



# British Boots & Bonnets Chronicle

Voice of the BBC

Volume 25  
Issue 5  
May 5, 2020

Editor  
Lynda Vickery

Website  
[www.britishbootsand  
bonnets.com](http://www.britishbootsandbonnets.com)

Next Meeting  
????

Thunder Bay Grille  
7652 Potawatomi Trail  
Rockford, Illinois  
(near East State Street and  
Bell School Road)

**Dinner and social hour  
at 6:00pm**

## President's Message

May 2020

May is now upon us and thoughts of driving in a line of British Cars to a nice restaurant for good food and fellowship is not happening. Illinois is under an extended stay at home order at least to the end of May. I usually like to write about the fun we had at last months events and what to look forward to this month but nothing really comes to mind. I guess the important thing is to stay safe and well.

On the positive side, the weather has been nice enough to get the cars on the road. It is really special getting the cars out the first few times of the season. Also, the positive feelings we get when we clean and prepare the cars after winter storage and how beautiful they look. I have to say that this is a big part of owning a British Car.

Unfortunately, business is not as usual, and we cannot do what we used to do during Spring, but we can still enjoy our British Cars. Eventually, things will be back to normal so we can again have group activities and drives. There might be some changes but hopefully they will not affect our events. For this month, we will be having a individual British Car drive through Drive and Dine so check the events area of the Chronicle for information.

I will sign of with a little humor. Stay safe, stay well, and have patience.

*A woman answered the knock at her door and found a destitute man. He wanted to earn money by doing odd jobs, so she asked, "Can you paint?" "Yes," he said, "I'm a pretty good painter. "Well, there's a gallon of green paint and a brush out back, and a porch that needs repainting. Be very careful. When you're done, I'll look it over and pay you what it's worth."*

*It wasn't more than an hour before he knocked again. "All finished!", he reported with a smile. "Did you do a good job?" she asked.*

*"Yes, but lady, there's one thing I'd like to point out to you," he said, "That's not a Porsche back there -- it's a Mercedes!"*

Safety Fast,

*Lee Kindgren*



## British Boots and Bonnets Calendar of Events for 2020

(Please note: Events may be canceled or revised because of the current pandemic, please watch your email or visit the club website for changes)

All May group driving activities and the club meeting have been canceled

**May 13**      **BBB Drive and Dine with a Twist**  
See the May Chronicle for details

The Champagne British Car Festival in Bloomington, IL, scheduled for May 29-31 has been canceled.

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**June 10**      **BBB Drive and Dine**

Host: Rich and Dee Gibson

**June 17**      **Club Meeting, Thunder Bay Grille**

**June 13**      **BBB Saturday Drive**

Host: Rich and Roxann Cannistra

June 21      British Car Festival, Sussex Car Show; Sussex, WI

June 28 – July 1      MG 2020 - Calgary, BC; see [www.namgbr.org](http://www.namgbr.org) for information

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**July 8**      **BBB Drive and Dine**

Host: Dennis and Crystal Klemm

July 12      Mad Dogs and Englishman Car Show; Hickory Corners, MI

**July 12**      **Rotary Gardens, Janesville, WI – BBB Car Show**

“Brits on the Lawn”

**July 15**      **Club Meeting, Thunder Bay Grille**

**July 18**      **BBB Day at the Lake – Hosts: Rich and Dee Gibson**

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**August 1**      **BBB Cars and Coffee Car Show, Rockford, IL 9 am to noon**

August 9      Botham Vineyard 25<sup>th</sup> Car Show; Botham, WI

**August 12**      **BBB Drive and Dine:**

Host: Don and Marna Grosenick

**August 15**      **BBB Saturday Drive**

Host: Bruce and Phyllis Beneditz

**August 19**      **Club Meeting, Thunder Bay Grille**

**August 23**      **Popular Grove Airport and Museum Car Show**

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**September 6**      **BBB Labor Day Picnic – Hosts: Dennis and Crystal Klemm**  
**Orfordville, WI**

**September 9**      **BBB Drive and Dine OPEN**

Host:

September 12 12<sup>th</sup> British Car Festival; Harper College, Palatine, IL see [www.britishcarunion.com](http://www.britishcarunion.com) for information

***September 16 Club Meeting, Thunder Bay Grille***

**September 25-28 Long Weekend – Greater Lacrosse Wisconsin Area**

Host: Rich and Roxann Cannistra and friends

September 25-27 Jefferson Car Show; Jefferson, WI

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**October 10 BBB Saturday Drive – Fall Tour**

Host: Larry and Marsha Eils

**October 18 Sunday BBB Drive and Dine – Sunday Brunch**

***White Pines State Park***

Host: Connie Frazier and Hal Zenisek

NOTE: Wednesday *Drive and Dine* moved to Sunday

***October 21 Club Meeting, Thunder Bay Grille***

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**November 11 BBB Dine OPEN**

Host:

***November 18 Club Meeting, Thunder Bay Grille***

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**December 9 BBB Cookie Exchange – Host: Mary Jo Schoening**

**December 16 BBB Christmas Party - Lino's, Rockford, IL**

## **BBB WEBMASTER REPORT**

### **FOR MAY 2020**

Please remember you can check the club's website for the latest details regarding club or event updates resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic and other reasons. The home page has an announcements section, and the footer at the bottom of each page indicates that last update.

Simply search British Boots and Bonnets car club in your favorite browser or [touch/click on the link here](#). Email, call or text me if you have questions or comments about the club's website.

Stay safe,  
Hal Zenisek  
(815) 978-4205

## **MAY *Drive and Dine* WITH A TWIST**

Larry Eils, Events Chair

In April I suggested holding a ***Drive and Dine with a Twist***. Since we could not meet in person, I asked members, who felt comfortable doing this, to visit or do business with their local restaurants that have drive thru or delivery. Eight members shared their experience with me and some even sent pictures, see the article “***April Drive and Dine – With a Twist***” in this issue of the Chronicle.

Since we are still being requested to stay-at-home, I’m suggesting we hold another ***Drive and Dine - With a Twist*** on Wednesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>. Once again, you can do one of two things: First, visit your favorite restaurant using their drive thru; or Second, order from your favorite restaurant and have them deliver it to your house. Not only will this support your favorite eating establishment during this tough time but will also show your support for shopping locally. Here is Marsha already to take the “Pumpkin” to her favorite Harvard restaurant and use their drive thru.



To make this even more interesting, please take a picture of you picking up your food at the drive thru or when it is delivered to your home. Please send your picture to Lynda Vickery and Hal Zenisek so they can be published in the Chronicle and on our web site. Send an email or text message to Larry Eils, Events Chair, with the name of the restaurant and city it is located in so we can compile a list of restaurants to place in the Chronicle.

Once again, if you feel uncomfortable in participating, we understand. We will all gather together when this pandemic is over. Until then, Be Safe. Should you have any questions, please email or text Larry.

# MOTOR WORKS

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### Welcome New Members!

New membership applications are available on the club's website.  
Register by sending your completed application to:

Connie Frazier, Treasurer  
British Boots and Bonnets Car Club  
PMB 254  
1643 North Alpine Rd. Suite 104  
Rockford, IL 61107  
[rpeonygarden@gmail.com](mailto:rpeonygarden@gmail.com)

Include \$20 annual membership dues plus a one-time fee of \$18 for name tags.



## APRIL *Drive and Dine* – WITH A TWIST

Larry Eils, Events Chair

April 8<sup>th</sup> was our scheduled Drive and Dine. With the present stay at home stipulation by the Illinois Governor, our normal gathering at one restaurant was not permitted. However, we were allowed to visit or do business with restaurants that have drive thru or delivery.

With that in mind I suggested to our members, who feel comfortable doing this, they could do one of two things: First, visit their favorite restaurant using their drive thru or second, order from their favorite restaurant and have them deliver the order to their house. Not only would this support their favorite eating establishment during this tough time but would also show their support for shopping locally.

On Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, our members visited the following restaurants: Anna Maria's, Roscoe; Mount Athonos, Florence, AZ; Culver's, Harvard; Sandee's Thai Fusion, Janesville, WI; Lucha Cantina, Rockford; Villa Pizza, Orfordville, WI; Fish Shack, Cape Coral, FL; and Poison Ivy, Roscoe. Here are a few pictures taken by several of the members during their outing.

Soon we will all gather together again when this pandemic is over. Until then, Be Safe.







# HEAT-N-CLEAR SAFETY CAR WARMER

by Bruce Beneditz



Do you know what it is used for? I didn't.

I found it while cleaning up in my workshop and going through a bunch of things that were my dad's. It is like new with no evidence that it was ever used. It apparently is a promotional item that was given to customers of the Janesville Motor Co. Somehow, it could be used to help heat your car.? Other than that, I was stumped.

After consulting a few friends, I consulted Google. And Google had the answer.

The spikes on the right side are placed against the gas pedal. The sawtooth hooks the underside of the brake pedal. The gas pedal will be depressed and you can then control the idle speed by selecting which tooth is used.

The result is raising the idle speed so that the car will warm up faster and defrost the windows so you can see to drive. An added benefit is that the engine speed can be increased to the point that the generator can start working and charge the battery.

I looked up the patent number and the patent was issued in 1953. There are a number of these for sale on E-bay with different auto dealers and garage names on them. Who knows, there may have even been an MG dealership or two that handed them out.





## DID ~ U ~ KNOW

*by Facia Nearside*

At the age of 16 Percy Riley decided to build a car. This daunting task was made even more challenging because he had to build it in secret. You see, Percy's father William did not approve of wasting time on such a frivolous activity.

William Riley had grown up in a family of weavers, at a time when this craft was a leading industry in Coventry England. In the 1890s foreign competition caused the bottom to drop out of this business and master weaver William Riley found himself out of a job. Fortunately the Riley family also manufactured weaving machines and William was able to transfer his considerable mechanical expertise to the construction of bicycles, capitalizing on the pedal cycle craze that was sweeping Britain. Initially purchasing the Bonnick Cycle Company, William Riley soon incorporated in his own name.

Although the family bicycle business was quite successful, William's son Percy believed the future was in automobiles not bicycles. Percy must have inherited considerable mechanical ability from his father because he not only built a car but the engine as well. Advanced for its day, the engine even featured mechanically operated inlet valves at a time when most other engines used the vacuum effect of the descending piston to suck the inlet valve open. When his brothers Victor and Allen joined Percy, they formed the Riley Engine Company. The technically superior engines they produced were soon in demand from various manufacturers including a newly emerging motorcycle manufacturer named Singer.

Around 1908 Percy invented (and patented) the detachable wire-spoked wheel. These proved to be a huge improvement over the heavy and fragile wood-spoked wheels in use at the time. When William Riley finally became convinced of his sons' vision, he ceased bicycle production and joined their efforts. By 1912 Riley Limited was supplying wire wheels to over 180 motor manufacturers, then in 1913 William Riley and his sons turned their focus to manufacturing entire automobiles. Their first model, the 17/30, was introduced at the London Motor Show that year. Riley next expanded into the production of aeroplane engines, becoming a key supplier in Britain's preparation for WWI. During the 1920s and 1930s Riley automobiles were prestigious, well-made machines available in more than a dozen different body styles. In 1934 Riley autos even placed 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> at LeMans.

Despite this success, Riley eventually found itself being squeezed out by larger manufacturers. In 1938 Riley Motors was acquired by Lord Nuffield and became part of Morris Motors Limited. Following WWII the merger of Nuffield and Austin found Riley in the BMC fold, leaving most Riley models little more than badge engineered Austin/Morris designs. The last Riley badged car was finally produced in 1969.

Today, BMW is owner of the Riley trademark. As recently as 2016 Autocar Magazine hinted about the possible resurrection of this once proud British marque but BMW has added no encouragement in this direction.

DUK2020/5



*This article was forwarded from Lew Moon who received it from Jeff Buckley of the Moon Car Club. Enjoy!.....the editor.*

## **WHAT TO DO BEFORE THE PANDEMIC ENDS**

4/11/20

by Gerald Perschbacher, LL.D.

Hope and encouragement goes to all those who had been adversely affected by the “virus.” But for those who have been idle, confined, and removed from a normal schedule, it's time to make the most of the remaining spare time. So, what can a person do? Here is a list from the perspective of a car hobbyist.

Offer best wishes to those affected, especially friends in the old car hobby.

Call or send emails to friends with whom you have been out of touch for a long time.

Review your club's recent membership list, call some friends, and share “car talk.”

Gather the energy to inventory your car-related collectibles.

If the list is too long, set aside items you may sell or trade once swap meets return.

Read all those car-related magazines that piled up over the months.

Send messages to regional and national editors of car magazine; better yet, submit an article!

Organize your pictures taken at old car events; identify them before you forget.

Seclude yourself among your parts bins and prepare or organize those parts for use.

Dust off your trophies. Jot notes relating to each event that brought a “win.”

Car-related nick-knacks may be just the thing to clean, wipe, and prepare to give to charity.

Consider your future part in the hobby; is it better to increase or consolidate, keep or share? Offer your club leaders ideas to jump-start the hobby; volunteer to help.

Polish your old car. If it needs refined detailing, tackle the job.

Vacuum the interior, too, and clean the dashboard plus gauges.

Involve others in your household to join in your garage activities.

Clean that neglected corner stash of car items in your basement, attic, or garage.

SKYPE your relatives and stump them with a game: *"Name the Part."*

Make sense out of your car-related library by organizing according to categories.

Take your old car out for a drive around the neighborhood, tooting your horn, if laws allow.

On a sunny day, ease your collector car outside and talk to neighbors from a distance.

Use social media to share a tour of your old car.

Simply sit inside your car and enjoy the ambiance.

Trace the history of your special car. Jot memories, record how you obtained it, and smile.

If major repair is needed, do as much as you can on your own, and do it safely.

"Surf the net" to gain insights on restoration tips and maintenance.

Open communication with others. Offer your old-car shortcuts and successes, when possible.

Review online sites dealing with old cars, their repair, restoration, and enjoyment.

Examine regional and national membership lists, find those with cars similar to yours, and make contact by phone or email; share your joys of ownership and find new friends.

Make new memories in the hobby by extending this list in your own special way!

BE READY to enjoy the hobby as never before when the time comes!

***Please feel free to pass this along to other clubs that you may belong to but be sure to give Gerry credit for writing such a wonderful sentiment.***

Regards,

Jeff Buckley  
Moon Car Club



Mike Ackerman says hi to club members from his winter quarters in Alabama. He calls it "MIDGET MANOR".



**"Keep 'em On The Road"®**

A photograph of a white vintage convertible car parked on a pier. In the background, there is a harbor with several small boats and a town on the shore.

JAMIE C/S  
1966 Triumph TR4A

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**Quarantine day 13: The car has 29,833 parts**



**and now I seem to have misplaced my 10 mm socket**



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## HISTORIC BRITISH CARS

By Rich Cannistra

In November 2015 Roxann and I spent several days in central England. Two stops high on “our” list were the British Motor Museum in Gaydon and the Coventry Transport Museum in downtown Coventry. The British Motor Museum bills itself as “The world’s largest collection of historic British cars”. To say that these two museums are spectacular is a huge understatement! Perhaps one day you will have the pleasure of touring them in person. Until that can happen I hope you will enjoy these photos showing some of the finest offerings from the British Motor Industry. This month enjoy the first half of our photo selections, and next month we will have the second half.



Jaguar XK120



Jaguar D-Type



Jaguar XK8 from Austin Powers  
2002 movie Goldmember



Jaguar XKR from Bond movie  
“Live and Let Die”





Jaguar C-Type



Jaguar XJ13



Last Jaguar E-Type produced



Daimler SP250



Jaguar XJ220



Morris Minor 1000



Jaguar XK180 Concept Car



Land Rover Defender from Bond movie "Skyfall"



1936 MG SA



Bond Minicar Delivery Van



Morris Minor Fire Brigade



Cycle fender 1933 MG J2



## THE HAMAKERS RECOMMEND A BRITISH TELEVISION SHOW

by Lynda Vickery

Sandy came across a show named "Vintage Roads Great and Small" on Amazon Prime Video. It's a wonderful combination of travelogue, history lesson and, of course, British cars seen from the perspective of two familiar British chaps who tour around in a perfectly blue colored Morgan 4+4. Christopher Timothy and Peter Davison, stars of "All Creatures Great and Small", go back to the 1930s to relive the golden age of motoring. This surely will be highly entertaining to homebound Anglophiles!



Amazon Prime is showing this series through Acorn TV. The first 3 episodes are free. After that there is a monthly fee of \$6.00. By going to the search icon in Prime Video and by putting in the program name, you can get to the program menu.

You should be able to watch all 3 episodes and maybe not need to opt for the free trial. Maybe you will like it so much that subscribing to Acorn might be worth it!

Send your reviews to me and we will include them in the next Chronicle.



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President

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**DO YOU LIKE CHALLENGES?** Rich and Dee Gibson sent this for the Chronicle and would like to see who can answer the most problems correctly. That person will receive a prize from them. This is a perfect way to spend some of our spare time these days! Please send your results to them, either email or USPS. And stay tuned for the answers!  
...the Editor

### PROBLEM SOLVING

1. 26 = L. of the A. \_\_\_\_\_
2. 7 = W. of the A.W. \_\_\_\_\_
3. 1,001 = A.N. \_\_\_\_\_
4. 12 = S. of the Z. \_\_\_\_\_
5. 54 = C. in a D (with the J.) \_\_\_\_\_
6. 9 = P. in the S.S. \_\_\_\_\_
7. 88 = P.K. \_\_\_\_\_
8. 13 = S. on the A.F. \_\_\_\_\_
9. 32 = D.F at which W.F \_\_\_\_\_
10. 18 = H. on the G.C. \_\_\_\_\_
11. 90 = D. in a R. A. \_\_\_\_\_
12. 200 = D. for P.G. in M. \_\_\_\_\_
13. 8 = S. on a S.S. \_\_\_\_\_
14. 3 = B.M. (S.H.T.R.) \_\_\_\_\_
15. 4 = Q. in a G. \_\_\_\_\_
16. 24 = H. in the D. \_\_\_\_\_
17. 1 = W. on a U. \_\_\_\_\_
18. 5 = D. in a Z.C. \_\_\_\_\_
19. 57 = H.V. \_\_\_\_\_
20. 11 = P. on a F.T. \_\_\_\_\_
21. 1000 = W. that a P. is W. \_\_\_\_\_
22. 29 = D. in F. in a L.Y. \_\_\_\_\_
23. 64 = S. on A.C.B. \_\_\_\_\_
24. 40 = D. and N. of the G.F. \_\_\_\_\_



**BRITISH  
BOOTS & BONNETS  
CAR CLUB  
2020 OFFICERS &  
CHAIRPERSONS**

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815-543-1741 [phyllisquilts@charter.net](mailto:phyllisquilts@charter.net)

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** The email address for REGALIA and NEWSLETTER was incorrect in the April Chronicle. Please see the correct one in the Officers list above.

**EMBROID THIS**

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**MAY 2020**

Regalia club merchandise is available by contacting Jim Vickery. This includes:

- BBB Grill Badge - \$30
- BBB Hat/Lapel Pin - \$1
- BBB Logo Wall Clock - \$15 (2 left)
- BBB visors - \$10 (1 left)
- British flags for cars - \$5

All other regalia can be purchased online via our BBB Regalia Page found on our Club's website.

You buy online, securely pay with your credit card, and select one of the following delivery options:

- Shipped directly to you (additional fee)
- Pick up at Embroid This (no charge)
- Pick up at Club Meeting (no charge)\*

\*I will be happy to stop by Embroid This and pick up your order. It is right on the way to our meeting location. Just let me know!

Jim Vickery

Lynda Vickery, *Chronicles Editor*  
**British Boots & Bonnets Car Club**  
5549 Gray Eagle Road  
Roscoe, IL 61073



Next Meeting

???

Thunder Bay Grille

7652 Potawatomi Trail, Rockford, Illinois  
(near East State Street and Bell School Road),

**Dinner and social hour at 6:00pm.**

**Meeting begins at 7:00pm**