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## <u>President's Message</u>

We hope, Georgia and I, that everyone has a Happy New Year and very prosperous 2023.

Last year we were just released from COVID-19 restrictions. But it seems there might be a resurgence. So, I guess, don't toss your masks in the bin just yet. As the year ended, we had a "almost" normal year. Although, the Lewes Motorcar show was completely

rained out, we did have a successful show eve "cruise-in." The brave souls who braved the nor' easter had a terrific time despite the disappointment. On the other hand, our Annual Fall Car and Motorcycle show went off without a hitch. Let's talk about the drive outings for a second. They were all uneventful with better than perfect drive weather. Our year concluded with two Christmas Parades and two excellent Holiday Dinner Parties.

Let's hope this year will be as 2022 with <u>NO</u> May 6<sup>th</sup> torrential, down pour! Taking a look forward let's see what could be instore for our fine British drivers.

In the November/December President's message I talked about the results from car show's mini survey about car outings preferences. The overwhelming answer was not a surprise. "Drive outings that included food." Let's put this info into action.

I think we should use a tried-and-true approach. Set up a rendezvous, the meal location, a possible recreational destination, and a route to get there. Here are a few new and old ideas. I know I left a couple out so fill them in.... There also may be a couple recreational stops that may include "Grape Stomping." That would be fun. So, who's in for that? Please check out the list found elsewhere in the newsletter.

Yes, the list is long but we're entertaining two separate groups – The Northern and Southern Chapters. By the way someone suggested we have two rendezvous points and drive to the same place. That's a brilliant idea – wish I'd thought of it! (I hope I can remember who suggested. May have been Allen) It will accommodate both groups. So, get your LBC ready!

The big question is. "Where will we go first?" It would be wicked if we have a couple of volunteers (N & S) to work this. One drive per month is a good start. Please come forward to offer your help.

As our year begins, we're off to a brilliant start. Let's make 2023 a banner year! As always, it's up to you. Remember this phrase. "Success or failure rests on the shoulders of each one of us. So, let's make the best of it!"

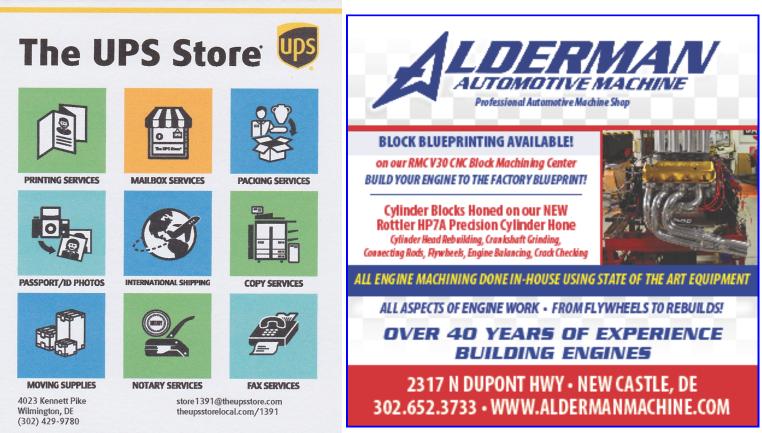
As we hit January running (or slip sliding) please drive safely. Arrive home in the same condition that you left!!

Terry & Georgia

Every care was taken to insure the accuracy of the contents of this newsletter. The editor(s) accept no responsibility for any effect caused by errors or emissions.



2023 is the 100th Anniversary of the founding of the MG Car Company in Abingdon-on-Thames and the Simeone Museum will be honoring this legendary marque with the Best of Britain devoted to just MGs. We are hoping to have over two dozen examples in the show, spanning the pre- and post-war models. The show will run from February 11 to February 18, 2023.



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### Lewes Christmas Parade David Haines

We only had 3 participants - Mike & Pat Tyler: AH3000, Jim & Helen Gibby: TR6 and Nancy & me: AH3000. I guess the other 3 that signed up canceled due to potential bad weather. Although it was raining up until 2:30 pm, it did clear up and we had good weather (mid 50's F) for the parade itself.

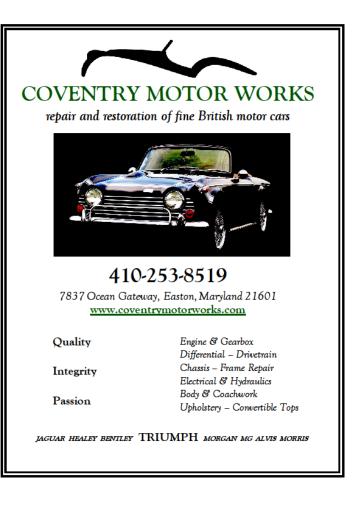
We were towards the end of the parade - only the fire engines were behind us! I tried playing Christmas music but, for the most part, we were drowned out by the high powered speaker systems on the fire trucks.



## For Owners of Older LBCs

**British Tools & Fasteners (britishfasteners.com)** have all manner of obscure British fastener sizes (including Whitworth) along with the spanners to undo them.

I thoroughly recommend browsing their website..





Chapter Fourteen MGTC By Terry Young December15, 2022

In MGTC EXU 7623 Chapter 13, I mentioned that I was almost ready to put the car back together. As of this writing I was down to one last item – the frame. Once the frame was cleaned, sealed, and painted it would be time to start making the project look like a car again.

To get it a head start, my next-door neighbor, Jeff Ortiz, was kind enough to provide his 3,100-psi pressure washer to knock off any remaining goop that I couldn't get with wire brushing and scraping. You know, there is just so much of that you can do without bringing out the big gun. After a couple hours of spraying, it was time admire the cleaner structure with a couple of Heinekens.



*MGTC's frame after 73 years of weather exposure.* 





*Jeff power washing the MGTC's frame.* 



The MGTC's frame showing its bare metal.



*The MGTC's frame painted with etching primer.* 

The next day it was time to turn on the air compressor and let Mr. Sand Blast do its thing. The blasting media took off 73 years of accumulated rust down to the bare metal readying it for sealing primer.

The MGTC's frame painted with its final color.

Once the frame was primed it was painted with gloss black. A remarkable transformation from yuck and grungy to bright and pretty. The photos record

the process. The frame is the foundation of the car. A good foundation sets the rest of the car in motion ready to head down the road.

The next stages will begin by installing several of the reconditioned, painted and evaluated components that were removed months ago. Examples are the Girling dampers, wheel bearings, the front and rear leaf springs, brakes, differential, the fenders, and side panels, etc. They are all lined up ready to go. I wanted to get the spoked wheels back on the chasses so I would get some sense of accomplishment. To do that, I'd have to get the rear suspension back on including the brakes. So, let's talk about brakes for a minute.

Let me jump off a cliff and assume you know a little bit about how brakes work. Let's compare our notes. You push the brake pedal - the car stops. The pedal is connected to a master cylinder filled with fluid. That fluid is pushed through metal pipes to each of the wheel's brake pistons. The pistons push the brake pads against a spinning rotor that is bolted to the wheel. In the TC's case, there are four brake drums that use semi-circular single pivot brake shoes that push out, rather than squeeze, against a drum. The pressure causes enough friction to slow or bring the car to a halt.



The MGTC's typical brake drum. This one is the rear right. If you look closely you can see the spring wound emergency brake cable.

Back in the day drum brakes were installed on all cars. They were invented in1900 by Wilhelm Maybach, a German engineer, then patented by Louis Renault a couple years later.

Disc-type brakes on the other hand, began in England in the 1890s but were not what we would recognize as today's modern disc brakes. It would be 60 years before the disc brake would become widely used. Discs were not as widespread until Jaguar won the 1953 24 hours of Le Mans race with discs installed. The high speeds coupled with the superior braking in the many turns on the Circuit de la Sarthe track made the difference.

Drum brakes, conversely, are not as efficient. Continuous braking makes them prone to fad-



The MGTC's main brake pipe junction direct from the master cylendar routing fluid to front right wheel cylendar (bottom connection) then to another junction rout-

ing when they get hot. The drums do not have the cooling properties like rotors. I have a childhood memory driving with my dad to September's Bloomsburg, (PA) Fair. I looked forward to the fall trip through the mountainous PA State Game Lands anticipating spending money I saved or found in the couch on carnival junk. Let's say our family's 1956 Plymouth had to pull over few times to let the brakes cool down. If that happens you reach for the emergence brake and give it a pull and hope the car stops. Fortunately, we made it to Bloomsburg without further incident.

Generally, the emergency brakes are used to keep parked cars parked and from rolling away. All British car owners know this (it's called a "Parking Brake" in Britain - Ed.). You turn off the engine, pull the brake handle, get out of the car, and hope it stays put. The MGTC's parking brake is an interesting mechanism. It uses two independent cables attached to the hand brake. Each are then routed in and out of the frame to the back attached to the rear brakes. When the hand brake is pulled the front shoe pushes the leading brake shoe tight against the drum. My limited testing proved it works. As for the rest of the braking system the brake lines and connectors were found to be a bit dodgy. I replaced the old copper lines with cunifer tubing (an alloy of copper, nickel, iron, and manganese) and the 1/4 inch x 7/16 UNF fittings. The lines were measured and cut to length routed in and around the chasses to their junction connections. The real test happens when I press the pedal for the first time. How well it stops is anyone's guess at this point, but I'm sure it will. At this point the car will roll and stop and has 99 percent of the suspension components installed. Now it ready for the next steps. Will it be the tub, wiring, fenders, or sheet metal? I guess we'll see. Should be fun!



The MGTC's hydrolic brake cable layout. Some of the lines are wirewound to protect against chaffing. Some line do not require wire sheiding since those line are clamped to the frame.

Ireland, P. August 2018. The Humble Drum Brake. Totally T-Type 2, Issue 49, Pages 13-18.

Deaton, J. November 11, 2008. How Brake Rotors Work. HowStuffWorks. Retrieved 26 November 2017.

Lembrick, L. December 2010. Replacing the T-Type Brake Pipes, Totally T-Type 2, Issue 3, Pages 10-13.

Pelton, D. 2010. BR160 TC Brake Line Routing and Specifications, From the Frame Up., Tech Tips BR160.

## Healeys At Rest Don McDonald

My car is the Old English White '62 MK3000 Roadster, the blue and white one is Jim Deese's '63 (the first year they made the car with roll up windows and top that went up and down easily), the red one is Jim Martins '64.

Jim worked on the Chesapeake Bay Motoring Festival and is going to work on the show this year. We both want to also work on the St. Michaels Concours d'Elegance show at Talbot County Country Club in Easton (local watering hole in Kennett Square, PA.---LOL....only one beer when driving the Healey)





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## The Best TR6 Peter Martin

Here is a picture of my 1974 TR6 as it was displayed on the lawn at the Talbot Country Club this past September. Sandy Thomson (Coventry Motor Works), who put the car together said he thinks it's one of the nicest he's seen.

The project took roughly three and a half years to complete and is essentially a brand new car. It's better than when it rolled off the assembly line.





## **BCCD 2023 Possible Drives & Visits**

As tickled in this months President's Message here is a list of venues just waiting for the British Car Club of Delaware to visit. Yes, we've called on several in 2022 and some not. The British Car Club of Delaware would like you to volunteer to arrange for tours and outings for 2023. Nothing to it especially if you've participated last year or before and you know the back roads of Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Virginia.

Please let Terry or Bill know that you have an interest in making the arrangements. You'll get all the help your British Car Club of Delaware career can handle.

#### **Tours Visits**

Simeone Heritage Automotive Museum 6825-31 Norwitch Dr, Philadelphia, PA 19153 Alderman Automotive Machine, 2317 N. Dupont Hwy, New Castle, DE 19720 (302) 652-3733 Classic Motor Museum of St. Michaels, 102 E Marengo St, St Michaels, MD 21663 Barry's Car Barn, 3504 Old Philadelphia Pike, Intercourse, PA 17534 Marshall Steam Museum & Friends of Auburn Heights, 3000 Creek Rd, Yorklyn, DE 19736 Air Mobility Command Museum, 1301 Heritage Rd, Dover AFB, DE 19902 (Open Cockpit Day) Technical Days – locations to be announced

### Meal Locations

Victoria's Restaurant, 2 Olive Ave, Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971 Iron Hill Brewery & Restaurant, 19815 Coastal Hwy, Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971 **Go Fish**, 24 Rehoboth Ave, Rehoboth Beach, De 19971 **Go Brits**, 18388 Coastal Hwy, Lewes, De 19958 Kitty Knight Inn, Augustine Herman Highway, Georgetown, MD 21930 Schaefer's Canal House 208 Bank St., Chesapeake City, MD 21915 Jessop's Tavern, 114 Delaware St., New Castle, DE 19720 Crabby Dick's, 30 Clinton St., Delaware City, DE 19706 Crooked Hammock Brewery, 316 Auto Park Dr, Middletown, DE 19709 Grey Fox Grille and Public House, 140 State St., Dover, DE 19901 La Hacienda, 1171 S. Bay Rd., Dover, DE 19901

### Recreation

The Brimming Horn Meadery, 28615 Lewes Georgetown Hwy, Milton, DE 19968 Chateau Bu-De, LLC Bohemia Manor Farm, 237 Bohemia Manor Farm Ln, Chesapeake City, MD 21915 Harvest Ridge Winery, 447 Westville Rd, Marydel, DE 19964 Broken Spoke Winery, 942 Glebe Rd, Earleville, MD 21919 Pizzadili Vineyard & Winery, 1683 Peach Basket Rd, Felton, DE 19943

Crow Vineyard & Winery, 12441 Vansant Corner Rd, Kennedyville, MD 21645

Nassau Valley Vineyards-Winery, 32165 Winery Way, Lewes, DE 19958

Salted Vines Vineyard & Winery, 32512 Rd 374, Frankford, DE 19945



I know. It was a bit unfair. Even I had never heard of the LCC Rocket (apt name, don't you think?).

The light Car Company (LCC) was founded in 1991 by Gordon Murray (he of F1 fame) and Chris Craft. A total of 55 vehicles were built. It weighs just 850lb and seats 2, one behind the other. Powered by a 1 litre Yamaha engine, its top speed was 143 mph.

Have a look here for more info> The Light Car Company Rocket - The Light Car Company Limited

How about this one? A sporty little saloon car in its day.

Drop me an email to trevormees@outlook.com.







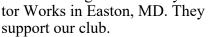
## My TR3 Comes Home After 51 Years

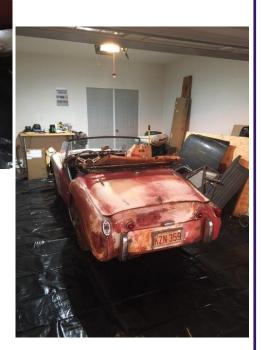
John Hohman

I bought this 1960 TR-3 in 1967 and had it when drafted in the Army. While I was away my father drove it off and on. When I was discharged I put a new interior in and a Darrington Steering Wheel, tunnel ported the head and added a free flow Stebro exhaust. I sold the car in 1970 to someone I knew. 50 years passed and I happened to see him on classmate, contacted him and was surprised he still had it. He died and the car went to public auction.

It has been covered up since 1980, shows 63k, needs floor panels etc. I plan on restoring it back to 1970 shape.

I bought the car from a person selling the car on behalf of the estate, so back to me for restoration. It will go to Coventry Mo-





# Southern Chapter Christmas Party

# **December 9th**































# Jaycee's Wilmington Christmas Parade November 26th 2022

British Car Club of Delaware participated in the 58th Annual Wilmington Jaycees Christmas Parade and was honored to accompany The Honorable John Charles Carney Jr., Governor of Delaware and Ms. Bethany Hall-Long, Lieutenant Governor of Delaware.

The threat of rain never materialized drawing out many spectators that lined the route. The parade began on N. king & E. 4<sup>th</sup>, Wilmington and made its way through Downtown to 11<sup>th</sup> & N. Market. "Deanna & Justin in the Morning" from Mix 99.5 WJBR were the emcees.



Terry & Georgia in the 1999 Jaguar XK8 with Bethany Hall Long's Great Nephew, Beau on the Wilmington Jaycees Christmas Parade route.



Lt. Gov. Bethany Hall Long, her Great Nephew Beau, Gov. John C. Carney, Georgia & Terry at the conclusion of Wilmington Jaycees Christmas Parade.





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# **Certificates of Appreciation Northern Chapter** November 16, 2022

Certificates of Appreciation were presented to the following individuals during the annual Holiday Party held at McGlynn's Pub in Glasgow, DE.

Brian and Joy Read, Sharon Kalinowski, Steve Woodman, Marion Woodruff, Bob and Carol Wall, and Dave Mitchell. Not present were Calvin Jackson and Mike Parrish for their efforts on behalf of the British Car Club of Delaware who were instrumental in the success of the 2022 - All British - All Years -Annual Fall Motorcycle and Car Show, held at the Friends of Bellanca Airfield, New Castle, Delaware. In addition, this honor recognized their dedication and untiring efforts for the ongoing success of the British Car Club of Delaware in 2022.











# **For Sale**



# 1980 Triumph TR7

# Contact Bill Tattersall

302-242-5118

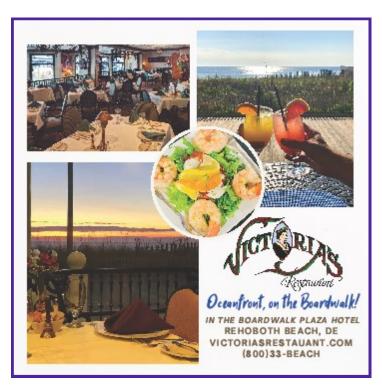
billtattersall@gmail.com

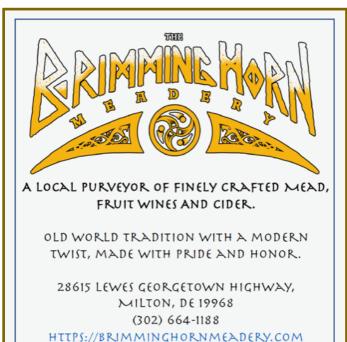
## **Progress on Bill's Lotus**



Rebuilt engine hanging and going back in for the first time. Not the last since frame/chassis modifications are needed.







### Advertising in The British Diamond and Sponsoring The British Car Club of Delaware

We are looking for more local businesses to advertise in the newsletter so if you know of one and can approach them please do so. You will see their ads throughout the newsletter. We are also looking for sponsors/donors to pledge fixed amounts to the club. Contact Terry (terryyoung224@me.com) for details on pricing etc.

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