



# "British Automobile"



Volume 18 Issue 1

March/April 2016

President.....Pete Stroble

Editor/Treasurer.....Dan O'Brien

Vice President.....Mike Barton



Christmas at the Museum by Aaron O'Brien

## Editor's Note

Friends of the British Transportation Museum. As some of you know, the "British Automobile" has been going thru some turbulent times. Computer crashes, lack of time, health problems and inertia have contributed to "British Automobile" not getting out in a timely manner. Please forgive us as we muddle thru a very steep learning curve. It is a poor craftsman that blames his tools but, there are problems there, also. I will do my utmost to ensure that the "British Automobile" gets out on time. I'm sure you will notice a change in format. For a while, "British Automobile" will be a work in progress. This is due to the necessary changes in software, but we shall "endeavor to persevere".

We are constantly on the lookout for material for the "British Automobile". If you would like to contribute an article please call or email me at 937-416-6455. Email is [britishautomobile@brittransmues.org](mailto:britishautomobile@brittransmues.org). Thank you for your patience, Dan.

## Contents:

Page 1.....	Presidential insights
Page 3.....	Vice President/Membership Report
	Treasurer's report
	Calendar of Events
Page 3.....	Wheel-less Donations
Page 5.....	Electric TR-6
	Sir William Morris
Page 7.....	Membership Form

### Presidential Insights

By Pete Stroble

Since the last issue of "British Automobile"; many positive things have happened that need reporting. Donations of a 1936 Daimler and a 1974 MGB GT as well as the loan of a 1947 Morris Van chassis cutaway will be featured in our next issue where they can get the proper coverage they deserve. The BIG, most recent item that pushed its way to the top of the list is the April 2 wind storm.

The **British Transportation Museum's** home at 321 Hopeland sustained some fairly significant roof damage from the wind. The damage was to the newest part of the roof, the right front as you face the building. This was the area that we thought was going to be trouble free. A good 20 ft. by 80 ft. section of rubber membrane was peeled off the roof and folded over the edge of the building. This is about 3000 lbs. of rubber that the wind lifted and blew around. That was some wind! Fortunately, the collection is safe and dry but it is just a matter of time before the rain finds its way in. The integrity of the building depends on a waterproof roof.

The roof repair is not going to be easy. Three of us could not budge the pile of old roof. Roof replacement was included in the budget for our Capital Campaign but it was not expected to be needed so soon. Updated repair/replacement estimates are being sought. It is expected to be in the \$150,000 range.

Can you help us move up the time line for the roof repair? All contributions are welcome as we face this unexpected emergency. Funding from a variety of sources is being sought but we hope our membership will lead the way.

The Museum is also approaching its membership renewal time. Many members have spontaneously, and generously, upgraded their memberships to the next higher level. They recognize the important role that the Museum is filling in the American automotive scene as many rare and unique vehicles are put on display for all to enjoy and learn about. Please consider joining this group of enthusiasts by upgrading your membership and supporting the only British transportation museum in the USA.



Rubber membrane blown loose on the roof.

## **Vice President/Membership Report**

by Michael Barton

Greetings everyone,

2016 has been another banner year for the BTM, our membership has grown to 106 with 18 new memberships for 2015/2016 year. With our automobile collection growing to an amazing **40** cars, up to as many as 15 cars on loan for display, and many new and unique artifacts. That being said, it is that time of year again, time to renew your BTM membership for the 2016/2017 season. The BTM relies heavily on our membership, we have always had amazing member support over the years even through the ups and down's of a tough economy. The BTM would like to ask all members for their vote of confidence in our efforts by renewing, and to please consider one of our higher membership levels. Thank you very much for your help in making BTM the success that it is. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me directly at C: 937-972-5834 [mbarton@britishtransportationmuseum.org](mailto:mbarton@britishtransportationmuseum.org)

## **Treasurer's Report**

The good news is, we're still solvent. The bad news is, we're bleeding money. Our new building is eating up our cash reserves at an alarming rate. County taxes are over \$10,000 a year. We have spent over \$3000 in maintenance to just get the building so we can live in it. Things like sewer, water, heat and roof repair. We have some tenants that are bringing in some cash but, we need donations badly. If you can help, please do.

Now, on to the nuts and bolts. We have \$1,717 in checking and \$2,787 in shares (savings).

## 2016 Events Calendar

April 2 Smart Car Rally visits BTM  
April 16 Miami Valley Austin Healeys visit BTM  
April 17 Chicago Autojumble, Wheaton, IL  
April 23 Packards visit BTM  
May 1 EAA Fly-in & Car Show, Moraine Airpark, OH  
May 15 Columbus British Car Day, Polaris QS&L  
May 21-22 Carlisle Imports Car Show, Carlisle, PA  
May 28 British Meet at the Market, Dayton with BTM Open House at 3 PM  
June 5 Ft. Meigs British Car Show, Perrysburg, OH  
June 12 Ault Park Concours, Cincinnati, OH  
June 12-17 Austin Healey Conclave, Cincinnati, OH  
June 13-16 MG 2016, Louisville, KY  
June 15-18 TRA 2016, Painsville, OH  
June 18 Louisville British Bash, Louisville, KY  
June 30 –July 3 Mini Meet East, Oak Ridge, TN  
June 30 –July 3 Mid Ohio Vintage Gran Prix  
July 9-10 Mad Dogs & Englishmen Brit Car Show, Hickory Corners, MI  
July 10 Cincinnati British Car Day, Harbin Park, Fairfield, OH  
July 13 Inliners Car Club visits BTM  
July 16-17 Pittsburg Vintage Gran Prix  
August 6 Dayton British Car Day, Eastwood Lake, Dayton, OH  
August 29-31 Put in Bay Vintage Race  
Sept. 18 Dayton Concours, Carillon Park, Dayton, OH  
Sept. 23-25 SCCA Run-Offs, Mid Ohio Race Course, Lexington, OH  
Oct 20-22 Historic Vehicle Assoc. Conference, Allentown, PA

## Wheel-less Donations

by Pete Stroble

All donations to a transportation museum don't necessarily have to have wheels. Over the past several months, four interesting nonautomotive items have come our way. All are rare and unusual with an educational value that complements BTM's traditional wheeled collection.



NCR cash register



Glidhail Autographic

The first two were part of a long term effort by Mike Hennessey to find a National Cash Register that rang up in Pounds & Pence. Dayton is the home of NCR but it took Mike and a visit by fellow cash register collectors from New Zealand to make us aware that a British register existed. Our visitors found BTM on their USA trip when they searched the web for their other passion, British cars. They both raced MG's and Triumphs down under. Out of their visit to BTM's Wilmington storage, they promised to find us a British NCR register. Mike's search resulted in an appeal to the collector community and one turned up.

Donald Marsters of Clifton, VA donated a beautifully restored, fully functioning, brass #4 NCR British register. He also included a very rare British Gledhill Autographic Cash Till in a nicely finished wooden cabinet. Both are mechanical wonders of keys, gears, and levers. They invite the inquiring mind to marvel at how they work. We have already been giving our younger visitors a “lucky” British coin on their visit and these machines, with so much eye appeal, will further connect them to the British monetary system.

Our thanks to Mike Hennessey for finding these treasures for us and transporting them to their new home.



Dukane Audio/Visual Projector

The third wheel-less item to come our way is a Dukane Audio/Visual Projector and 18 training courses for it. The projector used film strips and audio cassettes that prompted the trainee through a lesson. British Leyland dealerships in the 1970's used this method to update and train salesmen, service techs, parts managers, and others. The materials give an insight into how the dealerships went about the business of selling and maintaining our British wonders. BTM thanks Pierre Goasdoue of Shiloh, Ohio for donating the Dukane Projector in new condition. Geoff Tedder, friend of Pierre and a BTM Member, arranged for the donation and transported the machine to us. Thanks Geoff.



Currach boat

The fourth addition takes BTM in a new direction, it is an 18 ft. Irish Currach boat. These are a slim wood framed boat covered with canvas and black oil paint. Traditionally, light animal skins would be sewn together and used as the covering instead of the canvas. Ash or oak is used in the intricate ribbing of the frame. The oars are non-feathering, not very wide at the tips, for use in the choppy waters of the Atlantic.

Currachs date back to 100 BC. Legend has it that a large sailing version took St. Brendan, an Irish monk, across the Atlantic to the New World. They are still used for fishing in Ireland and for racing in the USA by local Irish clubs. Our Currach joins a British Seagull outboard motor as our nautical division. Now to go after the HMS Queen Mary! This Currach was donated by the Stroble Family and delivered on top of their Chevy Suburban. This was a YouTube moment in itself.

Plan on dropping by the Museum to take in these unique artifacts and the many other bits of memorabilia that enhance the enjoyment of our wheeled collection.



# Electric TR6 loaned to BTM

by Pete Stroble



In the fall of 2015, a rare piece of electrical engineering popped onto our radar. Matt and Pete Chamberlain are loaning their 1971-76 TR6 converted to electric propulsion to BTM.

Matt's retelling of the TR6's story goes like this:

Pete bought the Triumph from Steve Miller in maybe 1988 or 89. It was pretty rough. Pete started tearing it apart and buying parts cars. It is made from 4 cars. The drivetrain was from a '74 with only 64,000 miles on it. The body was shipped from Oregon and is a '71. The doors, trunk lid, hood, and fenders are from a couple of '76 cars.

"We were so deep into our parents that we had to sell it to kinda pay them back. Years later, maybe 2000, I was driving down Dorothy Lane and spotted it under a tarp. I approached the owner's mom and bought it back. I started autocrossing it, milled the head almost a quarter inch following the 1969 Group 44 race prep manual. I think it has a 17 mm roll bar in front and a 13ish mm rear bar."

"I converted the car to electric in 2009 after commuting on an electric motorcycle to work for a couple of seasons. The car goes about 12-18 miles on a charge with good batteries. It has a Mitsubishi 8 brush forklift motor powered by 8 C&D Technologies 88 AH 12v batteries (96v) in series with #00 flexible wire to a Logisystems controller (capable of 156v and 500 amp). The motor is joined up to the input shaft of the transmission without a clutch (match gears). It is charged with two trickle chargers, 48v each, in groups of 4 batteries."

BTM is grateful to the Matt and Pete for the loan of their TR6. It demonstrates that our old British vehicles are still capable of some new tricks.

## Sir William Morris

Morris was born in 1877 at 47 Comer Gardens, a terraced house in the Comer Gardens area of Worcester, about 2 miles (3 km) north-west of the centre of Worcester, England. Upon leaving school at the age of 15 Morris was apprenticed to a local bicycle-seller and repairer. Nine months later, after his employer refused him a pay increase, aged 16 he set up a business repairing bicycles in a shed at the back of his parents' house. This business being a success he opened a shop at 48 High Street and began to assemble as well as repair bicycles, labelling his product with a gilt cycle wheel and The Morris. Morris raced his own machines competing as far away as south London. He did not confine himself to one distance or time and at one point was champion of Oxford (City and County), Berkshire and Buckinghamshire for distances varying between one and fifty miles.

He began to work with motorcycles in 1901, designing the Morris Motor Cycle, and in 1902 acquired buildings in Longwall Street from which he repaired bicycles, operated a taxi service, sold, repaired and hired cars. He held the agency for Arrol-Johnston, Belsize, Humber, Hupmobile, Singer, Standard and Wolseley cars. In 1910 he built new premises - described by a local newspaper as The Oxford Motor Palace - changed his business's name from The Oxford Garage to The Morris Garage and still had to take more premises in Queen Street.

In 1912 he designed a car, the bullnose Morris and using bought-in components (including engines and axles from USA) began to build them at a disused military training college in Cowley, Oxford. The outbreak of World War I saw the nascent car factory largely given over to the production of munitions - including 50,000 minesinkers for the North Sea Minefield - but in 1919 car production revived rising from 400 cars in that year to 56,000 in 1925. Morris pioneered the introduction to the United Kingdom of Henry Ford's techniques of mass production. During the period 1919-1925 he built or purchased factories at Abingdon, Birmingham, and Swindon to add to those in Oxford.

In February 1927, in competition against — amongst others — its creator, Herbert Austin, Morris paid £730,000 for the assets of the collapsed Wolseley Motors Limited which became his personal property. Wolseley were at this stage in fairly advanced development of an overhead cam shaft 8 hp car, which he launched as the first Morris Minor in 1928. The original MG Midget, launched in 1929, was based on the Minor.

When major component suppliers had difficulties he purchased them on his own account. His American engines were now made under license for him by Hotchkiss in Coventry. When in 1923 they were unwilling to expand production Morris bought their business and called it Morris Engines Limited. It would become Morris engines branch when he later sold it to Morris Motors. Again when back-axle manufacturer E. G. Wrigley and Company ran into financial difficulties he bought and reconstituted it as Morris Commercial Cars Limited to manufacture an expanded truck and bus offering. Following the same policy he bought the manufacturer of SU Carburetors in 1926.

Impressed by American all-steel bodies he persuaded Edward G. Budd of Budd Corporation to enter a joint venture with him called Pressed Steel Company which erected their large factory at Cowley opposite Morris's own and with a connecting bridge in 1926. But the two business tycoons had each met their match. Eventually in 1930 the High Court ended their disagreements by obliging Morris to surrender his and his colleagues' membership of the Pressed Steel board and all Morris holdings and Morris lost all the capital he had invested in the venture.

In 1938, Morris purchased the bankrupt Riley (Coventry) and Autovia companies from the Riley family and quickly sold them to his own Morris Motors Limited, with the addition of Wolseley Motors Limited later that year. After he was ennobled as Baron Nuffield the whole gallery of all his personal enterprises – he was the most famous industrialist of his age – became known as the Nuffield Organization.



1960 Morris Traveller



Morris Bull Nose



MGYA (from collection)

(Information from Wikipedia)– John Sheehan

# The British Transportation Museum

----- 321 Hopeland St. Dayton, Oh, 45417 -----

## Membership form

### ☐ Individual Membership

\$30.00 per year

Member receives (1) one membership card, free admission to the Museum for the card holder, Museum Newsletter, and a 10% discount at the museum gift shop (including on line gift shop).

### ☐ Family Membership

\$50.00 per year

Member receives (2) two membership cards, free admission to the Museum for the card holders and up to (4) four children, Museum Newsletter, and a 10% discount at the museum gift shop (including on line gift shop).

### ☐ Contributing Membership

\$100.00 per year

Contributing Members receive the same as Family Memberships plus a 10% discount off fees for any classes or seminars held by the museum. As well as an optional free 1 year subscription to the British Marque Car Club News If you so chose. Members name will also be listed on the Contributing Member Honor Role for the Year.

☐ Subscription to the British Marque Car Club News:

### ☐ Sustaining Membership

\$250.00 per year

Sustaining Members receive the same as family memberships plus a 25% discount off fees for any classes or seminars held by the museum. As well as an optional free 1 year subscription to the British Marque Car Club News If you so chose. Members name will also be listed on the sustaining member honor role for the Year.

☐ Subscription to the British Marque Car Club News:

## Organization/Business

### ☐ Gold

\$1,500.00 per year

**Gold Business Members:** Receive the Museum Newsletter, a permanent 1/8 page recognition in the Newsletter, and on our website. Business Members will also have a Plaque in their name on the Museum's Honor Role display denoting "GOLD" membership.

### ☐ Silver

\$1,000.00 per year

**Silver Business Members:** Receive the Museum Newsletter, a permanent 1/8 page recognition in the Newsletter, and on our website. Business Members will also have a Plaque in their name on the Museum's Honor Role display denoting "SILVER" membership.

### ☐ Bronze

\$500.00 per year

**Bronze Business Members:** Receive the Museum Newsletter, a permanent 1/8 page recognition in the Newsletter, and on our website. Business Members will also have a Plaque in their name on the Museum's Honor Role display denoting "BRONZE" membership.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

British car or motorcycle: \_\_\_\_\_

**How would you like to receive your bi-monthly  
Museum Newsletter "British Automobile"**

☐ E-Mail ☐ US Mail

**Make donations payable to:**

**British Transportation Museum  
c/o Membership  
328 Holmes Dr.  
Fairborn, Ohio, 45324**

**To view the collection on line please visit our website:  
[www.britishtransportationmuseum.org](http://www.britishtransportationmuseum.org).**

**Inquires concerning vehicle donations please contact.  
Pete Stroble 937-546-0039  
[btmpres@gmail.com](mailto:btmpres@gmail.com)**

**To view the collection in person please contact:  
Pete Stroble 937-546-0039  
[btmpres@gmail.com](mailto:btmpres@gmail.com)**

**For questions concerning membership please contact:  
Michael Barton 937-532-0744  
[mbarton@britishtransportationmuseum.org](mailto:mbarton@britishtransportationmuseum.org)**

**Please tell us how did you hear about the BTM**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_





# The British Transportation museum

321 Hopeland St.  
Dayton, Oh, 45417

[www.britishtransportationmuseum.org](http://www.britishtransportationmuseum.org)

Tours available by appointment



The British Transportation Museum is an all volunteer 501(c)3 nonprofit educational charity. We have a passion for British vehicles! Driven by this passion, the B.T.M.'s charge is to preserve, and educate about, British built transportation in the United States for future generations to enjoy and appreciate. This involves the collection and preservation of vehicles, memorabilia, and literature of which all have been generously donated.



If you would like to support our preservation effort please consider becoming a BTM member, volunteer, or by making a tax deductible donation. Come join us and share your interest, time, and knowledge with other like minded British transportation enthusiasts.



Visit our website

To schedule an appointment Please contact:

Pete Stroble, President  
937-546-0039

[btmpres@gmail.com](mailto:btmpres@gmail.com)

or

Michael Barton, Vice President  
937-318-9074

[mbarton@britishtransportationmuseum.org](mailto:mbarton@britishtransportationmuseum.org)



Like us on facebook



**British Car Meet at the Market Sat. May 28, 2016**

**REGISTRATION FORM**

***-Show held Rain or Shine-***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Club Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_  
Make \_\_\_\_\_ Model \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_  
Pre-registration: \$15.00  
Registration after May 21st: \$18.00  
BTM Membership: \$30.00 -not required-  
-New members, please fill out BTM membership form-  
BTM Member Discount: -\$5.00  
Vendor Registration: \$10.00  
Total Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

**Make check payable to and mail to:**

**British Transportation Museum  
4044 Meridell Dr, Beavercreek, OH 45430**

PLEASE READ AND SIGN

Neither I, nor my heirs, will hold the Society for the Preservation of British Transportation in America, Inc., The British Transportation Museum, "TOP of the Market Banquet and Event Center" or any sponsors or persons associated with this event, liable for any personal injuries or any damages done to me or by me, my party or my car, while engaged in this event or while travelling to or from this event.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

***Door Prizes - 50/50 - Silent Auction - Kid's Area***



The British Transportation Museum will hold its 13<sup>th</sup> Annual British Car Meet on Saturday May 28, 2016. The Location will be the South side of the building at 32 Webster Street, home of "TOP of the Market Banquet and Event Center". The Meet runs from 9AM to 3PM. Registration will be limited to the first 100 cars. *Spectators are welcome free of charge. Tell a friend.* For more information, contact Harry Mague, 937-232-9310 or Pete Stroble, 937-429-0871 or email the Museum at [btmpres@gmail.com](mailto:btmpres@gmail.com). Visit the Museum web site at: [www.britishtransportationmuseum.org](http://www.britishtransportationmuseum.org)

**Directions to the British Car Meet:**

From State Route 35 take Keowee Street Exit  
Turn *North* onto Keowee Street  
Turn *Left* onto 3<sup>rd</sup> Street  
Turn *Right* onto Webster Street  
British Car Meet is on the *Right*

**Webster Street Market  
32 Webster Street  
Dayton, Ohio 45402**

**Join us at 3:00pm after the Car Meet for an  
Open House at the Museum's New Building at  
321 Hopeland St., Dayton**