

# THE CLEAR HOOTER!

NEWSLETTER OF THE CENTRAL COAST BRITISH CAR CLUB



Volume 29 Number 1 JAN-FEB 2013

[WWW.CENTRALCOASTBRITISHCARCLUB.COM](http://WWW.CENTRALCOASTBRITISHCARCLUB.COM)



*Pismo Winery Tour*  
Photo by Bill Rogers

Vintage Triumph Register



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**GENERAL MEETINGS**

Are held at 7:00 pm on the 1st Tuesday of each month unless it falls on a holiday at:  
CARROW'S RESTAURANT  
2401 Harbor Blvd. Ventura, CA 93001  
(805) 642-379  
(Corner of Seaward and Harbor)

**2013 GENERAL MEETING DATES**

JAN. 0, FEB. 0, MAR. 0, APRIL 0, MAY 0, JUNE 0,  
JULY 0, AUG. 0, SEPT. 0, OCT. 0, NOV. 0

Board meetings take place according to the needs of the club, usually before or after the club's General Membership Meetings, but as often as is deemed necessary at the discretion of the Club President.

**NEWSLETTER**

THE CLEAR HOOTER is your Club Newsletter and it is published monthly, 12 times a year. The deadline for submission of any (CAMERA READY or digital) ads, stories, reports and information that you'd like to see in the next CLEAR HOOTER is the first Friday of each mo. Items may be sent to:

The CLEAR HOOTER  
P.O. Box 503  
Ventura, CA. 93002  
Email the editor at : juniorredds@dslextreme.com

**FOR SALE**

Use THE CLEAR HOOTER Classifieds. No charge to members. Non-members pay \$25, Ads run will run for 3 months, unless otherwise indicated by the person placing the ad. Anyone who wants to place a commercial ad or open a commercial account may do so by calling: Allen Merriam (805) 643-6657 email: alyn123@sbcglobal.net Rates depend on size and other mitigating factors

**MEMBERSHIP**

Note: The dues are now \$40 to join and \$30 to renew each year Notify us of any changes you have made within the past year so we know where to send your newsletter each month.  
c/o CCBCC Membership//P.O. Box 503//Ventura, CA. //93002

**CLUB WEBSITE**

To place an item on our website you contact Patrick Redd at: juniorredds@extreme.com or (805) 526-0268 website at: www.centralcoastbritishcarclub.com

**Your CCBCC Board Members For 2013**

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**THE CLEAR HOOTER!** is the newsletter of the Central Coast British Car Club, formerly The Central Coast Triumphs, founded in 1984 by Mrs. Lee Bloomquist and is a chapter of the VTR Vintage Triumph Register. Dues are now \$40.00 per year to join, \$30 to renew. **Dues must be in by February 28th !**

CENTRAL COAST BRITISH CAR CLUB  
P.O. Box 503  
Ventura, CA 93002



## Central Coast British Car Club Meeting - FEBRUARY 2013

CCBCC General Meeting Brought to Order at 6:55pm. by Joe Manheim

Ongoing Club Business:

Wine Tour

The tour was a great success and photos will be posted on the web site as soon as Patrick has the time and is given the photos taken by the members that were in attendance.

Upcoming Car Show for 2013

The Car Show is one of the biggest events of the club and Mark Castello has requested that the board and the members setup a committee to help with making the arrangements for this years show. Martin Keller started a list of tasks and will pass it around at the general meeting and then forward it to Mark Castello.

General Meeting for February 2013

This year's first General Club meeting was held on February 5, 2013 at the Carrow's Restaurant at 2401 Harbor Blvd. Ventura, CA. 93003.

Active members in attendance numbered 25.

Club President opened the general meeting at 6:55pm.

Members were asked to print there full name and month and day of birth and the car they drove to the general meeting on a signup sheet that was being passed around.

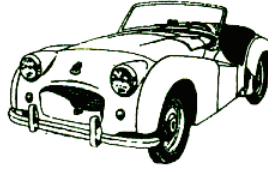
Joe then explained that every member in attendance would receive a free raffle ticket that would be used to select a member, from those in attendance, at the end of the meeting and that member would be given a \$15 gift card from Carrow's Restaurant. This is an incentive to promote more members attending the general meetings. Joe reminded everyone that the club breakfast this month is at Logdens Restaurant at the Santa Paula Airport on Feb. 9, 2013 at 9am. Joe also reminded the members in attendance that Club dues are again due by the end of February (\$30 for yearly renewal).

Joe also asked for suggestions for other events such as day driving tours and to also think about something you would enjoy doing as a group or just for the fun of it. Several suggestions were presented and a Brunch and drive to the South Coast Railroad Museum in Goleta is in the works for March 10, 2013 Sunday and will be put together by Martin Keller. Look forward to an e-mail before then from the club with more information about this get together also check the clubs web page as the information will also be posted there for everyone to see.

A slide show of the Wine Tour was displayed by Bill Rogers and...  
(Continued on next page)

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It's Hooter time again! I want to give a thanks to Bill Rogers for submitting a great article this month. I think many will find the story interesting. As I've stated before, it helps keep the newsletter more interesting and also makes things a little easier for me.

I've been considering giving CCBCC a presence on Facebook if there's an interest from the membership. I've seen that a few of us are on there. It could be another outlet to share upcoming events and news with each other and other clubs. More and more current news is being shared first on Facebook rather than the individual websites. If there's an interest in it, let me know and I'll start something up. Posts will only be related to events or other fun British car related items - no political rants or religious views, unless of course you see the use of British cars as a religious experience!

Cheers~  
Patrick Redd  
CCBCC Editor



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## **Meeting Minutes continued...**

Patrick Redd and Joe Mannheim. If you have photos you wish to share please contact your club president.

The club president has asked for member input for activities that the members might enjoy participating in as a club. One suggestion was to have a group of cars and members meet and drive down to the Queen's English All British Car Meet and Auto Jumble at Woodley Park in Van Nuys on April 14, 2013.

If you have anything you think might be enjoyed by the club members please suggest it at one of the meeting or outings of the club.

### **Club Breakfast / Brunch for March**

The next club breakfast / brunch will be drive and museum tour on March 10, 2013 and will meet at 9:30am at the parking lot on the north side of the 101 off ramp at Seaward Drive in Ventura. Plan to depart at 10am as a group and drive north on the 101 to a brunch location which still to be determined and then drive north to the South Coast Railroad Museum. Martin Keller will be the P.O.C. for this event and hope to see all the members of the club attend and drive there cars to the event for the start of the New Year and a fun day. Look for more information either on the web page or via e-mail from the club. Please RSVP to [MHKflyer52@gmail.com](mailto:MHKflyer52@gmail.com) as a head count for the Brunch Location will be needed.

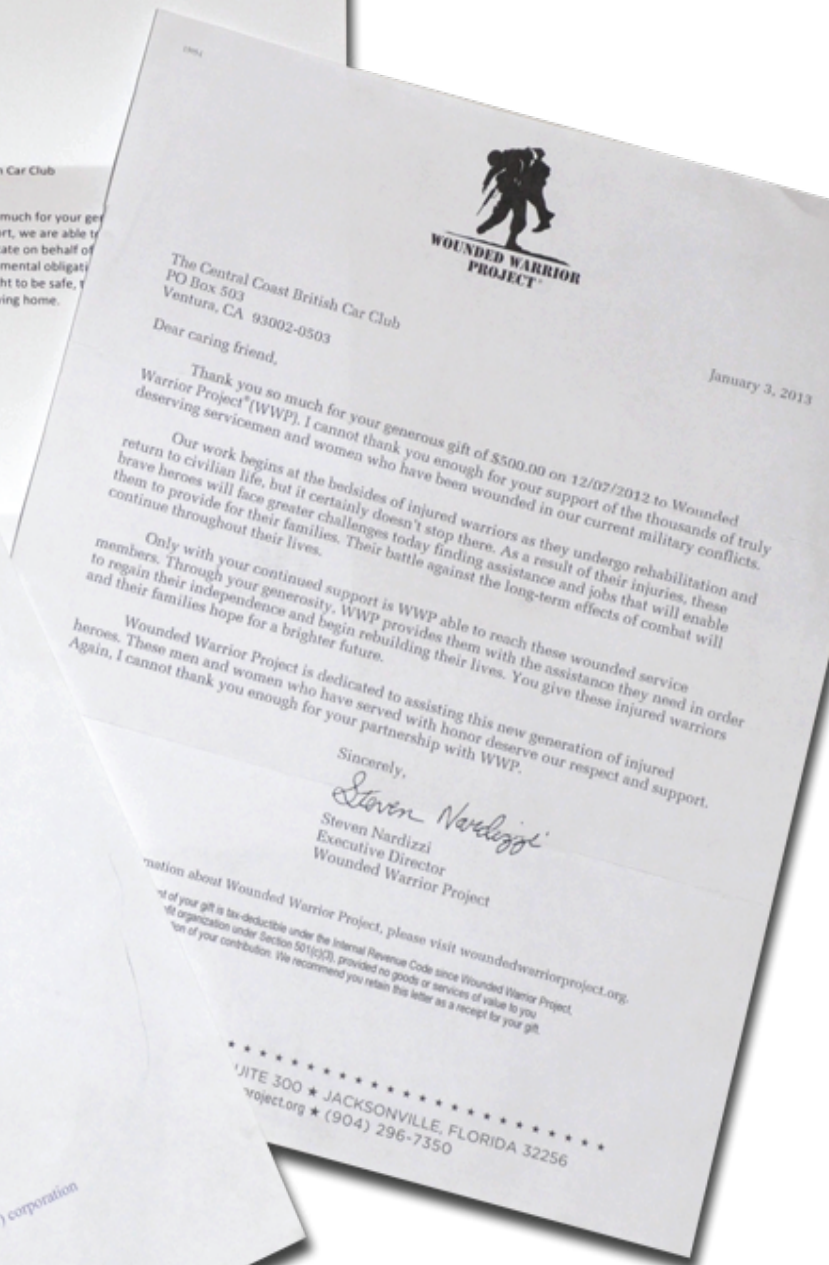
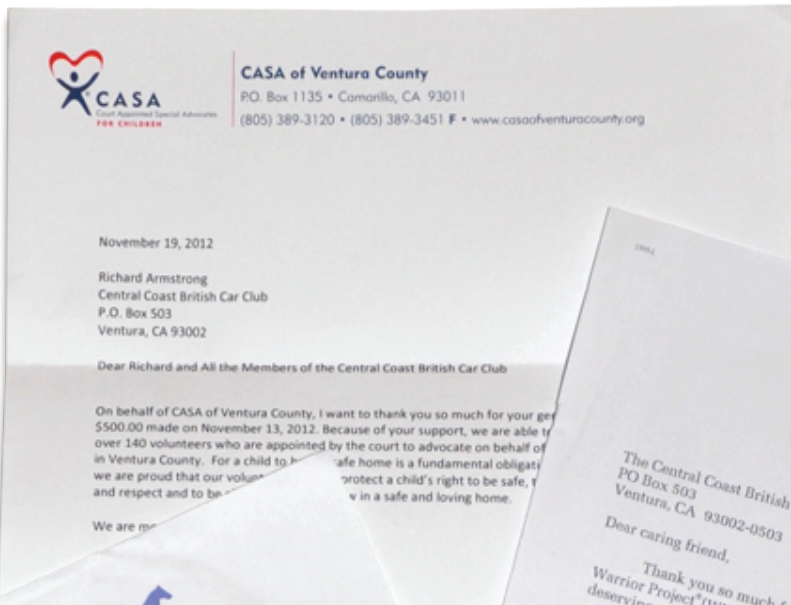
### **Gift Card Raffle at the end of the meeting**

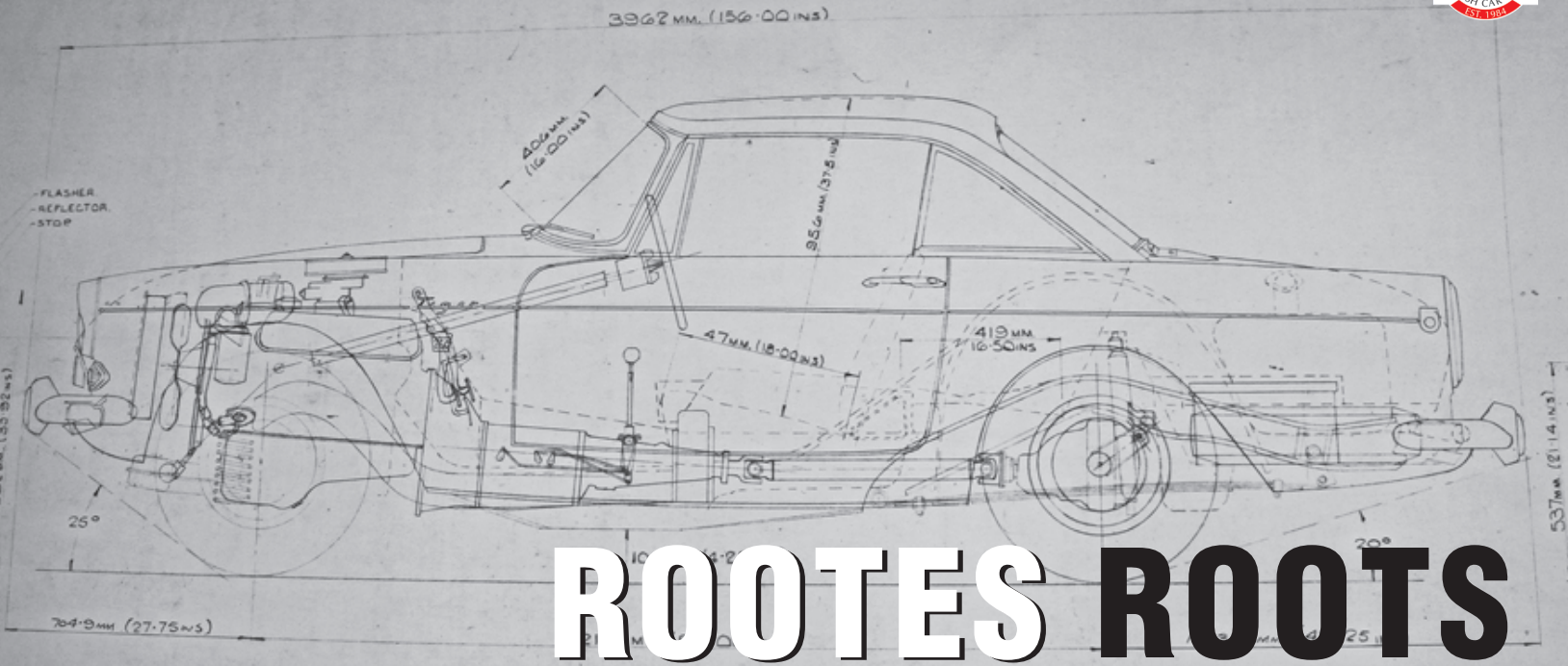
The winner of the first \$15 gift card at the general meeting was Dave Wellwood just so everyone knows. Come to the next general meeting and participate with the other members of our car club.

Club Minuets by Recorder Martin Keller  
CCBCC General Meeting Adjourned at 8:30pm.by Joe Mannheim

## Charities Appreciate CCBC Donations

Rather than donating to a single charity, CCBC made donations to 3 different charities at the end of 2012. Pictured below are the thank you letters we received.





PHOTOS AND WORDS  
BY BILL ROGERS

A couple of months ago I was invited to join four Sunbeam Tiger gurus on a trip to the Rootes Group Archives in Banbury, England, a small town about 70 miles NW of London. The heart of the archive is a large number of engineering drawings and an even larger number of microfiche copies of drawings, representing 150,000 documents dating from the late 50's to the early 80's. I had been trained as an aircraft design engineer in England at the time Alpines were being produced and I think they asked me along to help understand the design methodology. After all a bracket is a bracket, and on a car it has to be cheap, while on an aircraft it has to be light.

In it's heyday the Rootes Group was the third largest producer of vehicles in the UK, producing Humber, Hillman, Singer, Sunbeam and Talbot cars as well as Commer and Karrier commercial vehicles. It was based in Coventry, but had factories around the country. In the mid 60's the company was in financial trouble and Chrysler invested in Rootes, finally taking it over in 1971 and merging it with Simca under the Chrysler Europe banner. When Chrysler itself got into trouble, the business was assumed by Peugeot. Eventually the Ryton factory closed and Peugeot allowed the Rootes Trust to take control of Rootes' engineering archives.

Tiger and Alpine bodies were made at the Pressed Steel plant at Cowley near Oxford (the current BMW Mini plant), but early in the build process the line was divided due to the design differences and bodies destined to be Tigers were trucked to the Jensen factory in West Bromwich and the rest



Hanging file storage



Four people checking microfiche while Bill photographs drawings on the light box.





The Tiger Team: L-R Bill Rogers, Patrick King - STOA, James Spencer - Curator Rootes Archive, Buck Tripple - CAT, Tom Hall - STOA, Darrell Mountjoy - CAT.

it did not make our task easy! As an aside, the only exception to this is the Hillman Imp and its variants where all the engineering was kept together as the cars were built at a new and separate plant in Scotland; these drawings have been cataloged by the Imp Club.

As a starting point, I used the Tiger Parts List which had a numerical listing of everything available as spares, obviously not everything needed to build the car but better than nothing. Small drawings were stored by number in folders in file cabinets, while larger drawings were in hanging files. The largest (and often the most interesting) were rolled up and stored in cardboard tubes. The curator is in the process of cataloging these and has unearthed a few gems like the Tiger General Assembly drawing. Chrysler initiated a program to microfilm older drawings so that they could destroy obsolete originals and reduce storage requirements, so we concentrated our three key people on the microfiche assuming that they would be more complete. The Archive also had a reader and the ability to



The famous banking at Brooklands.





The red Tiger is AF2, the second Rootes prototype and the green car in the background is the last Tiger ever made.



The team examine a RHD Tiger fitted with power steering.

digitally scan these fiche. My friend Darrell, who owns one of the two Le Mans Tiger race cars, took on the hanging files, while I concentrated on the file cabinets. As I found small drawings, I took them to a light box and photographed them, producing readable (but not to scale), digital copies.

One of our guys, Buck Tripple, from the California Assoc. of Tiger Owners (CAT) made a generous donation to the Archive; he bought a scanner for large drawings in the US, had it rebuilt and shipped to the UK. It arrived later in the week and will allow hanging and roll sized drawings to be scanned and digitized. About 250 hours of work produced a large number of scanned fiche, 150 small drawings photographed and a list of large drawings to be run through the scanner. It was fascinating to see the drawing that resulted in a part that you have removed and installed several times over the years. Rootes called the car the Alpine 260 internally and that was how it was marketed in Europe (Panhard and Messerschmitt were using the name Tiger) but we found badging with other identification. For some

reason Rootes copied some drawings of vendor-supplied parts and I have attached one of a "Clear Hooter" horn that we found. We also discovered engineering showing that if the Tiger had been continued, the next version would have had rear disc brakes, some very attractive 14" alloy wheels instead of 13" steel wheels and an automatic would have been offered.

A trip to the Coventry Transport Museum gave us the opportunity to see the "Jensen Ledgers", the hand-written build record of the Tigers containing original engine, transmission and rear axle numbers as well as key codes - like getting your hands on the cars birth certificate. Also we looked at the Rootes photographic print archives where I discovered that a Sunbeam Rapier I drove a couple of times was a factory rally car that competed in the Monte and the Alpine, rather than a recce car as I previously believed.

At the end of the trip we took a day off and went to the Brooklands where the original Sunbeam Tiger raced and we saw an interesting collection of cars and aircraft at the Museum, as well as what is left of the famous banked track. If you have an interest in Rootes vehicles, this Archive is an interesting place to visit and you can find information at their website <http://tardis.dl.ac.uk/ARCC/>.



Bill at work looking for small drawings



Photo by Steve Connor

# Pismo Beach Tasting Tour

by Patrick Redd



Photo by Bill Rogers

The 2013 CCBCC Tasting Tour held February 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> in Pismo Beach, is now but a pleasant memory for all fortunate enough to attend. The Cottage Inn in Pismo Beach was once again the Club's home base for this annual event.

A big thank you and kudos to Michael Frustere and Allen Merriam for organizing yet another very fun event, selecting the wineries, mapping out the routes, something for everyone's tastes and interests-- great choices! This year's tour took us to the area east of Paso Robles where we visited an olive farm, 2 wineries, and stops in Avila Beach for site seeing and a visit to a farmer's market/animal farm featuring many farm animals and some unusual chickens and roosters.



Photo by Patrick Redd

The weather was cloudy but not too cold - perfect driving weather for British cars. The rain managed to stay away for year another year. The clouds made for an amazing sunset back at the hotel before the raffle/dinner.

There were a lot of great prizes handed out and laughs were shared by all. Gary and Junie Cooper and Leonard and Judy Halpin kept their lucky streak alive by being the lucky table, each winning prizes. For lots of great photos from the event, be sure to visit [www.centralcoastbritishcarclub.com](http://www.centralcoastbritishcarclub.com)

*The Clear Hooter!*

# Pismo Tasting Tour



Photo by Patrick Redd



Photo by Patrick Redd



The Clear Hooter!



Pam Rindinger gave out some great prizes during the raffle back at the hotel. Pictured above was the Backseat Driver Award won by CCBC President Joe Mannheim and his wife (sorry don't remember her name! -editor)



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\$17,500. Contact Gary Benson at (702) 362-3760

(Las Vegas, NV) or swcactus1@gmail.com.



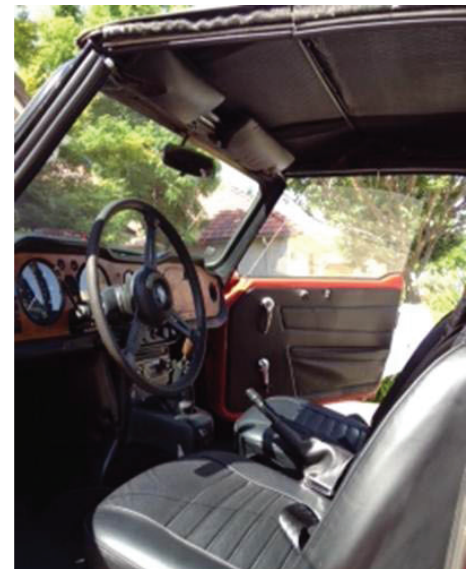
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Contact Diane 559-313-8134 deehayden@comcast.net or Matthew 559-304-4948 mghayden44@yahoo.com



## Triumph parts for sale

2 - Weber side draft carbs 40DCOE33	\$600	TR2 – TR6 Trans 4 speed Low miles	\$275
Original TR3 small mouth front apron with Tie member	\$3,300	TR3 Valve cover (Chrome)	\$50
TR3 Hub caps set of 4	\$100	TR3 Hand Crank Powder coated Black	\$100
TR3 Jack Powder coated Black	\$100	TR3 Lug Wrench Powder coated Black	\$100

All items subject to addition of Shipping costs, Payment method Cash or PayPal Contact Daryll Clark 661 242-1059 or Alleycatrace@frazmtn.com Thanks, Daryll & Cindy Clark

## Monthly Breakfast - CCBCC event

Breakfast meets will be at Four Points by Sheraton for the remainder of the year (see info above). New venue TBD in 2013. Address: 1050 Schooner Drive, Ventura, CA 93001. For more information and dates, contact Richard & Diane Armstrong - 805-659-1557

## "A" St. Car Show

Presented by Oxnard Downtown Management District & The Murphy Auto Museum Saturday, March 9, 2013 | 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

For more info, see flyer in this issue of the newsletter.

## March Drive and Breakfast, March 10, 2013 Sunday

We will meet at the Golden China parking lot at 9:00am on March 10, 2013 Sunday and depart at 9:30am for the first part of the drive. We'll have breakfast at Moby Dick Restaurant on Stearns Warf and then on to the South Coast Railroad Museum.

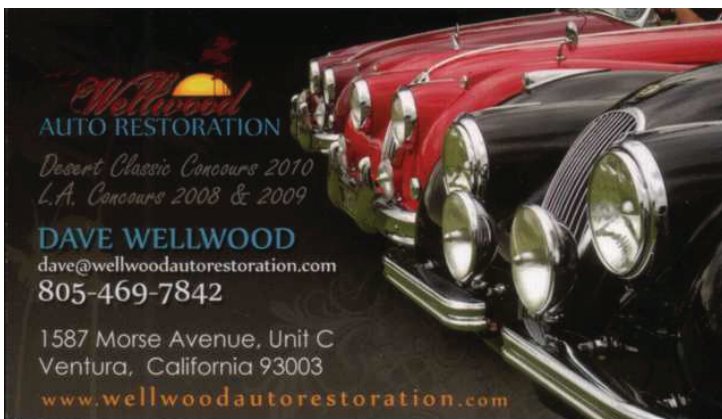
If interested in participating on this drive and breakfast, please RSVP to Martin Keller at 503-201-1952 or by e-mail at [MHKflyer52@gmail.com](mailto:MHKflyer52@gmail.com) by the 22 of February.

## Queen's English - Sunday, April 14, 2013, Woodley Park, CA

Once again the Queens-English show will be returning to Woodley Park in Van Nuys. The event has been moved to April this year as a result of being rained on the past two years. For more info, visit <http://queens-english.org/>

**New Price!** CCBCC member Gary Rice is putting his beautiful Austin Healey up for sale. For the complete story on the car, check out the October 2011 Hooter.

For sale: 1961 Austin Healey 3000 HBT7L, MK I. Healey Blue with white covers. Engine overhauled in 1979. After engine overhaul, car was dismantled and dismantled on jack stands for the next 22 years in my garage. Had 4 children to put through school. Complete restoration in 2001. Present owner since 1971. Less than 5000 miles since overhaul. Speedometer didn't work until 2003. New top, tonneau cover, side curtains, new gas tank, carpets, upholstery. New 72 spoke wheels, new tires in 2010. Gear reduction starter. Extra transmission, grille, misc. parts go with it. Recent carburetor adjustments. Runs well. Electric cooling fan. First in class 2006 Central Coast British Car Show. \$48,000. Has sentimental value, meaning, if my desired minimum is not met, won't sell. Ph. 805-644-3290. Cell: 805-407-5860



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