



ny/conn news

The newsletter of The NY/Conn Chapter of The New England MG 'T' Register

March, 2004



NY/Conn: The Good Old Days

Upcoming NY/Conn Events:

- Progressive Dinner, May 1, see Page 13
- Take the Shelter Island Tour Survey, Page 15
- RSVP for Gearbox Tech Session, Page 14
- Full Calendar, see page 3.

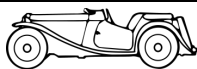


Charley Robinson
10 Bradley Lane
Sandy Hook, CT 06482



A Show For The Road
Classic British Motorcars

May 22 - 30, 2004



NY/Conn Website: <http://nyconnsite.com>

Charley Robinson

*Managing Director
Editor (Newsletter)*

10 Bradley Lane
Sandy Hook, CT 06482
203-270-1244
charleyrob@charter.net

Andrea Fanelli

*Membership
Treasurer*

356 E. Grassy Sprain Road
Yonkers, NY 10710
914-961-7105
acf49@aol.com

Jan Hurd

Photologist

11 Partridge Drive
Ridgefield, CT 06877
(203) 438-2796
sanjanhurd@sbcglobal.net

Webmaster

**We need a computer savvy
volunteer to become the
chapter's webmaster. Please
contact Charley Robinson.**

Membership

All memberships expire at the end of November. If you missed the Holiday Party and haven't yet sent in your dues, please do so now. Send cash or a check made payable to Andrea Fanelli. (See her address above). All NY/Conn members should also be current members of The New England MG 'T' Register, PO Box 1957, Cary, NC 27512-1957; 919-851-3030; fax: 919-858-0386, email: athomas990@aol.com, or on the web at <http://www.nemgt.org>.



**The NY/Conn Chapter of
The New England MG 'T' Register**

*Supports the Knudson Churchill Scholarship Trust
The fund is to be offered annually to qualified candidates seeking a higher education in the disciplines of journalism or automotive technology.*

*To make a direct, tax-deductible contribution or for more information, contact: The Knudson Churchill Scholarship Trust,
26 Mountain Road, Wilton, CT 06897-4912*



Shelter Island Tour

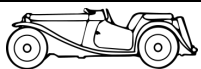
**June 19 and/or 20
RSVP to Ann DiRenno ASAP**

Ann and Dick DiRenno are looking for some feedback on their proposed a Shelter island Tour. Do you want a two-day event or a one day? Some background info: Shelter Island is a small island nestled in between the North and South forks on the eastern end of Long Island. One-third of the 8,000-acre island is owned by The Nature Conservancy in a forever wild state, with four trails, for nature study and bird-watching, varying in length from 1.5 miles to 11 miles. Three deep-water harbors with marinas serve those arriving by boat.

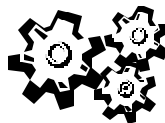
A very tentative and flexible schedule might include, based on participants interests: meet in Bridgeport for ferry ride to Long Island, drive from Port Jefferson to Greenport, LI with possible stops at wineries along the way, ferry ride from Greenport, LI to Shelter Island. Once on Shelter Island there are myriad activities to be pursued: lunch at DiRenno's (check out their newly redecorated kitchen), maybe a clam bake or a simple meal at a local restaurant, tour the island at the leisurely speed limit of 35MPH, hike the trails, go to the beach, whatever.

There are financial and time considerations to this decision as well. It will probably take every-one between 30 mins. to an hour to get to the Bridgeport ferry. The ferry ride is 1 1/2 hours and costs about \$52 one-way for car, driver and one passenger. It is about 45 miles from Port Jefferson to Greenport, LI so it would take an hour or more, depending on winery stops. The Greenport ferry cost about \$8 - round trip for car & driver. Add \$1 for each passenger. It takes about 15 mins. The first ferry out of Bridgeport is at 6:30AM and the last one back on Sat. night is 9:00PM.

To fully enjoy the amenities of the island, you might consider an overnight stay, but it will probably be expensive and many of the B&B's may require a 2-night minimum (check it out on the web at: www.shelter-island.net). Think about it and then call Ann or Dick with answers to: 1) Would you go? 2) 1 day or 2? 3) Sat. or Sun.? 4) Preferred activities? 5) Random thoughts? "What ever members want to do is fine with us...We just want to know so we can plan a fun trip." **Call (914) 762-0698 or email: annrichdr@msn.com.**



Gearbox Tech Session



May 9, 2004 1 PM to 4 PM
RSVP by Wednesday, May 5 to Charley Robinson

John Esposito, of Quantum Mechanics, Ltd., has offered to conduct tech sessions for NY/Conn members at his shop in Monroe, CT. John specializes in transmissions, overdrives and differentials and, in addition to MGs, services most British marques, including Austin-Healey, Mini, English Fords, Morris, Triumph, Jaguar, Morgan, Lotus and Rover. John has conducted many tech sessions for the New York MG groups and, thanks to Ed Callo who ran into John at Lime Rock, is now happy to accommodate our group.

walk us through the inner workings of the MG gear box, including what to look for when buying a used transmission and what do different noises, etc. indicate about the problems inside.

John will cover some of the general problems he runs into with these gearboxes, but welcomes specific questions you may have. If time permits, we'll do an actual rebuild of a transmission.

Please RSVP for this tech session and submit, if possible, specific questions by Wednesday, May 5 to Charley Robinson: charleyrob@charter.net; 203-270-1244.

For this first session, John will

Please send to Charley Robinson

Gearbox Tech Session RSVP

May 9, 2004, 1 PM to 4 PM

Name: _____

Number attending: _____

Phone: _____

Questions: _____

Quantum Mechanics
505 Wheeler Road
Monroe, CT 06468
203-459-9612

Directions: From I-84:
Take Exit 11, turn right at bottom of ramp, turn right onto Rt. 34, after about 5 mi. turn right onto Rt. 111, turn right onto Old Coach Rd, turn left onto Wheeler.

From the Merritt:
Take Rt. 25N, turn right onto Rt. 11, go about 4 mi. turn slight left onto Wheeler Rd.



March 2004

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Schedule of Events (NY/Conn events in bold)

March Event Cancelled

Unfortunately, the Grahams will not be able to host the March event that I had volunteered them for at the annual Holiday Party. There is a possibility that we'll see their names on the calendar for later in the year, although this possibility remains remote as Frank will take over as the head of the state dental association at the end of June. Good luck with that and we hope that you will be able to find time to join with your MG friends at some of our future events.

- March 27: Tech Session, The Panel Shop, Stratford, CT 203-377-6208. (See article in this issue.)
- May 1: **Progressive Dinner, Callo's-Hurd's-Mesendahl's**
- May 1-2: Rhinebeck 2004 - Sat:-Rods & Customs; Sun:-Antiques & Classics, Dutchess County Fairgrounds, Route 9, Rhinebeck, NY. Info: Joe-845-876-3554 (6-9PM)
- May 8: Cecil Kimber Birthday Run. (See flyer in this issue.)

(Continued on page 4)



Schedule of Events

(Continued from page 3)

- May 9: (1 PM - 4 PM) **Gearbox Tech Session.** John Esposito of Quantum Mechanics, Monroe, CT, Troubleshooting & rebuild session.
- May 21-23: Dare to Be British 2004, Brits On The Hudson, Lime Rock. Contact Jon Rubel, 718-891-5776.
- May 21-23: Import, Kit/Replicar Carlisle, Fairgrounds, Carlisle, PA. www.carsatcarlisle.com
- May 22-30: British Car Week - <http://users.arczip.com/zntech/britishcarweek.html>
- **May 23: Friedler's Thumbs-Up tour**
- June 6: "British by the Sea", Harkness Memorial State Park, Waterford, CT. The site includes beautiful gardens with flowers donated and planted by the club.
- June 12-13: Hildene Car Show, Manchester, VT
- June 13: British on the Green, Cape Cod Show
- June 20: **Shelter Island Tour** (See article in this issue.)
- June 24 to 27: MG2004, North American MGB Register (NAMGBR) National meet - Parsippany, NJ. <http://www.mg2004.com>
- June 27: British Car Day, Larz Anderson Museum, Brookline, MA. www.mot.org.
- July 7-11: **GOF Mk 76**, Strasburg, PA. Contact The New England MG 'T' Register, Charlie Searles, 57 Washington Rd., Pittsford, NY 14534; email: csearles@rochester.rr.com
- July 14 to 18: North American MGA Register (NAMGAR) GT (their national meet) - Cromwell, CT. www.nutmegnamgar.com

(Continued on page 6)



English Motorcars

Featuring the Goodwood Revival and the Castle Combe Circuit

10 Days: September 3-12, 2004

From the modern factory floors of Aston Martin to the grounds of two historic racing circuits, come experience Britain's love of the motorcar. England is home to luxury cars and screaming-fast sports cars alike, as well as some of racing's most famous names such as Stirling Moss, Mike Hawthorn, and Graham Hill.

During this grand survey of English motor sport, trace the English motorcar from its historic roots to modern forms, visit some of the world's finest automobile collections, and experience the exhilaration of racing at its best.

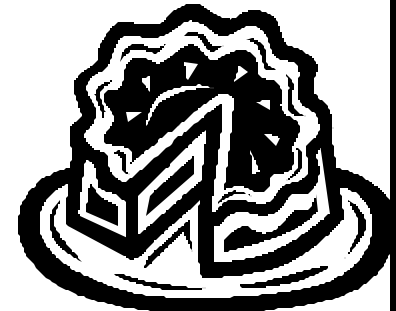
RATES:

Tour Cost	\$5,950
For a single room add	\$1,595
Roundtrip airfare (New York, London)	\$ 550

Check it out on the web at: <http://smithsonianjourneys.org/international/090304motorcar.asp>

Callo-Hurd-Mesedahl Progressive Dinner Slated for May 1

Details and maps will follow in next months issue, but you can begin to whet your appetites at the thought of Marion and Ed Callo's appetizers, a main course by Sandy and Jan Hurd or surely scrumptious desserts from Valerie and Kurt Mesedahl.





Classifieds

For Sale

The **1951 TD** in Vermont is still for sale (previously advertised in the October newsletter). The price has been reduced from \$7500 to \$6900. The chassis including the running gear is done; sheet metal, except for the tub, is in primer. Many new parts including bumpers, exhaust system and five new tires. This is a good project car with much of the dirty work already done. Car is in Springfield, Vermont. Contact the owner Gerry Gagnier, 249 Brockway Mills Road, Springfield, VT 05156; 802-885-5474; gcgagnier@vermontel.net.
For info contact Jan Hurd: sanjanhurd@sbcglobal.net.

Wanted

Complete **MGA rear axle** assembly for a disc wheel car and 5 MGA disc wheels. Contact Len Fanelli, 356 E. Grassy Sprain Road, Yonkers, NY 10710; 914-961-7105; laf48@aol.com

1953 TD, pristine condition with <50k miles, Forest Green or Royal Blue with Tan leather. The more closely your car matches these conditions, the more it will be worth to me. Will pay a 5% finder's fee (up to \$1,000) leading to purchase and delivery of car. Contact J.I. Moreland, Jr., 428 Rockefeller Road, Lake Forest, IL 60045-3137; 847-295-4761; fax 847-295-4763; email: jimoreland@msn.com

Desperately Wanted - Webmaster

We currently have a website, but the information on it is extremely limited and dated. Your primary task would be to pull info off the monthly newsletter and paste it on the website. Even if we just get the calendar of events up there it will be better than what we have now. I may even be able to save the newsletter in a web-based format, if only someone shows me how.

If anyone wants to volunteer for this position (we've even saved you a box of your own on page 2) or has words of advice, please contact Charley Robinson.



2004 Busy Year For Northeast MG Enthusiasts

Several, must attend events, both local and national, are occurring in our back yard.

British by the Sea, the Connecticut MG Club's 17th annual gathering and display of British cars, trucks and motorcycles will be on Sunday June 6th 2004. They expect more than 350 vehicles in 40 classes displayed on the front lawn of Harkness Memorial State Park in Waterford Ct. Entry fee is \$12. Contact: 1-860-693-4249 or on the web: [<MGTD52@comcast.net>](mailto:MGTD52@comcast.net)

The **North American MGB Register** is holding its 13th annual national convention at the Parsippany Hilton in Parsippany, NJ from June 24 through the 27th. Hosted by MG Car Club Central Jersey Centre, the event will feature Concourse Judging, Popular Vote Car Show, tours of Manhattan, an outdoor picnic and awards banquet. Event is open to all MG's and other British Vehicles. Early bird registration ends May 1st. Entry fees vary. (Details at www.mg2004.com.) Contact: B. O'Connor at 973-540-7314 (Day) or 973-729-2714 (Evening) or email bfo@spsk.com

The **North American MGA Register**, hosted by the Nutmeg

Chapter, will hold GT-29 in Cromwell, CT from July 14th through the 18th. This looks to be a terrific event with castle tours, river dinner cruise, car show, tech sessions, a casino bus trip and tours right here in central Connecticut. Check out their website at: www.nutmegnamgar.com for a schedule of events and a registration form.

MG is the featured marque at the 2004 Zippo Vintage Grand Prix at Watkins Glen. The **NEMGT Register's GOF Mk 77** is being held in conjunction with this not-to-be-missed event. Make your reservations early as this Sports Car Vintage Racing Association (SVRA) event is expecting the largest field of MG racers ever assembled. If it's like the last Watkins Glen event, you can expect to see lots of vintage MG racers, as well as regular street machines, joining in for the downtown street festival. In addition to the GOF, the MG Vintage Racers (MGVR) have pledged their full support and have designated it as their Focus Event for 2004. (Details at MGVR.org, SVRA.com, theglen.com, Watkins Glen International 607-535-2486, Schuyler County Chamber of Commerce 1-800-607-4552.



Schedule of Events

(Continued from page 4)

- July 24: **Fanelli's**
- August 14: **Beck/Robinson**
- August 15: MG-Rover Day, Larz Anderson Museum, Brookline, MA. www.mot.org
- September 3-7: Lime Rock Vintage Festival, Lime Rock Park, CT.
- September 8-12: **GOF Mk 77**, Painted Post, NY. Contact The New England MG 'T' Register, Charlie Searles, 57 Washington Rd., Pittsford, NY 14534; email: csearles@rochester.rr.com
- September 16-19: British Invasion, Stowe, VT. MG is the featured marque at NE's largest British Car Show & Celebration. www.britishinvasion.com
- September 19: Southbury Antique Car Show & Swap Meet, Southbury, CT
- September 25: **Kirk's—The Bocce Ball**
- October 2-3: CT MG Club Pre-Columbian Charity Run. The CT MG Club is planning a scenic two-day tour of the CT countryside. There will be a \$20 entry fee per car which will be donated to the CT Food Bank. They are hopeful of a large donation made possible by the participation of any area car clubs, British or otherwise. It's a great tour and a worthy cause so please join in.
- October 9-11: British Legends Weekend. A terrific 3-day event hosted by The Cape Cod British Car Club. Check out their awesome website at: <http://www.capecodbritishcarclub.org>
- October 23: **Culture in the Country with Judy & Patricia** (Send your ideas for future outings to Judy Johnson.)
- December 5: (5 PM - 10PM) **NY/Conn Holiday Party**, Tap Room, Chuck's Steak House, Danbury, CT.



Parts From Europe (Cont.)

(Continued from page 10)

only trying to build the reputation of our club everywhere. If you make any contacts with anyone who might be a future source for us, please call me with the information as soon as possible.

One last word. If for any reason, you can't find, or don't have a copy of the catalog you need, please call me. I probably have every catalog in the world. I will be happy to help you find the company and part number that will get that repair or restoration back on schedule. That's pronounced shed-u-el in British. Call too, if you have any questions.

I will make it easy for you. Here are some complete numbers that are really worth dialing:

Anglo Parts: Absolutely the best British car catalogs in the world. Marque specific: **1010**

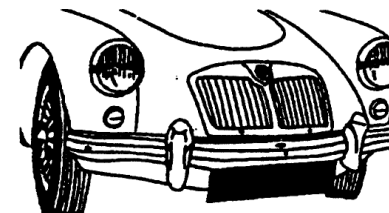
297 011 32 15423783. Ask for Chris or Bruno. Order their incredible full-color accessories catalog, too.

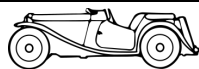
Holden: Original Lucas or any other electrical parts. Superb catalog: **1010 297 011 44 1885 488488.** Ask for Colin.

Brown & Gammons Ltd: Everything for the street or competition MG. **1010 297 011 44 1462 490049.** Ask for Ron Gammons.

NTG Services: Nice catalog, can get almost anything including NEW hand-made T series radiator shells. I have seen them, and they are perfect. **1010 297 011 44 1473 406031.** Ask for Mike Green.

Call and order your catalogs now, and you can be pleasantly "surprised" with your holiday gifts. Don't forget to mention the Eastern New York MGA Club.





How To Order Parts from Europe

Thanks to Jon Rubel and the Eastern New York MGA Club for the following reprint!

"What's that", you say, "you can't find the parts you need, or the quality is not up to the standards of your restoration...: Well, fear not, I have the answer! Just call Europe. "What", you say, "blimey, he must be round the bend." The only time I go round the bend is when I'm driving my MG around the bend in the road.

Calling Europe is an acceptable method of solving a parts problem. The trick is to make it affordable. I have a 1010 number that can be used by anyone. And, it only costs 10 cents a minute.

No, I am not on salary, nor am I getting a commission, or any form of remuneration for giving you this information.

I got my phone bill after calling British car magazine publishers, parts suppliers in the UK and others to gather awards and prizes for our Winterfest Dinner last February. A 20 minute call to the UK was \$2.10. It cost me more to call Nick O'Donohoe, John Jennings or Jim Dickson in New Jersey from Brooklyn, than it does to call Europe!

All you have to do is dial **1010**

297 (Telco Development Group) **011** (International Operator) **32** (Country code for Belgium) then **15423783** (Anglo Parts) as listed [below]. ... When you call, ask for Chris, and make sure that you tell him that you [were referred by] the Eastern New York MGA Club. ... For a number in the UK, dial **1010 297 011 44** (Country code for the UK) **skip the 0 in the local number**, and dial the rest of the number. You can call any number listed in any of the British car magazines just this easily.

Just in case you forgot, as we do not reside in the UK, we do not pay the VAT. The shipping is a bit more, but you are getting a quality part that fits the way it should. My last order was from Holden. I ordered a pair of spring-loaded wing mirrors. They are exactly the same as those I bought for my MG in about 1970. The chrome plating is perfect, too. They carry everything you might need that is original Lucas, and much, much more.

Please remember to mention our club to whomever you speak. I am

(Continued on page 11)



The Panel Shop Tech Session

Saturday, March 27, 2004

10:00 a.m.

1785 Barnum Avenue, Stratford, CT

203-377-6208

RSVP Charley Robinson - 1st 5 people only

This year's demonstrations will include:

- How to properly cut out a rusted or damaged part of a panel.
- How to form repair section to replace it.
- How to weld repair section into panel.
- How to properly prepare the repaired panel for painting.
- Painting, the final step, will be done two ways:
 - Applying auto paint from spray cans.
 - Painting with professional equipment.

The Panel Shop is a specialized fabrication company capable of making repair sections or building complete car bodies in steel or aluminum. Principals Mark Barton and Steve Hall are Rolls Royce and Aston Martin educated panel beaters with more than 48 years of experience. The shop's equipment includes four antique English wheel machines, rollers, crimpers and other forming machinery. The use of these machines will be demonstrated along with techniques in MIG or TIG welding, free forming and swaging. The services the shop provides include the repair or fabrication of sheet metal body parts, tube or sheet metal chassis, bumpers and trim, ground effects and custom work, wood and steel framed body construction, mold and form fabrication and gas tanks.

Some of the work that has been in

the shop recently includes five Aston Martin DB5s, a 1968 Maserati Ghibi, a 1960 Cadillac, six Jaguar E Types, a 1937 Packard, a Ferrari GTO, a 356 Porsche, two Corvettes, an Alfa Romeo TZ, a Lamborghini Contach, a Mercedes Benz 190, a 1972 BMW 3.0, a 275 Ferrari GTB and a 1958 Rolls Royce Silver Cloud. There are also usually more than \$2,000,000 worth of motorcars in the Parking lot.

Directions: Take I-95 North to Exit 32. Drive down the ramp, cross the street, follow the hospital signs, and go around the half loop ahead onto West Broad Street. Go under I-95 and railroad trestle to the end of the road. At the T, turn left on Barnum Ave., make the immediate first left and park. **Car pooling is recommended.**



The Eastern New York MGA Club, the M.G. Drivers Club of North America, the MG Car Club-Central Jersey Centre and the New Jersey MG T Register are proud to announce our

Fourth Annual North American

Cecil Kimber Birthday Run

Saturday, May 8, 2004 - Limit of 40 Cars - Registration Fee: \$23.00 Per Person

This multi-MG Club event will be held in the beautiful rural area of northern New Jersey. The 2004 Cecil Kimber Run will begin at Shepherd's Lake in Ringwood State Park. Kimber Run participants will have the opportunity to stop along the way at a variety of picturesque areas and quaint towns. Along the route are antique shops, the Four Sister's Winery and much, much more. The run will end at the famous Delahanty's Tavern on the Square, 62 South Main Street, Phillipsburg, NJ, phone 908.213.3500. The lunch menu will include soup or salad, your choice of entree (see below), desert and coffee. Soft drinks are included, and there will be a cash bar. After lunch there will be a presentation of event awards.

At the starting point all entrants will receive a rally plate for their cars, instructions for the tour, etc. This run is for fun. It is not a race. No checkpoints, speeds or times to worry about, just relax and enjoy a terrific, relaxing day in the country. Please bring a camera as there will be many photo ops of very British countryside.

Questions? Call Richard Miller: 908.713.6251, Jon Rubel: 718.891.5775, Charles Tregidgo: 201.796.8648 or Al Reda: 973.523.6242

Tear Here

Cecil Kimber Birthday Run Registration Form

Return to: Richard Miller, 18 George's Place, Clinton, NJ 08509, with a registration fee of \$23.00 per person made out to The M.G. Driver's Club. The \$23 fee will cover the lunch at Delahanty's Tavern on the Square, printing and mailing expenses. To confirm your reservation, this must be received by April 30, 2004.

Print Name (s) _____ Number of people x \$23 = \$ _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Evening Phone _____

Number and choice of entrants _____ Montreal Chicken _____ Cajun Salmon _____

Black Diamond Steak _____ Manicotti Parmigiana _____

I, and my passenger(s) hereby release the organizers of this event, the owners of the individual studio's or farms or their employees responsible in any way for any injury or anything that may occur while traveling to this event, during this event or while traveling home from this event. If any injury or mishap should occur to myself, my passenger(s) or my property, I understand that my own automobile insurance will be my only resource. It is understood that this release is given in consideration for permission to attend and participate in this event.

Signed by all attending: _____ Date _____

This event is limited to 40 cars and space is filling up fast. If you are interested, you should get your application in post haste.
Sorry about the quality - I was the best I could do

