

THE RICHMOND TRIUMPH REGISTER

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April 2024



THE SPOKES

A Monthly Publication of the Richmond, Virginia Chapter of The Vintage Triumph Register
and a Triumph Register of America Local Center

www.richmondtriumphregister.com



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**Don't Miss RTR's Next
Monthly Meeting
Thursday, April 11th
At Chip Hidinger's
Garage**

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PRESIDENT'S GARAGE

By **Tim Thacker**
RTR President



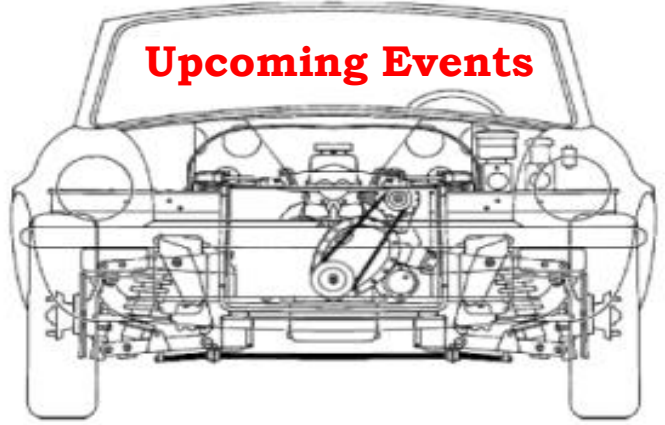
Finally after ten years, I own a Triumph that is actually running. I have been working diligently for those ten years putting my Spitfire and TR6 back together. While I am really close, I could not bear to go another driving season on the sidelines.

As luck would have it, during a recent visit to North Carolina to see some relatives, a beautiful 1976 TR6 in really nice condition just fell into my lap. I knew it had to be a sign! It was telling me "take me home!" So on March 24th, that's exactly what I did. Isn't it great how fairy tales always work out!

Cheers, Tim



Upcoming Events



RTR Monthly Meeting **Thursday, April 11th, 7 p.m.** **Tire Kicking Starts at 6:30 p.m.** **Chip Hidinger's Garage** **2201 Huguenot Springs Road** **Midlothian**

RTR's Thursday, April 11th meeting will be held at Chip Hidinger's garage. We'll have a short business meeting followed by a tech session on rear wheel u-joint replacement. Pizza and favorite liquid refreshments will be available. Please bring a camp chair.

Directions to Chip's Garage: From the Rt. 288/ Midlothian Turnpike (Rt. 60) Intersection. Take Midlothian Turnpike (Rt. 60) west past the Westchester Commons Center to Huguenot Springs Rd (first paved right). Turn right onto Huguenot Springs Rd. Follow Huguenot Springs Rd. about 1.3 miles to white and black sign "Hunting Springs Farm" and turn right. Go past the two white columns and drive to the top of the hill.

Williamsburg Winery Event **Saturday, April 13th, 11:30 a.m.** **Williamsburg, Virginia**

The Virginia Jaguar Club cordially invites the Richmond Triumph Register at 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, April 13 to the Williamsburg Winery, to hear Patrick Duffeler share his experiences as Manager of the BRM Formula 1 team, along with his memories of famous F1 personalities such as Moss, Hawthorn, Lauda, Fittipaldi, Raymond Mays and Louis Stanley. Mr. Duffeler managed the Marlboro Formula 1 sponsorship starting in the late sixties and is owner of the Williamsburg Winery. His talk will be given at Wedmore Place, the Winery's boutique hotel, 5800 Wessex Hundred, Williamsburg 23185. The most scenic and friendly route to the Winery from the Richmond area is down Rt 5. The turnoff rest area

for Berkeley Plantation is suggested for those wishing to gather and convoy the rest of the way. After the talk and an opportunity for questions and answers, lunch is available at the Gabriel Archer Restaurant at the Winery. Tours of the winery are also available. Following lunch, a drive down the Colonial Parkway is planned, returning to the Billburg Craft Brewery at 2054 Jamestown Road.. This is in a scenic and usually quiet area with craft beers and a food truck. It overlooks the Jamestown marina and is immediately adjacent to the parkway and the Jamestown/Scotland Wharf ferry, allowing a return to Richmond via a James River cruise. Please RSVP David Harrison at davidmharrison2003@yahoo.com for a head count.

RTR's British Car Breakfast Saturday, April 20th, 9 a.m. Joe's Inn Bon Air

Our next RTR breakfast is Saturday, April 20th at Joe's Inn, 2616 Buford Rd. in Bon Air. For more information, contact Tim Thacker at 804-502-3532. We hope to see you there!

Cruise-In Car Show & Dine-In Saturday, April 20th 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Beverly Hills Shopping Center 8520 Patterson Ave., Henrico

Showcase for street worthy and collectible, classic, British, antique and low-rider cars. Door prizes, cook-out-dine-in and treats offered. Appreciation for oldest vintage, highest mileage, rarest, most novel, farthest driven, longest ownership and people's choice. Registration required for free entry – no charge but limited space. Contact Robert Griffey at 804-508-7650 or timber2tone@gmail.com.

26th Britain on the Green Sunday, April 28th Gunston Hall, Lorton, VA

The Capital Triumph Register is proud to announce that the 26th annual Britain on the Green (BOG) will be held at historic Gunston Hall, the colonial home of George Mason, in Lorton, VA, on Sunday, April 28, 2024. BOG, which welcomes all British cars and motorcycles, is well established as one of the premier all-British shows in the metropolitan Washington, DC area.

Participant's Choice honors will be awarded in 25 or

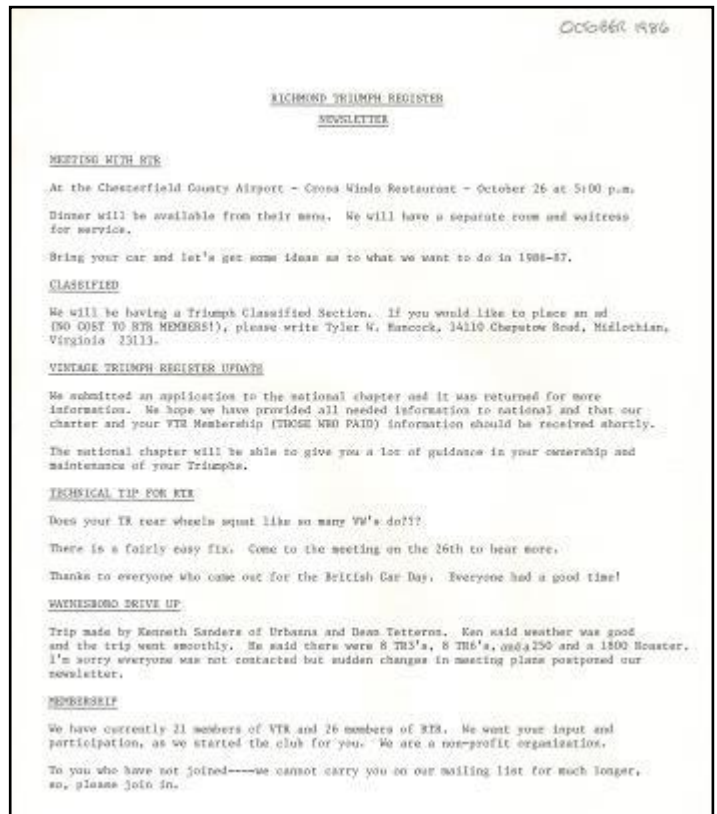
(Continued on page 5)



RTR Celebrates the 400th Issue of The Spokes

This issue marks the 400th edition of The Spokes, and the 297th edition produced by the current editor and proofreader (Whew!). Thanks to all Richmond Triumph Register members and friends who have contributed content and provided support since October, 1986. Issue Number 1 (below), references the first RTR tech tip. It's great that our club, started in 1986 with 26 members, is still going strong in 2024 with close to 100 members.

Issues of the The Spokes published in 2019 have been added to the Members Only page on the RTR [website](#). Also check out issues one, two and three listed under the year 1986. That makes 84 issues now available to review and download. Also check out the now 80+ tech articles and tips in the Spokes Issue and Tech Tip Index. To access, use the latest password provided in your monthly Spokes distribution email.



On This Month's Cover

RTR members gather at Don Tate's garage for RTR's March 14th monthly meeting.

Photo Credits: Tim Thacker, David Renn, and Mike Roe.

How Did We Get Interested In Triumph Cars?

By Dean Tetterton

To get into a discussion of life's choices, some ground work is needed. I grew up in a family of 6 with there being 4 boys. Mom and Dad and about 8 years separating us boys. As it played out, I was the youngest and at the bottom of the list.

My first recollection of cars was that Dad was not a so called car guy. Cars were a necessary evil to get around. When I was born Dad had a 1940 Ford Standard 2 door coach. The 6 of us fit in there very well. Mom & Dad and one son in front and the other 3 of us in back. I, being the youngest and lightest, got to ride the hump in the back seat. Only hit bottom on the hardest hits. Could not see a damn thing out the side window. There could be a bit of pushing and shoving going on when on a long trip to see relatives.

Dad's collection of cars was very brief. The 40 Ford was replaced with a used 49 Chevy, the only non-Ford Dad ever had. His first new car, was a 1955 Ford Custom 4 dr. black with I block 6 three speed with overdrive. Dad was into gas milage. The last car before I left home was a 1964 Ford 4 dr. with 289 and 3 speed with overdrive. The only reason he had a V8 as it was the only way to get overdrive.

Now when I started work and needed a car, why didn't I buy a Ford? How in the world did I end up with a 1958 Triumph TR3A? My future wife's sister was married, and her husband had just bought a new 1964 Triumph TR4 from David R. McGeorge Car Co. here in Richmond. He took me for my first ride in a small sporty car.

As soon as I sat in it, I was amazed. Just sitting in it, I was transfixed with the whole feeling of the car.



For the first time I felt as if I was part of the car and not just sitting in it. With all the gauges spread out in front of me and the smell. Yes, the smell. Was it the interior, engine smell or what? It awoke all your senses and brought a new high to the experience. It

could also have been the high octane gas that was available then and those side draft carbs.

As we went down those back country roads where they lived, I got to feel the car hugging the curves, braking, and accelerating. What fun. Now that was the way to get from point A to B. There was no way I could afford to buy a new Triumph. Even though a new TR4 was just under \$3000 back then. I was making \$64 week before taxes. I did find one on a used car lot in South Boston, a well used 1958 TR3A. So with a loan of \$850 from the bank, I was the proud owner of a Triumph. Candy apple red with fawn interior and top. The best part was it had the same feel and yes, smell of the TR4.

At this time I was single, living at home and depending on the TR to get to work every day, rain, snow or otherwise. For the next two years, it never let me down. The first things I bought were a TR red book repair manual and a \$50 set of tools from Sears with toolbox. I still have the 1/2 and 3/8 rachets in my toolbox. With the red book and tools, I was able to take care of any problems that came up.

From that point in time, I have always had at least one Triumph in the garage. The most I had at any one time was 5 big TR's, a Sports Six, and a Stag. That filled up the garage. The wife's rule was that there would be no cars or parts of cars in view of the street. That's why I built a three bay garage and put in two drive on lifts that I could park cars under. All behind closed doors.

Now that I am 80, I have to say I am down to 1 restored street TR6 and my retired TR4 race car.



(Continued from page 3)

more classes of British cars and motorcycles. There will also be a number of special awards including Best Resto-Mod, Best Survivor, Best Display and, of course, Best of Show. Additionally, the Nation's Capital Jaguar Owners Club will again hold their Concours d'Elegance at Britain on the Green.

Please plan on joining us on April 28th for the 26th annual Britain on the Green. Further information at: www.britainonthegreen.org. For more information, contact John Buescher at 703-475-5609 or bog@capitaltriumphregister.org.

5th Annual Breakthrough Car Show

Saturday, May 11

Pamplin Park, Petersburg

Come celebrate the 29th anniversary of the Car Club Council of Central Virginia at Pamplin Park, 6955 Duncan Road, Petersburg. Judging classes for all makes, models and years. Classes for every vehicle! Goody bags and dash plaques for the first 150 registered. Participant voting. There will be vendors and food trucks. Free spectator admission, free parking plus discounted park entry. Door prizes, music, silent auction. All proceeds go to Historic Pamplin Park. Complete info, registration form, and everything at carclubcouncil.com/carshow. Questions? Email contact@carclubcouncil.com.

Richmond Collector Car Show and Swap Meet

St. Joseph's Villa, Richmond

Saturday, June 8th, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

You are invited to participate in the 55th annual Richmond Collector Car Show and Swap Meet, to be held on the lawn of St. Joseph's Villa in Richmond, VA. This event is presented by the Richmond Region of the Antique Automobile Club of America. We



are excited to feature "Fabulous Fin Cars" this year. Classes for virtually every make and model car, truck, and motorcycle will be available with judging performed by experienced teams. Note: Only pre-registered show cars will

be eligible for judging and awards. As an alternative to having your car in the judged portion of the show, you are invited to participate in the 2024 St. Joseph's Cruise-In! This non-judged area of the front lawn will be reserved for you to arrive in style, with the freedom to depart whenever you wish. More information at www.richmondaaca.com. We look forward to seeing you at the Villa on Saturday, June 8, 2024!

Out and About With RTR



David Renn's newest acquisition, a 1965 TR4.



David found this "humorous" sticker on the glove box frame.



Gary Kinney's 1980 TR8 on the way to Dallas, Texas. The latest from Gary's sons Gary Jr. and David is that Gary plans to move to Dallas on April 20th. After a short stay in a Dallas area rehab facility, Gary hopes to move in to a brand new assisted living facility about a mile and a half from Gary Jr.'s home. RTR member David Renn reports that "Gary's treatments have in fact reduced the cancer somewhat. With this result, the doctors are now shifting their efforts to what they describe as a maintenance mode where treatments may be decreased to a once a month frequency. The doctor also gave Gary great news that his prognosis has significantly improved giving him a greater window to enjoy family, friends, and cars." Best wishes, Gary, and Godspeed.

March RTR Meeting By Mike Roe

Approximately 20 or so members of RTR met at Don Tate's "Garage Mahal" on Thursday, March 14th for the RTR monthly meeting. Dinner (provided by the club) consisted of Brooklyn-style pizzas (brought by Glenn Larson) and your favorite soft drink or libation (also provided by the club).



Discussed during the business meeting:

- The new website (and link to Facebook) is having a positive impact on the club, with at least ten new members joining since the revamping of the site last fall. Membership stands at 87.
- Treasury balance as of March 14 is \$4,347, with \$300 additional in petty cash.
- The site for the Holiday Party worked well last year, so we will likely return to the same location. Ken will look into dates in December and RTR will try to coordinate the date with CVBCC.
- The Ruritan club site in Chesterfield County was mentioned as a possible location for the Fall Picnic. Prez Tim will reach out to the club regarding availability.
- Gary Kinney was made a life member of RTR in recognition of his service to the club and the Triumph marque. CVBCC also recognized Gary at his "Pic-n-Pay" event.

After the business meeting, Don, with help from Steve Terrell, led the group through several projects he has been working on over the winter, including replacing the bushings on the trailing arms of the TR250 and other upgrades, as well as a review of progress on the restoration of his 1965 Austin Healey. The weather was nice enough for several members to arrive with the top down, so a nice evening for a meeting. Thanks to Don for welcoming the members to his fabulous garage!



Are 50 year old N.O.S. bushings still good?

See more meeting and tech session pictures [here](#).



Baxter Phillips's 1967 TR4A



Don shows the threaded rod "hack" to removed old bushings from TR250s and TR6s.



New poly trailing arm bushings on Don's 1968 TR250.

A Stag's Progress: Part X It's Alive!

By Glenn Larson

March first was a red letter day in my 1973 Triumph Stag's 28 month restoration journey. We got the *^%#@ thing started! By late February, all of the things that had gone wrong (gas, water and oil leaks, etc.) when a bunch of RTR friends and I tried to start it in early December (The Spokes Volume 398) had been resolved, at least for the most part. Following a regular Friday lunch with car buddies, we gathered in my garage to give it another go. Videographer Sue recorded the blessed event, which can be viewed [here](#). After a few minutes of fiddling, the engine fired up at the 7:50 mark on the video. The engine first sounded like crap and smoke shortly ensued, but I was ecstatic and extremely relieved the whole thing didn't immediately blow up.



No fingers were lost in the starting of this car.

A big thank you to Mike Roe, David Renn, Harlan Schufeldt, my dear and very patient wife Sue, and everyone else who came by to act as witnesses to either a successful engine start or our garage burning down. Yes, the smoke alarm did go off at the end of the video, but it was because of some small oil leaks on the exhaust pipe that I was able to subsequently fix. I'm currently fine-tuning the carbs and sorting some other minor issues, and hope to have the Stag on the road in the next few weeks.

Welcome New RTR Members

Martin (Mike) and Mary Ann McLaughlin
2908 Northlake Dr.
Henrico, VA 23233
mclaughlin68@icloud.com
804-347-5812
1976 TR6

Drew and Patrice Borsz
557 Rivers Bend Lane
Bumpass, VA, 23024
akb10sfg@gmail.com
919-274-4149
1974 Triumph TR6

Terry and Sandy Blankenship
1420 Morewood Dr
Powhatan, VA, 23139
terryblankenship@gmail.com
804-305-0675
1971 Triumph TR6



DYTD
Drive Your Triumph Day



Dear Fellow Triumph & Standard Owners,

Thank you to everyone who participated in Drive Your Triumph Day 2024. It's amazing to see Triumphs and Standards being driven and celebrated all over the world, all on the same day. Once again it's great to see several group club drives around the world, from Australia to South Africa, Oklahoma to Canada, US and the UK, which is fantastic. I've posted the photos to Facebook - [Drive Your Triumph Day](#). The downside is you can't see the file name which has all the data about the owner, car and location. The photos are also posted on the Triumph Travelers Sports Car Club [website](#) where you can see the file name which includes the owners name, model and year of car, city, state and country. So get your favorite beverage, sit back and click through the photos from all over the world. Next year DYTD 2025, February 10th, is on a Sunday. Mark it on your calendar now.

Best Wishes, Rye Livingston
Activities Chairman
Triumph Travelers Sports Car Club
1960 Triumph TR3A

Inside the Triumph TR6's Ingenious Formula 1 Fuel Injection System



The popular Tyrrell's Classic Car Workshop YouTube series recently featured Ian Tyrrell's review and test drive of a fuel injected TR6, pointing out the same Lucas "petrol injection" (PI) system was used in 1960s Ferraris and Formula race cars. Watch the video [here](#).



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CLASSIC-FIEDS

Classic-Fied ads are FREE for any paid member of the Richmond Triumph Register. Please check your ads and notify the Spokes editor of changes or ads to be removed. Sell most anything within reason. Ads are run for two months unless canceled.

For Sale: 1959 Triumph T-10 Companion. Four door station wagon For parts or restoration. \$3,500 Contact Bob Powell at rlplkp@comcast.net.



For Sale: Spitfire parts. Cleaning out the garage. All or any: five dollars. Engine block FM 532292 UE. Engine head # 1 TKC 3239; # 2 TKC 2740 Differential, 411 ratio. Radiator, 12x16 inches wide with wings. Transmission bell housing. Call Mark Hornick @804-717-5744 or hornickms@yahoo.com.



For Sale: Spitfire engine. Just needs a tune-up, and it's ready to go! Needs to be picked up by April 1st. Contact Junior Samples at BR-549.

24th ANNUAL WILLIAMSBURG
BRITISH AND IMPORT
CAR SHOW

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10AM - 2PM
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 GLarson182@gmail.com
 804/350-6820

The Spokes welcomes any submitted material for publication. However, neither its editors nor the RTR accepts responsibility for the accuracy of article content or safety problems resulting from suggested modifications.

Join the Vintage Triumph Register

The Vintage Triumph Register is a North American club of over 2,700 Triumph owners and enthusiasts. Membership includes a quarterly magazine, "The Vintage Triumph," and access to VTR's staff of volunteer vehicle consultants. The award-winning VTR [website](http://www.vintagetriumphregister.org/secure/signup) is a resource for Triumph enthusiasts worldwide. VTR annual dues are \$35. To join VTR, go to www.vintagetriumphregister.org/secure/signup

Pete Philips

We received the sad news recently that former Richmond Triumph Register President Pete Philips passed away on February 20th. Pete served as RTR President from 2009 through 2010, and though he hasn't been a member since he sold his Triumphs around 2015 (he owned a 1964 Herald and previously, a 1965 TR4A IRS), many of us have fond memories of his commitment to RTR and the British car hobby. Pete is especially remembered for organizing RTR's Economy Runs in 2009 and 2010, as well as the wonderful holiday parties he hosted when residing at Malvern Manor. Please keep Pete in your thoughts and prayers.



RTR 2024 Officers

President	Tim Thacker	(804) 502-3532	thacket@outlook.com
Vice President/Webmaster	Ken Simms	(804) 516-6052	ken.simms56@gmail.com
Secretary	Jim Coleman	(804) 569-9135	JimByJove@comcast.net
Treasurer/Membership/6 Pack Rep	Mike Roe	(804) 774-1750	microtr6@gmail.com
Spokes Editor	Glenn Larson	(804) 350-6820	GLarson182@gmail.com
Historian	Eric Crenshaw	(804) 320-1951	ericcrenshaw@gmail.com
VTR Representative	Gary Kinney	(804) 334-2605	gkinney72@gmail.com
TRA Representative	Jim Scherer	(804) 594-5694	rosiesch3@aol.com
Activities	Ken Nachman	(804) 840-1441	Kennachman@comcast.net
Car Club Council Rep.	Jamie Walker	(804) 350-8941	greenspit79@gmail.com
Past President	Bruce Vaden	(804) 330-2487	shelleyv8@comcast.net

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

If you know of an event, or have an idea for one that might be of interest to our members, contact us with details (or rumors). Please use the contact to confirm event status before making any trips. RTR sponsored events are in yellow.

April				
5-7	SCCA Super Tour - Virginia Intl Raceway - Alton, VA	FRI-SUN	https://virnow.com/events/	
11	RTR Monthly Meeting - Chip Hiding's House - 7 p.m.	THURSDAY	Chip Hiding	480-433-1942
13	Virginia Jaguar Club Williamsburg Winery Event	SATURDAY	David Harrison	804-921-1933
13	Cars & Coffee Richmond - Stony Pt. Fashion Park - 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.	SATURDAY	http://carsandcoffeerichmond.com/	
19-21	The Gathering - Shelton Vineyards, Dobson, NC	FRI-SUN	www.triumphclub.org	
20	Beverly Hills Shopping Center Cruise-In - 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.	SATURDAY	-	
20	RTR Breakfast - Joe's Inn Bon Air - 9 a.m.	SATURDAY	Tim Thacker	804-502-3532
27	Cars & Coffee Richmond - Stony Pt. Fashion Park - 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.	SATURDAY	http://carsandcoffeerichmond.com/	
28	Britain On The Green - Gunston Hall, Lorton	SUNDAY	www.capitaltriumphregister.org	
May				
4	British and European Car Show - Williamsburg, VA	SATURDAY	www.wmbgbrit.com	
9	RTR Monthly Meeting - Ken Simm's House - 7 p.m.	THURSDAY	Ken Simms	804-516-6052
10-11	Import/Performance Nationals - Carlisle, PA	FRI-SAT	http://www.carsatcarlisle.com/	
11	Cars & Coffee Richmond - Stony Pt. Fashion Park - 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.	SATURDAY	http://carsandcoffeerichmond.com/	
11	Breakthrough Car Show, Pamplin Park, Petersburg	SATURDAY	https://pamplinpark.org/	
18	RTR Breakfast - Joe's Inn Bon Air - 9 a.m.	SATURDAY	Tim Thacker	804-502-3532
18	Triangle British Classic Car Show - Raleigh, NC	SATURDAY	https://www.ncmgcarclub.org/event-5597669	
19	Jefferson 500 at Summit Point, WV	SUNDAY	http://www.summitpoint-raceway.com/	
25	Cars & Coffee Richmond - Stony Pt. Fashion Park - 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.	SATURDAY	http://carsandcoffeerichmond.com/	
25-2	British Car Week		www.britishcarweek.org	