2023 MEETING

We were happy to host the annual English Motoring Club Holiday Party on December 2 as the last days of 2023 continue to fly by! The weather was dreary and a little chilly, but 17 members showed up to celebrate. It was great to see everyone, and the pot luck is always great. And yes, the kitchen remodel is finished! Unfortunately, there was no tech session this year as the workshop doesn't have power for now and the rain prevented having it outdoors.

As always, we hosted but this was truly a group effort. Thank you for the opportunity and we hope to see everyone back in Clinton on Saturday, December 7, 2024!

- Jennifer and Will Duncan





IDE 393H

NUTS & BOLTS

By Keith Anderson

Brian Anderson rebuilt the engine on Milton Franklin's '69 Jaguar E-Type.

Now he's ready to replace the inboard brakes on the rear end and install a 3.07 ring/pinion gear assembly for lower rpm's on the highway.

We look forward to seeing Milton and his Jag at Brits on the Bluff again this fall.



2024 Dues Are Due!

Annual dues have been increased to \$30. They can be paid to Stephen Turner at the annual Barry's meeting on January 20, 2024 or mailed to him at the following address:

104 Southpark Dr.
Vicksburg, MS
39180

Make checks payable to English Motoring Club. If you have any questions or changes to information, please send him an email at stephendturner89@gmail.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 20, 2024 – EMC 2023 Awards & 2024 Kick-Off / Florence, MS – The EMC will be meeting at Barry's Seafood at 11:30 am for our annual Business Meeting and Awards Banquet. Barry's is located at 2942 US 49 in Florence, MS. We will be discussing future events for 2024. Your input is requested. We are always looking for someone to lead a drive along the roads less traveled to some out-of-the-way place for lunch. Additionally, there will be awards! An award can be given to anyone for anything. Of course, there are the perpetual awards. For those who have a perpetual award, we will see who gets them next. The EMC's Eager Beaver will be looking for a new home, so it's recommended that you are present to ensure The Beav goes to a deserving new home. So, make plans to join us for a good time of conversation, good food, and some fun. Hope to see you all there. Details: John Turbeville (601) 940-5288, Charlie Durning (601) 668-7909.

English Motoring Club

Membership Application (\$30 per Year)

Calendar Year 202__

Name(s) _____

Mail Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Best Phone _____

E-mail _____

Vehicle inventory (optional). Please indicate condition: a) drivable b) project c) parts car

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 5. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 7. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 8. _____ |

Please indicate areas you would like to offer active assistance in club functions.

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Newsletter _____ | 4. Membership _____ |
| 2. Technical _____ | 5. Special events _____ |
| 3. Annual car show _____ | 6. Drives and Tours _____ |

Annual Dues of \$30.00 are due in January of each year. This amount includes your annual subscription to *The British Marque*.

Make checks payable to: English Motoring Club

**Remittance address: EMC of MS
c/o Stephen Turner
104 SouthPark Drive
Vicksburg MS 39180**