

THE TUCSON BRITISH CAR



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Technical tips are for informational purposes only.

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REGISTER

June 2020

Volume 26 Number 6

No Parking Lot, but TBCR Café Continues

Every Tuesday TBCR Brit Café is on Zoom.

This is a 30-40 minute Zoom get together open to any TBCR member. Usually starts at 7am and occasionally a second one at 8:30am. Contact John tucsonbritish@gmail.com for a personal invitation, or watch for weekly email announcements from TBCR.

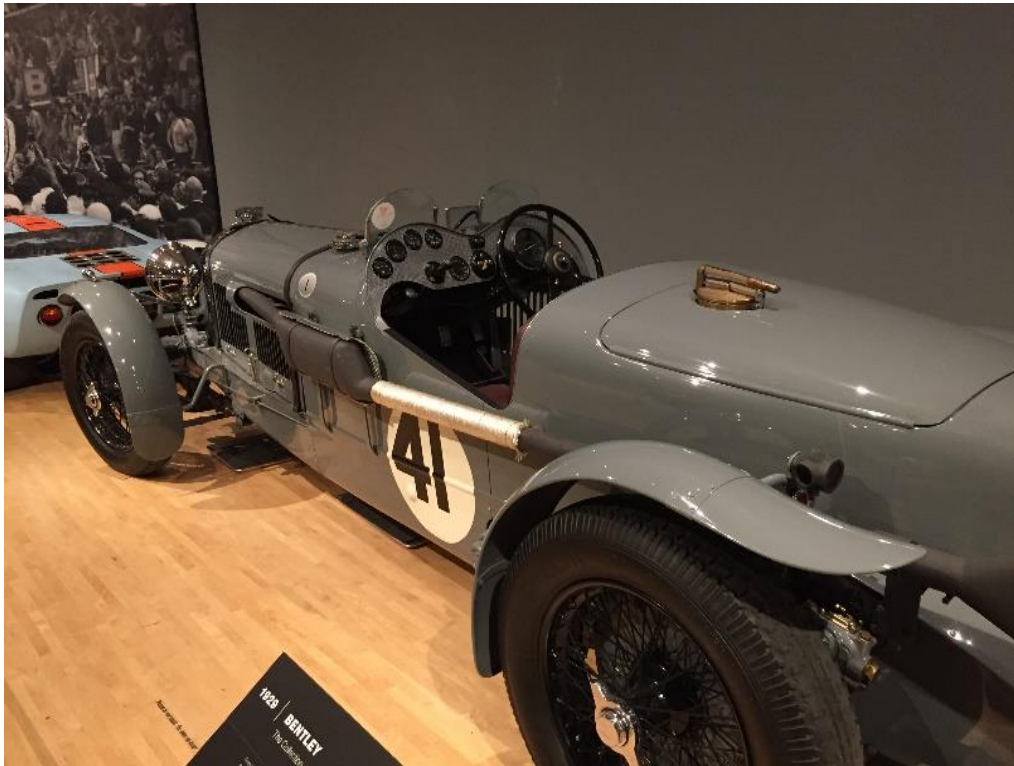
So you might ask what happens at a virtual Brit Café? First of all it's a chance to see a few familiar faces and some familiar or unfamiliar backgrounds. There are the occasional car parts to look at, car problems to be discussed and best of all, some good stories. Here's a fun memory from Libby. Her mother recently found a picture of Libby and her first car, from 1990. What neither Libby nor her mother noticed until looking again was how much oil was possibly leaking out of the car! Do you have a picture of your first car, or a favorite car from past days?



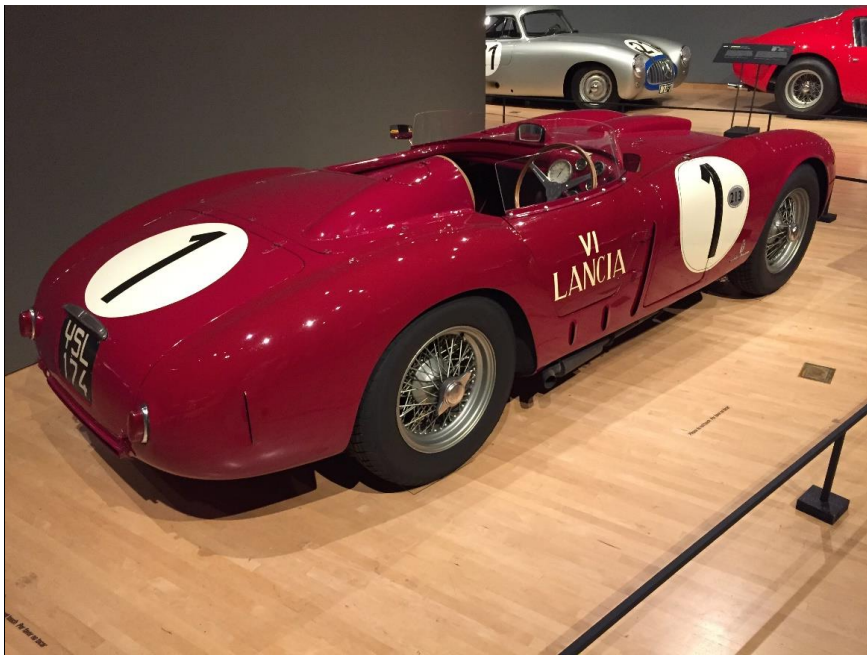
Join us on Tuesday and tell us about that long lost car. If you have trouble getting into the Zoom meeting let me know. I guarantee sympathetic, if sometimes useless advice. --- John, aka the Ed.

Legends of Speed at the Phoenix Art Museum

The following pages are pictures from the last winter's *Legends of Speed* exhibit at the Phoenix Museum of Art. Twenty or so historic racers were brought together from all over the world. They represented the best across racing disciplines and time. It was rather overwhelming and I tried to study the cars and not just take pictures so these photos don't offer a comprehensive look. By the way, these were not examples of winning car types, they were the cars raced. Among the cars not shown here include Andretti's F1 world championship Lotus in Players livery and Foyt's first Indy winning Watson roadster. —*John Mead*



Bentley



Lancia

Events Calendar

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TBCR Website
<http://www.tucsonbritish.com>

Photos:
Libby, John, Marc

The Tucson Classics Car Show is accepting registrations.
SATURDAY October 17 Gregory School
3231 N. Craycroft Rd., Tucson, AZ 85712

Enter online at

<http://www.RotaryTCCS.com>

British Wheels on the Green

November 20 Peoria, AZ

Registration opens this summer.

TBCR Drives and BritCar Café

TBCR events will resume when possible. Watch the *Register* and email announcements.

More Legends of Speed

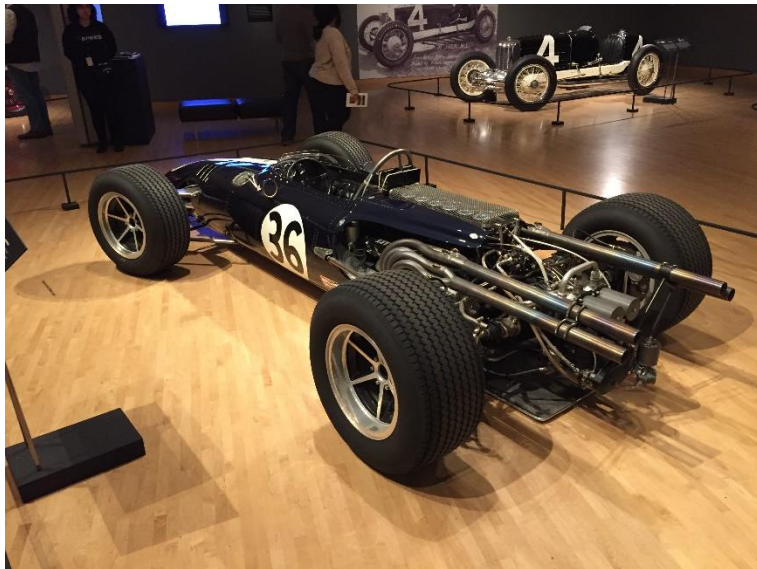


Jaguar

Le Mans Benz and



Legends of Speed continued



Ok, I'm an open wheel fan, but I'm restraining myself and only showing you three...Gurney F1 Eagle, a Ferrari and Jim Clark's Lotus Type 38 Indy winner.



Member Chat

Whitworth.....how I hated that word when working on my '65 Sunbeam Alpine. I would no sooner get into a project, especially in the brake system and find I didn't have a socket or an "open end" that would fit a particular bolt or nut. I would then try using the closest socket or "open end" and do a nice job of rounding the edges of the bolt/nut and finish off with a hammer after getting mad and swearing I need to sell the "damn thing". After doing this more than once, I brought this up to our club and when I explained the problem, I got smiles and this word "Whitworth" came up.



I looked it up when I went home and sure enough, it was another manufacturing standard that was used in British industry. I, of course, didn't have tools matching this standard, so Ebay was nice enough to charge me international shipping rates along with a set of sockets and "open ends" that I found in England.

So what is the Whitworth standard? It seems to have been developed by Joseph Whitworth during the height of the Industrial Revolution in England during the early 19th century. While still young, Whitworth became an elite among British mechanics, working alongside people like James Nasmyth, inventor of the steam powered hammer. Whitworth is reputed to be the first machinist to measure in tolerances of a thousandth of an inch. He was also among the first to recognize that manufacturing could be speeded exponentially if fasteners were machined to specific standard.

All of you who have restored a British car ought to be able to guess what's coming next. In 1840, Whitworth invented a screw cutter that ground threads at a 55-degree angle with a pitch that varied according to the screw's diameter. The following year, the Crown standardized it for British manufacturing, creating the British Standard Whitworth for screws, widely used today. So, those of us who have rounded out our bolts/nuts when working on our British cars can thank Mr. Whitworth for adding another standard along with our metric and imperial standards that at time seems to be mixed up throughout these little cars.

Marc Koenig
'65 Sunbeam Alpine

From the Archives from MG-T to TBCR

This column followed by one month Bob Walker's history (see last month's *Register*). See the next page for the first TBCR newsletter (still called the *Desert Octagon*).



DESERT OCTAGON

NEWSLETTER OF THE TUCSON MG-T REGISTER



JULY, 1998

VOL. IV, NO. 7

STATE OF THE UNION JACK . . .

As we go to press this month we celebrate another changing of the seasons. Summer has officially arrived! We knew it was coming though, when we began to experience temperatures in the high 90's and low 100's. The evenings have been wonderful with temperatures dropping into the low 70's and 80's. Just perfect for cruising with the wind in our hair and views of the surrounding mountains painted by our spectacular sunsets. As the sun hides itself over the western horizon, the city comes alive with millions of sparkling lights and it's almost like Christmas. If you haven't taken your car out for an evening spin, I highly recommend the experience this time of year.

At our last board meeting the subject of our club name was brought up for discussion. We looked at the vehicles represented, the population of the members in relation to vehicles and several other side items. After much discussion and debate the board voted to recommend a name change which would reflect the all encompassing membership of the club. It was even recognized that even though we are an all British car club, our name "The Tucson MG-T Register" has significantly limited our growth. We are seen as a "T" series club and other British marque owners exclude themselves arbitrarily. Only when a prospective member with other than a "T" has direct contact with an existing club member who is aggressively recruiting that prospect, are they able to explain that we are an all inclusive British car club. Then we stand a good chance of having that prospect join.

Last month one of the three founding members, Bob Walker, wrote an article for the *Desert Octagon* entitled "In The Beginning." I would like to quote from Bob's words: "With the passage of time, people's interests and goals change - they relocate and others take their places. Our club has endured many changes and has made others in order to adapt and

survive. In growing, we have taken the good of the past and combined it with new ideas and direction creating a more durable and interesting car club - one that members can be proud of."

The number of members that we have in our club is an essential to our success as a club. The higher the membership the greater will be our potential for success and endurance. It is through our members that everything gets done. The volunteer efforts of those who are able to commit time and effort is what gives us such things as "Breakfast Runs," "Tech Sessions," "Rallies," "Mini-GoFs," "Pot-Lucks" and, all important, the *Desert Octagon*. In addition, our officers come from our membership. It is a simple fact, research has proven that 5% of the people do 95% of the work! With a larger membership roster of multi-talented people we will have more people able to assume positions of responsibility and take the club into the next century.

The recommendation of the board to change the name from the Tucson MG-T Register to the Tucson British Car Register was brought to the floor for discussion at the general membership meeting. After much discussion, a motion was made to call the question. The vote was unanimously in favor. The motion was amended and restated to change the name to the Tucson British Car Register effective August 1, 1998. The motion carried almost unanimously. All club documents in the future will reflect the new name as well as "formerly the Tucson MG-T Register" for a period of one year. All bank accounts will be changed to reflect our new name. In addition, clubs in other areas and NAMGBR will be notified that our name is officially changed.

Don't forget our next meeting at Bryson's M.G.B. British Auto Parts on July 13th, see you there. *Safety Fast!*

- Gary Cipponeri
President

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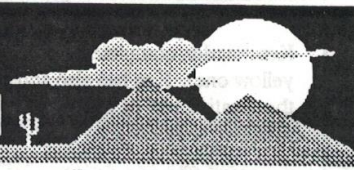


North American MGB Register

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FROM OTHER CLUBS . . .

- July 5 - 9 GoF WEST '98, Monterey, California for information call (510) 881-1014 (eve) or (510) 395-2130 (eve).
- July 8 - 12 MG '98, Hagerstown MD, NAMGBR 7th Annual North American MGB Register Convention, (410) 461-5888.
- July 12 TEDDY BEAR RUN & TOUR, call (619)746-9028.

(Cont'd on Page 5)



STATE OF THE UNION JACK . . .

As most of you know, I gave a 1978 MGB to Matthew McCurdy. Matt is the son of Mark McCurdy, a missionary pilot who flies in Mexico. We have been family friends since Matt was a baby.

The car was a stripped-out chassis and I offered to collect all of the necessary parts from my stash of to re-assemble it into a running vehicle. Matt and his Dad decided that since it was stripped so far already that we should do a complete restoration. The task is not that difficult if you are doing it over an extended period of time, however, we are trying to complete the whole restoration by August 10th. We are almost finished with the mechanical and Mark, a former body shop owner, is working on the body. The last few weeks have been almost a blur, with out of town visitors, personal responsibilities, club responsibilities, Ken Fogden's clutch replacement in his grandson's "B", Matt's restoration, Carl Morgan's overdrive/electrical problem on his "B", the on-going restoration on Bill Schober's '64 Sprite, Warren Lee's carb problems and the daily responsibilities of our real estate business. We have been getting up at the crack of dawn and working until after dark almost every day on Matt's car. I know it will be worth it when I see the completed project.

Glenn Bryson at M.G.B. British Auto Parts is providing T-shirts with our new name and logo to all members and spouses. This is a one time offer. To pick up your new shirts you must stop by M.G.B. during normal business hours or come to the next meeting. We have agreed to let M.G.B. market these shirts after all members have received them. The shirts will be available to new members at a discount. Contact Glenn for details.

Our next meeting is August 11th at M.G.B., that's the second Tuesday of the month in case you forgot. Until then - *Safely Fast!*

- GARY CIPPONERI
President

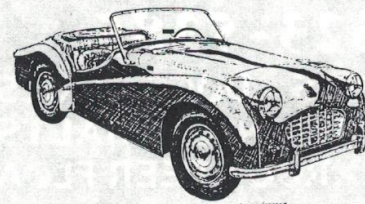
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North American MGB Register

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FROM OTHER CLUBS . . .

- August 7,8,9 ROADSTER FACTORY SUMMER PARTY '98, Armagh, Pennsylvania - (800) 234-1104.
- August 8 BULLFIGHT & FIESTA - Tijuana, call (619)746-9028.
- August 8 POMONA SWAP MEET at the Fairplex, call (714)544-7004 or (714)832-2041
- August 14-16 VINTAGE AUTO RACING ASSOC/ HISTORIC AUTO RACING EVENTS, Monterey CA, 1-800-327-SECA
- August 15-21 GOLDEN JUBILEE SPEED WEEK, Bonneville Salt Flats, Wendover, Utah
- August 30 NORTHRIDGE CAR SHOW & ANTIQUE MART, (562)633-3836
- August 30 POMONA SWAP MEET, Fairplex, (714)544-7004 or (714)832-2041
- September 19-20 ENGLISH MOTORING CONCLAVE, Denver CO, (303)755-1399
- September 25-27 1998 RIO GRANDE RENDEZVOUS, Durango CO, (505)266-1328 (Entry forms available from Dick Morley)
- September 26 AMGBA 21ST ANNUAL MEET '98, Davidson College, Charlotte NC, 1-800-723-6464
- September 27 SAN BERNARDINO ANTIQUE CAR SWAP MEET, (909)849-8930
- September 27 BRITISH CAR SHOW at Woodley Park, Van Nuys CA, (310)392-6605
- September 28 - October 2 VECITA ENCANTADA, Rally of Northern New Mexico, Santa Fe NM, 1-888-545-9700
- October 4 BRITISH CAR DAYS - San Diego, call (619)746-9028.
- October 18 CONCOURS d'ELEGANCE AT TORREY PINES, La Jolla CA, (619)283-4221.
- October 30-31, ROADRUNNERS ROUNDUP, Laughlin NV,
- November 1 M.G.s from A to Z, rally, car show, Halloween dinner & costume party, Lee Kaplan, (602) 937-1203





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For info contact the editor

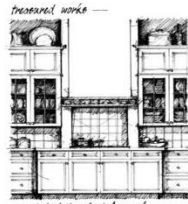
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