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Under The Bonnet

Newsletter of the
**Wasatch Mountain
Jaguar Register**

March 2021



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Another Blast From The Past Downtown Concours March 1996 In Honour Of Margaret Thatcher's Visit To Utah



Left to right:

Karl Hendrickson, Bud Merritt, Betty Merritt, Ken Borg, and Jack Elder.

The Amazing Way Jaguar Will Celebrate The E-type's 60th Birthday in March 2021

By Edna Mullen-BP

[Coventry Telegraph](#), September 1, 2020

Jaguar Classic will create six matched pairs of cars for the E-Type 60 Collection to mark the iconic model's 60th birthday

Coventry car maker Jaguar Land Rover is gearing-up for a very special celebration in 2021 when it marks the birthday of the iconic Jaguar E-Type.

The Jaguar marque will be forever associated with Coventry and in a fitting way to celebrate the E-Type's 60th birthday a number of specially restored cars will be created on the edge of the city.

Jaguar Classic, based in Ryton-on-Dunsmore, will create six matched pairs of cars for the E-Type 60 Collection.

Each pair of E-type 60 Edi-

tion cars pay tribute to two of the oldest and most famous Jaguar E-types of all: '9600 HP' and '77 RW', which played pivotal roles



'9600HP' with Jaguar founder Sir William Lyons at the E-type launch, Parc des Eau Vives, Geneva, 1961
Copyright Jaguar Daimler Heritage Trust

in the unveiling of the car at its world debut in Geneva, Switzerland in March 1961.

An Opalescent Gunmetal Grey 3.8-litre Fixed-Head Coupe registered '9600 HP' was one of the first two E-Types unveiled to specially-invited guests at the Parc des Eaux Vives.

Driven 'flat out' to Switzerland from Coventry the night before the launch, public relations manager Bob Berry arrived with minutes to spare for demonstration drives.

The incredible response to the to the E-Type in Geneva took Jaguar by surprise and Bob Berry was overwhelmed with test drive requests.

As a result legendary Jaguar test driver Norman Dewis was told to 'drop everything' and drive a British Racing Green 3.8-litre roadster registered '77 RW' overnight from Coventry to Geneva.

Both cars were also used for media road tests, which proved the car's blistering performance – including its

—cont'd on [p. 3](#)

Jaguar E-Type 60th Birthday —*cont'd from [p. 2](#)*

150mph top speed – matched its jet aircraft-inspired lines honed in a wind tunnel by aerodynamicist Malcolm Sayer.

Every E-Type 60 Edition built by the team at Jaguar's Classic Works facility in Ryton will be an existing 1960s 3.8-litre E-Type fully-restored to exclusive 60th anniversary tribute specification.

Each E-Type 60 Collection pair will include one Flat Out Grey '9600 HP' coupe and one Drop Everything Green

'77 RW' roadster, with unique paint formulations exclusively reserved for these cars.

The E-Type 60 Edition cars will feature a number of 60th anniversary commemorative design details created in conjunction with Jaguar design director Julian Thomson.

The E-Type became one of the best loved cars ever and reportedly prompted Enzo Ferrari to describe it as "the most beautiful car in the world".

There were many celebrity E-Type owners including Steve McQueen, Brigitte Bardot, Frank Sinatra, George Harrison, Tony Curtis and Britt Ekland.

An E-type famously became only the third car to join the Museum of Modern Art's design collection in 1996.

Dan Pink, director of Jaguar Classic, said: "The Jaguar E-Type is a genuine icon, as sensational today as the moment it was unveiled in 1961."

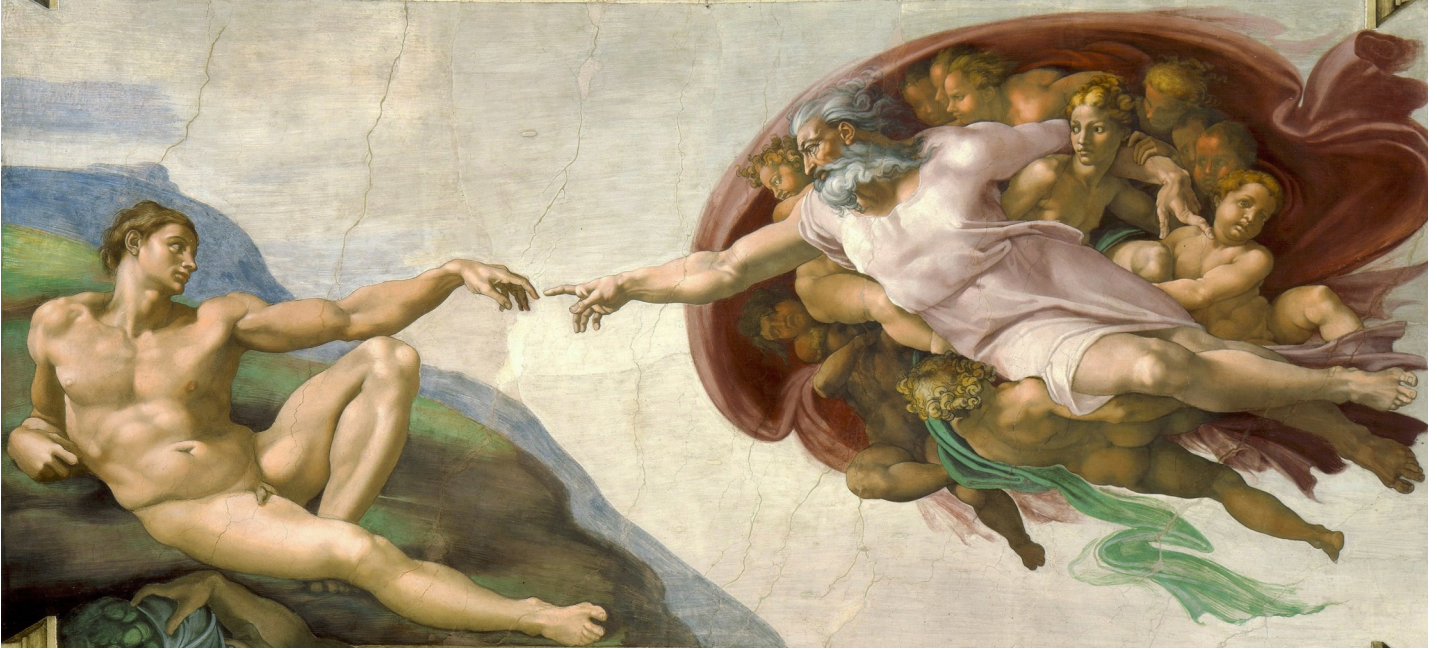


The E-type employed a novel racing design principle, with a front subframe carrying the engine, front suspension and front bodywork bolted directly to the body tub. — [Wikipedia.com](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jaguar_E-Type)

How Many Double Duty Name Plates Do You Know?
[From Hagerty Drivers Club Blog](#)
[February 20, 2021](#)

Eagle	Chevrolet AMC
Diplomat	Opel Dodge
Ambassador	Rambler / AMC Hindustan
Spirit	AMC Dodge
Citation	Edsel Chevrolet
Villager	Edsel Mercury
Corsair	Edsel Lincoln
Ranger	Edsel Ford
Pacer	Edsel AMC
Cambridge	Plymouth Austin
Metro	Geo MG
Suburban	Plymouth GMC
Land Cruiser	Studebaker Toyota
Matador	Dodge AMC

I May Not Know Art But I Know What I Like Department



Creation of Adam Detail From Michelangelo, Sistine Chapel



Passing a Spanner at Nigel's Jaguar Repair Shop Ltd.

How Car Collecting Powered Through the Pandemic The Virus Hastened the Rise of Online Sales, as Connoisseurs of Vintage Vehicles Found More t-Time to Spend With Their Socially Distanced Hobby

By Robert C. Yeager
[New York Times, Feb. 18, 2021](#)

Joe Boyd, a civil litigation lawyer in Macon, Ga., had been scouting for a 1970s Toyota Land Cruiser for some time. Last May, in the thick of the pandemic, he pounced.

“I’d just started my own solo practice, but all the courts were closed because of Covid-19,” said Mr. Boyd, 49, who spotted a fully restored 1975 model in an online ad. “So it turned out to be a great time for me to do this.”

Grabbing a buddy, he flew some 900 miles to Garage Kept Motors in Grand Rapids, Mich., and drove away with his dream car — which came with a refinished matching trailer and its own roof-mounted surfboard — for \$27,000.

Rather than back away from classic automobiles because of the pandemic, buyers flocked to them, sometimes in stunning numbers. Online auto sales and auctions, starting to gain acceptance among collectors before the virus, took off, and some tent-pole auctions with limited attendance claimed new records.



A Chrysler at Bring a Trailer in San Francisco early last year. The company’s online sales rose 60 percent in 2020, to \$398 million

“Collectors tell me, ‘There are a lot of things I can’t do right now



Three rare Alfa Romeos on display at Sotheby’s in October. They sold for nearly \$15 million.

because of Covid, but driving my classic car isn’t one of them,” said Spencer Trenery, president of Fantasy Junction, a

longtime classic-car broker in Emeryville, Calif.

“We feel really sorry for the many businesses that are suffering,” he added, “but that just hasn’t been our experience.” While foot traffic in Fantasy Junction’s showroom plunged 90 percent or more, gross sales — many from online international buyers — were higher in 2020 than in 2019, Mr. Trenery said.

Many collectors who could work remotely or were independently employed found more time to pursue their vehicular interests, choosing to quarantine themselves in what some might consider the ultimate safe distancing bubble — the cockpit of a classic car.

“They weren’t burning up 10 or 15 hours a week in commute traffic,” said Ian Kelleher, chief marketing officer for RM Sotheby’s.

In October, Sotheby’s easily sold three ultrarare Alfa Romeos for \$14.8 million, with spirited bidding from

—cont’d on [p. 7](#)

Car Collecting in the Pandemic — *cont'd from p. 6*

four countries. Earlier that month, the company's president. in a two-day auction that combined online buyers with a limited audience in Elkhart, Ind., the firm sold 240 cars for some \$44.4 million, drawing 2,500 bidders from 53 nations.

Three rare Alfa Romeos on display at Sotheby's in October. They sold for nearly \$15 million. Credit... Timothy A. Clary/Agence France Presse — Getty Images An eight-day Mecum auction in July in Indianapolis — previously postponed by the pandemic — notched record sales of \$74 million. That figure included a highest-ever price of \$3.85 million for a Mustang. The auctioneer billed the car, a 1965 Shelby prototype once driven by Ken Miles of "Ford v. Ferrari" fame, as "the most important in the history of the marque."

Perhaps the most singularly impressive results came on Sept. 5, at another of the year's few live auctions. The event, at the historic Hampton Court in London, featured 15 superlative classics in Gooding & Company's first international sale. The auction had been canceled in April, but "we saw a window of opportunity and seized it," said David Gooding,



Joe Boyd bought his Toyota Land Cruiser in Michigan last spring.



Car collectors "now see this as a useful and effective way to pursue their interests," said Randy Nonnenerg of Bring a Trailer.

As it turned out, proceeds topped \$44 million, with a 93 percent sell-through rate. Records were

reported for a highest average price per car, \$3.1 million, and for the highest auction amount yet for a Bugatti — \$12.7 million for a 1934 Type 59 sports car. The Bugatti also drew the highest price for a publicly sold collector car in 2020, Gooding & Company said.

Even so, "2020 was rough — the whole live auction industry was down," Mr. Gooding said. His firm, based in Santa Monica, Calif., grossed some \$125 million, well below its best years, he said, "but we feel grateful for what we still managed to accomplish and for what we learned." For example, the pandemic prompted the company to hasten its introduction of Geared Online, a web platform featuring both vintage cars and automotive memorabilia.

Hagerty, a firm in Traverse City, Mich., that insures collector cars and specialty vehicles and tracks market data, believes the volume of collectible automobiles that changed hands in 2020 rose as much as 14 percent, with most sales online and in personal "private treaty" transactions.

"The necessity to be alone or in small groups pushed people outdoors," said

—*cont'd on p. 8*

Car Collecting in the Pandemic — *cont'd from p. 7*

McKeel Hagerty, the firm's chairman. "More people got out to drive — to go camping, hiking or just for pleasure driving. Plus, gasoline was really cheap.

"The Great Recession years of 2008 to 2011 gave us our first understanding of just how resilient the collector car market has become," Mr. Hagerty continued. "We saw very little panic. People held on to cars until they were ready to sell."

Mr. Hagerty views the pandemic as an "accelerant" for the trend toward internet sales by traditional auction houses, storefront dealers and sites like Bring a Trailer.

"It's not a complete substitute," he said, "but live auctions are expensive, involving transportation, even overseas shipping, high commissions and many employees. It's also an intensely personal contact business, where owners of especially desirable cars may need years of coaxing before opting to sell."

Still, Mr. Gooding insisted, "the tent-pole setting will always be more productive for low-volume, high-value cars."

In 2018, Gooding & Company sold a 1935 SSJ Duesenberg —

one of two in existence — for \$22 million at Pebble Beach, Calif. Once owned by the actor Gary Cooper, the light-gray roadster



Phil Linhares with his 1949 MG TC in Oakland, Calif.

became the most valuable American car ever auctioned.

"I can't picture that vehicle in an online format," Mr. Gooding said. "Such a car does its best being seen live in a live bidding atmosphere."

Nonetheless, for reasons few could have anticipated, 2020 was huge for online sales. And Bring a Trailer, an upstart in San Francisco, became a breakout star.

Car collectors "now see this as a useful and effective way to pursue their interests," said Randy Nonnenberg of Bring a Trailer.

Car collectors "now see this as a useful and effective way to pursue

their interests," said Randy Nonnenberg of Bring a Trailer. Credit...Kenny Hurtado for The New York Times

"We were already on our way to a great year," said Randy Nonnenberg, a co-founder and the site's president. It was coming off a torrid 2019, with roughly \$240 million in sales, a high point. Then, in the middle of a pandemic, the firm experienced a gold rush.

Bring a Trailer's 2020 sales climbed more than 60 percent, to some \$398 million. In all, the site was selling nearly 1,000 cars a month.

"Nobody knew what would happen in March or April," Mr. Nonnenberg said, "but in the past nine months many people tasted and tested what it was like to transact online in a socially restricted environment. They now see this as a useful and effective way to pursue their interests, including collectible cars."

Mr. Nonnenberg also noted that Bring a Trailer had benefited from its acquisition in June by Hearst. "Supporting buyers and sellers is

—*cont'd on p. 9*

Car Collecting in the Pandemic — *cont'd from p. 8*

still a human process,” he said of its online bidding and sales operation. The larger company helped recruit and hire staff that doubled his site, based in a brick warehouse in the Potrero Hill district, to 60 employees.

It also didn't hurt that, according to Hagerty, roughly half of classic car owners have six-figure incomes, with a median of \$125,000 for buyers of post-1980 cars such as Ford Mustangs, Chevrolet Corvettes and Ferrari 360s.

The hobby appears to have legs. Millennials and collectors in Generation X requested 53 percent of Hagerty's insurance quotes in 2020. And well-heeled millennials were behind only baby boomers in mulling coverage of vehicles

priced at \$10 million and up, Hagerty said.

Last year prompted important shifts in psychology among buyers and sellers, said Mr. Trenergy, of Fantasy Junction. “It created an increase in liquidity on both sides,” he said. “When Covid came along, so much of life moving forward became unknown. People looking at a car they'd wanted for years asked: ‘If not now, when?’”

For Phil Linhares, 81, of Oakland, Calif., that moment came in November when he spotted an online ad by Classic Promenade Motors in Phoenix for a 1949 MG TC.

“I'd seen one when I was a boy

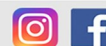
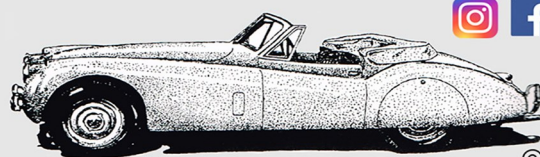
living in Modesto,” said Mr. Linhares, a retired curator at the Oakland Museum. “It was bright red, sitting in the Tucker dealer's showroom window. I thought it was the most beautiful car I'd ever seen.”

Mr. Linhares's pulse quickened when he read the Arizona car's original “build sheet.” Its English maker had completed the cream-colored TC 71 years before, on Aug. 8, his birthday.



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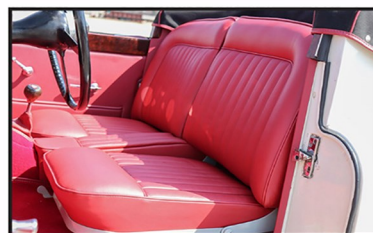
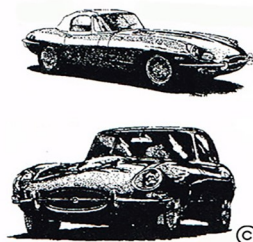
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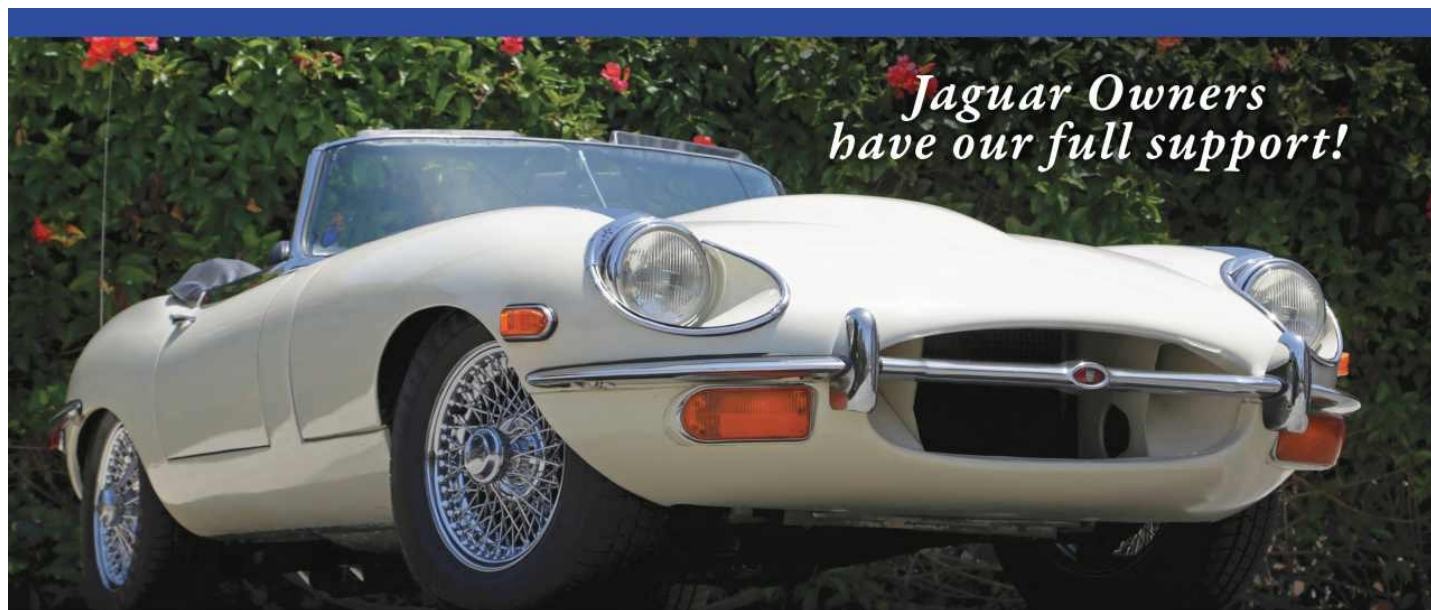
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2021 Club Calendar

Seeded With BMCU Events

Saturday March 27

4th Annual Gary Meldrum Memorial Run to Eureka UT

Saturday April 17

Ogden Canyon / North Ogden Divide Run

Saturday May 1

Coalville / Chalk Creek Canyon Run

Saturday June 19

British Field Day

Saturday August 14

Trapper's Loop Run

Monday September 6

State Street Cruise

Saturday September 25

Alpine Loop Run

Saturday October 9

Nebo Loop / Fall Color Tour

Ongoing

9am—noonish Third Sunday of Each Month
Park City Cars and Coffee
Hugo Coffee
1794 Olympic Parkway, Kimball Junction

WMJR members have a standing invitation to participate in events of the [British Motor Club of Utah](#).
Here is their [calendar](#) of events

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