

5. **New Business**

- a. The use of name tags at events was suggested by Preston Smith and the discussion evolved into issuing Membership Cards as well. It was thought that a membership card the size of a credit card could also double as an identification tag at gatherings. This will be pursued by Preston Smith.
- b. Preston Smith also suggested that the Club newsletter, *Small Torque*, be sent by e-mail only to those who have e-mail addresses in order to save on the cost of printing *Small Torque*. There was much discussion and some of those with e-mail would still prefer to have a hard copy of the publication so it was suggested that we search for a less expensive way to have the first page produced with the colour logo.
- c. If members would inform Roger Phinney of what technical literature they own on British cars, Roger offered to assemble a list of what is available in the form of an "invisible" library. This would enable members to contact a member that would have specific technical information on their car. Roger will be creating an information sheet to be distributed to members.
- d. Gerry Hull displayed an excellent example of an English license plate that can be obtained in Montreal for \$30.00 and contain a maximum of seven letters or digits. Members should contact Gerry to place orders.
- e. Ken Steels offered to investigate other lines of Club regalia such as peak caps, lined jackets, pocket badge. Other suggestions for Club regalia were key fobs and vinyl stickers for the inside of a window.
- f. Harry Stevens stated that his brother Malcolm (also a BATANS member), has offered to host a gathering at his home in Chester following a Show & Shine that is held at the Graves Island Provincial Park nearby. He will advise us of the date for the event.

6. **Summer Schedule Update**

A reminder that the British Car week is May 12th to 18th which means that we are encouraged to use our British cars and expose them to the public.

British Invasion - St. Andrew's, NB

New members, Mona & Philip Webb, owners of the Harbourview Inn in Smith's Cove near Digby, have suggested that the Club leave Saturday, August 2nd and take advantage of a "BATANS Overnight Special" that would include accommodations for the night, a full course dinner Saturday and breakfast on Sunday for \$99.00 per couple. This would provide for a leisurely trip to Smith's Cove Saturday and a short drive Sunday to depart on the ferry from Digby at 1 PM Sunday for the remainder of the trip to St. Andrew's. Those wishing to do this are to make their own reservations by calling the Webbs at 902-245-5686. Also reservations for the ferry should be made by calling Bay Ferries at 1-888-249-7245.

Meet at Arby's Monday Evenings

BATANS member Kevin Stevens has been talking to the proprietor of Arby's in Bedford

and they would like to see the Club have an informal weekly meet at their restaurant on Monday evenings. There is a 15% discount on food purchases by Club members. It was suggested we try this out on May 12th which is the first day of the British Car Week providing the weather co-operates. This could continue until September or until the cars are placed in storage for the winter.

Special Thanks

Greg Johnson was thanked for the fine work being done to maintain the award winning Home Page the Club maintains on the World Wide Web.

Bob Hamilton was also thanked for the effort in maintaining Club records and the newsletter, *Small Torque*.

7. Nomination of Officers

Sandy Fraser made a motion that the present slate of officers be reinstated for another year.

Bill Johnson seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

The Officers for 1997-98 are:

Chairperson:	V. Joel Page, Wolfville, NS
Vice-Chairperson:	Roger N.H. Phinney, Halifax, NS
Secretary/ Treasurer:	Robert A. C. Hamilton, Waverley, NS

8. Drew Sperry moved to adjourn the meeting.

The motion was seconded by Dean Rogers and unanimously approved.

Upcoming Events

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| Sunday, June 1st | Apple Blossom Tour - Annapolis Valley
Meet: Bedford, Sunnyside Mall - 9 a.m.
Windsor, downtown Tim Hortons - 10 a.m.
Lunch will be at the Provincial Park, Coldbrook (on old Rte. #1) |
| Sunday, June 22nd | South Shore Tour - Petite Riviere, Green Bay
Meet: Bedford - 24 Hour Sobeys, Mill Cove - 9 a.m.
Valley Members: Junction Routes #14 and old #3 - 10 a.m. |
| Sunday, July 6th | Meet Austin Healey Club of America tour at Haylett Clarke's cottage near New Glasgow. This is your chance to see some beautiful cars and enjoy a wonderful B.B.Q. thanks to Haylett and Nina.
Meet: Bedford Sunnyside Mall - 10 a.m. and proceed via Elmsdale, Middle Musquodoboit, Dean and Alma. |
| Sunday, July 13th | Picnic at Blomindon Park near Wolfville.
Meet: Bedford Sunnyside Mall - 10 a.m.
Windsor Downtown Tim Hortons - 11 a.m. |
| Saturday, July 26th | Show & Shine at Scott Manor House, Bedford.
Time: 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
(We are looking for someone to host the B.B.Q. following this event so if you feel you could handle this with help from other members, please call Bob at 861-3277) |

Events Continued.....

- Saturday, Aug. 2nd to Friday, Aug. 8th Annual British Invasion
Seaside Beach Resort, St. Andrews, NB, Tel: 1-800-506-8677
Day trips to Campobello Island, King's Landing, and other local attractions.
(Please note earlier departure date - see details later in newsletter)
- Sunday, August 24th Halifax Antique Car Club Show & Shine
Exhibition Park, Halifax
Meet: Clayton Park Sobeys Store - 9:30 a.m. and proceed to Exhibition Park.
- Saturday, Sept. 13th Fall Overnight Tour to Tatamagouche, Jost Winery, Springhill, Parrsboro
Sunday, Sept. 14th
- Sunday, October 19th Second Annual Fun Rally - Another Andrew Hurst Production!
(Details in next *Small Torque*)
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British Invasion - St. Andrews, NB, Saturday, August 2nd to Friday, August 8th

You have probably noticed the change in the start of this annual trip to Saturday, August 2nd as our new members Mona and Philip Webb have offered us a \$99.00 overnight package (per couple) at their Harbourview Inn, Smith's Cove Saturday night:

- Dinner Saturday night - any three courses from their menu
- Overnight in rooms with four piece private bath
- Breakfast Sunday morning

This is an attractive offer and would provide for a more leisurely drive to Smith's Cove on Saturday and give us ample time to board the ferry from Digby at 1 p.m. Many members have already made reservations for Saturday night and if you would like to join us, please call Philip or Mona at (902) 245-5686.

For those of you that still plan to leave for the ferry on Sunday, please meet up with the rest of the group at the ferry terminal at least one hour in advance of the departure time of 1 p.m. To make your reservation on the Digby to Saint John ferry for Sunday, August 3rd leaving Digby at 1 p.m., call Bay Ferries at 1-888-249-7245. The cost is \$50.00 for the car and \$23.00 per person.

After disembarking the ferry in Saint John, we will take Route #1 towards St. Stephen and turn off at the first exit to St. Andrews. The itinerary for the next four days has not been finalized but it will include trips to Campobello Island, King's Landing, and possibly a day trip to Grand Manan (without cars) for those so interested. This is also "Chocolate Week" in St. Stephen and there is an International Parade from Calais to St. Stephen which we have been invited to participate in. Also, Dick Burger (British Parts Connection) in Bangor would like to organize some of their club members to visit us in St. Andrews. Top this off with the usual lobster boil one evening and you have an exciting week of British car activity.

The route for the trip home will be up to the individual members as there are some who would like to return by ferry and others that would like to drive the whole way via Moncton. This can be organized while we are in St. Andrews. If you have any questions about this tour, please contact any of the Club executive and if they don't have the answer, they will get it for you.

There are presently eleven members who have booked reservations at the Seaside Beach Resort in St. Andrews but in order to get a more accurate count on who is attending, please advise Bob

Hamilton if you are going but using other accommodations such as B&B or camping.

Welcome to New Members

We wish to welcome the following new members who have joined the Club recently:

Neil & Jo Ann Lynds	Truro, NS	1977 Austin Mini 1000 - restoring 1978 MGB Mk IV - restored
John & Cathy Fennell	Bridgewater, NS	1959 MGA - Daily Driver
Faisal Forhart	Armdale, NS	1963 Triumph TR3
Philip & Mona Webb	Smith's Cove, NS	1980 MGB - western car, summer driven
John & Sally DeWolf	Halifax, NS	1957 MGA Coupe 1970 MGB Roadster
Craig & Cynthia McCrea	Halifax, NS	1975 Triumph TR6
Anne Bureau	Dartmouth, NS	1952 MGTD
Michael & Dorothy Mullins	Halifax, NS	1978 MGB Roadster
Brian & Hilary May	Sambro Head, NS	1968 MGC - RHD 1974 MGB
Glen Manthorne	Amherst, NS	1960 Riley 1.5L 4 door sedan
Ron & Lynne Gray	Lr. Sackville, NS	(There is a British Car in the Future!)

We sincerely hope you and your family will enjoy the company of others who enjoy driving and preserving British automobiles and we look forward to meeting you and your cars at the Apple Blossom Run, Sunday, June 1st.

Member

Profile

*Drew Sperry
Dartmouth, NS
1954 TR2
1960 TR3A
1958 Morris Traveller*



1960 TR3A

The above picture is quite typical of how you might see Drew & Sheila (missing from picture) spinning down the highway in the TR3A, Brookland racing screens, goggles and leather aviator's cap.

First a bit on the background of the relationship between Sheila and Drew. As of last week, they have been married 34 years having first dated in Grade 12 (1959) and after four years of courting, proceeded to get married in 1963 when Drew was half way through the six year Architecture course.

Sheila had already graduated from Education and they needed a car so a used TR3A filled the bill for a number of years. They traveled as far away as Toronto in this car, and since they didn't know they were undependable, it never gave them any problems. They could even fit (squeeze?) Sheila's two sisters in the back seat! This car was sold in 1966 only because more room was needed for kids and stuff never realizing it should have been a "keeper" for enjoyment decades later.

The Sperry's present cars are:

- 1954 TR2 Long Door (TS 1757L) finished between 8:30 and 9:00 am Tuesday May 18, 1954. The car came into Canada at Vancouver and was "redone" prior to 1967 and was used to push cars around a service station parking lot. Randy Sherman purchased it in 1967 and drove it across Canada, later selling it to Joel Page. This car was purchased from Joel Page in 1981 when Joel had more need of a transmission for a Mercedes Benz than a TR2. Drew began dismantling the car in a friend's warehouse and continued in a garage they built onto their house in 1988. Work progressed during the winter months while Drew quickly acquired mechanic skills and later the art of body work using a MIG welder given to him at Christmas by Sheilia. (Great support!). It was painted this last winter in triple black acrylic urethane by a secret master craftsman. It will be one or two more years before this car will be on the road but what a fine sight it will be.
- 1960 TR3A (TS 80790L) built on October 4th, 1960. Drew learned of this car, owned by Joe Seward of Kentville, from Joel in 1981, and after keeping in touch with Joe was finally able to purchase it in 1988. It had been fitted with a with a TR4 engine and gearbox along with other modifications. It is also believed to have been raced in Nassau.
- TR3A (TS 70353L) Found in Miscou Island, NB, this car happily gives up vital organs to its two siblings.
- 1958 Morris Minor 1000 Traveller (609042) is patiently waiting in the wings. It was rescued with the help of fellow member, Don Clarke, from a Stellarton barn in 1995 where it had been place in 1977 after reportedly failing a safety inspection for a bad windshield wiper blade. Sheilia is looking forward to her "around town" vehicle.

Sweatshirts, Golf Shirts & Car Badges

We have exactly one Golf Shirt (XL) and one Sweatshirt (L) left from last year going to the first two members to call Bob Hamilton at 861-3277 - price \$25.00 each. There is a new order being placed within the next week so if you wish a particular size, please contact Ken Steels at 868-1227, A.S.A.P.

The car badges have been going like "hot cakes" and there is only about 6 left of the original 75 ordered of the 4" size. We have placed another order for 25 which should be in Roger Phinney's hands in about two weeks time. In the meantime, we have a smaller 3" version of the badge (same high quality) for those members who are having a hard time finding a place on their car for the larger 4" version. The prices are \$25.00 for the 4" and \$20.00 for the 3" badge and Roger (443-1634) would be pleased to fill your order.

Marketplace

At the request of a number of members, we have decided to try our hand at including a buy, sell and trade section in *Small Torque*. If you wish to have an advertisement placed in the newsletter, please forward your copy to Bob Hamilton either via e-mail or snail-mail and we will place it in the next issue of the newsletter. Submissions may be edited to suit the layout.

For Sale

- 1973 MG Midget (Yellow), new brakes, tie rod ends, fuel pump, clutch and brake master and slave cylinders, stainless steel exhaust system, carpets. Interior and top in excellent shape. Comes with a tonneau cover. Needs minor body work and new paint. Over \$2,200. spent on car. Asking \$3,200. One of the last true MG Midgets. Reason for selling - must focus on Sunbeam Talbots! Contact Bob Hamilton at 861-3277.
- Various spare parts for 1920 Rolls Royce. Call Roger Phinney at 443-1634 for details.
- Anyone in need of Rover parts Ben Rodgers can probably help. Also have some Spitfire, Sunbeam Rapier Mk3, complete Hillman Minx '63, Austin 1100 body parts, and dare I mention a complete '72 Mercedes 250 for restoration or parts. Call (902) 964-3020 or Email me at: rodgl@pei.sympatico.ca
- 1980 Rover SD1, 3.5 V8, rebuilt 5 speed manual transmission. Body fair, fuel Injection. I am into this car for about \$2500 and would like to get close to this price. Call Vincent Verhaeghe in

Club House Photo Gallery

Drew would like to start a photo collection of members cars that they now own or have owned since 1990 to be displayed in the club house (his home). If you would like to participate, please send a 3.5" x 5" photo in horizontal format with the information on the car on the reverse side (owner, year, model, date purchased) and send to Drew Sperry at 11 Cranston Ave. Dartmouth, B2Y 3G1.

Around The World Minor by Terry Williams

Last week, while visiting my friendly local repair shop, Peter, the proprietor of "Village Green Motor Car Company" made mention of a couple driving a '57 Morris Minor around the world that had arrived in Halifax. He thought that since I am the programmer of a pair of major radio stations in the city - that this may be good 'special interest' fodder. Agreed, I thought, and filed the information in the Rolodex of my mind.

On Thursday evening, while checking my e-mails, I found a posting from BATANS member Ken Steeles, indicating that our worldly couple required accomodations for a few nights. As Christine and I have the good fortune of a guest room, we made contact and offered our home as a respite from their travels.

What an amazing story! What amazing people! What an amazing car!

As I write this, Joss Browning and Lidia Defanchi have headed off to continue their epic journey. The two and a half days were the most remarkable I've experienced in some time.

Those who may have access to Moss Motors 'Motoring' magazine - the Fall, and Winter '96 editions - there are two articles written by Joss that give some insight into this most amazing journey.

I'm sure Joss would allow me to share the 'thumbnail sketch' of their journey....

In the late '80s, Joss and an apprentice at his Auto co-op in Leeds, began discussing the idea of driving a Morris Minor (their specialty) around the world. They prepared a 1957 four-door Morris Minor for the job, and in 1990, the young apprentice and his lady set out on the trek. They travelled Europe, Africa, India, Nepal, and then shipped themselves and the Morris off to Australia.

Funding for the remainder of the journey became a problem, so Joss gathered up and set out from England to join the car and it's inhabitants as they continued across Australia.

The car and passengers were then shipped to Buenos Aires, South America - whereupon it was discovered that the young apprentice, Jay and his lady - were with child! The trio's journey continued, until it was no longer wise to travel with a woman with child, so Jay and the mom-to-be went back to England, leaving our erstwhile Joss and the Morris in South America.

Enter Lidia, whom Joss met in Chile four years ago. They've made their way all over South America, Mexico, the US and now into Canada, and are in the last months of a journey that began in 1990! They are attempting to arrange shipping the car and themselves back to England from Canada's east coast within the next few months to complete the journey. Whew.

What amazing people, with even more amazing stories of this oddesy. The car is a hoot. The four-door is crammed to the rafters, including a nifty rear extension for jerry cans, tent rolls et al. At the front a full-width brush bar, complete with winch. There's a spare bolted to the roof and the car - as mentioned is a completely self-sufficient vehicle for them.

Upon its return to England, the car is to be displayed at the Bealieu Motor Museum.

I won't recant any of Joss and Lidia's stories, as I'm certain their stories will be published, but the experience of their visit with our family I certainly can. Kind, gentle, cautious, thorough people with an amazing resilience, and acceptance. Lidia is Chilean, Joss a nearly British gentleman and they brought the world to our doorstep.

My son Aaron sat mesmerized with the stories of their travels, and the photos were equally enlightening, as all South America had been to this point, was a place on a map (as was the rest of the world for that matter). To actually hear about it as fingers traced the atlas was truly inspiring.

One of the funnier moments of their stay was when I asked Joss to show me the engine (a 1275 Midget unit attached to a 5-speed Toyota box). First, he insisted I refer to it by its proper name - a 'bonnet' - not "the hood". When he lifted it up - I was astonished to find the engine compartment stuffed with firewood! As Joss pointed out - sometimes, it's just not possible to find dry wood for a fire -so why waste space? About a dozen pieces of firewood jammed every crevice - including the bulge of the 'bonnet' which was stuffed with kindling!

I asked if it had ever caught. "Only once." was Joss' stoic reply!

Also affixed to the manifold was a chicken wire basket. "Put a couple of potatoes and some fish wrapped in foil, and after about two hours of driving - a hot lunch!"

If you have read the Celistine Prophecy, then you'll understand how it could be the hand-book of their travels. The amazing circumstances of making connections is truly astonishing.

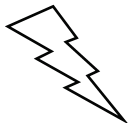
Over the past days, our lives have been enriched beyond belief by a charming couple in a world-travelled LBC. We wish them well as their journey continues, and have this advice. If anyone on this list ever has the opportunity to assist them - do so! It's one of those rare reciprocating arrangements when both sides benefit!

An aside...in mentioning all of this to friends, they were astonished that we'd invite total strangers into our home. Christine has the best comment - "Hey, these are CAR people!"

A Post Script - a week after Joss and Lydia's departure along the South Shore, I was amazed while sitting at my desk on a Sunday evening, to see the erstwhile Minor come chugging up my driveway again! Fresh from their latest series of adventures, they stayed another evening with us, and then departed for Newfoundland - where their journey will conclude with a rendezvous with the ship that will transport them back to England by July.

Editor's Note

For those of you who attended the Annual General Meeting, Joss & Lidia were introduced to us by Drew Sperry part way through the meeting. After the meeting was over, many of us had the opportunity to talk to this wonderful couple about their experiences and to view this amazing Morris that had brought them across a number of continents.



Watch For the Next Issue of Small Torque in Late August!