



The Dashpot

May 2020

This month:

Presidents Report, Stay at home Rally, Moss Challenge, Sir Sterling Moss, Fast Women, Spring Tune-up History

Looking Forward

All May and June Events have been cancelled.

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Make sure your car is ready for driving season when it does start!!

Presidents Report

The last few weeks of social isolation have been different, to say the least, but we're doing it for them, and they are doing it for us, so everyone benefits in the end..... which I sincerely hope will come soon! Again, to those in our membership who are on the front lines of the pandemic in our area – you know who you are – thank you.

Covid continues to wreak havoc on events: Joy and Bill just let me know that they are cancelling the Gumball Rally (July 5). ABCD (July 11) and the Glengarry Highland Games (incl. car show on July 31) are also cancelled, as well as NAMGBR 2020 in Calgary. Check our on-line calendar for updates.

And finally: Today is the fourth day of May – may the fourth be with you – and safety fast!

Trish

Jack Stand Recall

Harbor Freight has issued a recall for a 6 ton jack stand made by Pittsburg Automotive.

Be sure to check through your garage and see if you have a set of these units, part #61197, as the stands may fail without warning.



Defective stand

Here is a [link](#) with recall information. You can also check with Harbor Freight customer service at (800) 443-3353.

Stay at home MG Rally - Len Fortin

Try this stay-at-home rally with the help of online Google and online [Google Maps](#) (as well as your mind and your memory). Follow the step-by-step instructions to get around the route and answer the questions as you encounter them. Use Google and Google Maps and other tools as you see fit.

I suggest you print the document to see the full scope of this “virtual” MG Rally.

Send questions about this to me [fortinlgf@gmail.com] and I'll do the best I can to keep you on track – without giving away any answers.

Here is the link: http://www.omgc.info/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/An_MG_Rally_Without_Actually_Driving_Your_MG.pdf

Note that the May meeting has been cancelled due to COVID-19

Watch for a broadcast email on the next in-person event!



NAMGAR
North American MGA Register



North American MGB Register
Including MGC, MG Midget, 1100/1300 MG, and Modern MG

Moss Cutout Challenge

Try this fun challenge from Moss Motors, and you could win a \$25 gift certificate and a years subscription to Classic Motorsports.

The submission deadline is May 8th. Details are available at this [link](#).



Sir Sterling Moss - A Motoring Legend (1929 - 2020) - Trish Adams

Sir Stirling Moss, British racing driver and breaker of many land-speed records, died on April 12, 2020 at the age of 90, following a long illness. As you can see from the photo below he had a strong connection with MGs, and you can read more about that, and other aspects of his life in the fast lane, in the article in this [link](#).

Moss reached an amazing 245.64mph in the tadpole shaped car, shattering the previous record of 203mph set by Goldie Gardner just before WW2.

The EX181 was a mid-engined machine built purely for speed. The pint-sized engine featured double twin cams and a supercharger, allowing it to reach 290bhp at 7,300rpm.

MG saw the marketing potential of being able to claim that it was the manufacturer of one of the fastest cars in the world at the time.

Today, the EX181 is displayed at the Motor Heritage Centre museum in the English Midlands.



Sterling Moss and the MG EX181

Fast Women - Trish Adams

To prove that “Anything you can do – we can do better – or at least, as good as” here’s an article about “Fast Women”, courtesy of Katie Wood. As she said, it looks like MG were always enlightened about their works drivers! <https://www.goodwood.com/goodwood-estate/estate-news/fast-women/>

These days, Sabine Schmitz – aka Queen of the Nürburgring race track, a German professional racing driver for BMW and Porsche, and TV personality, is out there with the guys, flying the flag for women racing drivers. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yMP1e0pJSEo>

Spring Tune-Up History - Len Fortin

Spring Tune-Up Events have been part of the Ottawa MG Club wide variety of get-togethers for many, many years. Although photographs for most of the tune-up events are in the online galleries on the website, there are some pictures in the old-fashioned photo albums of similar events called "Garage Tours".

So, as this year is a bit different and we cannot conduct a Spring Tune-Up gathering, here is a list of links to allow you to browse through the years and peek at past events.

To add something different to this peek back into history, for each year I have selected one photo and ask you to answer the question about that photo. Jot your notes somewhere and if you would like to have your answers checked, simply sent me your list via e-mail and I'll reply with your score (and the correct answers).

2003 at British Automotive:

http://www.omgc.info/wordpress/index.php/nggallery/2003-photos/spring-tune-up?page_id=4947

picture #4 - what colour is the MGB?

2004 at British Automotive:

http://www.omgc.info/wordpress/index.php/nggallery/2004-photos/spring-tune-up-2?page_id=4947

picture #9 - what is the name of the person looking under the bonnet of the B?

2005 at British Automotive:

http://www.omgc.info/wordpress/index.php/nggallery/2005-photos/spring-tune-up-3?page_id=4947

picture #2 - who is wearing the yellow raincoat at the BBQ?

2006 at British Automotive:

http://www.omgc.info/wordpress/index.php/nggallery/2006-photos/spring-tune-up-4?page_id=4947

picture #5 - what is the piece of equipment on the ground near the green MGB-GT?

2007 was conducted at British Automotive but I cannot find any pictures of the event anywhere, so there is no question for this one till I find some photos.

2008 at Jaguar Dealership, Ottawa:

http://www.omgc.info/wordpress/index.php/nggallery/2008-photos/spring-tune-up-5?page_id=4947

picture #19 - what style of wheels does the MGB have installed?

2009 at Jaguar Dealership, Ottawa:

http://www.omgc.info/wordpress/index.php/nggallery/2009-photos/spring-tune-up-6?page_id=4947

picture #40 - which club member is finally paying his membership renewal?

2010 at Jordan Jones' garage:

http://www.omgc.info/wordpress/index.php/nggallery/2010-photos/spring-tune-up-7?page_id=4947

picture #16 - why are the 2 chaps trying to add weight on the front end of the MGB?

2011 at Jordan Jones' garage:

http://www.omgc.info/wordpress/index.php/nggallery/2011-photos/spring-tune-up-8?page_id=4947

picture #8 - who owns the MGB with the nifty licence plate?

2012 at Jordan Jones' garage:

http://www.omgc.info/wordpress/index.php/nggallery/2012-photos/spring-tune-up-9?page_id=4947

picture #12 - what MGB part are Mike & Gerry discussing the finer points of?

...continued

Spring Tune-Up History (cont'd)

2013 at Jordan Jones' garage:

http://www.omgc.info/wordpress/index.php/nggallery/2013-photos-2/spring-tune-up-11?page_id=4947
picture #12 - who is handling all the distributors with tender loving care?

2014 at Jordan Jones' garage:

http://www.omgc.info/wordpress/index.php/nggallery/2014-photos/spring-tune-up-10?page_id=4947
in various pictures - who is wearing the red working coveralls?

2015 [Silver Jubilee] at Jordan Jones' garage:

http://www.omgc.info/wordpress/index.php/nggallery/2015-photos-2/spring-tune-up-13?page_id=4947
picture #1 - who created the text and event icons for the Silver Jubilee banner?

2016 at Jim Devine's garage in Ottawa South:

http://www.omgc.info/wordpress/index.php/nggallery/2016-photos-2/spring-tune-up-12?page_id=4947
picture #2 - who is polishing up the grille of his MGB?

2017 at Andrew McCue's garage in Chelsea:

http://www.omgc.info/wordpress/index.php/nggallery/2017-photos/spring-tune-up-14?page_id=4947
picture #17 - who are the 2 chaps inspecting the underside of the MGB?

2018 at Andrew McCue's garage in Chelsea:

http://www.omgc.info/wordpress/index.php/nggallery/2018-photos/Spring-Tune-Up-2018?page_id=4947
picture #8 - who is working on the pad replacement?

2019 at Andrew McCue's garage in Chelsea:

http://www.omgc.info/wordpress/index.php/nggallery/2019-photos/Spring-Tune-Up-2019?page_id=4947
what date was this Spring Tune-Up conducted?

and, although there are no questions about these pictures..... we must not forget a series of Technical Sessions at **Adrian Sawyer's garage near Kemptville in 2018:**

http://www.omgc.info/wordpress/index.php/nggallery/2018-photos/Tech-Session-Adrian-Sawyer?page_id=4947

[http://www.omgc.info/wordpress/index.php/nggallery/2018-photos/Tech-Session-Adrian-Sawyer-\(sills\)?page_id=4947](http://www.omgc.info/wordpress/index.php/nggallery/2018-photos/Tech-Session-Adrian-Sawyer-(sills)?page_id=4947)

[http://www.omgc.info/wordpress/index.php/nggallery/2018-photos/Tech-Session-Adrian-Sawyer-\(welding\)?page_id=4947](http://www.omgc.info/wordpress/index.php/nggallery/2018-photos/Tech-Session-Adrian-Sawyer-(welding)?page_id=4947)

[http://www.omgc.info/wordpress/index.php/nggallery/2018-photos/Tech-Session-Adrian-Sawyer-\(teardown\)?page_id=4947](http://www.omgc.info/wordpress/index.php/nggallery/2018-photos/Tech-Session-Adrian-Sawyer-(teardown)?page_id=4947)

[http://www.omgc.info/wordpress/index.php/nggallery/2018-photos/Tech-Session-Adrian-Sawyer-\(engine-bay-&-rear-axle\)?page_id=4947](http://www.omgc.info/wordpress/index.php/nggallery/2018-photos/Tech-Session-Adrian-Sawyer-(engine-bay-&-rear-axle)?page_id=4947)

[http://www.omgc.info/wordpress/index.php/nggallery/2018-photos/Tech-Session-Adrian-Sawyer-\(engine-machined\)?page_id=4947](http://www.omgc.info/wordpress/index.php/nggallery/2018-photos/Tech-Session-Adrian-Sawyer-(engine-machined)?page_id=4947)

[http://www.omgc.info/wordpress/index.php/nggallery/2018-photos/Tech-Session-Adrian-Sawyer-\(engine-reassemble\)?page_id=4947](http://www.omgc.info/wordpress/index.php/nggallery/2018-photos/Tech-Session-Adrian-Sawyer-(engine-reassemble)?page_id=4947)

MG Midget. The people's Ferrari.



Mention the name Ferrari to most sports car enthusiasts and their eyes light up, their pulse quickens and butterflies flutter through their stomachs. Because Ferrari is quite a sports car. At quite a price.

Now, we won't claim the same sensations happen at the mention of the MG Midget. But it, too, is quite a sports car. At not-so-quite a price.

The fact is, the MG Midget is the lowest-priced *true* sports car you can buy. That makes it a sports car for The People.

MG Midget is equipped with rack and pinion steering, front disc brakes, race seasoned suspension and a four-speed gearbox linked to the economical 1275 c.c. overhead valve engine that delivers over 20 miles to the gallon.

Not exactly a Ferrari. But one heck of a people's sports car. Other standards on the MG Midget are reclining bucket seats, wrapped steering wheel, mag-style wheels, radial-ply tires, full carpeting and complete sports car instrumentation—

including tachometer and trip odometer. So if you have a Ferrari taste, but an economy car budget, check out the people's sports car, MG Midget. For the name of your dealer and information about overseas delivery, call (800) 447-4700. In Illinois, call (800) 322-4400. Calls are toll free.

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