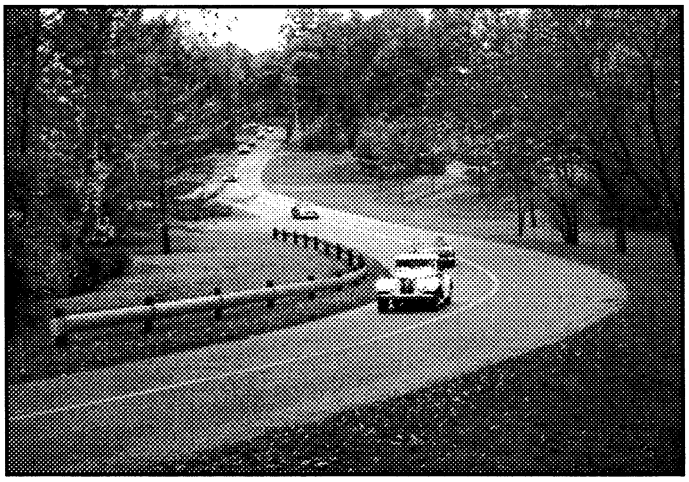
The Can Am CONNECTION

WINDSOR-DETROIT

Vol. 19, No. 8- Newsletter of the Windsor-Detroit MG Club - Nov.-Dec., 1999



Photos: Above: Two things that really go together, MGs and a twisty road. **Above Right:** Is that Mr. Lucas eyeing the TF at Jenny's Market?

Colour Us Lucky

First it looked like we might not have any leaves on the trees for our Fall Colour Tour because of the dry summer. Next, the weather forecasters began predicting rain all weekend. Saturday fooled them with a high temperature of 77 (25 C.) and sun, but the forecast for Sunday was for a high of only 57 (13 C.) with rain. It wasn't looking very good for a glorious fall drive.

Last year I made up 20 copies of the route instructions and only ten cars showed up. This year with the rain, I figured about 7 or 8 cars would show and made 10 copies just in case.. Naturally **21** cars showed up for this year's tour, including a 4 car contingent from Canada!

We had a TD, a TF, an A, a Midget and 15 B's along with an Escort and a Honda CR-X.

These hardy souls were rewarded with a dry day, although a little cool. Several drivers ran with tops down (notice I said DRIVERS, those driving with companions all ran top up).

We even had some sun on the run to Jenny's Market. A glorious beam shined down on us as we headed out North Territorial Road. Like God was talking to us. And he was saying "Go forth and multiply yourself, no wait, that's what I said to the guy in the Blazer (but not exactly in those words). He said "Go forth and have fun with your sports cars."

And we did.

At the first stop, Jenny's Farm Market, we got out, stretched our legs and filled our stomachs and some of us put the tops up on a few cars (it was beginning to get a little bit coole)r.

Sufficiently stocked up we then headed down Huron River Drive, one of the favorite roads of the guys at Car & Driver and Automobile Magazines. A road made for MGs, lots of curves and smooth pavement. There was even a lot of colour left on the trees lining the river.

We ended up at Obstbaum's Cider Mill for more donuts and cider.

All in all a brisk Autumn day with great roads, great cars and like minded friends to share it all with. A great end to the official driving season.

Upcoming Events

Nov. 13 Chrysler Museum Tour

Dec. 8 Monthly Meeting-Nisbet Inn, Gift Exchange Night

Jan 1 Stupid Ride to Hell and back- Tops Down!

The Can-Am Connection is published 10 times a year by the Windsor-Detroit MG Club, Inc.
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Fine Print
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Safety Fast!

Ed Fleming, Editor

Here's a little something that Jeff Zorn got from Dave Smith in Lansing, who got it from Tony Burgess, who is the chair of MG 2001 in St. Paul, who got it from Bill Eastman.

Ten things you will never hear an MGA owner say :

10. Well, the A failed emissions again.
9. Roll up the window dear, I'm getting a draft.
8. Don't worry, it won't leak on your new driveway.
7. My first gear syncro is weak.
6. Do you think the backfire could be caused by a bad gulp valve?
5. The defroster should melt that ice in a minute or two.
4. First one to the next stop light gets the pink slip.
3. So what if it's raining - we'll stay dry.
2. No problem, just throw it in the trunk.
1. We'll take the freeway. I just hate those twisty back roads

CARS WANTED

AN ABSOLUTELY SERIOUS BUYER wants any MG, Jaguar, Austin-Healey, Morgan, Triumph, 356, 190SL, Alpha Romeo, Riley, Land-Rover, Singer, also Pre-war and other interesting European cars.
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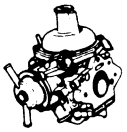

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MGing

By Dave Doolin, President

Our October meeting at the Nisbet was our usual packed house. I introduced two new members, Tom Burke, the owner of a '51 TD and Kim Wilkinson, the owner of a '79 MGB.

I remember my first club meeting. I was anxious to meet other members and learn about MGs, to see what they were doing on their cars, where they were bringing them for work and all the normal kinds of questions that MG owners are concerned with. I have to admit after a couple of meetings I really hadn't met too many people and kind of lost interest and got involved with some other things for about a year. For some reason we started back and the more we came to meetings, the more people we got to know. Here we are 5 years later and have made many great friends in the club. We are still not as active as we would like to be, but with three kids, they keep Nancy and me pretty busy. Both of our MGs are in sad shape, but progress is being made.

Plans for our Hibernation Party are in full swing. We're going to have a wonderful party over at the Essex Club in Canada. If you didn't attend our last Hibernation Party over there you really missed a great party at a wonderful, historic golf club. The atmosphere is entirely British and the food is excellent, so please block your calendars. There will be many surprises in store at this annual shindig, and the committee is working feverishly to make it the best MG party ever thrown. Ed Fleming has a complete rundown in this issue.

Officer elections will be held. at the Hibernation Party also. Please call me or any of our officers if you want to get more involved with the club. I can tell you, if you think you would like to get involved you will love it.

My favorite subject - "Name Tags". Please wear them. If you don't have one, can't find your's or haven't seen it in many a moon, let me know. They are only $3.75 US, (I think that's about $25 Canadian). If you told me you need one, I have it.

Have you ever been to the R & M Classic Car auction in Novi? I went up last Friday to see the cars. I wouldn't miss it for anything. I only saw one MG up there, complete with many goodies, the paint was still sticky. There must have been at least 10 Jags of varying years, and rows and rows of antiques from Model Ts to Packard Touring Cars. You will never guess who I saw there looking for a car. His initials are B. R.

Which reminds me, if you didn't pick up your new Windsor-Detroit member listing, call Ed Fleming (248) 349-3799, and he will bring one to the next meeting or send you one via mail.

I was up in Canada last week and stopped into two restorations shops. LCM over in Milton, near Toronto and R & M Classic Restoration has a new place that I think has been there for less than a year. Both places are state of the art restoration shops. R & M does just about everything right on sight. They also have a car display and their collection is unbelievable. There is a glass partitioned viewers observation area that runs the full length of the restoration shop where you can see their workers restore the cars of your dreams. We need to saddle up and make a trip out there one of these Saturdays. R & M is about 50 miles east of the Ambassador Bridge, about 100 yards south of the 401.

I was going to tell you about the adventures with my MGB front end but am out of room in this issue, Stay tuned. See you over at Paynes' or at the Nisbet.

Hibernation Party Order Form

Sign me (us) up for a great time at the Windsor-Detroit MG Club Hibernation Party on Feb. 5, 2000 at the Essex County Golf & Country club.

Name_____

Address_____

City_____State/Provence_____Zip/Postal Code_____

Phone Number (_____)_____

Number Attending_____

Dinner Selections for each person:

1. _____
2._____
3_____

Make Check payable to the "Windsor-Detroit MG Club" and mail it to: Ed Fleming, 8905 Napier Rd., Northville, MI 48167 or John Cherwak, 1765 Chilver Rd, Windsor, ON N8W 2T7. Cost is $20.00 U. S. or $30.00 Canadian, per person.

Dinner Selections:

A. Chicken Parmesan
B. Veal Marsala
C. Baked Atlantic Salmon

All dinners come with soup, tossed salad, roasted potatoes, mixed vegetables, rolls & butter, coffee or tea and an apple tart dessert.

Does Hell Ever Really Freeze Over? Find Out January 1st!! Be Smart, Join The Stupid Ride

Last year for the Club's first Stupid Ride I chose November 14th as a good date. The weather should have been cold and wintery by that time I thought.

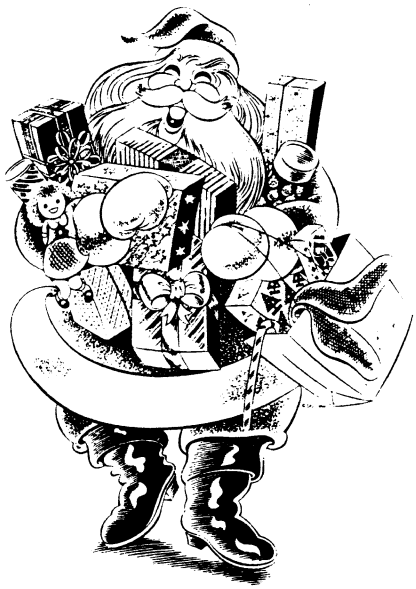
However, it turned out to be an unusual "Indian Summer" type of day with balmy temperatures and a clear sky for the ride to Dearborn.

So this year I thought I wouldn't take any chances. New Year's weekend always seems to have real winter like weather. So this year's Stupid Ride will take place on January 1st.

We'll meet at the usual Meijer's Parking lot at 1 pm and head out to Hell, Michigan to see if it really froze over. Rules are: 1. You must drive your MG. 2. Roadsters must run top down. 3. GTs must run with windows open.

Be sure to call me the day before for final instructions. If the weather is really bad we may delay the run. We're not **that** stupid.

What: Stupid Ride - To Hell And Back
When: Jan 1st 1:00PM
Where: Meijer's Parking Lot - 8 Mile and Haggerty - see map.
What to Bring: Dress warm. Bring a tow rope, sand, extra weight in trunk, something hot to drink, etc.
Just in Case: Call Ed Fleming at (248) 349-3799 Dec. 31st for last minute details



Gift Exchange Night At December Monthly Meeting!

Bring a gift to the Monthly Meeting at the Nisbet Inn on December 8th. We'll have our annual gift exchange after the regular meeting. Gifts should be in the $5.00-$8.00 price range. Automotive gifts would be appropriate since this is a car club but, if you want to bring something more traditional, please mark it for a man or woman.

Mileage Contest Driving To A Close

The Windsor-Detroit MG Club's annual mileage contest will officially end December 31, 1999. Be ;sure to report your mileage to Jeff Zorn by that date (sooner if you put your car away for the winter).

Call Jeff at 248-489-0022 or E-mail him at: www.LBCarCo.com

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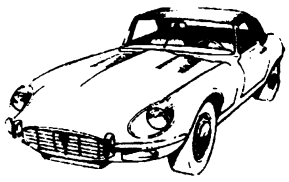

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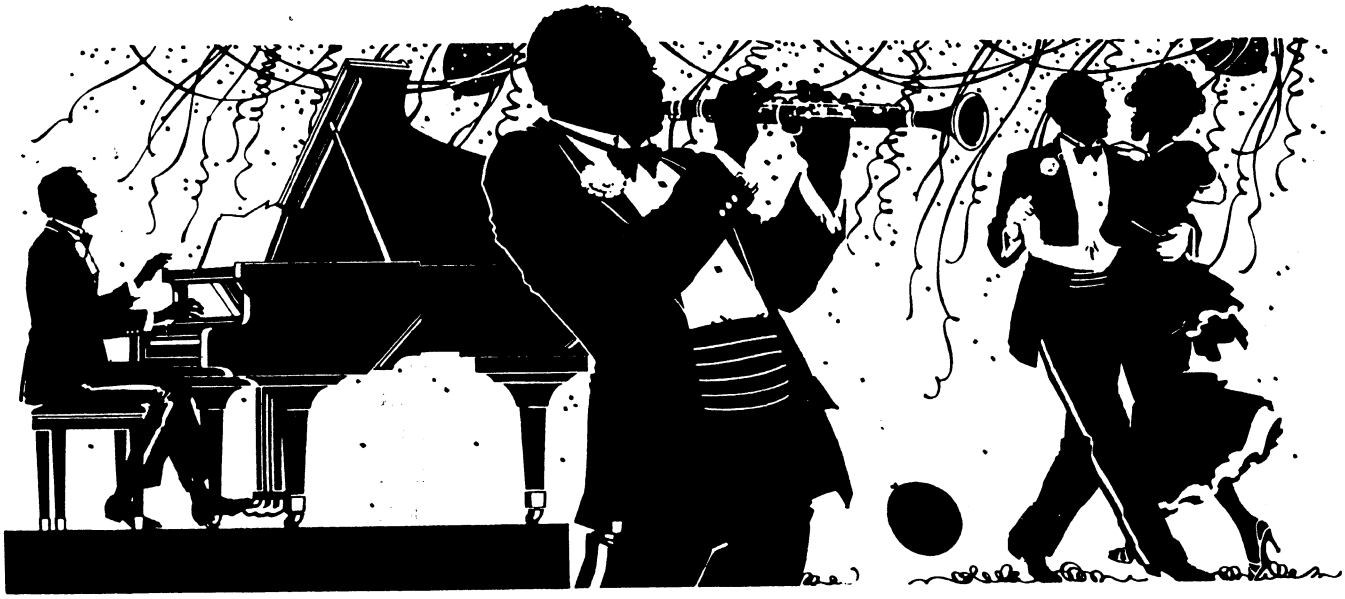

It's Our Get Down and Dress Up, Super Event Of The Year!
Club Hibernation Party Planned For Saturday February 5th!

You have no excuses this time. OK, Valentines Day is a week and a half after the party, so why don't you take your Significant Other to the Hibernation Party for Valentine's Day? It'll take place on Saturday February 5th. And you must let us know you're attending by February 1st

This year we'll be back at the Essex Golf & Country Club, same place we met at two years ago. A near perfect place for a British sports car club to meet.

We have many surprises planned for you. In the past some distaff members of the club were not overwhelmed by the gifts of motor oil and carb cleaner they received as door prizes. So this year we have a team of feminine gift shoppers picking out more feminine gifts for half the attendees.

You will also have a choice of dinners. Chicken Parmesan or Veal Marsala or Baked Atlantic Salmon. These main dishes will be accompanied by Soup of the Day, a Tossed Salad with choice of dressing, Roasted Potatoes and Seasonal Mixed Vegetables, rolls & butter and for dessert an Apple Tart.

The Club has as strict dress code as we found out two years ago (a few men showed up without their dresses). Actually, the code is that men must wear jacket and tie. And No Denim is allowed (hmmm, where did I put that pair of Denim boxer shorts?).

The MG Club is subsidizing this event, and so the cost is only $20 U. S. or $30 Canadian per person..

What: Club Hibernation Party, Awards, Elections Etc.

When: Sat. Feb. 5th, 6:00 P.M. to Midnight?

Where: Essex Golf and Country Club, 7555 Matchette Road, La Salle, ON, (519) 734-1251

Cost: $20.00 U.S. or $30.00 Can. per person

What to Wear: Men: jacket and tie, No Denim

What to do first: Fill out the order form on page 3 and send with your check (made out to the "Windsor-Detroit MG Club") to: Ed Fleming, 8905 Napier Rd, Northville, MI 48167 or John Cherwak, 1765 Chilver Rd., Windsor, ON N8W 2T7

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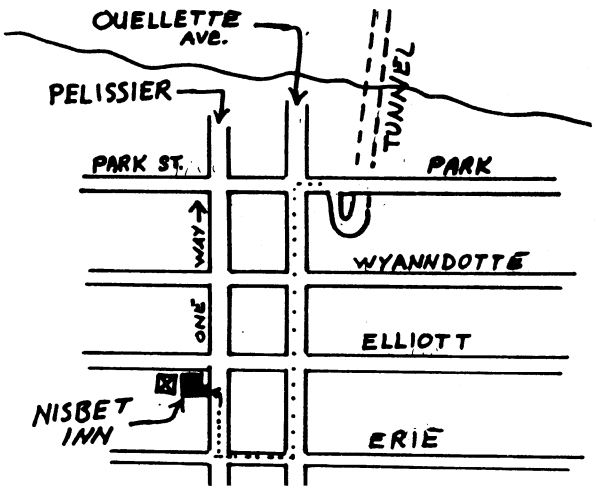
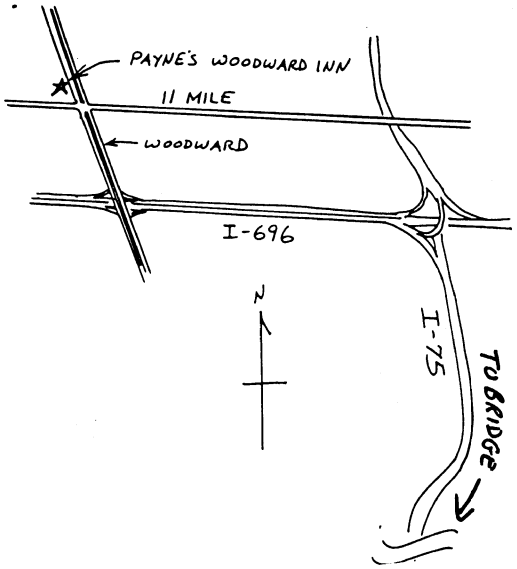
The Windsor-Detroit MG Club meets the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30 PM. Even numbered months we meet at the Nisbet Inn, 131 Elliott, West, just west of Quellette, south of the tunnel. Odd numbered months we meet at Payne's Woodward Inn at 1881 Woodward Ave, a mile north of the I-696 expressway. See maps.





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Embroidered Golf Shirts.....	$25	$30
Key Rings.....	$ 5	$ 6
Wall Clocks.....	$22	$26
Club Logo Hat Pins	$ 3	$3.50
Other Hat Pins.....	$ 3	$3.50
Sweater with embroidered club logo....	$40	$52
Golf Shirt " " " ".....	$30	$39
Lap Robe " " " ".....	$45	$58
T-Shirts.....	$10	$12
Baseball Caps.....	$ 5	$ 6
Sweatshirt.....	$15	$18
MG Christmas Tree Ornaments.....	$ 5	$ 6
Grill Badges (new design).....	$20	$28

To Purchase Any Of These Items Contact Your Regalia Chairman

Video Library

The following videos are available to club members. Contact our Video Librarian, Chuck Wiley at (313) 586-2500

***La Carrera Panamerica.** (1987) Open road race across Mexico with music by Pink Floyd and **Silverstate Classic** - the fastest open road race in the world across Nevada.

***Winning** with Paul Newman. Fictional story of Indycar racing. The movie that got Newman interested in racing.

***The Italian Job** Michael Cain stars with several Minis in a big bank robbery.

***Drive to Win** with Mario Andretti

***Battle of the Bs.** Club racing MGBs in England.

***SU Carb Rebuild**

***'66 and '69 Le Mans Races**

***Formula One 1979, 1980, 1982**

***Gran Turismo Jaguar.**

***The MGB Film Library**

***The MGB Video.** "Short but good"

***MGB Experience.**

***The Roadster Factory Summer Party 1993**

***Behind the Wheel with Jackie Stewart.** Stewart shows you how to drive with finesse.

***Rendezvous.** A ride through the streets of Paris at 100 MPH plus. Short but great! A cult classic and one of Car & Driver's top

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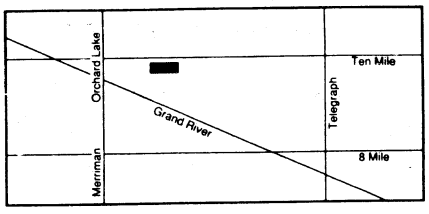

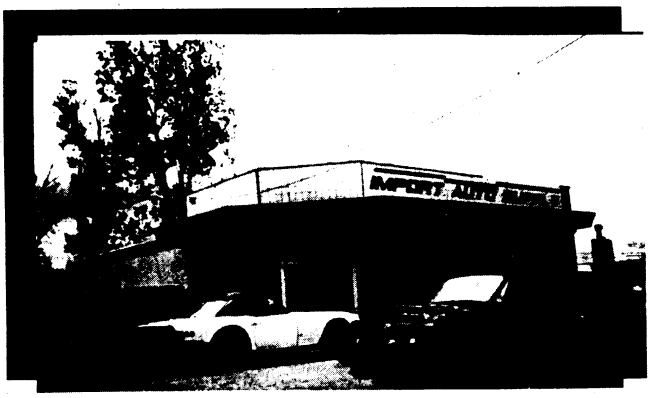

31151 Ten Mile Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48336 **(248) 474-7744**

Calendar of Events

Note: Items listed in **Bold Type are Windsor-Detroit MG Club Events.** Those listed in *Italic Type are British Sports Car Council Events.*

For up to date information on club events call Chuck Wiley at (734) 586-2500, Ed Fleming at (248) 349-3799 or Roli Sylvestre at (519) 969-2739.

November 1999

Nov 13 Tour to Chrysler Museum

December 1999

Dec 8 Monthly Meeting-Nisbt Inn-Gift Exchange Night

January 2000

Jan 1 Stupid Ride to Hell and back

Jan 12 Monthly Meeting-Payne's Woodward Inn

February 2000

Feb 5 Hibernation Party-Essex Golf Club-Windsor

Feb 9 Monthly Meeting

March 2000

Mar 8 Monthly Meeting

April, 2000

Apr 12 Monthly Meeting

May, 2000

May19 Monthly Meeting

June, 2000

Jun 14 Monthly Meeting

July, 2000

Jul 12 Monthly Meeting

Jul 17-22 MGA GT25 Morgantown W.Va.

August, 2000

Aug 9 Monthly Meeting

Aug 12 Fire and Ice Rally

Aug 16-20 Abingdon '00 Summer Party, Abingdon, IL.

September 2000

Sep 13 Monthly Meeting

October 2000

Oct 11 Monthly Meeting

Oct 15 Colour Tour

Unclassified Ads

Unclassified ads run for three issues or for however long I feel like running them. They are free for members and $5.00 for non-members. Call Ed Fleming at (248) 349-3799 to place your ad.

FOR SALE

Ceramic Models, business card holders, mugs etc. Hand made and personalized. We've actually won prizes for these things and our stuff is on display at the Morgan factory, Kimber House in Abingdon, the Detroit Institute of Arts, and the Pewabic Pottery. Call Marcia Greiner (248) 348-1473

British Car Brochures & Ads. Jay Kollin (734) 455-6949

MGB & Midget body panels, made in England, Britannia Enterprises, Troy. James Savage. 248-689-7259 (11)

'69 MGC Wire wheels, overdrive, spare drive train and other spares, $6900 Dan (810) 678-3018 (10)

Great gifts & other interesting items for your MG or other LBC. While supply lasts-licensed MG logo watches $50-$85, halogen bulbs (up to 100% brighter), electronic ignition, MG logo tire valve stem caps & more. Authorized Moss distributor, save $$$. Jeff Zorn at Little British Car Co. (248) 489-0022 or on the Webb www.LBCarCo.com

69 MG Midget, British Racing Green, Original owner, 56,000 miles, always garaged: (248) 553-6707. (10)

MGB Parts. Mid 70's rebuilt engine, transmission, new clutch, steering, luggage rack, top bows, wiper motor, trim parts, $450. Roger Phelps (810) 655-2838. (10)

Wire Wheels for MGB, Sell or trade. $30 each or 4 for $100. Steve Hartz (248) 628-9595 (10)

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MGB Parts: '62-'67 generator, generator fan & pulley '62-'67 starter, 3 blade fan & pulley, distributor #40897D 15V583, headlight rim with inner & seating rim, '67-8 drive shaft, '67-8 radiator surround diaphram, '67 radiator, pair GT left & right rear side window assy.,, '68 4 syncro. transmission, '67-8 chrome grille assy., complete tail lamp assy. to '69. Plus various other bits. $150 U.S. for the lot. Brian Collacott (519) 969-7187 (10)

WANTED

MGA Project car, around $3500, Dave Doolin, (248) 347-3466 (10)

Front axle, steering rack, etc. for rubber bumpered MGB. Also brake master cylinder. Steve Hartz (248) 628-9595 (10)

Chrome bumper MGB project car - rust free with original sills and floors, no major accidents. Not running okay. Call Mike Derderian at (810) 731-4434 or e-mail at derderia@tir.com

'73 MGB Mallard green with Ochre interior. John Dailey, 4988--B Oakbrook Rd., Indianapolis, IN 46254 (317) 297-0811. E-mail at JOHNDALY@INDY.NET (8)

Rebuildable TD wanted. Call John Bluth (248) 646-6574 (6)

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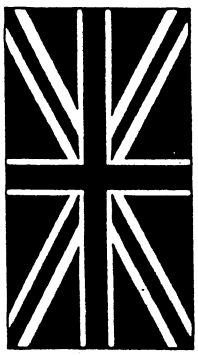

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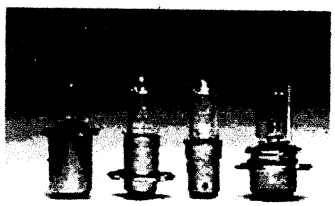

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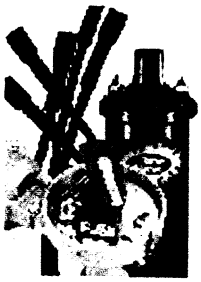

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