



# TUCSON BRITISH CAR REGISTER

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Technical tips are for informational purposes only.

## **MARCH CALENDAR**

*By Ben Cohen*

Below is the schedule of upcoming events for **MARCH**:

### **Tuesday Coffee**

Every - Tuesday – 0700 to 1000

Starbucks – Corner of Swan Rd & Fort Lowell Road

### **1<sup>st</sup> DRIVE**

Saturday, March 02 – 0800

The route has been published in Ben's Feb 26<sup>th</sup> email. It starts at the Circle K at 4650 S. Parlo Verde Rd and proceeds south to Sahuarita crossing over I-19 and proceeding north to Mid-Town.

### **La Encantada Car Show**

Saturday, March 09<sup>th</sup> - 0730 to 1000

### **2<sup>nd</sup> DRIVE**

Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup> - 0800

### **BLAT**

March 20<sup>st</sup> or 21<sup>st</sup> - To be arranged.

### **SWAP MEET**

March 23

See ***Prez Sez*** for details.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> DRIVE**

March 30

The possibility of a picnic lunch drive to Rooster  
Cogburn's Ostrich Ranch

### TBCR Board of Directors

#### PRESIDENT

Pete Williams  
ptrwms@gmail.com

#### VICE PRESIDENT

Tim O'Keefe  
okeefe.timothy@gmail.com

#### SECRETARY

Marc Koenig  
MKo7144769@aol.com

#### TREASURER

Dave Germain  
dkgermain@aol.com

#### DRIVING EVENTS

Ben Cohen  
rct2bnc@aol.com

#### REGALIA

Libbie Gabriel  
chrusos@aol.com

#### NEWSLETTER

Steve & Nancy Hosmer  
seacocm@gmail.com  
nqhosmer@gmail.com

#### WEBSITE

Harold Beekhuizen  
gusbeekhuizen8@gmail.com

TBCR Mail Address  
(Including Regalia Orders)

Tucson British Car Register  
P.O. Box 30997  
Tucson, AZ 85751-0997

#### TBCR Website

<http://www.tucsonbritish.com>

# URGENT REMINDERS

## #1 – Annual TBCR Dues

**Please renew your dues or you'll miss out on our activities. See Prez Sez for details on means of payment.**

## #2 – The 14<sup>th</sup> Annual DM50 Car Show

We have received communication from the show organizer that they are half sold out and going fast. **April 13<sup>th</sup> is the show date.** Entry deadline is March 31<sup>st</sup>. Time is running out! This is a fun show as it is part of an annual event for the entire base. The food is good, and the beer is cold.

A message from Chuck Durham, DM50 Business Manager:

*The sign-ups for the DM50 Car Show are coming in fast and furious! We're 7 weeks out and we've already filled close to half of the slots. So, sign up soon to make sure you will be able to participate. Remember, your sign-up includes lunch and adult beverages and, if you win, some truly unique trophies.*

*Here are the details:*

- \* What - DM50 Car Show*
- \* When - April 13*
- \* Where - Bama Park on Davis-Monthan Air Force Base*

*You can sign up via the DM50 website. Just go to [www.dm50.org](http://www.dm50.org) and click on "Car Show". You can also sign up by filling out the attached form and sending it to the Protocol Office, along with your check (\$50 for general public, \$10 for active-duty military) and base access information.*

## #3 – The 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Tucson Classics Car Show

Most of you may have already received the email on this show. The Club Tent has already been registered for the show. For those of you who are interested in the show, you are encouraged to register for the show ASAP as last year it was a sellout. Some did not register in a timely manner and did not make the show!

**SATURDAY**

**October 19, 2024**

**The Gregory School  
3231 N. Craycroft Rd.,  
Tucson, AZ 85712**

**Enter Your Classic Vehicle [Online](#) or [Purchase Tickets](#) at**

**[RotaryTCCS.com](http://RotaryTCCS.com)**

## **The Prez Sez – March 2024**

*By Pete Williams*

**NOTICE: Renew your dues or you'll miss out on our activities. It's still only an inexpensive \$35. If you neglect to pay your dues, you will be removed from our active roster, and we'll miss you! Here's the easy credit card payment link: <https://www.tucsonbritish.com/shop/>**

The month of March has plenty of opportunities for TBCR fun. There are five (5) weekends to enjoy potential tours and a TBCR Swap Meet.

Ben Cohen, our Tour Director, will be sending notices to you before the tours. Our fun driving tours have been well attended. Ben has included multiple food venues at the end of each tour.

We enjoy weekly Tuesday morning (0700 – 0930 hours) gatherings at the Swan/Ft. Lowell Starbucks. These have been well attended. When the weather is mild many members and others are in attendance to enjoy the eclectic selection of automotive beauties and their drivers. Even if the weather is not so welcoming, we still have many members who regularly are present. Oh yes, if it's cold or inclement, we meet inside. It's fun, the topics are varied, and someone almost always has something different to display. Bring whatever car is running... old LBC or BBC or... is good!

**March 23rd TBCR SWAP MEET.** We will be hosting a swap meet at Pete Williams' home in midtown Tucson. The start time will be 0830 hours for swap set up and 9:00 AM for general admission. The backyard is large and there are many places to display your items. This is a "FREE" no cost event to the participants. Last year we had many people stop by to enjoy coffee and rolls. Some even purchased a needed part from our swap. Technical information is available from our members, just ask. Bring a folding chair if you want to be seated. There are shady and sunny locations available. Location is on the corner 5401 E. Hawthorne Street, Tucson. Enter the back double gate at the back of the property on Woodland. If you don't sell it, please take it home.

There are some car shows in the spring and fall:

**The DM50 show, April 13.** You need to reserve a place as soon as possible. If you do not have access to the Davis-Monthan Air Base you will need to provide personal information well in advance of the show. Please read their information on their web page: <https://www.dm50.org/dm-50-car-show/> Free lunch and beverages are included. **Entry deadline March 31, 2024.** Admission is a charitable contribution.

**Tucson Classics Car Show, October 19** The registration is open. Last year folks who waited to register were disappointed that the show was sold out well in advance of the show date. We have again reserved an extra space for our TBCR tent on the show field. It's an excellent charity show.

Read the information at their web page, <https://tucsonclassicscarshow.com/>

## ON THE ROAD

### CAR SHOW – SANTA CRUZ VALLEY CAR NUTS – 27 JANUARY 2024

*By Pete Williams*

Jeff Simpson won 1<sup>st</sup> Place in the British 1955 to 1965 Class with his Jaguar XK150 Drop Head in his Jaguar XK150.

I believe there was another British car that won the 1966 in the newer category. I think it was a Jaguar E-Type coupe. Not sure and could not find any show winner info on the Santa Cruz Valley Car Nuts website. At the award time the owner had already left the show field.

When we left for the show from the Circle K on Palo Verde there was a fleet of Jaguars in our caravan. The typical January cool in the morning warmed up to shirt sleeve weather as the beautiful day continued.

In all there were about 25 1/2 British cars at the show. (The 1/2 was my MGB trailer). The sold-out show was on the Quail Creek Veteran's Memorial Soccer fields. Original equipment vehicles were mostly placed on the north (red) field while the highly modified vehicles and trucks were mostly placed on the south (blue) field. There was ample food selection as well.

One of the British entrants had a 1952 MG-TD replica on the field for sale. The fiberglass body was placed on a full frame and featured a 2.3 engine with a Ford 4-speed manual transmission. It had a full top with side curtains and a tonneau cover. The red car, with wire wheels, was a bit larger than the original equipment TD. The car was nice. The owner was asking \$13,500 OBO. Contact details are [JBMcFar47@aol.com](mailto:JBMcFar47@aol.com), 520-405-2844.



## **ON THE ROAD (Continued)**

### **1<sup>st</sup> Drive – 03 February – From Wetmore to Dove Mountain Ritz Carlton**

*By the Editor*

A chilly and breezy morning but a multi-record-breaking drive. 1.) The least number of cars [Four with two part-timers]; 2.) Every car that participated was photographed and included herein; and 3.) Every driver and rider that participated was photographed and included herein.



And the TBCR Team came close to being inducted into the Beekeepers Association of Central Arizona (BACA) while enjoying their breakfast at Beyond Bread. The team was in an extended discussion concerning a certain model car, but rather than use its full name, this model was just identified as a “B”. Naturally, many BACA members upon arriving for their organization’s meeting scheduled at Beyond Bread and hearing the “B” discussion approached the TBCR table to join in the discussion only to realize this vibrant group was discussing something other than a little noisy insect with stinger. They all then left the table in some state of bewilderment.



## ON THE ROAD (Continued)

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Drive – 17 February – From Tucson to Vail and Back

*By Pete Williams*

The beautiful day started with 8 cars in the group. More cars joined us while we were underway. Eleven members stopped at Poko's and Mom's restaurant while others stopped at the Eclectic Cafe. We enjoyed the scenery as we toured through southeast Tucson and Vail.



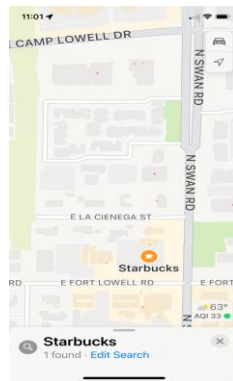
### Tuesday Coffee – Feb 27

1<sup>st</sup> Pic – For our new members a map showing the location. One needs to distinguish Camp Lowell vs Fort Lowell to arrive at the correct location.

2<sup>nd</sup> Pic – The Lads in the Lot talking technical & inspecting the damage.

3<sup>rd</sup> Pic - Reserved individuals discussing:

- The hazards of walking in a parking lot.
- The number of pigeons flying overhead.



# **POTPOURRI**

## **Technical Matters**

### **A Swan Emerges - 1973 MGB GT Project Update**

*By Pete Williams*

In the Fall of 2020, I came into possession of a new project car. The car came with many parts and a lot of assembly required. Decisions had to be made. Hidden rust holes were patched. I wanted the car to emerge from a staid color, special needs, hatchback to an eye-catching good touring car. Disassembly was simple. Keeping track of parts is a critical part of the process and done by storing in labeled Ziplock's as well as paper cups.

While the car was chock full of parts from the floor to the roof, some parts were reusable, while others were not. Some assemblies were rebuilt. Petrified window rubber seals were cut out and the glass set aside. The front vent windows were renewed. I did the body work and paint prep. At one point, a prior TBCR newsletter article, I replaced one rusted door. This was a subject in a prior monthly Register Newsletter – "Roadster Door to a GT Door.

Paint was another set of choices. Keep the old color or move on to another brighter one? One body shop quote far exceeded the maximum car value for labor, paint, and incidental supplies. I settled for a nice paint job by MAACO at \$2,100 and with a beautiful color. This was my third experience with them. I was able to have the car flatbed towed to and from the paint shop as a part of my Hagerty roadside insurance plan. (No added cost.)

The engine had a clogged water jacket, and there was a significant amount of sludge in the oil pan and engine oil passages. A machine shop was used to boil out the shortblock and head passage blockages. The cylinders were re-bored, and the head was cleaned and milled. The water pump was totally plugged with "stop-leak" crystals. As an engine rebuilder novice, I am concerned about the assembly of that major component (Scary? Maybe!). Currently, the engine is painted, but not assembled. I am currently test-fitting components.

Trim work is simple and very rewarding. Understanding the assembly sequence can be a trial-and-error process. New parts fill the gap of missing or non-usable ones. Electric and hydraulic systems must be reinstalled and evaluated. The engine compartment was repainted. I will have to evaluate steel and rubber brake and fuel system lines as well as the function of brake cylinders. Questions arise with one in particular - Why doesn't this fit?

I have manuals, but they often lack the step-by-step level of detail for many of the parts. There is You-Tube video as well. Imagine a 1,000 plus piece jigsaw puzzle with no picture on the box.

When will it be done? Maybe sometime next fall.

## POTPOURRI (Continued)

### Technical Matters (Continued)

The car has gone through a metamorphosis. A swan is appearing. The goal is to have a rebuilt original MGB engine with a 5-speed transmission. The interior parts are now the finishing touches. It's bright and a nonstandard color. It's been keeping me occupied in a hobby that I really like.

When will it be done? Maybe sometime next fall.





## POTPOURRI (Continued)

### WELCOME New Members

By The Editor

We have only one new member this month. It appears that our Harold “Hook-em” Beekhuizen has gone fishing for new members and has found a real beauty and an asset to our club. Our new member is **Bill Evans** from Sierra Vista. I requested a bio from Bill which, in part, is as follows:

*Bill Evans attended college in Southern California, owned and operated a British car repair business, rode as a horseback performer in a Los Angeles based Wild West show, was a US Army helicopter pilot, and operated a stagecoach tour business in Tombstone. He worked for the City of Sierra Vista in the Purchased Department and was the Purchasing Card Program Manager. He also wrote a monthly history column for the Sierra Herald newspaper. He has also written for numerous renowned publications.*

*Currently, he is approximately halfway complete in the restoration of a 1954 “Long Door” TR2 that he purchased in 1969. There are other restorations currently in progress. He has a '67 Triumph Spitfire purchased new and with only 34,000 original miles. Sharing garage space is a 1965 Jaguar S-Type that belonged to Jack Rowe, owner of Tucson’s Precision Motors, the British Car dealership in the 50’s and 60’s.*

I have only shared a small portion of what Bill has shared and we have discussed. The pics he has shared are voluminous. Had I included all, this newsletter would easily quadruple or more. And it would be so much better for Bill to tell the story.

I took the liberty to ask Bill to write about Jack Rowe in serialized articles for the Register. His response was an expression of interest by he and an “assistant” who happens to be an acquaintance:

*“I would love to help with the Jack Rowe story. His daughter, Lark, has a great deal of info about her dad and was thrilled to learn I had included a few photos of him in my original messages to you. I’m certain she would enjoy contributing to your serialized articles about Jack, and Precision Motors.”*

Bill and Lark both worked for the City of Sierra Vista.



Jack Rowe’s S-Type

## POTPOURRI (Continued)

### FOR SALE

#### **Jaguar 1999 Convertible XK8 For Sale in Williams, AZ, \$10,000**

##### Features:

- 8 cylinders
- 94,600 miles
- Auto transmission
- Colors: Exterior Blue, matching top, Interior Tan
- Clean Title
- Audio: AM/FM Cassette with 5-disk CD player. Included is a cassette adaptor connected to a SiriusXM converter.
- Original manuals for the vehicle are included.
- Car handles very well on the road.

##### Location:

- Williams, AZ

##### History:

- Bought new in Palatine, Illinois from the A.C. Imports dealership (the land of salted roads) in 1999. We are the only owners until my husband passed in October of 2021. I have tried to maintain the vehicle since then. I am finding it is extremely difficult to do in Williams, Arizona. This car was my husband's dream car, and he took good care of it. It holds a lot of fond memories for me, and I want to find an owner that will truly care for it.

##### Recent Service:

- In the past 12 months installed brand new tires and a new battery. It received a new fuel pump in June 2022.

##### Issues:

- I only know of one issue with the car that has just started in the past 6 months. The driver's window doesn't want to close when you close the door from the outside of the vehicle. When inside the car, you can close the window. There must be a small crack in the lining around that window at the top, because when I took it through the car wash this past Fall, some water got in and dripped onto my leg. Otherwise, I think all is well.

##### Contact:

- Beth
- Email: [eac1214@yahoo.com](mailto:eac1214@yahoo.com)

## POTPOURRI (Continued)

### FOR SALE (Continued)

#### **New MG Midget Cylinder Head**

A new club member, Bill Evans, has engine parts for a 1972 Midget consisting of an aluminum high compression cylinder head including all the valves, guides, springs, and seals. All parts are new and in their original bags or containers. None have been used. The retail price for these from Moss Motors is \$1,300. The owner is asking \$650 for the entire lot.



For those interested you may contact Bill Evans, who resides in Sierra Vista, as follows:

Mobile (520) 678 – 4883  
Email: [evanssierr@aol.com](mailto:evanssierr@aol.com)