

Redding

British Car Club

March 2021

Compiled & Edited by Charles Laurence

From your editor – First off a couple of corrections from last month's newsletter. I stated that the Christmas Party would be at C.R. Gibbs. It will be at Cattlemen's on Hilltop.

I also listed new member, Jeffrey Torres drives a Bugeye Sprite. His current British Car is an MGB. Sorry about that Jeff.

A hearty group of RBCC'ers met in the parking lot on the south side of the Civic Auditorium at 2:00 on Monday, March 8th. As the temps were in the 40's with a light sprinkle, we decided to take Rich Kenny up on his offer to meet in his barn. There were 7 of us and while it wasn't any warmer, we were out of the rain.

We first discussed Cool April Nights. While the "official" events were cancelled, a couple of street rod clubs have gotten together to plan some events. The Shasta Cruising club has printed out a schedule which I have included. They all take place during the weeks of 4/17 – 4/24.

Jim Smith gave us a update on an MGB project he's been working on. He has built an engine test stand so he can run the engine with the transmission and test the overdrive.

Charley Fitch told us he still needs to hear from some of you with your dues check. I would urge you to send him your check for \$10.00 if you have not done so. His address is: 1112 Coggins St Redding 96003. Make your check out to Charley.

Evert has sent me an article about the top 10 cars you may want to drive as well as a new Triumph parts source in the UK and a notice that the Lewis & Clark Rally will happen again this year. See the enclosed flyer for information.

There was also a blurb about the 2022 Goodwood Revival Tour which is the UK's version of the Monterey Car week. I've had that event on my bucket list for years.

I would like to call once again for your stories. It can be about an interesting drive you took in your British Car, or a renovation project you've been working on or a persistent problem you've been dealing with. Anything related to British Cars will be welcome. Write me at:

charleslaurence42@gmail.com

COOL APRIL NIGHTS

April 17-24 2021 Events 

SEE YOU
OUT THERE!

4/17/21 3pm-7pm 4th Annual ION Car Show Cicada Cantina

4/18/21 10am Kool Axe Show N Shine Timberlords

4/18/21 11am-3pm Elks Running On Empty Car Show Redding Elks Lodge

4/18/21 3:30pm Bailey Motors 4th Annual Show & Shine Bailey Motors

4/19/21 3pm-8pm Show N Shine Portside Fish and Chips

4/20/21 2pm-6pm 2021 Show N Shine Shasta Pizza Co Anderson

4/21/21 11am-3pm House of Spirits Show N Shine Karma's House of Spirits

4/21/21 3pm Cool April Car Show at Redding Dragstrip Redding Dragstrip

4/22/21 4pm-5pm Red Lion Hotel's Cool Show Red Lion Hotels

4/22/21 6pm-10pm PIBBS Bike and Car Show PIBBS Sports & Family Gathering

4/23/21 7am-11am Benton Airpark Show and Shine Benton Air Center

4/23/21 1pm Yes We Can Show N Shine and Poker Run R&R Auto Truck Repair

4/23/21 2pm Hen House Show and Shine Hen House

4/23/21 4pm-6pm Trucks Only Show N Shine Cafe Paradiso

4/24/21 3pm Not So Cool April Nights Car Show and Cruise Benton Airpark

4/24/21 1pm Show, Shine, and Meet Up Nor Cal Rod & Custom

WWW.SHASTACRUISE.COM

*Shasta Saturday
Night Cruising*



Recent Events

Balls Ferry/Shingletown Tour- It was another beautiful North State day on Sunday, Feb 28th when our group met in the Palo Cedro Holiday Market parking lot at 1:00.



There were 9 cars – 4 Triumphs and 3 MGBs as well as 2 daily drivers which made for a fine sight as we headed out Old 44 to Millville then on to Balls Ferry where we stopped to stretch our legs. After a half hour of story telling, we headed out again via Black Butte Rd to Shingletown where we made another stop at Reeds Store. Another chance to solve the worlds problems while enjoying the clear mountain air. From there I made it back into town having put on about 70 miles. Just wish it could have been in an MGA.

From the Members

10 British Sports Cars We'd Love To Take For A Spin

By Marko Sokolovski

Enthusiasts love [sports cars](#). Even though they're slowly being phased out in favor of all the crossovers and SUVs that seem to be seeping out of every automaker's stone jar, there's so much to like about them. Great performance, decent pricing, great looks, and some of them are surprisingly easy to live with every day.

Various automakers from various regions of the planet have shown that they can make a solid sports car, and this includes the British. Reliability and maintenance woes aside, British automakers have made some of the best sports cars of all time, [and some weird ones](#), and they're just begging to be taken for a spin.

10. TVR Sagaris

Before TVR went under in the 2000s, even after the Russian cash injection that happened a few years prior, they managed to churn out one more fantastic and fantastically bonkers sports car; the Sagaris.

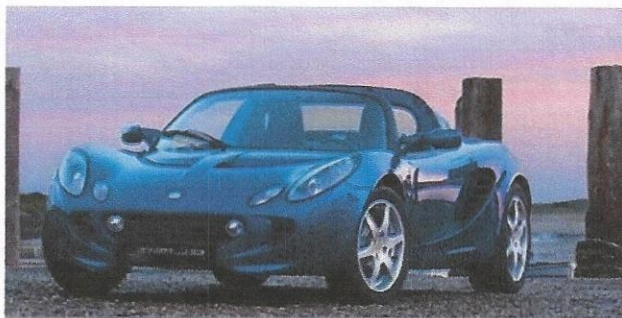
It was built from 2005 to 2006, with only 211 produced. While no one really dared to call it beautiful (in case it threw its glass rear spoiler at them), it was certainly distinctive and very, very striking. The hood with its rows of slashes on either side hid a 4.0 liter naturally aspirated I6. The incredible Speed Six engine put down 412



hp and 349 lb/ft of torque to the rear wheels, allowing the featherweight fiberglass-bodied Sagaris to accelerate to 60 in 3.7 seconds and reach 185 mph. It was also possibly the only TVR in the 2000s that wasn't a horror movie in the corners.

9. Lotus Elise

Back in the 1990s, Lotus was struggling a fair bit. They changed hands multiple times, with GM, Proton, and other brands taking controlling stakes in the company within years of each other. [The Elise, which has been with us for 25 years](#), immediately got Lotus back in the game, and it quite literally saved the brand. The Mk2 Elise was even better than that, mostly thanks to what was found under the engine cover. Over the years, Lotus developed a very bad reputation for reliability



(or lack thereof), so they just pinched a 1.8 liter 4-cylinder from the Toyota Corolla and called it a day. As well as the engine being bulletproof, it did wonders for the 1,896 lb Elise, and not a single person who has driven it has said that the driving experience is anything short of spectacular.

8. Sunbeam Tiger

Back in the 1960s, Carroll Shelby was immediately noticed by everyone by sticking an American V8 into a British sports car, the AC Ace, which then became the AC Cobra. He also did something very similar with another British sports car of a similar

vein; the Sunbeam Tiger. Named after another exotic animal, and otherwise based on the less popular Sunbeam Alpine, the Tiger was also partially designed and engineered by [Carroll Shelby, whose original Shelby Daytona just went up for sale.](#) Around 7,000 of these were built between 1964 and 1967, and they all used a Ford V8 mated to a Ford 4-speed manual transmission. The engine was stuffed under the hood quite tightly, making some maintenance work difficult. If you look past that, the driving experience was fantastic.

7. Triumph Spitfire

When it comes to British sports cars, there is one name that reigns supreme; the Triumph Spitfire. Built from 1962 to 1980 and designed by the famed Michelotti, the Spitfire was the darling of TVR's lineup, and even though it was unpredictable, it was one of the best cars the brand ever made.

At its core, the Spitfire wasn't really all that special. It used the same platform as the Herald and GT6, but that meant it wasn't all that expensive to build, so it represented good value. Even though the engines weren't all that powerful, they still had plenty of shove to get the lightweight Spitfire moving. Not to mention, they're pretty cheap on the used market no matter where you look. It really does honor its fighter jet namesake.

6. Jaguar E-Type

It's been called the world's most beautiful car dozens of times, most notably by a certain Enzo Ferrari. It's also widely regarded as one of the most special cars ever made. It's easy to see why, as the Jaguar E-Type was a truly brilliant car, if a little unpredictable at times.

Built from 1961 to 1975, the beautiful exterior designed by Malcolm Sayer hid the incredible and sonorous "XK" I6, with 3.8 or 4.2 liters of capacity. There was also a V12 option, though that version is especially rare. It was available with a variety of different body styles, and it was truly incredible to drive. Companies like Eagle, who are still building improved and refined E-Type replicas to this day, are a testament to this car's legendary status.

5. Morgan AeroMax

Morgan isn't exactly a conventional automaker. They use wood in the construction of a lot of their models, and their cars don't exactly follow modern trends of design. But they're all extremely visceral, pure, and fun to drive. The AeroMax is a different story, though.

The AeroMax was originally an evolution of the Aero 8, and was sold throughout the late 2000s in tiny numbers. The exterior design was gorgeous, featuring a

characteristic boat tail rear end and a general shape harkening back to the 1930s. Opening the two-piece hood revealed a BMW V8 in varying capacities, which produced a lovely sound.

4. Austin-Healey Sprite

Cars like the Austin-Healey Sprite remind people about the joys of driving. This is as close to the purest and most comprehensive driving experience as you can get. It was revamped and redesigned several times, [though the first generation bugeye/frogeye version is the one most remember.](#)

Like the modern Caterhams and Lotuses of the world, the Sprite was all about the driving experience, as it didn't have all that much power. Despite weighing a measly 1464 lbs, the 0.9-liter engine made only 43 hp, giving a 0-60 time of around 20 seconds. Once you hit the first corner, however, the horsepower didn't really matter.

3. TVR Cerbera

Anyone who's spent even a little bit of time with a TVR knows that they aren't exactly slaves to convention. After all, what other car out there has required its occupants to press a button on the dashboard to open the door? One TVR model that never seems to get any attention, [save for the totally insane Speed 12,](#) is the Cerbera. Built from 1996 to 2006, the Cerbera was the first hardtop TVR ever made, and the first with a 2+2 seating layout as well. Power came from a variety of TVR-built engines, ranging from the 4.0 liter Speed Six I6, all the way to a 4.7 liter N/A V8. The most powerful Cerbera made 440 hp, and combined with the 2,425 lb weight, 0-60 happened in 3.9 seconds, with a top speed of 193 mph.

2. Ariel Atom

First introduced in 2000, the Ariel Atom was a different kind of car. One that no one had really ever seen before. In fact, calling it a car was really playing around with the term, as it had little to no bodywork at all.

Built by a small UK-based automaker counting only 7 employees, the Atom is widely regarded as one of the best performance cars ever made, simply because of how much the driver is connected to the road and how much they can see and feel when they're driving it. A variety of different engines powered it, most notably the 4-cylinder from various Civic Type R generations. There was even a V8 version that could tear apart your face at speed.

1. Jaguar XK120

It would seem as though Jaguar couldn't stop making beautiful cars during the 20th century. Along with the drop-dead gorgeous E-Type, there was the arguably even more beautiful XK120, sold from 1948 to 1954.

It was a sports car at heart, effectively a successor to the SS 100. Power came from a 3.4-liter XK I6, producing 160 hp with 80 octane fuel in the tank. The XK120's aerodynamic shape and aluminum body panels (in some versions) made it the fastest production car in the world at the time, topping out at 120 mph, or even more if the windshield was removed.

British Car Forum is Moving

Just a quick note to tell you that British Car Forum is moving. I've been working for a long time to put this new (and improved) BCF platform together! I still have some work to do to get the main domain to point to the new site (it still points to the current (old) site

To get to the new site (you should be able to log in with same credentials as before), just go here:

<https://www.britishcarforum.com/community/index.php?pages/home/>

Triumph Parts

Evert sent a web site for TR parts in the UK. I couldn't get the web site to copy & paste, but you can get there with this: www.trshop.co.uk

Goodwood Revival Tour 2022

A luxury 14 day classic car experience. Our company, Backwater Classic Car Tours, has put together an amazing package that will allow classic car enthusiasts to be part of the unique experience that is the Goodwood Revival Festival, one of the world's premier classic car motoring events.

The Goodwood Revival Tour, which is fully escorted throughout, takes place from August 20 to September 13th, 2022.

It's 640-mile route includes not only a 3-day entry pass to the Goodwood Revival itself (with grandstand seating and free circuit parking), but also excursions to some of the UK's most iconic monuments including Windsor Castle, Blenheim Palace, Portsmouth Historic Dockyard, Mary Rose Museum and HMS Victory. As a break from car related venues we also visit some important English gardens like RHS Wisley, Hidcote Gardens, Exbury Gardens and Westonbirt Arboretum. Accommodation for the 14 nights is in a series of five 4-star luxury hotels. All have been chosen by Backwater Tours for their comfort, excellent facilities and locations. Guests are provided with a full English breakfast every day and nine three-course dinners over the full fortnight, plus a Gala Farewell Dinner on the last night. Naturally, the highlight of the Revival tour is the three days at the Goodwood Revival Festival itself. A firm favorite with classic motor enthusiasts for over two

decades, this flamboyant and colourful event has something for everyone, from classic sports cars to motorcycles, old aeroplanes and jazz bands, to say nothing of glamorous costumes from the 40s, 50s and 60s.

Very importantly, during this event, Backwater Tour guests will be staying at the Hilton Avisford Park Hotel, a venue situated just 6 miles from Goodwood. This means that daily visits to the Revival are quick and easy, with no need for a long journey through heavy event traffic, a problem frequently encountered with some other Revival tour packages.

The price of the Goodwood Revival package includes the hire of a luxury car a Mercedes E Class or similar as standard. A GPS Navigator pre-loaded with day-to-day route planning, and a comprehensive tour book, ensure comfortable driving and a chance to appreciate some beautiful countryside. Choose for how many of the destinations you wish to visit and when they want to depart from the hotel. This gives you maximum freedom to tailor the tour to suit their own particular needs. Further details of The Goodwood Revival Tour 2022, including a fully illustrated 16 page detailed brochure, dates and any queries may be obtained from Backwater Tours office on +44 (0)1243 820041 or email: paul@backwatertours.co.uk

Who we are: Backwater Classic Car Tours is a UK-based company that has been organising and escorting events since 2008, principally for classic Jaguars. Our aim is for all our guests simply to enjoy themselves and to see new places. The emphasis of all our tours is as much on the social side as on the driving experience.

Backwater Classic Car Tours

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Barnham, West Sussex,

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2021 Lewis & Clark Classic Rally

This is the annual rally that DID happen in 2020, just about eight months ago, and it's on again this year too.

It's a real Time-Speed-(Social)Distance motorsports event with a tour option for those not enamored of stopwatches and clipboards.

This year we're going to the Inn at Spanish Head in Lincoln City on the Oregon coast.

Register online at the website now to reserve your place in the event (and we are very close to being sold out), and we'll invoice you for the registration fee at about the end of this month. If your plans change and you can't make it after all, just let us know and you owe nothing.

If you're tired of canceled events and closed businesses, we have the solution: We Never Close.

Here's [a link to the photo album of the 2020 edition](#) to inspire you.

Classified

This section is for you. It's meant to list anything (British Car related) which you need (parts or cars), or have for sale.

1974 TRIUMPH TR6 FOR SALE.

My fully restored TR6 is being offered for sale. I purchased it five years ago after a full restoration was completed. It is a great classic British sports car and I have really enjoyed owning and driving it. I am raising money to purchase a 4x4 truck as I sold my Ram 4x4 diesel to my son so he could pull his travel trailer.

The TR6 is in excellent mechanical and cosmetic condition with green paint and tan interior, top, top cover and tonneau cover (not installed). It has 56,000 total miles. I have put on about 2,000 miles since the restoration was completed. It has only been used on Redding British Car Club tours and events and never driven in the rain or at night. It is stored in a clean, carpeted garage with a trickle charger on the battery.

The TR6 was stripped to the bare frame and the frame was painted. Drivetrain, brakes and suspension parts are all new, upgraded or rebuilt. The remaining parts were used if good or replaced as necessary for proper function or cosmetics. Receipts for restoration parts total about \$15,000 and estimated restoration labor was 1800 hours over a thirteen year period. I have put an additional \$3000 into the car. Part receipts, chronologically arranged, come with the TR6.

The six cylinder 2.5 liter rebuilt engine starts easily, runs smoothly and is very strong. It has additional horsepower over stock due to the installation of twin SU carburetors, an exhaust manifold and a Monza Exhaust System. The TR6 handles well reflecting a rebuilt front suspension, rebuilt rear suspension with heavy duty springs and tube shock conversion, and a quick ratio steering rack.



A new tan car cover is included as are new spare parts including tonneau cover, seat cushions, alternator, filters, gaskets and belts. Many original parts are provided including two Solex carbs, the exhaust manifold, luggage rack and front bumper guards. Operating

manuals, restoration manuals and general interest TR6 books are included.

The horn contact pin needs adjusting so the horn currently has its power disconnected.

This classic British sports car is a nicely restored, well running TR6 for perfect for touring or local car shows. You can't beat it for a fun top-down drive through the Sierras or generating interest at Caffeine and Cars shows.

I bought the car for \$16,000 and have priced it at \$16,000 firm for local sale. When the California Auto Museum reopens, I will put the TR6 in their classic car sales room at over \$20,000. If you are interested call Bob Harris at 530-547-3525.

Wanted – Pre 1960 MGA. Not looking for a show car. Just a good solid runner. Paint, body & interior unimportant. Charles Laurence 530-782-0546