



## THE MAGNETTE

Newsletter of the Z Magnette Group  
910 Hirsch, Melrose Park, Il. 60160

Dear Enthusiast,

1/26/98

After much work by ZMG member Jeff Arendas, I am able to publish a new updated member list. We spent many hours on the list, myself going through all past records in regards to address and area code changes, and Jeff entering all of the information onto a disk.

The most important part of this list is YOU! Please call or fax me, or E-mail Jeff Arendas with any changes. (address, phone #, zip, spelling? - do you still own your Magnette?). My phone number is (708) 344-2268, my fax (708) 344-4248. If you would like to add your E-mail address to the list, E-mail Jeff A. at [JeffArendas@compuserve.com](mailto:JeffArendas@compuserve.com)

Please send or call in your changes right away, as I would like to include the member list in the next newsletter which will be mailed before April 1st. I have several articles that are ready to print. There will also be "Cars for Sale", "Parts for Sale", and "Wanted" sections in the next issue. Please fax or mail in your ads. The listings I have already received will be included.

Included with this mailing is an article written by ZMG member Mike Hickman regarding his trip to England, and his visit with Magnette suppliers/restorers John & Lou Shorten. Sharon and I visited with the Shorten's 6 years ago, and had a enjoyable afternoon discussing everything Magnettes.

Thanking you in advance for updating your member list.

Happy New Year!

Fellow Magnutts:

September weather was beautiful this year in the U.K. Cool, dry and sunny. My wife, Sandy, and I arrived in London at Gatwick airport on Saturday, Sept. 13th, rented a car and headed south to Beaulieu for the annual Autojumble. For any British car enthusiast this is a very memorable event. Especially memorable for those of us in the U.S. I would guess as many as 4-5 football fields of vendors are set up for this. Anything you can imagine for British cars can be found. Parts, literature, models, you name it! There were parts for cars never seen in the U.S. and parts for cars you've never even heard of!

The car show was not as good as I had expected. There were some very unusual cars and some American iron as well such as Mustangs, and Cadillacs. Most of the cars in the show were for sale and the prices for the most part were pretty much in line with the asking prices in the U.S.

The grounds at Beaulieu are very nice. Dining facilities with good food ranging from sandwiches to plate lunches with wine and beer on tap as well. Also on the grounds is a very nice car and motorcycle museum with some one of a kind land speed record cars. All makes were represented from all over the world. Also displayed is an English petrol station with gas pumps and all sorts of tools and other station memorabilia. Half a day was not enough for this event, there is plenty to see. There is even a palace on the grounds which you can tour but we just didn't have time. We would not hesitate to go back, but would certainly allow an entire day or two depending on how much time you want to spend with the vendors.

We spent the night in Highcliff about 15 miles from Beaulieu on the south coast by the Isle of Wight, a very nice bed and breakfast with a full English breakfast to hold you til dinner. Two meals is all you need a day with a start like that.

Sunday morning we took off for Norwich to the Town and Country event, held at the Royal Norfolk showgrounds. This is a car show of all makes and club affiliations. The Z and Farina Magnette register hold their last show of the season there.

Lou and John Shorten are hosts of this part of the show. Lou owns and operates a new and used parts business for Z Magnettes. John is a trained engineer who makes replacement panels for Z Magnettes from the original specs. Like most MG people, they are very nice folks who are willing to help you with any problems you may have with your car.

The show was well attended with 33 Magnettes. All years and models were represented. Some of these cars have been in the owners families since new. One Magnette has a Webasto sunroof and Judsen super-charger. This was another event I would not hesitate to go to again.

On Tuesday of that week we went to visit Lou and John at their house in Lenwade. just a short distance from Norwich. They have a very nice place and a great shop. It's one of the first used parts places I have ever been where all, I mean all parts are sorted in bins and kept under roof. Lou runs the parts end and is extremely knowledgeable about where to get the parts either in the U.S. or in th U.K. She stocks most parts and knows where to get the ones she doesn't. John has a simple shop with all the right tools, and really knows how to use them! He had a car in the shop that he was repairing that most people wouldn't bother to bring home. The entire left side rocker, sill, and door post had been replaced front to back, not to mention the floorboards, front fender panels, trunk floor and more. He is quite a craftsman and is bringing back alot of cars that would otherwise be headed for the crusher.

In closing, anyone planning a trip to the U.K., feel free to give Sandy and I a call. We saw many more points of interest in our two week trip. This article only covers about the first 3 days.

Safety Fast

Yours truly,

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