



nyconn news

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

August, 2004



Thanks Len & Andrea Fanelli

We had a wonderful tour of Van Cortlandt manor, the garage tour of Guy's cars was great and, as always, the gourmet lunch was fabulous.



Upcoming NY/Conn Events:

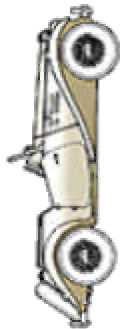
- Aug. 14: Beck/Robinson Fun In The Sun, Page 3
- September 8-12: GOF Mk 77, Painted Post and Watkins Glen, NY, Page 7
- September 25: Kirk's - The Bocce Ball
- Full Calendar, see page 4

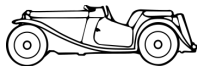


Charley Robinson
10 Bradley Lane
Sandy Hook, CT 06482



The New England MG'T Register, Ltd.
Gathering of the Lutescent 30, 31
September 8 - 12, 2004 • Painted Post, New York
423 Years St. 210/469-8929 • 50 Years of The "Club" Cap!





NY/Conn Website: <http://nyconn.org>

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Membership

All memberships expire at the end of November. Send a check made payable to Andrea Fanelli or cash. (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>.

Win This 1937 MG TA!

As detailed in the latest issue of TSO (See pages 5 & 29, Aug. 04, for complete details.), this beautiful TA is being raffled off to benefit the Knudson Churchill Scholarship Trust. Ticket Orders & Checks Payable to Knudson Churchill Scholarship Trust, PO Box 470547, Charlotte, NC 28247-0547. I include complete address & phone number. Tickets sold on a First Come Basis!



Only 200 tickets @ \$100 ea. sold.



Chassis No. TA2543 • Engine No. MPJC2803

Membership Directory

I'm preparing a new membership directory and would like to be sure that my information is as current and correct as possible. I will include as much (or as little) of the following information as you would like (Let me know if you'd rather not be included:)

Name: _____ Spouse: _____

Address & Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Email 1: _____

Email 2: _____

MG Model: _____ Year: _____ Color: _____

(for each MG you own)

Also, please send a photo of your car, preferably with you (and your spouse) in the photo to Charley Robinson (info on page 2.)

Thanks Guy & Laurie

On our way home from the Van Cortlandt Mansion tour, we stopped by Guy & Laurie Towle's place to check out their wonderful collection of autos, which included a Ferrari, Porsche, Corvette, a couple of Fords and several Jags.

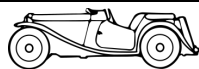


Classifieds - Your Ad Here - Free

Wanted

Top Installer - Dick DiRenno is looking for someone to install a hood (top) on his TC. Qualified, interested parties should contact Dick directly at (914) 762-0698 or by email: annrichdr@msn.com.

Navigator for GOF Mk 77 - Judy Johnson is looking for somebody to fill the passenger seat for the trip to GOF Mk 77, September 8 - 12, in Painted Post, NY. Departure date and time is flexible; contact Judy directly at (914) 277-5480 or by email at: JJsMG@aol.com.



Fitting Tube Shocks (Continued)

cause wear or failure of a part. This is a proven modification. But please be advised if you attempt it, you do so entirely at your own risk.

-Butch Smith

The shock kits are available from Butch Smith, 8408 Gambrell Lane, Springfield, VA 22153; 703-569-1508; FAX 703-688-0635; email: bjmga@earthlink.net for \$55 plus shipping, without the shocks. You will need two Monroe shocks # 33033. These shocks contain one 1/2-in. ID bushing each. You will need two more which are included in the kit. Butch

believes this number is universal for other manufacturers like Gabriel and Koni, but he hasn't checked this out because the Monroes work fine for him. If you can't find the shocks locally, Butch suggests IWI Motor Parts in Cedar Rapids, Iowa; 1-888-510-7278 or www.iwimotorparts.com. The shocks are \$19.90 each plus shipping (Shipping to Virginia is \$6.50 for two shocks.)

Photos courtesy of Dave Werblow.

Drawings from Butch Smith's Instructions.

--CR

Tech Tips of the Month

Fuel Pump Noises: Three Suggestions

The following article is borrowed from and reprinted with permission of the Connecticut MG Club.

1. Listen to your pump when you switch on the ignition after the car has stood some time from a hot run. Tick-a-tick-a-tick faster than you can say it is what you should hear, if sufficient evaporation has taken place. If you get this, fine. If it's followed by a slow tick, you have a leaking carburetor needle valve. If all you get is a slow tick, them most likely your pump is on the way out and will let you down. Fix it before it gets you! There are other causes of a slow tick, such as blockage on the delivery side, etc. but the pump's the first suspect.

2. Inspect your pump before fitting-- trust NOTHING!

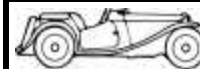
3. USE YOUR MG REGULARLY THRUOUT THE YEAR.

4. The Magnette has a great fuel pump!

Shock Fluid (For those staying with stock lever-arm shocks)

The following article was posted by Dave DuBois (ddubois@sinclair.net) on The Ontario MG 'T' Register website: <http://www.omgr.ca/index.htm>

The best (and cheapest) shock absorber fluid to get is motorcycle fork oil. It comes in various weights so you can set things to ride as stiff as you like - I use 10W and find it to be a good ride level. Just go into your local motorcycle shop to get the fluid.



YOU'LL GET MORE THAN JUST WET

Fun In The Sun & Water



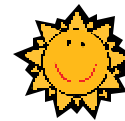
Date & Time:

11:30 A.M.

Saturday,

Aug. 14

Rain (hope not) or shine



Place:

Cathy & Charley

Robinson's

10 Bradley Lane

Sandy Hook, CT

(203) 270-1244

RSVP:

By

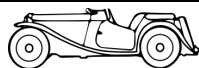
Thursday,
Aug. 12th

Our hope this year is for far better weather than we had last year, but rain or shine we're on for Saturday, August 14th, for the Beck/Robinson poolside extravaganza. Either way, pop-up tents will be available to protect us from the elements and I'll clear some space in the barn in case we have another torrential downpour like last year's.

In addition to the pool and hot tub, this year's entertainment committee has a few other diversions to keep you occupied. Just a hint: You might want to get out your sticky wickets or pry the footgear off your horse to get in a few practice rounds so you can strut your stuff at party time.

The grill will be available throughout the day for hamburgers, hot dogs or whatever you want to bring. Beer, wine, soda and juice will be available. Bring a salad or dessert to share. Directions - Page 6.





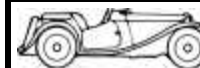
August 2004

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)

- August 14: **Beck/Robinson - Fun In The Sun** (See page 3)
- August 15: MG-Rover Day, Larz Anderson Museum, Brookline, MA. www.mot.org; 617-522-6547.
- August 21: British Car Day, Rhinebeck Aerodrome Museum, Rhinebeck, NY
- August 22: Vanderbilt Invitational Concours, Centerport, L.I., NY. Register with the MG Car Club, L.I. Centre (\$25) before August 8. I have info and application forms or contact Ashton Kalloo at: (631) 872-7487 or email: ARKALLOO@msn.com
- September 3-6: Rolex Vintage Festival, Lime Rock Park, CT. 800-RACE-LRP.
- September 7: CTMG Monthly Meeting, 7:30PM, 860-482-MGMG
- 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 11: FallFest 2004, All British Autos & Cycles. Sponsored by Moss Motors, & NJ Triumph, Eastern NY MGA & A-H Sports & Touring Clubs. Awards in 24 classes. Info: Lawrence Gersten, 908-879-3993; or email austhealey@aol.com.

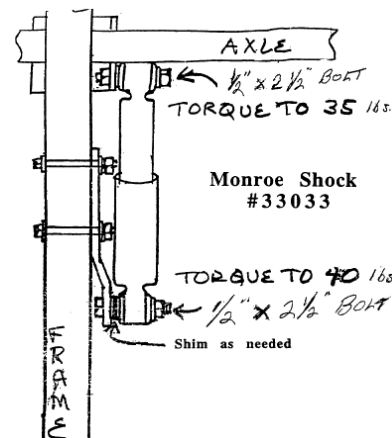
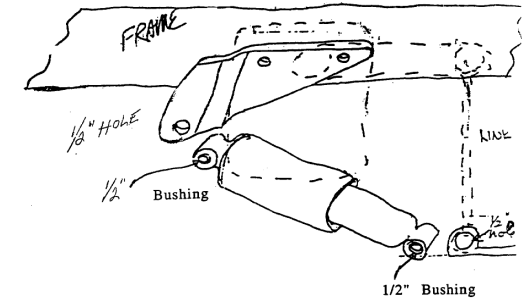
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Fitting Tube Shocks (Continued)

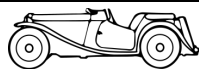
Butch Smith's Instructions:

- Jack rear of car and block; remove rear wheels. Start work on passenger side.
- Loosen the shock link first from the shock bracket.
- Loosen and remove the two bolts holding the lever arm shock to the frame. Retain the hardware for reuse.
- Remove the shock link from the shock bracket.
- Insert the 1/2-in. bushing into upper end of shock. Mount the shock to the adapter plate using a 1/2-in. by 2 1/2-in. hex bolt. Two to three flat washers may be needed to shim for alignment. Torque to 40 ft./lbs.
- Mount adapter plate to frame with retained hardware.
- Insert 1/2-in. bushing into lower end of shock. Fasten lower shock end to the shock bracket with a 1/2-in. by 2 1/2-in. hex bolt. Torque to 35 ft./lbs. Repeat steps #2 through #7 on driver's side.
- Secure wheels, lower and unblock the car. Enjoy your "U.S. it" MG! Tell your friends.



I have installed this conversion on my '60 MGA roadster and my '67 MGBGT (My daily driver with approximately 7,000 miles since converting. Further testimony: Tom Ford, a local [Washington, DC] MGA owner, drove his '58 to the Oregon GT and back last July with this shock conversion on his car.). Although there seemed to be acceptable clearance for the fuel lines, I did re-route them with gasoline resistant rubber fuel lines. I'm using the standard SU pump on both. Of course, you can go to a solid state electric pump and avoid any additional modifications. Obviously, make sure no other components are near the shocks; like wires or anything that might

(Continued on page 10)



Fitting Tube Shocks To MG's

Want to improve the safety, handling and comfort of your TD or TF (or A or B, for that matter)? In the January, 2004, issue of *The Mowog News*, (the newsletter of the Connecticut MG Club), Dave Werblow detailed the procedure for replacing the original lever action MG shocks with a modern tube version. While some of our members like to keep their cars as original as possible, others like to make modifications that will increase safety, comfort or handling. Because this modification offers all three of these advantages, promises to reduce maintenance and, best of all, is completely reversible with no modifications to the chassis or suspension of your MG, you might want to consider it for your car. Here's Dave's story followed by the step by step instructions as offered by Butch Smith, the source for the conversion kit.

I have had tube shocks on the rear of my MGA for a number of years now and they are a great improvement over the original lever action ones. These photos show the installation of tube



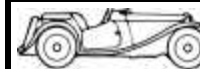
shocks on the TF. The major difference being that on the A they are mounted on the inside of the frame rails.

The kit available from Butch Smith includes the necessary upper brackets, washers, bolts and gas tube shocks (*Ed. Note: shocks sold separately*). The upper bracket would be switched sides on a rubber bumper B so that the anchor point is lower to make up for the difference in suspension height.

On the chrome Bs, MGAs, and TDs they are mounted as on the TF. The original lower shock plate/bracket on the bottom spring needs to be switched from right to left spring and turned upside down.

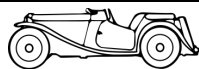
It is a very straightforward installation; no welding, no hole to drill, just bolt it on.
-Dave Werblow

(Continued on page 9)



Schedule of Events (Continued)

- September 11-12: Beaulieu International Autojumble, National Motor Museum, Hampshire, UK
- September 16-19: British Invasion, Stowe, VT. MG is the featured marque at NE's largest British Car Show & Celebration. Pre-registration deadline: September, 6 2004. www.britishinvasion.com
- September 19: Southbury Antique Car Show & Swap Meet, Southbury, CT
- September 25: **Kirk's—The Bocce Ball**
- September 26: Jaguar Club Purr-Inn, Litchfield Inn, Litchfield, CT
- October 2: 4th Annual British & Foreign Auto Show & Jumble, Somers, CT Pre-registration deadline Sept. 25th. Info; Gary Booker, 203-230-9782- Office; 203-530-9013 - Cell.
- 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 15-17: EURO 2004 Auto Festival, Spartanburg, SC, MG is the featured marque. Show benefits American Red Cross. 864-814-1078; FAX 864-599-5456. Registration & general info: Betty Harbison, email: euroautofest@bellsouth.net
- October 16: '50's Classic Car Extravaganza to be held on the Wildwood Boardwalk as part of a Fabulous 50's weekend, oct. 15-17. For more info; Dee Barrett, 609-522-4546 or www.wildwoods.org
- October 17: CT MG Club Pre-Columbian Charity Run. The CT MG Club is planning a scenic 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 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.



Directions to Robinson's

From Merritt Parkway (either direction): Exit 49 (Rte. 25 North, Note: from the east this is Exit 49N). Follow to first traffic light and turn right onto Rte. 111. Follow Rte. 111 until it ends on Rte. 34. Turn left onto Rte. 34. Go 1 mile, then turn left onto Bradley Lane. Go 0.25 miles. Turn right at number 10, immediately after the big orange mailbox. Follow signs for parking.

From Interstate I-84 (either direction): Exit 11 (Rte. 34/Derby/New Haven). At light at end of ramp turn right onto Mile Hill Rd. (Wasserman Way), following signs for Rte. 34 east. Go about 200 yards to the T-intersection with a traffic light. Turn right onto Rte. 34 east (towards New Haven). Stay on Rte. 34 east for 4 miles, turn right onto Bradley Lane (sharp turn—take it easy). Go 0.25 miles. Turn right at number 10, immediately after the big orange mailbox. Follow signs for parking.

Map to Robinson's



GOF Mk 77 Caravan Info

GOF Mk 77 is scheduled for September 8 - 12 and is being held in conjunction with the vintage racing organizations. GOF headquarters is in Painted Post, NY, with most activities taking place in Watkins Glen, NY.

This is going to be one of the most outstanding MG events ever, with hundreds of different models, both racing and street versions, of MG's in attendance.

If you are planning to attend and would like to caravan to Painted Post with other MG enthusiasts, please contact me so I can add your name to the list. So far, we have the following departure information:

Departing Tues., Sept. 7:

Departing Wed., Sept. 8:

Curt Beck
(203) 746-3455 - H
beckdmdmsd@alum.dartmouth.org

Ann & Dick DiRenno
(914) 762-0698
annrichdr@msn.com.

Jan & Sandy Hurd
(203) 438-2796
sanjanhurd@sbcglobal.net

Tuck & Linda Southworth
(203) 544-8188
tsouthworth70@hotmail.com

Departing Thur., Sept. 9:

Ed & Marion Callo
(203) 261-2432
mapacallo@aol.com

John & Cookie Friedler
(914) 234-6553
jprlf@optonline.net.

Charley & Cathy Robinson
(203) 270-1244
charleyrob@charter.net

Departing Fri., Sept 10:

Len & Andrea Fanelli
(914) 961-7105
laf48@aol.com
acf49@aol.com.

Contact the individuals directly to join up with a group for a particular day and let me know what day you'll be leaving so I can add you to the list.

Charley Robinson
director@nyconn.org

Beaulieu Cup Team 2004

I'm thinking of signing up the NY/Conn Chapter for the Beaulieu Cup Team competition this year. If you will be going to GOF MK 77 in Painted post, NY, please let me know so that I can include your mileage in our entry form.

Thanks, Charley Robinson