

DYNAMO



MG Car Club of England, Rocky Mountain Centre | May Extra, 2017

Q&A With Brian Woodhams

What's happening on the other side of the pond?
Page 3.

Profiles in Courage

Some background on our Summit attendees, beginning on page 4.

Domestic Q&A

Here's what's happening on the home front, page 10.

Go for the Gold/Silver/Bronze

This year's Glenwood awards are sexier than ever. Page 14.

MG Automart

A trio of Glorious MGs on offer, page 15.



SUMMIT EXTRA EDITION



MG Leadership Summit!

Okay, so Maybe we won't have world leaders in attendance, but we will have some prominent figures of the MG world together for our next club meeting in June. Please save the date and plan to attend. We'll find out about the issues faced by each organization, and their plans for 2017-2018.

Details, Page 2.



President's Corner

It appears temporarily, that the *Dynamo* has turned into a bus. It's very quiet, then two turn up at the same time.

Now's the time for polishing and preening...you could also spruce up your cars, if you like.

Bookings for this year's Rallye Glenwood Springs are going well, but there's still room for more attendees. Also, keep in mind the drive/car show the weekend after, in Georgetown.

We're always looking for new events and ideas for the club. Please keep in touch.

See you at Glenwood.

Safety Fast,

Neil

Find out What's What...

By the time our next meeting rolls around, you'll likely have won the Glenwood Rallye outright, performed brilliantly in the Funkhana and taken honors at the car show. But save some energy for this event!

Join us June 14 for the MGCC meeting at Mimis in Golden.

In attendance will be:

Brian G. Woodhams - MG Car Club UK Overseas Manager for Africa and the Americas. The MGCC continues to cultivate its relationship with China's SAIC. Will there be a successor to the modern TF?

Jack Kahler - Chairman of the MMM Register. We're eager to hear what's new with the organization dedicated to preserving and promoting interest in pre-war MG motors.

Larry Pittman - Vice Chairman of the MGA Register. GTs (Get Togethers) are a big part of the Register's activities. Learn what's involved with these key events.

Alan Magnuson - Chairman of the MGB Register. What's new with owners of arguably Britain's most popular classic sportscar?

-Editor



The MG Car Club
The club for MG owners



North American MGB Register



NAMGAR
North American MGA Register

Q&A with Brian G. Woodhams



The MG Car Club
The club for MG owners

Dynamo: What are the major issues you are dealing with?

Brian: Increasing USA membership of the MGCC UK in an ageing population that has not seen a new MG since 1980. Maintaining contacts with our existing USA members and sourcing information via our Register/Archive facilities.

Dynamo: How are you dealing with them?

Brian: The MGCC UK has its HQ at Kimber House, Abingdon right next to where the MG factory was situated. Our staff have a blend of youth and experience which is helping us to reach out to a broad spectrum of MG owners worldwide. We realise that the youth is the future of the Club.

Dynamo: What is the MGCC doing that you consider to be innovative?

Brian: The MGCC UK realises that we as current owners are just custodians of a part of motoring history and heritage. We try to make our members think seriously about how to pass on this heritage and get the youth interested in older vehicles. Through our very strong links with SAIC in China we are trying to persuade and influence them to build a two seater sports car again. We get out there and show the cars as often as we can and do charity work with the cars. It is amazing what evolves from the remark - "my Dad used to have one of those" because people are interested.

Dynamo: What major events are doing up in your world for 2017?

Brian: Spa Classic in Belgium followed by RMC Club Night in Denver CO. NAMGAR event in Solvang CA. NAMGBR event in San Diego, CA. MG Car Club Luxembourg 60th Anniversary, and MGCC UK MGB Register weekend in Lincolnshire at which my cars 50th Birthday will be celebrated. Because so much forward planning with International events is required 2018 is already looking pretty well booked up!!

More about...

Brian G. Woodhams

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Laura Magnuson once summed me up in a sentence - Brian loves beer, MGs and his family. She knows me so well, but she forgot my favourite Soccer team - Leeds United!!

The MG affair goes back to 1982 in Johannesburg, South Africa when I found the 1967 Tartan Red MGBGT that I still own to this day. I had had a brief affair with the Austin Healey Club in the late sixties and early seventies, and always kicked myself for selling that one previous owner leaf green 1961 Frogeye Sprite in Zambia.

The BGT as found was in a poor state but had potential and was a very pretty car - however not much worked and it became the subject of a long running restoration. Ownership soon led to joining the very active MGCC Johannesburg Centre, and the MGCC in the UK. I became Secretary of the Johannesburg Centre under Norman Ewing, but a change of employer and country in 1987 found me in Gaborone, Botswana. I was made an Honorary Life member of the Johannesburg Centre. In 1992 my contract in Botswana came to an end, and the family relocated back to England - the family now of course including the BGT because I wasn't about to make the Frogeye mistake again!!

In England under the Chairmanship of the late Mike Hawke and President Bill Wallis, I became the Overseas Manager for Africa and began my apprenticeship of how the MGCC works. In 1998 under Peter Best I joined the Board of the MGCC, and in 2000 became the Overseas Director with literally the World at my feet. It was a very steep learning curve with very few people to guide me, and I was running two businesses at the time. 2002 saw me take the plunge and dip into the USA and Australia. The USA trip was based on Grand Rapids and led me meeting up with the West Michigan Old Speckled Hen MGCC, the Chicagoland MGCC, and the Western New York Centre with MG luminaries such as Rick Ingram, John Twist, and George Herschell. It was also the start of my bad luck with Aeroplanes, and more particularly United Airlines, when the Boeing 737 I was on from O'Hare to Rochester was forced to make a full emergency landing back at Grand Rapids with a fire in the cockpit!! That is a whole other story which has continued with other disasters!!



Brian (Right) with John Twist

I think it was 2004 that I first met up with Alan and Laura at Silverstone and Abingdon and the friendship began. The MGCC is more than just a car club, it is a family and a world-wide family at that, and I am proud to have been a part of it all. I attended the 2005 Glenwood Rally with Alan, and the NAMGBR event in Olympia, WA with Steve Hanegan and Rob Otero of the NW Centre, and again met up with Alan and Bob Gloyd – this was where the germ of the idea for 2009 and Breckenridge was discussed.

2007 was Sonoma, CA and Whistler in BC. In 2009 Breckenridge happened successfully in glorious surroundings and I was honoured with a ride in EX 186 – thanks Joe and Cathy! I decided in 2009 at the AGM to step down as Overseas Director to concentrate on selling the business and head towards retirement. I still wanted to be involved in the Overseas section of the MGCC, and so as well as guiding the new incumbent I kept on with Africa and the USA. 2011 was the All Register meeting in Reno, 2013 Corvallis, 2015 Niagara Falls, 2016 All Register meeting in Louisville, and now for Solvang and San Diego. So all in all that's 8 NAMGBR meetings and 4 NAMGAR meetings.

Unfortunately, I could not afford to bring Janine this time, but she is more than happy at the peak time of her gardening hobby in the UK. The MGCC UK has very strong ties with SAIC in China and we keep on trying to influence them to produce a new two seater sports car – rumours abound but the marketing people play their cards very close to their chest. I have once again deliberately booked my flights so I can include the RMC Club meeting in June, but it means I will miss MG Live at Silverstone for probably the first time since I returned to the UK. I look forward to meeting you all again at Mimis.

“The MGCC UK has very strong ties with SAIC in China and we keep on trying to influence them to produce a new two seater sports car”



Larry and Mitzi Pittman in their MGA

Larry Pittman

vicechairman@namgar.com

Larry Pitman is NAMGAR Vice Chairman.

As most of you now know, I recently agreed to take on the assignment as NAMGAR's vice chairman. Not an easy decision, but one I hope will prove to be helpful to NAMGAR.

My wife, Mitzi, and I live in Fenton, Michigan and our local NAMGAR chapter is the Michigan Rowdies. We have 5 children and 5 grandchildren. All our children are located in Michigan, too, except for our youngest son, Chris, who's living in Denver, CO. I'm an army brat so I lived in a number of places while growing up. I was born in Ft. Warren, WY, but both of my parents were born & raised in Paoli, IN. I attended college at Missouri University of Science & Technology and graduated with a degree in Electrical Engineering. Most of my working career was spent within the Electrical Engineering department at General Motors. I retired in 2008 and the car hobby keeps me plenty busy.

I purchased my first car, an MGA, for \$325 when I was 21. I bought it in Paoli, IN, during one of our visits there. My brother eventually ended up with the 'A' and he managed to run it into a tree. Although my Dad did manage to bring the car back to life, I never really had the car as my daily driver again. My Dad was always one to work on his own car, so I picked up lots of the basic automotive maintenance skills from him.

It wasn't until after I retired that I was able to purchase a restoration project, a 1958 MGA. At the time, I was spending a lot of time building and flying radio controlled airplanes, something I still do, but not nearly as often as I did before the MG's came back into my life. Turns out an MGA was sitting in the barn of one of my radio control club buddies. I'd never asked to take a look at the car because I actually thought he had an MGB back there. But when I found out it was an MGA, it didn't take me long to bring it home. Like so many cars we all hear about, it was an abandoned restoration project and I brought it home in boxes. I eventually figured out what went where and got it back together. The project took me about 3 ½ years.

I'm a relative newcomer to the NAMGAR organization, having first joined in 2004. I'm a low key kind of guy so most don't know me. My first NAMGAR role was as the chairman of GT-40 in Frankenmuth, MI. We've tried to drive the 'A' as many places as possible and have made most of the GTs since we joined. Our first GT was GT-30 in Mackinaw City, MI, and our first with the 'A' restored was GT-33 in Seven Springs, PA. Since the completion of the MGA, I've purchased and also restored a 1952 MG TD. That one took me 5 years and still has some items to finish - they're never really done, are they? Guess I can't help myself as I've now purchased a 1959 MG Magnette ZB which seems to be in decent shape except for metal rot around the entire bottom outside of the body. Not sure what the restoration timeframe will be on it.

The primary role for NAMGARs Vice Chairman is to handle our national events including both National and Regional GTs. I need everyone's help to fill those events. If you or your club has given some thought to hosting a GT, then take some action. Just keep me in the loop so we can help you get from here to there.

"Like so many cars we all hear about, My MGA was an abandoned restoration project and I brought it home in boxes. I eventually figured out what went where and got it back together...They're never really done, are they?"

Alan Magnuson*chairman@namgbr.net*

Alan is Chairman of the North American MGB Register. His interest in British sports cars began with his father's stories of British cars and motorcycles witnessed in the UK before and after D-Day. His first ride in a British sports car was in an Austin-Healey 100-6 in Houston, Texas. As a child he was his father's tool "go-for" and flashlight holder.

The Spirit of the Octagon caught Alan in 1981 with a 1973 MGB. He was hooked! In 1984, he joined the local MGB club and, in 1989, the MG Car Club, Rocky Mountain Centre. He has enthusiastically served as Club President, Historian, Rallye Glenwood Springs Chairman, and has been an active committee member of the annual Colorado English Motoring Conclave, a 500 vehicle event. For MG2009, MGs in Breckenridge, he and his wife Laura served as vice-chairmen, hosts, & worker 'B's.

Alan has also served as NAMGBR Treasurer from 2006 to 2011 and continues as the North American M.G. Council of Registers Liaison to the MGCC of England. His current stable of horse power includes an MGB, MGB GT, MGA, and TD. He is a member of MGCC UK, NAMMMR, NEMGTR, NAMGAR, and NAMGBR. Alan is a native Oregonian and has retired after a career with the Bell Telephone System in Large Business Sales. Alan & Laura reside in Centennial, Colorado.



Alan Magnuson

Jack Kahler
mgjack@aol.com

Jack Kahler is Chairman of the North American MMM Register.

Jack was born and raised in the small northeastern Ohio industrial town of Alliance, where he graduated from Alliance High School in 1961. In 1965, Jack received a bachelor of fine arts degree in industrial design from the Kansas City Art Institute and School of Design.

Jack started his professional career at Container Corporation of America in New Brunswick, New Jersey and joined the Air National Guard. Then relocated back to Kansas City, Missouri to join Hallmark Cards Inc. Jack was promoted to the design team at Hallmark subsidiary Crown Center Redevelopment Corporation, which was redeveloping the south end of the Kansas City metro area.

In 1972, Jack moved to Denver to form the industrial design firm of Rowley Kahler Associates. Upon the sale of the firm to his partner, he created Communication Industries Inc., a Golden, Colorado based manufacturer of architectural signage. He served as CEO and President until his retirement in 2004.

Jack is currently Chairman of the North American MMM Register, which is the register of all the prewar MG cars in North America. He bought his first MG as a present to himself for his fortieth birthday. Years after acquiring several MGs for his stable, Jack discovered MMM MGs at a NAMMMR National Meet in Ventura, CA. Restoring MMM MGs and other classic cars is his full time dream.

He is married to his high school sweetheart Nancy and together raised two children and are enjoying six grandchildren.



Jack Kahler with his prized Brooklands Double 12 Racer

Meanwhile, Here at Home...

Dynamo asked our guys the same questions we put to Brian.

Dynamo: What are the major issues you are dealing with?

Larry: Scheduling future GTs (Get Togethers). Declining enrollments.

Alan: Planning MG2017 convention in San Diego, June 25-28, 2017. NAMGBR future convention locations, membership involvement, and Officer Succession Planning.

Jack: Stoking NAMMMR membership enthusiasm. Finding new ways to encourage members to get involved.

Dynamo: How are you dealing with them? -

Larry: Making personal contact with clubs in potential future locations. Offering memberships to purchasers of current NAMGAR member's cars.

Alan: NAMGBR is a member driven organization so we listen for input from our members. We have focused on improving membership communications and our business processes through the benefits of available technology. Our leadership team meets monthly to focus on short and long term activities and goals.

Jack: always encouraging and promoting members involvement in all Register activities. Delegating my responsibilities in order to get more people involved.

Dynamo: What are your organizations doing that you consider to be innovative?

Larry: This is not totally new, but increasing the number of GT's hosted by multiple clubs. We can use modified cost sharing arrangement when multiple clubs are involved. We've added email updates, alternating monthly with our magazine publishing. We've also added post-GT surveys to find out what people liked/didn't like.

Alan: Communicating with NAMGBR members through multiple methods: email, website, MG Driver magazine, Facebook, etc. Working with Hagerty Insurance to offer discounts on Collector Car Insurance to MG owners in the USA.

Jack: Honestly, I don't think we're being all that innovative. We need to think creatively about this, if we're to survive long term. I'd love to get your input.

Dynamo: What major events are upcoming for your organization in 2017?

Larry: GT 42 is coming up in Solvang, CA.

Alan: MG2017 convention in San Diego, CA, June 25-28, 2017. Annual General Meeting in Gettysburg, PA, October 27-28, 2017.

Jack: We have our National Meet in Akron, Ohio in July. And of course, the Rallye Glenwood Springs.



Happy 136th!

Cathy says she's 36, so where does that leave Joe?

The Gunderson birthday gala was held Sunday, May 22, featuring a cookout and Joe's front lawn car show. Visitors also got a chance to look in the Gunderson barn at a number of tasty classics awaiting restoration. Needless to say, a great time was had by all. Thanks , you two!

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT, AND YOUR
CONTRIBUTIONS TO THIS ISSUE:**

Brian Woodhams

Larry Pittman

Alan Magnuson

Jack Kahler

Neil White



The *DYNAMO* ("to generate interest") is the official publication of MGCC- RMC. Membership is open to anyone having interest in the MG marque. MGCC-RMC is affiliated with the North American MGA Register (NAMGAR) and the North American MGB Register (NAMGBR), as well as the Collector Car Council of Colorado.

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It's not too late!

As you may well know, Jack Kahler has been overseeing the production of the awards for the Rallye Glenwood Springs for, well, forever. Jack says this year's awards are probably the best he's ever done. So go for the Gold/Silver/Bronze!

There are plenty to go around!





AutoMart

A trio of MGs are on offer from Carol Shamonsky, NAMGAR chairman. They are housed in Pennsylvania. For more information, please contact Carol, chairman@namgar.com, 570-954-8580

**1957 MGA 1500 Roadster, \$30,000
OBO** Complete frame-off restoration.



**1959 MGA 1600
Coupe, \$18,000 OBO**

1959 MG Magnette, \$28,000 OBO,
1800 MGB engine completely rebuilt,
carbs rebuilt, oil pan adaptor plate, new
wiring, new voltage regulator, 5 speed
conversion kit, 3.9 ratio rear, radial
tires, completely refurbished fuel tank,
suspension bushings, new springs, new
shocks.

