



The British Connection

Volume 2020 Issue 2

February 2020

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President's Message

I hope everyone has had a chance to enjoy their LBC's during the patches of good weather. Steve and I took the "B" out and it ran like a champ. I wanted to remind everyone about the GOF car show in Howey- In-The Hills in April. All the rooms are gone at the Mission Inn but there are hotels that are not too far away. It should be a good show. They have a tour planned and lots of entertaining things to do. It is a beautiful area and is close to the Yalaha Bakery. If you have any questions on the show ask Ste-

ve. I hope we have a good turnout for this week's lunch bunch at the barbecue place the Florida Roadhouse in Edgewater. We'll be voting for officers and hopefully will have some new officers to breathe more life into the club. One activity I'd like to see is a tour to the strawberry farm that Frank and Laura took us to. That was a great trip. Hope to see everyone there.

See Ya
Deb

2019 ABCC Officers

President - Steve Bradley
SBradley5@cfl.rr.com

Vice-President - Gary Thomas
jag65@cfl.rr.com

Secretary - Debi Bradley

Treasurer - Gene Schoonmaker

Editor - Bob Storke
rstorke@cfl.rr.com



2020 DUES ARE DUE

History of the MG cars

By: Karen Border , TRF Publications

During World War I the factory stopped producing cars and produced munitions, which included over 50,000 mines for the North Sea Minefields and hand grenades. Automobile production began again in 1919 after the war. Morris brought the mass production techniques of Henry Ford from America to England and production soared from 400 cars in 1919 to 56,000 by 1925. Morris expanded by buying competitors and suppliers. He purchased Wolseley Motors Limited, Hotchkiss Engines, E. G. Wrigley and Company who made rear axles, and the bankrupt Riley (Coventry) and Autovia car companies.

Problems set in during World War II. Morris offered to build a large factory in Castle Bromwich to build the Supermarine Spitfire aircraft. He claimed that this custom-designed, modern factory would be able to build four times as many planes as any other existing factory in Great Britain. This project, The Nuffield Project, was approved, although with misgivings by the Treasury Department, and construction of the factory began in 1939. However one year later, construction was still not finished because the design and site layout of the factory kept changing, and this put it over budget. The factory building also began to have structural problems that caused cracks in the brick walls because different kinds of bricks had been used in the construction. By May 1940, no aircraft had been completed. All of this was happening while the British government was going through a crisis with the fall of the government of Neville Chamberlain and the rise of the new Prime Minister, Winston Churchill. Churchill appointed press tycoon Lord Beaverbrook as the Minister of Aircraft Production, and Beaverbrook promptly fired William Morris. The contract was awarded to Vickers-Armstrong, the Supermarine aircraft's parent company. After Vickers took over, production began and by June 1940, ten Spitfire Mk IIs were made. Castle Bromwich became the largest and most successful plant, and by the time production ended in June 1945, it had built over 23,000 Spitfire airplanes.

Morris Motors merged with the Austin Motor Company in 1952 and formed a new holding company named the British Motor Corporation (BMC). Morris was the chairman for a short while and retired on December 17, 1952 at the age of 75. He was named an Honorary President and he continued to be involved in the company's progress. After British Motor Corporation, the company changed names several times to British Leyland and Austin Rover. The factory at Cowley is now owned by BMW, and they make the new Mini there.

We know about famous industrialists in America such as Henry Clay Frick, Andrew Carnegie, and John D. Rockefeller, but we may not realize that Morris was considered to be one of the most famous industrialists in England. He was awarded several titles and honors over the years. He was appointed an Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) in 1918. In 1929, he was created a Baronet of Nuffield in the County of Oxford. He took his title from the village of Nuffield in Oxfordshire, where he lived. He was raised to the peerage as Baron Nuffield in 1934 and made Viscount Nuffield, of Nuffield in 1938.

In case you were wondering what all the acronyms after his name were in the opening paragraph, they are honors that he was awarded over the years. He became a Fellow of the Royal Society (FRS) in 1939, a Knight Grand Cross (GBE) of the Order of the British Empire in 1941, and a Companion of Honour (CH) in 1958. He was appointed Honorary Colonel of 52nd (London) Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery

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on June 4, 1937 and continued that role with its postwar successor, 452 HAA Regiment.

As a philanthropist, Morris donated to the Sea Cadet Corps, and he built a building at Birmingham University to house a cyclotron, which was an early type of particle accelerator invented in 1929-1930. He also founded the Nuffield Foundation in 1943 and founded Nuffield College in Oxford. The donation that most impressed me the most was that Morris offered to give an iron lung made in his factory to any hospital in England and the British Empire that requested one. Over 1,700 were made and distributed. Morris died on August 22, 1963. He lived through both World Wars and it is amazing to dwell on the things he saw changing in the world around him and the contributions he made to those very changes.

Sources Used: The websites listed here provide more in-depth information and are worth the time to read!

<https://www.mgownersclub.co.uk/mg-guides/pre-war/old-number-one>

<https://www.mgownersclub.co.uk/mg-guides/pre-war/1440-tourer>

https://www.namgar.com/articles/article/mga_history/mg_-_early_days/

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Morris_Oxford_bullnose

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Morris_Cowley

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Morris,_1st_Viscount_Nuffield

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/MG_Cars

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/MG_14/28

<http://www.bullnose.org.uk/>

FOR SALE

MGA radiator fan shroud, Moss \$49.89 - \$32.00 Jan.

Starter MG-TD, MG-TF, TR250, MGA, Moss \$109.99 - 75.00 Jan.

Contact Steve Bradley, Orange City sbradley5@cfl.rr.com 386-775-9558, 386-801-2624 cell .



Celebrations

By: Gene



HAPPY ♥♥♥ BIRTHDAY

Bonita Dotten - 2/7

Roger Sieling - 2/17

Janet Fansher - 2/24

♥ HAPPY ANNIVERSARY ♥

Craig & Ruby Colby

Bob & Betty Storke - 2/13

Tom & Janet Fansher - 2/24

2019 ABCC Upcoming Club Activities

Do you have an idea for an event? Contact Steve at SBradley5@cfl.rr.com

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UPCOMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY 7-9, 2020 Boca Raton Concours d' Elegance. Boca Raton, FL - www.bocaratonconcours.com

FEBRUARY 10, 2020 Sir John Black's Birthday, drive your Triumph day. – Worldwide event

FEBRUARY 16, 2020 27th Annual All Brit Car Show. Boca Raton, FL - www.goldcoastbritcar.com/

FEBRUARY 20-22, 2020 British Motor Trade Assoc. Annual conference, St. Petersburg, FL. - <http://www.britcar.org/bmta-2020-conference-st-petersburg-fl>

FEBRUARY 21-23, 2020 Winter Florida Autofest. Lakeland, FL. <http://www.carlisleevents.com/events/schedule>

FEBRUARY 27 - MARCH 1, 2020 Spring Vintage Classic (SVRA) Sebring Raceway, Sebring, FL - www.svra.com/

MARCH 1, 2020 SCCA SOLO II (Autocross). DeLand Airport, DeLand, FL – <https://autocross.cfrscca.org/>

MARCH 1, 2020 British-Italian-German (BIG) car show. Cape Coral, FL - www.tswfl.org

MARCH 5-8, 2020 Amelia Island Car Show. Amelia Island, FL. – www.ameliaconcours.org

MARCH 7, 2020 Annual Festivals of Speed. Omni Amelia Island Plantation. Amelia Island, FL - www.festivalspeed.com

MARCH 7, 2020 Annual Strawberry Festival Car Show. Ocala, FL - <http://www.habitatocala.org/car-show>

MARCH 18-21, 2020 Sebring Support races. Sebring, FL - www.imsa.com

MARCH 20, 2020 FIA World Endurance Championship (WEC) 1000 Miles of Sebring. Sebring, FL - <https://www.fia.com/events/world-endurance-championship/season-2019/fia-world-endurance-championship>

MARCH 21, 2020 Mobil 1 12 hrs. of Sebring. Sebring, FL. - www.imsa.com

MARCH 21, 2020 New Orleans British Car Day. New Orleans, LA - www.bmcno.org/

MARCH 26-29, 2020 HSR Spring Fling. Sebring, FL www.hsrrace.com

MARCH 26-29, 2020 Road Atlanta Grand Prix. Braselton, GA - www.svra.com/

MARCH 27-29, 2020 Daytona Beach Spring Car Show and Swap Meet. Daytona Beach, FL - <http://www.turkeyrun.com>

MARCH 28, 2020 Central Florida Car Show. Cocoa Village Cocoa Beach, FL - <https://visitcocoavillage.com/events/central-florida-car-show/>

APRIL 4, 2020 36th Annual British Car Show. Central Winds Park, Winter Springs, FL - www.allbritishcarclub.com/

APRIL 11, 2020 Wheels Across the Pond. Jupiter, FL - www.wheelsacrossthepond.com

APRIL 16-18, 2020 Barrett-Jackson Auction. South Florida Fair Grounds. Palm Beach, FL – www.barrett-jackson.com

APRIL 17-19, 2020 South Central British Car Gathering. Dobson, NC - www.triumphclub.org

APRIL 17-19, 2020 54th Annual GOF South. Howey-In-The-Hills, FL - <https://www.gofsouth.org/>

MAY 23-31, 2020 Annual British Car Week. Nationwide - www.britishcarweek.org

AUG 31 – SEPT 4, 2020 VTR2020. Galena, IL - <https://www.vtr2020.org/>



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