

THE TUCSON BRITISH CAR



REGISTER

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Technical tips are for informational purposes only.

In this Issue:
On the Road
From the Prez
Calendar
Bonnet to Boot
Archives
For Sale/Wanted



On the Road to Green Valley and Mission San Xavier





Touring Time with the TBCR – Colorful Cars

When my parents were snowbirds here in Tucson starting in the early 1980s, I visited them for a week here or there every year. We toured a day here or there. I got a taste of the beauty southern Arizona is known for.

Sometimes we went on journeys. Sometimes it was a quick trip just down to Tubac. It was always an adventure.

Joining a group that embraced touring has been one of my great pleasures in moving here. The tours and really neat members encouraged me to join the TBCR. I've seen more of southern Arizona than I ever did over those 30 years my parents lived here. Along the way I bought a LBC. (now 2 ½ of them) Wow, with that the scope of adventure accelerated and widened.

We are very lucky to have two to three organized tours every month. It's lots of fun to see the line of pretty pastel hued cars stretching far out in front of us. Ben Cohen does an excellent job mixing up the routes. In non-Covid times, we were treated to small hidden delicious food stops. For now, we are precluded from doing that. I sometimes wonder if those "mom and pop" venues survived. I hope we can stop for food at the end of our tours again in the near future. Our club has become well known for the very colorful cars we drive on our many tours.

If you have more than a few moments, Tuesday mornings, meet us at the Starbucks at Ft. Lowell and Swan to say hi. Join in on the conversation and see some neat British cars too. One never knows...

Here are a few notes about some forthcoming changes...

- **Annual TBCR Meeting:** We are having our annual TBCR meeting January 8th. Ben will be putting together a drive and will make that announcement separately. We reserved Ramada 2 at PIMA County's Brandi Fenton Memorial Park on River Rd (just adjacent to Alvernon). We anticipate arrival at 10:30 AM. There is ample paved parking and a nice set of restrooms. We will transact annual TBCR business and there will be an annual award or two. See you there!
- **Sahuarita Quail Creek Show:** The tour starting location for the January 29th show has changed to the Circle K on south Palo Verde (just north of I-10). A future announcement will detail the route and time we are leaving. We should arrive at the field around 8:15 AM. See the announcement elsewhere in this newsletter for sign-up information. Santa Cruz Car Nuts has dedicated a complete class for British Cars. If they have a whole row class just for British cars, let's fill it! It's going to be great!
- **Our new Regalia Chair,** Libbie Gabriel, has made some interesting changes to the Regalia operation. See the note elsewhere in this newsletter. There will be future announcements. Our thanks to our Webmaster, Harold Beekhuizen for updating the web page.

Do you drive with you "hood" up if you have one, or is your tour car "hood" always down? Is your car a sunshine special? It doesn't matter... come and tour with us.

--Pete

It is with deep regret that the *Register* has learned of the passing of two long-time members:

Kathleen Hahn

Richard Conroy

Calendar

Note: New Years Day Run will be January 2, due to weather...

Sunday, January 2. Starting Point - Park Place Mall north side near Starbucks (coffee, restrooms, etc). Starting Time - 9:30am. Ending point - near the Triple T Truck Stop and Omar's Highway Cafe in case you need breakfast Duration - about 1 hour.

January 8 - morning drive and **Annual TBCR meeting** that is being schedule at Brandie-Fenton Park at the intersection of River Rd and Alvernon Way (just west of Dodge Rd). **Meeting starts at 10:30am.**

January 29 - early drive to Sahuarita for the new Santa Cruz Car Nuts new car show (the replacement for the Tubac Show). Leave the south side early for the show to arrive just after the gates open around 8:15 AM

January 29 Santa Cruz Car Nuts Car Show See The Prez column (page 2) and the December 2021 *Register* for details.

Every Tuesday-- Tuesday Coffee 7am to 9am, Starbucks at NW corner of Swan and Ft Lowell. You don't need to bring a British car.

Note: watch for emails from Ben on details of the drives or contact the Editor.

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Club News

TBCR Apparel (Regalia)



Hi everyone! I'm Libbie Gabriel and I'm the new Regalia chair. We have lots of t-shirts and hats available right now. I'll be at coffee at Starbucks most Tuesday mornings. I'll bring a selection of items with me, and you can just pay cash. If you'd like to order a jacket or a size t-shirt that we don't have, just let me know on Tuesday or email. chrusos@aol.com

On the Road Green Valley



Pictures by Pete W.

It was a beautiful day for a tour through the pecan trees of Sahuarita, Green Valley's tailings and to Mission San Xavier. At the start of the tour, I noted to the assembled members that Kathleen Hahn had passed away that morning and we should keep her and Geo in our minds. At the end of the tour, we could stop in at the Mission and send a prayer their way.

There were twelve cars on the tour. Ben Cohen recapped the directions and discussed Saturday tour start times. Generally, those present liked the later start times (9-9:30). He said we would be having the usual mid-week tours as well as one and possibly two Saturday tours. Touring is a very popular part of our club.

San Xajvier is undergoing another renovation and looking spiffy. –Pete Williams



A splendid day for a run up the mountain. Unseasonably warm weather made for a comfortable visit at the top.
Pictures by Libbie G.



From the Bonnet to the Boot

By Jeff Simpson

Suggestion and Recommendation

On a recent drive to the “British Wheels on the Green” event in Peoria on the west side of Phoenix, we had the brake pressure switch fail on our Jaguar XK-150. It would have been an easy fix if I had a spare in my tool or parts kit, but I didn’t. Finding a replacement, or even a plug with the correct thread proved impossible. As the car had no brakes it had to be towed to a repair shop capable of handling older Jaguars and an additional overnight stay. These pressure switches are used by most English cars to activate the brake lights. They are installed on the main brake line so a leak could result in loss of brakes. We were lucky as the switch gave out as we pulled into a gas station and I could glide to a easy stop against the curb. The switch might fail electrically resulting in loss of brake lights, but should never, never, fail mechanically which results in loss of brakes. Apparently, newer switches, even from well-known parts suppliers, are failure prone. My suggestion: “Carry a spare”. The switch is small and could save the day if it turns out yours goes bad. Also, “Check the switch often”. If you see signs of it leaking, you need to replace it, it isn’t going to get better and could be dangerous!

As for the recommendation: by sheer luck, we happened to meet Zachary Wormsbacher Sunday at the BWOOG show and organize with him to work on the XK-150 the next morning. By the time we got to his shop Monday morning, he had already fixed the brake switch problem and a few other things beside. The shop was fantastic and price very reasonable. If you are ever in the Phoenix area and need a repair shop, this is the shop to call. Zachary Wormsbacher, British Automotive Repair, 14850 N. 83rd Place, Suite A-1, Scottsdale, AZ. 85260. (480) 596-5247 , britishautoaz.com.



Welcome To Our New Members For December 2021

We have 2 new members this month.

--Vicki Cobb driving a 2022 Mini S

--Bruce & Carol Moss driving a red Triumph TR-6

Our new members will have name tags. Take time to welcome them to our events.

From the Archives

Here's a peak into the *Desert Octagon* archives (the old name of this newsletter).
A possible project for 2022 is to create a modern club database by car type.



BRITISH VEHICLE SUMMARY - TUCSON MG-T REGISTER (As of May 9th, 1998)

<u>Make</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Quan</u>	<u>Make</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Quan</u>
Austin A40 Sedan	51	1	MGF	97	1
Austin A90 Sedan	59	1	MG Midget	76	1
Austin Healy 3000	63	1	MG Midget	—	1
Austin Healy Sprite	59	1	MG-TC	48	1
Austin Healy Sprite	60	1	MG-TC EXU	48	1
Austin Healy Sprite	63	1	MG-TC EXU	49	1
Austin Healy Sprite	66	1	MG-TD	52	2
Austin Healy Sprite	69	1	MG-TD	53	8
Austin Healy _____	61	1	MG-TF	54	2
Brabham, F11		1	Morris 1000 Tourer	58	1
Diamler Conquest	55	1	Morris 1000 Sedan	60	1
Hudson Metropolitan	55	1	Morris 1000 Traveler	60	1
Jaguar XJ-6	72	1	Morris 1000 Pickup	62	1
Jaguar XJ-6	79	1	Morris 1000 Van	66	1
Jaguar XJ-__	—	1	Riley 1.5L Sedan	59	1
Jaguar XKE	64	1	Singer 4AD Roadster	52	1
Jaguar XKE	69	1	Singer Gazelle Estate	59	1
MGA	57	2	Sunbeam Alpine	60	3
MGA	59	1	Sunbeam Alpine	61	1
MGA	60	1	Sunbeam Alpine	64	1
MGB	64	2	Sunbeam Alpine	65	1
MGB	66	1	Sunbeam Alpine	66	1
MGB	70	1	Sunbeam Alpine	67	1
MGB	72	2	Triumph GT-6	67	1
MGB	73	1	Triumph Spitfire	69	1
MGB	74	2	Triumph Spitfire	72	1
MGB	74-1/2	3	Triumph Spitfire	73	1
MGB	75	2	Triumph Spitfire	78	1
MGB	76	2	Triumph Stag	72	1
MGB	77	3	Triumph TR-3	60	1
MGB	78	4	Triumph TR-3	61	1
MGB	79	8	Triumph TR-4	63	1
MGB-GT	72	2	Triumph TR-4	64	1
MGB-LE	80	1	Triumph TR-4	65	1
MGC-GT	—	1			

For Sale/Wanted

Looking for a well-used tire so I can push my 1976 spitfire in and out of my garage to work on it. Can't seem to find one in Tucson. It can be bald as long as it holds air. Will be purchasing new ones at a later date. Contact Sam: semomoi@cox.net

For Sale: 1966 MGB Roadster. Asking \$15,000
Beautiful 1966 MGB Roadster 4 speed with overdrive.
miles on an Ernie's British Cars 2013 rebuilt engine. Original chrome throughout. Working original AM radio. Paint and body (interior and exterior) in great condition. Tonneau cover only. Have the hardware for windshield attachment but not the frame for the convertible top.
Contact Phil: 520-837-9980

To see pictures, contact the Editor tucsonbritish@gmail.com .

Parting Shot - Grills

