



Crown Wheel and Opinion

The Almost Quarterly Newsletter of the Calgary MG Car Club
Volume 5 – Number 3 – Fall/Winter 2025

It's Christmas Time - Again!



Highlights:

- Driving Season Recap
- Some longer Travelling:
 - The Icefields Parkway
 - Saskatoon (Brits by the Bess) and
 - The Kootenay Tour
- The Rally (TFBSA 2025)
- AGM - Meet the New Executive
- The Christmas Party and Awards Banquet





Crown Wheel and Opinion

- volume 5, number 3

Editors' Letter – November 2025

Some Random Thoughts for This Year

By the time you get this, the CMGCC Driving Season, AGM and Christmas Party will all be complete for 2025. Our personal driving plan was to make up for 2024; a tough year for us with but 27 total driven miles on the C for the entire season! However, we did get healthy this year, and we came out when we could. We had a good run to Saskatoon for Brits by the Bess, and logged another successful Fuzzy Bugger Rally, but we did not get in the miles in we had hoped for. Oh well; there is always next year.

The driving season this year was crammed, with several longer trips, day runs and shorter, spur-of-the-moment runs filling most weekends in between car shows. Another big plus was the involvement of many new members in the events and stepping up this year to join the executive to ensure our activity level remains high into the future. (See the club news section) This issue will hopefully recap some of the driving season, a few other events and serve as encouragement for even more involvement next year.

One of the strongest endorsements of this club is the social side of our events and participation by our co-drivers. While a key part of our club is the technical side and you can always find someone who knows more about your car problem than you do or just wants to discuss the merits of a particular engine, transmission or whatever, we do try to involve everyone.

We have to recognize Brenda Blair this year for starting the co-drivers' events in parallel with some of our tech sessions. These events started last year and have taken on a life of their own. They now mean there can be a non-car aspect to even an afternoon of wrenching on an MG suffering from some glitch. Others, usually member's wives, have mentioned they do feel included in our events, and not pushed to the side by autocratic tech stuff and old war stories about MGs, usually centred on racing rallying or other motoring exploits. (Editors Note: - we wrote this before the Christmas Party!)

And a Final Thought and Thank You!

Our deepest thanks to all of you who have contributed material for the CW&O this year. You make our job easier for sure. We could not continue to publish the CW&O without our unofficial and often unsung photographers and writers: Brenda Blair, Duncan MacFarlane, Andy Hardie and John Towler to name but a few.

Team RACAP will continue to present our view of things as long as the club will put up with us.



See you next year!!

Dean and Trish Harrison, Editors, CW&O



Crown Wheel and Opinion

Our club objective is “to enhance the MG British style of motoring and the preservation of the MG marque”
CW & O is the ‘official’ publication of the Calgary MG Car Club. It is normally published four times per year although special issues will be produced when club activities warrant, content is available or the editors feel like it. The material herein is the sole responsibility of the editors and cannot generally be blamed on the club executive or any club policies.

Table of Contents

Inside This Issue	Volume 5, Number 2
Editors’ Letter	Page 2
Table of Contents	Page 3
Presidential Ponderings	Page 5
Letters to the Editor	Page 6
Newsletter Caption Contest Number 2	Page 6
Club News	
- Membership	Page 6
- AGM 2025 – We Have a New Executive	Page 7
- Annual Christmas Party and Awards Banquet	Page 8
- A Piece of CMGCC History – the President’s Trophy	Page 10
- In Memoriam – We Lost 3 Members this Year	Page 11
Feature Articles	
- Driving Season 2025	Page 12
- The Fuzzy Bugger Strikes Again Results 2025	Page 16
Tech Articles	
- Reading Spark Plugs (a reprint worth sharing)	Page 19
Upcoming Events	Page 20
What to look for in Upcoming Issues	Page 22
The Back Page	Page 23

On the Cover this Issue:
Santa has upgraded from using reindeer this year -
A 48 MG Y Series

Presidential Ponderings –

Well, this will be my last Presidential Ponderings, as I have stepped down after 3 years as President. (Best wishes to Jim Herbert and the new Executive)

I will, of course, remain involved in this terrific club and help out where I can. We will be away a lot (Mexico from January to March) and with a new granddaughter in Vancouver, we will be getting out there whenever can.



It's been a fun time with some challenges but over all I'm very pleased with the way the Club has evolved and returned to its former "Glory Days" after Covid.

We've had some big trips over the last few years - Going to the Sun, The Bess in Saskatoon, ABFM's in Vancouver and Edmonton, and the Kootenay trip. Plus, of course , the Annual SVAA Safety checks, Pioneer Days in Irricana, the ECCM each July, some collaborative drives and Events with the VSCCC, many extremely valuable "Tech Sessions" and fun "Co Driver" Events. Numerous day drives, the fabulous Canada Day Celebration and of course, the outstanding Annual Awards and Christmas Party. We have donated thousands to the Veterans' and Calgary Food Banks.....and held **one of the best NAMGBR Conventions EVER in 2023 right here in Calgary.**

MG 2023 !!!!

NONE of these events could have happened without YOU – the members. We have definitely seen an increase in participation and hope to build on these past few years.

Our new Executive was elected at the General Meeting on Tuesday, November 11 at the Port 'O Call at 7:30 PM.

I strongly encourage you all to consider getting involved with either the Executive or one of the Committees or just volunteer to lead a drive or help out. This is a special car club, in my opinion. We are definitely "keep 'em on the road" people! From beautiful concours type cars to "just" really nice cars to daily drivers to ... let's just say that some work is required! We don't care if it's the "correct" bolt or screw holding things together...SAFETY FAST is the motto.

We have literally HUNDREDS of years of experience, more tools than House of Tools and the desire to fix anything! Please reach out to any of the Executive or any Committee Member if you would like to look into participating. If you need help with an issue with your LBC, need tools or wonder where to get parts – contact any of the Club Executive, the Committee members or Club members.

I will end my last quarterly letter with a sincere thanks to ALL of you.

This is not goodbye – it is: "see you later!"

Duncan MacFarlane, Past President, CMGCC

Letters

Hey – we love feedback – and we do publish it! And, we have the email address fixed. So let us know what you like, dislike, want to see more/less of or just to tell us off. We can/will always tell you what we think. We are often irreverent, sometimes politically incorrect and yes, we do control the content!



Questions, comments and even rebuttals are always welcome. Letters (via email) can be sent to:

Newsletter@calgarymgclub.org

Newsletter Caption Challenge #2

We had an infinitely greater number of responses to the Caption Challenge over the Newsletter Quiz, this time. So, each issue, we will continue to print an MG picture from a past CMGCC event or anywhere else we can find something with potential and ask you to provide a caption for the picture. It will always be totally subjective; this challenge will be judged by the editors using whatever criteria we may choose.



Suggest a good, funny, thoughtful, witty or even intelligent caption for the picture. We don't care what criteria you use. Not one of our events but this picture might suggest several kinds of responses!

Who knows – there could even be prizes for this contest!

Here are the responses to the first caption contest picture.

Caption Quiz number 1:



Duncan MacFarlane: "We're gonna need more tenderizer!"

Brenda Blair: (1) "Need to put the brakes on these half-baked ideas."

(2) "Brakefest now served at Tech Sessions"

(3) "After baking the brakes for 30 min at 350 let cool for 10 min and then assemble and install."

(4) Giving a Toast - Tech Session style. "May your brakes be clean and colourful and stop on a dime"

Club News

Membership

As of November 11, 2025, our membership stands at 79 regular members plus 2 lifetime members. We have grown since last year with a total of 13 new members this year. What follows is the longest new member list I have ever had to publish. Early in the year I added the Lambs, but here are the rest of the new members:

Craig Advice joined in July lives in Calgary and has a 1969 red MGB;

Brenda Blair, spouse of Dave Blair, now has her own membership. Great as she is part of our extended executive, looking after co-driver events and co-ordinating our Tripcast files. The Blairs have a 1980 MG Midget in Carmine Red, a 1978 Triumph Spitfire in Barn Red (I don't think that is the original colour name) and are often seen at club events in a black BMW Z4.

Shane Cockriel and partner, Brenda of Red Deer brought their 1977 Chartreuse MGB to the club in August;

Henry De Zoete of Cochrane comes to us with a 1970 red MGB;

Keith and Jacquie Hart more Calgarians with a blue 1972 MGB GT;

Rainer and Lisa Hofmeister of Calgary bring us a 1968 red MGB complete with Cibie driving lights and regalia from the Marathon de la Route, a classic European rally of days gone by;

Julian Midgely of Calgary, adds another red 1959 MGA to the stable;

Don and Cathy Morine from Calgary join us with a 1969 MGB packing a 3.5 litre V8 under the blue bonnet;

Sheldon and Hannah Moser more Calgarians, this time with a sapphire blue Triumph TR 6;

Tom and Susan Powell joined us in August and came out to the Fuzzy Bugger in September, in their 1973 white MGB, a very immaculate car;

Dave and Candace Repka bring another 1973 MGB to the fold, this one in green;

James Tenute of Calgary another Triumph Spitfire driver, this one from 1980 in British Racing Green.

We did have a few members who for various reasons have not renewed. Cars have been sold; interests or circumstances have changed but no one has left because they didn't like us.



AGM 2025 – Highlights - We Have a New Executive

November 11, saw us hold the AGM for CMGCC. We had a great turnout and heard a wonderful recap of one of our most active years apart maybe from 2023 when we hosted MG2023. A key part of this year was a few longer, multi-day drives that took us well beyond our provincial boundaries to both Saskatchewan and BC. (More on that later) According to our Treasurer, we still have money and we can continue to support club activities and our charitable and public service endeavours as well.

The most important function of our AGM is to elect a new executive to guide our activity through the next year, more so this year as some executive members indicated they would not be returning to their roles next season. Stepping down after the Christmas Party are:

- Duncan MacFarlane, our President, something about a new granddaughter in BC;
- John Towler, our Vice President, due to a heavy travel schedule next year
- Reg Beckett, our Events Coordinator, needing to take some time for family and
- Terrence Walters, our Secretary, also feeling some family needs taking time.

We will see all of these people at events through the year as they are not leaving the club, just taking some time away from direct activity. They have all said though, they will be here to assist the new executive in all activities.

The election, otherwise known as the CMGCC Railroad then proceeded to elect our new team for 2026.

- President, Jim Herbert, recently stepping down from his duties as president of SVAA;
- Vice President, Azim Bhatia, moving from Membership Chairman;
- Treasurer, Troy Parker, he hasn't collected enough to bail permanently to the South Pacific yet!
- Secretary, Dave Blair, new to the executive this year; and
- Events Coordinator, Jamie Honey, who got elected despite being away on vacation!

Those are all the elected positions for 2026; the appointed positions will be announced after the first executive meeting. Several people are staying on, however, I'm not sure who's arms are being twisted or who has volunteered as of press time! If you have an interest in any of the positions let Jim or anyone on the executive know. I guarantee you will be welcome.



Here in 5 pictures from last years Christmas Party are the 5 members of our executive, most with mileage awards, one with a new toy and one making a major point in the discussion! Your job: Match the names to the pictures! Bios for all will be included in the next issue!

The Annual Christmas Party and Awards Banquet

Another year has come and gone! December 5 was our chance to celebrate one of our most active years ever. This year saw a new venue for the festivities, Azim and Helen offered up the community centre in their condominium complex. What a beautiful facility on two levels. There is a great social gathering hall upstairs and a dining room downstairs so everyone could gather and socialize while the dinner was set up and cleared separately.

Past parties have always been fun for everyone, and this year was no exception. It was a chance to meet some of our new members and reconnect with old friends in the club. It was also one last chance to continue our community involvement with everyone bringing toys to share through the Toy Mountain campaign. We paused our usual gift exchange within the club in favour of the Toy Mountain initiative. This year we tried something new. Azim and Helen arranged for Christmas songbooks for everyone, and we introduced the first ever carol singing session for our party.



Enthusiasm was rampant, and all voices were in great form. Trish and I even raised the level of the club dress code a tad with period attire specifically

for the event. Huge thanks to Azim, Helen, Reg, Jane, Troy, Anita, Brenda and Dave for a truly great party.

Aside from the usual bench racing and war stories of old, always interesting and engaging, there was also the chance to recognize those who achieved great success in their support of the club and our activities. Our annual awards were presented by Duncan MacFarlane our now past president with admirable support from Dick (Vanna) Avern.

Here's All the Award Recipients for 2025:

Formula None Cup:

The lowest recorded mileage for the driving season; Dave Blair; he broke our record of 27 miles last year with a grand total of almost 20 miles (19.9). In fairness Dave's MGs spent almost the whole driving season in the garage. But it did move once under power!?



The Most Miles (the Overachiever) Award:

The highest overall mileage for the driving season this year was Reg Beckett; amazing the miles you can rack up over the Icefields Parkway, driving to Saskatoon and Edmonton, plus many shorter runs. The only major run they missed was the Kootenay Tour, our biggest run this year. Reg and Jane covered 6126 miles during Driving Season.

The Holey Piston Award:

This award usually goes to the MG driver/owner who had a major mechanical issue or missed an event because of a severe failure (often on route to an event!). This year Barry Walker had several occasions to need help with the car, mostly overheating issues. See the picture from the Parkway Drive. There were enough issues to make it a cumulative award!



The CMGCC Driving Challenge:

This year we scaled back to a more reasonable set of targets for the annual driving/photography challenge. Sticking close to home, all the targets were available in Alberta but there were no restrictions on where you could drive to get the pictures. We have repeat winners this year; Andy Hardie and Donna Messier who met the challenge covering 5028 miles in the process.

Look for some new ideas in the Driving Challenge next year with your new Hosts: Dave and Paula Morris.

The Todd Arthur Award:



The Todd Arthur Award is voted on by the full membership of the club each year. It recognizes that member of the club who, in the estimation of the members, has done the most to promote the club, improve the club, or in general make it a better organization to serve our members and our community. This year we chose to recognize a true builder of our club. Brenda Blair has grown our participation by initiating the co-drivers' program for spouses and significant others; as well she started and maintains our Tripcast files so we can all see pictures (evidence!?) of the things we have done and she is always front and centre helping to organize our social events like Canada Day and the Christmas Party. We called this one in the Editor's letter, long before the voting! Congrats Brenda!

The President's Trophy:

Each year the club president awards a trophy to someone he or she feels made a significant contribution to the club during the past year. It's not voted on but rather the president has sole discretion over the award. Duncan has chosen Cam Lambert as the recipient of the President's Trophy this year. Cam's (and Jill's) involvement with the club goes back many years. Until very recently, it seems they have always had an MG. We don't remember a year where Cam hasn't put on at least one, and usually more, drives for our members. He is also the first in line to help someone with a problem. This year Cam put their venerable MG GT up for sale, with the proceeds going to one of our favorite charities, the Veterans Food Bank. Cam and Jill couldn't be here this year to accept his award in person due to health reasons. They were missed but are still a vital part of CMGCC. (Duncan presented the trophy later at Cam and Jill's home)



The President's Trophy – a Bit of History:

The trophy for the president's award is a brick which has special significance to our MG club. This particular brick was 'liberated' from the site of the original MG factory in Abingdon England.

It seems one of our most active members, Morris Calvert, prior to his passing, was on a trip to England and visited the site of the factory demolition with some other MG affiliated buddies. Gaining access to the factory demolition site they 'borrowed' a brick from the original building and brought it to Calgary where it became an integral part of our club lore and history. Trish and I were proud to be the recipients of the trophy last year and offer our congratulations to Cam, a most deserving winner.

We have mentioned that every MG has a story, well apparently, so do all our trophies. Stay tuned for more.

Congratulations to all our winners this year!!

In Memoriam – We lost 3 Good Friends this Past Year

Linda Parker



Most recently, we lost Linda Parker, one of our longest-term and most active members. Linda passed at her home in Calgary, AB, on September 3, 2025. Linda was always an active participant and volunteer in MGCC activities either with hubby, Gordon in their MG-TD or on her own. Not just a co-driver, she had her own membership and as verified by the pictures was an active LBC driver. Together, they were always there for meetings, shows, drives and the longer trips in the car. They even have

their names on the TFBSA trophy, winning the event prior to COVID one year.

Linda's life was filled with love for her family, and they will all miss her deeply. The family are multi-generation CMGCC members. Troy

and Anita are active with the club and the family MG's. Linda was so much more than just family or friend. Her laughter, love, and beautiful smile will be remembered forever by all of us in the CMGCC.



Janet Kinsey

A short while back we lost Janet Kinsey, but only recently learned of her passing. Andrew and Janet were relatively new to the club, joining just before COVID but they became involved right away, going on major drives and engaging in the events they could. Janet has not been well and most of Andrew's time has been taken with care for her, but they were still a presence at many events supporting the rest of us. Their love of the open road and our style of motoring is unsurpassed.

Rest easy, Janet; you are greatly missed by Andrew and all of us; Andrew we hope to see you back again soon.

Warren Linley

Earlier this year this year, we also lost Warren Linley. (CW&O January 2025) Warren was active in all club activities and always a source of information and even spare parts for our MG's. Debbie still continues their membership in the club, though not active presently.

We offer our sincere condolences to all our past MG members' families at this time. We miss them all.

Feature Articles

Driving Season 2025

(or What I did on my Spring, Summer and Fall Vacation)

Many ventured out in their LBC's this year on several club events that saw members travelling on multi-day events to BC, Saskatchewan and destinations throughout Alberta. It's been one of our most active years for travel despite some questionable weather during the early part of the year.

Here's a Recap of some of our bigger events this past year:

The Icefields Parkway Drive

It seems we always start at Timmy's! The first big event of the year saw a large group travelling from Calgary north to Hinton, then west to Jasper and the Icefields Parkway.

Huge thanks to Barry and Julie for leading this trip which entailed over a 1,000 km of driving, 8 cars, 13 people, 2 national parks, 3,350 ft of elevation, 3 food stops and too



many amazing views to count. Thank you for wanting to do this drive and leading other Club Members in a trip to remember!



Getting close to Lake Louise and the end of the Icefields Parkway. There are still snow-capped peaks for us to see. In this case it is Mount Saint Piran on the right and Mount Niblock immediately to the left of Mount Saint Piran.



Canada Day (2025)

Dave and Brenda Blair hosted a great barbeque luncheon following a drive through roads east and south of Calgary set up by Ken Peake. It was an opportunity to meet and



Ken, our drive organizer, with Joyce and the Morgan. We couldn't have asked for a better day!

Brenda who with major support from Azim and Helen Bhatia



greet several of our new members, see some roads we hadn't been on in a while and enjoy the fellowship and good food our events provide. The food transcended our usual burgers and barbeque fare with some incredible salads, veggies and skewers of chicken, and beef.

Our thanks to Ken for a drive that saw some new scenery for some of us, and to Dave and



hosted a great party. Did I mention, Henri LeFebvre provided a souvenir gift for participants. MG coasters hand-made in his woodshop.

One of the highlights was seeing the oldest MG in the club in attendance this year. Jim and Joanne Maslek brought their 1948 MG YT to the event.



The weather couldn't have been better as everyone who could made the drive with the top down, and there was ample time and space for connecting with old friends and making new ones through the event.



Brits by the Bess (Saskatoon in July)

A great contingent this year made the trip from Calgary to Saskatoon, booked in to the iconic Bessborough Hotel and joined the British Car Club of Saskatchewan for their annual Brits by the Bess car show and weekend party. The weather proved interesting for many of us





About 6 steps from our show location to the pub!!

particularly on the way home. I'm not sure the convertible top we put on the C is a better option than the old-style pack-away top that originally came with the car. Yes, it takes



longer to put up but the old top didn't create more rain inside the car than outside!

However, ask anyone who attended; Brits by the Bess is easily one of the best parties, car shows and driving events of the year. The British Car Club of Saskatchewan always treat us like royalty when we make the drive to their big event. Where else do you get a free BBQ (for the out-of-towners) complete with a live band.



Kootenay Tour



August saw a return to BC and some of those mountain roads we love. Dave and Paula Morris organized a tour of the country they often visit with mountain bikes. Not the same trails (roads) however. 6 crews driving 3 MGs,



a new Mini, a BMW and a Mazda made the run. The route included some of the east Kootenay area we know well and some of the less travelled west Kootenay area, think Crawford Bay Kaslo and Nelson.



The multi-day format allowed some leeway for people to pick and choose individual routes, but evenings were

enjoyed together at each day's stop. Restaurants were chosen to be local and/or unique. One eatery, the Black Cauldron featured a house cocktail in a teacup, and apparently readings! Anything to diagnose an issue with an MG!? There was even beach time and a campfire with a ukulele singalong! Is music becoming a thing in the club? This , now Christmas Carols..... Who



knows where this might lead.

The crew even tried some public transport – on a streetcar.



Other Drives

Check out the club Tripcast files for more details of the driving season. Runs included trips to the Museum of Making with VSCCC, the European Sports Car Show, the Bomber Command Museum and the Canmore Highland Games. There is never a shortage of time or places to meet up with other MG friends.

The Fuzzy Bugger Strikes Again 2025 (A Team RACAP Event)



What can I say – we learned some things this time!! September is our new usual time for the



Our winners – Azim and Helen

TFBSA and the weather and roads did not disappoint. We returned to the roads south and west of Calgary to provide scenery and enough twisty bits to keep both driver and navigator involved. The roads to the Leighton Art Centre can be fun. Our traditional mix of regular instructions and tulip diagrams works

well. And lastly, we found a super new location for the finish, the Eau Claire Distillery has a limited menu but really great food.

Our thanks to several people who made the event a success: first to Dale and Brian Fea and David and Sharon Werrett who staffed four of our checkpoints, and to the staff at Eau Clair Distillery who put up with our staggered arrival and fed and watered our crews very efficiently at the end of the event.



Our private patio for the finish – thanks Eau Claire!

Did I say I hate Google Maps for setting route for a rally or a drive? I have a new reason for my view; rally



Check pointers: David, Dale, Brian, Sharon

mileages are always cumulative (unless you are told otherwise). That way you can follow them on your odometer. That's why we provide an odometer check to ensure you know how far off your odo is from the organizer. However, it seems that several crews took the mileages to be



Rally odometer – and official time

from turn to turn and at least 3 crews ended up in Okotoks! If you are following your phone to get to a destination that can work great but written instructions; not so much.

11 crews started the event and from the comments after everyone did have a good time. In particular, the drivers did like the roads, and the navigators seem to like tulip diagrams. I will own up to one incorrect mileage in the instructions, as usual I will blame the Trolls. The error was isolated and Andy has forgiven me!

An interesting fact though, it seems we have more TFBSA winners driving non-MGs than MGs. This tradition continued this year with the top three places being a Mazda, a BMW and a Morgan. Overall winners were Azim and Helen Bhatia in the Mazda MX5, second, were Dave and Brenda Blair in their BMW roadster and third went to a classic, a Morgan +4 crewed by Ken Peake and Joyce Donnely.



The cars at the finish – notice the non-LBCs are parked across the street!

The trap set by the Trolls this year occurred in the final section of the rally; specific instructions were given both in writing and at the drivers' meeting: "follow the instructions in numerical order". Well, the Tolls pulled a few instructions out of the last section and put them on the next page. It was only 4 or 5 of them but if you didn't follow them you missed a repeat loop in Diamond Valley and arrived at the finish a few minutes early and missing one of the observation clues. The Trolls seem to always win out!

On a final note, we had a blast this year putting on the event. Only took 6 full runs to get the route right! But none of that added to our Driving Season mileage as we cheated and used our daily driver for the route checking.

Here are the full results of the rally, (seems staying on time is a challenge for some of us)

2025 Fuzzy Bugger Strikes Again											
Car #	Crew	Checkpoint #					Total Checkpoint Penalty	Troll Bridge Penalty	Questions Penalty	Total Penalty	Placing
		1	2	3	4	5					
1	Brent Clarke and Anne Savannah	7	1	4	1	4	17	4	25	46	5
2	Reg and Jane Beckett	10	9	3	10	10	42	5	10	57	6
3	John McKinnon and Jacquie Stork	8	3	2	10	2	25	0	40	65	10
4	Ron and Sonya Korman	6	10	6	10	10	42	0	20	62	8
5	Ken Peake and Joyce Donnely	7	5	4	10	4	30	4	10	44	3
6	Steve and Ann Oram	8	5	10	10	10	43	3	40	86	10
7	Andy Hardy and Donna Messier	6	6	5	10	10	37	2	20	59	7
8	John Towler and Al Nalezty	6	6	6	10	10	38	1	35	74	9
9	Azim and Helen Bhatia	4	7	5	10	0	26	2	5	33	1
10	Dave & Brenda Blair	5	6	5	10	10	36	0	5	41	2
11	Tom and Susan Powell	Max Late - no route card submitted									DNF


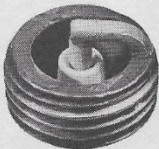



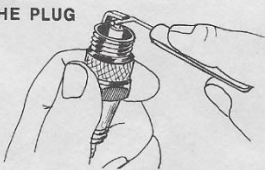
Tech Articles

I've always liked the fact that LBCs were so easy to work on!



Not too much tech this issue, too much driving. This is a **GOOD THING!** Look for more tech stuff in the next issue, coming out in the spring.

Reading Spark Plugs

SPARK PLUG CONDITION	
<p>Your spark plugs are an integral part of your engine's operation, because improper operation of the spark plugs, for whatever reason, results in an incomplete combustion of the fuel used. This results in unsatisfactory performance and power, poor gas mileage, and dirty air ... <i>pollution</i>.</p> <p>A great deal about your engine's general operating efficiency can be determined by inspecting your spark plugs on a regular basis ... for best results, follow the procedure listed below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. With the engine OFF, carefully remove each spark plug wire by grasping the wire's terminal or boot (<i>not the wire itself</i>) and with a twisting motion, gently pull the wire from the plug ... Label or arrange each wire to insure it's replacement on the proper cylinder. 2. Using a deep-well socket wrench, loosen each spark plug about 2 turns. 3. Blow or brush all dirt, etc., from the plug well to prevent foreign material from entering the cylinder. 4. Remove all the spark plugs and place them <i>in the order they were removed</i> ... this will help you relate any unusual findings to the correct cylinder. 5. Inspect each spark plug for evidence of wear or abnormalities ... If abnormalities are detected, the cause <i>must</i> be corrected, because merely installing new spark plugs will only <i>temporarily</i> correct the problem. 	<p>WORN PLUG</p>  <p>Worn plugs with wide gaps may fire at low or moderate speeds, but will fail at higher speeds or under load. Worn plugs have rounded-off center electrode and wider gap than normal. Abnormal electrode erosion is generally due to overheating - a plug too "hot" for operating conditions. Split insulator tips are also a sign of running too hot.</p>
<p>NORMAL PLUG</p>  <p>Center electrode fairly sharp at edges. Insulator looks dry and has a light deposit of tan or light gray powder on insulator. Center electrode is still reasonably "square edged" and gap hasn't eroded too badly.</p>	<p>OIL FOULING</p>  <p>Wet black deposits on the firing end. May be caused by worn rings or cylinders. Hard baked-on black deposits indicate a "cold" plug in an oil burning engine. If condition not too severe, a hotter plug may help. If engine is new, problem may clear up when rings are seated.</p>
<p>LEAD FOULING</p>  <p>Red, yellow, brown and white deposits are by-products of combustion. At low speed these have little effect. At higher speed they melt and become conductive and allow plug to "short" intermittently. Condition usually calls for new plugs although cleaning will help temporarily.</p>	<p>FUEL FOULING</p>  <p>Soft, fluffy, dry black carbon deposits. Generally due to a rich mixture, incorrect carburetor operation, improper choke operation. Excessive idling and improper heat riser action will also contribute. If after checking all causes the condition persists, a "hotter" plug might be necessary.</p>
	<p>GAPPING THE PLUG</p>  <p>When gapping always use a wire gauge. A flat feeler gauge will not do. Bend only the side electrode. Gap to the limit recommended for the engine. Always install plug carefully and only to torque recommended. Wipe off all dirt and oil from insulator after installing.</p>

Upcoming Events

NAMGBR is Hosting the Biggest North American MG Event in 2026!

MG NORTH AMERICAN COUNCIL OF MG REGISTERS

Invites ALL MG Owners
to join us August 24-27, 2026
in the Sandusky, Ohio / Lake Erie area
for the every-five-year ALL-MG Event
mginternational2026.org

SHORES&ISLANDS OHIO
CEDAR POINT SANDUSKY PUT-IN-BAY

Registration opens
year-end 2025

INTERNATIONAL 2026
SANDUSKY, OH

North American MMM MG Register

THE NEW ENGLAND MG TT REGISTER

NORTH AMERICAN MGA REGISTER

MGB

This event only happens every 5 years, when NAMGBR invites everyone (all registries) to their annual gathering. So think back to MG2023 and multiply by a big number for both attendees and varieties of MG. If you only go to one MG event, this one offers a bit of everything MG, short of travelling to the UK for the major events there.

Other Big Events to Think About for 2026 (The early season events)

The Vancouver All British Field Meet (Nothing out for the show yet this year)

When: May 16, 2026 (No details available yet)

Where: VanDeusen Botanical Gardens – Vancouver BC

More Information: <https://www.westerndriver.com/>

Entry Form: not yet available

Several of our members have attended past versions of this show and enjoyed a good event. We even won a case of oil, a draw prize at the close of the event! More info when it is available.

Alberta All British Field Meet – Victoria Park Edmonton

When

- Saturday June 13th, 2026
- Vehicle open to parking: 9:00 am to 11:00 am
- Show Time: 11:00 am to 3:00 pm

More Information: <https://www.edmontonclassicsportscarclub.com/ecscweb/category/upcoming-events/>

This is as close to home for an all-British meet as you can get. Traditionally they provide a great time for all, and as we remember, the Edmonton crew throw a good party.

Brits by the Bess – Saskatoon SK

When: Sunday, July 12, 2025 (I think – no details published yet)

More information: <https://www.sbcc.ca/saskatoon-events>

Last year a few of us went; battling weather to get there and home again! But it was totally worth it, the Saskatchewan British Car Club puts on a great weekend! A great party, and a really good show.



CMGCC entries at Brits by the Bess 2025
Except Henri – he was parked with the Triumphs

More events to come.

What to Look for in Upcoming Issues:

Next Issue:

- Meet your new executive – look for mini-bios of our new crew
- Driving Season Plans
- Stephen Bryant's Austin 7 Delivery Van – now this is a major project!

Future Issues:

- More Member Profiles – who's who in our zoo!
- More MG Tech - How to fix something if/when it breaks, tips to help avoid having to fix something and general ideas to make our playing with our toys more enjoyable (like we need that!?)
- Other project cars in the club (there are several)

If you have an idea or suggestion for the newsletter. We are always looking for new content so don't hold back. Every MG and LBC has an interesting story, we would love to hear yours.



Old Number 1 – the first Cecil Kimber MG

The Back Page:

A day (week) in the life.....



Nuff said.....

