







have recently pulled the engine out of my 1965 Sprite to replace the clutch. I had to disconnect the hydraulic line to the clutch slave cylinder and because the clutch and brake share the same reservoir. I drained the entire hydraulic system to prevent spills. Now the controversy begins. When I refill the system. I want to use the new silicone-based brake fluid because it won't harm the paint and it doesn't bond with water. I am told it also won't cause the corrosion around the cylinders. The problem is that many people hate silicone fluid and say that the silicon breaks down the rubber seals in brakes and makes them "spongy." They also say it is slightly compressible definitely not what you want in a brake fluid. Do any of your readers have any facts or personal experiences with the new silicone brake fluid?

Glen R. Alvis Wichita, KS

Many times you feature a British auto that one of your readers has restored. I wanted to introduce you to mine. I spent six years restoring this 1958 MGA Roadster using many Moss Motors parts. The work started in 1989 and was completed in 1995. It has won numerous first and second place awards and was given a six-page feature spread in the March 1997 issue of *Classic Auto Restore*. This was the first car I ever restored and it was definitely a challenge, but I learned a lot about welding, sand blasting and mechanics. Although it is long overdue, I wanted to thank the Moss Motors staff for helping me through some of the tough spots.

Living in Florida, high engine temperatures (above 200 degrees) at 60 mph in the summer has always been a problem. I installed an oil cooler added a water wetter, replaced the radiator, added a heater radiator up front right behind the grille and hooked it parallel to the heater hoses. That lowered the engine's running temperature about ten degrees. I just finished installing an engine shroud and I can't wait to test it because the airflow over the engine should be much greater and I hope it takes another five to 10 degrees off the running temperature. The specs call for a running temperature of 165 to 190 degrees. I'm hoping the added airflow will put me in that range once and for all. Right now on a 75 to 80 degree day, the engine stays at about 175 to 180 degrees, even after I put the thermostat back in. I'll see how it runs when the temperature reaches 95 degrees with the shroud. By the way, this is only a high-speed problem. The engine has always run okay at slow speeds such as in parades.

Thanks again for your assistance. My wife and 1 enjoy driving the car around the area, it is a head turnert Hal Pabst

St. Augustine, FL

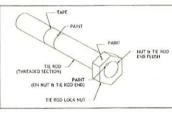


Just finished replacing the steering rack boots on my 1970 MGB and I want to say thanks for the article "Steering Rack Boot Replacement," by Steve Tom, in the winter edition of *British Matoring*. Even though I had purchased the proper tools to remove the ball joints, I had been putting this project off because I knew it was going to be a real bear. The process outlined by Tom made it a breeze. What I originally figured to be a weekend project took less than three hours.

I did, however, take this process one step further to help ensure proper alignment when reassembling the tie rod to the tie rod end. After loosening the lock nut and screwing it finger-tight against the tie rod end. I wrapped a piece of masking tape around the tie rod at the inside face of the nut. This acted as a rough "stop" for the original location. I then put a small, aligning dot of paint on both the tape and nut flat. After removing the tie rod from the tie rod end and unscrewing the lock nut to the "flush" location. I put another dot of paint on the nut and tie rod. This would be my starting location to count the turns when replacing the nut. This process worked well and helped me avoid any confusion of where to start and end my "turn" count. Upon completion. I checked the distance between tire marks and found it to be right on the money.

My thanks to *British Motoring* for providing this information. If 1 had proceeded with the conventional process, I would still be under the car rather than in the driver's seat. Mark Young

Sebastopol, CA



My 40^a high school reunion is coming up and a group of my friends in Santa Cruz were talking about finding cars from 1961, our graduation year, fixing them up and driving them to the class reunion. Here's the story about how I found my special car.

One of my friends recently purchased an old chicken ranch on the outskirts of Santa Cruz, complete with several outbuildings and old sheds. He told me there was an old sports car under a car cover parked in one of the outbuildings. Apparently, it had been stored for several years. The owner, a WWII veteran who lives in San Francisco, kept his sports car stored for when he visits. My friend said the owner was a tall man who had both knees replaced and had difficulty getting in and out of the car, thus it was rarely driven.

With the owner's permission, we unlocked the

outbuilding, removed the car cover and, to my surprise, found a 1961 Bugey Sprite with 37,000 original miles. Service records located in the vehicle indicated the car had been driven less than 1,000 miles in the past eleven years. This owner was the car's second, and it had been painted yellow. The top, bows and side curtains were on the rafters. It was all there, a complete car.

I met with the owner, drove the car and purchased it after a ten-minute conversation. The only problem I could find with the car was a leak in the radiator hose.

What did I pay for this little gem? Well, let's just say my wife smiled when I brought the car home and told her the price. I found mine:

Wally Walker Soquel, CA

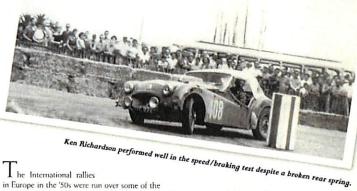


I have completed restoring my 1955 TF 1500 and I am happy to say it is running and looking like new. Now that the restoration is complete, I wanted to share the latest news. Recently, I entered my car in the Santa Barbara 2000 Concours d'Elegance and I was fortunate to receive 1st place in the European Sports car class. This would not have been possible without the help of Moss Motors and its employees, who demonstrated impressive knowledge about MCs. I have enclosed a picture of the car for you to share with your readers.

Silvio L. Motta Santa Barbara, CA 🕑



1954 ALPINF By Paul Richardson



he International rallies in Europe in the '50s were run over some of the most testing routes imaginable, especially the Criterium Des Alpes, commonly known as The Alpine. As its name implies, the rally was essentially contested over the high Alpine passes of central Europe and was generally regarded as the toughest test of endurance for any car or crew. But competitor, press and spectator opinion labeled the 1954 event as the toughest and most dangerous Alpine to date.

It is well known that the Alpine rally was feared by many crews simply because the Alpine passes

were so dangerous. It was also a policy of the Alpine

organizers to include the highest and toughest of those passes if they were not impassable by snow or avalanche. The passes had steep climbs and descents. which in those days could only be described as loose, surfaced, single-lane cart tracks. At altitude they were covered in snow, often on top of sheet ice, and at the lower levels icy roads could be made worse by rain. Many of the passes were hewn from the side of



Lyndon Mills and Jimmy Ray at the start of the race.

mountains where the climbs and descents had solid rock on one side and no effective guard rails whatsoever on their outer edge. One mistake could result in a drop of thousands of feet off the side. Just to make things more interesting for crews, the route was organized so that many of the highest passes were met at night.

In 1954 three works Triumph TR2s took part in the Alpine, which was the first International rally in which a works team was entered. The three-car team consisted of team leaders Ken Richardson and codriver Kit Heathcote, who became his P.A., Lyndon Mills and U.K. Sales Manager of the company, Jimmy Ray, Robbie Slotemaker and Maurice Gatsonides.

The rally started on July 8 in Marseilles in Southern France. The three-car team left the starting ramp in late afternoon for their first Alpine

adventure. The route ran east towards the first checkpoint in the French Alps, which was reached in darkness. Cars were refueled there for the daunting task of driving four major Alpine passes in the dead of night. The Col D'Allos (7,350 ft.), Col de Vars (6,926 ft.) and the Col D'Izoard (7,746 ft.) were successfully negotiated and the three TRs pressed on to Briancon and over the border into Italy via the Col de Montgenevre (6,070 ft.). The remaining few hours of darkness were then spent driving through the Lombardy plain towards Bergamo in readiness to tackle the single-track roads leading up into the mountains towards the Vivione pass. It was in a narrow section of the Vivione that a puncture put Richardson and Heathcote out of the running for a coveted Coupe des Alpes which was awarded for any car completing the rally without losing points. The puncture caused a time penalty at the next







Trecherous Alpine Rally passes, including the famous Stelvio pass (middle).

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checkpoint where they arrived one minute and 54 seconds late. Having had no sleep, crews spent the second day's hard driving heading for the first night stop at SL Moritz, Switzerland, which was the end of the first stage. All the works TRs arrived safely and in good time. At SL Moritz, the organizers rerouted the second stage of the rally due to an avalanche which totally blocked the Stelvio pass. Major flood reports caused a second route change. Once resumed, the rally passed from SL Moritz into Italy, back into Switzerland and then Austria and Germany.

From Germany the route took competitors back to Austria through Innsbruck and into Italy via the notorious Brenner pass. Finally competitors arrived at Cortina D'Ampesso for the end of the second stage.

The third stage was essentially a 190mile road race in and around the Dolomite mountains with the start and finish at Cortina. "The day dawned with perfect conditions and for the first 30 miles or so we encountered some very steep ascents which held everyone's average speed well down so much so that it appeared we'd never make up the lost time," Heathcote said. "But it turned out later on that there were some sections where much higher speeds could be achieved. This, coupled with Ken's superb driving, got us to the finish back in Cortina with 28 minutes in hand. By achieving this performance we had overtaken all the cars that had started before us and, having averaged 50 mph for the 190-mile circuit, we made our second fastest time of the day. Thus, before the half way mark, we became the leading car in the rally."

The final 24-hour stage of the rally ran from Cortina to Cannes on the Mediterranean coastline of France. This section took in the Stelvio pass, which was cleared for the return run. Competitors drove 9,045 ft. of what was one of the highest roads in Europe. The Stelvio pass zigzags up mountainsides in a series of short straights connected by hairpin bends. The majority of the road surface was loose shale with reinforced concrete (the only hard surface) on the hairpin bends where grip underbraking and acceleration was essential, even for normal traffic. "Our rally very nearly ended on the Stelvio," Kit Heathcote said. "Ken had caught up with Jean Behra, the racing driver, who was in an Alfa Romeo. We were right on his tail and, as we followed him out of a corner, the Alfa understeered straight into the mountainside and bounced back into the front of our TR which then pushed the Alfa back into the mountainside. Luckily, we only sustained front end body damage, but the Alfa's rally was over because of serious front end damage and a burst radiator."

After clearing the Stelvio, the route veered West to the foothills of the Italian Alps and then to the French Alps again, which were reached in darkness.

The crossing into France took place at the summit of the Col du Petit St. Bernard at 7,178 ft. The final section through the French Alps involved maneuvering the ascents and descents of some of the most dangerous of the French Alpine passes in rapid succession in snow and ice. The TRs raced reliably and relentlessly through the night passes over the Col de L'Iseran (9.090 ft.). Col de la Croix de Fer (6,818 ft.), Col du Telegraph (5,292 ft.), Col de L'Izoard (7,746 ft.), Col de Vars (6,926 ft.) and the Col de la Cayolle (7,634 ft.). Near disaster struck when a rear spring snapped on the Richardson/Heathcote TR in the Gorge de Daluis. My father, who was chief mechanic and works test driver for the ERA team, often related that, with rear wheel steering caused by rear axle movement, just keeping the car on the road became a major problem. However, Richardson and Heathcote managed to stay in the race.



The Victorious TR2s after the rally. Left to Right: Ken Richardson, Robbie Slotemaker, Maurice Gatsonides, Kit Heathcote.



"Ken and I were extremely tired by this time, but we suddenly felt wide awake driving with a snapped rear spring!" Heathcote said. By this time Slotemaker and Gatsonides had driven a superb rally with no problems and were well on their way to winning a coveted Coupe Des Alpes for completing the rally without losing points.

Lyndon Mills and Jimmy Ray had extremely bad luck only 400 miles from the finish when, after an impressive performance, a rear wheel bearing failed and they had to reture from the rally.

The last event at Cannes was a speed and breaking test around cones on the sea front. "Ken never liked these tests around cones, and this one was more than the usual challenge because he had to drive with the broken rear spring, but he managed to get the second fastest time overall," Heathcote said. Slotemaker and Castoonides also finished a

remarkable sixth overall. With the privately entered TR2 belonging to Joseph Kat and Hands Tak, who had recovered from an accident near the control at Bolzano, the Richardson/Heathcote and Slotemaker/Gatsonides TR2s took the manufacturers' team prize. Richardson, Heathcote, Slotemaker, and Gatsonides finished in second, third and fourth places in the 2000cc class, and won the Pernod Challenge Cup for the team, which put up the fastest cumulative times over the timed speed tests and hill climbs at Munich, Pordoi, Stelvio and Izuard. They also won the prize for the best performance of a non-French team.

The 1954 Alpine rally was the first of many rallies of its type where TR2s and 3s won endless class and team awards throughout the '50s. The stealth of the TR is legendary and the very same TR2 OVC 276 used by Richardson and Heathcote in the '54 Alpine rally is still running in pristine condition on the roads of Europe today.

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I nonly its sixth year, the Greenwich Concours ddElegance has become recognized by those whose opinions count as one of the major events of its type. All the ingredients were abundantly present, providing entrants, sponsors and officials with a whirl of on-and-off site activities. The result was a field of entries that could stand against those found at some of the better-known, longer-established automotive contests.

FRIDAY

A Concours pre-tour of back-country Greenwich included a preview of retired autodealer Malcolm Pray's newly built museum in Banksville. This facility, housed in three buildings, each measuring 4,000-sq. ft., represents an addition of about 30 cars to Pray's existing collection at his Greenwich home. At the conclusion of the afternoon drive through the noted estate country, rallyists stopped by Pray's Greenwich estate for poolside refreshments.

Vchicles in the Friday road-rally were a crosssection of those that would be exhibited throughout the weekend. Several pre-war Packards, Rolls Royces, Pierce Arrows and Buicks were offset by an equally fine group of sports cars from the post-war era. A truly splendid XK 120M FHC and an equally pristine Austin Healey 100M were standouts in that category, along with a Maserati 3500 Touring coupe and a mid-60s Corvette. The newest entrant was a recently minted BMW Z8, which looked right-at-home among its vintage peers.

SATURDAY

Saturday morning's monsoon broke event organizer Bruce Wennerstrom's six-year perfect weather record for this popular Concours d'Elegance. The Greenwich Concours attracted entrics from a wide area, thanks to title sponsorship of AUTOMOBILE magazine. It also helped to have the publication's editorial director



emeritus David E. Davis double as chief judge and event banquet guest speaker. Antiques and classics were the focus of Saturday's display with post-WW II sports and GT cars presiding on Sunday. The Concours continually adds new sponsors who recognize this as an ideal venue to showcase their products. New to the 2001 event were Cadillac and SAAB, joining long-time sponsors Mercedes-Benz, Land Rover, Ferrari and Lincoln-Mercury.

Even though rain made a quagmire of the harbor-front park, a prestigious field of internationally known vehicles assembled for the enjoyment of several thousand devoted enthusiasts. Included in the field were a fabulous one-off Hispano Suiza Dubonnet, brought by Charles Morse of Seattle, Washington, which was awarded Best of Show, a tribute that cluded the remarkable machine at Pebble Beach and the Louis Vuitton Classic in 2000, Also on display was Lawrence Auriana's ex-Terry Cohn Alfa Romeo 8C 2900 cabriolet, acquired two years ago at Christie's Pebble Beach sale.

Other strong contenders for high honors included a Nethercutt-quality 1904 Pope Hartford, entered by QUIEN SABE, as well as a pair of splendid post war Maseratis and several Ferraris.

All and all, it was quite a splendid weekend for vintage and classic auto enthusiasts, setting the stage for an even grander event in the future.







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BN4-BT7 Side Curtain Bag	248-940	57.95	45.20	
BJ7/BJ8 Top Cover Bag	641-055	59.95	44.95	
BJ7/BJ8 Tonneau Bag	641-075	59.95	44.95	
BJ7/BJ8 Tonneau Rail Bag	641-085	44.95	33.70	
Top & Tonneau	Hardwa	re		
100-4 Front Top Bow	021-580	\$25.95	\$19.45	
BN4/BN6/BN7/BT7 Front Bow	806-080	94.50	70.85	
BN6/BN7 Top Frame Finisher	021-786	21.80	16.35	
BN4/BT7 Tonneau Stiffener Set	453-658	47.95	35.95	
BJ7/BJ8 Tonneau Bow	021-541	29.95	22.45	
100-4 Top Latch Set	804-988	89.95	76.45	
BN4/BT7 Top Latch Set	805-008	59.95	45.75	1
BT7 4ster, R/H Top Latch	805-030	32.50	24.35	
BT7 4ster, L/H Top Latch	805-035	32.50	24.35	



Dash & Door	top Pad	Reg	Sale
BJ8 Padded Dashtop	633-850	\$199.95	\$169.95
BJ8 Door Top Set	858-158	159.95	127.95
Car Covers		1.1.1	
2 Seater Flannel Cover	238-410	\$139.95	\$111,95
2 Seater Duravent Cover	237-410	99.95	74.95
4 Seater Flannel Cover	238-450	139.95	111.95
4 Seater Duravent Cover	237-450	99.95	74.95
4 Seater Tyvek Cover	236-445	49.95	37.45
	E		

DIRECT ORDER HOTLINE - OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

Tops Tonneau

Tops are supplied with all necessary snaps and fasteners, but do not include the header rail or rear anchor bar. All tops and tonneaus are supplied in black vinyl. Tops Rea Sale

Topa		ney	0410	
948 (studs on w/shield frame)	242-180	\$239.95	\$196.75	
948 (bar mount type)	242-185	239.95	196.75	
Sp-Mkl1/Mi-Mkl (w/side curtains)	242-190	239.95	196.75	
Sp-MkIII/Mi-MkII (w/windows)	242-195	239.95	196.75	
Sp-MkIV/Mi-MkIII(1967-69,8 stud)	242-175	249.95	219.95	
Sp-MkIV/Mi-MkIII/1500(1969 on, 6 stud) Sp-MkIV/Mi-MkIII/1500(1969 on, 6 stud)	242-200	239.95	196.75	
OEM w/header rail	242-205	349.95	314.95	
Tonneau Covers				
948 Bugeye	241-270	\$219.95	175.95	
948/1098, 1961-64	241-280	229.95	188.55	
1098, 1965-66	241-285	239.95	215.95	
1275, 1967 on (no headrests)	241-290	236.95	213.25	
1275/1500 (with headrests)	241-300	239.95	215.95	
Top Cover				
1275/1500 1969-80	241-525	\$142.95	\$114.35	
Side Curtains & Fran	ie Con	pone	nts	
Side Curtain Set	259-678	\$369.95	\$295.95	
Sp-MkI Top Frame Assembly	400-630	229.95	183.95	
Sp-MkIII/MI-MkII Top Frame Assembly	400-658	239.95	191.95	
1967-80 Top Frame Assembly	400-680	272.45	217.95	
Header Rail Seal	453-610	18.95	14.20	
Header Rail Seal Retainer	453-930	7.95	5.95	
Dashtop Repair Pane	Is			
Midget 1968-80	453-950	\$48.95	\$38.15	





SPRITE-MIDGET

Car Covers		Reg	Sale
Midget (except 1500) Flannel	238-460	\$139.95	\$111.95
Midget (except 1500) Duravent	237-460	99.95	74.95
Midget Tyvek Cover	236-440	49.95	37.45
Midget 1500 Flannel	238-470	139.95	111.95
Midget 1500 Duravent	237-470	99.95	74.95
Sprite Flannel	238-460	139.95	111.95
Sprite Duravent	237-460	99.95	74.95
Sprite Tyvek Cover	236-440	49.95	37.45



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MGA

Sale

\$199.95

199.95

199.95

199.95

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187.95

Vinyl Tops and Tonneaus Reg 242-330 \$249.95 1500 Black Vinyl, 1 window 1500/1600(late) Black, 3 window 242-310 249.95 1500/1600(late) White, 3 window 242-320 249.95 242-950 249.95 MKII Black, 3 window MKII White, 3 window 242-950 249.95

Stayfast Canvas Tops

Long-mounts behind rail, White Vinyl

Long-mounts behind rail, Tan Stayfast

The unique solution-dyed fabric is extremely fade resistant, engineered to be soft and flexible over a wide range of temperatures, yet highly resistant to sagging, billowing and shrinking.

	1.1.1	Reg	Sale	
1500 (early) Black	243-955	\$439.95	\$373.95	
1500 (early) Tan	243-950	439.95	373.95	
1500/1600 Black	243-965	489.95	391.95	
1500/1600 Tan	243-960	489.95	391.95	
Tonneau Covers		8. C		
Short-mounts on rear rail, Black Stayfast	243-985	\$234.95	\$187.95	
Short-mounts on rear rail, Black Vinyl	241-420	159.95	127.95	
Short-mounts on rear rail, Tan Stayfast	243-980	234.95	187.95	
Long-mounts behind rail, Black Stayfast	243-995	234.95	187.95	
Long-mounts behind rait, Black Vinyl	241-520	179.95	152.95	

241-530

243-990

179.95

234.95



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Side Curtain S	ets	Reg	Sale	
1500 "Flip Up" Black Vinyl	259-258	\$549.95	\$439.95	
1500 "Flip Up" Black Canvas	259-268	549.95	439.95	
1600 Black Vinyl	259-618	535.20	428.15	
1600 Black Canvas	259-628	639.95	511.95	
1600 Tan Stayfast Canvas	259-625	639.95	511.95	
Aluminum Replacement Type	259-648	368.65	294.90	
Top Frame Har	dware			
Top Frame Assembly	406-890	\$239.95	\$191.95	
Front Top Bow	453-250	44.95	33.70	
Top Bow Socket (2 req.)	406-920	4.95	4.20	
Top Bow Wing Bolt (2 reg.)	406-200	8.75	6.55	
Rear Anchor Bar	244-200	11.95	8.95	
Car Covers				
Flannel	238-410	\$139.95	\$111.95	
Duravent	237-410	99.95	74.95	
Tyvek	236-440	49.95	37.45	

Tonneau Covers

1970-80 w/headrest 187211 on

Our tonneau covers are tailored for left-hand black only. Supplied complete with all neces			
		Reg	Sale
1962-67 w/out headrest to 138400	241-440	\$239.95	\$203.95
1968-70 w/out headrest 138401-219020	241-443	239.95	203.95
1971-80 w/out headrest 219021 on	241-445	239.95	203.95
1969 w/headrest 158371-187210	241-460	249.95	199.95

MGB	Deluxe	Sun-Fast	Tops

This unique solution-dyed material is extremely fade-resistant, engineered to be soft and flexible over a wide range of temperatures, yet highly resistant to sagging, billowing or shrinking. Professional installation suggested. With zip out rear window.

241-465

239.95

203 05

		neg	2918
1971-80 Black	242-740	\$589.95	\$471.95
1971-80 Tan	242-745	589.95	471.95

English Dull-Coat Vinyl Tops

Rugged British-made top is heavier than other budget tops and all seams are stitched and welded for maximum strength. With zlp-out rear window.

		Reg	Si
1971-80 Black	242-685	\$237.00	\$189.

Cabriolet Tops

Deluxe UK produced "cabriolet" tops borrowed from the German style of padded tops with a full headliner and thick insulation. The extremely durable Stayfast canvas is solution dyed acrylic fabric. Professional installation suggested.

		Reg	Sale
1971-80 Black Stayfast	242-795	\$869.30	\$595.40
1971-80 Brown Stayfast	242-785	869.30	695.40
1971-80 Black Vinyl	242-775 -	549.95	483.95

Original Tops

These are genuine English Tickford factory style double-coated vinyl tops, complete with header rail and all snaps pre-installed. Black Vinyl only.

		Reg	Sale	
1963-70 Top for stow-away frame	250-040	\$449.95	\$359.95	
1963-70 Top for folding frame	250-000	475.85	380.65	
1971-76 Top w/fixed window	250-080	449.95	359.95	
1977-80 Top w/zip-out window	250-130	449.95	359.95	

Replacement Vinyl Tops

These high quality replacement tops are supplied with all snaps and fasteners, but do not include the header rall #406-250 or rear anchor bar #244-210.

		Reg	Sale
1962-63 Folding top frame Black	242-630	\$279.95	\$229.55
1963-70 Stow-away top frame Black	242-650	279.95	229.55
1963-70 Stow-away top frame White	242-680	279.95	229.55
1963-70 Folding top frame Black	242-640	279.95	229.55
1963-70 Folding top frame White	242-670	279.95	229.55
1971-76 Fixed rear window Black	242-645	279.95	229.55
1977-80 Zip-out rear window Black	242-655	279.95	229.55
1977-80 Zip-out rear window White	242-695	279.95	229.55
1977-80 Zip-out rear window Tan	242-295	279.95	229.55

Top and Cockpit Covers Cockelt Court 237-000 \$44.05

1971-80 Top Cover Black Vinyl	241-485	139.95	111.95
MGBGT Weather Seals			

Glazing Rubber, Windshield	282-430	\$44.95	\$33.70	
Tailgate Inner Seal	282-480	19.75	14.88	
Tailgate Outer Seal	282-490	19.95	14.95	
Glazing Rubber, Rear Window	282-590	35.95	25.95	

SALE PRICES VALID FROM August 20, 2001 THRU September 28, 2001



\$15 85

MGB

Frames & Stowage	Bags	Reg	Sale
Header Rail	406-250	\$174.95	\$139.95
Header Rail Seal Retainer	453-600	9.95	7.45
Header Rail Seal	453-610	18.95	14.20
Rear Anchor Bar	244-210	19.95	14.95
1969-70 Optional Folding Frame	406-280	239.95	191.95
1970-80 Standard Folding Frame	406-290	179.95	143.95
1970-80 Standard Folding Frame	454-490	159.95	135.95
1962-69 Stow-Away Frame: LH	454-500	159.95	135.95
Stow-away Top Bag	242-600	47.95	39.30
Stow-away Top Frame Bag	242-615	71.35	55.65
Tonneau Bow, RH	453-630	21.95	15.45
Tonneau Bow, LH	453-640	21.95	16.45
Tonneau Bow Stowage Bag	242-625	26.95	21.00
Tonneau Cover Stowage Bag	242-605	29.30	26.35



Dash & Doortop Pade	5	Reg	Sale
Thru 1967 Dash Roll	453-570	\$87.95	\$65.95
Thru 1967 Door Cap Set, Black/White	639-508	249.95	212.45
Rdst 1962-65 Door Cap Set, Black/Red	639-528	249.95	212.45
Rdst 1962-65 Door Cap Set, Black	639-608	94.95	75.95
Rdst 1966-69 Door Cap Set,Black	639-668	94.95	75.95
Rdst 1970-76 Door Cap Set, Ochre	639-708	94.95	75.95
Rdst 1970-76 Door Cap Set, Champagne	639-738	94.95	75.95
Rdst 1970-80 Door Cap Set, Autumn Leaf	639-728	94.95	75.95
Rdst 1977-80 Door Cap Set, Black	639-668	94.95	75.95
Dashtop Repair Pane	Is		
Revitalize your old cracked dash top pad with and a lot less expensive than a complete dash			
	puo. compress	Reg	Sale

1968-71 453-890 \$48.95 \$38.15 1972-76 453-895 48.95 38.15 1977-80 453-905 48.95 38.15

Car Covere

our ouvors			
GT Flannel	238-440	\$139.95	\$111.95
GT Duravent Cover	237-440	99.95	74.95
GT Tyvek Cover	236-445	49.95	37.45
Roadster 1962-74 Flannel	238-420	139.95	111.95
Roadster 1962-74 Duravent Cover	237-420	99.95	74.95
Roadster 1962-74 Tyvek Cover	236-440	49.95	37.45
Roadster 1975-80 Flannel	238-430	139.95	111.95
Roadster 1975-80 Duravent Cover	237-430	99.95	74.95
Roadster 1975-80 Tyvek Cover	236-445	49.95	37.45
All MG Nylon Cover	236-015	69.95	52.45



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MG TC-TD-TF



Stayfast Tops		Reg	Sale
TC w/split window Tan	243-710	\$529.95	\$450.45
TC w/split window Black	243-715	529.95	450.45
TC w/single window Tan	243-725	439.95	351.95
TC w/single window Black	243-720	439.95	351.95
TD (with 2 metal bows) Tan	243-735	439.95	351.95
TD (with 2 metal bows) Black	243-730	439.95	351.95
TD (with 3 metal bows) Tan	243-745	439.95	351.95
TD (with 3 metal bows) Black	243-740	439.95	351.95
TF Tan	243-755	439.95	351.95
TF Black	243-750	439.95	351.95
Vinyl Tops			
TD (with 2 metal bows) Black	242-010	\$279.95	\$223.95
TD (with 3 metal bows) Black	242-110	279.95	223.95
TF Black	242-210	279.95	223.95
TF White	242-220	279.95	223.95
Stayfast Tonneau	Covers		
TC Full Tonneau Tan	243-850	\$419.95	\$356.95
TC Full Tonneau Black	243-860	419.95	356,95
TD Full Tonneau Tan	243-870	419.95	356,95
TD Full Tonneau Black	243-880	419.95	356.95
TD 1/2 Tonneau Tan	243-875	239.95	196.75
TD 1/2 Tonneau Black	243-885	239.95	196.75
TF Full Tonneau Tan	243-890	419.95	356.95
TF Full Tonneau Black	243-910	419.95	356.95
TF 1/2 Tonneau Tan	243-895	239.95	196.75
TF 1/2 Tonneau Black	243-915	239.95	196.75
Black Vinyl Tonne	au Covers	5	
TD Full Tonneau	241-220	\$269.95	\$229.45
TF Full Tonneau	241-320	269.95	229.45
Stayfast Side Curt	ain Klts		
TC Complete kit Tan	243-768	\$845.95	\$693.65
TC Complete kit Black	243-778	B45.95	693.65
TC Cover kit Tan	243-760	384.95	327.20
TC Cover kit Black	243-770	384.95	327.20
TD Complete kit (2 bow) Tan	243-788	845.95	693.65
TD Complete kit (2 bow) Black	243-798	845.95	693.65



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243-780

243-790

243-818

243-828

243-810 243-820

243-838

243-848

243-830 243-840

Vinul Side Custoin Vite

Vinyl Side Curtain F	lits	Reg	Sale
TD Complete kit (2 bow) Black	256-878	\$739.95	\$591.95
TD Cover kit (2 bow) Black	256-210	289.95	231.95
TD Complete kit (3 bow) Black	256-918	739.95	591,95
TD Cover kit (3 bow) Black	256-310	289.95	231.95
TF Complete kit Black	256-958	739.95	591.95
TF Cover kit Black	256-410	289.95	231.95
TF Cover kit - White	256-420	289.95	231.95
Duck Side Curtain H	lits		
TC cover kit	256-830	\$364.95	\$291.95
TD cover kit (2 bow)	256-840	364.95	291,95
TD cover kit (3 bow)	256-850	364.95	291.95
Side Curtain Compo	nents		
Stowage Bags	259-808	\$109.95	\$87.95
TC bolt and nut set	252-008	30.95	24.10
TC strip set	252-108	104.95	78.70
TD-TF bolt and nut set	252-018	30.95	24.10
TD (2 Bow) strip set	252-208	104.95	78.70
TD (3 Bow) strip set	252-308	104.95	78.70
Bows & Hardware			
TC Top Frame Assy	453-335	\$295.50	\$236.40
TD (2 bow) Top Frame Assy	453-345	289.95	231.95
TD (3 bow) Top Frame Assy	453-355	289.50	231.60
TF Top Frame Assy	453-366	289.50	231,60
Top and Side Curtain Tan Spray Paint	220-520	12.95	9.70
Top Bow Socket (2 reg.)	406-920	4.95	4.20
Top Bow Wing Bolt (2 req.)	406-200	8.75	6.55
Car Covers			
MG TC-TD-TF Flannel	238-400	\$139.95	\$111.95
MG TC-TD-TF Duravent	237-400	99.95	74.95
MG TC-TD-TF Tyvek	236-440	49.95	37.45
All MG Nyton Cover	236-015	69.95	52.45





TD Cover kit (2 bow) Tan TD Cover kit (2 bow) Black

TD Cover kit (3 bow) Tan TD Cover kit (3 bow) Black

TF Complete kit Tan

TF Complete kit Black TF Cover kit Tan

TF Cover kit Black

TD Complete kit (3 bow)Tan

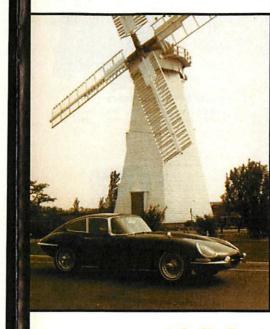
TD Complete kit (3 bow) Black



August 20, 2001 THRU September 28, 2001

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AUSTIN-HEALEY

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Tons & Tonn

JAGUAR

Topa & Totmocana		nog	Sale	
XK120 Tonneau Cover Black	011-350	\$229.95	\$183.95	
XK140 Rdst Tonneau Cover Black	011-360	229.95	183.95	
XK150 Rdst Tonneau Cover Black	011-370	239.95	191.95	
E-Type 1961-71 Black Top	2417	282.50	226.00	
E-Type V12 1971-74 Black Top	2418	250.00	225.00	
Car Covers			× .	
XK120-150 Flannel	238-490	\$139.95	\$111.95	
XK120-150 Duravent	237-490	99.95	74.95	
XK120-150 Tyvek	236-445	49.95	37.45	



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But there were rebels who craved the compact appeal of foreign cars like MGs and Triumphs. About this same time, the Volkswagen Beetle was making significant headway in the economy small car market. And while there were other makes such as the Renault, Simca and Peugeot – they just didn't have the right attitude. Then the Mini came along.

BURSTING BUBBLES

British automobile designer Alec Issigonis shared one thing in common with many other European engineers of his day. They saw the "bubble" cars rolling out of Germany and wanted to counter with something that used "the minimum amount of materials to give the maximum amount of space and comfort." Issigonis and his design team came up with the radical idea to relocate the gearbox into the engine sump. At a time when most cars had a separate chassis, Issigonis' design was monocoque (the body was integral with the chassis) and the running gear and engine were attached through the front and rear sub frames. Money was an issue, so Issigonis spot-welded the body panels together using external "jigs", which explains the Mini's seams. The tiny vehicle also sported a rubber suspension system and a lightweight front-wheel drive, which provided exceptional handling for an economy car.

The Mini was launched Aug. 26, 1959, through Austin and Morris franchises worldwide, Badged as the Austin Seven and the Morris Mini Minor, the first winter of production saw a host of problems for the little car including, but not limited to, leaking sills, rotting carpets and water-logged distributors. Nevertheless, the first Mini arrived on U.S. shores in 1960. American media were already giving the Mini incredible coverage, as they had seen the impact it had had on the European market. They were intrigued by the unique layout, design and overall specifications.

LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT?

Americans had grown accustomed to a certain level of interior and exterior trim, even in economy cars. Many were disappointed by the Mini's spare accoutrements and solernn finish. Americans weren't as directly affected by the postwar depression as England had been, and they were looking for more in a car. They wanted something that was fun, unique and practical. This is where the Mini did not disappoint.

Road & Track tested the Austin 850 Mini in March 1960, just as the first cars were arriving. The magazine expressed concern about highway noise level, but was impressed by even the slowest Mini's performance. Critics were amazed by how generous the interior room was in such a diminutive package, surpassing the externally larger VW Beetle. Weighing around 1,300 lbs. with 35 horsepower, it was a close run for a 1,200cc VW in a straight line – but in corners there was no comparison. The Beetle's quaint suspension was no match for the Mini's roadhugging performance, and at a list price of \$1,295 in 1960, it was a serious competitor to the \$1,675 VW.

In 1961, British Motor Company (BMC) introduced the Mini Cooper 997. Developed by the famed Cooper racing team, which had won the 1959 and 1960 Formula One World Championships, this model had 20 more horsepower thanks to a longer stroke connected to a slightly smaller bore that brought the displacement just under the 1,000cc limit of many racing classes. Intake valves were enlarged and the compression was increased. A more radical cam breathed through twin SU carburctors and the gearbox got closer ratio gears and an extension that brought the shift lever back beside the driver, replacing the long "magic wand" shift lever of the 850s.

The American sports car crowd loved the new Coopers. Finally, here was a true 4-seat sports sedan with room for two kids or luggage in back. The only "competition" at the time was the Renault Gordini and the Fiat-Abarths. The Mini was in a class by itself. For the next seven years, Americans were

introduced to variations of the Mini. Deluxe models,

Coopers, Mini vans, pickups, and even a military reject called the Moke graced American roads (see sidebar, "Pick Your Passion"). In 1967 the bottom fell out of the British motor industry as companies like Morris and Austin lost valuable and irretrievable ground to rivals Renault, Fiat and Volkswagen. In addition, 1968 U.S. safety and emissions regulations virtually doomed the Mini. Specifically, a requirement for occupant protection would have required a major overhaul to the Mini interior. This, combined with a BMC realignment, combined with other factors, signaled the end of the Mini in America.

To this day, it isn't unusual to find many "nonstandard" Minis in car clubs across America. Because of BMC's decision to discontinue the supply line in the United States, many enthusiasts came up with creative ways to obtain their favorite ride, including smuggling cars from Canada until American regulations put on the brakes. Americans became obsessed with maintaining and rebuilding their original Minis, and often resorted to piecing together badly wrecked or rusted cars, sometimes resulting in an automotive Frankenstein effect.

Rumors of the Mini's return have turned out to be fact. When BMW bought Rover, the Mini followed. Production of the old Mini stopped in October 2000 as production of the new Mini started. U.S. sales are projected to begin in March 2002 (see "The New Mini", p.17 for more detailed information). Welcome back Mini.

PICK YOUR PASSION

There were many Mini models sold in the United States from 1960 to 1967, and later models have been brought in by a variety of means. The Mini line included sedans, sports models, vans and trucks. Here are the most common Minis that made it stateside. Note: dates are for U.S. sales only.

Austin 850 1960-1967 Engine size: 848cc Power output: 35 bhp at 5,500 rpm Torque: 44 lb. ft. at 2,900 rpm

The Austin 850 was the first Mini to be imported to the United States, with minor variations between Morris and Austin models. Most American Minis ware made by Austin, Initially, the Austin versions were called Austin 850, but this was changed in 1962 to Austin Mini. The Mini 850s were dolivered with solid color paint jobs in a limited range of colors.

Mini Van and Countryman, 1960-1967 Engine: same as Mini 850

The Mini Van was introduced in 1960 as a commercial vehicle primarily intended for light delivery work.

Accommodations were sparse, and the wheelbase was longer than a standard Mini, even though the running gear was almost identical. Late in 1960 a "Woodie" version of the van, called the Austin Countryman, was introduced (the Morris version was called the Traveller). It had wood trim around the back of the body and on the twin rear doors. This more accommodating version of the van had a rear seat and similar interior trim to an 850 sedan. The Countryman proved to be popular in the US and many were sold.

Mini Pickup, 1961-1967 Engine: same as Mini 850

This tiny utilitarian vehicle was imported in small numbers and survival rates are low. They have recently become highly sought after. The trim included spartan pressed steel grills that were painted body color and all interiors were black.

Mini Cooper, 1961-1967 Engine size: 997 and 998cc Power output: 55 bhp at 6,000 rpm Torque: 54 lb. ft at 3,600 rpm (997); 57 lb. ft at 3,000 rpm (998)

The Mini Cooper put Minis on the performance map. The first models had 997cc engines with a longe stroke and smaller bore than the 848cc engines. Twin SU carburetors replaced the single carb setup and bigger valves and a hotter cam were added as well. Front brakes were 7-inch Lockheed discs that provided only marginally more stopping power than drums. Paint on all Coopers was two-toned and shift levers were relocated farther back beside the driver for a shorter, moro direct throw. Coopers also had three-gauge instrument pods in place of the single speedometer fitted to standard Mini 850s.

Mini Cooper S, 1963-1967 Engine size: 970, 1071 and 1275cc Power output: 64 bhp at 6,500 rpm (970), 67.5 bhp at 6,500 rpm (1071), 76.1 hp at 6,000 rpm (1275) Torque: 57 lb. ft. at 5,000 rpm (970),62 lb. ft. at 4,500 rpm (1071), 79 lb. ft. at 3,000 rpm (1275)

The Mini Cooper S was introduced in 1071cc form in early 1963. In 1964 the 970cc and 1275cc versions were added. The 970 was a special model to get the S engine into the under 1000cc racing classes, and was discontinued less than a year after its introduction.

Mini Moke, 1964-1967 Engine: same as Mini 850

Nicknamed the "Fyling Bedstead," the Moke was initially intended to be a light military vehicle that could be stacked for easy shipment (hence the angular sides). Rejected by the military, the Moke entered civilian production in 1964. BMC dealers could order them and a reasonable number were imported by individuals both during the BMC years and aftewards. Although fitted with a rudimontary fabric top, the passenger seats and side curtains were optional.

Riley Elf and Wolseley Hornet, 1961-1967 Engine size: 848cc and 998cc

These two "upmarket" Mini variations were not officially imported by BMC but a small number have been brought in from Canada or England by private owners. These resembled Mini 850 sedans with vortical grills up front and an extended tail with small fins. Early models used 846cc engines, but in 1963 they were fitted with a detuned version of the 986cc engine also used in the Mini Cooper. Interior trim was more lavish than in regular Mini models, with leather seats added in 1962.

MINIS IN AMERICA			
Summary of Models	Austin	Morris	Production Period
Saloon	A/A2S7	M/A2S4	August 1959 - 1967
De Luxe Saloon	A/A2S7	M/A2S4	August 1959 - October 1962
Super Salcon	A/A2S7S	M/A2S4S	June 1961 - October 1962
(Super) De Luxe Saloon	A/A2S7S	M/A2S4S	October 1962 - 1967
Cooper Saloon	C/A2S7	K/A2S4	August 1961 - 1967
Cooper 'S' Saloon	C/A2S7	K/A2S4	April 1963 - September 1964
Cooper 'S' 970 Saloon	C/A2S7	K/A2S7	March 1964 - January 1965
Cooper 'S' 1215 Saloon	C/A2S7	K/A2S7	March 1964 - 1967
Estate Car	A/AW7	M/AW4	March 1960 - 1967
All-steel Estate Car	A/AW7	M/AW4	March 1961 - 1967
V4-ton Van	A/AV7	M/AV4	January 1960 - 1967
¼-ton Pick-up	A/AV7	M/AU4	February 1961 - 1967

THE NEW MINI: evolution of an automotive icon



Only about 10,000 Minis made it to U.S. soil during its 41-year, 5.3 million production run. Nevertheless, it isn't hard to find die-hard American enthusiaste who worship the bold little statement. Now comes news that those smashing little Mini Coopers – based in part on the John Cooper inspired Minis of old that excelled in motorsports – will be dashing around the streets of America beginning in 2002. Of all the car companies to pick up this iconic design, BMW took up the charge, vowing to preserve the historic feel while blending various innovations developed since the first Minis appeared in 1959.

"The Mini Cooper is not a retro designed car, but an evolution of the original," says Frank Stephenson, the Mini's chief designer. "It has the genes and many of the key characteristics of its predecessor, but is larger, more powerful, more muscular and more exciting."

The Mini Cooper instantly endeared itself to driving enthusiasts worldwide and has lasted decades without a major redesign. But like the VW Beetle, sometimes new is better. In England, where the first

new Mini models are scheduled to be released in July 2001, people are already referring to it as "the baby BMW."

BMW has kept the bulging hood, distinctive "wheels-atthe-corners" construction, and the chopped-off hatchback. When looking for a way to describe the new Mini's look, Edmunds.com writer Philip Reed said it looked "like a scrappy little soccer hooligan spoiling for a fight."

The new Mini will be available in the United States in two trim levels, the Mini Cooper and the Mini Cooper S. Pricing isn't firm yet, but unofficially the base price will start at around \$18,000. A five-speed manual transmission will be standard with automatic as an option, and a 115-or 160-horsepower, four-cylinder 1.6-liter, 16-valve engine will be available.

Of course there are differences between the old and new Mini. The first one is that drivers won't need to pry themselves into the new Mini, which has much more interior space. In addition, the 50/50 split folding rear seats make better use of the available space. The smooth dash is broken up by a series of different-sized circular gauges, dials and vents. The tachometer sits above the small steering wheel while the large speedometer is placed right in the middle of the dash.

The new Mini has advanced suspension with a multi-link design in the rear. Disc brakes are attached to all wheels (ABS is standard) and BMW says that the body is two to three times stiffer than other cars of its size, giving it a go-kart feel. As for those tiny wheels on the original Minis, they've been replaced with standard 15-in. or optional 16- or 17-in. aluminum wheels finished in white or silver. What about safety? It was, after all, safety concerns among other issues that drove Minis out of the United States in 1967. BMW states that an exceptionally strong passenger cell is combined with front and rear crumple zones and impact door beams. A "full array of airbags" shields the driver and passenger from front and side impacts. A head protection airbag is also standard. Dynamic Stability Control traction system and Xenon

headlights are options, along with a navigation system.

BMW is calling the Mini an independent brand within the BMW Group. The car will be made in Oxfordshire, England, and imported to select BMW dealerships. Americans can expect to see Minis at U.S. BMW dealerships in the spring of 2002. **④**

BUTTONWILLOW BONANZA





Left: Mike Jacobsen prepares to drive his vintage "N" MG. Top Right: This couple, seated in a Morgan, is dressed in period clothing to show their support. Above Right: A 1916 National and a couple of Morgans round out this pre-war line up.

Moss Motors returned for the sixth successive year to Buttonwillow Raceway to host their annual British Extravaganza May 5-6. The event was held in conjunction with the Vintage Auto Racing Association (VARA). For \$25 per person, attendees could enjoy a variety of competitive auto racing events.

Entries this year were at an all-time high with no fewer than 270 racecars and more than 150 fine British automobiles entered in the Popular Vote Car Show.

The itinerary included full practice and 11 races on Saturday and Sunday, plus a car show on Sunday morning. Registrants were able to take their own cars out on the track during lunchtime track sessions to get a taste of what the races experience.

We were allowed to use the skidpan at the circuit for the inaugural Moss Motors funkhana. The "funkhana" was a new feature this year and proved to be a wild ride. Following Saturday's exciting racing program, the traditional tri-tip barbecue was held, followed by several entertaining rounds of karaoke. The two maior Moss-sponsored events took place on Sunday. Spectators at the MC/Triumph challenge watched as Robert Colosia won by just 5.10 seconds in his TR6 ahead of Steven Smith in a GT6. Robert's winning speed was 78.742 mph, roughly twice as fast as the average punter made in his lunchtime drives around the circuit. In the Sprite/Mini Challenge, last year's stunning result was reversed, with father and son adversaries, Mark Matthews Sr. and Jr. finishing first and second in a 1965 Sprite and 1959 Bugeve respectively.

Notable this year was the huge turn out of prewar machinery, ranging from a 1916 National and various MGs and Morgans, to a suburb 1939 Laguna V12. All the veterans ran competitively and acquitted themselves admirably. Some of the drivers and riding mechanics dressed in period costume for a photo shoot on Saturday.

Peter Conway of the British Tourist Authority was a welcome guest at the event. He dispensed freebies from his booth while other vendors were busy selling t-shirts and souvenins to the estimated 10,000 spectators who came through the gates. The new airconditioned control center provided spectators and competitors with an excellent vantagepoint of the track. From the control center, veteran commentator Alan Bolte kept race information and facts flowing to an attentive audience. The audience was especially attentive when an Alfa Romeo GTV was ralfled, which raised nearly \$20,000 for charity.

In the EP race on Sunday, no fewer than 75 (mainly British) cars started and stretched halfway around the track before finally coming to the line for the announcement, "And you're off" Included in this impressive line-up was British Marketing Manager Kelvin Dodd in his 1965 MCB works replica. Truly, we drive what we sell. Tune in to Speedvision for coverage of the Moss Extravaganza.

Moss Motors gratefully acknowledges the cooperation of the directors and staff of Buttonwillow Raceway, the officials and workers of VARA. Dan and Dartene Longacre, the Long Beach MG Car Club and the dozens of others who made the Extraoraganza so successful.

Buttonwillow Car Show Results:

Early MG: Geolf Kimler 1952 MG ID: Jim & Koren Bull 1966 MGB Late MG: Jay Cohen 1980 MGB.LE: Poul Konkle 1977 MGB Early Triumph: Rich Koch 1958 TR3A Mike Clemente 1962 TR4A Sprites & Midgets: Mike McLean 1940 Sprite Kim Pashke 1958 Budeve Jaquar: Steve & Carol Kennedy 1967 YKE Peter McGrath 1963 MK II Big Healeys: Charlie & Carol Hart 1955 100-4: Peter Roses 1959 100-6 Other British Closed cars: 1" Ed Klassen 1953 Sunbeam Talbot Other British Open cars: Sam & Marie Logan 1960 Morgan +4: Pat Harrelson, 1963 Elva Courier Funkhana: 1" Sam & Marie Logan Morgan +4; 2rd Jason Mellhaney Triumph TR250 Corner Worker's Spirit of the Meeting Awards: Terry Baker 1957 MGA;

Michael Dennering A-H Sprite



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Closing date for the next issue is September 4, 2001. Please send your ad, photo and remittance to: Moss Motoring Sports Car Mart, 440 Rutherford Street, Goleta, California 93117. We cannot accept ads via e-mail. Please label photographs with name, address and telephone number. Sorry, photographs cannot be returned.

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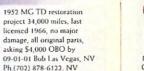
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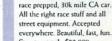
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- 9 Battle of the Brits Sterling Heights, MI Suzanne Snyder 810-979-4875 snydley@home.com
- 9 15th Annual British Car Festival Des Plaines, IL Bill Kowalski 630-852-6898 wsk@elanengr.com
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- 20-21 British Car Day at Bronte Creek Provincial Park Burlington, ON ttc@ttc.com British Motor Car Day on the Ohio River Newburgh, IN Bill Barrow 812-490-0560 mgbill@sigecom.net 15
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- 23 17th Ann. Richmond British Car Day Richmond, VA Bruce Woodson 804-264-8551
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- 14 19th Annual Greater LA British Car Meet Woodley Park, CA Rick Feibusch 310-392-6605 rfeibusch@loop.com
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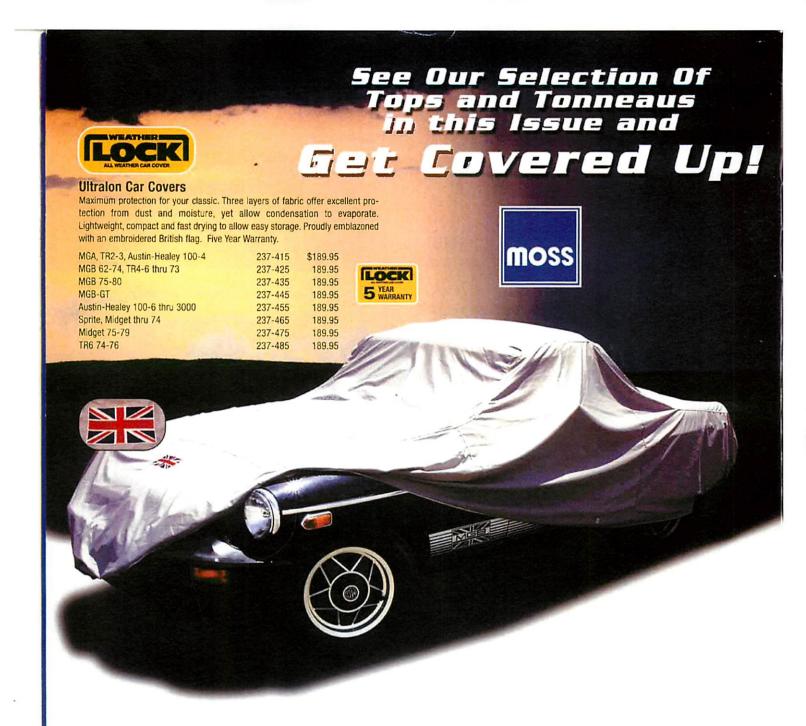
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