The Can Am CONNECTION

Vol. 45, No. 8 - Newsletter of the Windsor- Detroit MG Club **August 2023**

Above and in this issue: *We bid a very fond farewell to Rick & Anne Astley on Page 5. Rick & Anne offer a spirited rebuttal on Page 6.*

Right: *Dan Urson gets his head stuck in a wheelwell while working on his brakes.*

Next issue: *A spirited rebuttal from Dan!*

Photo at right from Lisa Zebarah-Shears.

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The Windsor-Detroit MG Club
The International Local Club

Where Have All the Mechanics Gone?

Can-Am Editor, John Magee

It's the question I get more often than any other: can you recommend a mechanic for my MG? Twenty years ago, lots of shops had mechanics with MG experience. But a wave of retirements seems to swept many of them away.

My own local old-British-car mechanic (Bob Kelacy, owner of BK Imported Auto Care in Walled Lake) decided to call it a career in 2021. I've been rolling my own repairs and maintenance since then, not always with success. The nearest listings in the NAMGR directory seem to be body shops and tow services. They're necessary — especially those tow trucks! — but hardly a good replacement for an experienced British car mechanic. It feels time to start compiling our own list of local mechanics with MG experience. Guy St. John can't fix them all single-handedly, can he?

Know of good mechanics or garages with experience with MGs? Send them along. I feel a new regular newsletter feature brewing.

In this month's edition: A clever editor would've saved his Mad Dogs & Englishmen report for this month. With no big club events on hand since the last edition, our members have been out and about having fun all over the place. So, no big event reports in this month's edition. But lots of pictures of club members having fun.

Also, longtime member Jim MacArthur is contributing a new feature for us, a monthly logic puzzle! Look for the first one on Page 12 Give it a try and let us know what you think!

John Magee, Editor
Can-Am@WDMGC.com

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Welcome to our Newest Members and Anniversaries!

New Members

- Kimberly Williams of Huntington Woods, MI
- Zoran Jovanovic, of Windsor, ON. He has a Blue 1969 Lotus 7 (replica), a Red 1975 Triumph TR7, and a Yellow 1976 Triumph R7

Anniversaries

- 25yrs - Vicki and Matt Bade of Waterford, MI

Membership note: If you or somebody you know isn't currently receiving the Newsletter, please check your spam folder and make sure that Mick Gedeon has your updated email address. We are using a new distribution system that pulls the addresses from Mick's official list.

Presidentially speaking

Howdie All,

Vicki Bade - Club President

We are deep in the summer season and it has been a beautiful one (in between raindrops). We have been enjoying the somewhat cooler temperatures in our area, although I do have to say we are sending our thoughts to those in this country dealing with the extreme heatwave and those to the North who are still battling the relentless wildfires-stay safe everyone.

We haven't gotten Matt's baby out as often as we would like, but have some nice weekend trips coming up that should be fun. We are heading up to Traverse City next weekend for the Alden Car Show and I have heard that a small group of members are also making the trek-should be a nice trip, so we will see some of you there.

We took a day last week to plan the route we will be taking to Grand Rapids in September and it is a really nice drive-looking forward to it and hope to see more of you join us for the trip, as we still have spots left to fill. Bronty Creek is on our list this year for another weekend in September-we haven't been to that show in Canada since before Covid and will be glad to be going back. It has always been a great show! If you haven't been there before or it has been a while, check it out.

We had a wonderful turnout for last month's meeting and farewell to Rick and Anne Astley at Buca di Beppo, despite the horrendous rain and the food was excellent. Thanks to all of you that braved the weather and were able to join us along with many thanks to Vince & Kelly for picking up the delicious cake, getting the banner and putting together the extra goodies that we enjoyed. Rick and Anne will be missed, but we have lots of memories to cherish and I'm sure they will find a new group of fun loving car owners to hang with.

Although it is in October and I do not want the summer to go by any faster than it already does-great news that Philip Wiltshire will once again be generously giving his time to host a Twisty Bits Tour for the Jaguar and MG Clubs to enjoy. Look for his flyer and mark your calendars-this is a good day trip!

Lots of things are happening on both sides during the summer, so get yourselves out and about to enjoy them and join us at Little Daddy's 8/9 for the meeting.

Vicki

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

Safety MG Fast!

Vicki

Club Business

August Treasurer's Report
Submitted by Vince Lacroix, Treasurer, WDMGC

The treasurer's report is a brief one this month, because the treasurer is still up north sailing.

As of August 6, 2023, the assets of the club, excluding petty cash are $2,292.64. All the bills for July have been paid in full.

The sailing ends next week, so a full report for the month will be submitted in September.

Footnote: the treasurer had a very perspicacious conversation with a gentleman parking an MG-B in the Harbor Springs marina parking lot. The man lives in Ann Arbor and loves MGs. He was given a WDMGC card and told of the joys of membership.

"Semper Vigilantes"
--Vince Lacroix

Left and below: Oops, he did it again!

After finishing first in class at the 2023 Mad Dogs & Englishmen show, Perry Zakucia and his 1971 MGB roadster finished second at the July 19 Concours D'Agostini Classic Car Show in Sterling Heights, Michigan.

The popular event is a fundraiser for the Capuchin Soup Kitchen and features classic cars of all eras and makes.

Congratulations, Perry! (And thanks for the photos!)

U.S. Side Meetings

July

Our July meeting featured a great turnout to say farewell to Rick and Anne Astley as they head off to Wisconsin to be with their family after more than 25 years of club leadership. We enjoyed many warm discussions, a fair bit of speechifying, and a festive cake brought by Vince and Kelly Lacroix.

Two MGBs even braved the weather despite the flood and tornado watches! Happy trails, Rick and Anne. We'll see you down the road.

August

The Brass Pointe is still closed after its fire. The location for August is will be Little Daddy's, Southfield, on the SE corner of Northwestern Hwy and Inkster Road, which is where we met in May and June.

Wednesday, August 9th
Dinner 6 pm, Meeting 7 pm

Location
Little Daddy's
Applegate Square,
29649 Northwestern Hwy
Southfield, MI 48034

September

Probably still at Little Daddy's, but stay tuned.

A lot of “Thank Yous” and “Goodbyes” from Rick & Anne Astley

Anne and I are now in our new home state of Wisconsin where we have bought a condo just a few minutes from our eldest son’s home in the city of Brookfield and just a little over an hour from that of our youngest son’s family who live a little north of Chicago. We’re due to move in August 25th and look forward to the comfort and security of not just living much closer to family, but without the stress and hassle of having to cross Chicago to visit one another.

Our move was not without its share of sadness, especially as we had to say goodbye to so many good friends, many of 25 years+, most of whom we were privileged to have met during our 26 years with the Windsor-Detroit MG Club. We’re now going to have to seek out a new British car club knowing that, whichever it is, it can never compare to Windsor-Detroit.

We owe a big thank you to all of you that were able to attend – in torrential rain and lightning – the July meeting at Buca di Beppo at which we couldn’t have wished for a better send-off. Our special thanks too to Vicki for organizing the event and to the forever thoughtful Vince & Kelly Lacroix for supplying the cake, chocolates and banner. When we first learned of it our reaction was one of embarrassment; convinced first that we didn’t deserve such an honor and second that just a handful of people would turn up. In the end the attendance proved to be overwhelming and very humbling. Many members, who for one reason or other could not attend, have since reached out to us to say goodbye and our thanks to you all too.

A Wisconsin reunion was with our 2 British cars. Our 1970 MGB was transferred to our son here about 8 years ago and he drove our 2004 Jaguar here a few weeks ago after finagling flying back from a business trip via Detroit. There is some consolation in moving here in that the Jaguar will cost, like every other passenger vehicle, $80 per year to tax rather than nearly $400 in Michigan where it was assessed on its value when new of some $80K. Moreover, next year, upon its 20th birthday, it will be eligible for a forever $250 Collectors Plate, the only restrictions being that the owner must have a regular vehicle registered and does not drive the collector’s vehicle in January.

Our very last thank-you and goodbye go along with our best wishes to you all. Please care for and cherish the Windsor-Detroit MG Club, it well deserves it.

Rick & Anne

Canadian Side WDMGC Club Natter and Noggin Moves to Riverside Sportsmen Club for July

When: **Wednesday July 19 , 2023, 6 pm**

10835 Riverside Dr E, Windsor, ON N8P 1A5

Click Here for Restaurant Menu

Photos from the July Natter & Noggin, courtesy of Dale Brown

Advice and assistance wanted in Windsor!

New club member Don Adams of Windsor is looking for help and guidance as he tries to finish off a restoration begun by his late son, who was taken by cancer. His son-in-law Rich Dupuis is helping out with the project to get this blue 1970 MGB roadster back on the road. If you meet Don or live nearby, please offer your support for this family project that should soon yield a roadworthy car.

Right: What does your faithful editor do when his MGB is still on the fritz? Fortunately, my 1950 MG TD has been running splendidly this summer! (Well, until the brake lights went out last week. It's always something, isn't it?)

Below: Does it look like a campsite has grown around my B? Because it feels as if my B has been camped out in my garage all summer. Sigh.

A Midsummer Brake Job

No, despite the scurrilous headlines on the front page, Dan Urson didn't get his head stuck in a wheelwell. But Lisa Zebarah-Spears did take some lovely photos as he worked on their 1978 MGB roadster's brakes.

Matt & Vicki's Grand Rapids Road Trip

Date: Sunday September 24th
Time: To be determined
Destinations:

- The Frank Lloyd Wright House- Grand Rapids
- The Downtown Market

This trip is limited to the 1st 18 folks who RSVP to Matt's email at mattbade51@gmail.com or call him at 586-291-8043.

We are planning a road trip that will start out at the Target parking lot at the NW corner of M-59 and Old US 23, then take 2 lane roads to the Meyer May (Frank Lloyd Wright) house in downtown Grand Rapids for a tour of the house beginning at noon.

We will have the house to ourselves for the tour and after a 30 minute movie on the history of the house they will take us in 2 groups of 10 people each on the tour.

At 1:30pm, we will drive about 5-6 blocks west to the downtown market for lunch-they have multiple restaurants in the market, so you will have plenty of places to choose from and there are a number of small markets to choose from for shopping.

When everyone is ready to head back home, we will go back the way we came or you can get on eastbound I-96 and take the faster route, if you prefer.

THE TWISTY BITS TOUR

Sunday October 15th, 2023

Organized by Philip Wiltshire

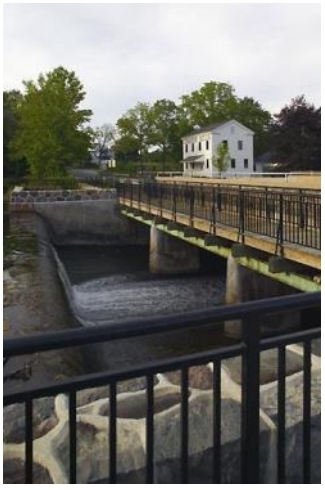
We start at 11.00 am at Meijer's parking lot on the Ann Arbor-Saline Road, just southeast of I94 at exit #175.

We will drive about 50 miles around some nicely curved roads. All roads are paved, although some might be classed in the "uneven pavement" category. We will drive through much of the German-settled area of southeast Michigan, plus see some small lakes and two small towns typical of the area.

We will stop halfway through the tour at the historic and restored 1835 Sharon Mill and participate in a picnic lunch. Bring your hamper lunch from home or purchase something just prior to leaving the Meijer's lot. Open up your wicker picnic hampers and enjoy a splendid hour sitting on the grass at the mill and checking out the mill's history. A modern rest room block is attached to the mill.

After lunch, we will continue through the countryside for another 50 miles, ending up back at the Meijer's lot.

The tour distance is 101 miles, and we should finish around 4.00 pm.



Please call Philip Wiltshire at 574 202 8919 or e-mail me at pwiltshire@comcast.net with any questions or to let me know that you intend to drive along with us.

This is a joint W.D.M.G.C and JAGM event.

This month's MG Logic Problem by Jim MacArthur

LOGIC PROBLEM – PARKING LOT LINEUP

The Windsor Detroit MG Club holds its monthly meetings at a restaurant, and the members love to drive their MGs to the meeting and line them up in a row in the parking lot. The earlier they get there, the more time they have to chat and admire each other's cars before the meeting starts. Each of the first four members to arrive drove a different model of MG, and no two MGs had the same color. From the information below, can you determine the order in which each member arrived, which model MG they drove, and the color of their car?

Vicky arrived earlier than Steve (who has the green MG) and later than Dave.
The person who drove the MG TD (who didn't arrive first) arrived earlier than J.P.
Dave (who doesn't drive the red MG) doesn't drive the MGA.
The person who drove the white MG (who didn't arrive first) drove the MGC.
The member who arrived third (who isn't J.P.) didn't drive the MG TD.

The chart is to help you record all information obtained from the clues. I suggest using an X to indicate a definite "no" and a dot to show a definite "yes". Remember, once you enter a definite "yes" (dot), place a "no" (X) in all the rest of the boxes in each row and column that contains a dot.

Member	Car	Color	Arrival
Dave			
J.P.			
Steve			
Vicky			

		Color				Car				Arrival			
	Dave												
	J.P.												
	Steve												
	Vicky												
	First												
	Sec-ond												
	Third												
	Fourth												
	MGA												
	MGB												
	MGC												
	MG TD												

See Page 16 for the answer.

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

1980 MGB, $9,500

Purchased the car April 2021 from 2nd owner for $7,700. I have spent approximately $5 k in seals, gaskets, brakes, muffler, starter, water pump, thermostat, etc. About the only area that i have not addressed is the convertible top, it has a couple of small tears, but very functional and looks great. Car is currently in Charlevoix at our summer place, as I only drove it up here, & kept it in a heated garage during winter months. If we find someone willing to buy, I will trailer it down to the Detroit area. Asking for no less than $9500. Contact Bob Wiedmaier, cell: 734-355-5356 or at wiedmaierrobert@gmail.com (July 2023)

1980 MG LE, $6,500

1980 MG LE (Limited Edition), current Mileage, ~40,000. As-Is Price: $6500. Purchased car from private owner in 2009. One Mechanic. Maintenance overhaul every April. Additional details: 2010 - Rebuilt clutch, engine overhaul, brakes; 2012/2015 - New paint job; 2014 - New tires. Also, GPS, updated radio, kill switch installed

Contact: Maxcine Jackson, 248-318-4482 (July 2023)

Cleaning out old parts? Looking for something unusual? Just trying to make a buck? Help us to help you! Send along those classified ads!

MGB Hardtop for Sale, $375

MGB hardtop with quarter windows by Custom Hardtops in Long Beach California aka Snug Top. In very good condition. $375. Text Anthony Sopuch at 248-789-6058. (June 2023)

1952 TD Midget, $15,000 OBO

My Dad is about to retire down to Texas and isn't taking his 1952 MG TD with him. He's asking $15,000 OBO. All original except paint. Please contact Larry directly up in Roscommon at (810) 287-6140. He's an old retired GM guy who just put his house on the market today and would rather sell the MG than see it waste away in storage. (810) 287-6140. (June 2023)

New Ad 1975 MG Midget, $5,100

I have a 1975 MG Midget with approximately 42,000 miles on it. My wife and I bought it about 20 years ago. It was driven for several years (just around town) but has been in our garage for the last several years. Recently put new rear brakes and clutch cylinders on. However it has not been started in nearly 2 years (so probably needs a tune up/engine work). The car itself is in great condition.

Please reach out with any questions. Thank you for your consideration.

Contact:
John and Karen Koerber
johnkoerber1@yahoo.com
Berkley, Michigan
(August 2023)

MGB Wire Wheels for Sale, $100 each

5 MGB wire wheels. Painted, balanced perfectly. All spokes there and tight. Dirty, need to be painted to be perfect, acceptable with a good cleaning. Were on my car; I converted to chrome. $100 each. Roger Melton 586 980 0850. mgrog5@yahoo.com. (April 2023)

Left: Bob Moroz passed along this photo that friends of his took in New Brunswick.

And you thought the Morgan was the British car three-wheeler.

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Above: As seen in our Facebook group: Eric Graettinger works on the first-ever MGB hovercraft conversion.

Want to know if it managed to fly? Come join the conversation in our Facebook group!

Below: Sarah Proctor just bought her first MGB! She's been a longtime fan of MGBs. Her grandfather used to drive her around in his.

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

Solution to this month's MG Logic Problem by Jim MacArthur

LOGIC PROBLEM SOLUTION – PARKING LOT LINEUP

The person who drove the MG TD didn't arrive 1st or 4th (clue 2) or 3rd (clue 5), so that person arrived 2nd. Since J.P. didn't arrive 1st or 2nd (clue 2) or 3rd (clue 5), he arrived last. By clue 1, Dave arrives 1st, Vicky came 2nd, and Steve showed up 3rd. J.P. is the driver of the white MGC (clue 4). By clue 3, Vicky drives the MG TD and Steve drives the MGA. By elimination, Dave drives the yellow MGB.

In summary: Dave, yellow MGB, 1st Vicky, red MG TD, 2nd Steve, green MGA, 3rd J.P., white MGC, 4th.

		Color				Car				Arrival			
	Dave	X	X	.	X	X	.	X	X	.	X	X	X
	J.P.	X	.	X	X	X	X	.	X	X	X	X	.
	Steve	X	X	X	.	.	X	X	X	X	X	.	X
	Vicky	.	X	X	X	X	X	X	.	X	.	X	X
	First	X	X	.	X	X	.	X	X				
	Second	.	X	X	X	X	X	X	.				
	Third	X	X	X	.	.	X	X	X				
	Fourth	X	.	X	X	X	X	.	X				
	MGA	X	X	X	.								
	MGB	X	X	.	X								
	MGC	X	.	X	X								
	MG TD	.	X	X	X								

Person	Car	Color	Position
Dave	MGB	Yellow	1st
J.P.	MGC	White	4th
Steve	MGA	Green	3rd
Vicky	MG TD	Red	2nd

Club Calendar

■ - WDMGC event.
To be sure you are up-to-date with all events, times and meeting places, visit www.WDMGC.com

August 2023

■ Wed., Aug. 9	**WDMGC Club Meeting**. Little Daddy's, 29649 Northwestern Hwy, Southfield, MI. Dinner at 6 pm, Meeting at 7 pm
Sat.-Sun. Aug. 12-13	**Alden Classic Sports Car Cruise and Show**. Hosted by Twin Bay British Car Club. Cruise on Saturday, 3:40 pm. Show on Sunday, 9 am-3pm. See tbbcc.clubexpress.com for details.
■ Wed. Aug. 16	**WDMGC Natter & Noggin,** 6 pm Riverside Sportsmen Club, 10835 Riverside Dr E, Windsor, ON N8P 1A5
Fri-Sat, Aug. 18-19	**University Motors Summer Party Reunion.** Saturday display at Reunion, Douglas Walker Park, Grand Rapids, Michigan.
Sat., Aug 19	**Woodward Dream Cruise**. Woodward Ave., Michigan.
Sun., Aug 20	**British Car Corral at Bakers of Milford** , Noon to 5 pm. Milford, Michigan
Sun., Aug 27	**Cruisin' Hines.** Hines Drive will be open only to classic vehicles. $5 donation. See cruisinhines.com for details.

September 2023

Sun. Sept. 10	**Battle of the Brits,** Hosted by Detroit Triumph Sportscar Club. 9:30 am - 3 pm, Camp Dearborn, Milford.
■ Wed., Sept. 13	**WDMGC Club Meeting**. Little Daddy's, 29649 Northwestern Hwy, Southfield, MI. Dinner at 6 pm, Meeting at 7 pm
■ Wed., Sept. 20	**WDMGC Natter & Noggin,** 6 pm Location TBA.
Sun., Sept. 17	**British Car Corral at Bakers of Milford** , Noon to 5 pm. Milford, Michigan
■ Sun., Sept. 24	**Grand Rapids Road Trip** to the Frank Lloyd Wright House and the Downtown Market. See the flyer on Page 11 for details.

US Side August Meeting

Due to the fire at the Brass Pointe, our August 9 meeting will be at Little Daddy's at 29649 Northwestern Hwy, Southfield, Michigan. Dinner 6 pm, Meeting 7 pm

We hope to see you there!

Canadian Side Natter & Noggin at The Riverside Sportsmen Club

Wednesday August 16, 6 pm.

Riverside Sportsmen Club
10835 Riverside Dr E, Windsor, ON N8P 1A5

Click Here for Restaurant Menu