



The Dashpot

November 2020

This month:

Presidents Report, Mechanicangelo, In MG History this Month, Virtual British Car Show, Brake Switch Story, Online items of interest, For Your Bookshelf

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Future Club meetings and
all events are cancelled
until further notice

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Presidents Report

Mark your calendars: Annual General Meeting: Thursday 26th November at 7.00pm

The AGM will be an on-line Zoom meeting. Details to follow shortly in a separate broadcast. Note that registration will be required to participate. There won't be the usual number of events to look back on, but it will be good to get-together, talk about some of the things that did happen, and collect some of your thoughts and ideas on how we can stay connected and engaged in the coming year, using Zoom or in other ways. Reports from the Treasurer and Membership Director will be presented; I will be asking for membership approval of the Executives' recommendation for a fee change for the next membership year, starting April 1; and I will also be presenting the Hugo Leach Award to ???

BCCI Long-distance driving awards: As you put your car(s) away for their long winter sleep, **the deadline for recording your closing mileage in your profile on the club's website is December 31.** Go to "<http://www.omgc.info/wordpress/> – Members – My Profile". The British Car Council will be giving commemorative plaques to all drivers who travelled over 1,000 miles/1,600 kms this year, instead of the usual 3,000 miles/4,800 kms. If you have more than one classic car that you've been tooling around in, you may combine their total mileages.

Photos for the calendar: Thank you to those who have sent photographs for our 2021 Club calendar. If you've taken some and haven't submitted them yet, or if you're still out there snapping away, the deadline to send them to Sarah is December 1 (Sarah Arscott, sarasoda04@gmail.com). The winning photograph in each of the 12 themes will be announced as soon as possible thereafter – and there are prizes.

A 30th Anniversary Milestone: Welcome to our newest members, Tim Martin and Catherine Fortune, who joined us mid-October, and are our 500th members since the Club began. Tim has a 1980 MGB with a V8 engine, and when I stopped by to deliver a Club calendar, he told me that it needs some restoration, which will be taking place over the winter. Hopefully, by the time we can start getting together next year, it will be on the road, and we'll get to meet Tim and Catherine, and all our other members who joined in 2020, but didn't have an opportunity to enjoy the MG experience with us.

Safety fast!
Trish

Found something that would
interest other club members?

Send to [The Editor](#) for a future issue.



NAMGAR
North American MGA Register



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

A Painting By Mechanicangelo The Creation Of The Artisan Technician

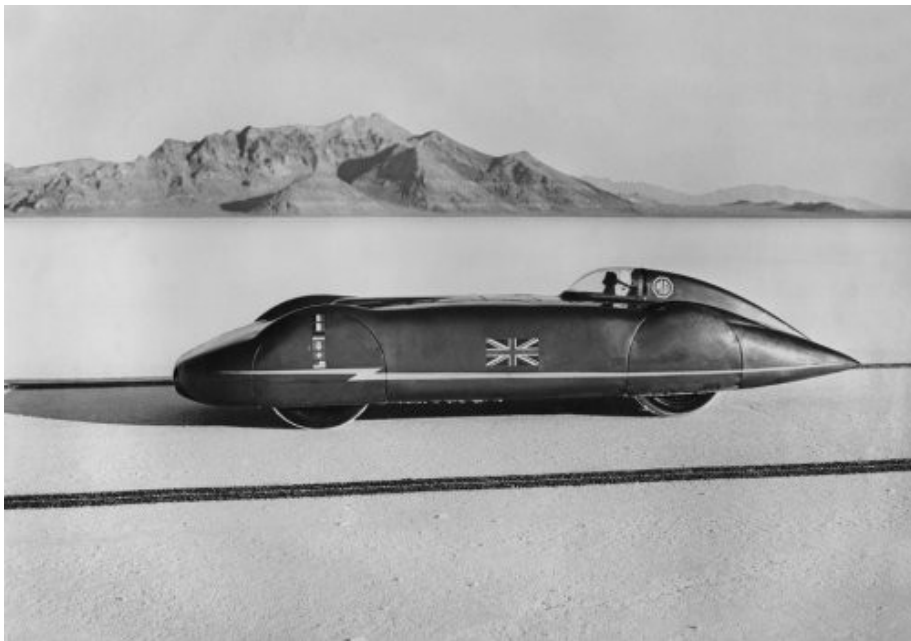
Mechanicangelo (strong Western world influencer in the 20th century) was a superior, educated worker who exerted an unparalleled influence on the development of automobile mechanics world-wide. His broad base of automotive knowledge, exacting technical specifications and versatility as both a teacher and a “hands-on-guy” was of such a high order, he is often considered by many people to be a contender for the title of the archetypal “Repair Man”, along with his rival, the British chap known to the world as Patrick. Several scholars have described **Mechanicangelo** as the greatest repair artist of his age & as the greatest repair artist of all time.

In this work by **Mechanicangelo**, a lowly service station grease monkey is being lifted to a higher calling by the supreme Artisan Technician. The open ended spanner represents the ultimate degree document achievable.



Wednesday 9th November 1938 — 82 years ago

Goldie Gardner driving the MG EX135 on the Dessau (German) Autobahn set a Class G record for the mile (187.62 mph) and the kilometre. In the 11 peace-time years between 1936 and 1950, the English race legend set over 100 international and local speed records throughout England, Europe and the USA. In 1951 at Bonneville Salt Flats, Utah, with his supercharged MG streamliner EX-135, he obtained six international and ten American records in the 1,100cc to 1,500cc engine class. In 1952 he returned to Bonneville with the MG EX-135 and set 21 speed records in the same engine class as the previous year.



Wednesday 22nd November 1995 — 24 years ago

The last MG RV8 was produced in Cowley, England. The MG RV8 was a hugely important step in the 1990s rebirth of its maker after more than a decade of saloon and hatchback-only production. Since Abingdon's closure in 1980, MG had been reserved for the Metro, Maestro and Montego - and although these cars were worthy, what enthusiasts really wanted was a new MG roadster. In creating the RV8, Rover very cleverly used a combination of off-the-shelf parts, such as the Range Rover's V8 engine and British Motor Heritage MGB bodysell. So, in this incarnation of the MGB, the rubber bumper specification body was taken and modified to accept a new set of



beautifully curvaceous outer panels. The 3.9-litre Range Rover EFi V8 engine developed 185bhp, and gave the RV8 enough power to crack 6.0 seconds for the 0-60mph run. A five-speed LT77 gearbox, derived from the Rover SD1, was used along with a new Salisbury axle. Very significant modifications were made to the suspension and brakes to bring the car up to date. The interior featured magnolia leather and burr elm. Most RV8s made were sold in Japan, but many of them have subsequently made their way back to the UK.

The Sir Sterling Moss Trophy Virtual British Car Show - Trish Adams

The Washington DC Central MG Car Club came up with this innovative initiative for a Covid-friendly car show, and OMGC was invited to participate. A link was included in the October Dashpot and a reminder broadcast to all members was sent on October 23. I sent the original e-mail on to the Montreal and Toronto MG Clubs, and to Boots and Bonnets, and to the other local British Car Clubs that I know of. It seemed like a bit of fun, so I entered Polly, and received the Show Catalogue last week. I enjoyed looking at all the cars (noting a few Ontario and Quebec plates), and reading their stories, and thought some of you might appreciate the distraction from your usual daily routines. <https://online.pubhtml5.com/ivdq/yief/> Enjoy!

Tim Dietrich's Brake switch story - compiled by Len Fortin

A long and detailed saga told through email exchanges, which follows the exploits of Tim Dietrich, and his journey to achieve reliable brake lights on his 1970 MGB has been detailed on the OMGC website for your enjoyment and reference:

http://www.omgc.info/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Tims_Brake_Switch_Story.pdf

Link to online items of Interest:

The MGF was an attempt to recreate the MG roadster passion with a mid-engined nimble sports car. So why did the dream end after 10 years in production when the car was still the number one selling roadster in the UK?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VjjGF_AsLnM

And following the quest for high performance on the Utah salt flats, here is B.M.C. Does it Again (1959) from British Pathé : https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F4_F8JJql_Y&ab_channel=BritishPath%C3%A9

For your book shelf:

Here's a book every MGB owner should have in their garage. Highly recommended by our very own Mike Daniels, one of the Club's experts on electronics, and 5 star reviews across the board as you'll see in the link. It's not cheap but it's worth every last cent – and it's on sale at US\$48.50 instead of US\$70. If you'd like to find a copy under your tree on Christmas morning, now's the time to print off the details and leave them lying around somewhere obvious where your Significant Other will see it. Or just order it yourself and give your SO the bill !

https://www.amazon.com/MGB-Electrical-Systems-Updated-Essential/dp/1787110524/ref=sr_1_1?keywords=MGB+Electrical+Systems&qid=1556639414&s=gateway&sr=8-1-spell

<https://www.chapters.indigo.ca/en-ca/home/search/?keywords=MGB%20Electrical%20Systems%20Rick%20Astley#internal=1>

... and a gift for the lady in your life ... comes with free MGA ...

<https://www.ispot.tv/ad/I7zU/estee-lauder-beautiful-belle-2018-holidays-3-piece-collection-featuring-grace-elizabeth?fbclid=IwAR3gRe4YBv2iFoYQKPwFx6IXPfaxWbhbmY0uafPkKLKscqzb3AEImZQZBpE>

Copies of this edition of "The Dashpot", along with copies of "The Dashpot" going back many years, can be found on the website: www.omgc.info / News and Events / Dashpot – and you'll see that you can also check on Broadcasts that you might have missed, or need a reminder about.