

# WYRES AND TYRES



PUBLISHED FOR BRITISH CAR ENTHUSIASTS BY THE BRITISH SPORTS CAR CLUB OF MEMPHIS LTD.

BY SHERRY ALEXANDER  
EDITOR

## OVERSTEER/UNDERSTEER

The big news is we have a car to restore for our annual project. It's a 1970 MGB that the club restored several years ago. The car has been sitting in the last owner's backyard so it'll need some work. The plan now is to house the car at Anderson-Hadskey. We'll have more details later. ■ Don't forget that our general membership meetings are held the 3rd Monday of each month a 7:30 p.m. at Leonard's BBQ on Fox Plaza Drive. Everyone is welcome. There's a lot going on, and we need input from every member. Come early and eat or just come for the meeting. Remember this is not just an MG club or Triumph club or a Germantown club or a Bartlett club. Come get involved and have some fun with us. ■ There's also an activity each month sponsored by a particular marque. January's outing to Jackson was considered a club event, but the other months and their marques are: February-Triumph; March-MG; April-Austin-Healey; August-Jaguar; September-MG; October-Car Fest (no event); November-Jaguar; December-Club event. I'm sure the marque leaders would appreciate any help in planning or putting on their event. ■

JANUARY CLUB EVENT

BY SHERRY ALEXANDER

## ON THE ROAD AGAIN.

On Saturday morning, January 25, the Memphis British Sports Car Club hit the road for an outing to Jackson, TN, the home of the legendary Casey Jones. The wind was quite brisk (almost blew a few of us off the road), but the sun was shining as we gathered at the new Target store just east of Germantown. It looked like it was going to be a meeting of the Red British Sports Car Club until John Henry drove up in his white Triumph. One car in particular - a Rolls Royce belonging to Chris Ryan - caused quite a stir. Now that's a lot of automobile! We were especially glad that a new club member, Page Sutton in his TR7, made the trip with us.

We finally got everyone cranked up around 11:00, and 12 red cars with John Henry's white car in the lead and Jack's black B somewhere in the sea of red headed out toward Jackson. As fate would have it though, we only made it a mile or so past Collierville when Jack and Janey Reynolds had some mechanical trouble in their MGB and decided to turn back. The rest of us headed out Highway 57 through Moscow and LaGrange. I really enjoyed seeing the beautiful antebellum homes as we cruised by. The scenic tour took us on Highway 18 through the Bolivar town square and past the courthouse. As we approached Jackson, the coun-

tryside became rolling hills and was really very picturesque.

The caravan managed to stay together all the way to the parking lot of the Old Country Store Restaurant in Jackson. We were more than ready to eat by the time we made it to the buffet. After some good food and fellowship, we had time to browse around the gift shop before walking over to the Casey Jones Museum which is housed in his former home. Several of us took the time to watch a video about this local legend before touring the museum. We all - especially the kids - had fun clamoring around the old steam engine located behind the house.

We finally headed back to Memphis on I-40. I think the most amazing sight of the day was Ewing Haley in the hot-rod Cooper truck of his passing our MGB on the way home. I don't know how those tiny little wheels can turn so fast!

Needless to say, we were all worn out by the time we got home, but it was a perfect day to be on the road again. ■

**THE EMPIRE TROPHY  
RALLY IS JUST AROUND  
THE BEND. WATCH FOR  
UPCOMING ADDITIONAL  
INFORMATION.**

JANUARY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

BY SHERRY ALEXANDER

FIRST GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING OF 1992.

The first general membership meeting of 1992 was held on Monday night, January 20, at Leonard's BBQ on Fox Plaza Drive. Our new president, John Henry, presided over the meeting. Treasurer Jack Reynolds informed us that we had \$5122.97 in the treasury. Jack also reminded us that it's time to pay our \$20 annual dues. We decided to offer an associate membership with \$10 dues for those folks who live 50 miles or more away and can't benefit from many of our

club activities. The membership does include receiving a newsletter, and a membership directory will be sent upon request. We can thank Joey Knecht for the terrific decals that will be sent to members when they pay their dues this year.

There was some discussion about whether or not to restore another British car to raise money for donation to the Variety Club Charities. The club voted in favor of continuing the tradition. We also talked about

the ways we publicize the car and how the Variety Club can help. For example, our club may want to discontinue the booth at the Mid-South Fair since it is so costly and time consuming for members, or we could give the responsibility of manning the booth to the Variety Club members.

John Henry also announced that our club Car Fest will most likely take place on October 10 at last year's location across from the Holiday Inn at Sycamore View and I-40. The club voted to honor the Austin-Healey marque at this year's fest.

We also talked about what kind of activities we want to plan for this year. There seemed to be a lot of interest in bringing back the "garage crawl" again. Tom Bedenbaugh gave an explanation for those of you who are new to the club like me and don't know just what a garage crawl might be. Tom recalled that at the last crawl members (all male) visited his garage along with several others to see mechanics in action while enjoying various refreshments (mostly Liquid!). The ladies pursued their own interests at a local restaurant. It seems that all had a good time. There was also some discussion about a new activity - challenging another club to a cricket match. OK, who knows how to play cricket?

Make plans to attend the next meeting and get in on the fun. ■

TRIUMPH MARQUE FEBRUARY EVENT

BY BILL CRAVENS

"FLY LIKE A EAGLE" TO REELFOOT LAKE.

As the great country singer Little Jimmy Dickens says "May the Bird of Paradise Fly Up Your Nose". Well, maybe we don't want that to happen but let's get our British beauties warmed up and come on to the Triumph Marque Event on Sunday, February 23. We will meet at 9:00 am at Christian Brothers High School to start our journey to Reelfoot Lake, about 90 miles due north from Memphis.

In case you have not become acquainted with Reelfoot Lake State Park, it is located in the northwest corner of Tennessee and it is a very beautiful park. The Lake encompasses 25,000 acres and has many types of birds, wildlife, but most important many bald eagles. History records that Reelfoot was created by the great New Madrid (may home-

town) Earthquake in 1811-12. A great sunken area was filled with water from the Mississippi and Reelfoot Lake was born.

When we arrive at Reelfoot Lake we will have lunch at Boyette's Restaurant there on the lake. Believe me this place has some good food. After lunch we will head to the Airpark Inn Pier to observe the eagles and waterfowl through telescopes. (please bring your field glasses if you have a pair). After spying on these beautiful bald eagles we might just take a ride around the lake to enjoy its beauty.

So if you're a bird watcher or just looking for an excuse to get out your British car and visit with old friends and eat good food come on down and let's head out on the highway. ■

NEW MEMBERS

NONE

ARTICLE FROM OUT THE PAST

BY ? SUBMITTED BY SKIP HARRIS

“WOTTERYER CALLIT, HUH?”

*[This quaint (and clearly, old little piece is taken from the October 1981, issue of Abingdon Classics, an MG-enthusiast's publication, now, presumably, defunct. It was supplied to them by the American Branch of the M.G. Car Club.]*

Dear Sir (or Madam):

Here are the answers to all your questions. It is not that I am a rude sort of cuss, but only that I am so sick of answering the same queries again and again and again.

I am glad you ask them, of course. The fact that you can find enough energy in this lackadaisical civilization of ours to grind down the window of that funny looking tin box you call your automobile, and lean out (well, you stick your chin over the window-sill, anyway) to ask questions, is encouraging. You, at least, must feel, however faintly, that a car can be something besides a rolling arm-chair, and that is a happy idea.

The fact that most of the time I cannot understand you, despite being a native American just like you, does no prevent my knowing through bitter experience, just what are all the things you want to know. By the way, I cannot understand you because instead of clearly saying (politely albeit firmly): “Please, sir, what is the make of your automobile?”, you invariably mumble something like: “Hey bud, whuzzit?” or “How fas’lliitgo, eh Mac?” Well, to get back to business, the question you usually ask first is:

“Wotteryer callit, huh?” or “D’jer make ’er yerself, Jack?” And an answer is: “This is an M.G. car. Both engine and chassis were made by the same factory, which is the M.G. Car Co.

If I don’t solve a lot of new riddles that will now trouble you, I shall be due for another barrage of questions. Principal among them will be: “What does M.G. stand for?” Well, M.G. doesn’t stand for anything nowadays. M.G. is a name like A.C. is a name for a well-known brand of spark plugs. Lots of foreign cars have letters for names. Yes, it is a foreign car, and it is made in England. Yes, England is near Europe.

Now, of course, you will want to know how many cylinders the engine has and how fast it goes. It is a four or six cylinder with overhead valves driven through rocker arms or by overhead camshaft(s). It has two carburetors to give better distribution of fuel. The motor turns over very rapidly, attaining about 5,000 rpm with great ease in the gears, and giving a maximum road speed of a least 80 mph (90 on your speedometer). It runs about 30 miles on a gallon of gas.

At this point you will say with feeling: “I wouldn’t want to drive it any eighty.”

The proper comeback to that should be. “Don’t worry, my friend, I wouldn’t let you try.”

But I shall only close by saying: “De gustibus non est disputandum, my dear sir (or madam).”

ADDENDA

Every now and then an original soul asks a new question. Here are a few assorted answers to fill in any gaps:

- 1) No, it does NOT burn fuel oil;
- 2) No, it is not a crime to drive a car from the wrong side;
- 3) Yes, it is what foreigners call a sports-car. It is designed to go from here to there faster than you can, and, what is more important, a lot more safely;
- 4) It costs about \$1500 delivered in Long Island City, N.Y., and if you want to buy one, you can get it from G.C. Rand, Inc. I won’t give you the address, or you will think this is an ad.
- 5) No, of course I know you would refuse to accept initials for a name, so here are some names to fit M.G. Take your choice: 1) Maurice Ginsberg 2) Monkey Glands 3) Mighty Good. “Safety Fast”

*This article was submitted to Wyres and Tyres by your friends at rpmGroup of Benton, Arkansas.*

**DUES ARE NOW DUE.**  
**IF YOU WANT TO CONTINUE RECEIVING THIS HIGHLY TREASURED PUBLICATION, PLEASE PAY QUICKLY SO YOU WILL NOT MISS OUT ON ONE SINGLE ISSUE.**

**We are still offering fame and fortune for all articles on British car stories or related adventures. Be the first on your block to be published in a nationally read publication. Please submit all articles to the Wyres and Tyres main office or call Sherry Alexander at 753-8929**

# WANTS AND GOTS

## WANTS.

Triumph GT6 Mark III. Call Bill Cravens at (901) 683-7195. Or Triumph Stag.

## GOTS

1935 MGPA, excellent condition, red, complete. Call Charles Coleman at 754-3240

Overdrive transmission for early MGB. Call Bill Ham at 346-1550.

1952 MGTD, excellent condition Call Rob Kamery at 454-1932 (H) or 722-0414 (B)

1979 MGB, 16,000 miles, air conditioned, never been rained on, trophy winner at 1990 Memphis show. Best offer over \$9,000. Call Jim Duncan, Birmingham, AL at (205) 323-6161 (B) or (205) 323-0563 (H)

1956 MGA Roadster, looks good, runs good. Exterior #5, Interior #8. Manuals, extra parts, plus parts car. Same owner 20 years. \$4000. Call Bill Lockett, Jr., Clarksdale, Mississippi, Memphis phone (901) 763-7800 (day), (601) 627-1728.

1951 MGTD, Excellent condition, Call Jimmy Jones (901) 345-2786

**YES ITS FOR SALE!** 1964 Mini Pickup - Superior condition, Red, Rokee dash, flares, cosmetics, a real head turner and it's quick. All for under \$100,000. Actually \$7,900. Call Eyring Haley at 755-4486.

1951 MGTD, Red/tan leather interior, cloth top and tonneau cover, never any rust or rot or many first place trophies, Memphis, Kansas City, Tulsa etc. Frame off restoration 150 miles ago \$22,500 Call Mike Elliott at (501) 646-5006 Fort Smith, Arkansas

1974 1/2 MGB Roadster, First place winner in New Orleans, Memphis since restoration completed April 1991, Harvest Gold w/black top, interior & wide stripes Very original except engine chrome. \$7900. Call Mike Elliott at (501) 646-5006 Fort Smith, Arkansas

All classified ads will continue to be published until we hear from the person who placed the ad or until the space is needed for first run ads. For additional ads or to cancel please call Sherry Alexander at 753-8929.

# CLUB CALENDAR

**February 17, 1992**  
General Membership Meeting  
Leonard's Lean Ribs  
on Fox Plaza Drive at 7:30 p.m.

**February 23, 1992**  
Triumph Marque Event  
(See article on page 2.)

**May 1-3, 1992**  
1992 Empire Trophy Rally  
Vicksburg, Mississippi  
For more information call  
Pat Cashman at (601) 638-32450 (H)  
or (601) 636-4545 (W)  
John Simmers at (601) 638-0986

**May 2, 1992**  
British Car Gathering  
Maryville, Tennessee  
For more information call  
Carolyn Henricksen  
at 615/984-8711.

**May 16, 1992**  
New Orleans Car Show  
(More Information to Come)



6090 QUINCE ROAD

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