



FLORIDA OCTAGON

#231 May 2022

Safety Fast!

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PRESIDENTS MESSAGE:



Spring has sprung and gatherings of auto aficionados are popping up everywhere. With us driving our LBCs more, the subject of tools to carry and spares to have handy ran through my semi-sleeping mind the other night, after two glasses of tasty red wine. (White looks too much like DOT 3 brake fluid for me.)

Things like breaker points (if you are still so equipped), distributor rotor, brake and turn signal bulbs, (don't worry about headlights as "Gentlemen and ladies shouldn't motor after dark!" Joseph Lucas) and appropriately sized fuses. That last one is easy for me as my TR only has two and they are both British 25A. The fuse holder even has slots for the spares. Hmmmm. Some folks recommend a fan belt in the boot. I have one but would not relish changing it on the side of the road.

One thing that I have discovered in my nearly 50 years of LBC ownership, is that the likelihood of failure is inversely proportional to the cost of the spare part and its proximity to the vehicle. I just purchased a quality reproduction fuel pump for the TR and, except for not having "AC" cast into it, is an exact duplicate. It will look fantastic if I ever have to install it. Hopefully its substantial cost will negate its ever being needed. Of course, I'm tempting fate by not having it in the car. That's the other part of the formula, the further you are from the part, the more likely it is to fail. The belt on the hook or the box of fuses on the workbench are as useless as how the pilots say are the air above you, the runway behind you or the fuel you left in the truck at the airfield.

As for tools, usually a flat screwdriver, Phillips screwdriver (milk of magnesia and vodka) and an adjustable spanner for knuckle busting as well as your jack and lug nut spanner should suffice. For longer trips, make sure that you have the two most useful tools of all: cellular phone and AAA or car insurance towing service! Owning a TR7, I know whereof I speak.

Hope to see many of you at our organized events this month and maybe some of the disorganized ones (they can be fun too).

Until then,
Safety Fast
Brian

(321) 254-9605
bgspain@hotmail.com

Chairman Emeritus

Jerry Keuper
(In Memoriam)

For Club Info--Please
visit:

[MG Car Club--Florida](#)

May Birthdays:

05 Helen Kingston
06 Bill Insko
07 Mike Euziere
08 Michael Dezego
09 Susan Lopez
10 Toby Anderson
11 Betty Gregory
14 Kay O'Keefe
16 Christine Ross
17 Adrienne Dowzall
19 Jeremy Parrett
19 Thomas Lempicke
23 Jim Netterstrom
23 Brian Bogue
24 Anna Howell

May Anniversaries:

03 Mark & Sue Davia
05 Norm & Pat Ridgely
08 Gail & Glen Lenhard,
14 Robert & Maria Buck
23 Richard & Dawn
Kiefer
24 Lee & Beth Harris
27 Fred & Julie Braid

Upcoming Club Events:

May 9th – Monthly
Dinner at El Chico
May 21st – Event, Tour of
Deseret Ranch and Picnic
June 14th – Monthly
Dinner at Tuscany Grill
June 19th – Cocoa Village
Concours
July 12th – Monthly
Dinner at New England
Eatery and Pub
July 16th – Breakfast at
Sarno's Restaurant &
Pizzeria

Contact Information:

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UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS:

Have you been some place interesting, taken a scenic drive, dined at a restaurant you enjoyed? These are potential places, drives, dinners for club events!

- **May 9, 2022 – MGCC-FL Monthly Dinner at El Chico Mexican Restaurant 06:00 PM.** Our monthly dinner this month is at El Chico Mexican Restaurant located at 1751 Evans Road, Melbourne, FL 32904 (<https://www.elchico.com>). Please RSVP to Marilyn Lewis at delewis67@aol.com so we can let the restaurant know how many to expect.
- **May 21, 2022 – Deseret Ranch Tour and Picnic Meet at 08:30 AM Tour 10:00 AM.** Our event this month is a tour of the Deseret Ranch located at 3584 Orchid Circle, St. Cloud, FL 34773. Please bring a Picnic Lunch to enjoy on the grounds immediately following the tour. The club plans to meet at Cumberland Farms (4440 W New Haven Ave, West Melbourne, FL 32904) at 08:30 and caravan to the Ranch. The tour is scheduled for 10:00 AM. **Please RSVP to Brian Mitchell, bgsplain@hotmail.com, to reserve you place on the tour.** You're welcome to come in your everyday driver if you prefer. In addition, the Dixie Cruisers have invited us to their 25th Anniversary Car Show which starts at 4:00 PM (See writeup in the 'Other Events' section).
- **June 14, 2022 – MGCC-FL Monthly Dinner Tuscany Grill 06:00 PM.** June's monthly dinner location was recommended by David Holmwood and will be at Tuscany Grill at the Avenues, 6630 Colonnade Ave, Melbourne, FL 32940 ([Tuscany Grill, Melbourne, FL. Authentic Italian Cuisine.](#) Please RSVP to Marilyn Lewis at delewis67@aol.com so we can let the restaurant know how many to expect.
- **June 19, 2022 – Cocoa Village Concours 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM.** We plan to participate in the Cocoa Village Concours on June 19th. Registration is \$25 online or \$30 day of the show. To register online, go to [Cocoa Village Concours – Premiere Car Show of the Space Coast](#) The club will meet up to drive in together. *More details to come!*
- **July 11, 2022 – MGCC-FL Quarterly Board Meeting 06:00 PM.** The board meeting will be held in the Kingston Garage, 1561 Maple Avenue, Melbourne, FL. All club members are welcome to attend, or you can send ideas/concerns to a board member to present for discussion. The meetings encompass club business, finances, and planning. Minutes are prepared and available by request.
- **July 12, 2022 – MGCC-FL Monthly Dinner at New England Eatery and Pub 06:00 PM.** July's monthly dinner was recommended by Linda Knoblock-Raup and seconded by Mike Fufidio and Mike DeZego. It will be at New England Eatery and Pub located at 5670 S Highway A1A, Melbourne Beach, FL 32951 [New England Eatery & Pub](#) Please RSVP to Marilyn Lewis at delewis67@aol.com so we can let the restaurant know how many to expect.
- **July 16, 2022 – Breakfast at Sarno Restaurant & Pizzeria 09:00 AM.** The club has been to Sarno Restaurant & Pizzeria for breakfast previously with rave reviews. We're doing it again! For this early morning meet up some of us will drive our cars! www.sarnorestaurantandpizzeria.com
- **August 2022** We are still in the planning stages for a possible display of our cars at Hemmingway's. Rob Buck is arranging this event with the

owners.

OTHER EVENTS:

- Calendar of local car events and cruise-ins maintained by Mike Euziere. [British Car Driving Group](#)
- **May 12, 2022 – Friendly’s Car & Truck Show. See flyer below!**
- **May 14, 2022 – ALZBBQ and Car Drawing Wickham Park Pavilion 3:00 PM – 6:00 PM.** This event is the 29th Annual ALZBBQ and Car Drawing. This is a show and shine type of event with a giant ‘people’s choice’ award that will be voted on. Every year a classic muscle car is given away. This year it is a 1970 Super Bee. There will be a live band. To register go to [Car Show - ALZBBQ and Car Drawing](#). For more information call 321-253-4430. Contact: Tiffani Anderson.
- **May 21, 2022 – Dunkin’ Donuts Car & Truck Show. See Flyer below!**
- **May 21, 2022 – Dixie Cruisers 25th Anniversary Car Show 04:00 PM to 7:00 PM.** We’ve been invited to participate in the 25th Anniversary Dixie Cruisers Car Show located in Cocoa Village (Chase Bank parking lot), 505 Brevard Ave, Cocoa, FL. There are two options for participating: 1 – participants are welcome to park and show their car free of charge or 2 – participants can register for \$10 which entitles the first 25 to a goody bag and a large number of drawings for door prizes. 50/50 drawing, Oldies DJ. Contact (321) 431-3955 or Mike Euziere (321) 514-2965.

CLUB PHOTOS:

www.mgcarclubflorida.org/mgclubflorida/Club_Photo_Album.htm

**April 9, 2022 – Wheels in Motion, Car, Truck and Motorcycle Show
Fox Lake Park Titusville, FL**



**Judy, Linda, Dale, Paul,
Bob, John**





Marilyn, Dale



Donna



John, Paul, Linda



Paul, Judy



Jerri, Ed



Tim



Pat





Tom, Bob



Ed, Pam



Ed



Saul, Linda



Jim



Bob - Best British!



'57 Triumph TR3



Bob - Best in Show!

April 13, 2022 – Monthly Dinner - Sarno Restaurant & Pizzeria

We had a great turnout for our April Dinner, 23 club members attended! One British Car, good food and fellowship!



Brian & Ginny



John



Bill & Mary



Guy & Cindy



Bob & Donna



Maria & Rob



Linda



Jerri & Donna



Pat & Ed



Mike D & Mike F



Linda, Dale, John



**Welcome New Members
Judy & Richard Fickes**



Kourdt & Anna

Pictures and writeups from our club members:

Bob and Donna Beiler showed Bob's 1950 Jaguar in multiple shows over the past month with winning results! Best in Show at Tropical Haven Car Show, Best in Show at the Sanford 37th Annual All British Car Show, First Place in XK 120,140, 150 division at the Sanford 37th Annual All British Car Show, First Place in AACA Winter Nationals 'Sports Car 1960 and Older', and First Place score of 9.98 in Driven Division at the Jaguar Concourse de Elegance Orlando, Wheels Across the Pond in Jupiter 'Best on the Grass' Jaguar Sports to 1960! Congratulations to them both! Thank you, Donna, for sharing these photos!



**37th Annual All British Car Show - Doug Rothwell won First Place in the MGB/C GT (all years) category
Congratulations Doug and Linda!**





Award acceptance and displays!

**Pat and Norm Ridgely attended
Wheels Across the Pond**



**54th Annual Southern Gathering of the Faithful (GOF) at Howey-In-The-Hills
Saul Klein drove over to GOF 22 and shared some of his pictures with us. Thank you, Saul!
Norm and Pat Ridgely attended. John Perez joined them for part of the day. Later, Saul drove
backroads to Sugarloaf Mountain enjoying a great drive on a beautiful day with the top down!**



There were 126 cars at GOF this year. Next year the GOF will be in Gainesville.



Club Member Contributions of Articles, Personal Interest Stories and Other Stuff

If you see a British article (tech or otherwise) you would like to share or if you come across something that just makes you smile, please email me (delewis67@aol.com) and I will include it in the newsletter! Personal stories are welcome too! Tell us about your car(s)!

This month's article appeared in the March 2022 edition of Hemmings and was submitted by Norman Ridgely.

[HEMMINGS FEATURE](#)

Dubbed “Kimber’s Folly,” This MG Grand Tourer Was Unpopular When New

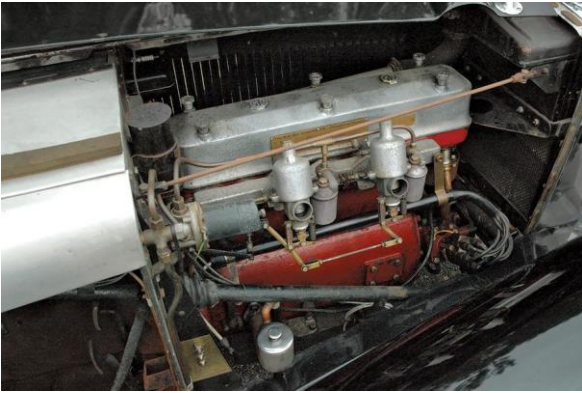
1933 MG L1 Magna Continental Coupe

By [Mark J. McCourt](#) from March 2022 issue of [Hemmings Motor News](#)

Photography by David LaChance



To those unfamiliar with MG history, the [1967-'69 MGC/GT](#) seemed like an outlier since the venerable British firm was world-renowned for its small, four-cylinder, open-top sports cars. That model actually represented a short-lived rekindling of a traditional MG premise dating back decades: the high-style, straight-six-powered coupe. Still fascinating nearly 90 years later, the L1 Magna Continental Coupé of 1933 was perhaps the most unusual and, in its day, controversial prewar product of the M.G. Car Company.



The L Type Magna would be offered in L1 and L2 variants, in multiple body styles. [MG founder Cecil Kimber](#) commissioned the Continental Coupé from Carbodies Ltd. for introduction at the 1933 British International Motor Show. "Continental" referred to its design, whose sweeping lines and striking color palette echoed contemporary trends popularized by European marques like France's Bugatti. This low-slung 2+2 featured a long bonnet, flowing fenders, a rear-set cabin, and separate trunk. [Art Deco](#)-inspired chrome flashings accented the hood, doors and trunk sides, and a curved seam joined the windscreen header peak to the base of the cowl. Behind this seam, the body was painted a contrasting color, with wheels matched.



Under a sliding sunroof panel inset with four cathedral-window-shaped glass panes, the wood-trimmed interior reinforced the Art Deco theme with sunburst-sewn inner door panels and a multicolor plastic steering wheel rim. MG's trademark octagons were everywhere, and formed dash bezels that held comprehensive instrumentation.

Behind the traditional MG radiator shell—here canted back, trimmed with mesh stone guard and flanked by large bullet-shaped headlamps—was a smooth-running 1,086-cc straight-six with a 57 x 71-mm bore and stroke. It sported an advanced single overhead camshaft driven off the generator, and a crossflow cylinder head. A 6.4:1 compression ratio, coil ignition, and twin semi-downdraft SU carburetors contributed to the 41-hp output at 5,500 rpm, which made the L1 capable of 75 mph. An unsynchronized four-speed with exposed remote gear change sent power to the rear wheels through a $\frac{3}{4}$ floating rear axle with a 5.375:1 final ratio. The solid front and rear axles were suspended by half-elliptic leaf springs and sliding trunnions and damped by Hartford friction-disc shock absorbers at each corner. Cable-operated 12-inch drum brakes peeked out through Rudge-Whitworth knock-off wire wheels that mounted 4.50 x 19 Dunlop tires.

Alas, unlike the expressive Italians or French, contemporary Britons were conservative in their dress and expressions; a "flashy" and expensive (£350, when a J2 Midget cost £199) car like this MG held little appeal for the tweed set. Mike Allison, author of [The Magic of M.G.](#), famously wrote of it, "Kimber's Folly! The L1 Continental Coupé, of which a hundred were built, and took as many weeks to sell." MG would build pushrod

six-cylinder SA and WA models between 1936 and 1939, but those were the last six-pot MGs until the aforementioned MGC. The extroverted L1 Magna Continental Coupé was a firecracker send-off to Cecil Kimber's vision of what a motoring enthusiast's sports car, regardless of body style, should be.



SPECIFICATIONS

Engine: 1,086-cc (66.27-cu.in.) SOHC inline-six

Horsepower: 41 @ 5,500 rpm

Transmission: Four-speed manual with remote change

Suspension: Semi-elliptic leaf springs, trunnions, friction shocks

Brakes: Cable-operated drums

Wheelbase: 94 inches

Curb weight: 1,932 pounds

Top speed: 75 mph



FLYERS:

Friendly's

Car, Truck & Bike Show

Hosted by Friendly's
1011 E. Eau Gallie Blvd
Indian Harbor Beach, FL

Monthly Show
Second Thursday,
Next Show
May 12, 2022
5:00 PM to 8:00 PM

May Day Car Show



Friendly's Car Shows are Hot! Hot! Hot!

Free Show, Bring what ya got.
Everyone Welcome.. Rat Rods. Under Construction,
All Years, Makes & Models are Welcome,
No Judging, No Trophies, Just Good Fun!!

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Questions? Call
Bill Antonetz at
321 725-3648



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Dunkin' Donuts Car, & Truck Show



Dunkin Donuts Beachside
1220 N. A1A, Indialantic, FL
Saturday, May 21, 2022
8:00 AM to 12:00 PM



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Questions? Call
Bill Antonetz at
321 725-3648
Although his hands
are always full

Celebrating Armed Forces Day and
Lt Col Robert Clark's 103rd Birthday!



A Neighborhood Parade of Cars is
scheduled for 4:00 PM May 21 in
Indialantic



Free Show! Bring what ya got.
If it Rolls, Roll it on in!
Rat Rods. Under Construction,
All Years, Makes & Models are Welcome,
No Judging, No Trophies, Just Good Fun!!

Say "Hello" to Liz



MGCC-FL Merchandise



MGCC--FL Hats

\$25

Original logo from when club was first founded,
with date and club name

Khaki color is a light weight material with
Nylon adjustable tab closure.

White is slightly heavier but vented on both sides
with
Velcro closure.



MGCC-FL Patches

\$5

Anniversary Logo Design

POC for Purchase:

Helen Kingston (hjk10590@gmail.com)

Ads are free of charge to members, run for three months unless renewed and/or canceled by the advertiser. Send your ad to delewis67@aol.com for publication in the following month's newsletter.

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**Liquidating MG & Triumph parts & projects
EVERYTHING MUST GO!**

1967 MGB GT Partially disassembled Project car. Florida title \$2,000.

1970's Postal Jeep. Rusty body I6 engine, turns. \$500. **Reduced \$250**

Two 1970's VW Project/parts cars. Both engines run. \$2,000 each. **Reduced \$1000 Each**

1976 MGB RDS Project car. Custom steel dash, good rubber, good driver. Florida title. \$2,500. **Reduced \$2000**

1978 Triumph Spitfire. With weber/header, aluminum radiator, new wood dash, fiberglass trunk lid, factory hard top, rough body, good tires, Florida title. \$2,000. **Reduced \$1500**

Liquidating British sports car hobby shop.

Selected parts cars \$200 each.

A lot of new old stock and used parts.

Call with your needs.

Contact Dave Alexander (321) 213-7051 (please Leave a message, I will return all calls)

Window Winder Handles - Free

I purchased some window winder handles from Moss, and I made a typo error in the number of units. I now have window winder stock for multiple cars. It will cost me almost as much in postage to return them as the refund amount. If you can post a notice in the next newsletter, I will be happy to give a pair to anyone who can use them. (These are the plastic handles; the metal ones are not available.) Contact Ed Price via phone 321-632-2207 or via E-mail at pdpcash8@gmail.com.

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NAMGAR
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[NAMGAR Membership Application Form](#)

NAMGAR Mission Statement

The North American MGA Register shall promote the preservation and enjoyment of the MGA sports car and its variants; encourage fellowship among MGA owners; aid members' efforts to restore and preserve these cars by publishing and exchanging maintenance and restoration information.