



The Dashpot

January 2021

=====

Future Club meetings and
all events are cancelled
until further notice

=====

This month:

Presidents Report, Executive Committee
Announcement, Order of British Car Enthusiasts,
In MG History this Month, WANTED: OMGC
NAMGAR Representative, Virtual Tech Session

Editor: Dave Whitehead
davewhitehead0@gmail.com
newsletter@omgc.info
(613) 826-0875

Presidents Report

Some of you may be aware that I was Ottawa MG President some years ago. And some information for new members, over the years I have run events like the fall colour run (en Français) for a couple of years and the Christmas party when it started to be held at the Britannia Yacht Club. I participated in many of the annual events the club has held over the years including the 25th anniversary trip known as Gaps and Notches. And the ABCD. This time last years club executive was all revved up for the upcoming planned events enjoyed by so many club members. Well it didn't quite turn out that way as we all know.

This year a much more cautionary approach is being taken. I will be contacting each of the event planners for last year to get their take and their willingness to head events for this year. I will advise in upcoming communications.

Maybe my car will be lucky enough to be featured as a mystery car. If that happens only those who have read the President's message will have an advantage in solving the mystery car questions.

One more important fact to add is that I found \$1,000 in \$100 bills in a bank envelop with no information included. Did any of you perhaps loose such an envelop? I would be happy to return it to the owner.

I look forward to meeting new members "live" as much as I look forward so seeing my long time MG friends.

Pierre Ranger

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.



Found something that would
interest other club members?

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



Executive Committee Announcement

Just before Christmas, Robert Giroux – our Webmaster – tendered his resignation due to lack of time because of the increasing workload in his professional life. Len Fortin has some website management experience from his volunteer work with the British Car Council Inc., of which he is the President, and has been keeping things ticking over, with a little help from Andy Bounsall. Andy was our Webmaster for several years before Robert. With that in mind, Len was approached to see if he would like to take over the portfolio, with Andy offering advice and mentoring as required, and he was keen to accept.

In accordance with the terms of our Succession Plan, I am pleased to officially appoint Len Fortin as our Webmaster for this year, effective immediately. Len will be eligible to stand for re-election for a 2-year term at our AGM in November. Thank you, Robert, for taking care of our website for the last 4 years – we hope you will find some time to get out and about in “Elton” in the coming months. And thank you, Len, for your willingness to take on yet another new role in the Club. Is there anything you haven’t done yet?!!

Pierre Ranger
January 12, 2021

ANNOUNCEMENT

British Car Council – Order of British Car Enthusiasts

Each year a member of the Ottawa MG Club is named to receive a British Car Council “**Order of British Car Enthusiasts**” medal award. The medal is awarded annually to celebrate and acknowledge a club member(s) who demonstrate enthusiasm for, and knowledge about, British cars.... as well as helping other club members and participating in club events.

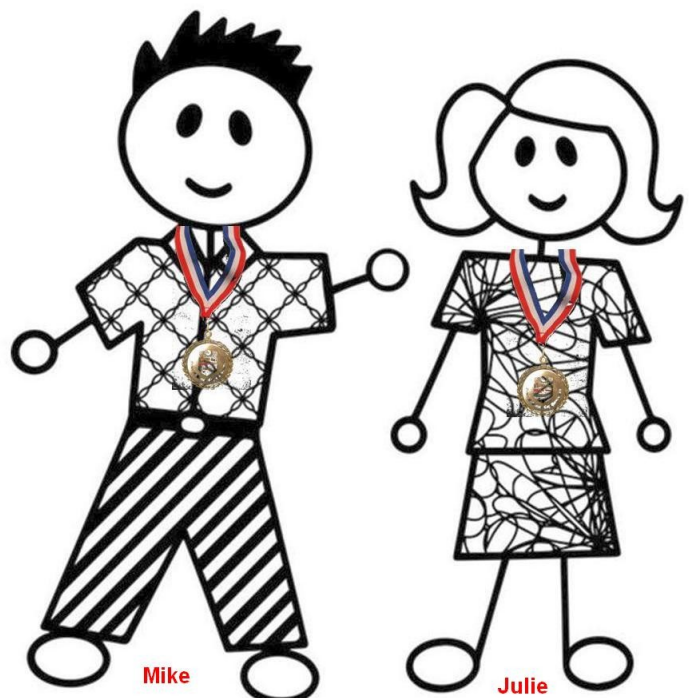
In 2017: Adrian Sawyer was selected to receive a medal.

In 2018: Geoff & Helga Dix were selected to receive medals.

In 2019: Chris & Sharon Billings were selected to receive medals.

For 2020, **Mike & Julie Westland** have been confirmed to receive the British Car Council **Order of British Car Enthusiasts** medals.

Of course with the COVID-19 situation surrounding us, it will be difficult to present the medals to them in the usual fashion (at a club meeting), but for now this mock up picture will have to do, along with a big shout out of Congratulations!!



Monday 20th January 1930 — 90 years ago

The MG Car Company Ltd staged a grand inaugural luncheon at its new factory in Abingdon, England. In 1935, MG was sold by Morris to Morris Motors Limited, and at this time MG's competition activities ceased, while over the next 18 months, the product range was completely altered to re-align it with Morris and Wolseley. Although the MG Car Company as such became dormant, the MG factory at Abingdon survived as an operational unit into the British Leyland era. In the late 1970s it became part of British Leyland's Jaguar Rover Triumph subsidiary. From time to time the Abingdon factory also produced other makes of car for BMC/BL, such as Riley (1949-1957), Austin-Healey (1957-1971), some Morris Minors (1960-1964) and Vanden Plas 1500s (1979-1980). By a twist of fate, from 1959 onwards MG saloon cars production returned to Cowley, then later at Longbridge, rather than Abingdon. With the discontinuation of the MG Midget and MGB models in 1979-81, the factory was closed, and the Abingdon property disposed of. A and B Blocks are still extant, re-clad and part of the Abingdon Business Park. The Administration Block (known as "Top Office") still stands at the end of Cemetery Road. Cecil Kimber's home is now a pub - The Boundary House - in Oxford Road. Between 1982 and 1991, the MG badge re-appeared on sportier versions of Austin Rover's Metro, Maestro and Montego ranges. In 1992, the MG RV8 was launched, an up-dated MGB Roadster powered by a Rover V8 engine and produced in low volumes. In 1995, the completely new MG F two-seater roadster was launched, selling in volumes unthinkable since the 1970s. In 2000, then parent BMW sold the MG Rover Group to a consortium which used the MG badge on sportier Rover-based cars. Production ceased in April 2005 when MG Rover went into administration. The assets of MG Rover were bought by Chinese carmaker Nanjing Automobile in 2005, who themselves were bought by the Chinese company SAIC in 2007. In 2007 production of the MG TF roadster and MG 7 large sports saloon, derived from the Rover 75, started in China. Production of the MG TF re-started at Longbridge in small volumes in 2008.



MG Factory at Abingdon; ZA Magnette and MGA lines circa 1955

WANTED: OMGC NAMGAR Representative

Do you love MGAs or Magnets? Are you a member of the North American MGA Register? Would you like to be our liaison representative with NAMGAR?

Our current representative, Andy Bounsall, has held this position for a number of years and he feels it's time to give someone else the opportunity to take on this small but important role. It's really not an onerous or time consuming job and Andy would be happy to chat about it with any interested members, especially newer Club members who would like to get a bit more involved. Ownership of an MGA or Magnette is not essential, but being a member of NAMGAR is required.

If you have an MGA or Magnette and are not a member of NAMGAR, Andy would also be pleased to tell you about the benefits of NAMGAR membership.

Contact Andy: andy.bounsall@gmail.com

Virtual Tech Session with John Twist—January 21—7pm

Next Thursday – January 21 – would have been the date of our first meeting in 2021. Although we can't meet in person, we have a great opportunity to spend a couple of hours or so with "Mr. MG", John Twist of University Motors, Grand Rapids, Michigan, members of the MG Club of Montreal, and members of the MG Club of Toronto, courtesy of our friends in Toronto.

There will be lots of time for participants to ask John for his advice/opinions on whatever you'd like to know about MG's, and you can ask specific questions related to your own MG.

There is no charge to our members, but registration is required – please let me know by end of day, January 20, if you would like to participate. On Thursday around lunchtime, I will send the link to those who are registered to enable them to join the meeting.

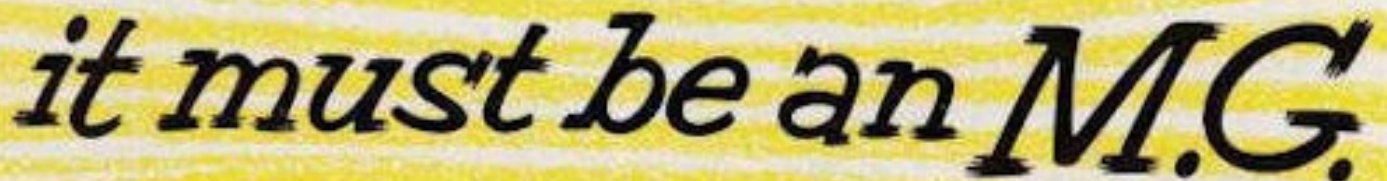
For those who are not familiar with Zoom meetings, please click on this link with a brief tutorial, which will explain how to connect to the session: <http://www.omgc.info/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Zoom-Tips-from-MGCC-Toronto-Jan-2021.pdf>

Safety fast! Zoom Zoom

Trish Adams

tadams500@gmail.com

613 258 9008



it must be an M.G.