40th Year

# Can Am CONNECTION

WINDSOR - DETROIT

**Vol. 42, No. 9- Newsletter of the Windsor- Detroit MG Club** **October 2020**

October Car of the Month

Sporting a nice fall color, this is the 1969 MGC belonging to Bill and Mary Ellen Weakley.

**The Can-Am Connection**
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**Classified Ads:**
$5.00 for 3 months
Free to members

**Display Ads:**
Bus' Card $5/issue, $30/year
¼ Page $8/issue, $50/year
½ Page. $16/issue, $100/year

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# *The Windsor-Detroit MG Club*
## *The International Local Club*

I hope you enjoy this edition of The Can Am Connection.

Be sure to send me any stories, pictures or tech articles so that I can put them in a future newsletter. We have changed the contact to Can-Am@WDMGC.com

*Can Am Newsletter Editor,*
*Dale Brown*

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## Congratulations!

**On Recent Membership Anniversaries**

| | |
|---|---|
| 5 years | Phil Lyon of Wixom, MI |
| 25 years | Dale and Lise Brown of Windsor, ON . |
| 40 years | Mark and Patty Deacon of Flat Rock, MI |
| 40 years | Ron and Jenny Harmon of Grosse Ile, MI |
| 40 years | Dave and Lynne Hornby of Tecumseh, ON |
| 40 years | Jim and Connie Trofin of Windsor, ON |

# *Presidentially speaking*

Hello Everyone,

*Vicki Bade - Club President*

The leaves are starting to change color and fall is coming-although our weather has been a little up and down, with us currently having a nice spell. Hope everyone is getting out and tooling around as much as possible before we will have to start thinking about putting the cars away.
The club is putting together a Fall Color Drive thanks once again to John Magee-we are still figuring out the exact route but put Sunday October 18th on your calendars. We will be making a scenic drive up Hines Dr and beyond, eventually ending up at Ostbaum Orchards. They are suggesting bringing chairs and appropriate clothing as they may be limiting the number of people going in and we may have to wait our turn. Masks required. We will not be stopping for lunch as a group-just a nice drive this time, but everyone is more than welcome to go out on their own to eat.
Stay tuned for the details-looking forward to a beautiful color show as things are starting to change nicely and should be very pretty by that weekend!

Once again the Jaguar Affiliates Group of Michigan is including us and others to join an event they are hosting. A flyer will be included for a London to Brighton Veteran (Homage) Car Run planned for Sunday Nov. 1st to celebrate the longest-running motoring event in the world.
It sounds like a fun time and I hope to see you there-they are asking for an RSVP by October 23rd to their website as lunch is planned. You can also RSVP to me at vicki@wdmgc.com

I know the border is still closed to regular traffic at this time and I am very sorry these events will not be including any of our Canadian members. We truly miss being able to have all our WDMGC members enjoy these events and are very much looking forward to returning to a truly International Club. I know the Canadian side is doing what they can to get together and to also get their cars out and about.

I would like to wish all of our Canadian members and their families a very Happy Thanksgiving as I know you will be celebrating as much as allowed October 12th-may all of you and your loved ones stay healthy. Even though the pandemic has separated us, even from our own families, I can only hope that through this period the love for those we hold dear stays strong especially in these times.

Please stay safe, stay healthy and hang in there. Get those cars out as much as you can before the weather turns and enjoy!

***The foremost club for British car owners in southeast Michigan and southwest Ontario.***

Safety MG Fast!

***Vicki***

Hello Club Members,

Due to the cancellations of our club meetings and any events that would have been held so far this year because of the Pandemic we wanted to give something to the membership as a "Thank you" for your loyalty to this wonderful club.

The Board has agreed to a 1 year waiver of our membership dues:

For members that have not yet paid their 2020 dues, the Membership Coordinator will send out the next dues reminder letter on their renewal date in 2021. These members will be getting their free membership this year (2020). If you currently have a dues reminder letter that you have not replied to, please ignore it.

For the members that have already paid their 2020 dues this year, their next dues reminder letter will be sent out on their renewal date in 2022. These members will be getting their free membership year next year (2021).

Any new members joining the club between Aug. 1, 2020 and Dec. 31, 2020 will get their membership free year next year (2021).

Thank you all again for your support of the Windsor-Detroit MG Club and we look forward to a time when we can get back to enjoying the benefits this excellent club has to offer.

# Elvin Davis

It is with the greatest sadness we have to report the passing,at the age of 66, of our friend and long time club member Elvin Davis Jr. on September 11th, following a long battle with brain cancer.

Few members have made such a sizeable and rapid impact on the club as Elvin and Janet, his wife of 38 years, after they joined in May of 1999 following the purchase of his first MGB from his Uncle Gus. In little over a year Elvin volunteered his service as our Regalia Coordinator and brought to that post an enthusiasm that has not been equalled before or since. Although, in his day job, Elvin was a highly skilled tool and die maker, he quickly showed his prowess as a purchaser, salesman and orator as he selected, bought and peddled WDMGC regalia, much to the financial benefit of the club. His fervour for MGs had a national effect too. He soon became responsible for regalia for NAMGBR and, after driving his original white MGB on the first of many cross country trips he and Janet made; he left the car with his sister Carolyn (aka Zelda) who, infected with his passion, soon became President of the Southern California MG Club. His sister and brother-in-law Maxcine and Arthur Jackson also caught the MG bug and, along with their MGB, have been regular attendees at WDMGC meetings and events.

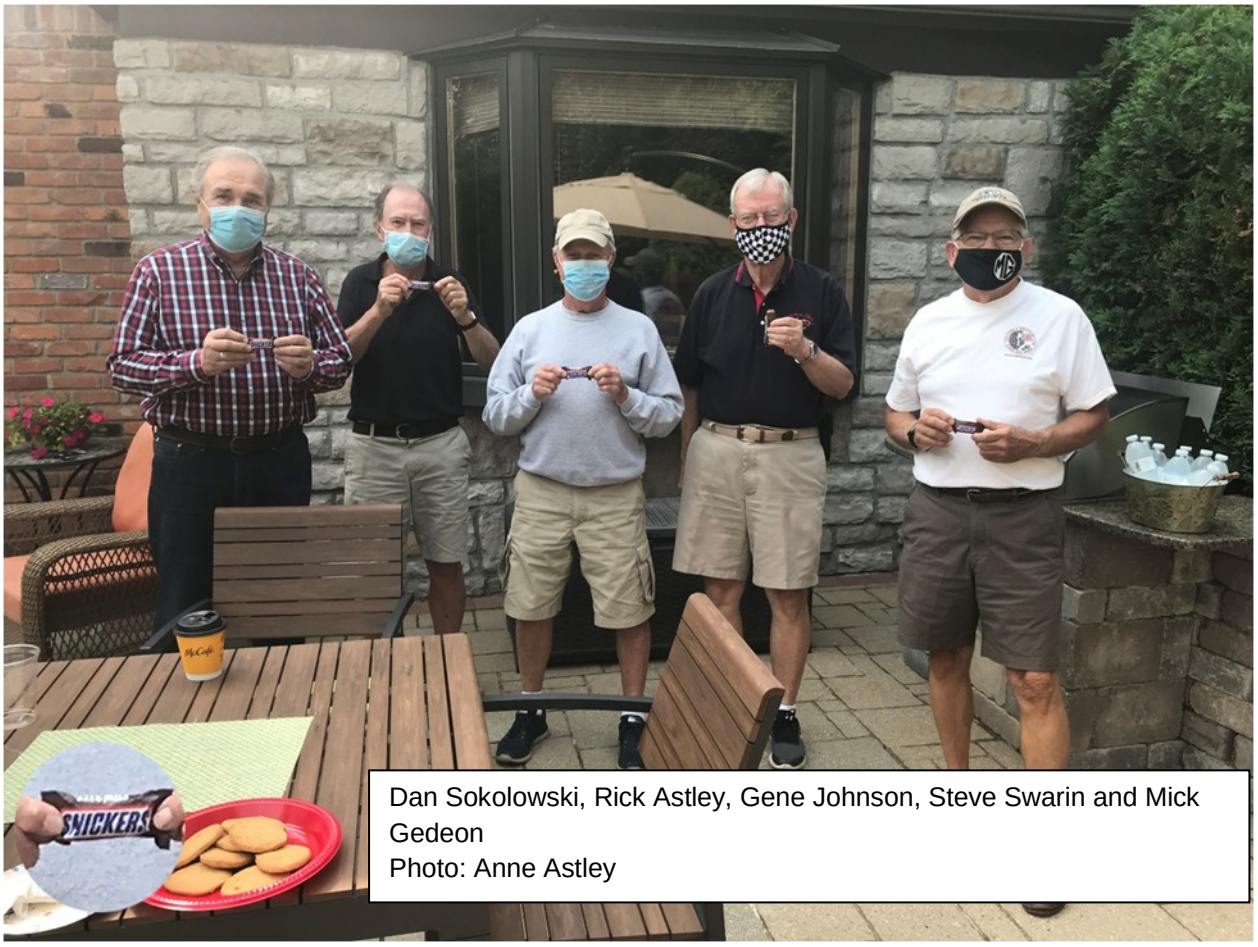
Together, Elvin and Janet made many other contributions to the club for which they were recognized in 2016 by being granted the Founders Award, the most prestigious the club confers. Among the most memorable were the quizzes, which no doubt took a lot of serious preparation but which were always presented with their great sense of fun.

Most memories of Elvin of course are of him alongside his infamous 1980 red MGB: with its coordinated color scheme it was a stunning looking car, which won lots of prizes at the many local and national events he and Janet attended. The later addition of the matching trailer made it an unforgettable ensemble.

We shall miss him, not just for what he did but for the person he was − a fun and instantly likeable gentleman whose smile lit up our club.

## Raising a Candy Bar to a Dear Friend

A few of the retired members who live close to one another in the North West'burbs of Detroit regularly get together for lunch, usually at a particular restaurant but more recently, due to the pandemic, we're masked and on the patio of one of our homes.




Dan Sokolowski, Rick Astley, Gene Johnson, Steve Swarin and Mick Gedeon
Photo: Anne Astley

Elvin Davis was one of our cohorts and, although he hadn't been able to join us for quite some time, and the news of his passing was not a shock to any of us, our last meet-up was inevitably a very somber one. We don't generally drink alcohol at these lunchtime events but we knew that Elvin had a favorite candy bar – Snickers, so instead of raising a glass to him and his memory, we all raised a Snickers bar to him instead. Goodbye old friend.

# The 2020 MG Fall Color Drive

Sunday, October 18, 1 pm – 4 pm
No RSVPs required. Just a casual drive
(If the forecast turns bad we'll aim for Saturday, Oct. 17.)

**Featuring:**

- Scenic Hines Drive! Obstbaum Orchards!
- The Meier at Eight-Mile and Haggerty in Livonia!(Our final destination. Hey, they can't ***all*** be scenic wonders.)

**Starting point:** The Helms Haven Recreation Area on Hines Drive.

- 22777-22899 Edward N Hines Dr, Dearborn Heights, Michigan
- Best accessed via the Outer Drive intersection at Hines Dr., or by getting on Hines Drive elsewhere and driving South/East.

**Note:**Unheated restrooms on Hines Drive are already closed for the winter. The nearest open restroom is at the Perrin Rec Area, 3.1 miles west of Helms Haven.

**Starting late?** Catch up with us at Obstbaum Orchards (9252 Currie Rd, Northville, MI) around 2 pm. We'll stop for cider and donuts, then head out on our second loop around 3 pm.

**Contact:** John Magee –john_a_magee@yahoo.comor (248)234-3789 with questions

## London to Brighton Veteran (Homage) Car Run

**When:** Sunday, November 1, 2020, 11:30 AM

**Where:** London Township Hall, 13613 Tuttlehill Road, Milan, MI 48160, to
Hell Hole Restaurant, 4095 Patterson Lake Road, Pinckney, MI 48169, to
Ritter's Frozen Custard, 5962 <erodoamBlve., Brighton, MI 48116.

Harry Lawson formed the first motoring club in the UK. This club participated in the ***London to Brighton Veteran Car Run***, the longest-running motoring event in the world. The first run was held in 1896 was called "The Emancipation Run". It celebrated the recently passed Locomotives on Highways Act 1896, which liberalized motor vehicle laws.

The run has taken place most years since its initial revival in 1927. To qualify, the cars must have been built before 1905 (we have no such restriction, drive what you like). It is also the world's largest gathering of veteran cars with 443 cars starting the run in 2005 compared to 37 starting the run in 1927. We welcome all who would like to join us in this homage drive.

The annual celebratory run takes place on the first Sunday in November and starts at sunrise (Really? We will meet at 11:30 AM) from Hyde Park, London (we start at the London Township Hall located at 13613 Tuttlehill Rd.) and mostly follows the old A23 road (we use a series of paved backroads) to finish at Brighton, England (we finish at Ritters Frozen Custard, just off Grand River Ave in Brighton, MI) a distance of 54 miles (we drive 61 miles). There are two official stops along the way: Crawley's for coffee (our first stop is the Hell Hole Restaurant for lunch) and Preston Park in a suburb of Brighton (our second stop is at Ritter's Frozen Custer).

Join us to pay homage to an important and historic event; drive your favorite car one more time; enjoy the company of other car enthusiasts, have lunch in Hell; and who can pass up one more opportunity for ice cream.

Face coverings and social distancing requirements are to be observed.

Please RSVP by October 23, 2020. You may register on our website's event page, by emailing webmaster@jagm.org or texting 734-347-8747. Please include the number of people in your group and your cell phone number.

Don Hayter, MG's last Chief Engineer, died Friday, October 9, reports the MG Car Club. Hayter played a major role in the design of the MGB, a highly influential and innovative roadster that went on to become the best-selling MG sports car of all time.

Hayter came to MG from Aston Martin in 1956, at which point he was named the company's Chief Body Draughtsman. There, he worked on the MGA Twin Cam, but soon started working on the MGB.

The MGB was a state-of-the-art design for 1962, when it debuted. It was a unibody car as opposed to body-on-frame, and it was one of the first cars to feature crumple zones that would protect the passenger compartment in collisions under 30 mph, according to *Conceptcarz*. You can see photos of those crumple zones in testing over on *MGB Stuff* here.

Hayter was responsible for turning the MGB from a prototype into a buildable car, finalizing the windshield, hood and dashboard designs. The MGB had a long life, remaining in production from 1962 to 1980.

## What a Weird Year!

*by Rick Astley*

A few years ago I bought a Jaguar XK8, it being my car of choice for the long distance driving my wife and I were planning. It didn't hurt either that, while I was unlikely to test its full capability, it has a claimed top speed of 155 mph.

With driving and other events cancelled and no wish to stay in hotels or even with friends and family,I was reduced to using the car at every little opportunity, which turned out to be all local and mostly curbside pickup of groceries and carry-out meals.

So, how far did I go and how fast? Each year I reset the trip computer at the beginning of the season and today, because it was distinctly autumnal, and I was thinking that it wouldn't be long before I got it ready for its winter hibernation, I decided to check.

My 2020 average speed was 22 mph and I went 865 miles! I could have bought a tandem bicycle; we would have done just as well.

# RBW Reveals the EV Roadster

October 9, 2020 by Sports Car Digest Leave a Comment
On October 7th, classic car manufacturer RBW revealed the pre-production model of their stylish electric classic roadster.

The RBW EV Roadster was inspired by the 1960s MGB Roadster. They have taken the classic, elegant design while delivering enhancements to meet the modern world. British Motor Heritage created a brand-new heritage body shell for the EV Roadster and under the hood is a patented power drivetrain system that took three years to develop.
Together with Continental Engineering Services (CES) and Zytek Automotive, RBW has worked to bring to life founder Peter Swain's vision of a vehicle that has the beauty and elegance of a classic car, but is equipped with modern electric engineering.

The RBW roadster has a custom-made front and rear suspension, all independent employing coil-over damper technology around the vehicle, an OEM developed brake discs and calipers, and Regen braking. To ensure maintenance-free usage, it's equipped with the latest generation of hub design and wheel bearing technology.
There are only 30 initial examples that have been produced, and the limited-edition, hand-crafted models have been developed with high-quality performance levels of noise and vibrations. Over the past 20 years, CES has gathered knowledge in optimizing Noise Vibration Harshness (NVH) in such cars, particularly the difficulties caused by the replacement of an internal combustion engine with an electric drivetrain– this has been implemented in the RBW Roadster to guarantee a satisfying experience during pull-away, city-traffic, cruising and active driving.

The multi-function dashboard display combines driver gauges as well as safety diagnostic symbols in a simplified graphic interface created around safe and smooth operation whilst driving.

RBW also added a Wi-Fi® enabled, built-in navigation system from Pioneer. Other features include an HDMI input to mirror smartphones, an SD Card slot, Dual USB slots, and gold-plated RCA connectors to provide the best audio quality achievable.

Prototrim, with more than 100 years of experience in trim development, designed the interior of the car. The highest level of craftsmanship and care was delivered to the EV Roadster, producing an exquisite interior.
Future models are already being developed with a fixed head GT version that is due for release in 2021, as well as a second RBW electric recreation.

RBW are currently bringing the car to clients for a Covid-free test drive. Orders are now being taken with production scheduled for early 2021, with the starting price of £90,000 plus taxes, and an initial deposit of £5,000.
More information regarding this car can be found at RBW EV Classic Cars

# Member Classified Ads

## Classified Advertising

Please contact the editor if you no longer want your ad to run. Ads will run in the newsletter for three months and then may be removed to make room for newer entries. Ads will run for six months on our website. The date following the ad is date of placement. See the Classified page at our website for more ads. www.wdmgc.com

***For Sale***

**Midget Mk I parts** for sale from '64 donor car. Seats (for refurb), dash, 1098 engine w/trans (working condition unknown), radiator, wire wheels (for refurb), suspension, windshield, bumpers, steering column and more!. Call/text Scott 513-240-3221 or scottolman@gmail.com"

**1970 MGBGT** I have owned this car since about 1977. No rust, rockers have been replaced. Needs paint, Tires. Engine has totally been rebuilt, touring cam, 10 over pistons, New fuel tank, needs some work to complete. Extra engine, Transmission, overdrive unit, Heated back-light. $4000.00 art.krygowski@gmail.com

Phone or text: 58 six-2 nine 8-8 three 98.

**1953 MG TD** with a Volvo B18D Engine and 4 Speed Trans w/MGA Rear Axle. Comes with New Moss Motors seat reupholstery kit and panel kit in Biscuit. Needs Carb work, ran when parked. Not a show car but a solid car. Asking $8200 obo
Contact: Bruce Kurth @ 248-685-1236 or brkklk@comcast.net

**1976 MGB** Peacock Blue with the tan interior and black top. Approximately 76, 000 miles. Good condition. Paperwork for most repairs. 7,000.00. Give a call, we'll talk, you'll look, we'll see. I'm also thinking of selling my '72 'westie'. Launey at 1.313.345.6435 or lapyke3@ gmail .com

**1972 MGB Roadster. Runs, But Needs Work, $1,500**
Runs and drives, but will need substantial rust repair. This will be a project car before it's a good driver again and the low price of $1,500 firm reflects that.
One owner since 1995. Mileage unknown, but only 5,000 miles since engine rebuild in 1997. Four-speed transmission. Needs wiring work and rust replacement of rockers, frame rails, plus some repair in fenders and floor panels. Improvements in last 20 years include new front bumper, distributor, starter, radiator rebuild, Delco alternator, ignition switch, new gas tank, convertible top. (See website for photos) john_a_magee@yahoo.com
248-234-3789

**Brand new rubber sill covers** (Moss price $189 U.S.) and two brand new side marker lights (Moss price $59 U.S.) for MGB. Items are in Canada. Make any reasonable offer. Email Dave Hornby: mgdave@sympatico.ca

**1974 MG Midget**. 30,134 original miles. Covered storage inside garage. Red exterior, tan interior, excellent condition. Original black roof and tonneau cover, both excellent condition. Blaupunkt AM/FM cassette radio. Clean engine and engine compartment. Original carburetors. Michelin tires less than 500 miles stored in basement. Extra parts.

Contact: Jim Carr @ 248-547-9050.

**1972 MG Midget for sale**

99% renovated. My dad was restoring the car when he passed away. $3,900 or best offer. The car is stored near Clarkston, Michigan.

Lane Rupright
248.660.2134
lanerup@aol.com

**MGB**. Rebuilt motor and trans approx 10 years ago, minor wiring issues, complete car, needs restoration. Does run and drive. Looking for about $3500 CDN. Located in Windsor

Jessie Darmon
519-737-0680
Cell: 519-816-0719

**MGB Four speed transmission.** Sell for any reasonable offer. Prefer Canadian side sale. dale@wdmgc.com

**1979 MGB**. Body is in excellent condition, paint has one small blister on the bonnet. One of the nicest driving B's I have driven. Interior is in very good condition. Top has one small repair. Price is $10,000.00 Canadian. More pictures are available on request. Mbeale1@cogeco.ca

**1976 MGB**
Car is located in Harrison Township Michigan.Asking **$3,500** or best offer.

Contact: Kathy Pierce
jtcorriveau43@gmail.com
586-791-2058 or 586-489-9249

"**WANT" MGA / MG / MGB**
Oil System Pipe-Filter/Block
Cooler By-Pass Tube
Looking for this hard line tube to install in my 1973 MGB.

Jean-Paul McGraw

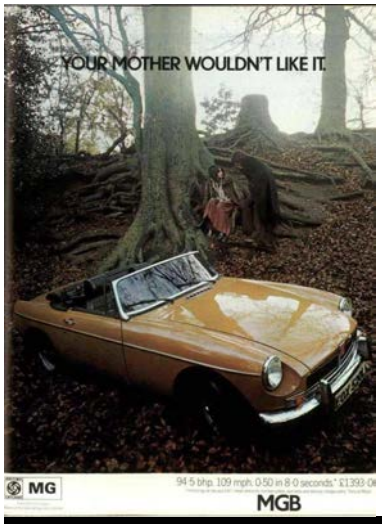
**1979 MGB**
Good restoration project. Original owner with 130,000 miles. Was a daily driver for 11 years then garaged all year with no winter driving. Rust on lower rocker panels, otherwise pretty solid. Fairly new top, gas tank and hood (tree branch came down on original). $1500. Photos in the WDMGC web page classified ads. Contact Bob (Ypsilanti area) at 734-218-3307 or wolverbob@gmail.com.

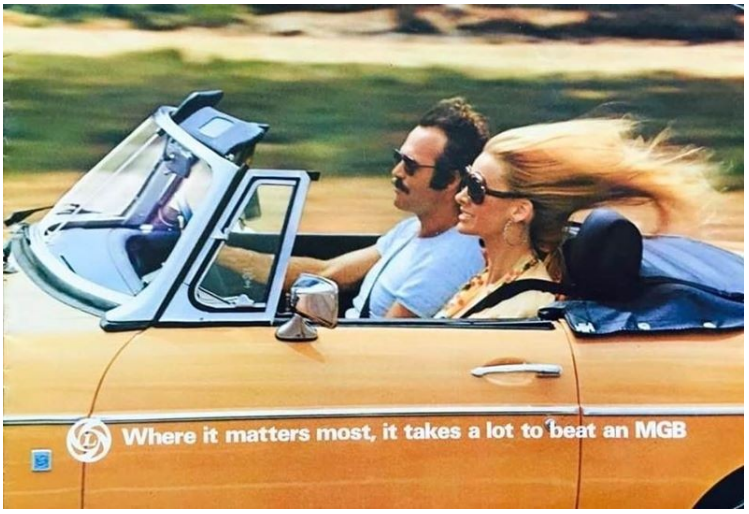
**FOR SALE - 1973 MGB Roadster $4,700**

**- Well sorted, starts easy, runs good, quite reliable**
**- Four speed, with Overdrive**
**- Fully restored about 12 years ago**
**- Engine, body, paint, clutch, brakes, electronic ignition, carpets, hoses, etc.**
**- Not concours, but nice. Full file of receipts**
**- 12,362 miles since restoration**
**- Wire wheels, including spare**
**- New Top at restoration**
**- Full tonneau cover**
**- Last full year with chrome bumpers**
**- Basically all original, except a Weber carburetor in place of finicky SU carbs.**
**- Brighter halogen headlights for safety.**
**- Damask Red, Black interior**

**248-535-1901**

**Many used MGB parts for sale** by Dale Brown. Please check the Windsor Detroit Facebook page for several posts listing and showing the parts. Pick up in Windsor only, so interest right now from Canadian members with the border currently closed. Contact through Facebook messenger or email.





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*Full finger $35 per pair*

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Don Rennie
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info@holdyourhorsepower.com

image cc flickr user biTurbo288

# CARS WANTED

Very serious *buyer* for:
Jaguar XK-XKE, MG T series, MGA
Triumph TR 2-3-4-250
Mercedes 190-220-230-250-280 SL
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# WANTED

## Dead or Driveable

## Your Car Picture

Let us have a picture of your car and some anecdotal information so that we can feature it in *Can-Am Connection* and the club web-site gallery.

## Also Wanted

Your contributuion's for this newsletter,.

**You will be Well Rewarded**