



February 2024

# THE OIL SPOT

The official publication of the British Car Club of Western New York



## Officers of the British Car Club of Western New York

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## President's Message

Changes, changes, changes! Lots of changes coming up, starting with the weather. The sky staying lighter a bit longer each day means that hopefully spring will be upon us soon and the cars can start coming out of their long winter's nap.

We also have some changes coming up with the club... As you may have heard through our social media, the Buffalo Irish Center has two official clubs that would like to use the same room as we do for our monthly meetings on the same Wednesday we do. Unfortunately, our club is not an official BIC club, which means they have priority over us and their meetings take precedence over ours. I've asked management if there are other dates available but have yet to hear back from them. Unless something changes by time our February meeting takes place, it looks as though we are going to have to locate a new home for our club to meet.

Also, we'll be needing to fill some board positions as some of the changes that have taken place to the board recently mean we have a couple of vacancies. All this and more will be discussed at our next meeting on February 21 st at 7:00pm at the Buffalo Irish Center. Come early and grab a bite to eat.

Happy motoring in 2024!

Pat Mullins

## Event Calendar

*The following is a tentative calendar of planned and proposed events for 2024. If you would like to add an activity or know of a speaker you would like to have at one of our meetings please call Cass Culotta at 716-545-0275 or Todd Schupbach at 716-435-4279.*

**February 21 - Regular Meeting - 7:00 pm, Buffalo Irish Center**

**March 20 - Regular Meeting - 7:00 pm**

**April 17 - Regular Meeting, 7 pm**

April 21 - Ancaster British Car Flea Market, Ancaster Ontario, 9 am - 2:30 pm

May 10 - 11 - Carlisle Import & Performance Nationals, Carlisle, PA

**May 15 - Regular Meeting - 7:00 pm**

**June 19 - Regular Meeting - 7:00 pm**

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## Epic Firsts

February is oft thought as the month of love. So I ask, what are the reasons for BCC members' love, obsession, devotion - whatever your word is for it - for their British vehicles? I randomly (sort of) emailed a number of our members the following questions and asked them for their thoughts and fond memories.

1. What was your first British car, when did you get it, and why did you get it?
2. What is your most memorable, funniest, or most unexpected experience in your British car? (It can be any of your British cars.)
3. If you work on your car(s), what was the most helpful thing you've learned about fixing them?
4. Have you ever convinced anyone else to get a little British car and what were the reasons you gave to talk them into it?
5. Do you have a British car joke to share?

Members were encouraged to share as little or as much as they wanted.

*Do you have anything to share about your obsession with LBCs? Email me at [lmkula1@gmail.com](mailto:lmkula1@gmail.com)!*

***Our inaugural entry is from Austin Healey owner, Steve Favale. Thank you, Steve!***

**My first British car** was actually a motorcycle. A Norton Commando. 750cc. My left motorcycle boot was brown, and my right boot was black due to the oil leak on the right side. I had a rule of thumb, ride for an hour, work on it for two. Ride for the weekend and off to the motorcycle shop to buy missing parts.

First Brit car was a 67 MGB. After 3 months I found out you had to pull the engine to change the clutch! Rebuilt my first manual transmission, said what is this ring for. Pulled it off and little steel balls and springs went flying all over the garage floor. (Syncro) . It was my only car and drove it all year. During winter, I had to get pushed out of almost every parking lot. Said I will never own a British product again.

Then the Healey came along, Aaauuugh!!

Steve Favale

## ***Fool Me Once... by Jay Lockrow***

### ***January's Mystery Car***

January's mystery car is a Squire. The only one I have ever seen is in the Simeone museum in Philadelphia. This museum is not the biggest but the cars are all first class stuff, no junk. In fact, most of the cars are famous race winners. The Squire was in an off corner somewhere and I almost missed it but I recognized it quickly.



### ***February's Mystery Car***

Okay, members, this should be easy for some but tough on others!

Jay [jaylock7440@gmail.com](mailto:jaylock7440@gmail.com)

Welcome  
New Members  
**Tony and Joanne Vaccaro**

Proud owners of a  
**2005 Lotus Elise and a  
1993 Caterham 7**



North American MGB Register

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Toll-free phone: 800-NAMGBR-1

[www.namgbr.org](http://www.namgbr.org)

## Updates on the Roadster Factory

Dear TRF Customer-

As you have probably heard by now, there was a fire on Christmas morning and our building and inventory were mostly destroyed. TRF will be closed for the month of January while we try to figure out where to go from here. We hope to reopen and we appreciate your patience in the meantime. TRF is grateful for the outpouring of support received from suppliers, customers, friends, family, local community members and even strangers. We are especially grateful to the 14+ companies of firefighters who sacrificed their Christmas to extinguish the blaze. Thankfully no one was hurt. Here are some answers to questions you might have.

1) We are going to consider all open orders canceled at this time. If you have something on back order that you still need, please drop us an email ([trfbackorders@gmail.com](mailto:trfbackorders@gmail.com)) to see about reinstating the order. Keep in mind backorders are not charged until they are shipped. So if you had something on backorder, you probably were not charged for it.

2) If you feel you have a credit with TRF, please drop us an email ([trfbackorders@gmail.com](mailto:trfbackorders@gmail.com)). Many of our records have been destroyed, but we should be able to verify credits if you bring them to our attention. If you have a gift certificate you no longer want, please get in touch and we will sort it out. Please be patient, we will do our best to get back to you by the end of January.

3) If you have any other questions or concerns, please drop us an email ([trfbackorders@gmail.com](mailto:trfbackorders@gmail.com)) and we will do our best to get back to you quickly.

4) If you would like to help, please consider making a donation to the Armagh Fire Department: <https://www.gofundme.com/.../the-roadster-factory...>

I will be back in touch soon.

Best,  
Albert  
TRF

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Albert at The Roadster Factory.



THE ROADSTER FACTORY  
ARMAGH, PA

Dear TRF Customer-

I hope you are doing well. I am staying busy and thinking of ways to get some aspects of TRF going again. We had a shipment of stock from our UK suppliers delivered a few days after the fire that I have in storage. I am hoping to get that unpacked in the next few weeks and I am working on some different ideas about how to list those parts for sale. The tooling for the parts we have reproduced is safe with our manufacturers and we can have new batches of those parts made. I have a shipment in transit from our Taiwan manufacturer that will include our famous yellow fans and the long awaited backlight seals for the TR6 hardtop. That should be delivered by the middle of March.

I would also like to get our trim shop, The Magic Carpet Factory, running again. Brenda is eager to come back to work, but most of her patterns were destroyed in the fire. We would like to make new patterns, but we need some help. If you recently bought a carpet set, hoodstick cover or headliner kit that you have not installed yet, please get in touch by replying to this email. We are especially interested in TR2 thru TR6 items to start off with. We can arrange a shipping label for you and we will return the kit to you within a couple of weeks.

Below is a picture I took of TRF on January 3. I hope to include more pictures of TRF as we make progress. Thanks for your support.

best,  
Albert  
TRF



## Events Calendar

**July 17 - Regular Meeting - 7:00 pm**

July 29 - Lockport Optimist Club's British and Foreign Car Night Cruise

**August 21 - Regular Meeting - 7:00 pm**

September 6 - 8 - Watkins Glen Grand Prix Festival and Vintage Races

September 14 - 22 - 6-Pack TRials - See January **Oil Spot**

**September 18 - Regular Meeting - 7:00 pm**

**October 16 - Regular Meeting - 7:00 pm**

**November 20 - Regular Meeting - 7:00 pm**

**December 18 - Regular Meeting - 7:00 pm**

*Continued from page 1*

*Please send in your  
events for the calendar!*

The **OIL SPOT** is the official newsletter of the **British Car Club of Western New York**.

The purpose of BCC is to foster good will and camaraderie among enthusiasts of British cars, and to exchange ideas and technical expertise attendant to the restoration and preservation of all British marques.

The monthly **OIL SPOT** is sent by e-mail or traditional mail to all BCC members. It includes a calendar of events, articles and photos of general interest provided by the members, and classified ads.

E-mail contributions should be sent by the 25th of each month to Linda at [lmkula1@gmail.com](mailto:lmkula1@gmail.com). Attach the file, or type information in the body of the e-mail. You can also send articles through the mail to Linda Kula, 1566 Inwood Avenue, Angola, NY 14006. Photos should be in JPEG format. Articles are appreciated in MS Word or pdf formats. Classified ads appropriate to this newsletter are free. Ads run for three issues.





## British Car Club of Western New York

British Car enthusiasts from the area are invited to join our club for meetings, technical sessions and drives throughout the

See our Facebook page to exchange news, events, information, photos and humor at

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/229699855909145>

For details on our meetings and organization, see our website at

<http://www.bcc-wny.com>

For information on events, our Meetup page is

<https://www.meetup.com/British-classic-cars-Meetup/>



Linda M. Kula  
1566 Inwood Avenue  
Angola, NY 14006

**Wednesday, February 21, 2024 - Regular Meeting - 7:00 pm at the Buffalo Irish Center.**

**Join us at 5:30 pm for dinner at the pub!**