



THE BRITISH DIAMOND

Lewes Car Show 2023

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How it all began

By Mike Tyler

I guess you could call me the father of "The British are Coming...Again!" car show since I started it in 1994. I and my wife ran a B&B in Lewes and that business didn't allow me to take my Healey to weekend car shows.

I approached the Lewes Lions Club but they didn't seem interested. My next stop was the Lewes Chamber of Commerce. The director wasn't too excited about the show but reluctantly agreed to give it a go.

Our first show attracted ±40 cars at Blockhouse Pond Park in Lewes and the rest is history so it goes.

When Betsy Reamer became Chamber director she was a great supporter of the show even though it didn't make a lot of money. We became "popular" since most Sussex car shows were mostly street rods and pick-ups. The show became a part of Lewes so to speak and has improved ever since.

Some 10 years or so later I was on the Lewes Historical Society board of directors and suggested having the show on the LHS campus. No way! was the response. Some time later the then director of LHS Mike Di Paolo called me and asked if I would consider doing the show at LHS. I almost fell out of my chair! It was a great move for the show and we were there for more than 10 years.

Then the tables turned because LHS had landscaped the complex which now couldn't accommodate the number of cars and people that were coming and treading all over the newly landscaped site.. We had a new location selected behind the Beacon Hotel but a rainy week had turned the site to a swamp. We were ready to cancel the show but Betsy came to the rescue with a request to hold the show on the grassy field at the ferry folks. Again the rest is history.

We owe a lot to all the club members who pitch in and made this British Car Show one of the best!

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.

Meet and Greet Friday May 5th



About 60 cars turned up for the Meet and Greet on the day before the show and parked on the show field. Around a hundred people poured into the M&G area next to the Grain restaurant and enjoyed chatting and tucking into burgers and hot dogs, washed down with libations from the restaurant.

While sunny it was not the warmest of places and many of us ended up inside the bar area of the restaurant.

Pictures by Trevor Mees and Alan Hill



Show Day

Saturday May 6th

Pictures by Alan Hill



I asked for input for this publication

John Hohman responded

"I thought it was without a doubt one of the best shows to date with some of the finest restorations as well. The staff did an exceptional job in insuring the show went as planned."





Show Day
Saturday May 6th
Pictures by David Haines



Show Day
Saturday May 6th
Pictures by Mike Salino





Show Day
Saturday May 6th
Pictures by Trevor Mees



Congratulations to Bill and Dana on a successful Car Show

Thanks to tireless efforts on behalf of Bill Tattersall and Dana Mason the “British Are Coming” Car show, sponsored by the British Car Club of Delaware South and the Lewes Chamber of Commerce was successfully held on May 6th.

Bill has been a driving force in organizing the show for the past decade. Dana has provided support in the very demanding task of organizing and coordinating the judging effort (she also providing some great cookies) as well as setting up the after show parade.

Bill also helped the judges during their evaluation of the show field.

The Club owes well deserved thanks to Bill and Dana for their continued efforts towards a successful show.



27th Annual Lewes British Motorcar Show

May 5 & 6, 2023

Cape May-Lewes Ferry, Lewes Terminal Grounds, Lewes, DE 19958

On behalf of the Lewes Chamber of Commerce and the British Car Club of Delaware, we wanted to take a moment to thank everyone who took part in the 27th Annual Lewes British Motorcar Show. The weather turned out to be spectacular Saturday. Admittedly, it was a bit chilly for the Meet & Greet Friday evening.

There was a great selection of British cars on the field. It was a pleasure to hear all the British car stories and share the passion we all have about our cars with others.

What really makes the show special is all who attended! There were 120 British Cars in 11 classes on the field with over 1200 people who attended as either a participant or spectator.

Mark your calendar for May 3rd & 4th 2024 for the next annual “28th Lewes Motorcar Show.”

Parking MGs

Jack Long

I spent the first hours of the show parking MGs. David Glick and I agreed that I would try to park all the MGs chronologically since the early and late MG sections were adjacent, and since 2023 is MG’s centenary year. We both thought it would be neat to show the history of the marque in the USA, and I think we pretty much succeeded.

We started on the far right with our only TC, a lovely car, and continued down the line through a number of TDs, one TF, a bunch of really nice MGAs including a rare coupe, and a really representative group of MGBs from the start of production in 1962 right through the last year of MGBs in 1980. We were not able to get all the Bs in purely chronological order but we did manage to keep the chrome and rubber bumper cars pretty much separated to show the two main generations. Show visitors could then see much of the history of the MG marque in the USA in an arc from right to left.

Parking cars evenly on a show field is not easy; parking 30 cars in chronological order as they arrive over a 2 hour period is a lot harder!

Show Day
Saturday May 6th
Auction and 50/50



2023 Lewes British Motorcar Show Winners

1 Triumph up to 1968

1st Mel & Alice Peters • 1962 Triumph TR3-B
2nd Arnie Yoder • 1962 Triumph TR3-A
3rd Joe Letizia • 1961 Triumph TR3-A

#2 Triumph 1969 & newer

1st Wayne Wissman • 1973 Triumph GT6
2nd Lance Landgraf • 1976 Triumph Spitfire 1500
3rd Nick Syropoulos • 1976 Triumph TR6

#3 Early MG up to MG-A

1st Benjamin Cavileer • 1949 MG-TC
2nd Hugh Jarman • 1958 MG-A
3rd Joseph Finley • 1953 MG-TD

#4 Late MG, MG-B & MG-C

1st Paul Hanley • 1964 MG-B
2nd Jerry Hirst • 1962 MG-B
3rd Jody Yee • 1973 MG-B

5 Austin Healey

1st Tom Jacob • 1959 Austin Healey 100-6 BN6 Roadster
2nd Fred DeSantis • 1967 Austin Healey 3000 BJ8
3rd David Maule • 1956 Austin Healey 100 4 Le Mans

#6 Sprites & Midgets

1st John Kerlish • 1964 Austin Healey Sprite MK 3
2nd Scott Knopp • 1971 MG Midget
3rd Bill Remster • 1979 MG Midget

7 Jaguar up to 1974

1st Anthony Tinari • 1961 Jaguar Mark II
2nd Geoff Sundstrom • 1965 Jaguar 3.8 S
3rd Chris McConnell • 1966 Jaguar E-Type

8 Jaguar 1975 to 2000

1st Mark Sanchirico • 1995 Jaguar XJS
2nd Ike Lawton • 1997 Jaguar XK8
3rd Terry Young • 1999 Jaguar XK8

9 Sedan Open Class

1st Bill Smarr • 1957 Austin FX3
2nd Steve Hammond • 1960 English Thams 301E
3rd Bob Clark • 1959 Riley One Point Five

10 Sports Open Class

1st Susan Coates • 1960 Nash Metropolitan
2nd John Hohman • 1961 Morgan Plus 4
3rd Bruce Herwald • 1962 Volvo P1800 – Built by Jensen

11 Future Classics

Charles Schirm • 2019 Aston Martin DB11 Volante

Best in Show

Ray Rachuba • 1950 Jaguar XK120

From John Kerlish to Terry Young

Hi Terry,

Can't tell you how much I enjoyed this year's show...especially as a 1st place winner with my A-H Sprite Mk3! Many thanks to you, Mike and everyone else who worked so hard to make it great. Here are a few more pictures.

Again thanks,

John



British Car Club of Delaware, Inc.

Presents

ALL BRITISH – ALL YEARS Annual Fall Car & Motorcycle Show

Celebrating 100 years of



Saturday, September 16, 2023

9AM until 2PM

**The friends of Bellanca Airfield
Route 273 & Centerpoint Blvd.,
between US route 13 & Old New
Castle, DE 19720**



Thomas Fairchild's 1953 MGTD, 2022 Annual Fall Car Show
"Other MG's" 1st Place Winner.

Award Classes

**MGB
Other MG
Austin Healey
Jaguar
Other British Vehicles
Other British Sports Cars
Triumph
Future Classics 1998 & later
British Motorcycles**

Special Awards

**Best in Show
Diamond in the Rouge**



**Free admission to the Public
\$25.00 Pre-Registered by Sept 16,
2023 - \$35.00 day of**



Car Show Application



British Car Club of Delaware



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Visit our website BCCDelaware.org for more information

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