Repritish Motoring

WINTER 2002 Volume 21 Number 4

Holida



Big English Iron Triumph TR6 vs. Austin Healy 3000 TVR Hijinks

Father to Son MGA



British Motoring

BRITISH MOTORING MANAGEMENT

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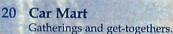
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On the cover: Two of Britain's big-six roadsters helped bring performance to America. Dave Staufacher leads the way in his RHD TR6 while Udo Putzke follows in an award-winning Austin Healey 3000.

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22 **Events** Calendar Places to go...things to do.



Department of Corrections: The chart for "Popularity Contest" on page 13 of the Fall 2002 issue overlooked some important details. The production

number for the MGB should have read 515,000. The listing for the TR4/TR4A was noticeably absent and we present it below Make Yr Triumph TR4/TR4A 61-68 (TR4) 40,253; (TR4A) 28,465

Ritual

By Wiley Davis

irst I opened the driver's side door. Next I instructed my passenger to open her door. Then I lifted the bonnet and opened the glove box.

"Are you looking for something?" my passenger asked.

"No," I said. "I'm fixing the car. It'll just be a minute." "Okay," she said, looking perplexed.

I walked around to the rear of the 1971 Triumph TR6, my first car, and opened the boot. "That should do it," I thought to myself and climbed back into the driver's seat. I turned the key and the starter whined. The starter continued to whine. It whined some more but the car refused to start. My passenger continued to look perplexed. Damn, I thought to myself. That usually does the trick. Then I noticed I had forgotten to open the ashtray. I popped it open and hit the ignition switch again while trying to avoid showing any signs of worry. The starter whined. The engine coughed and then roared. Black smoke blew from the tailpipes and we were, once again, in business. We shut the boot, the bonnet, the doors, the glove box and the ashtray and continued on our way. Lickety split.

That was how I fixed things when I was 16years-old. It was a mixture of logic, ingenuity and good old-fashioned superstition. At that time I was at the beginning of a year-long automotive education involving British automobiles. I had yet to spend fretful hours by the roadside wondering

why my left rear wheel had broken off or why the turn signal switch smelled like it was on fire (because it was, I later found out). At the time, you see, I had no idea what I was doing... but I knew what worked. In the above mentioned case — when the car would suddenly stop running for no apparent reason — opening every openable compartment on the car would make it start again. In those days I had no idea as to why this worked, I just knew that it did. I also enjoyed the procedure's mystifying effect on passengers. All of them would scoff and make fue, but their skepticism quickly turned to awe when the TR6 would fire up immediately after the ritual. They were suddenly privy to some sort of inside ceremony, a bit of magic that was somehow lacking in their Honda Civics*.

The ritual had to be performed several times per week and invariably it happened while I was giving rides. Word began to spread about the strange rite that would make the car run. High school kids talk and it wasn't long before I had people I barely knew asking me for a ride in the "voodoo car." What was, essentially, a fault, had become a valued (sort of) asset that lent an amusement park air to the concept of transportation. The TR6 would play tricks. It never stayed still, always throwing a new curveball, testing the mettle of a naive teenager. I remember showing up late for first period class and being grilled for an excuse by the teacher. Apparently, having to adjust the points on one's automobile before driving to school does not qualify as a justifiable excuse in the eyes of some faculty members.

Like most superstitions, however, the ritual of the open compartments was killed by a bit of (somewhat) scientific testing. It turned out that the ignition coil was to blame. When the engine had been running for a given amount of time (especially at high RPM) the coil would overheat and stop functioning. Opening all the compartments on the car gave the coil enough



time to cool down, allowing the engine to start up again. I can't remember exactly how this ritual came to be. My guess is that I was probably searching for a tool, and having looked in every compartment to no avail, decided to try the starter again... just to see. From this, it is clear how such a supersition could have evolved.

Replacing the coil fixed the problem and put an end to the ritual. However, it was the beginning of another ritual that has become too common... being stopped by the police. Installing the new coil was a guess. I thought it would fix the problem but I wasn't sure that it would. Testing was necessary. I took the TR6 out for a spin, attempting to replicate the circumstances that usually caused the engine to die. Unfortunately, this meant driving at a speed of at least 60 miles per hour. The road on which I was driving had a speed limit of 30 miles per hour and a well positioned member of local law enforcement. I was pulled over — for the first time in my life — and forced to explain that my excess speed was required to test the new coil. The police officer saw the sense in this but added, "You should have gotten on the freeway to test that."

"I would have," I said. "But I don't have enough gas to get back home if I did." He looked at my gas gauge and saw that it was well below the "E" mark.

"Well, slow down and have a nice night," he said. Solving the coil problem may have eliminated a superstitious, but it led to a miracle... the only ticket I've ever talked my way out of. Try that in a Honda Civic*.

*Author's note: The Honda Civic is used here only as a representation of supreme reliability. The author thinks Civics are wonderful automobiles and does not harbor any grudge. The Civic makes for an excellent juxtaposition because it is the complete opposite of a British sports car, what it lacks in personality it makes up for in utility.



Feedback, comments and questions from readers.

Just a quick note to show you the results of some fine people's dedication to recreating a masterpiece of British sporting fun. The body is painted in a Porsche orange/red pearl metallic and gleams nicely.

Don Roy's Auto Body in Chicopee, Massachusetts, did the bodywork. The paint and seat upholstery was done by Park Auto Trim in Palmer, Massachusetts, and the electrical work by British Legends in Westfield. My son and I did all of the mechanical restoration and completely rebuilt the engine

and suspension of this 1980 MCB using Moss Motors' parts. The quick delivery and excellent pricing made my rebuild delightful.

Our MG won the Spectator's Choice award on its first outing at the Agawam car show, which is predominantly American cars. We also won first place out of 10 entries in the MG rubber bumper



class at the Connecticut Triumph Register Outing. Off to a few more shows to see how we fare with our newly created "B." Thanks again for great parts and a great little magazine.

Russ Petrucci Agawam, Massachusetts

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Just finished reading the Summer issue of Brilish Motoring — the first one I have received. Thank you so much for a very interesting publication I hope you will continue to send it to me. I just finished constructing a 1952 MGTD replica in February using a number of bits purchased from Moss Motors to make it as authentic as possible. The real story behind this project is that I started construction in August 1981 — that's right, 21 years ago. But perseverance paid off. I now drive as close to a classic British sports car as I will ever get (my other car is a 1995 Jaguar XJ6, neither a classic nor a sports car, but British).

I entered the replica in a sports car show at the annual historic sports car races at Waterford Hills Race track last weekend and was given a Gold Award (perfect score for the interior and 99 out of 100 points for the exterior). I know a replica is considered a bit of a heresy to the purists, but if there is an interest in sharing my project with your readers I would be more than happy to provide additional details and photos (I have tons).

Paul K. Meyer Warren, Michigan

enjoyed the Winter 2000 article "Constant Validation" and heartily agree with the author regarding future generations. My son has been raised around old cars and is well aware of their historic value. I feel proud when my granddaughters, ages 12 and 14, discuss the history of my 1936 Bentley with young spectators at car meets.

I also agree that owners of British cars should attend more mixed meets. I have attended meets where 80 percent of the cars were U.S. models, but my cars always get a good response.

Last year at the July 4th Auto Show in Canby, Oregon, and at the Mount Angel, Oregon Oktoberfest, awards were given to young people who did not have 100-point cars but were interested in the hobby.

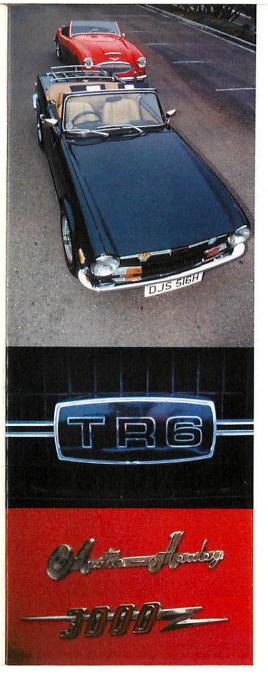
All the best to Moss and British Motoring.

John Madden Canby, Oregon

enjoyed speaking with you about the absence of the TR4 from the list of "Popular British Sports Cars" on page 13 of the Fall 2002 issue. As a TR4 owner I keep a low profile in British sports car circles, not wanting to experience the "attitude" regarding the TR4 that I generally attribute to the — dare I say it — contribution from Italy that really bastardizes the British purity of this particular model. Anyway, you assured me that there was no agenda involved in not including it in your list of popular British sports cars so I feel much better. **@**

Bob Mussler





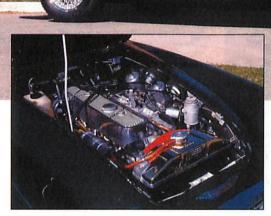
Britain's Big Iron

The TR6 and the Big Healeys By Wiley Davis

ertain groups of people look upon the string-back driving glove with disdain. They equate boots and bonnets with baby dolls, not automobiles. These people tend to worship the V8. They measure manhood in cubic inches and performance as a function of acceleration alone. Their position, though narrow-minded, is supported by the relative obscurity of highhorsepower British machinery.

Britain has never produced an automobile that categorically compares to the Ford Mustang or the Chevrolet Camaro — in many ways, this has been a blessing. The muscle car phenomenon failed to materialize in the UK. British sports cars tend to be small, nimble machines powered by four-cylinder engines of modest output. They emphasized sporting capacity over power, jauntiness over brutality. Legendary automobiles like the Jaguar E-Type had power but they clearly fell into a more refined niche. Comparing the E-Type with a Mustang is like comparing a boxer with a martial artist, both of them hit but the martial artist does so with less brutality and more style and finesse.

British sports car enthusiasts of modest means did not have to settle for little or underpowered. Two companies, Austin-Healey and Triumph, provided the closest things to a British muscle car, the Big Healey and TR6 respectively. Both of these cars came in proportions slightly larger than the average British roadster (though they are unable to match the gargantuan nature of the Etype's snout). They have inline six-cylinder engines and prices that made them alfordable to the masses. And like the American muscle car, the Big Healey and the TR6 combined large portions of simplicity and performance.



BIG HEALEY

Introduced in 1953, the classic shape of the Austin-Healey was designed by Donald Healey. The car would go through several changes under the hood but would remain relatively unchanged cosmetically. The original production schedule envisioned by Mr. Healey called for the manufacture of five cars per week. After its introduction in London, however, it became clear that five cars per week would not satisfy demand. A deal was struck with Austin, a member of BMC, and the car was re-badged the Austin-Healey.

The Austin-Healey was originally fitted with a four-cylinder engine, but an inline six-cylinder engine was specified for the 1957 model year. This engine, displacing 2639cc and producing 102hp, gave the car a smoothness the four-cylinder lacked.

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Austin-Healey introduced the 2912cc engine in 1959 to take advantage of the three-liter international competition class. It produced 124hp and was designated BN7 and BT7 for the four-seat version. This car was popularly known as the Mk I in order to distinguish it from the later cars.

For 1961 the Mkll came equipped with three SU carburetors and an output of 130hp. The triple carburetor setup proved difficult to uppe and was even malk replaced with dual

to tune and was eventually replaced with dual carburetors. This eased maintenance issues but slightly decreased power.

In 1964, the most luxurious and quickest of the non-racing Healeys was introduced. The new Mark III or BJ8 looked identical to its predecessor from the outside, but the inside was different. The power was increased to 150hp, while reducing the noise level. The interior was completely redesigned with a console sweeping down from the center of the polished wooden veneer dash. Roll-up windows were standard.

Austin-Healey ceased production after 1967. Unable to meet U.S. federal regulations, the venerable design was put to rest with slightly more than 70,000 cars having rolled out the doors over a 15-year period.

TRIUMPH TR6

The TR6 (1969-76) was the best-selling TR in history when production ended in 1976. Of the nearly quarter million TRs built, more than 94,000 were TR6: 90 percent of them to U.S. specifications.

The chassis and running gear of the TR6 were essentially the same as those of the TR-5/250. The big difference was the body, which for once wasn't left to Giovanni Michelotti. The Italian was tied up on other work for Leyland when the new TR was needed, so Triumph turned to Karmann of Osnabruk, West Cermany, well known for its work for VW, Porsche and BMW.

Given only 14 months, Karmann completely altered and modernized the TR sports car, without changing the TR-5's cowl, doors, or inner panels. Karmann shaved off the hood bump and the bright metal trim from the fenders. He then went to a single bar grill set against a flat-black meshwork instead of the tubular grill. Finally he reshaped the tail into a sort of Kamm-back, painting the upright section flat black and wrapping the tail lights horizontally.

The TR6 was a refined sports car. The floors and trunks featured pile carpeting, plush-looking bucket seats, a wood dash and the usual full complement of instruments. It featured the sixcylinder engine that was carried over from the TR250, Mechanical changes included a front antiroll bar and wider tires and wheels. While it was a remarkable facelift, achieved in record time, it was still an evolution of the old TR-4 from 1961 and this put off potential buyers, who went elsewhere.

Between 1969 and 1976, most of the changes occurred to meet U.S. safety and emissions regulations. Other changes were requests from the Triumph North American office, such as the UK flag decal and the wheels. The U.S. cars used carburetors, while the UK-market cars were fuelinjected. In 1971, the compression was dropped from the original 8.5:1 to 7.75:1, and performance suffered accordingly. Changes in 1973 included a new camshaft, a front spoiler and a redesigned hardtop. Bumper guards were later added, which some people felt destroyed Karmann's clean, nimble lines.





COMMON IDENTITY

Both the Austin-Healey and the Triumph TR6 were brutish sports cars by the English standard, built for the masses. The Big Healey was the classic monster, the TR6 was the modernized

holdout, clinging to the tradition of British sports cars. They were the closest things England had to the muscle car, providing big engines, a crude chassis and most importantly, a welcome home for a pair of string-back driving gloves. 3

SUSPENSION

BIG IRON TECH & SPEC

(3.28 x 3.5in.)

Valve gear: overhead valves and pushrods

(B.H.P. per ton laden 100.7)

(with five gal. fuel): 22.8 cwt (2,555lb.)

Front: independant w/ coil springs and

wishbones, stabilizing bar

The 3000 Mk. III (1964-1967)

Capacity: 2912 c.c. (177.7cu. in.)

Bore and Stroke: 83.4 x 88.9mm

Torque: 165.2ft.-lb. @ 3500 rpm

Track: F, 4ft. 0.75in.; R, 4ft. 2in.

Length (overall): 13ft. 1.5in.

Compression ratio: 9.0 to 1

B.H.P.: 148 @ 5250 rpm

(3 28 x 3.5in.)

Valve gear: overhead valves and pushrods

(111.2 B.H.P. per ton laden)

(with five gal. fuel): 23.5 cwt (2,604 lb)

Rear: half-elliptic springs and Panhard rod

DEDEODMANCE

ENGINE

WEIGHT

DIMENSIONS

Height: 4ft, 6in,

Width: 5ft. 0.5in.

SUSPENSION

PERFORMANCE

Top Speed: 115 mph

Number of cylinders: 6

0-60: 11.5 sec

ENGINE

WEIGHT

Width: 5ft

DIMENSIONS

Wheelbase: 7ft. 7.75in.

Height: 4ft. 0.75in.

Wheelbase: 7ft, 8in,

Too Speed: 114 mph

Number of cylinders: 6 Bore and Stroke: 83.36 x 89.0mm

Compression ratio: 9.0 to 1

Torque: 167ft.-lb. @ 3000 rpm

Track: F. 4ft 0.75in.; R. 4ft, 2in.

Length (overall): 13ft. 1.5in.

B.H.P.: 130 @ 4600 rpm

The 3000 Mk. II (1961-1963)

Capacity: 2912 c.c. (177.7cu. in.)

Austin Healy THE 100 SIX (1957-1959)

ENGINE Capacity: 2639 c.c. (161cu. in.) Number of cylinders: 6 Bore and Stroke: 79.4 x 89.0mm (3.125 x 3.5in.) Valve gear: overhead valves and pushrods Compression ratio: 8 25 to 1 B.H.P.: 102 @ 4600rpm (B.H.P. per ton laden 81.1)

Torque: 142ft.-lb. @ 2400rpm

WEIGHT (with five gal. fuel): 2478 lb.

DIMENSIONS Wheelbase: 7ft. 8in. Track: F: 4ft. 0.75in.: R: 4ft. 2in. Length (overall): 13ft 1.5in. Height: 4ft. 1in. Width: 5ft. 0.5in

SUSPENSION Front: independent w/ coil springs and wishbones, anti-roll bar Rear: half-elliptic springs and Panhard rod

PERFORMANCE 0-60: 12.9 sec Top Speed: 103 mph

The 3000 Mk. I (1956-1960)

ENGINE Capacity: 2912 c.c. (177.7cu. in.) Number of cylinders: 6 Bore and Stroke: 83.36 x 88.9 mm (3.3 x 3.5 in.) Valve gear: overhead valves and pushrods Compression ratio: 9.03 to 1 B.H.P.: 124 @ 4600 rpm (B.H.P. per ton laden 97.4) Torque: 175ft.-lb. @ 3000 rpm

WEIGHT (with 5 gal. fuel): 22.5 cwt (2513lb.)

DIMENSIONS Wheelbase: 7ft. 8in. Track: F, 4ft. 0.75in.; R, 4ft. 2in. Length (overall): 13ft. 1.5in. Height: 4ft. 1in. Width: 5ft. 0.5in.

SUSPENSION Front: independent w/ coil springs and wishbones, stabilizing bar Rear: half-elliptic springs and Panhard rod

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0-60: 11.4 sec

Front: independent w/ coil springs and wishbones, stabilizing bar Rear: half-elliptic springs and Panhard rod

PERFORMANCE 0-60 98 sec Top Speed: 121 mph

Trlumph TR6 (1969-1976)

Triumph

ENGINE Capacity: 2498 cc (152.4cu, in.) Number of cylinders: 6 Bore and Stroke: 75mm x 95mm Valve gear: overhead valves and pushrods Compression ratio: 8.5:1 to 7.75:1 B.H.P: 1970-'72 ; fuel-injected models. 150 bhp @ 5000 rpm 1973: fuel-injected models 124 bhp @ 5000 rpm 1970-'71: carbureted models, 104 bhp @ 4500 rpm 1972: carbureted models, 106 bhp @ 4900 rpm Torque: 1970-'72: fuel-injected models, 110 kg/m @ 3500 rpm 1973 fuel-injected models, 96 kg/m @ 3500 rpm 1970-'71: carbureted models. 96 kg/m @ 3000 rpm 1972 carbureted models, 89 kg/m @ 3000 rpm

WEIGHT 2390lb. ('71-'74); 2438lb. ('75-'76)

DIMENSIONS

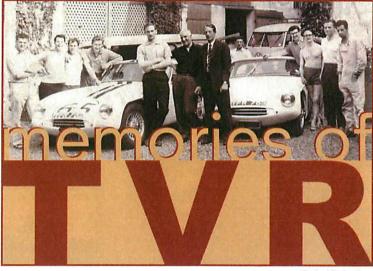
Wheelbase 88in Length: 156in. ('69-'72); 162.1in. ('73-'74); 163.6in. ('75-'76) Height: 50in. Width: 57.8in

SUSPENSION Front: Independent with coil springs,

wishbones anti-roll har and telescopic dampers Rear: Independent with coil springs, semitrailing arms and lever-arm dampers

PERFORMANCE 0-60:

Fuel-injected models: 8.2 sec Carbureted models: 10.7 sec Top Speed: Fuel-injected models: 115 mph Carbureted models: 105 mph



By Paul Richardson

fter my father Ken's Competition Department at Standard Triumph was closed in the early '60s (due to the Leyland take-over) he was invited to ioin the TVR sports car Company in Blackpool as Competition Manager. The family moved north from Coventry and I also joined TVR. I worked in the Experimental Department, and I'll always remember the three years I spent with the company (before it went broke ... not my fault) with the fondest of memories.

John Thurner, a designer who joined TVR from Rolls Royce, ran Experimental and at the time I joined the company he was in the throes of designing a new spaceframe chassis, with fully independent wishbone suspension, for the new TVR Grantura. I was still only half way through my mechanical apprenticeship at the time and was put under the watchful eye of John Ward, a master toolmaker, who had worked in the aircraft industry prior to joining TVR. He was a wonderful man who was meticulous in everything he did, and I will be ever grateful to him for the skills he taught me. I made several production

jigs for the new car and also helped prepare the competition cars. As always, when looking back some 40 years, one tends to remember the humorous instances.

The old Lucas magneto made its way to every corner of TVR with shocking regularity. It was usually the charge of Harvey from the engine and gearbox shop. Its last spark was delivered when Harvey wired it to the lock on the store's door one day. After this particular lunchtime, it was not the storeman who opened up but no less a man than ALF THOMAS, the company accountant, who'd decided to check on some stock. As Alf put the key in the lock. Harvey (who'd hidden behind the stores door all lunchtime) gave the string on the magneto a hefty tug. As the current pulsed through Alf's fingers, he broke into an arm-flailing tap dance on the spot and poked himself in the eve with his clipboard.

It was a regular occurrence to hear the sound of heavy work-boots running past our department followed by a skidding sound as their occupant slid to a halt to open the end door to the main shop. The boots would then clatter

furiously down the iron staircase outside and then silence. I said to John Ward one day, "What the hell is that. John?"

"Oh it's Hot Arse again," he jested.

"Who the hell's Hot Arse?" I ouizzed.

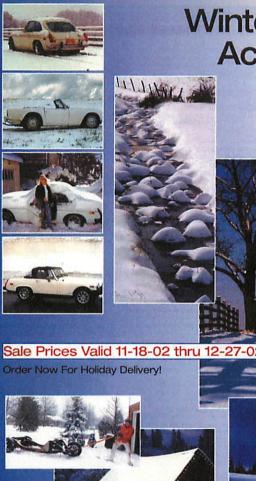
"It's that dabber (fiberglass worker) from the molding shop - the one with the glass eye," he replied. "He regularly puts too much accelerator in the fiberglass bonder and the mix gets so hot he has to chuck the tin out before it sets the place on fire." It was a few days later when, during our tea break, the sound of running work-boots was heard in the distance. John Ward suddenly shot out of our department and returned in a trice just before Hot Arse sped by clutching the hot handle of yet another smoldering tin of bonder. As he slid to a halt at the exit door, a thumping sound was followed by a panic cry of "Oh S-T." He tore back past our office - now juggling the red-hot tin between both hands. He reached the door at the other end of the production shop, hurled the tin outside and shouted back "Who the bloody hell locked that other door?"

It was after LeMans, circa 1962, (unfortunately, our cars went out with overheating problems) when Ninian Sanderson, one of our drivers, emptied a bar. Ninian, who won LeMans in an Ecurie Ecosse D Type in 1956, was a Scot - and he had a thoroughly impish sense of humour. To set the stage, a day or two before LeMans, members of a Scottish army regiment, stationed at Minden, Germany, were involved in a violent riot with the locals. So serious was the altercation in Minden that it hit the TV news in Europe and everyone was still talking about the fighting Scots at LeMans. After the race, Ninian and a few of us were chatting in a bar when trouble nearly broke out again. The bar was full of German racing enthusiasts and at some stage a very nice German. who spoke English, walked over to us for a chat and made the mistake of asking Ninian what he was doing at LeMans. Ninian retorted in a heavy Scottish accent. "Oh we're just down for the day from Minden." "Ah zo." the German replied - whilst developing one of those nervous, dry mouthed smiles. He then excused himself and rejoined his group. A minute or so later there wasn't a German left in the bar - only tables full of partly consumed glasses of ale, Ninian, noticing the sudden mass exit, looked round and retorted, "Was it my accent or just something | said?"

The tinsmith at TVR wore boots with a steel insert right around the heels. One day he went up to the welding bench without checking what he was standing on! It was two or three minutes later when I noticed Bob Hallet, the competition shop foreman, doubled up with laughter. Whilst drying his eyes with his handkerchief, he muttered under his breath, "Nip over and take a look at the tinny at



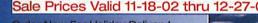
Sometimes the loaves of bread on the chair would attract mice... which were difficult to catch.



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 Regulary ¥10-95
 Sale \$9.85

CARTOON ART MOUSEPADS

TR6 909-160 MGA 909-180 TR3A 909-185 MGB GT 909-190 Spitfire 909-195 AH front 909-170 Chrome MGB 909-135 AH side 909-175 Rubber MGB 909-145 Bugeye 909-165 MGB LE 909-155 Regularly \$7.95 Sale \$7.00

BRITISH MOTOR HERITAGE PADS TR6 909-150

 TR6
 909-150

 MGB
 909-130

 Bugeye
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Moss Motors exclusive line of comfort wear. Poly-fieece. Select the logo of your choice. Medium Large X-Large XX-Large

	MG Safetyfast	013-355	013-356	013-357	013-358
	Austin-Healey	013-350	013-351	013-352	013-353
	Triumph Book	013-365	013-366	013-367	013-358
	Triumph Wreath Jaguar	013-370	013-371	013-372	013-373
st!	Jaguar	013-360	013-361	013-362	013-363
	Regularly \$39.9	5 Sale \$	33.95		

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CARRONNEL	Select the logo (of your choi	ice & save. 1	00% pre-shru	unk cotton.
contrast.		Medium	Large	X-Large	XX-Large
	MG Safetyfast	013-330	013-331	013-332	013-333
10.00	Austin-Healey	013-325	013-326	013-327	013-328
Jec 233	Triumph Book	013-340	013-341	013-342	013-343
RIUMPH	Triumph Wreath	013-345	013-346	013-347	013-348
South	Jaguar	013-335	013-336	013-337	013-338
	Regularly \$20.95	Sale St	16.30		

EMBROIDERED RUGBY SHIRTS

100 /s pre-ainui	IN LOUIDH, L	alouse your i	ogo ana nook	gicat
	Medium	Large	X-Large	XX-Larg
MG Safetyfast	013-390	013-391	013-392	013-39
Austin-Healey	013-385	013-386	013-387	013-38
Triumph Book	013-400	013-401	013-402	013-40
Triumph Wreath	013-405	013-406	013-407	013-40
Jaguar	013-395	013-396	013-397	013-39
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 Protect your hands in style with our custom logo

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 Medium
 Large
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 228-866
 228-867
 228-852

 Mil Logo
 228-850
 228-851
 228-852
 228-852
 228-852

 Austin-Healey Logo
 228-850
 228-852
 228-852
 228-852
 228-852

 Fingularly 1-20
 228-855
 228-852
 228-852
 228-857
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 Sale 1-23.5

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If these books are not on the shell of the enthusiast in your life, they could make a great gift. Reg. Sale MGT Series 211-390 134.95 326.90 MGA 211-355 134.95 326.90 MGB 211-355 136.95 328.45

MGB	211-355	\$36.95	\$28.45
TR2-3A	213-265	\$35.95	\$27.65
IR4-6	213-285	\$35.95	\$27.65
TR7, TR8	213-665	\$35.95	\$27.65
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-Type	212-045	\$34 05	\$26.00









BIG DEALS ON Cheels FOR YOUR SPORTS CAR	HOLIDAY ACCESSORIES
BIG DEALS ON COTOCERS FOR YOR SPORTS CAR	MINILITE STYLE KNOCKOFF SPORT WHEELS Similar to those used on competition cars in the 60s. Fits standar wire wheel hauks on most British Cars.
TRIUMPH SPITFIRE & GT6 13" These have a spicial short spine and are not interchangeable with other	Note: Will not fit the larger Jaguar type hub. Sale Reg. Sale 14 x 5.5 455-560 309 95 \$260.35
Heres trave a special stort type and ate not are not metrochargease with other Reg. Sale Penderd 13 X 4,5 E0 Spoke 454-805 \$169,95 \$144,45	15 X 5.5 455-385 5319.95 5278.35
SPRITE & MIDGET and SUNBEAM ALPINE 13* Painted 13 X 4 60 Spota 454-665 \$29.95 \$221.35	TRIPLE EARED KNOCKOFF NUTS Just to be a little different. LH 3 En Knockoff 2000 2000 1000 2000
Orrome 13.24 80 Spoke 454-675 \$169.95 \$139.35 MGB AND MGB GT 14*	LH 3 Ear Knockoff 200-335 \$64.95 \$53.90 HH 3 Ear Knockoff 200-345 \$64.95 \$53.90
And	KNOCK OFF HAMMER For your knockoffs, or just to keep in your toolbox.
Children if A 15 to 25 poke 454-83 423-83 4213-15 Heavy Duty Option Particle 14 X5 is 72 Spoke 644-83 523-93 4213-15 Particle 14 X5 is 72 Spoke 644-83 523-93 4213-15 5276-75	4 lb. Zinc Hammer 386-180 \$22.95 \$17.20
AUSTIN-HEALEY 100-3000 MG TD and	ALLOY "MINILITE" STYLE WHEELS Just think hav your car will look with new, easy to keep clean wheels. Please check with your salesperson for
TRIUMPH TR2 & TR3 45 Stocke wheels were crystal on early cars, but we recommend upgrading to \$50 stocke wheels for starty and ponyty.	alternative applications and suitable lug ruls. Spritle/Midget 13 x 5 453-065 \$149.95 \$119.95 Spritle/Midget 13 x 5 457-20 \$149.95 \$119.95
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AUSTIN-HEALEY 3000, TRIUMPH TR4 & 250 and MORGAN 4/4 & +4 Patinda 15 KA5 60 Socket 454-620 159.95 4134.35	("includes lug nuts.)
Chroma 15 X 15: 60 Spoke 454-630 \$259.05 \$213.15 HEAVY DUTY for COMPETITION USE	The ALE ALAS AREA AND A
Magc, MORGAN and The Patient 15 7 2 Stock 44-665 3189.95 \$155.75	
Opcime 15 X 5 72 Spoke 454-680 1329.95 #270.55 Parinted 15 X 5 72 Spoke 454-720 #199.95 #163.95 Opcime 15 X 5 72 Spoke 454-730 #39.95 #163.95 Opcime 15 X 5 72 Spoke 454-730 #39.95 #163.95 Opcime 15 X 5 72 Spoke 454-730 #39.95 #254.15	
455-465 \$379.95 \$311.55	
MG TC Printed 19 x 2,5 43 Spoke 454-600 14:09.05 1438.15 Entrone 19 x 2,5 43 Spoke 454-795 1519.95 1426.35	
JAGUAR XK120-150* 854-350 \$259.95 \$221.35	
Chrome 16 X 3: 60 Spoke 854-360 1459.95 1377.15	and the second s
Chrisme 15 X 5 72 Spoka 854-370 \$359.95 \$316.75 (corty futb)	
Jaguar E-Type Ser II* Crrome 15 X 5 72 Spake 854-290 \$349.95 \$286.95	
(orges hub) JAGUAR E-Type Ser III*	
Chrone 15 X 6 72 Spoke 854-300 \$349.95 \$286.95 * Piese note. These wheels are special order	
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222-350

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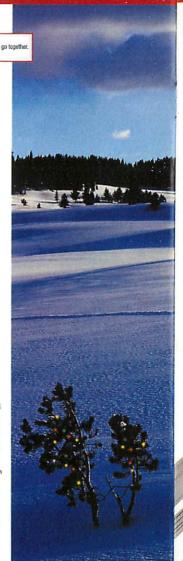
CLASSIC MG TC TYPE MIRROR Using our special bracket, this can also be used on TD and TF.

Reg. Sale MG TC Mirror Head 407-347 \$94.95 \$71.20 **RH MG TC Bracket** 407-400 \$60.90 \$45.65 I H MG TC Bracket 407-500 \$54.95 \$41.20 Bracket Kit for MG TD-F 407-488 \$23.95 \$17.95

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High quality reproductions of the famous spoke wheel MG 1933-38 J2-TA Black 454-225 \$324.95 \$263.20 Morgan 1953-67 Black 453-175 \$319.95 \$265.55 454-265 \$324.95 \$263.20 MG TD. TF Black MGA Black 453-165 \$319.95 \$255.95 MG TC Gold Pearl 454-258 \$324.95 \$263.20 MG TD-TF Gold Pearl 454-268 \$324.95 \$263.20

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Keep the factory look by fitting a Limited Edition Type steering wheel to your MGB. The wheel kit includes wheel, surround, motif and hub. 263-738

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		Reg.	Sale
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MINI JUMPER	CABLE SET		
	900-060	\$15.40	\$11.55
PRIORITY ST	ART SYSTEM		
	459-350	\$84.95	\$63.70
BATTERY TER	MINAL "QUICK	BOLTS"	
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 \$94,80
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		Reg.	Sale			11	51-
TR6	541-555	\$299.95	\$248.95			P	2 No.
TR2-3A -TS	50000 (pres	s on ring ge	ar)			1	N
	541-515	\$289.95	\$240.65				
MGB '68 on	131-215	\$189.95	\$151.95				
TR3A from T	S50001-4/	(bolt on ring	gear)			6	11.12
	541-535	\$209.95	\$174.25			Second	21111
Sprite/Midge	st -1974, M 541-545	GB -1967 \$189.95	\$157.65			0	D .
SAVE	NON	/ ON C		C	oler	S &	MORE
		ALLATION		a 13 or 16 i	ow cooler below.		
TR2-4A with	h Stainless	Steel Hoses	635-295	\$157.85	\$126.25		-
Austin Heale	y 100-4 the	u 3000	635-800	\$138.95	\$111.15	1	1000
Spitfire with	Stainless S	teel Hoses	635-495	\$117.95	\$94.35	-	the second second
MGB 1963-7	4 with The	mostat and s	S/S Hoses			-	

HOLIDAY ACCESSORIES

635-495	\$117.95	\$94.35
S/S Hoses		
235-840	\$182.55	\$146.00
S/S Hoses		
235-850	\$197.90	\$158.30
	S/S Hoses 235-840 S/S Hoses	5/S Hoses 235-840 \$182.55 5/S Hoses

OIL COOLER RADIATORS

MGB 1974-80

3-Row Oil Cooler Radiator (for s	treet use)		
	235-925	\$99.95	\$74.95
6-Row Oil Cooler Radiator (for ra	ace use)		
	235-995	\$128.85	\$103.05

1975-80 MGB COMPLETE OIL COOLER KIT Optional on Euro Models, helps to increase engine life. Includes 10 row oil cooler 1975-80 MGB Cooler Kit 235-990 \$124.95 \$99.95

SPIN ON OIL FIL	TER CONVE	RSIONS	
TR3-4A	635-828	\$31.95	\$26.50
TR7	635-830	\$27.90	\$24.25
MGA, MGB - 1968	235-940	\$29.95	\$22.45

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ALLOY FLYWHEELS The original flywheel was designed for smooth operation with the stock engine and a fully loaded car. If you are looking for more spirited performance and have an uprated engine, these flywheels will make a dramatic change to engine response. MGA, MGB 1962-65 3 main engines 460-673 MGB 1965-67 5 main engines 460-674 MGB 1968-80 5 main engines 460-675 Sprite/Midget 1275cc 461-005 Triumph TR3-4A (bolt-on ring gear) 460-677 Triumph TR6 460-676 Triumph Spitfire 1500 460-678 Regularly \$479.95 Sale \$412.75

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The new system with	Dog Chiphip	e prov	
and the second		Reg.	Sale
MGA Sport Muffler	454-590	\$99.95	\$79.5
MGB 1962-74 Sport E	xhaust System	1	
and a second	454-595	\$169.95	\$152.9
MGB 1975-80 Sport E	xhaust System	1	
	454-555	\$189.95	\$170.9
MG Midget 1500 Sport	Muttler (quad	d outlet)	
	452-050	\$194.95	\$159.8
TR2-4 Sport System	864-000	\$179.95	\$161.9
TR250-6 1968-71 Spc	rt Exhaust Sys	stem	
	865-050	\$259,95	\$233.9
TR6 1972-76 Sport Ex	haust System	12.00	
	865-055	\$329.95	\$296.9
Spitfire 1500 Sport Mu	iffler (quad out	det)	
	865-120	\$277.95	\$250.1
TR7 Sport System	071-958	\$217,45	\$173.9
AH BN4-BJ7 Sport Exh	aust System		
	021-133	\$227,45	\$181.9
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Increased cooling and rally style. Reg 6 cyl, Aluminum Sump 021-148 \$429.55 \$343.60

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Twin Weber DCOE Carbs offer greater adjustment and can be tailored for modified engines. DCOE Manifold Kit 373-985 \$299.95 \$239.95 40 DCOE Carb (suitable for street use) ea. 378-675 \$399.00 \$319.20 45 DCOE Carb (for highly modified use) ea. 378-680 \$428.95 \$343.15

A single DGV is cost effective and is simple to service. Weber DGV Manifold Kit 373-995 \$299.95 \$239.95 Weber DGV Carb 378-685 \$279.95 \$223.95

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MGB 1962-67

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444-165 \$257.70 MGB 1963-74 \$206.15 MGB 1975-80 444-155 \$267.95 \$214.35

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MGB REMOVABLE STAINLESS STEEL LUGGAGE RACK We've had requests for a removable, corrosion resistant luggage rack. So here it is. A Moss Motors Exclusive. MGB Luggage Rack 244-750 \$169.95 \$135.95

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 LUGGAGE RACKS

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 MG TD
 244-500

 MG TF
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MG TC-TD SUPERCHARGER There is just something about the sound and feel of a supercharged engine. It's a sense of racing history rekindled. MG TC-TD Supercharger 150-008 \$2995.00 \$2245.75

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Add a little creature comfort to your side curtain classic. Knurled



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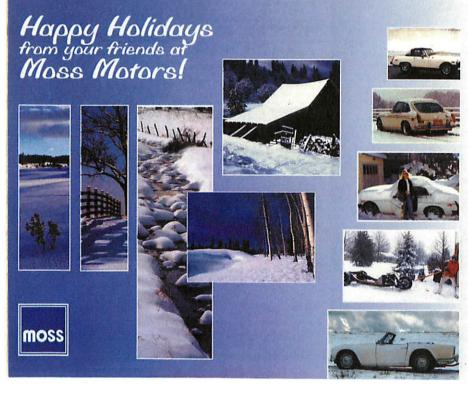
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HOLIDAY ACCESSORIES







the welding bench." The tinsmith was kneeling on the floor beside his boots hacking furiously at the heels with a hammer and chisel. As he'd been welding, Benny from the chassis shop had arc welded his boot heels to a large metal plate he'd put on top of the duckboard. A couple of days later Benny found his bicycle welded to a drainpipe.



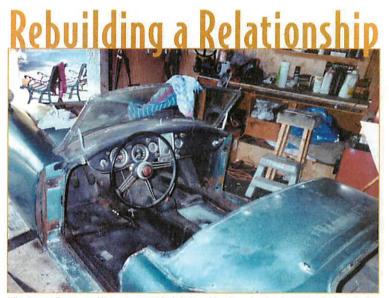
Scott "Bunty" Moncrief was an Old World gentleman of great charm and charisma who owned his own business selling Rolls Royces (under his name on his business cards was embossed "Purveyor of Horseless Carriages to the Nobility and Gentry"). Now Bunty also loved TVRs (1 think he was a Director of the company at one stage) and owned a brown one

which he and his wife affectionately called Coffee Bean. One day, Bunty arrived at TVR on one of his regular visits and, as usual, several of us gathered around him for a chat in the car park outside the main offices. A thoroughly obnoxious type then walked by in one of those shiny Italian suits and said, "What a bloody awful colour to have a car. It looks like a pile of camel s—t."

Bunty, who had a marvellous command of the English language, spun on his heels and replied, "If poor wit were s--t, my dear man, you would be incurably constipated, and your manners, like your suit, are as ill tailored as that of a third rate politician touting for votes."

And that is all I have to say about TVR at the moment, $\pmb{\Theta}$





When Brian Miller got a good look at the 1962 MGA he had towed from Pennsylvania to Simi Valley, California, his first inclination was to send it to the scrap heap.

Barrian Miller has spent the past 10 months restoring a symbol. The black 1962 Mark II MCA, given to him by his father, is more than just a rusted heap of metal. As anyone who gets involved in the restoration process can testify, it can be a spiritual journey. Miller had already discovered this when working on other projects — his 1971 split-bumber Camaro, a 1963 GMC, a 1957 Ford F100 — but he had never taken on something like this, a project that also represented his relationship with his father.

Miller's father bought the car in 1965 from "a kid" in Pennsylvania, who had purchased it from a gentleman in Florida. Miller believes the MGA came from Florida and that his father was the third owner. During a 1983 winter, the MGA was parked indefinitely, closing a chapter in Miller's life. "My father and I were not very close," Miller says. "But I remember the car and the times we had in it when I was younger."

In November 2001, Miller's mother died of cancer. He went to Pennsylvania to be close to her and help tie up the loose ends. Right before he left to return home, Miller's father handed over the keys to the MGA, which was symbolic in itself considering the car had to be towed back to California. During the trip, the tarp somehow ripped off all the emblems and the license plate frame, an occurrence that Miller hadn't foreseen, but he didn't let it faze him.

The car sat in Miller's garage for about one month before he decided to take the passenger fender off to see just what he was working with. "What I discovered was a lot of rust," Miller says. "I really did not think the car was salvageable at this point, and I wanted to send it to the junkyard. But I got my friend Bryan Lacasse to take a look at it. He has restored old cars before and said we would be able to save the MGA." The use of the word "we" was important to Miller, as he says he couldn't haven taken on the project by himself.

About two weeks later Miller and Lacasse were sitting in the garage and checked to see if the motor was frozen. "To our disbelief, it was not," Miller said. "We cleaned up the points, added water and a battery, and the car started without a miss. I could not believe what I saw and heard." Two days after this miracle, the pair began work on the frame. Most of the inner panels were full of



Encouraged by his friend Bryan Lacasse and the fact that the engine started on the first try, Miller began the process of taking the car apart only to rebuild it again.



Bryan Lacasse sprays a primer coat on the MGA's "body."

holes from the rust. The damage was so bad, in fact, Miller and Lacasse had to cut the car in half.

Countless hours of blood, sweat and tears later the MGA was in many different pieces — a deconstructed puzzle of 12 parts. Miller and Lacasse took the frame down to bare metal, cut out the rust, welded new parts for the frame and put the floorboard supports back into place. They then replaced every piece of suspension rubber throughout the drivetrain and installed new floorboards. The last items in the drivetrain that needed to be tackled was removing the engine, front suspension and steering.

"Once we had removed the final things we took the frame down to bare metal, repaired

some of the frame and painted it," Miller says. "We were really lucky that we didn't have to rebuild the engine, but we did replace every external engine part we could." Once this chore was complete, the pair put the front of the drivetrain back together, taking one piece of the inner body at a time, cutting and welding the new pieces in.

When the frame was back in one piece, they started on the bodywork. Lacasse and Miller picked up the main part of the body and placed it on the frame. They then took the wiring diagram and installed the new wiring harness, put the radiator in, installed the oil cooler, put in all the



The engine sits ready for installation.

fluids and added a battery. They were finally ready to test for a spark.

When Miller cranked the motor it started right up. "It was such a wonderful feeling," Miller said, "It really felt like it was starting to fall into place." But not all was perfect. "The clutch bled okay but the right front caliper blew a seal under pressure. We were not going to let that stop us from

taking the car for a ride. Brian was the brake man (using the E-brake) and we drove the car for about two to three miles." At this point, the only problems Miller was working on were the right front caliper and a mysterious leak in the front of the car.

Miller says he should complete the job by December 2002. The most challenging part of this job has been getting all the body parts to line back up. Miller is thankful for his welding skills and patience, as well as for Lacasse's help. Taking the MGA apart and putting it back together again has helped Miller reconnect with his father in a tangible and rewarding way. As for the feeling he got when he first had the chance to drive the MGA (his first time ever driving it), Miller says, "It was even better than I thought it would be." O



Lacasse and Miller get closer to their first test drive.



With the MGA put together well enough to take a spin, Miller and Lacasse enjoy the fruits of their labor by taking a quick tour around the neighborhood.

den of efficiency a look inside Moss Motors





into the computer system.

a parts bin that is computerized, cross-referenced and equipped with a staff of skilled individuals whose job it is to fetch the particular piece you need. Multiply this image until its scale matches that of a modern supermarket and you have the Moss Motors warehouse.

magine having a garage with

"We actually export a large number of parts to the UK," says Craig Cody, call center manager for Moss Motors. "About 10 o' clock this place will be humming."

Comprised of two levels and 60,000 sq. ft., the warchouse is filled with a scemingly endless array of British sports car components. There are shelves with TR6 transmission tunnels, Healey camshafts, MG doorstops and even a box filled with rubber seat diaphragms, as if seat diaphragms were as common as flat washers. For certain models the parts inventory is so extensive that a person could construct a brand new car from parts ordered over the phone.

The warehouse is orderly and all business. It is like a library





filled with steel and possibility rather than paper and ideas. "We have written a computer program that looks at our monthly flow of inventory." Cody says. "We- use that information to arrange the stocking. Parts that sell often get put in the front. This way we eliminate steps for the parts pullers."

It is easy to wonder where all the parts come from. After all, most of the cars Moss supplies components for ceased to be manufactured 20 years ago. "We belong to something called the British Motor Heritage Trust," Cody says. "They will provide original drawings and specs for out-ofproduction parts. If the tooling is available they will allow access to that as well." It is a system that works well if the tooling or specs are available, but sometimes the only reference is an original part. Original parts are kept in a special lockup at Moss. "If we can't get the drawings for a part then we have an engineering department that will reverse-engineer [the part]," Cody says. "We try to match materials to the original as best we can but sometimes the manufacturing processes used are so archaic that the only way we can reproduce an item is to go overseas."

If the warehouse is the stomach of Moss, the call center is the brain. There is a current of muffled tension that runs through the cubicle-covered The order gets printed in the warebouse where a parts puller will assemble the items. The puller tracks down each part and checks it off on the list.



The checker makes sure the correct parts have been pulled. He also looks for strange orders that could denote an error. Things like an order for 500 head gaskets or a part that is supposed to be shipped to the state of CZ.

space. On the walls are monochrome representations of various roadsters. A neon Austin Healey sign glows red. One gets the urge to pop into the door below it for a pint. On the wall directly opposite the sign, however, is a television monitor that displays the status of all the call center's sales staff. It provides a real-time representation of the room's activity. If an operator is talking with a customer, the screen displays it. If an operator is available to take calls, that is also displayed. "That monitor," Cody says, pointing to the Cyclops above, "is a copy of what I

have here on my screen. The system is automated. The computer recognizes the prefix a customer has dialed and automatically directs them to the appropriate sales person."

When the system is operating at standard levels of efficiency it is a marvel of quickness. "A typical order will take 20 minutes from the time



in boxes and packed for shipment. If an item

is large it will be marked as a C-bull and will

be arabbed at this stade.

courier." Cody says. This sounds too incredible to believe but Cody does not balk at a request to track an order through the system. It is a process that turns out to be so simple that it almost could be termed a nonevent. This isn't to say that it's not an impressive feat. It's just that, like a skilled race car driver, these professionals are so good at their task, it looks easy. Many British car

the customer hangs up to the

product being ready for the

manufact-urers were ruined by a lack of efficiency. It is interesting to note that efficiency has allowed Moss, a

company that began in a small garage, to not only revitalize a 20-year-old industry, but to reverse the flow of product as well. The irony is that modern, computerized technology allows us to get something labeled "Lucas" shipped to our homes in one day. It is a system that keeps the customers happy. Apparently, even the English are buying.



The packaged boxes go to shipping where they are labeled and handed off to a courier service.

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- 22-23 Missouri Endurance Rally St. Louis MO Robert Rushing (314) 995-8664 mgslime@swbell.net

APRIL 2003

11-13 GoF Mk XXXVII South Palm Coast FL Tony Roth (407) 671-6888 tandxroth@att.net

MAY 2003

- 1-5 JCNA Challenge Championship Phoenix AZ Dennis Evnon 480-998-9686
- 3 4 British Extravaganza Buttonwillow CA Kelvin Dodd (800) 235-6954 doddk@mossmotors.com
- 3 4 Britfest 2003 Succasunna NJ Charles Tregidgo (201) 796-8648 ctregidgo@att.net

JUNE 2003

- British by the Sea Waterford CT Steve Wincze (860) 693-4249 mgtd52@attbi.com
- 19-22 MG2003 St. Louis MO Robert Rushing (314) 995-8664 maslime@swbell.net
- 19-21 TRA 2003 National Auburn IN Lou Metelko (260) 925-6740 Imtr4a@ctInet.com http://www.triumphregister.com

26-30 Austin-Healey Conclave 2003 Washington DC VA Allen Feldman (301) 251-1158 Mapper500@starpower.net http://www.CapitalHealeys.org

JULY 2003

- 14-18 MGA GT28 Welches OR Dennis Torgeson (360) 892-0890 dtptorg@pacifier.com http://www.columbiagorgemgaclub.com
- 21-25 GoF West Long Beach CA http://www.gofwest.com

AUGUST 2003

24 A Taste of Britain Lancaster PA Sally Harbold (717) 292-0579

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