25th Year
Can Am MG CONNECTION
WINDSOR-DETROIT
Vol. 25, No. 4 - Newsletter of the Windsor-Detroit MG Club May 2005

At 117 Years Old, Cecil Knows How To Throw a Party!

There's an old song, "What A Difference A Day Makes". In the case of the Kimber Birthday Bash, we could say what a difference a week makes! Unlike the snowy weekend after, the weather was outstanding as we reunited for our first outing of the 2005 driving season. The day was sunny and warm, very different than in previous years. It appears that many of us had cabin fever and couldn't wait to celebrate the spring, as this was one of the better turnouts—17 cars in all. A few hardy souls even drove with their tops down. We took a new route this year, thanks to Ed Fleming. It was entertaining and provided much visual interest.

The usual suspects were all lined up and ready to go.

We made it to the Delhi Cafe

Our thanks to Marcia Greiner for making the cake and to Fran Lewis for carrying the cake in her car so we could all enjoy it.

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

E-mail
wdmgcc@mgcars.org.uk

Website
www.mgcars.org.uk/wdmgcc/

President
Ralph Poupard
519-776-6228

Vice President
Jeff Zorn
248-489-1855

Treasurer
Matt Bade
248-683-1210

Secretary
Scott Turner
519-254-9510

Webmaster
Lise Brown
lise@wdmgc.com
519-258-5987

Membership
Rick Astley
28404 South Harwich Drive
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
248-737-1978
Fax: 248-538-8339
rick@wdmgc.com

Newsletter Editor
Ellen Stuban
estuban01@comcast.net
248-668-8438

Video Librarian
Tom Newton
313-562-2377

Regalia
Canada: Roli Sylvestre
519-969-2739
U.S.A.: Elvin Davis Jr.
248-960-2296

Membership Tags
Dave Doolin 248-349-2848

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The Windsor-Detroit MG Club
The International Local Club

Ellen Stuban — Editor

THE BATON HAS PASSED

I sat there looking at the blank screen in front of me in panic, terror rising in my throat. The time had come for me to write my very first article for the newsletter. I was kicking myself for volunteering for the position! What was I thinking? What if I continued to draw a blank? What would I write about? Then I remembered why I had volunteered in the first place.

Joe and I have always gotten much enjoyment out of the club, and I felt that it was time to start giving something back. I've always felt that membership in any activity is more enjoyable when you become part of the machinery that helps keep it going. I think people volunteer for a variety of reasons. Some feel a sense of social responsibility to do so, some enjoy the recognition, some fulfill a deep seeded need within themselves. Regardless of the reason, research shows that when you volunteer your time to a cause, you, in turn, receive something back.

I cannot speak of volunteering without making mention of the wonderful job that my predecessor has done with this newsletter. Rick Astley did this job without fail for 3 years. After putting together my first issue, I have a much deeper appreciation for his efforts. Many of the articles that you read over the years were his own compositions, even if he didn't take credit and put in by-lines stating his name. At the Kimber Birthday Bash, I overheard someone at the next table telling Rick , "Ellen is going to have some tough shoes to fill." Never was a truer statement spoken. I'm grateful to Rick for his tutelage, his continued support and his offer to continue to provide content for the newsletter. If I can be half the editor that he was, I'll be satisfied. In the coming months, there will be differences in my approach that I hope meet with your approval. Various members have given me some great ideas for future issues, and I intend to institute them. It is my sincere hope that you'll continue to like what you see.

Before leaving the subject of volunteering, I'd like to make a plea to all of you. There are some members who consistently contribute to the newsletter, and for that I thank you. I'm always open to any level of help you feel you can offer. If the newsletter isn't an area that you can help with, there are many more places in the club that need your support. New, fresh ideas and people are what keeps clubs like ours vital and growing.

It's a family affair

Presidentially Speaking

By Ralph Poupard — Club President

Finally, the winter weather has broken. The classic British cars are being pulled from their winter hibernation, and the driving season is officially underway.

Our traditional first driving event, the Kimber Birthday Bash was held on Saturday, April 9th. A fine spring day greeted the 17 cars from the club at our usual meeting place at 8 mile and Haggerty. This was one of the better turnouts that I can recall for this event, no doubt aided by the forecast of a sunny day. Ed Fleming had planned a new route to Lansing, which was completed trouble free. We met members of the Michigan Rowdies and the Lansing Area MG Club. A special thanks goes out to Marcia Greiner, who made Cecil's birthday cake, and yet she had to work and was not able to attend. As the club superstition goes, the weather for the first event predicts the weather for all of our events. Last year at the Kimber Run it was cool and rained in the morning and stopped in the afternoon for the ride home. Last summer was cooler than normal with plenty of rain, with some hot weather but not as much as normal. Not a bad prediction, maybe more accurate than some of the satellite weather tracking. So if the theory holds out we are in for a summer of great driving weather.

Unfortunately, poor Cecil Kimber must be stirring in his grave again after the recent announcement of the closing of MG Rover. This unfortunate announcement follows months of speculation of a "merger" with SAIC of China. Financially strapped MG Rover needed a cash transfusion to prevent it from flat lining, and the Chinese were the blood bank. SAIC backed away from the deal, possibly frightened by the financial state at MG Rover and the possibility of it slipping into administration (receivership). The government is now stepping in to try to hold things together and possibly revive the negotiations with SAIC. It all looks grim, but I have to believe that somehow MG will rise from the ashes....again. If you are interested in this story, check out the links on our club website for further information.

Guy St John gives Rick Astley's MGBGT V8 a close inspection

This is a busy time for the club members who are planning our show, British Marques In The Park. We are planning for a very nice day at Malden Park, and at St. Clair College the night before. The hotel rates are the best that you will find anywhere, the show entry cost is only $15 for the first vehicle if you pre-register, and $20 on the day of the show. If you go to one event this year, make it this one. If you have never participated in club events, come on out. You will meet interesting, friendly, people and are sure to spend an enjoyable summer day with your British car or motorcycle. If you feel that you might want to caravan with some other cars, and don't know anybody, just contact one of the board members, and we will try to hook you up with someone in your area. If you are thinking that your car is not pristine enough, don't worry about it. What's important is that you attend. There will be all levels of cars there, from "better than new", to average to "well used". The May monthly meeting will be our last meeting at the Nisbet Inn. If you have never been there this will be your last chance. We have found a good potential replacement meeting place, the Dominion House, (DH). It is currently being remodeled into a British type pub. We will keep you posted on its progress. On May 7th is our trip to Rivertech, which is detailed elsewhere in the newsletter. As usual check the calendar in the newsletter as well as on our website for information on upcoming events.

Finally, we extend a welcome to Ellen Stuban who joins the club board as our newsletter editor, replacing Rick Astley. We also wish to thank Rick and Anne Astley for their dedication to the club and helping to make our newsletter one of the best British Car Club newsletters around.

So, until next time....

Safety MG Fast

Ralph

British Marques in the Park

by Lise Brown

As the ***Windsor-Detroit MG Club*** enters its 25th anniversary year, we are marking the occasion by hosting a celebration of British cars and motorcycles in Windsor, Ontario Canada, and in the spirit of giving back to the community, the event will also be a fund raiser for the *Windsor Regional Hospital Foundation - Oncology Program.*

Friday, June 24

Here are just a few of the activities planned:
Winery tour of Award winning Essex County wineries
Funkhana in the parking lot of the host hotel, the St Clair Residence and Conference Centre.
Evening BBQ and get together at the host hotel.

Saturday June 25

We'll celebrate our beloved British cars and motorcycles at the event show field in Malden Park. The show will include awards, dash plaques for the first 200 registrants, door prizes, a silent auction, and much, much more. And of course, vendors, food and beverage providers and lively entertainment will be on hand to round out the event.

Event Regalia

T-shirt $12 with your pre-registration and $15 after the cut-off date and at the event.
Commemorative poster (artist Marty Hunt) $5 while quantities last.
Ordering details for T-shirt and poster are on the event registration form.
Please don't hesitate to contact us for any additional information.

Before June 1, 2005:

$15 for first vehicle and **$10** for second vehicle registered by same owner (no charge for additional vehicles registered by same owner.)
After June 1 and at gate:
$20 per vehicle. The first 200 registrants will receive a dash plaque so register early (one dash plaque per registrant, not per vehicle.)

Vendor fees:
$25 flat rate (plus event registration fee if applicable, i.e. if registering a British vehicle) Be sure to indicate space requirements on registration form.

Our host hotel, the St Clair Residence and Conference Centre, is offering a special rate to event participants who reserve by **May 1 2005**. In addition, for *each* room booked for this event, the hotel will donate $5 to the Windsor Regional Hospital Foundation.

$69.95 (plus taxes) **per night for a suite** that includes:
2 private bedrooms; kitchenette; full 3 piece bath; desk/workspace with data port; free local calls and voice mail; air conditioning; cable TV; continental breakfast; and ample free parking (especially handy if you're towing your British vehicle.) Visit the web site for the full list of amenities.

Call toll free: 1-877-225-8664
E-mail: clcstclair@campuslivingcentres.com

Fax: 519-966-9501
When booking, please quote confirmation number **014723**
and mention our event to get the special rate.
(Special rate guaranteed if booked by May 1, 2005)

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British Marques in the Park

All British Car and Motorcycle Show

June 24-25 2005, Windsor, Ontario, Canada
Hosted by the Windsor-Detroit MG Club

Registration fee
Before June 1, 2005: **$15** for first vehicle, **$10** for second vehicle registered by same owner (no charge for additional vehicles registered by same owner.)
After June 1, 2005 and at gate: **$20** per vehicle.

Send this completed form along with a check or money order (payable to *British Marques in the Park*) to:

Scott Turner
2348 Gladstone Avenue
Windsor, Ontario N8W 2P1
Canada

If you require further information you can reach Scott by phone or email.
Telephone: 519-254-9510
Email: scott@wdmgc.com

Participant and vehicle information/registration

Name _____

Address
_____

_____

Telephone _____ Email _____

British vehicle(s) entered
Marque _____ Model _____ Year

Marque _____ Model _____ Year

Marque _____ Model _____ Year

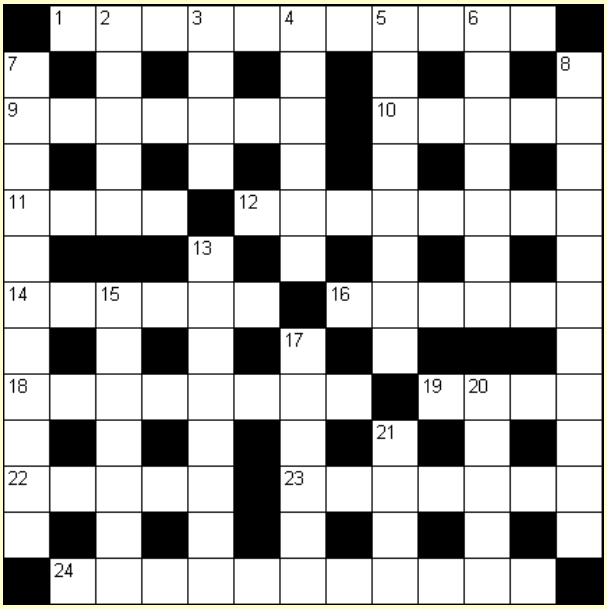
(If more than three vehicles, list on back of form) **Registration fee total $** _____
Optional purchases
Event T-shirt $12 with pre-registration, $15 at event. Indicate number of T-shirts per size.

Small _____ Medium _____ Large _____ X-Large _____ XX-Large _____ **T-shirt total $** _____

Event poster $5 (while quantities last) Quantity _____ **Poster total $** _____
Total amount enclosed (registration fee plus any optional purchases) …… ……. **$** _____

The Windsor - Detroit MG Club Crossword

Compiled by Rick Astley



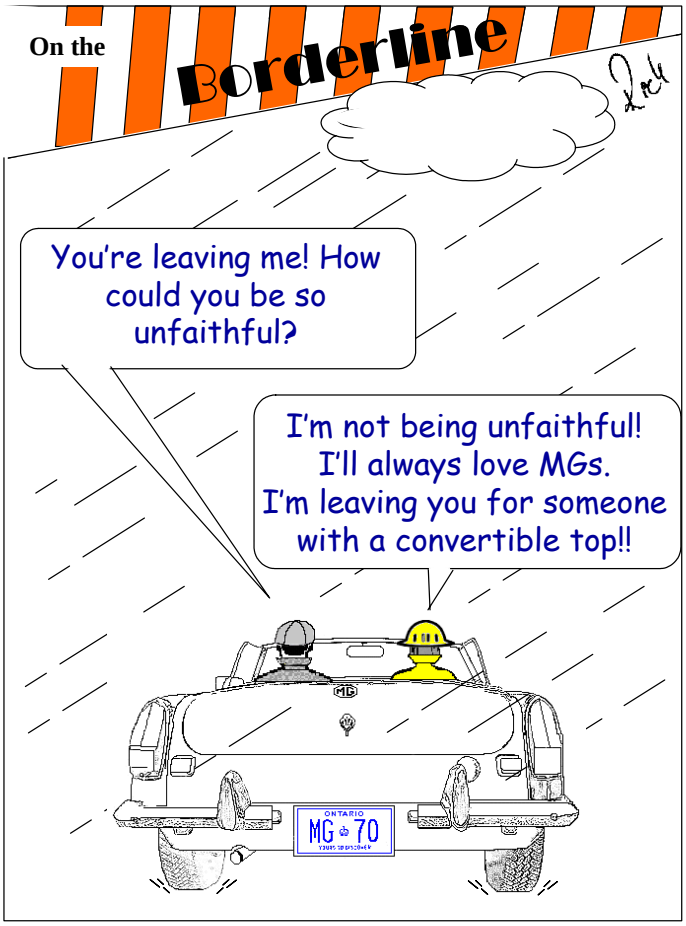
Across

1 It drains into the Detroit River
9 Some Chevrolet sedans
10 Swedish gun maker
11 Small coin
12 Luxury railroad cars
14 TV dog
16 Adjust to best performance
18 Lagos resident
19 Move slowly over the ground
22 Wear away
23 Driver's compartment
24 Engine cooling device

Down

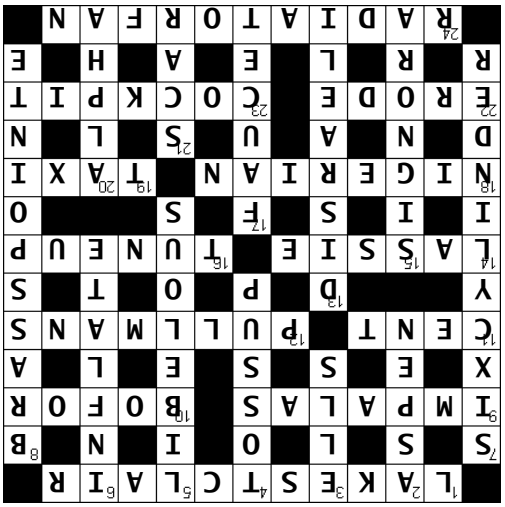
2 Poplar tree
3 Pipe connections
4 Even chance
5 Slanderous writing
6 Increase the tire pressure
7 MGC engine description
8 US meeting place
13 Benjamin —– British PM once
15 Enzo Ferrari's wife?
17 Tap
20 First Greek letter
21 Injury reminder

Solution below



For reasons nobody can fathom, Canadian football is played on an enormous field with 12 players per side and only 3 downs, so every third play tends to be a punt. Canadian football alone is said to have driven 2 million Canadians to become US citizens. Many believe Bush could not have won without the disaffected Canadian

OK guys. We have a lady editor now so next month I'll be doing an article on knitting seat covers.



EnjoyClassicCars.com

A Regional Website for the Classic Car Enthusiast

If you have access to the Internet, check out this web site and become part of the circle. The site is run by MG and Italian car enthusiast Peter Pleitner who is a professor in the vehicle restoration portion of Washtenaw Community College and who facilitates our annual trip to Rivertech

THE WINDSOR-DETROIT MG CLUB WELCOMES ITS NEWEST MEMBERS

BRUCE & JOAN CROZIER
LEAMINGTON, ONTARIO
1960 RED MGA 1600 MK2

BOB LEINEN
DEARBORN, MICHIGAN
1948 RED MG TC

JOHN MACDONALD & LIZ KEEN
AMHERSTBURG, ONTARIO
1980 TRIUMPH TR7 BLUE
1980 TRIUMPH TR7 RED

MARK & ELAINE AUCHTER
CLARKSTON, MICHIGAN
1966 MGB BLUE

ROB FERGUSON
AMHERSTBURG, ONTARIO
1974 MGB GREEN

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Guy St. John
Phone: 248..349..3649
email: guystjohn@comcast.net

Hours: M – F 8:30 – 5:30
Saturday By Appointment

624 Carpenter Avenue
Northville, Michigan, 48147

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www.stevesbritishconnection.com

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In order to receive sponsorship from Co-operative Insurance Group, we need to provide them with names and policy numbers of at least 6 members who have insurance through them. If you are a current Canadian customer, please contact

Dave Hornby
519-735-3567

50/50 Cash Draw winner for April

Congratulations to **Michael Gedeon**, winner of our 50/50 cash draw for April. The next draw will be on May 11, 2005 at the Nisbet Inn. This is our last meeting at the Nisbet so chances are attendance will be high and so will the jackpot!

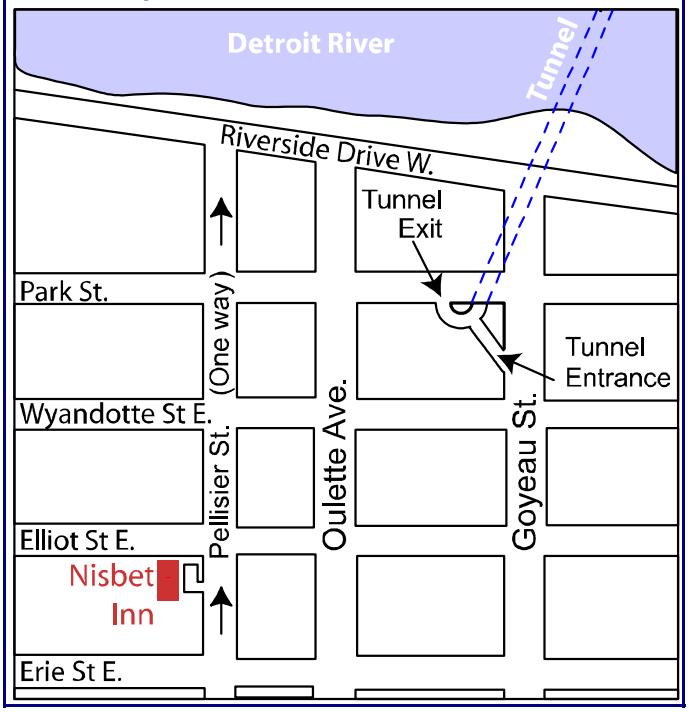
Just a reminder, tickets are $1 each or 3 for $2, and the winner gets half of the night's receipts plus half the pot. The other half is then added to the amount collected at the following meeting thus increasing the amount to be won each month. Have your cash ready when you come to the next meeting; you could be the next lucky

Ever wished that you could find out about road closings and construction before you left the house? Well, you can. The Michigan Department of Transportation web-site will give you that information. Thanks to Harry Mac-Lean for the following URL . Copy and paste it into your browser before you leave the house to get the latest in-formation.

http://mdotwas1.mdot.state.mi.us/public/LaneClosure/

May Meeting

May 11th — The Nisbet Inn, Windsor



Calendar of Events

■ - **Windsor-Detroit MG Club Event**
☐ - **Organized participation by W-DMGC members**

May

■	**Sat. 7th**	**Rivertech Trip—Ypsilanti, MI**
■	**Wed. 11th**	**Monthly Meeting - Nisbet Inn (Last meeting at this location)**
	Sun. 15th	**Consignment Auction of British Cars and Parts - Orangeville ,ON**

June

☐	**Sat. 4th**	**London BBC Classic Car Show London, ON**
☐	**Sun. 5th**	**The British Return to Fort Meigs Perrysburg, OH**
☐	**Sun. 5th**	**The British Return to Fort Meigs Perrysburg, OH**
■	**Wed. 8th**	**Monthly Meeting - Brass Pointe**
☐	**Thur. 9th Sun. 12th**	**British V8 Meet—Terre Haute, IN** www.britishv8.org/index2.htm
☐	**Sun. 12th**	**12th Annual Spring Fun on Wheels Essex, ON**
■	**Sat. 18th Sun. 19th**	**Stratford Festival Tour Stratford,ON**
■	**Fri. 24th Sat. 25th**	**Friday evening Brit Fest: St Clair College Residence - Windsor, ON**
		Saturday Show: Malden Park Windsor, ON

July

☐	**Sun. 10th**	**Mad Dogs and Englishmen - Kalamazoo, MI (Matt Bade)**
■	**Wed. 13th**	**Monthly Meeting– To Be Announced Windsor, ON**
☐	**Tue. 12th Sat. 16th**	**NAMGAR GT-30 Mackinaw City, MI**
☐	**Sat. 16th**	**All British Car Day Ottawa, ON**

Classified Advertisements

1951 MG-TD and 1967 Midget--TD apart and Midget is mostly together but doesn't run. Some spare parts. Both have been garaged for over 15 years. Located in Plymouth, MI. Prefer to sell both as a package for $6500.
Call 734-604-0378 (Away first 2 weeks in March)

1959 MGA Mid-restore, all needed parts plus many spares and NOS included. Engine already done with about 3,000 miles on it. Owned for 35 years, driven for five, in storage 30. All exterior rust conquered, frame solid, some interior panel work (inner fender) to complete. Asking $7,500. Contact Richard Alan, Grand Blanc, MI; Phone 810.695.2045 or wesson@triton.net

1977 MG Midget Parts Complete engine, dash with gauges, 2 leaf springs, 1 trunk, 2 jacks, glove box door, 2 tail LT lens, "midget" letters, Lucas Alternator, starter, new spark plug wire set, 2 chrome headlight bezels, exhaust manifold & pipe, master cylinder, turn signal, horn & wiper lever, roll bar hardware, mirrors, drivers vent window, new flex channel weather-strip, PH 922 A oil filter, plus misc box of parts, would like to sell as one complete package.
Greg at W - (248)689-3300 or H - (248)650-9727.

1977 MGB Parts. Dash with gauges, perfect condition fits 77-80: $150. Luggage rack, nice condition: $35. New rocker panels fit all years: $30 each. Engine, runs great: $350.
Chuck Wiley 734 461-9384

1971 Midget Parts. Good 1200 engine/trans, hood, doors, deck lid, windshield frame, rear axle, and a clear title.
$250 or best offer.
Jason Hogan 734 675-0982 janethogan@sbcglobal.net

1974½ MGB-GT teal blue with only 22,000 miles. $7,000
Location Ann Arbor Call Ron 734 662-4075

1966 MGB parts. Black vinyl tonneau cover, good condition, no tears, zippers work .Duplicate came with the car - fits only vehicle without roll bar. Set of MG mud flaps still in package - MG logo on back. Both parts may fit other years or models. I would prefer to swap them for something rather than sell them
Paul Lester 248 408-6961

British Car Repair and Maintenance. North Oakland County area. Complete service available. Very reasonable. Also available for computer repairs and virus scans.
Gordon Bird 248-391-2395. Email. gobird@comcast.net

1978 MGB
78,000 miles very nice - new fenders, rockers, black Deltron paint, leather interior, cloth top, Moss lowering kit, downdraft weber carb, stainless exhaust, alloy wheels, [over $8000 in parts], $7500. Dave Reed 586-781-2716

British Car Posters & Ads
Jay Kollin 734-455-6949

Please let us know if for any reason you don't want your classified ad to run in future issues. Please also let us know if your ad has been running for 3 months and you want it to continue to appear, as it may otherwise be removed to make room for later entries.
Contact the editor if you wish to respond to an e-mail-only contact, but have no access yourself.

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RIVERTECH, HUDSON MUSEUM AND LUNCH AT THE "SIDETRACK" RESTAURANT SATURDAY MAY 7TH 2005

10.00 am - Leave the Meijer parking lot
10.45 am - Arrive at Rivertech; the Alfa Club will be having a technical session later in the day.
12 noon - Lunch at the "Sidetrack" Restaurant
After lunch - Visit the Hudson Museum opposite the restaurant.

S I N C E 1 9 2 7

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Ypsilanti has a unique automotive history for a city of its size.

Apex Motors which produced the "ACE" car from 1920-1922 was located on South River Street and Preston Tucker whose family owned the Ypsilanti Machine and Tool Company developed and built the prototype for his "Tucker Torpedo."

For more information, call:
Philip Wiltshire (248) 676 0986

VARAC CAR FESTIVAL

ALL MARQUES OF BRITISH CAR are invited to the 26th VARAC Race Festival Car Show on Sunday 26th June at Mosport Circuit, north of Bowmanville, Ont. for the Best of BritishCar Show.

The Vintage Festival will feature 3 days of edge-of-your-seat, wheel to wheel racing in 10 race groups from small bore Minis and MGs to ground-pounding "wings & slicks" and sports racers.
Check the VARAC Festival Page for complete details
http://www.varac.ca/festival/

London Classic Show
Sponsored by the British Sports Car Club of London
Saturday, June 4th

Registration will start at 9:00 AM on Saturday at Diamond Aircraft Industries, 1560 Crumlin Sideroad, N. London, Ontario. (note - this year is at a different location)

Dash plaques will be available for the first 100 cars, There will be music of the 50's and 60's, car Olympics awards and door prizes vendors and food.

Anyone wishing to caravan to London should meet at the Tim Horton's at Manning Rd and County Rd 42,at 7:30 AM for a scenic drive down Highway 2 to London. Our Chatham friends can meet us at the Tim Horton's at Highway 2 and Bloomfield Rd at 8:30 AM. If you're coming from the northern suburbs, you can take the 402 from Sarnia to the 401 then to Airport Rd, east of London.

For more information about the show, please email lmcgaw3652@rogers.com.
For further details on the caravan, please contact Steve Brown at stephen020@sympatico.ca

Colour cues: What the colour of your car says about you

By Dee Van Dyk

We're all familiar with the stereotype of the man in midlife crisis buying a red sports car, but is there any truth to the stereotype? There might be, say practitioners of colour psychology.

"We're often drawn to a certain colour because we want that attribute in our lives," says Holly Shaw, Clinical Psychologist with Artemis Counselling Services. "Colours reflect one of two things. Either you want more of a certain attribute (of a particular colour) or that you're looking for a positive aspect (of that colour) you want to bring into your life."

The colours you choose in your car and in your life will be variously influenced by culture and trends, but certain colours can spark behavioural and emotional responses.

Where does your car sit on the colour wheel?

If your car is red
Red is a bold, energetic colour. Warm and sensuous, it gives off vibes of high energy and stimulation. People who like red might be, or might like to project the image of themselves as, ambitious and impulsive, courageous high achievers and risk takers.

If your car is black
Black subsumes all colours. It suggests power and mystery, with overtones of comfort and silence. Black says, "I'm at the top of the pack."

If your car is white
White is linked to innocence and purity. People who favour white might be dreamers, with an eye on the big picture or possibly searching for a bigger connection to life.

If your car is green
Green is a friendly, calming colour, especially in current times and with its connection to the environment. Green brings to mind nature -- forests, grass, trees. People who choose greens might be observers, catching details that others overlook.

If your car is blue
Blue is an emotional colour, cool and calm, promoting relaxation and tranquility. If you like blue, you might be conservative and loyal; you might value affection and tenderness.

If your car is orange or bright yellow
Bright colours like orange and bright yellow say, "Look at me!" They're fun colours, full of flamboyant spontaneity and energy.

Bright yellow suggests an interesting personality, open to challenge and activity; orange is a happy colour that promotes good humour.

Bright colours are often marketed towards younger people who are at a time of their lives when it's normal developmentally to be adventurous and bold. So, what exactly does the flashy red sports car potentially say about its middle-aged driver?

"He might be drawn back toward a younger time in his life," says Shaw. "If you never felt that you had enough adventure, if you never had the fast car, if you never felt that you had what you wanted at that point in your life, when you start to review part way through your life, you might try to meet that need."

This article was originally published in CanadianLiving.com's On the Go auto lifestyle channel and is reprinted here with permission of the author, Dee Van Dick:
www.deevandyk.com

Turn the page for a look at our Club colours...

Our club colours

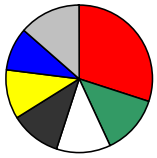
By Lise Brown

After reading the article for the first time I couldn't help but think of our own club statistics where, not surprisingly, **red** is the dominant colour. Mind you, the whole car colour/character trait theory can probably be tossed out with the used engine oil when you consider how most of us acquire our little British cars. In fact, I doubt colour is a factor at all as long as we find a car that has most of its part intact – or most of its parts, period – and a body that isn't too severely afflicted with rust.

Nevertheless, whether you subscribe to the theory or not, it's good fun to apply this pop psychology to your fellow club members, and yourself of course. One observation worth noting though, is that at many of our driving events, the most popular "participating" colour seems to be **green**. For the record, Dale and I have two red, one green and one primer grey, soon to be blue. So while I try to figure out what all of this means, how about you? Where do you sit on the colour wheel?

Here's a visual of our own club stats:

Red	30%
Green	13%
White	12%
Black	11%
Yellow/Orange	11%
Blue	9.5%
Other	13.5%



Windsor-Detroit MG Club
2380 Ethel Drive
Wolverine Lake, MI 48390 USA

FIRST CLASS MAIL