



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER of the Bluewater British Car Club

OCTOBER, 2015

147 Watson Street
Sarnia, Ontario, Canada N7T 6T9
www.bluewaterbritishcarclub.ca

WOODEN BOAT MUSEUM, CLAYTON, NEW YORK

This year our road trip in our '63 Austin Healey with Byron and Barbara Warwick in their 54 MGTF took us first to Niagara Falls then into New York state. First stop there was Watkins Glen, then after a 2 day stay we motored on to Clayton, NY. We had a nice dinner on the waterfront that night and the next day paid a visit to the Antique Boat Museum in that town.

This museum of wooden boats is an incredible place. A \$12 entrance fee gave us a conducted tour of a 106 foot, 2 storey houseboat floating at dock, La Duchesse, built for George Boldt, owner of the Waldorf Astoria Hotel and commissioned in 1903 . It has 2 full stories and is fully furnished with the original furniture. Having no motor it must be moved with a tugboat. It was rescued in a sunken state and carefully restored by the restoration shop at the museum. Fortunately the original furnishings survived including a Steinway piano. This was summer life for the owners during the Gilded Age. As well as the family, a small staff lived on board, with additional staff arriving daily as required.

In a dock beside the houseboat was a 60 ft motor launch named Zipper, a Gar Wood built boat, and described by the tour guide as the Cadillac of boats of the time period. The beautiful polished wood and chrome fittings make it a real standout.

The next building featured motor launches of the 20s and 30s with their incredible fine finishes and amenities. Also here were runabouts of the time, and some interesting period posters were displayed A restored 1935 Ford V8 Phaeton with a collapsible canoe tied to the front fender, looked interesting, take your canoe to the lake and bring it home, no trailer required .

In another building, this time displayed were the most incredible Hydroplanes both large and small. Included was Miss Canada III. Some up to 40 feet long, streamlined with the varnished wood gleaming, this was power boat racing in the 20s and 30s . Engines ranged from 4 cylinders to a 12 cylinder Rolls Royce. Both double and triple runabouts by famous boat makers of the time made for wonderful viewing.



pressed by the finish and luxury enjoyed by wealthy families of the time. Boat rides are available in a period wooden boat for \$2 , every hour on the hour out into the lake. The museum is staffed by volunteers and is open all year round.

Enjoy the pictures of these fabulous boats of a bygone age.



Canoes were displayed in another building . This museum is a must if you are in the area. We were all very im-





Bluewater British Car Club Minutes



Date: September 9, 2015. Number of Members present: 15

Location: Dinner: Oil Rig Restaurant, Petrolia;

Meeting: home of Alan & Sandra Cronk, Wyoming.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Secretary, Sandra Cronk

1. Call to order: President, Kim Rutherford, called the meeting to order at 8:30 p.m.

Kim thanked Al and Sandra Cronk for arranging dinner at the Oil Rig and the meeting at their house. David Kelley thanked Sandra for the cookies.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the August 12, 2015 meeting.

A motion to approve the minutes as printed was made by Allen Bachelder and seconded by Alan Cronk. It was carried.

3. Treasurer's Report: Treasurer, Roy Overton, reported that we had no expenses and no income in the last month, so the balance remains at \$865.35.

A motion to accept Roy's report was made by David Kelley, seconded by Laura Rutherford and carried.

4. Unfinished Business:

1) **September 13th is the Battle of the Brits** in Milford, Michigan.

2) **September 19th is the Invade the Close Car Show from 10-3**, at Rutherglen Close, Sarnia, presented by the Bluewater Austin Healey Club. See the September Spanner for details.

3) **September 20th is the Bronte British Car Show** in Burlington, ON.

4) **NEW DATE: Saturday, November 7th, Stahl's Automotive Museum Tour**, organized by Allen Bachelder. Meet at the Atrium Café and Ice Cream Parlor, Port Huron, for brunch at 10:45 a.m. Park in the garden beside the restaurant. It is a one hour drive to the museum. Admission is by donation. The Bluewater Austin Healey Club has been invited and they have about 12 people signed up. The BBCC had the same number interested at our meeting. A notice will go out to our members by email requesting an RSVP.

5. New Business:

1) **Saturday, October 3rd Tour to RM Restorations in Chatham:** The Bluewater Austin Healey Club has invited our club to join them. They plan to meet at the Leaky Tank Truck Stop (corner of Churchill Road and Hwy 40 in Chippewa Park) Sarnia, between 8:45 - 9:00 a.m. with a leave time at 9:15 a.m. Admission cost to the RM restoration shop and museum is \$5.65 per person tax included, to be paid to organizer, Mike Widdowson at the meeting place. Expected arrival time at RM is 10:15 a.m. Lunch will be at the Country View Golf Course (20 minutes from Chatham). It will be a buffet at a cost of \$16.95 per person plus tax and gratuity.

2) **Fall Tour:** Allen Bachelder suggested that he might be able to come up with something

3) **Sunday, December 6th Christmas Brunch at the Holiday Inn in Sarnia.** There was a bit of a discussion on a place, but most people seemed to enjoy the Holiday Inn.

6. Announcements: Our next meeting will be Wednesday, October 14th at Stokes Bay, Sarnia.

7. Adjournment: David Kelley moved to adjourn at 8:55 p.m. It was seconded by Allen Bachelder and carried.

The Bluewater British Car Club

promotes interest in acquiring, driving, maintaining, and restoring all makes of **British Cars**.

Membership is open to anyone with an interest in British cars. Meetings are held monthly, every 2nd Wednesday, at Stokes By The Bay, 7:30 P.M. In addition, monthly club, driving and social events are scheduled throughout the year.

2015 Club Executive

President: Kim Rutherford 519 337-8586
Vice Pres: Allen Bachelder 810 824-4188
Treasurer: Roy Overton, 519 332-3449
Secretary: Sandra Cronk 519 845-3209
Events: Byron Warwick 519 862-3527
Non Electd
Spanner Editor Byron Warwick 519 862-3527
News Publisher David Kelley 519 542-7214

The Spanner

...is the monthly newsletter of the BBCC.

Articles, pictures, ideas, etc. are welcomed and are to be submitted by the 20th of each month for inclusion in the next month's newsletter.

Forward items to:

Byron Warwick.

By email at bandb@cogeco.ca

Or by post or hand to:

481 Tom St., PO Box 842, Corunna ON

N0N 1G0 Phone 519 862-3527.

David Kelley, 1085 Fairlane Ave.,

Sarnia, ON, N7S 3J9. Phone 519 542-7214.

Contributing writers this month: Kim Rutherford, Allen Bachelder, David Kelley, Sandra Cronk,

Photo credits: Kim Rutherford



From The President's Garage



Another good month, with excellent weather and a great 9 day road trip behind us. Laura and I are making the best of what's left of the summer. Our sports cars are made for driving and that was brought home with our trip with the Warwicks through Ontario and New York State. Our cars seem to compliment each other, and that was evident when we arrived at the Holiday Inn at Niagara Falls, our first stop on our trip. At least 10 people milled around the cars at the Hotel entrance and took photos either at the cars or beside them.

Also during our trip I met several persons who came up to us saying they had previously owned Healeys. One older gentleman in Picton looked over our car and mentioned he bought a genuine 100M new; today a rare car, he enjoyed it and moved it on. Today they are in the \$150,000 bracket. Met another couple in Clayton NY, from NZ who were touring the US and lived not far from where I grew up in NZ.

On the road there are always surprises, going into Prince Edward County the road ended and we had to take a short ferry ride. With around 5 inches ground clearance the Healey just made the entry and exit and a speed bump. The back roads in the countryside of New York State were a treat with the hills and curves and very little traffic, which made for very pleasurable top down driving.

By comparison it is sad to see cars being loaded into covered trailers after being at British Car Day. Somehow I think personally they are missing the point of owning these cars.

With the trees changing colour, do we have a club member who would be interested in organizing a Colour Tour this year ?? A nice run on a warm Fall day must surely rank fairly high on most club member's agenda.

British Car Day never fails to impress, and this year there were more cars than ever, and much improved food vendors; I enjoyed the British style meat pies. And I was glad to see Kim Chevalier was back again, with her British car apparel. Bought four T-shirts that are hard to find.

A fun month was had, and look forward to our drives in the fall with its glorious colour.

Happy Motoring,
Kim R.



Another MGA going to Mike Bane in New Brunswick

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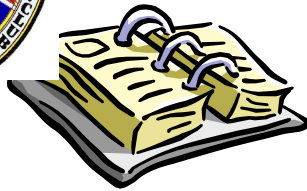
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Calendar
Of Upcoming
Events



CALENDAR of EVENTS
2015

October

- 3 Tour to RM in Chatham with BAHC
- 14 Monthly meeting at Stokes Bay
Dinner at 6:00pm, meeting at 7:30pm.
- XX Fall tour Drive and Dinner?

November

- 7 Tour to the Stahls Museum, Michigan
- 11 Monthly meeting at Stokes Bay
Dinner at 6:00pm, meeting at 7:30pm.

December

- 6 Christmas Luncheon

Note: *There are several events that require someone to organize. We are also open to other drives or events. Bring them to the attention of the Exec. or the Events Co-ordinator and we can help*



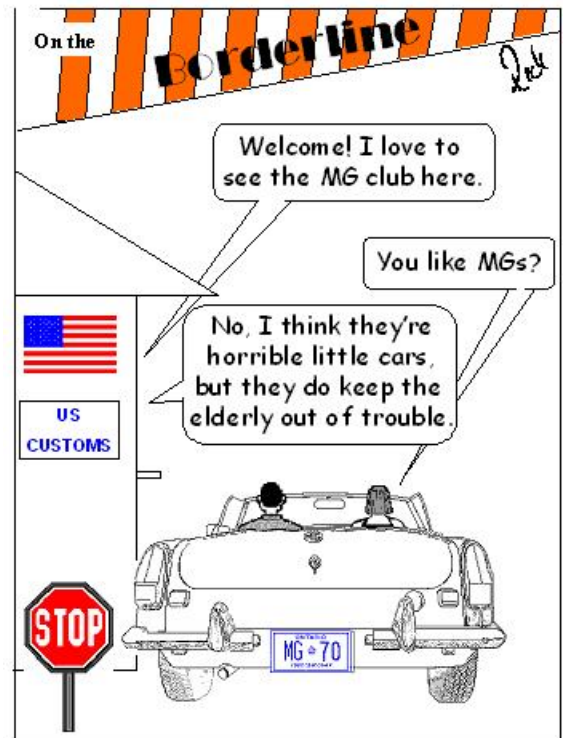
Look for the final episode by Al Cronk as he and Sandra travelled to Nebraska to receive from the Model T Ford Club of America (MTFCA) Speedster and Racer Hall of Fame, the award for the King's Special . . . as the 2015 Restoration of the Year.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR SOMEONE TO ORGANIZE A FALL TOUR COLOURED OR NOT.

IT WOULD BE A ONE DAY TOUR AND SHOULD INCLUDE SOMETHING OF INTEREST TO SEE OR DO. IT WOULD BE NICE TO END WITH A GATHERING THAT INVOLVES FOOD AND DRINK AND A SOCIAL TO FINISH OFF THE DAY.



ON THE ROAD AGAIN



New series of jokes courtesy of Little British Car Company and creator Rick Astley of British Car Electrical Book



**VISIT TO STAHL'S AUTOMOBILE COLLECTION
SATURDAY NOVEMBER 7TH.
Combined tour with the BAHC**

Meet at the Atrium Café and Ice Cream Parlor, 1519 Military St., Port Huron Michigan, at 10:45 AM for brunch.

Park your British car in the garden on the north side of the Café. Others can park on the south side lot or on the street.

One hour drive to Chesterfield MI near 26 Mile Road, travelling on Gratiot Avenue. The address is 56516 North Bay Drive, Chesterfield MI 48051

Those planning to go should reply to Allen Bachelder at

bachldrs@comcast.net

810 824-4188



We recently met Miss Kristi Jensen who is the co-owner of the Westwind Inn in Buckhorn, (north of Peterborough). She was Miss MG of North America and is shown with a MGB model in 1966.

The Ontario MGT Register had a weekend stay at the Westwind in perfect weather.



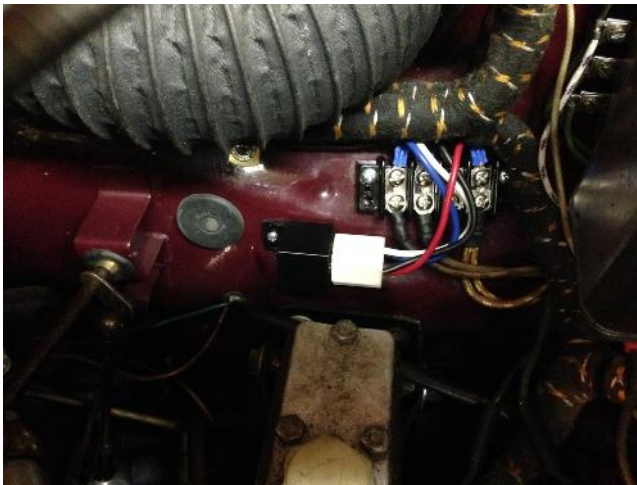
Clutch Chatter...

By Allen Bachelder
No11. October, 2015



Hard time getting started on this today. Strange month. ‘ Didn’t make it to Battle of the Brits or Bronte Park as I was preparing the Magnette for our projected trip in October. And now it appears that the targets of that trip – along the Eastern Seaboard – are predicted to get drenched for most of the scheduled week. So I spent most of last night cancelling reservations. And so here we are with the Magnette all set and no place to go. ☹ Well, we can fill some of that void with the trip to Chatham and RM Restorations on October 3rd.

Looking forward to that and hope to see you there.



New relay (black box hardly larger than the white connector on it’s right) now nestles on the Magnette bulkhead. There, aren’t you glad you know that!

Then the horn relay failed. I needed a new one – and figured out a way to wire one of these commonly-available little 30-amp black cube relays. I wanted Florrie to pose with it, holding the relay in one hand outstretched to the side, pointing to it with her other hand; all while clad in a skimpy bikini and 5-inch spike heels, sporting a “come hither” smile. But she chose the above picture instead. It’s a very attractive picture, don’t you think? And don’t you think Bachelder is running dangerously low on material this month? So I’ll leave you with a picture of my rear end... (It’s a rebuilt one for my ’65 MGB.)



‘ See you on the road...



COME MOTORING WITH ME THE STYLISH THIRTIES



By David B Kelley

SQUIRE - One of very best British sports cars was the 1.5 liter Squire. It had a supercharged twin-overhead-camshaft Anzani engine which developed 105 bhp. This car ran a lap at Brooklands at over 100 mph.



Squire

TRIUMPH - The Triumph's Gloria was available as with four or six cylinder engines of 1.1 and 1.5 liters and came in a tourer form. In 1935 the Gloria-Vitesse offered 2 liter six cylinder engines, metallic paint, and windshield washers as standard equipment.



Gloria

BROUGH SUPERIOR -this model used American engines, which several other British car manufacturers used. This 1935 four-seater sports tourer with a Hudson straight-eight, shows a body by Atcherley of Birmingham. In 1936 a four-door sedan and a two-seater six cylinder Alpine grand sport was introduced. In 1937 the Atcherley-bodied Brough Superior drop-head coupe appeared.

TRIUMPH - Donald Healey drove a Triumph Dolomite in the 1935 Monte Carlo Rally, and in 1936 Triumph offered a six-cylinder "Monte Carlo".



Dolomite "Monte Carlo"

MARENDAZ - This 1936 British built Marendaz Special 13/70 used a six-cylinder side-valve American engine. This car had outside exhaust pipes made from flexible tube.



Marendaz



Brough

Superior

BSA - In 1935 the BSA Scout was produced, with a 1.2 liter unit, and was followed in 1937. The 1939 model appeared with a 32 bhp engine,



BSA Scout



ROAD TRIP 2015

This year's road trip in the Healey with the Warwicks in their MGTf started on a very cloudy Sunday morning, destination for the first day being Niagara Falls Ont. We managed top down motoring until a half hour before getting to the Falls. Desperate to get out of the car and in need of a coffee and maybe something to eat we stopped at a Restaurant only to be told they had stopped serving food for the day, time 3 pm. So much for that. It had now started to rain lightly, actually we had been lucky to drive this far under a threatening sky and not get wet. We put the tops up on the cars and moved on. Now it was really raining heavily as we made our way into



the falls and heavy traffic. Fortunately Laura and I have been there many times before so we made our way to the Holiday Inn on Murray Street without any problems.



Pulling up in front of the hotel to unpack and stay dry under the entrance, we were surprised by the number of people with cameras who started taking pictures of the cars. Of course our pleasure! After getting

checked in and settled in our rooms, we took the cars back to the large parking lot, and did what any self respecting traveller would do. We went to the bar and had a drink, together with a light snack. Not too much to eat as later that night we all enjoyed a great meal at the top of the revolving Skylon Restaurant. Dark clouds restricted our view of the falls, however we all had a good time. Next morning after a nice breakfast, included with our stay, we cruised by the duty free, and we went through customs into Niagara Falls NY (free bridge crossing). Certainly not as affluent as its Canadian counterpart, complete with rough road, we carried on, passing through Buffalo on the so called bypass. I have never seen so many traffic lights in the 20 miles travelled.

Glad that the clutch in the Healey had survived that, we drove through some beautiful countryside, stopping for lunch in the small town of Avon. The local family restaurant did not disappoint and we all enjoyed our meal.



Back on the road again with the occasional stop for gas for the Healey. It has a fairly large appetite for premium fuel, however gas prices were very reasonable throughout the whole trip.



We arrived at our destination, The Golden Knight Motel in Rock Stream just outside Watkins Glen at around 3.30 pm. The motel overlooked Lake Seneca, nice view. Later we drove into Watkins Glen, just a great little town, the main street decorated with chequered flags. This is a motoring town with much history of motor racing, and they build on this. Smalley's Garage is on main street now run by the third generation of the original family, and it was used as the scrutineering depot in the earlier days of the Grand Prix races.

Dinner that night was at the Seneca Lodge, a rustic restaurant surrounded by small log cabins available for rent. The bar is very colourful with articles left by racing drivers and personalities over the years. A drive back to the motel in the dark on a warm night completed quite a long day.

Next day after a nice breakfast in downtown Watkins Glen we set off on to Corning NY to visit the Corning Glass museum. A nice drive through wooded areas with plenty of curves and hills. Large signs showed us the way to the Glass Museum. We spent about 4 hours wandering through both the newly built modern building and the older portion. Very interesting and well worth the visit. After having lunch we motored back to Watkins Glen on the same road.



ROAD TRIP 2015 continued

That night we ate at an Italian restaurant in the downtown area. As always the cars were of interest to many.

Next stop for the night was Clayton NY, and by the mid afternoon we were ready for another break and took a side road down to a lake side town, sitting at a deck on the edge of the water enjoying a welcome beverage. By late afternoon we were at Clayton. Settled on accommodation at the local motel downtown. While unpacking in the parking lot a couple came over to look at the cars. Turns out they were from New Zealand, are big travellers and live not far from my old hometown. We had a good chat with them. Of course he was a big car nut having both a Porsche 911 and a Pagoda Mercedes, besides a 1956 Chevy Bel Air. We are hoping they will stay with us next time they are in Canada.

Next day after visiting the Antique boat museum we drove towards Gananoque. After another stop at the duty free, and crossing two bridges we were back in Canada. Stopped for lunch on the patio of a local restaurant. That over we drove on to Kingston, entering downtown near the water. The local information Tourist Bureau managed to get us 2 rooms at a very nice boutique hotel, The Belvedere, built in the early 1900s. Charming place, also the owners son showed me a Healey that they store for a friend in the underground garage. Beside it was an old model T Ford slowly sinking into the dirt floor. Dinner out in downtown Kingston was again Italian, quite the noisiest restaurant we have ever been too. However the food was good.

On the road again and drove towards Picton, big surprise for us was that we had to take the ferry. I always worry about entry and exit on them as the Healey is so low, but made it OK.

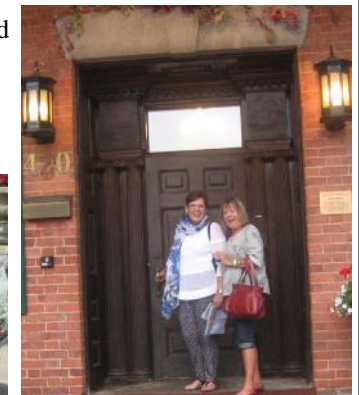


Cobourg was our final stop before we ended up in Toronto for British Car Day. Again tourist information got us a lovely place surrounded by lawn and garden about 5 blocks from downtown.

Late in the afternoon we all went for a walk downtown ending up having a drink at a bar that was converted from what was once an old jail. Quite different !! At night we ate at our hotel, great meal, nice service.

Come the morning we all pack up the cars, and get set to go. Byron turns the key and pulls the starter in the TF, and finds his battery has died. No problem I have jumper cables in the trunk and we get his car going. further down the road we stop at a Canadian Tire and after a short wait a new battery is installed and we are on our way again. Not long after we get onto the 407 and despite the fact we are driving at a slower speed than most of the traffic we have no problems and get off at the Bronte Road exit which is where our hotel is. The Quality Inn had a special rate for British Car Day and we were given a suite which was very comfortable. A hose was provided and I washed the Healey. Byron's car was still pretty clean, and was shown as a driver. Dinner that night was at Jakes Seafood restaurant, as before when we have been there we take a taxi each way. Sunday, British Car Day turned out to be sunny but cool. Great show as always, dinner at the hotel that night.

The final day of our trip brought us home through the back roads arriving in Sarnia around 4.00 pm. Great trip, great company, a very enjoyable 9 days, with approx 1000 miles covered.
Kim R





BRITISH CAR DAY 2015 at BRONTE *Kim RA*

Another nice but cool day, for British Car Day at Bronte Provincial Park. More cars than ever, an enlarged and much improved Food Court, and as usual a great Flea Market. One has to get there early as there is so much to see, and the prizes are given out at 2pm. Enjoy the pictures .

