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Presidents Message

Cheers, Everyone!

Seems every day I see a notice for a vintage British car offered for sale or one just sold at auction. Back in the day, seeing a British car was rare, let alone one to buy. Today the keen eyes of our British Car Club of Delaware members have a line on just about every British car in the state and the ones that come up for sale. Where I grew up the only four-cylinder engines were in tractors. British

sports cars almost didn't exist. I do, however, have a faint memory of my cousins 1964 MGB he drove while in college. It was probably, the coolest car I ever saw, until I owned mine some 50 years later. Once I began driving my B, I realized I automatically became cool, too. And I stayed humble all these years.

Ever since I did the 40-40 restoration, I'm still working out its mechanical quirkiness, but, oh it's fun!! My advice is this. I think everyone should own British sports car. When you see one for sale and if you don't already own, buy it! Alternately, if you know someone who been looking, tell them you know a guy... Of course, with ownership comes the one of the major issues. Keeping it running! Those of us who want to learn about the innerworkings we have a few get-together sessions for just that purpose.

BCCD conducts "Tech Days." You have no doubt read David Glick's email on possible topics for July 8th and the announced location. The term "Tech Day" is short for "Tech Day." These events attract many BCCD members who know British cars and always what to learn more. It's the perfect event for British car owners for those of us who are ready, willing, and able to pass on what we know to help solve British automotive problems to "keep 'em on the road."

With all this in mind the summer awaits!

As we used to say in the Air Force – "Turn and Burn" but please drive safely while you're doing it!

Terry & Georgia

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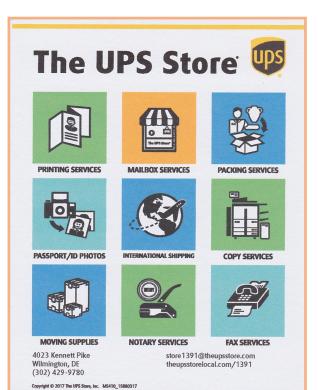


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Community and Services







Chapter Fifteen

MGTC

By Terry Young

February 20, 2023

The last MGTC EXU 7623 chapter I talked about the frame and putting the major drive train components back on the frame and to start building the tub. The tub is the passenger compartment that has a wooden skeleton with sheet metal covering the structure. The first thing I discovered was that I didn't have all the pieces of wood. A bit of a delay but not a showstopper. There are so many things to do on this car, I only had to look around to find something else to keep going... That next thing was the fuel tank.

As it happens, I have two. The original and a new replacement. I haven't decided if I want to reconstitute the



MGTC Fuel Tank stripped and ready for primer and final paint.

the new one and quit messing around? It's that MG-T Series communi-

original or just use the new one. The original has quite a bit of pitting around the base and a hole in a corner I was able to fill. Currently, it's been soaking in Evapo-Rust to see if there are any more leaks. So far Evapo-Rust does a good job cleaning rust. Until I make a final decision – I'll let it soak. You may ask why not just use



New floorboards cut from ½" plywood.

ty tension between using an original part v. replacement. These debates go on and on... Moving right along.

It was time to cut out some replacement boards. Not all the wood needed to be replaced, only 90 percent of it!



Rear tub showing the side curtain backing and wood frame and for the right quarter Following the patterns in *TCs Forever, An Appreciation and Reference,* (Sherrell 1990), gave me the shapes to put on the car. The cutting out floorboards was quite straight forward, as were the remaining pieces. When I placed the floorboards in the car it was a "wow" moment. I kept thinking, "it won't be long now. I'll be pulling out of the driveway in no time." Of course, I'm delusional. There is a long way to go before that happens.

As the pieces were cut out, I followed Phase 1 and Phase 2 reassembly as described in Sherrell's book. Basically, you start in the back of the car and make your way to the front of the car. Paying close attention to critical angles, bolt and screw locations, the positioning of the back and the door pillars, etc., easy enough! No so.

Chapter Fifteen

MGTC

By Terry Young

February 20, 2023

There are two steel frames that are bolted to the chassis in exact frame locations setting up the alignment. Get this wrong you haven't a chance to get the remaining tub parts, i.e., the quarter panels, doors, and fenders, in the correct locations. Thank goodness for wood clamps. As the parts are placed, their bolts and screws aligned, the fit is spot-on. Well, sort of. The fit all depends how well screws and bolts are placed and sunk into the wood.

I discovered quickly the four parts of the wood making up the fender support structure, have a great deal of freedom as the wood pieces are fitted inside the fender skin. Talking about the wood frame, the wood is made of ash and is hard as granite. We won't talk about the broken drill bits and screw heads that were broken due to my woodworking inexperience!

Looking to the future I fitted the rear fender with its wheel well. Low and behold, it fit but only after a little bit of reshaping. Part of the learning process is figuring out how all these parts mount on the car

while holding tools and glancing at the repair book to make sure I don't destroy anything. The rear fender fit right into the wheel well. No one was more amazed than me. Just must drill a couple more holes and run in the screws. It's just that simple. I wish....

April 4, 2023

It's been a month since I left off. Let's say the cold weather kept me away from the garage and leave it at that. But now I'm back at it with about half the energy I had back in February. While fitting the wheel well I discovered the original builders did a tremendous amount of hand fitting. I lacked just under an inch of the wheel well not fitting. I had two choices. Trim the excess or refit the curve for a proper fit. In refitting the wheel well curve I created a bit more work. I guess you could say it's all in a day's work. Along with this I found the wood frame requires fitting. The process is making sure the door (rear) pillar is 90 deg to the frame then fit the remaining wood frame to that. It would be useful to have the factory jigs. But I have a tape measure instead. Don't worry, the parts will fit and any mistakes will be transparent to the casual observer.

Rear right-hand side showing the wheel well lip. It should fit flush to





The next chapter I hope I'll be able to hang the doors.





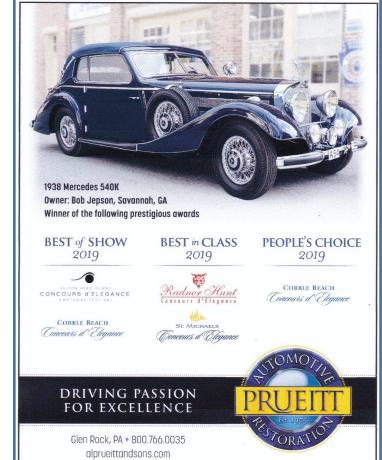
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Andrew Gold British Car Collection and other Topics



By Don McDonald

On March 8, 2023, the British Car Club of Delaware, Inc. had our first meeting for our fall Car Show. The car show is to be held September 16th, 2023, at the Bellanca Airfield, 2 Centerpoint Blvd., New Castle, Delaware

19720 All British – All Years – Car and Motorcycle Show. BCCD is celebrating 100 years of the MG this year. MG is a British automotive marque founded by Cecil Kimber in the 1920s, and M.G. Car Company Limited was the British sports car manufacturer that made the marque famous. Best known for its open two-seater sports cars, MG also produced saloons and coupes, with engines up to three liters in size and 3.5L in the case of the MGB GT V8. <u>https://classicsworld.co.uk/guides/a-brief-history-of-mg-cars/</u>

The following members were in attendance: Terry Young, Don Mc Donald, Jim Martin, Sharon Kalinowski, Dave Mitchell, George Alderman, Bob Wall, Bob Turner, Joy and Brian Read, Mike and Lee Salino. As always most of our outings or meetings always end with a great meal at a local restaurant. The luncheon meeting was at the Green Turtle in Stanton Delaware. After a full well-planned agenda by Terry. We had a fabulous lunch. Our waitress Erin was one of the best waitresses I have ever encountered. We

gave her our name for separate checks

for the bill She asked for our first name. When she came back for our drink order she remembered everyone's first name and addressed all 14 of us by our name. She did this every time for our food order and when checking on if we needed anything else. Great service and food. A fabulous memory. I called the next day and told her what great service we all received.

After the meal Terry Young, Don Mc Donald, Jim Martin, George Alderman, Bob Turner climbed in our daily drivers and ventured out in the country to













1938 Austin 7 Ruby 4-Seater Touring Car - Dark Blue-Black Leather Interior.



1935 Austin 7 Opel 2-Seater Honey Belge White Leather Interior.



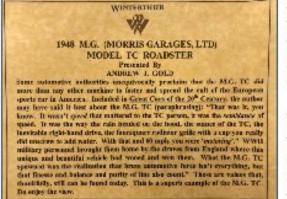
1936 Austin 7 Ruby 4-Seater Touring Car-Gray-Blue Leather Interlor.







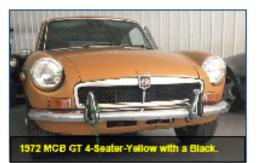
Centerville, Delaware. The route would have been a great drive in our British Cars if it had not been a cold March afternoon. We drove on the windy roads through Hoopes Reservoir then on to Campbell Road. One more turn to the right we were on Owls Nest



Road almost at our destination. A few more miles we were at our destination. A secluded country estate where the classic collection of fine vintage automobiles was located. Andrew has a fine collection of British Motor Cars ranges from 1934 to 1972.

The latest year in his British Collection is a 1972 Yellow MGB with Wire Wheels, Chrome bumpers the way the MGB was originally made. Only 27,000 miles on the MGB, very low mileage like all the vehicles in his collection. Many MGB enthusiasts felt when the rubber bumper MGB was introduced in September 1974, they considered it to be an unworthy addition to the British sports car stable.

The classic chrome accents were gone, the handling was affected by the elevated ride height and the performance diminished Many owners of the 1974 to 1980 MGB Motorcars converted the cars back to the chrome bumpers and wire wheels. In this writer's opinion all the MGB British Motorcars from day 1 to the last in 1980 are fine Collector Vehicles.



A sad day for the fine MGB was on October 23, 1980, the very last MGB Roadster rolled of the production line at the MG Car Company in Abington. At some point the final specimen ended up in the Heritage Motor Center alongside 300 other classic, vintage, and veteran British Cars.

A fun day was had by all that tour of the car collection. A true British "Little One" a Yorkshire Terrier. The Yorkshire England in 1874. Ekko is the Andrew. The Yorkshire terrier is a small long, silky coat that's often black and have tenacious but affectionate protective, and loyal. And, despite their



attended both the luncheon meeting and the member of the Gold Family. Ekko aka Breed Yorkshire Terrier first originated in Constant Companion of Maria and toy dog breed native to England with a tan. Also known as Yorkies, these dogs personalities. They tend to be very vocal, small size, they can make excellent guard

dogs. How classic is that a fine little British dog for a British Motor Car collector.

Submitted by Don Mc Donald British Car Club of Delaware, Inc. Northeast MD, May 25, 2023 -

Great news for one of the members of the British Car Club of Delaware, Inc. Jim Martin trophies in the *Cruiz-in' for the Cause* car show benefiting Union Hospital fight against cancer. Jim stated.

"The show had about 325 cars, primarily American Iron; two Healey's and no MGs. Most were antiques/Classics. Since it was in Walmart's shopping center there were a lot of families. I did not know about it until the day before. There was no entrance fee. They just asked everyone to donate to the Hospital. There were big fire trucks with ladders that you could see for quite a distance. The Ro-tary manned the food which was donated (just hot dogs & chicken). The cost was \$5.00 for either. Served along with chips and water or soda."



Congratulations, Jim! Well Done!

My First LBC

Gary Marsiglia

My first British car was a graduation gift from my parents. I graduated from high school in 1963 but my father thought that I needed another year of maturity before he purchased my graduation gift....a new , bright red with a white top, 1964 TR 4 purchased from Berger Motors on Reisterstown Road in Baltimore Maryland.

This was a most spectacular gift of my life and the very next day after receiving it I took a trip to Bethany Beach Delaware to visit with my girlfriends family. Of course, along the way to the beach I was caught in a thunder storm and had to learn fast how to put the top up....thank God for the overpass that afforded me some shelter while I figured out how to do it.

I kept this car immaculate, made some modifications to the engine along with some chrome enhancements....unfortunately I rolled the car in 1966 on my way home Thanksgiving eve.

I thank the solid construction of the car that saved my life.

My father told me "no more tiny sports cars for you"....so my next car was a new 1966 GT 350 Ford Mustang by Shelby American.

Automotive





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Mystery Car

A bit too easy, that one, especially since you could read the make on the bonnet. Just needed to get the year and model.

It is, of course, a McLaren F1, built in Woking, England between 1992 and 1998. 5 variants were made - 62 Base, 6 LM, 3 GT, 2 HDK and 28 GTR (Racing). Just 106 were made altogether.

Just 7 came to the US for road use and they were heavily modified to comply with the regulations. Heightened bumpers and dampened performance.

Powered by a 6.1 litre BMW V12 engine with a 6 speed



manual transmission, it achieved a top speed of 240.1 mph in 1998, eclipsing the 1993 record of 217.1 held by a Jaguar XJ220.

The GTR model achie, headlights ved some racing honours too by finishing Le Mans 1995 in 1st, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 13th places.

The base price was \$1.8M but you'll be luck to find one now for less than \$25M (one sold for \$20.46M in 2021). Start saving now.

Let's go a bit further back in time, but not too far:

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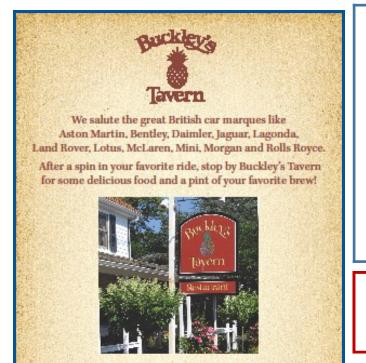
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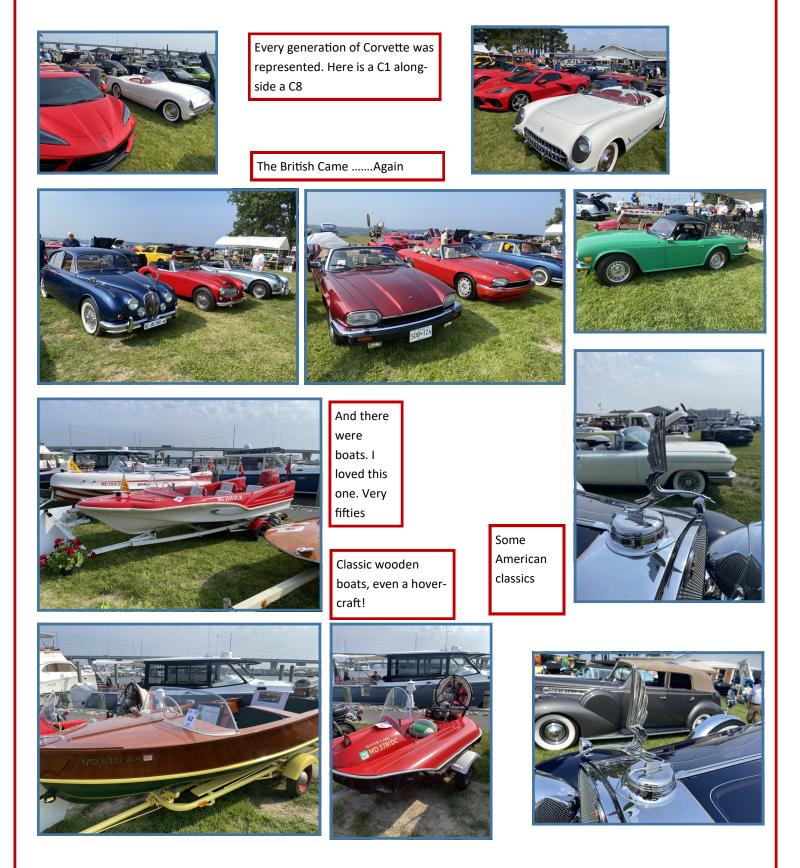
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Chesapeake Motoring Festival

June 10/11

An excellent show with a spectacular location. Here are some pictures I took. Trevor



Chesapeake Motoring Festival June 10/11

Two cars from BCCD won trophies:

Left - 1964 Austin Healey MK3000 Mark III BJ8 - Jim Martin (150 bhp by a new higher lift camshaft).



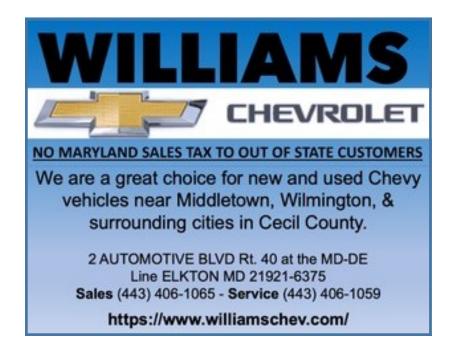
Right - 1963 Factory 5 Daytona Coupe - George Alderman and Mac Morgan (over 600 HP)



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Automotive

Annual Jensen East Nationals

Bob Wall

The 23rd annual Jensen East Nationals event was hosted by BCCD's Bob & Carol Wall in western New York June 7th - 11th. This is the largest gathering of Jensen automobile owners and aficionados in the United States, held annually at various locations around the eastern U.S.. Attendees made the trek from DE, MD, PA, NY, NJ, TN, GA, FL, NC, IL, MI, KY, SC, VA, IA, WI, MO, OH, and Canada. Jensen cars were manufactured by Jensen Motors Limited in West Bromwich, England until ceasing operations in 1976. Perhaps the company's two best known models are the Chrysler-powered Jensen Interceptor and the Lotus-powered Jensen-

Healey sports car.



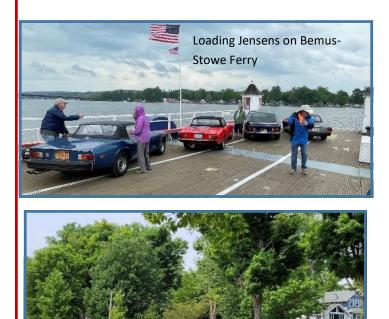
Sixty attendees and 25 Jensen's (1 CV-8, 5 Interceptors, and 19 Jensen-Healeys) took part in backroad driving rallies to Lake Erie and around Lake Chautauqua, a historic

Ferry Ride across Lake Chautauqua, a Funkhana (Lucille Ball themed), and put on a car show at the famous Chautauqua (cultural) Institution. The group toured the National Comedy Contraction of the second seco

Jensen CV8

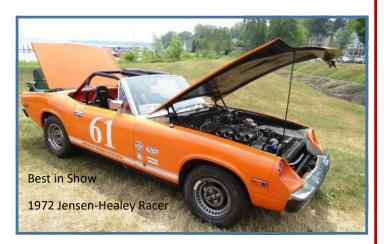
Center (Jamestown, NY), the Grape Discovery Center (Westfield, NY), and the Lawson Antique Boat Museum (Bemus Point). Tech sessions were held on both Jensen Interceptor and Jensen-Healey topics. The annual Jarts competition was held at an evening BBQ, followed by a large silent and live auction where many car parts and other items changed hands. The event concluded with an awards dinner at the Chautauqua Golf Club Banquet Hall.

Jensen owners and enthusiasts will meet again in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin June 5th – 9th, 2024.



Car Show









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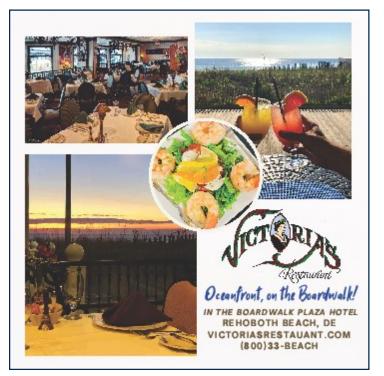
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Automotive









1972 Jensen Interceptor Mk III Reincarnation – Bob Wall

I got hooked on the Jensen Marque back in 1998 when I saw, and purchased, my first 1973 Jensen-Healey Roadster. After over 50,000 miles of driving all over the eastern & mid-west states, completing a 2 year restoration in 2006, and several performance upgrades over the years, I'm still enjoying top-down driving, twisty road handling, and the music of the Lotus engine. But, finally achieving retirement and Medicare, the time came to adopt a big brother for the Jensen-Healey.

In September 2021, I was summoned to dinner at a Jensen friend's house in Maryland. He had to show me a 1972 Jensen Interceptor he'd acquired, but didn't have the time to take on the restoration. It was an early Mark III with the Chrysler V8 440. It had 60K miles and minimal rust, but was mostly disassembled from previous owner attempts to restore. It hadn't been on the road since 1992. After a few attempts, it finally fired up -- smoking all the mosquitos (and my wife) away from the area. It ran, but I wouldn't say smooth. At the end of dinner, I couldn't help myself – I blurted out "I'll buy it"! My wife almost choked and nearly fell out of her chair. She said "You got 1 year to restore it", then quickly said, "Okay, two years, since it is in such terrible condition". Well, I did it in 14 months, so we're still married.







The 1st 4 months was a lot of knuckle-busting tear down, sanding, cleaning, welding, and trying to figure out what parts were missing and where they go. The gas tank was a tub of rust and the gas lines & carb were full of "stuff" – why did it even run! The 2nd 4 months focused on POR-15'ing the interior and truck bed coating the boot and painting the undercarriage to ready the car for exterior paint. The engine and transmission were freshened and an upgraded air conditioning system installed.











While the car was off to paint, all the interior leather was cleaned with denatured alcohol, repaired, and spray painted with SEM leather paint. New wood was fabricated for the console. Brightwork was sent out for dent removal, rechroming, and polishing. Upon return from paint, the last 4 months was focused on assembly and electrical restoration. All rubber seals were replaced and vinyl replaced. Sound/heat isolation and underlayment was installed under a new carpet set. Wheels were cleaned and repainted and a new set of tyres installed.

















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Cecil Kimber - Founder of MG

By Jack Long

As we head full tilt into the 100th Anniversary year for MG, it is a good opportunity to reflect on the people who helped create and grow the little car company that made the machines we hold dear. The two most prominent that come to mind right away are Cecil Kimber, who founded the marque, and John Thornley, who grew it from little more than a cottage industry to, at its prime, the largest manufacturer of sports cars on the planet. In this issue I will talk about Kimber.

Cecil Kimber was born in 1888, the son of a struggling printing ink manufacturer and an aspiring artist mother. As a young man, he showed a great interest in all things mechanical despite a lack of formal training or apprenticeship and bought and rebuilt several motorcycles. In his early twenties, he was hit by a car while riding and sustained severe injuries to his right leg. The leg eventually healed but was 2 inches shorter than the left, which left him with a pronounced limp. Look carefully at any photos of him posing formally and he is always on tiptoe on this right foot, to stand erect. The driver who hit him was found liable and paid Kimber substantial damages in settlement. With this money, he moved on from motorcycles and bought his first car, a 1912 Singer. When his father's ink business failed, and unable to serve in the military due to his leg, Kimber moved into the motor industry, working in various manufacturing roles, until 1921 when he took the job of Sales Manager and then General Manager at the Morris Garages in Oxford, a dealership owned by William Morris himself.

Kimber soon realized the potential for increasing the performance of the Morris cars, and he worked with some very talented mechanics and Morris factory engineers to build "specials" based on new Morris chassis. These were originally sold as customized Morrises but in 1923 the newest model was marketed as the "M.G. Super Sports" and the marque was born. In 1925, he built a lightweight racing special that we now know as "Old Number One" and won some very prestigious competition events with it. In 1928, based on the success of these hand-built specials, William Morris formally established the MG Car Company Ltd., and in 1929 Kimber leased a surplus leather factory in Abingdon, abut 8 miles south of Oxford, to consolidate the MG works, which had been scattered all over Oxford, and accommodate growing demand for MG cars.

Kimber was a complex man, very driven but also very compassionate. He was known equally well for how hard he pushed everyone around him, including himself, and for the respect and affection shown to him by his employees. He was very artistic and was aided in that area by his wife, Rene, who contributed significantly to the design of many early MGs.

The 1930s were a golden age for MG, with great competition success and engineering advances, but also marked by near-continuous model changes and always-precarious finances. Things changed in 1935 when, for tax reasons, William Morris ceased private owner-ship of MG and it became part of the much larger Morris Motors. Suddenly Kimber had to answer to a corporate bureaucracy rather than a single owner, and things like factory-sponsored racing soon came to an end. MG's finances improved but the cars became less exotic and more based on production Morris parts. Kimber soldiered on until the fall of 1939, when Germany invaded Poland to start World War II and car production ceased immediately. Kimber prepared the MG works for war production but, months later, little work had materialized and the plant stood nearly empty. Kimber being Kimber, he went out on his own and secured a war contract for MG, a very complex project involving assembling aircraft nose sections that had been turned down by several other larger manufacturers. When his corporate bosses found out, he was terminated in November 1941 for "noncompliance" with corporate policy. Kimber worked as a manager for several other industries involved in war production. As the war wound down, he presented a paper on the future of the sports car to the Institute of Automobile Engineers and was engaged in discussions with Triumph about taking over management of that marque after the war. On a Sunday evening in February 1945, Kimber took a train from London's Kings Cross station to Peterborough on a business trip. The train derailed when leaving the station, and hit an overhead signal bridge which collapsed onto the rearmost car, killing Cecil Kimber and one other passenger and injuring 25 more.

Although Kimber was gone, the outsized reputation that MG built during his leadership positioned it for great things in the postwar era.



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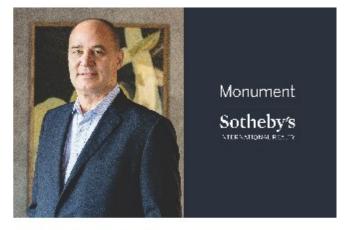


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Gary M Betty
Alison Blyth
Charles Burton
Anthony & Paul Campanella
Paul Cullen
Chris Cuthbert
Coley DuPont
Josh & Jim Grundy
Thomas (Thom) E. Harvey III
Allen Hendrix
George Hobbs
Charlie Kerbeck
Frank Kerbeck
Vance Kershner

Harry Marcus
Frank McMahon
Luke Phipps
David Prueitt
Christopher Riofski
Ken Rudy
The Scala Family
Tim Southerst
Ralph Steinberg
Andrea Stock
Jon Talkington
Sandy Thomson
Jim Ursomarso
JR Walker
Ludie & Eben Warner
Frank Williams
Tom Williams
Peter Wolff
Jennifer Zerby

Brandywine Motor Sport Club

Chesapeake Bay Motoring Festival

Kent Island Yacht Club