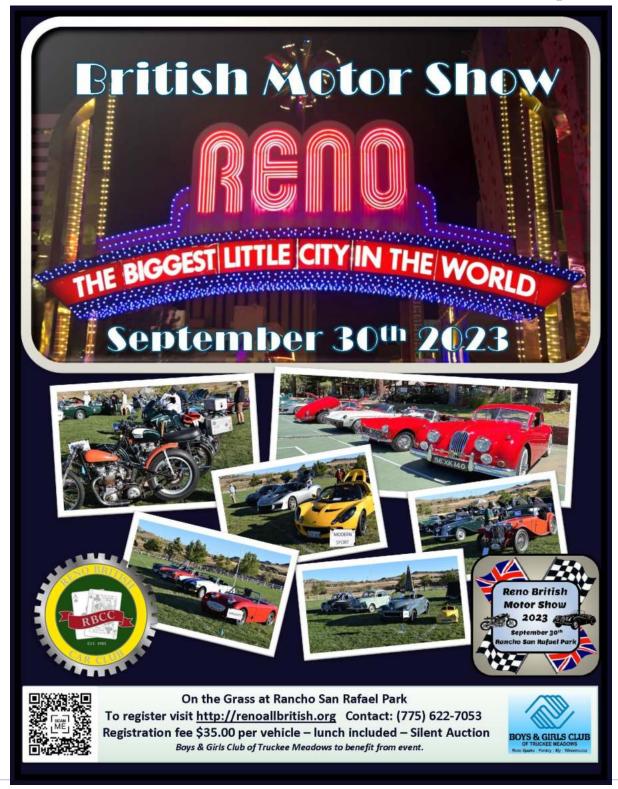
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September 2023



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# A Man and his Cars and Enough Family to Drive them all to the Show!

(And a Car Story)



Ken Moberly



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### The Clutch

By Ken Moberly

### **RBCC** member

"Nooooo!" A high-pitched growl reverberated next to me when I released the clutch. My little 1961 Austin Healey "Bugeye" Sprite shuttered, calmed and then backed out of the garage. That was on September 6.

I knew it had to be the clutch or the throw-out bearing but I didn't have time to pull the engine and transmission before California Healey Week 2023 on September 18 nor the Reno British Motor Show on September 30.

I also thought the bugeye might have enough clutch to get thru Healey Week and maybe enough to limp to the Motor Show. And I was right, almost.

We trailered the bugeye to South Shore Lake Tahoe, unloaded her and drove to the Healey Week car show at The Shops at Heavenly Valley mall.

The little car growled and was not happy but got us to the mall. The bugeye had to be coaxed, however, into leaving the mall after the show.



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Unfortunately, the bugeye missed the rest of the festivities that week as we had to put her back in the trailer after the show and didn't take her out of the trailer until we got home to Reno on Friday afternoon.

We had a good time at California Healey Week 2023 and the bugeye got a 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the "Bugeye" class. The bad clutch made the show different, not bad, just different.

The next week Terry and I were totally engrossed in the Reno British Motor Show, the Reno British Car Club's second annual car show.

My daughter, Kristy, entered and drove her 1978 MG Midget and Terry and I entered our five LBC's; a 1957 Morris Minor 1000 roadster, a 1960 Morris Minor 1000 salon, a 1966 Austin Healey Mark III Sprite, a 1980 MGB LE, and, of course, the Bugeye.

I recruited Brian, Kristy's husband, our oldest daughter, Kerry, her husband Nick, and our neighbor Cal as drivers for the LBC's. It was pretty cool to have six LBC's parading thru Reno in the predawn Saturday morning. I was last in the procession and the Bugeye growled but kept going although she did balk going up the steep hill on Sierra Street just a quarter mile from the Rancho San Rafael Park entrance where the show was being held. The bugeye did the same thing going over the same hill heading home.

A shout-out to our family, including our two youngest grandsons, Caden and Logan, and all the RBCC volunteers who worked hard before, during and after the show to make it a success.

I don't mean to brag, well ok, I do as our six cars won three 1<sup>st</sup> place trophies (including the cranky Bugeye in the Spridget Class) and two 2<sup>nd</sup> place trophies in their classes.

The Reno British Motor Show 2023 was even better than last year's show. Our sponsors and those who donated to the silent auction and Boy and Girls Club raffle pushed us over the top. We were even complimented on producing English type weather for the show!

Now I must tear apart the bugeye, pull her engine and transmission, order some parts and make the little bugeye happy again.

A big shout out and thank you to those strong gentlemen and ladies in the Moberly Clan!

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# Hope to see you all next year! Happy Motoring!

