



Flywheel

August 2026 Vol. 7 No 8



Circa 2003
Jan and Al Munro,
NBCC's first president



October 16, 2016
Garry Lemon, NBCC's first
secretary (for 14 years!) and
Vicki Mowers



From the Driver's Seat

Can you believe we are more than halfway through our driving season? The summer weather is cooperating, and I hope everyone is getting plenty of miles on their odometers. Are you keeping track for the Kevin Pesant (cars older than 1999) and Tom Haines (cars younger than 2000) Mileage Awards.

As a quick reminder, mid-summer heat can be tough on our classic engines. Before you head out on our next club run, take a few minutes to check your fluids, hoses and cooling systems. Let's make sure everyone makes it to (and from) our destinations without any roadside hiccups!

This month's edition of the *Flywheel* features the heart-warming story of **Dan Brown** and how club members made his day. There is also lots of detail about our 25th Anniversary Party. **Norm Pilsworth** shares a cautionary tale about driving an MGB in torrential rains.

Even though we are at the halfway mark, there are still oodles of events on our calendar. Check out the list on pages 10/11. Participation seems particularly high this year. Let's continue to support the Events Committee and the volunteers who step up to create our runs and other events.

Leslie Moulson, Editor



President Tom

Hello Everybody

I would like to start out with big thank you to **Leslie Moulson, Vicki Mowers, Lynda Moffett, Herb McKay, and Norm and June Pilsworth** for a fantastic 25th Anniversary Party. They put hours upon hours of work into the event and it really showed. We had an amazing turnout, and a great meal. The slideshow, photo albums and club memorabilia were a lot of fun to look at.

For the second time this year, I ended my day with a trip on a tow truck. I would like to thank all the club members that offered advice and ideas. Hopefully, the car will be back on the road soon!

The club events are still going strong through the rest of the summer and into the fall. We have a few more runs scheduled, a fall Grease Monkeys and another round of Valve Cover Racing. Will Tim remain champion or will a challenger unseat him?

I look forward to seeing you – and your beautiful cars – out on the road this month!

Tom Metcalf

New Members

Please welcome **John and Tammy Soos**, who own a 1980 MGB.

July 14th General Meeting Highlights

Thanks to **Ken** and **Jo Agnew**, we enjoyed a wiener roast at their RV park in Jordan. And what's a bonfire without S'Mores?

Lynda Moffett reported on events through to December. See pages 10/11 and check our website events calendar for details.

Congratulations to **Colleen Garceau**, who won \$50 in the 50/50.

The August General Meeting will be held at Burgoyne Woods, then we'll return to the Holiday Inn in September.

What We Did

July – Geocache #6 to Fort Erie

Saturday, July 4 – drive-by for Dan Brown

It all started with an email. Following is an excerpt of that special request.

“Dear Tom Metcalf, President of the Niagara British Car Club

“My name is **Chris Brown** and I'm writing with a heartfelt request on behalf of my father, **Dan Brown**. He has an incredible lifelong story with his 1971 MGB that I'd like to share with you.

“Dad bought the car brand new in 1971. He performed a small restoration and repaint in the 1980s. He built dedicated garages for it at two different houses. The basement was always full of MG parts — a complete dash, soft top, rear end, windshield and more. Even after he retired and reluctantly sold the car, he regularly checked on it through licence bureau reports using the VIN.

“Last year, Dad was diagnosed with mesothelioma and given roughly 26 weeks to live. Against the odds, he has already made it well over a year.

“During this difficult time, my brother miraculously found Dad’s MGB for sale, and purchased it. The car was rough after 45 years, with tired paint, but restoring “her” back to glory became Dad’s personal quest. He did an outstanding job, though the work has left him quite burnt out. He was able to drive it before my brother took it to his own home. My brother promised to return it anytime Dad wants to take the wheel.



“We don’t know how much time is left, and it would mean the world to us — and a surprise to Dad — if the club could help create a special memory. Our idea — organize a drive-by past Dad’s house in Smithville with club members in their British cars.

“This would be an unforgettable surprise and a wonderful way for Dad to connect with fellow enthusiasts who share his passion for these classic British cars. Thank you so much for considering this.”

Our Events Coordinator, **Lynda Moffett** and the executive immediately started their engines and made this happen. The successful drive-by took place on Saturday, July 4, with 12 cars and 17 people.



Our cars on Dan's street



**Dan spoke to each member as
cars pulled up.
Here he is with the group.**



Dan is all smiles as he's made an honorary club member and gifted a 25th anniversary hat, name badge and membership card.



**Thank you, Dan and Chris, for treating us to lunch.
We had a great day!**

Sunday, July 12 – Cars ‘n Coffee at Hagerty Garage, Burlington; thank you Peter Moffett for organizing this.



Saturday, July 18 – 25th Anniversary Party

Sixty people attended. Wow! What a great turn out. The meal was delicious. The memorabilia and PowerPoint showing pictures from 25 years of events created opportunities for some to stroll down memory lane, and for others to learn about the club.

Al Munro provided an overview of how the club started. Founding members wanted not just a club for “gear heads” but a social club that included partners. The original “election” was more of a “I’ll be the treasurer.” “Okay, I’ll be the secretary.” And our first executive was established. President – Al Munro, Vice President – Tom Haines, Treasurer – Jack McCallum, Secretary – Garry Lemon. Al was especially pleased that the vision of the founding members has been achieved.

New member, **Jamie LeBlanc** gave a meaningful presentation on why he joined the club and what it means to him. Following is an excerpt from his remarks.

“Growing up, I would often see V12 Jaguars with the iconic leaper hood ornament driving around town. I remember feeling a deep sense of admiration and even envy for those cars. There was something about that leaper—the symbol of elegance, power and British automotive heritage—that captured my imagination and sparked a lifelong passion.



“That passion led me to own two Jaguars: a 2007 Jaguar XKR and a 2005 Jaguar S-Type. Each car holds a special place in my heart. The XKR represents timeless design and performance, while the S-Type reminds me of the modern evolution of the brand I have loved since childhood. Owning these cars has deepened my appreciation for British engineering and style, and it’s this love that ultimately brought me to the Niagara British Car Club.

“But joining this club is about more than just the cars. It’s about being part of a community that shares the same enthusiasm and respect for British automotive history. I look forward to connecting with fellow members, sharing stories, and participating in events where we can celebrate our passion together. The camaraderie here is inspiring, and I’m excited to build friendships with people who understand and appreciate these remarkable vehicles as much as I do.

“I am also eager to learn more—from the mechanics and restoration techniques to the rich history behind these cars. This club offers a unique opportunity to grow my knowledge and skills, and I am enthusiastic about contributing to and benefiting from the collective wisdom of this group.

“Finally, I joined because I want to help preserve the heritage of British cars. These vehicles are more than just machines; they are cultural icons that

deserve to be cherished and protected for future generations. Being part of this club means playing a role in keeping that legacy alive, and I am proud to be involved.”

Thanks to **Garry Lemon**, who toasted the club, our LBCs (little British cars), our community of friends, and those whose spirit and love travel with us.



**New member, Christopher Lioce
and first woman president,
Vicki Halliday cut the cake**

Saturday, July 25 – car show at Crescent/Maple Park Lodge and late lunch at the Lighthouse; thank you **Harriet** and **John Lehen** for organizing this. We had a great turn-out – 17 cars. The Lodge did a wonderful job of ensuring that residents were brought around to see us and our cars.

At the Lighthouse, we celebrated the birthdays of **Norm Pilsworth** (July 23), **Peter Moffett** (July 25) and **Lynda Moffett** (July 28).





Birthday Boy, Pete

* Be sure to check the *Scrapbook* on the club website for many photos of our events.

Events Committee/Club Calendar

Events Committee Coordinator: Lynda Moffett; Club Runs: Norm Pilsworth;
Social/Parties: Leslie Moulson and Vicki Mowers; Long-term Care Homes: Harriet Lehen;
Car Shows: David Harrison

Events in bold type are NBCC club-developed events. Not all events are necessarily finalized and could be subject to change. Watch for specifics as each event approaches. **Frequently check the club calendar on our website.**

Pop-Up Runs: These are spontaneous or short-notice runs by individual club members. Such runs are not necessarily club affiliated.

NOTE: If anyone is thinking about planning a run, please collaborate with the Events Committee to ensure that it doesn't conflict with other plans that may be in the working stages, but that we have not yet announced.

August Geocache

Sunday, August 9 – Kinsmen car show

Saturday, August 15 – a run by Jim Martin and Norm Pilsworth

Friday, August 28 at 2:00 p.m. – Port Colborne Lighthouse Theatre for the play *Liars at a Funeral*; <https://lighthouse theatre.com/event/liars-at-a-funeral/>; 22 are confirmed to attend and tickets have been ordered.

Monday, September 7 – Marshville Heritage Festival

Saturday, September 12 – Polo on the Commons, NOTL

**Saturday, September 19 – Autumn run by John Lehnert and Jamie LeBlanc;
finishing at the Feathery**

Sunday, September 20 – Bronte British Car Show

Saturday, October 17 – Autumn party

**Sunday, October 25 – Valve-cover Races in the new format (see below)
followed by an F1 viewing party**

Grease Monkeys – TBA

Tuesday, December 8 – Christmas party

**More complete information on the above events is available
on our website calendar.**

Valve Cover Round Robin Racing

1. All competitors will be afforded an opportunity to have at least two practice runs before racing.
2. Entries will be randomly split into groups of approximately four or five cars.
3. Each car in a group will race every other car in its group; a car will be awarded one point for a win; any ties will be broken by racing for the group title.
4. The groups winners will race for the championship; if there are two groups, the championship will be best two out of three races; if there are three groups, there will be three races and the car with the most points from these races will be declared the winner; if there is a tie, the two cars will race best two out of three for the ultimate championship.

From Our Members Motoring the British Way, in other Words...Driving in the Rain! By *Norm Pilsworth*

Mindful of the fact that the wipers in my MGB had stopped working and that there was always the chance that the gods of rain might punish me for my negligence, I paid a visit to **Evans McInerney**, who helped me get them working again. So, when the request was made for club members to drive their British cars to Bud Moulson's Celebration of Life, I was confident that my car was up to the challenge regardless of the weather forecast. Of course, it was raining that Saturday, but I wasn't worried; I had wipers that worked! I hadn't thought about my defrost system...the heater core had died years ago. (its repair is still on the to-do list!). In any case, a hand or an old rag could solve that problem in short order. So, I left home confident the MG and I were ready for the trip in spite of the steady rain. Just to be extra prepared, I brought an extra pair of shoes and a compact umbrella.

The first few miles were uneventful, until I notice a small, steady stream of water coming into the car from behind the glove box. I closed the air vent but that didn't help! Fortunately, I didn't have a passenger or that person would undoubtedly have had a wet crotch and legs. More water was accumulating on the driver's floor. My shoes were soaked! When the convoy reached the grave site, I exited the car and opened my umbrella. Within five minutes, the wind caught my umbrella and it self-destructed!

I returned to the old part of town for the reception, wrang out my socks and put on those nice dry shoes. I parked under some trees, hoping they might deflect some of the rain attacking my car.

I returned to the car a couple of hours later with my second set of shoes thoroughly soaked. I was disappointed to find a good inch of water in both footwells. Not to be discouraged, I started my journey home, looking forward

to a hot shower and some dry clothes. My emergency “defroster” was working. The next surprise was when the turn signals stopped working; hopefully, the brake lights were still functional. I wasn’t going back into the rain to find out! Needless to say, it wasn’t one of my best drives home.

At the next coffee Wednesday, I sought help. **Bruce Bowman** explained what the likely cause of the water leak was...a missing or plugged drainage hose. He also had a suggestion about the turn signals. “Check the flasher unit,” was the advice. Sure enough, I found it tucked under the glove box. Once it was removed, water just poured out of it. A trip to Partssource and \$12 later, I had signals again! Thanks, to my fellow club members, everything is good now. Sunny days only, I am ready to go!

Norm is being kind. I referred to the weather that day as hurricane-force wind and rain! *The Editor*

From our Members...Can an MG Pull a Train? And Why Would it? By *Jim Martin*



The MG name these days is plastered across a plethora of vehicles, none of which we see here in North America. In India, earlier this year, an MG set a Guinness world record by towing a 400-tonne train along the tracks. It was not an MG like the ones we drive, as they

would have trouble pulling the skin off a custard pudding. No, this was a big, honking SUV wearing the familiar Octagon. The Magestor, as it is called, is produced in India and went on sale in April. It’s propelled by a 2.0 litre diesel. What better way to publicize it than a Guinness Book of Records attempt? A

railway locomotive and seven coaches were parked on a stretch of secure track, and the MG was hitched to the front.

See it here in this somewhat over-the-top video.

https://www.google.com/search?sca_esv=bec4f44b4fc03395&sxsrf=ANbL-n7ndM5akqgvde2olzOB6jR1JrVC4w%3A1781830926715&q=Video+of+mg+pulling+train+in+india+youtube&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjL0L67jZKVAxVmsCsGHUfCTkQ1QJ6BAgpEAE&biw=1280&bih=559&dpr=1.5#fpstate=ive&vld=cid:fd56659e,vid:J1mLsul28Do,st:0

Jigsaw Puzzle



<https://thejigsawpuzzles.com/Cars-and-Bikes/Vintage-MG-Car-in-the-Old-Town-of-Funchal-Madeira-jigsaw-puzzle>

Monthly Giggles



And Finally

A senior citizen said to his eighty-year-old buddy, "So, I hear you're getting married." "Yep!"

"Do I know her?" "Nope!"

"This woman, is she good looking?" "Not really."

"Is she a good cook?" "Nah, she can't cook too well."

"Does she have lots of money?" "Nope! Poor as a church mouse."

"Well, then, is she good in bed?" "I don't know."

"Why in the world do you want to marry her then?"

"Because she can still drive!"

Courtesy of *Jim Martin*

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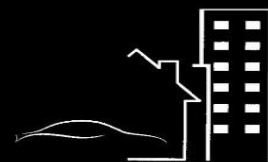
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You can find an Instagram link beside our Facebook link at the bottom of the home page of our website: <http://www.niagarabritishcarclub.org>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/niagarabritishcarclub/>

Note: The *Flywheel* is usually submitted for proofreading several days prior to release date, so always watch your inbox for subsequent changes to published dates or details of events.