



May 2014

Healey Exhaust Notes

The official newsletter of the New England Region
of the Austin-Healey Club of America

Serving the following areas -
NY, CT, MA, RI, VT, NH, ME & Northern NJ

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President's Letter

Well, I think spring has finally arrived. I got my BJ7 out one warm Saturday a few weeks ago for my first drive of the season. So, hopefully more days of driving the Healey lay ahead. In the past I would more likely be working on my Healey during early spring to do various upgrades. These have included switching to tube shocks, adding a tri-carb set-up (doesn't go any faster but the 3 SU's look awesome!), adding a HD sway bar, switching to electronic ignition and fuel pump, adding an aluminum fuel tank after crap from the old tank kept clogging my fuel filter, a new custom steering wheel hand made by club member Neil Grotenhuis, and a number of other upgrades over the years. Well, this spring I have no other projects other than routine maintenance so I will be looking forward to more days driving the car instead of working on it.

Steve and Sue Bell and a few others have been working hard on finalizing the events and schedule for Summit 2014 to be held October 1-5 in Plymouth, MA. I got a peak of the schedule the other day and there are many great events scheduled. How about a car show right next to the Mayflower and the "ROCK"! Or a rallye around the many cranberry bogs which will be in full harvest at that time of the year. And a treasures hunt in downtown Plymouth. So mark your calendars and look for more information on Summit 2014 in future issues of Exhaust Notes.

As you may have read in past newsletters for the first time in the clubs history we have chosen an official charity to raise money for, which in 2014 will be the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF). At some of our events we will ask for a voluntary donation to help raise money for the JDRF. The major fund raising event for JDRF will be the Rallye for a Cure on June 21st starting in Hartford, CT. The club has already signed on as a Bronze level sponsor. In addition, we have pledges from Jim and Elaine Smith and Jud Perkins and Pat Duncan who have agreed to donate \$50 for each club Healey that participates in the rallye. So, if you decide to participate, your \$100 tax deductible entry fee will result in \$200 raised for the JDRF. If we have a good turnout of members this event will raise thousands of dollars for JDRF. The highlight of the rally will be a chance to drive your Healey for a few laps around the new Thompson Motor Speedway in Thompson, CT. So, please do consider participating in this great event for a very worthy cause.

And finally, if you want to learn a bit more about basic maintenance and tune up of your Healey plan on attending the Tech Session on May 10th hosted by Bob Abbott of R&R Restorations in Ipswich, MA. After the tech session you will have the opportunity to have some of the best chowda in New England. Worth going just for that.

See you on the road,
Bob

Austin Healey Club of New England

2014 Calendar of Events

4/28/2014

Events in **BOLD** are AHC of New England events

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT/TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>CONTACT</u>
Sat. Apr 26	Tech Session with Eric Nygaard	Her Majesty's Auto Services Pawtucket, RI	Jud Perkins judperk@comcast.net 860-204-9168
Sat/Sun May 3-4	MMSCC Meet	Owls Head, ME	Jim Lea clocks@midcoast.com 207-542-3025
Sat. May 10	Tech Session with Bob Abbott	R&R Auto Altman Distributing Ipswich, MA	Bob Abbott healeybj7@aol.com 603-425-3333
Fri, Sat, Sun May 16-18	Carlisle Import and Kit Nationals	Carlisle Fairgrounds Carlisle, PA	Denny Broughel brougheldp@gmail.com 518-663-8879
Sun. Jun 1	British By the Sea	Harkness State Park Waterford, CT	Ted Stanton healey@snet.net 860-535-9184
Jun 15-20	AHCA Conclave	The Homestead Hot Springs, VA	George Greider ggreider@gmail.com 860-873-8785
Sat. Jun 21	Rallye For a Cure for JDRF	Jaguar Hartford Hartford, CT	Jud Perkins judperk@comcast.net 860-204-9168
Sun, Jun 22	British Car Day	Lars Anderson Museum Brookline, MA	
Sat. Jul 12 Rain Date Sun Jul 13	Lake Sunapee Tour & Cruise	Sunapee, NH	Bob Britton healeybj7@hotmail.com 603-381-3158
Sat. Jul 26	Healey's On the Green	Mystic Seaport Mystic, CT	George Greider ggreider@gmail.com 860-873-8785

Sat. Jul 26	Show of Dreams British Cars of NH	Alvirne Hill House Hudson, NH	Dave LeBlanc leblancs2k@comcast.net 603-895-6606
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Sat Aug 2	Vintage Race Celebration	NHMS Loudon, NH	Ed Collins ed3paula@aol.com 413-250-8837
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Sat. Aug 16 Rain date Sun Aug 17	Fun in the Sun RI/CT Winery Tour and BBQ	Pavilion Steakhouse Hopedale, RI	Johnny Marzano johnnyfmar@aol.com 401-255-9238
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Sat. Aug 23	Sergio Franchi Concert	Stonington, CT	Ted Stanton healey@snet.net 860-535-9184
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Sat. Sept 6 Rain Date Sept 7th	Quabbin Reservoir Tour	Roy & Betty Balthazard 148 Gold St Belchertown, MA	Roy Blathazard roybaby34@yahoo.com 413-687-8178
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Sun. Sept 14	Simsbury Fly-In & Car Show	Simsbury Town Airport Simsbury, CT	Deb Katz dlkatz_99@hotmail.com 860-919-7261
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Fri, Sat, Sun Sept 19,20,21	British Invasion	Stowe Event Field Weeks Hill Rd Stowe, VT	Bob Britton healeybj7@hotmail.com 603-381-3158
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Sept/Oct ??	Applecrest Farm Tour	Applecrest Farm New Hampton, NH	Nick Zarkades zdesign@comcast.net 978-922-3956
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Wed- Sun Oct 1-5	Summit 2014	Pilgram Sands Motel Plymouth, MA	Steve Bell scbell1comcast.net 508-947-6499
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Sat. Oct 18	Fall Foliage Tour	Essex, Ct	Jud Perkins judperk@comcast.net 860-204-9168
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Sat. Dec 6	AHC-NE Christmas Party	Pickwick House Sturbridge, MA	Len Bach summitm9@aol.com 860-875-8855
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TECH SESSION

Saturday, [May 10th](#) there will be a gathering at British Car R and R to discuss various things the casual home mechanic can do to his/her car to keep it running its best. We will start the session at 10:00 a.m. and go approximately 2 hours.

We're not talking about rebuilding a transmission or replacing the engine bearings, just the basic things that the DIYer will be comfortable doing. British Car R and R is located inside Altman Distributing Company at 11 Old Right Road Ipswich, Ma. So bring your questions and someone in the group will have the answers. Afterwards, we will go to The Heart House Restaurant for Chowda and sandwiches.

Please call Bob at 603-425-3333 or email healeybj7@aol.com if you can make it - we'll need a head count

JDRF fund raising report

- >
 - > A resounding success for the collection of funds for our designated charity, Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. We collected **\$305.00** at last Saturday's Tech. Session. This together with the **\$110.00** we collected at the Christmas Party gives us **\$415.00**.
- >
 - > When Jud says he is going to pass the hat, he really means it. Thank you Jud for taking that extra step by providing a real western style hat with an information band on the inside. Then introducing the appeal with the passing of the hat to support our designated charity, JDRF.
- >
 - > Many thanks to all the club members and also to the many others at the Tech. Session for supporting this charity.
- >
 - > Carl Carvell

Don Factor's Recovery

Dela, Don's wife, gave us the following update on his recovery: He has lost 25 lbs., but has regained strength. He still has not regained his sight. Thanks for the cards. Please keep sending them. Don will be at Spaulding Rehab Hospital for at least another month. He can have visitors so if you are in the area stop in and say hello. Spaulding Rehab Hospital 300 1st street, Charlestown, MA 02129 Room 713. Keep up your prayers for the return of Don's health and sight.

Basics to check before you drive this Spring (should it ever arrive)

- Change oil & filter Check the condition of the fan belt Check coolant level
- Clean, adjust or replace points & plugs Top off dash pot oil in carbs Check oil level in the differential Check front & rear brakes for ware Check fluid in the master cylinder reservoir,
- Check all lights Grease all nipples Be sure the electrical system is charging
- Check tire pressure (including the spare) Check for broken spokes



June 21, 2014

2014 Vintage and Classic Sports Car "Rallye for a Cure"

Event includes Complimentary Breakfast and Car Gathering, 100-mile Rallye through Connecticut's Northeast, Catered Lunch, Parade Lap at the Thompson International Speedway, Auction, and Awards Presentation.

All proceeds from the "Rallye for a Cure" benefit the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

All makes and vintages of sports cars are invited. Save the date and register today!

Thanks to the New England Region of the Austin Healey Club of America for being one of our 2014 sponsors!

REGISTER NOW

Rallye for a Cure: <https://sites.google.com/site/rallyeforacure/home/registration>. This fun event which benefits our official charity the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation will begin at **Jaguar Hartford** in Hartford, CT. Participants will enjoy a Game-Tour-Adventure (GTA) Rallye and fun filled afternoon at **Thompson International Speedway**. We will be at the newly-renovated historic road course for our complimentary catered lunch provided by the **Raceway Restaurant** at the track. Rumor has it that we will "Strut our Stuff" on a Parade Lap at 1:00-1:30 on Rallye day. Proceeds raised from the \$100 tax deductible per car registration will go directly to JDRF in support of its Type 1 research. Jim and Elaine Smith and Jud Perkins/Pat Duncan have each agreed to provide \$50 of matching funds for every Club Member who participates, so we will have an extra \$100 going to support Juvenile Diabetes research for everyone in the Club who signs up.

The registration fee includes:

- ✦ Refreshments & Coffee at Jaguar Hartford at the Start of the Rallye
- ✦ Participation in the 2014 Connecticut Vintage and Classics Sports "Car Rallye for a Cure"
- ✦ A Delicious Lunch Provided by the Speedway Restaurant at Thompson International Speedway
- ✦ Professional Photo of your Team and Car (photos will be available for viewing and download from this site after the event)
- ✦ Acknowledgement of your Tax-Deductible Donation
- ✦ Attendance at the Awards Ceremony immediately after the event
- ✦ Eligibility for Prizes and Awards
- ✦ Knowledge that you have helped a worthy cause!

Type 1 diabetes (T1D) is an autoimmune disease in which a person's pancreas stops producing insulin, a hormone that enables people to get energy from food. It occurs when the body's immune system attacks and destroys the insulin-producing cells in the pancreas, called beta cells. While its causes are not yet entirely understood, scientists believe that both genetic factors and environmental triggers are involved. Type 1 diabetes is most prevalent in children. Their pancreas's produce no insulin and often from very early ages they must go on a life time regimen of testing their blood 3-4 or more times a day and then injecting themselves with insulin. Many think insulin is a cure for the disease but unfortunately it is not. Insulin allows the disease to be managed but even with a good insulin regime the long term effects of the disease, blindness, kidney failure, loss of limbs and death still occur. Today there are nearly 26 million people in the US with Type 1 & Type 2 diabetes and more than 371 million worldwide. Annually more than \$245 billion is spent in the US on healthcare costs related to diabetes.

For those of you attending Conclave, this is the Saturday following Conclave, so you'll need to hurry back. For everyone else this is a great time for wonderful cause. If you are unable to attend, I am sure that they would be happy to accept a contribution for our official charity – JDRCF. Our Club is now a Bronze sponsor of the event and we look forward to great participation from all members.

If you plan on participating please, notify Jud Perkins judperk@comcast.net of your participation.

Conclave Caravans, Anyone?

A few months back I suggested some routes for a one-day, a two-day and a three-day ride to Hot Springs Conclave from Southern New England. I have heard from a few people, but would like to remind everyone planning to go that there are some long lonely roads between here and there and there is a lot of peace-of-mind in traveling with people who might the part, tool or knowledge you need at a crucial point on the way.

Anyone wishing to travel in a group, write me with your schedule preference going and coming and I will email the route suggestions and put you in touch with a coordinator.

ggreider@gmail.com

Healeys on the Green Mark IV

Saturday, July 26, 2013: save the date on your calendars! Mystic Seaport's town green will be the site once again for Healeys on the Green during the Antique and Classic Boat Rendezvous.

As before, we will form up across the street at 10:30 and then parade onto the museum grounds by model groups just before 11:00 AM. The show will run from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM with the option to stay until the museum closes at 5:00 PM.

Entry to the show and grounds is \$20 for a car and two people (a \$48.00 value). A prize will be awarded to the most popular car as voted by Seaport visitors. Please make checks payable to Mystic Seaport and mail to George Greider; P O Box 67; East Haddam, CT 06423. And please indicate your name and address as well as the your car's year and model. You will get a show display card with your entry number, map and directions by return mail.

Any questions, contact ggreider@gamil.com or 860-922-0757

> Bic Healey

- > I regret to have to share the news with you that Bic Healey passed away
 - > earlier today. His family and dog were with him. Bic had fallen a
- > number of months ago and had to spend about three months in the hospital
 - > trying to recover from a broken hip. As I understand the situation it
 - > sounds like pneumonia is what Bic could not overcome.
- > > Please keep the family in your thoughts and prayers. At this point I do
 - > not have information regarding the funeral service or burial.
- > > Bic was a wonderful person and did an excellent job of enjoying life.
 - > He will be missed.
- > > Please pass on the information to others that you know would want to be
 - > aware of this sad moment in the lives of all of us in the Healey world.

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MEMBER PROFILE:

Bob & Jill Abbott of Greenland, NH

I would really be surprised if you are an active Austin Healey Club of New England member and do not know Bob and Jill Abbott. In their years as members of the club they have attended Conclaves, Summits, day trips, and planning sessions whenever they could and that was most of the time. Look up ACTIVE CLUB MEMBERS in the dictionary and there is a picture of Bob and Jill.

Their "Healey relationship" started when they were in college. Bob's roommate had a BJ8 and Bob had a motor cycle. They traded vehicles often. Both Bob and Jill are natives of Baltimore, MD and they had been dating on and off since the 8th grade! They married in January, 1969. Lots of Healey miles in that marriage.

Bob's first British car that he worked on was his Mom's British Consul (English Ford). He figured if someone could put it together he could take it apart and fix it. His repair skills began to grow out of necessity. Bob was working for a company that made wood finishes and paint removers. He sold their products across the Northeast all the way down to Virginia. While on the road he kept his eyes open for an Austin Healey for sale. He finally found a 1962 BJ7 in the next town over from where they were living in Exeter, NH. The lady Bob bought the car from was the original owner. It needed work but it ran. She really didn't want to sell it, but Bob assured her that he would love it and take care of it. Tearfully she accepted Bob's offer. Bob did a "Rolling restoration" when he first acquired the car and then decided to do "Frame off restoration" several years later. He joined the New England Club and met folks who were more than eager to give advise and help.



When the paint company decided to close its doors 7 years ago Bob decided to open a business in Ipswich, Massachusetts in Dave Altman's warehouse where Bob and Dave had done several restorations of British cars together and **British Car R&R** was launched. Bob had a large collection of necessary tools, a lift, a car trailer, and the know how to help British car owners keep their cars on the road and running. His business thrives there today.

Bob & Jill have taken lots of interesting trips in their BJ7: California for the 50th anniversary of the Healey, North Carolina conclave, Kingston Ontario conclave, Washington and Oregon tour, all over the Rocky Mountains, and the "Grand Daddy of them all" Belgium to France to Germany to Luxembourg to Switzerland to Italy and to Normandy. "We made it across the Alps twice in spite of running on only 5 cylinders as we had lost a piston."

"Our travel group has gone thousands of miles and none of us has had to use a tow truck on our trips. We had to make repairs as necessary and keep the cars going."

Bob's favorite Healey story has to do with a flat tire. He found he could not get the standard Healey jack under the car if a tire was flat. He was able to find a 10 foot 2 X 12 at a construction site. He used a big rock to leverage the 2 X 12 and had Jill walk out to the end of the board to raise the car up off the ground and stick the jack under it. It looks like mechanical skills run in the family!

<https://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/AHCAmembers/?fref=ts>

www.ahca-newengland.com

1st Event of the Season – Tech Session at Her Majesty's Auto Service, Pawtucket, RI.

The 2014 event season got off to a flying start with our first Tech Session of the year at Her Majesty's Auto Service in Pawtucket, RI. Over 20 of our Club members were joined by 20 members of the British Motorcars of New England. Jud Perkins offered his 1965 BJ-8 up as the sacrificial test car to demonstrate how to remove the front brake caliper, disk and wheel bearings. Eric Nygaard, owner of Her Majesty's, led the session demonstrating how to remove the grease cap which is buried in the hub, then the brake caliper, before his associate Jim got into removing and shimming the wheel bearing. Eric then rebuilt the brake caliper which was fortuitous as one of the pistons was frozen in the caliper. Interesting that with the frozen piston the car did not pull or seem to have any brake issues. Eric explained that this is common with this problem, as the effect is a gradual deterioration in braking performance which often goes unnoticed. Upon the reassembly Eric showed three methods to bleed the brakes without the need for an outside helper (wives take note).

The event was enlivened by having the opportunity to explore a classic British car collection (with a stray 356 Porsche thrown in).

Jud passed the hat for our official 2014 Charity the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation and the attendees contributed \$ _300_ to our official charity. The session was followed by lunch at a Rhode Island institution, Gregg's.

Our next Tech Session will be at Club member Bob Abbott's, in Ipswich, Ma. Bob's will go into the fine points of adjusting the SU Carburetor. The date is May 10th at _10 a.m.

Let's see if we can top our JDRF contribution at Bob's session.



Mid Maine Sports Car Club Spring Rally Weekend

Saturday, May 3 – Leap Into Spring Funkhana

6-event Funkhana at Owl's Head Transportation Museum, Owl's Head, ME

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED! – GO TO MMSCC.COM

Entries are limited to the first 35 checks received

Rooms at special event rates at the Country Inn, Rte. 1 Camden (phone reservations only 888-707-3945 call early as this motel is very popular) \$99 for 2 adults including very nice buffet breakfast, indoor pool, gym, hot tub, sauna, internet and car wash station.

Entries restricted to British & European sports & touring cars 25 yrs. old or older. Other British and European cars can be registered at the discretion of the Funkhana Master

Entry fee/car is \$85, including box lunches and buffet dinners for two people at OHTM on Saturday

Enter on line at MMSCC.COM under Event Registration (complete all boxes!)

All cars must have a driver and a navigator

Your entry is complete upon receipt of your check at MMSCC, 60 Howes Hill Rd., Camden, ME 04843

If you wish additional meals for Saturday include \$38 per additional person in your check for one box lunch and one buffet dinner

Sign-in starts at 9:00 AM at OHTM

Events run from 9:30 AM to about 4:00 PM (hour lunch break at Noon)

Free access to the museum all day

Dinner and awards at 6 PM at OHTM

More Information – 207-542-3025

Sunday, May 4 – Leap Into Spring Road Rally

60 mile fun rally through the mountains west of Camden

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED! – GO TO MMSCC.COM

Entries restricted to British & European sports & touring cars 25 yrs. old or older.

Other cars at the discretion of the Rally Master

Entry fee \$10

Sign-in starts at 9:00 AM at the Country Inn parking lot (Rte. 1 Camden across from Hannaford's food market and just South of the Mariner Gas Station)

All cars must have a driver and a navigator

Driver's meeting at 9:30 AM

1st car out at 10 AM (anticipated driving time is 3 hours)

Rally conclusion is a parking lot within short walking distance to a restaurant where we will have lunch and make awards. You should be on the road home by 2:30 PM

More information – 207-470-0940



**When you need help
with your Healey...**

Call us. We can do the work for you, or work side-by-side with you. A local shop with 2 decades of Healey experience. Transportation available in an enclosed trailer.

Call Bob at 603-425-3333 or 978-238-8810



We service all the British marques



LEMPERT 3: 54 REAR - END GEARS ARE COMING TO AN END !

I've been talking to Dan Lempert recently and have purchased the remaining 12 sets of 3:54 gears that he has for sale. The price to purchase the gears and have them installed will remain at \$1200.00 until they're gone. (some suppliers are charging \$1295.00 just for the gears!) [I have 3 sets of 3:54 gears left](#). A deposit of \$ 500.00 will hold a set for you until you're ready to have them installed.

Any questions call Paul Dunnell @ 413 - 339 - 0102 or e-mail to austin3000@verizon.net Feel free to ask for references.

Also I'd like to add a little " tech tip"

Of the seventeen cars that I've changed the gears in I'm finding that at least half of them are running on the same gear oil that " Donald" put in there fifty years ago! I realize that the rear end almost never gives us any problems so we seem to ignore it. I've found a couple with less than a cup of oil in them, and two that I had to push a screwdriver up though the drain hole to get the sludge to ooze out! Maybe once every three years we could change the 80 - 90 weight oil in the neglected rear end that we can't do without!