

BSMGAC participates in CMGC British By The Sea

“British by the Sea” is one of the quintessential New England Car shows! Set in the grounds of an old Manor House overlooking Long Island Sound, it is difficult to have a more faithful rendering of a typical British car show on this side of the “pond!” The atmosphere is informal and unhurried and everyone is friendly and approachable. If the weather is fine, it is spectacular and even when it isn’t, they manage to pull off a great event. Our friends from the Connecticut MG Club deserve our collective gratitude for all their efforts! They are true ambassadors of the British motoring experience!

This year the weather, in the morning at least, was wonderful and the Harkness State Park site was as beautifully prepared as ever. As the cars rolled in, the diversity and numbers were really quite special. Where else, outside the very exclusive, “named” concours shows, can you find an original Riley Adelphi saloon, rubbing shoulders with an equally rare 2.5 liter RMC Roadster, both in their original condition! However, and using the television salesman’s “but wait...there’s more!” these were surrounded by a beautiful Riley RMB saloon, two Riley/BMC 1.5s and a trio of MG Magnettes! Elsewhere in the field there were other treasures such as a 1932 Morgan Trike, complete with its original JAP motorcycle engine (with exposed valve rockers!), an early post-war Morgan “Flat Rad” roadster, a beautiful Triumph Roadster from the same period and a number of notable Jaguars including an XK-120 Roadster, XK-140 fhc, an impressive duo of Mk-IXs and an equally well presented Mk-10.

In the more affordable genres, the Triumph TR-6 has to take the accolades for the greatest number in attendance – the line seemed to go on for ever! Elsewhere the numbers were also healthy with good numbers of T-Types, MGBs, MGAs and Spitfires. The featured Marque was Morris this year and this attracted around ten Morris Minors of various persuasions, including saloons, travelers and some highly modified examples. What a shame there weren’t the odd Oxford, Isis or Morris 8 to join them, but then, you can’t have everything! All in all it was a wonderful outing for my MGA Coupe, which performed flawlessly for a change and even gained a spare windscreen, courtesy of one of the visiting spectators! Such a pleasure! Thank you Connecticut MG Club for a wonderful day out!

Safety Fast,
Angus Ross
Member, BSMGAC and BMCNE

Angus and his MGA Coupe (not at the show)

