

“As members of BCCWNC we have it made.”

We know that we'll never really understand all the reasons for the enduring legacy of our British sports cars. Certainly there's nostalgia and a wish for some parts of the good old days; there's built-in admiration for what the great designers, constructors and racers did with these often fickle machines; and there's an attraction in their rather inexact science not found in the incredibly safe, incredibly reliable, incredibly mono-stylistic machines of today.

Maybe it's also because our British cars are infinitely rebuildable and are designed to be **driven** which usually includes such gymnastics as toeing-and-heeling, a few handbrake turns, locking our own doors, putting on our own seat belt (if we even have one), dipping our own headlights and navigating with a map: a series of driver inputs designed out of today's cars.

But there's another huge ingredient needed to find some answers to the enduring popularity of these cars. It is the type of roads upon which we drive them, the quality of the scenery we drive past, the climate and the availability of “open” roads. After all, the British machines were almost exclusively built for British roads, at least in the early days, and that's why we here in Western North Carolina are so lucky, too.

This beautiful part of our country resembles a macro version of the English Lake District or the Scottish Highlands or the Welsh Hills with twisty mountain roads, breathtaking views, nicely cambered bends and some routes where you can drive many miles without seeing another vehicle. We have it all. And it's hard to beat a drive in an open topped British sports car up the Blue Ridge Parkway on a summer's evening just before the sun goes down.

With your help we can build on our now well-established club to encourage others to join and have them, too, help us find the answers whilst enjoying all these benefits.

I encourage you to come along to all the meetings, as well as to shows, drive-ins and the many local events we are so lucky to be a part of. We really do “have it made” and we have a unique club with great people to help us keep it so.

Alvan Judson (Member since 1999)