The Can Am CONNECTION

Vol. 26, No. 2 - Newsletter of the Windsor-Detroit MG Club March 2006

# And the Winners are…

*By Lise Brown*

What did it take to be the recipient of one of our coveted awards? The short answer is: you had to meet the criteria. The longer and more interesting answer lies in the stories and accounts that propelled each one of this year's candidates to the top; their personal accounts speak volumes more!

If you were at this year's Hibernation Party you heard it all as Ralph extolled the virtues, trials and tribulations of this year's winners: unchained enthusiasm; sustained support; heartfelt loss; physical injury; and resolute dedication. Congratulations (or heartfelt condolences as the case may be) to all; well deserved!

Now, you might be wondering – as well you should – where the "Door Prize" fits in. Well, that's shear bad luck… errrr…I mean good luck. Oh, Eric and Mary: remember the rules…!

**Rookie Of The Year Award**
**Mick Gedeon**

**Navigator Of The Year Award**
**Kathi Poupard**

**Hark Luck Award**
**Bill Worth**

**Lucky Lucas Award**
**Rick Astley**

**Founders Award**
**Dave Hornby**

**WDMGC "Door Prize"**
**Eric and Mary Marshall**

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# The Windsor-Detroit MG Club

Ellen Stuban — Editor

## Season of Change

It's been said that the more things change, the more they stay the same. I sat here trying to think of examples of how changed items were the same, and nothing came to mind. What I thought of instead was how life is in a constant state of change. It seems just when you relax, it changes.

Our board recently saw changes when Jeff Zorn became our new President and Cathy Holliday became our new Vice-President. The company I work for is in the process of re-inventing itself. To accommodate this change, every person in the organization received letters telling them whether they had a position in this new company...or not. Luckily, I have a position, but some of my colleagues do not, and there is great sadness in light of this change. One of my daughters is preparing to move 8,000 miles away and my grandson, who was an infant only yesterday, can now sit up and play with toys. I've driven the same car for 8 years, but recently I purchased a new one, and although I love the new car, it's still a change. Can anyone recall a winter when we've had so many constant changes? One day it's 50 degrees F, and the next it's –4! Sasha Cohen was a shoe-in for a gold medal, but in a split-second of imbalance, Olympic history was changed forever.

Along with these types of changes, there are other more subtle ones. If you are an avid e-Bay watcher, you've no doubt noticed that the number of MG listings has started to increase. This happens every year around this time with Spring just around the corner. And with the advent of Spring, have you noticed the changes to our club calendar? There are dates listed on activities that were previously marked as TBD. Future editions of the newsletter will notify you of more changes as we enter the driving season full-force.

So just what have I learned from all these dizzying changes? Sometimes change can be good and sometimes change can be sad. Then there are other times when change is just change. Regardless of what category change falls into, I've found that either you roll with it, or get left behind wondering what the heck happened.

## Hibernation Party

Once again, our yearly Hibernation Party was a smashing success. We gathered this year on February 11, 2006 at the Windsor Yacht Club, where we ate a wonderful meal, drank, and merrily danced. Lise Brown and her committee did an outstanding job and we owe them a huge thank you for all their hard work.

# Presidentially Speaking

*By Ralph Poupard — Club President*

Well, one last column to write as I turn over the Presidency to your new President, Jeff Zorn. (congratulations Jeff!) Two years have seemed to fly by. I have to say a heart felt thank you to all the club members who have helped me so much. It seemed like if there was a job to be done you could count on someone to come forward and volunteer, and members to pull together. All the volunteers for last year's British Marques In The Park show were a perfect example of that. The number of events that we have been able to post on our calendar are also a testament. Then there are the jobs that are required to keep the club functioning, such as Vice President: Jeff Zorn, Treasurer: Matt Bade, Secretary: Scott Turner, Webmaster: Lise Brown, Newsletter Editor: Ellen Stuban, Membership: Rick Astley, Regalia: Canada- Roli Sylvestre, USA- Elvin Davis, and Video Librarian: Tom Newton. The next time you see one of these people say thank you for a job well done. These are all volunteer positions, and their payment is your appreciation. You can say thanks to event organizers by attending the events. This year's Hibernation Party was a great success. We had one of the largest groups in attendance in recent memory, and everyone seemed to have a good time. What a party it was. Lise Brown took care of the main organization of the event. Thanks to Lise and all the other members who helped out.

**Last Tire Kicking Session At The Nesbit Inn**

Below are only a few of the things I have learned over the past several years:

1. Memories of baking in an MG cockpit on a blistering summer day fade over time, until all that remain are the good memories.
2. Getting caught in the rain and getting wet in your British car never permanently harms anyone or anything.
3. Its pretty hard to please everyone all the time, but it doesn't hurt to try.
4. British sports cars, especially in a group, tend to make most people smile. People cutting their lawns run over flower beds as they smile and stare, pedestrians stop, point, and grin, and kids give you the thumbs up. You can't say that about many cars.
5. If the generator mounted coil on your MGA starts to slide around, duct tape will hold it in place just fine. Even better is to stop at Coffman Hardware in Mackinaw City and buy a nut, bolt, and lockwasher for $.23 to place through the bracket just below the coil. It ends the movement, you won't have to paint the generator when you get home, and you'll get to see one of the finest classic two story hardware stores around.
6. Make sure you always have a boot full of spare parts on long trips, even if you have to cut back on your luggage. Since you have filled the boot with parts that you won't need, this ensures that you will have no breakdowns on the trip.
7. If you have decided to sell your MG and your spouse asks you not to sell it, pay attention and don't sell it. You never know, you may become President of an MG Club someday.
8. The way to enjoy your British car to the maximum is to drive it. If it is just collecting dust in the garage your spouse may not be so agreeable as in number (7).
9. If you are having electrical problems with your British car don't be superstitious. Remember that most problems are caused by poor grounds and connections. (Placed there by the Prince of Darkness)
10. Make sure that when you chronicle a story about freeing an MGB from icy ruts that you add the disclaimer "The following has been performed by a "professional". Never try this yourself"

Ah, the beauty of British cars. I hope to see you at some of the club events.

Safety MG Fast

Ralph

# Where's Ralph?

**It seems like Ralph Poupard was needed everywhere at our Hibernation Party.**
**Can you find the Ralphs in these pictures?**

# 2006 STRATFORD TRIP

**Friday/ Saturday/Sunday June 16th, 17th and 18th 2006**
**"Oliver! AND "South Pacific" musicals at the Stratford Festival**

**Friday June 16th – Oliver! (optional) 8.00 pm performance**

In Victorian London, the orphan Oliver Twist is adopted by a gang of child pickpockets run by the sinister Fagin and his brutal accomplice Bill Sykes. A gentlemanly philanthropist tries to rescue him – but it is on the courage of Syke's girlfriend, Nancy, that Oliver's fate must ultimately depend.

**Saturday June 17th – South Pacific 8.00 performance**

On a pacific island, during the Second World War, nurse Nellie Forbush and Lieutenant Cable, a young Marine on a dangerous mission, both fall in love with local residents. But prejudice casts its shadow over both romances, and even these two loving hearts have lessons of tolerance and understanding to learn.

We have booked the whole Westover Inn Hotel once again (built 1867) at nearby St Mary's for the Friday and Saturday evenings.

**New for this trip is our stay for the Friday night as well**. If we stay the two nights, we will get complimentary breakfasts. If enough of our party decides to stay Friday night as well, the Westover will arrange a BBQ for us in the grounds. We will also dine here prior to the evening performance of "South Pacific" on Saturday.

Many of the rooms for Friday and Saturday are already booked by us, so please call them (or your favorite B and B) and make your reservation under "MG Tours". The Westover's phone number is (519) 284 2977. Rooms only held until December 31st !!!

I will also need a check for your tickets, so please call me when you have made your reservation and send me a check (US funds, US checks only please. …Or cash by hand) for $120 for each 2 tickets. I will have an exact ticket price in the New Year

If you have an e-mail address that you use regularly, then l would also like those details.

Give me a call !!!!!

**Philip Wiltshire**
**3105 Exeter Drive**
**Milford, MI, 48380**

**Home phone: 248 676 0986**
**Cell phone: 586 354 8855**

**E-Mail: pwiltshire@comcast.net**

2/19/06

# Profit & Loss Prev Year Comparison

## January through December 2005

| | Jan - Dec '05 | Jan - Dec '04 | $ Change | % Change |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Income | | | | |
| Advertising | 141.00 | 100.00 | 41.00 | 41.0% |
| Foreign Exchange - Hibernation | 0.00 | -59.31 | 59.31 | 100.0% |
| Foreign Exchange - Membership | -114.49 | -285.37 | 170.88 | 59.9% |
| Foreign Exchange - Regalia | 0.00 | -26.30 | 26.30 | 100.0% |
| Hibernation Party Receipts | 2,169.24 | 1,666.45 | 502.79 | 30.2% |
| Membership Fees | 5,465.57 | 4,737.47 | 728.10 | 15.4% |
| Regalia Sales | 668.85 | 575.00 | 93.85 | 16.3% |
| Total Income | 8,330.17 | 6,707.94 | 1,622.23 | 24.2% |
| Expense | | | | |
| Bank Charge | 0.00 | -3.50 | 3.50 | 100.0% |
| Can-Am Connection | | | | |
| Misc | 303.75 | 127.45 | 176.30 | 138.3% |
| Postage | 1,017.93 | 1,074.22 | -56.29 | -5.2% |
| Printing | 2,730.12 | 418.85 | 2,311.27 | 551.8% |
| Can-Am Connection - Other | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.0% |
| Total Can-Am Connection | 4,051.80 | 1,620.52 | 2,431.28 | 150.0% |
| Discount Expense | -106.92 | 0.00 | -106.92 | -100.0% |
| Dues and Subscription Expense | 0.00 | 100.83 | -100.83 | -100.0% |
| Entertainment | 0.00 | 350.00 | -350.00 | -100.0% |
| Gift Expenses | 32.00 | 0.00 | 32.00 | 100.0% |
| Hibernation Party | | | | |
| Awards | 20.56 | 0.00 | 20.56 | 100.0% |
| Dining-Food | 2,388.90 | 2,368.28 | 20.62 | 0.9% |
| Entertainment | 300.00 | 200.00 | 100.00 | 50.0% |
| Misc | 340.46 | 103.03 | 237.43 | 230.5% |
| Prizes | 256.28 | 346.62 | -90.34 | -26.1% |
| Total Hibernation Party | 3,306.20 | 3,017.93 | 288.27 | 9.6% |
| Meeting Expense | 0.00 | 26.23 | -26.23 | -100.0% |
| Misc. Business Expense | 0.00 | 35.00 | -35.00 | -100.0% |
| Name Tags | 224.74 | 185.19 | 39.55 | 21.4% |
| Postage and Delivery Expense | 232.75 | 84.00 | 148.75 | 177.1% |
| Printing and Repro. Expense | 502.30 | 248.72 | 253.58 | 102.0% |
| Regalia | 65.42 | 2,284.97 | -2,219.55 | -97.1% |
| Supplies | 0.00 | 35.89 | -35.89 | -100.0% |
| Uncategorized Expenses | 0.00 | 126.75 | -126.75 | -100.0% |
| Total Expense | 8,308.29 | 8,112.53 | 195.76 | 2.4% |
| **Net Income** | **21.88** | **-1,404.59** | **1,426.47** | **101.6%** |

# Balance Sheet Prev Year Comparison

## As of December 31, 2005

| | Dec 31, '05 | Dec 31, '04 | $ Change | % Change |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **ASSETS** | | | | |
| **Current Assets** | | | | |
| **Checking/Savings** | | | | |
| **Windsor-Detroit MG Car Club** | 6,369.92 | 6,348.04 | 21.88 | 0.3% |
| **Total Checking/Savings** | 6,369.92 | 6,348.04 | 21.88 | 0.3% |
| **Total Current Assets** | 6,369.92 | 6,348.04 | 21.88 | 0.3% |
| **TOTAL ASSETS** | **6,369.92** | **6,348.04** | **21.88** | **0.3%** |
| **LIABILITIES & EQUITY** | | | | |
| **Equity** | | | | |
| **Opening Bal Equity** | 2,030.60 | 2,030.60 | 0.00 | 0.0% |
| **Retained Earnings** | 4,317.44 | 5,722.03 | -1,404.59 | -24.6% |
| **Net Income** | 21.88 | -1,404.59 | 1,426.47 | 101.6% |
| **Total Equity** | 6,369.92 | 6,348.04 | 21.88 | 0.3% |
| **TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY** | **6,369.92** | **6,348.04** | **21.88** | **0.3%** |

# Cash Draw Winners

***By Lise Brown***

Congratulations to **Mary Marshall**, winner of January's 50/50 cash draw, the last such draw of the season. For the past 16 months we've held a 50/50 cash draw at every club meeting – an incentive for members to attend our monthly get-togethers. We capped off our season at the Hibernation Party with a "Winner Takes All" draw, which meant that the existing pot plus the night's receipts were up for grabs. And what a nice prize that ended up being, just ask the lucky winners pictured at right, new members **Robert and Susan Reaume**! Congratulations to the Reaumes and to all our past winners, and thank you to all who participated.

The 50/50 draw will start up again at our next monthly meeting on March 8, 2006. Just a reminder that tickets are $1 each or three tickets for $2. The winner of our first draw will get half of the night's receipts; the other half will be 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; the next lucky winner could be you.

# Technical Event Day

*By Philip Wiltshire*

What a great day! Our first tech session of 2006 proved to be very popular. 50 of our members attended the event that was held at my exhaust manufacturing plant in Warren. My hunch that the venue was central enough to be attractive to our membership must have paid off.

The idea of a Windsor-Detroit Tech Day came about after the success of our tech sessions at last July's MGA national event in Mackinaw City. Rick "Sparks" Astley and Doug "Contact Patch" Butcher were our two presenters. Rick gave an in-depth presentation, with demonstration items on MG electrics. Doug's presentation was about tyres – their technology, history and manufacture.

My original plan was to set up one room and use it for two sessions, but we had so much participation that we quickly set up a second room and held 4 sessions. We broke between the morning and afternoon sessions with pizza and pop.

I did not see anyone asleep or daydreaming and heard many favorable comments about the 2 sessions. In fact, a large piece of each session was taken up with questions and answer sessions.

My personal thanks to Rick and Doug for their enthusiastic presentations. Rick is putting the final touches to his definitive book on MG electrics. So watch out for it and let's get Rick on the best-selling booklist.

For better feedback, you had better talk to one of the 50 who were there; these are the people with good tyre choices and cars that start first time and run real smooth……..

# "MG International 2006" in Gatlinburg

If anyone is interested in taking a two day drive to the MG Event in Gatlinburg, You are welcome to join myself and Adrienne on June 20th. We've scheduled a driving trip to coincide with the event and tentative plans are as follows:

The main purpose of this drive is to avoid as much freeway traffic as possible. We'll begin early Tuesday morning from the usual Meijer's parking lot at Eight Mile and Haggerty Roads. Plans are to take M-50 South into Ohio and drive only through Ohio on the first day (this will be about 350 miles). Tentatively, lunch will be at an authentic roadside diner we discovered on another drive and the first night's lodging (and dinner) will be in Portsmouth, Ohio (right on the Kentucky border). Day two will be a slightly shorter drive to Gatlinburg arriving in late afternoon, just in time for those attending the event register and freshen up. Since this will be an entirely 'back-road' experience, it may take a little longer, but you can expect lots of scenery. We'll keep on schedule, but the intent of this is to enjoy the drive. The return trip will begin early on Sunday, June 25th using the same route to return that we followed coming down.

If you and your car are ready for a 650 mile trip over two days, you are welcome to join us. Because of the distance, should our group exceeds five cars, we may divide into smaller groups with the same itinerary so that we don't become a caravan.

For further information, Contact Rich Wagner at: mgslovetrs@aol.com

# ODDS 'N ENDS

**The T-Shirt Crowd at the February Club meeting**

**" Whatever floats your boat" but it sure looks like an MG"**
***(Courtesy of Tom Newton—This object d'art is by an Italian artist that makes full sized objects out of wood.)***

**Tom Newton and his son, Greg working on a 1934 Supercharged MG PA**

**Another Year...Another Board**

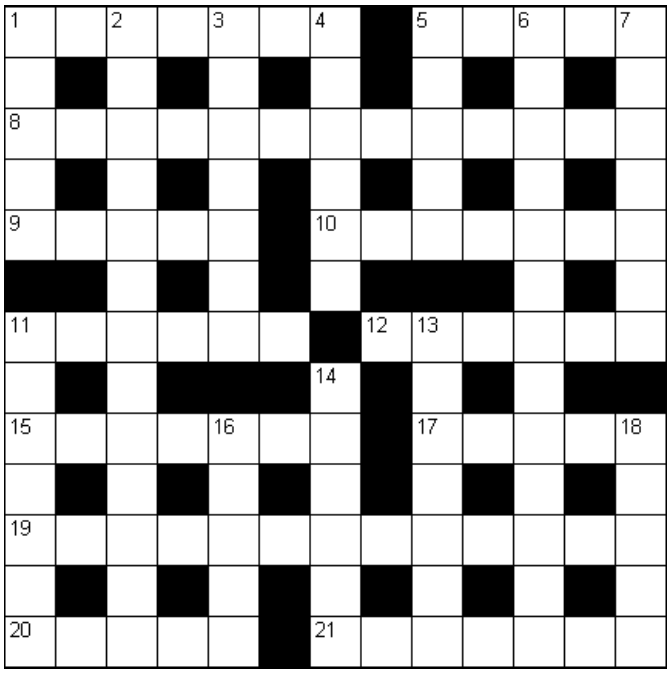
As in previous years, elections were held for the WDMG Club Board members at the Hibernation Party. Elected by Acclimation were:

| | |
|---|---|
| President | Jeff Zorn |
| Vice President | Cathy Holliday |
| Secretary | Scott Turner |
| Treasurer | Matt Bade |

**Rex Richardson**

We were saddened to learn only recently of the passing last August of **Rex Richardson** of Dearborn. Rex had been a member of the club since 1993 and his daughter Letty Martin tells us he always very much enjoyed our meetings and events. Rex had been less active in the club in recent years but he will be fondly remembered by many of our longer term members. Our condolences go out to his family.

## CROSSWORD COMPILED BY RICK ASTLEY

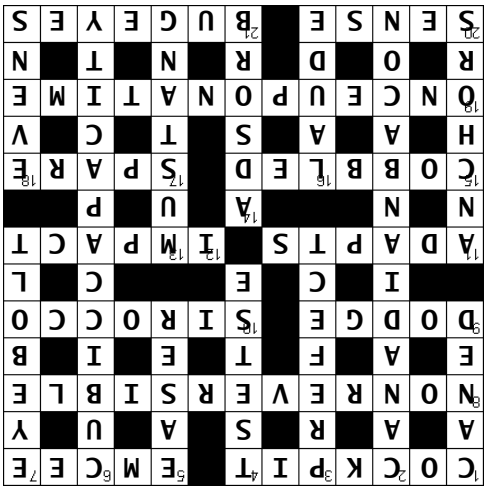


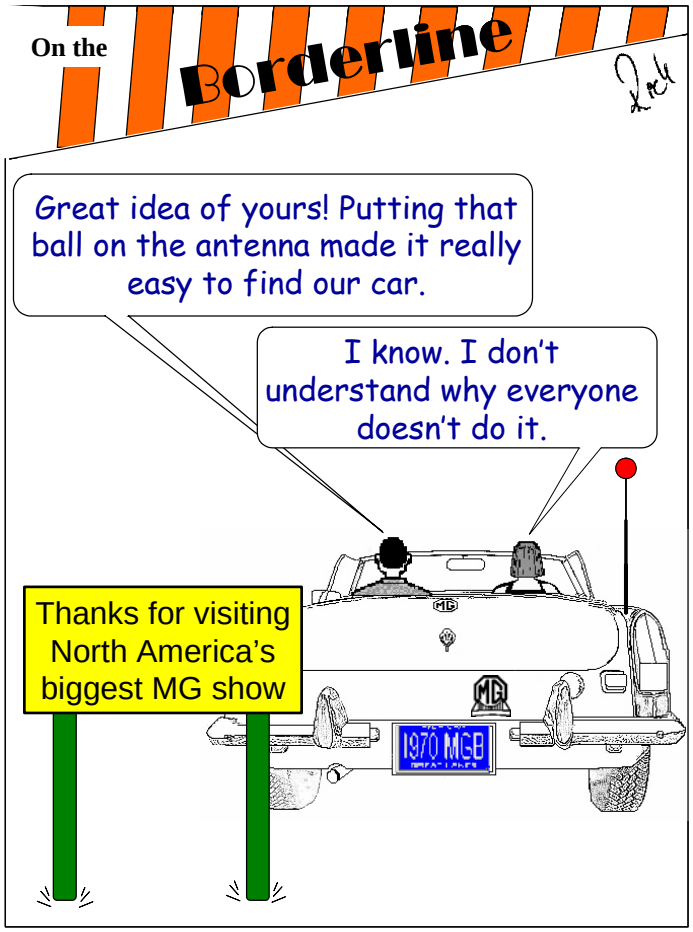
**Across**

1 Driver's place
5 Man with the mic'
8 Without a back-up gear
9 Daimler-Chrysler brand
10 VW coupe
11 Changes to make fit
12 Collision force
15 Clumsily assembled
17 Fifth wheel
19 Story starter
20 Perceive
21 Some Sprites

**Down**

1 Hit with a stick
2 Day starter in Windsor
3 40's and 50's British Ford
4 African fly
5 Penetrating oil for one
6 Engine size measure
7 Fastener with loop at end
11 Ship brakes
13 Ford with lots of horsepower
14 Attract fluid to a surface
16 Glorify
18 50:50 odds





"Honey, I know the club's Stratford trip is 3 days this year but I still think you could have brought less clothes!"

## THE WINDSOR-DETROIT MG CLUB WELCOMES ITS NEWEST MEMBERS

**GARY, LORIE AND DAVID DIETZ**
**TROY, MI**
**1975 MGB**

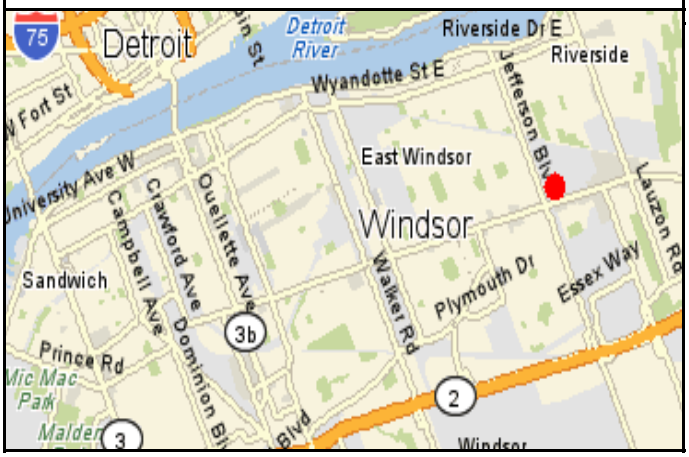
**KEN AND JOAN'Z BUDNY**
**NEW BOSTON, MI**
**1974 MIDGET - YELLOW**

# MARCH MEETING

**The Glasgow Moate Pub**
**6124 Tecumseh Road East**
**Windsor, ON Canada**

The pub is on the northeast corner of Tecumseh and Jefferson. The easiest way to get there from the tunnel or bridge is to head east on Tecumseh, turn left at Jefferson (there is a turning lane and traffic lights), then turn right into the front parking lot. Although Jefferson does run from Riverside Drive to Tecumseh, a traffic island precludes any left turn from Jefferson into the front parking lot. If you would still rather take The Drive, you'll need to turn right on Pillette, continue south to Tecumseh, turn left on Tecumseh, then left again on Jefferson (about 10 streets down) as mentioned above. The pub is roughly 9 to 12 minutes from the border crossings.

Although not mentioned by name on the map, Tecumseh Road is the third major east-west artery counting down from the top at the river. The red dot indicates the pub's location.




## Calendar of Events

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

### MARCH 2006

■ Wed 8 **Monthly Meeting** - Glasgow Moate - Windsor, ON

### APRIL 2006

☐ Sat 1 Obsolete Automotive Garage Sale - Pointe Edward, ON

■ Wed 12 **Monthly Meeting** - Brass Pointe Farmington Hills, MI

☐ Sun 16 Ancaster All-British Flea Market Ancaster, ON

■ Sat 22 **Kimber Birthday Bash** Lansing, MI

### MAY 2006

■ Wed 10 **Monthly Meeting** - Glasgow Moate Windsor, ON

☐ May 27 to June 4 British Car Week - Drive your British Car to Work

### JUNE 2006

☐ Sat 3 London Classic British Car Show - London, ON

☐ Sun 4 The British Return to Fort Meigs Perrysburg, OH

☐ Sun 4 Orphan Car Show - Ypsilanti, MI

■ Wed 7 **Monthly Meeting** - Brass Pointe Farmington Hills, MI

☐ Sun 11 13th Annual Spring Fun On Wheels & Auto Flea Market - Essex, ON

■ Fri 16 to Sun 18 **Stratford Festival Tour** Stratford, ON

☐ Sun 18 to Wed 21 2006 British V8 Meet Townsend, TN

☐ Wed 21 to Sun 25 MG International 2006 Gatlinburg, TN

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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

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# Classified Advertisements

**1975 MGB**, with rebuilt motor and more. Call Rich Wagner (248-624-9573) or check it out on line at: http://community.webtv.net/OurMGandTR/MGB

**1970 MGB**, white, for sale in Detroit area. Mechanically in excellent condition and body and interior in good to very good condition. Dayton wheels. Relatively new top and tonneau. Approximately 5,000 miles on "completely" rebuilt engine. Pictures available on request. Email John at jdhertz@hertzbergpc.com, or call my office at 248.540.3200 if you are interested."

**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], $7,500. Dave Reed 586-781-2716

**1971 MG Midget**
Red -New convertible top. Interior is in good condition. Has extra doors and windshield. Starts, Runs, Drives Great! Can email pictures on request.
$2,000 OBO
Call Brian at 586-665-1417

**1977—1980 MGB Parts For Sale** Included are Radiator—$25; Oil cooler—$30; Oil /Fuel /Water Gauges—$15 each; Speedometer—$50; Tachometer—$40. Call Harry Mac Lean at 248-641-5011

**Trailer,** flat bed with ramps, 6.8 wide X 15 8 inches off ground, ideal for MG or Midget. New tires came with a car and I don't need it anymore.$500.00 Call for details or pictures. Ron Pruette 248-821-8670 email: rpsurfr@flash.net

**1966 Midget. Black/white**. Good condition.
Moving to Florida. Must sell. Car located in S.E. Michigan.
$4,000 o.b.o.
Mike Sowards 313-383-8156 or 313-715-0817

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Perry Burford 519-737-6424 pburford@sympatico.ca

**1969 MGB Rds.**
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**1974 1/2 MG roadster**. White, Mini Lite wheels, new carpet, good driver. $4500. Contact Elvin.at ejdavis2@peoplepc.com.
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