



British Boots & Bonnetts Chronicle

Voice of the BBC

Volume 26
Issue 1
Feb 4, 2021

Editor
Lynda Vickery

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

Next Meeting

????

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President's Report January-February, 2021

Happy New Year!!! I know we are not in January and we are not in 2020. Hopefully, this will be a much better year. One good news thing is that the Board voted to skip dues for 2021 for all members who paid dues in 2020. The Board indicated this was required since 2020 was such a bad year for BBB activities.

We will start our monthly meetings as soon as possible. The Board will decide when based on information from State Guidelines, vaccine availability, and the Boards opinion on whether the meetings will be safe for our group. In the meantime, we will have to be patient. Better days are coming.

It is hard for me to think of driving my MGB especially after just removing a bunch of snow from my driveway but now is the time to get the cars ready for nicer weather. I am looking forward to my first drive of the year with the top down.

To be serious for a moment, we lost one of our charter members and one of my good friends the end of December. Jim Vickery had excellent knowledge and understanding of British Cars and loved to tinker with them. He was a great resource and helped me with my MGB when I needed it. Jim will be greatly missed and our thoughts and prayers go out to Lynda and their family.

I do have some important business to take care of. First, the 2021 elections are over and the new Directors take charge in January. We still have a couple of positions to be filled, Vice President and Events Chairman. Both are very important and need to be filled. Call me if you are interested and want any information. I also want to thank Dennis Klemm for volunteering for the Regalia Chairman.

Safety Fast,

Lee Kindgren



TREASURER'S FINANCIAL REPORT

Connie Frazier

The Club provides financial information to members only. If you have any questions please refer them to our Treasurer, Connie Frazier.

Dues Aren't Due!

Connie Frazier

It's a new year and the BBB board is pleased to help start it off on a positive note. Last year was challenging in many ways and, for the club, it meant a reduction in activities, benefits, and expenses. Because BBB currently has a fund balance which is sufficient to carry the club for the coming year, the board made a decision to provide 2021 membership at no cost to those who paid dues in 2020. We hope you enjoy this additional membership benefit!

BBB 2021 ELECTION RESULTS

by Dee Gibson

I'm sure everyone is waiting with baited breath for the 2021 British Boots and Bonnets election results. Thirty-seven members voted in this election, an outstanding number considering votes needed to be emailed or USPS posted.

PRESIDENT	Lee Kindgren (Uncontested)
VICE PRESIDENT	No Candidate
SECRETARY	Dee Gibson (Uncontested)
TREASURER	Connie Frazier (Uncontested)
MEMBERSHIP	Beverly Joyce (Uncontested)
REGALIA	Dennis Klemm (Write-In candidate - Accepted position)
EVENTS	No Candidate (One Write-In: Larry Eils)
NEWSLETTER	Lynda Vickery (Uncontested)
WEBMASTER	Hal Zenisek (Uncontested)

Please take a moment to congratulate and thank each member who has offered his/her talents and contributions to the Club. Without them, our Club could easily wisp away as many others have done.

With that in mind, please take a moment to reflect and think about what you could offer the Club. The Vice-President and Events Chair are still open. If you could help in any way possible, perhaps with others for the Events Chair position, please get in touch with Lee Kindgren right away. We are all anxious to get out and about and need places to go!

Also, if you can think of a nice Saturday ride, a Wednesday eve Drive with a Dine afterwards, please get in touch with Lee as well so we can get this on the schedule once things open up. How about a Garage Tour location?

Keep those BBB Club Meeting dates open on your calendar. We'll be meeting together before too long!

Britishbootsandbonnets.com Traffic Report for 2020

January 2021

Greetings from your Webmaster,

This month's report is a recap of 'traffic' on the BBB website last year. Frequently referred to as the BBB traffic report, here is a summary for 2020:

- According to our hosting service Squarespace, www.britishbootsandbonnets.com had 1,254 unique visitors and 1,590 total visits during 2020, for an average of 104 visits per month.
- Those visitors viewed 4,279 webpages on our site, for an average of 356 page views/month.
- January and July were the busiest months with 188 and 218 visits respectively. November & December were the slowest, averaging 50 visits/month.
- Overall, traffic during 2020 was down 29% when compared to 2019.
- The 5 most popular content areas were the Events Calendars, Newsletters, Event Photos, BBB Members & Cars, and About Us webpages.
- Technology-wise, 58% of our visitors were on a desktop computer, 30% used a mobile device, and 12% viewed our site on a tablet. Interestingly, desktop computer use was up and mobile traffic was down – perhaps due to folks staying home last year more due to Covid-19.
- Traffic patterns remained relatively consistent, the most popular pages were unchanged from 2019 and we saw the most traffic during the spring and summer as in the past.

For 2020, a couple new members found us via the website and joined BBB last year. Regalia had some sales and the website generated numerous email messages from visitors on a variety of topics. Starting last March, announcements about club related changes, cancellations, and updates due to COVID-19 related restrictions appeared on the website's home page.

Please let me know if you have any questions, comments or feedback about the website and our club's web-based strategies. If you have not checked out the club's website recently, I encourage you to visit www.britishbootsandbonnets.com this winter. Car and club related events for 2021 will be added to the 2021 calendar when available.

Last, many thanks for all your support and contributions, I could not do all this alone!

Hal Zenisek, BBB Webmaster

IN MEMORY OF JIM VICKERY

by Bruce Beneditz

British Boots and Bonnets has been in existence for nearly 25 years and Jim Vickery, a charter member, has been active for every one of them. Being a relative newcomer to BBB I don't know the early parts of the club history. However, I am looking forward to hearing the stories and memories of Jim this summer when there is a Celebration of Life for Jim.

For now, here are my recollections of Jim, from when I first met him and as we grew into good friends. The chance meeting with Jim impacted me significantly and changed my path forever.

I first met Jim in 2005 when Jim and Lynda had volunteered an experience for a Silent Auction to raise money to restore the stained-glass windows in the Roscoe Methodist Church. The experience was a ride in British Sports Cars to lunch at the Village Supper Club in Delavan, WI. I won the bid and Jim drove the Healey, with me as the passenger, and Lynda drove the B with Phyllis. We had a great time and I got to know Jim on the drive and as we talked during lunch. It was my first introduction to a BBB style Drive and Dine.

Fast forward to 2011 when I retired and found myself in need of something interesting to do. I decided to restore an MG Midget. Not knowing what can be done or how to do it, Jim really stepped up to the plate. He offered to help me through the process of finding a car and would help me restore it. (OK, maybe it was more Jim restoring it and I was helping.) This was typical of Jim's generosity and willingness to share his interests and talents. He was a great teacher and encouraged me when I would get frustrated. There wasn't anything that Jim wouldn't tackle. And he would do it with confidence in his ability to overcome anything.



During the restoration, Jim and I would go to lunch at Whiffletree or Crazy Times just about every day we worked on the car together. We enjoyed lunch together so we continued to get together for lunch every Tuesday once the car was completed. This tradition continued until the pandemic messed everything up.

It was through Jim that we became aware of British Boots and Bonnets. The social opportunities for couples was one of the reasons for wanting to own a British car. As a member of the Car Club, I got to see more of Jim's character. He was everyone's friend and willing to pitch in wherever needed to help with club events or someone's mechanical problems. He had a wealth of knowledge of British cars and of life in general. His smile was ever present, as was his dry sense of humor.

Maybe more than British cars, Jim loved to travel. We had the pleasure of joining him on two trips. In 2014 Jim invited us to join Lynda and himself to his beloved St. Maarten for a week. It was obvious why he loved to go there every year. Warm weather, beautiful beaches, and friendly people. We had a private guide (Jim) that took us all over the island, showing all of the sights that you could tell he genuinely loved. It was during this trip that Jim introduced Phyllis to what has become her go to cocktail, Mount Gay rum and orange juice.



In 2015 we joined Jim and Lynda on a River Cruise through France. We spent 3 days in Paris before the cruise, staying at an Airbnb. Here again, Jim's spirit of adventure was on display. We did and saw things that I don't think I would have ventured to do on my own. Wherever he went, it just seemed like he belonged there.



Jim was a dedicated family man and was proud to tell stories of his children, grandchildren, and the foreign exchange students that they had hosted. I smiled to myself every time he would mention Lynda, because she was never just Lynda or his wife. He always referred to her as "my bride".

We will miss Jim and the enthusiasm he brought to every situation. I will end this story with a saying that Jim used frequently and has become something that Phyllis and I now use often. When you would tell him an alternate solution or idea, he would think a minute and then say, "Well, there is that."

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ROXANN CANNISTRA is sharing jokes and cartoons with us over the next few months! Enjoy! Have a chuckle!



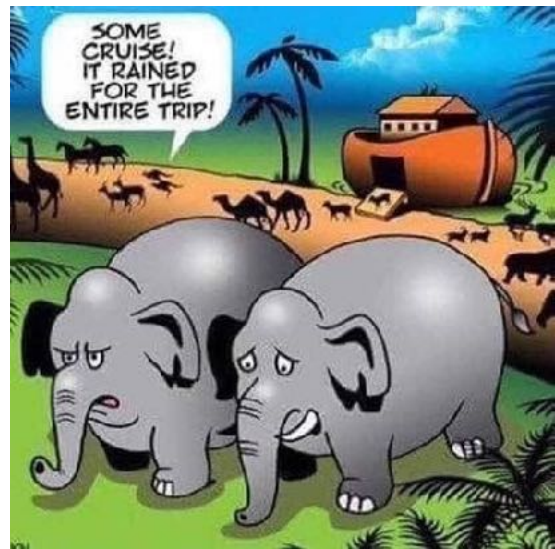
Had I known in March that it was the last time I would be in a restaurant I would have ordered the dessert.

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I got myself a seniors' GPS. Not only does it tell me how to get to my destination, it tells me why I wanted to go there.

ARMCHAIR TRAVELING

by Connie Frazier

"With our travel wings clipped, maybe a little armchair travel will scratch that itch. Here is a front seat view of 13 train rides from famous, scenic routes in the world. In Travel + Leisure magazine's description of each ride, click on the link that uses terms like virtual, route, journey, tour, or trip. It will take you to a YouTube video. Be sure to watch it full screen, or better yet, play the video on your television. All aboard!"

[13 Virtual Train Rides
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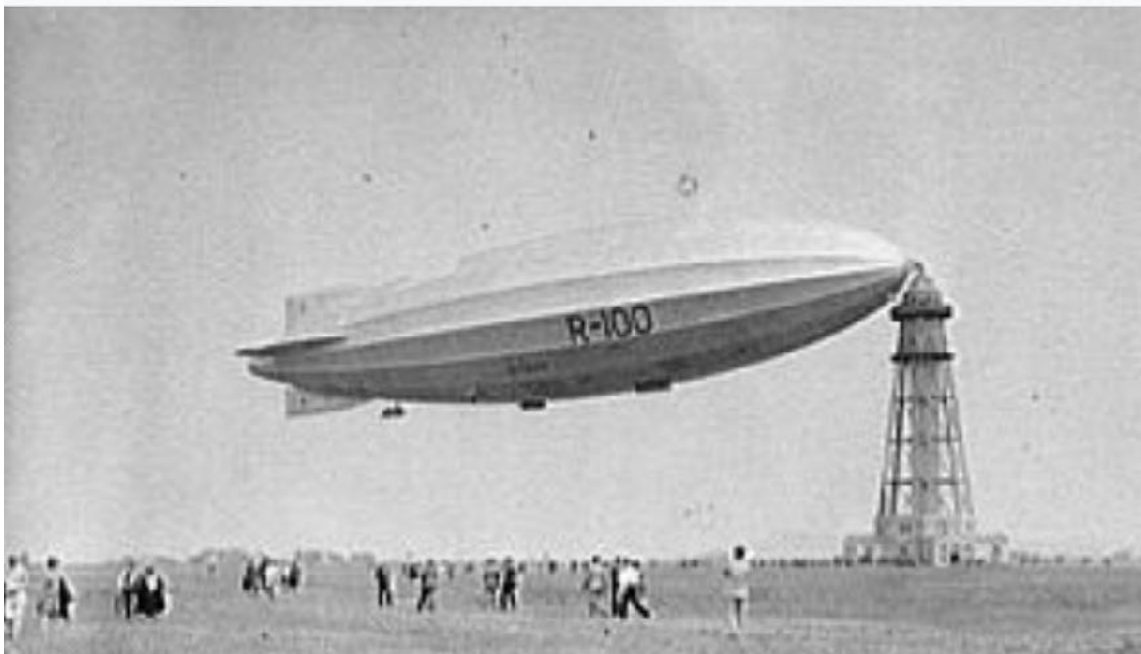
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DID - U - KNOW

by Facia Nearside

His Majesty's airship, the R100, was developed in the late 1920's to provide passenger and mail transport within the British Empire. Although government funded, the R100 was built by the Airship Guarantee Co. headed by Dennis Burney, a gifted aeronautical engineer and inventor.

HM Airship R100

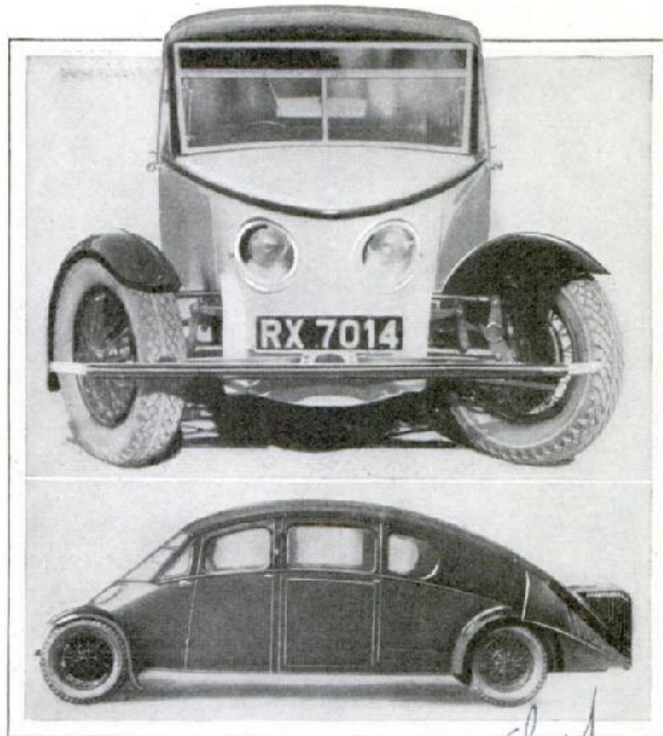


Burney had a keen interest in aerodynamics, and automobiles of the 1920's appeared stodgy to him so he decided to do something about it. In 1927 he established Streamline Cars LTD for the purpose of building advanced aerodynamic automobiles. Burney produced thirteen individual cars, each a unique design that was never intended for production. They were developed to showcase his patents and innovative ideas. In addition to their aerodynamic shape this included fared-in headlights, hydraulic brakes, independent suspensions, a spare wheel carried inside the rear door, and even a heater! The smooth aerodynamic body was capable of seating seven and it concluded at the rear with a Beverly-Barnes straight eight engine cantilevered out beyond the rear wheels.

Believing the Streamlines pointed the way to the future, Crossley Motors took out a license to build them in 1933. Unfortunately, the cars were expensive to manufacture, had unpredictable handling characteristics in wet weather, and proved too "different" to sell. Crossley wound up production of the model after 25 had been built.

None of the Burney Streamlines are known to survive, and only two of the Crossley Streamlines are thought to exist. One is at the National Motor Museum in Beulieu UK, the other is a private collection.

DUK2021/1



Streamlined Automobile Body Designed Like a Dirigible; the Unusual Shape Was Found to Effect a Fifty-per-Cent Fuel Saving

Only two models of the car have as yet been built. Recently they were tested in London traffic with results satisfactory to the designer. Plans are under way to put the car on the market.

There are so few things to catch the wind that the car runs faster with body on than when stripped.

The engine of the new streamlined car is in the rear, with vents shaped like a fish's gills.

IMAGINE an automobile that goes faster with the body on than when stripped.

All space is utilized, and in the door there is a compartment to carry a spare wheel.

At this pace the wheels scarcely touch the ground with a consequent saving in tire wear. Each wheel has independent springs, assuring smooth riding at this speed.

Iconic Car Debuts From The Year You Were Born

submitted by Hal Zenisek, BBB Webmaster

Iconic Car Debuts From The Year You Were Born

Among the many noteworthy occurrences that happen in a specific year is the debut of a new car model that defines the period, introduces breakthrough innovations, or displays revolutionary styling and aesthetics. **Stacker.com** compiled a list of iconic car debuts from 100 years, drawing on sources that include Popular Mechanics, plus automotive industry publications like Car and Driver, and Hemmings, and magazines favored by classic car aficionados. This web article includes cars from 1921 to 2020 with descriptions, histories and photos. Click or touch on the link below and find the iconic car which debuted the year you were born. And, yes several British cars are included. So what car was hot when you were born? Be advised – the website includes advertisements and pop-ups.

<https://stacker.com/stories/5544/iconic-car-debuts-year-you-were-born>

Source Information:

Iconic Car Debuts From The Year You Were Born

Written By John Harrington

December 10, 2020

www.stacker.com

Would you like to read more tech articles about British cars and see what other British car clubs are doing? Our Club gets copies of other club newsletters and we will try to make them available to you.

Bev sent an email with a copy of the latest Chicago MG Club Newsletter. And I have sent her an email to forward about the Peachtree MG Registry Newsletter. Lots of interesting articles!

...From the Editor



HOW I AM SPENDING MY WINTER OF ISOLATION

by Rich Gibson

October of 2019 I got a British motorcycle at auction, a 1951 Vincent Black Shadow. It was original and complete, but had been in indoor storage since 1991.

I have decided not to “restore” it, but to keep it original as much as possible, preserving the original paint and finish along with all the nicks, dings, bruises and “patina” it has acquired in its 70 year life. Kind of like me.

It needs a REAL GOOD cleaning. The crud it has accumulated over 70 years is now mostly petrified.

Like a lot of projects, it has been one step forward and two steps backwards, but at least it keeps me home in my Man Cave, otherwise I'd probably find a bar to hang out in and watch Packer games.



DO YOU REMEMBER THESE HAPPY CLUB EVENTS?

Join us on a photo tour provided by Rich Cannistra from his library of photos he may not have provided to the Chronicle at the time. Thank you!

We will try to include several years over the next few issues.

This first page was from July through December of 2010.



DO YOU REMEMBER THESE HAPPY CLUB EVENTS?

This grouping was from December, 2010 to October, 2011.



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Phyllis Beneditz, Chairwoman

**The King of Spain has been
quarantined on his private jet.**



**That means the reign in Spain
stays mainly on the plane...**

MG DRIVER SPOTLIGHTS NEW BRITISH BOOTS & BONNETS MEMBERS

Readers' Ride Robert & Diane Schwarzkopf



We are new members having joined in June 2020, and we have an interesting story of how we got here. Let's call it "A Tale of Two Brits" (cars).

When we were married 53 years ago, I brought a 1962 AH Sprite to our marriage. After about a year and a half the Sprite was in need of repairs and my wife was lobbying for a washer and dryer, so she would not have to spend her day off at the laundry. The Sprite turned into a washer and dryer, which gave us 18 years and three sets of diapers of very dependable service.

However, there was always the longing for the lost Sprite. Last fall I was diagnosed with two different cancers and began chemotherapy for the more severe of the two in December. As we moved into 2020 and the chemotherapy continued with only minor side effects, my son and my son-in-law decided that dad needed to get another sports car.

First of all, my cheap nature kicked in and my first thought was why would I need a third vehicle? As spring began, they started getting me to check out online sources. I found a Sprite in Pennsylvania that was in excellent condition, but was sold. I found

an MG Midget that I bid on at "Bring a Trailer", but chickened out before the last bid. My wife then joined the campaign and suggested I check with the local British car club to see if they had anything closer to home. They did and the price was very good, and the car was only 20 miles from where we live. It was romance at first sight.

It was in fairly decent shape and above all it ran well. We bought the white 1969 MGB in the picture. We are the second owners; the MGB was purchased new in England in 1969. She is not show quality, but does qualify as a daily driver. I now know why I needed a third vehicle - FUN!! We spend most evenings traveling the rural roads in Northern Illinois and Southern Wisconsin, and unfortunately, for the waist lines, we discovered several good ice cream shops we had not known about before. We are now members of the British Boots and Bonnets Club of Rockford Illinois as well as members of NAMGBR.

PS - One cancer is in remission, and the second being treated with radioactive seeds.

PPS - The dog in the picture is our church's comfort dog, she was off duty at the time.

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

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

Thank you!

The calls, texts, and cards the kids and I have received since Jim's illness and passing have been overwhelming. Your offers of help, your prayers, thoughts and concern will always hold a special place in my heart. And Jim would be touched.

Because of the current restrictions on gatherings, we held a service for family with the thought of having a Celebration of Jim's Life later. We are making plans for an afternoon of remembrances, fun, food, and the enjoyment of being outside in the sunshine on Saturday, August 7, 2021 at the Hononegah Forest Preserve. Please plan to join us! We will send you details as we work them out!

*Thank you so very much,
Lynda*



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

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**BBB REGALIA ONLINE
JANUARY/FEBRUARY**

2021

Regalia club merchandise is available by contacting Dennis Klemm. This includes:

BBB Grill Badge - \$30

BBB Hat/Lapel Pin - \$1

BBB caps - \$10 (2 left)

British flags for cars - \$5

BBB wall clock - \$15

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)

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



CANCELED
Next Meeting
Wednesday, September 16 2020
Thunder Bay Grille
7652 Potawatomi Trail, Rockford, Illinois
(near East State Street and Pell School Road),
Dinner and social hour at 6:00pm.
Meeting begins at 7:00pm
COVID !!