Jeff Powell 910 Hirsch lelrose Park, Illinois 60160



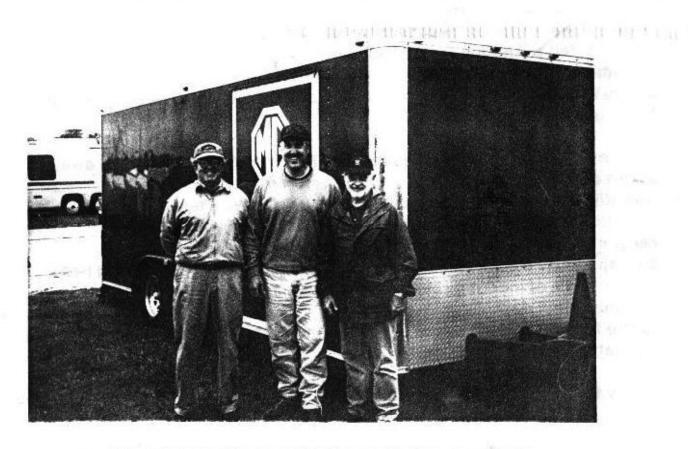




DAVID & LAUREL LIVELY 2596 RIO BRAVO CIRCLE SACRAMENTO, CA 95826

Z Magnette Group N

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Three Magnetteers at Indianapolis Raceway Park

Dear Enthusiasts,

Happy New Year to all and welcome to the new members. With the cold weather here in Chicago the Magnette is sleeping in the garage with the MGB and TC until spring. We plan on using the Magnette more this summer than we did last year as we now have new tires, front shocks and a suspension repair which are detailed in this issue.

The Z magnette Group roster now includes your car information with your address, etc. Thanks to Jeff Arendas for getting all of this done. Please check your listing that all of the information is correct. Any changes should be sent to me via fax, phone or email. You will notice that I listed the interior color for your car as original, as was asked on your registration form. I did this to get a feel for what color combinations were popular when the cars were new.

It is always nice to meet in person ZMG members – whenever I see another Magnette at an event I make it a point of finding the owner(s) and they usually are ZMG-ers! I had a surprise while participating in a vintage race event held at Indy raceway Park this past fall. I overheard a man telling another about his Magnette – turns out it was ZMG member Terry Trovato from Natchez, MIss. He was with a friend who races a Austin Healy. It was great to meet Terry as we had spoken on the phone several times. It felt as though I was reaquainted with an old friend. I then introduced Terry to another ZMG member – Jack Heist – who was racing his MGTF with me. What a small world – and despite the foul weather we had a great weekend.

Before I close I would like to mention 3 ZMG members who passed away at the end of last year:

Jack Kirkpatrick – he purchased his Magnette new. I never had the pleasure of meeting Jack, but his spirit will still be with us as his car is now being restored by Wen Harris.

Dick and Betty Macadoo – two of our early members – Sharon and I had the pleasure of meeting them several years ago at a MGA meet in Indianapolis.

To the families and friends of Jack, Dick and Betty – we extend our deepest sympathy and condolences.

Safety fast!

New Members

Dick Baker
2644 Rednersville Road
Carrying Place, Ontario, Canada KOK ILO
(613) 966-4646
Email: baybriar@bel.auracom.com
58 ZB KAJ43/29424

James Muriel Phelps 508 N. Nevada Street Carson City, NV. 89703 (775)) 882-4917 58 ZB KAII43/36759 56 ZB KAT43/20312

Richard Greenberg 2355 E. Hampton Street Tucson, AZ. 85719 (520) 325-8128 Email: greenberg@lpl.arizona.edu 58 ZB KAC43/27684

Oscar Dahms 22W428 Balsam Drive Glen Ellyn, IL. 60137 (630) 469-7332 56 ZA KAE43/14256

Brian Warmuth
32 Edgewood Street
Wheeling, WV 26003
(304) 232–8008
Email: warmuthb@wlsc.wvnet.edu
58 ZB KAC43/27236

Chris & Marcy Kotting 1354 Abbeyhill Drive Worthington, OH. 43085 (614) 885-6854 58 ZB Jeff Zorn 29311 Aranel Farmington Hills, MI 48334 (248) 489-0022 Email: LBCarCo@aol.com 58 ZB KAT43/26668

Chris Powell 212 Academy Way Columbia, SC 29206 (803) 787-9717 58 ZB KAB43/22436



Helen Heist with her ZB and Oscar Dahms with his new ZA at the British Car Union Des Plaines, IL.

History of '55 ZA KAT13/8327 by Grant Howlett

The ZA was purchased new on June 22, 1955 in Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk, UK by my grandfather Lord Peter Miller – the only owner until June 1998 when I inherited the car. The original sales invoice is £945 inclusive of car underseal, 6 gallons of gas and side valve radio. My grandfather had the same mechanic service the ZA every 2,000 miles and it completed 42,000 miles up to June 1998. The car is almost museum/showroom quality, with only a few hairline scratches. The interior is like new, back seat never been sat on, the carpeting is like new. (covered with extrallayers of red carpet). The current tires are only the second set on the car, the spare is original. The original MG black enamel key fob was found under the driver's side mat only this November in perfect condition. I exported the car to Virginia last July and I currently drive it most every weekend. I have driven approx. 2,000 miles trouble free – it starts first time, every time.

Photo: Daughter Abigail tending to the family pride and joy in the U.K.



Correspondence

Does anyone have an experience with a chrome plating outfit that they could recommend? Ability to do the pot metal moldings? I am not looking for "show quality" or "concours". Also, the bumpers and overriders I have will need some minor repairs before plating.

Cheers, Brian Warmuth

I just learned that the Magnette clutch slave cylinder rebuild kit does not cross with a TR-2, it crosses with a big Healy. Moss # 583-750, Lockhead # KL71507.

Regards, Jeff Arendas

My car is doing great! just fitted it with a single downdraft Weber. Got all of the throttle linkage made by a friend.

Terry Trovato

The Magnette I'm building is getting very close. The automatic (Austin Marina) works fine. I'm now having the chrome done and installing a brake booster. Paint, interior and all mechanicals are finished and I have about 500 miles tested. All seems good, it is new from one end to the other!

Ron Cobb

Dear Jeff, I'm writing with good news about the Magnette. As you may recall, I told you that Wayne and I were taking the Magnette to the all British car show held in Houston by the Houston MG car club. I'm pleased to say we received first prize in the special interest group. We also got second place in the valve cover races. We were informed that we were in a four-way tie for the clubs highest award: The Ralph Deibart Award, named after a founding member. We will be going to the monthly meeting on July 7th, where we will find out if we won. I'll let you know. Because we have had two first place awards in the last two years, we will be entered into the premier class next year. What fun! Isabel hardy

P.S. Check out our Magnette, click "featured MG" at http://mg.zapware.com

Editors note: Wayne also came in first place in the Autocross event held at the Houston show. He had the fastest time against MG T types and MG A's. Good show!

Jeff, writing to you with bad news. Two of our local British sports car club members have died. Both Dick and Betty Macadoo died about one month apart, two super people, they will be missed. I have purchased their Magnette project. I plan to restore it and make changes on it that I have been wanting to make on my own car. Yours, Arch Boston

Jeff, club member Jack Kirkpatrick, my friend and neighbor, passed away. I have taken on his '56 Magnette in it's restoration. Jack was the original purchaser and bought it back from the insurance company twice after it burned, and then was flooded. He had been restoring the engine, all done but the rockers, and the body and interior are yet to do as well as the rest of the accessories. Fortunately he left me some good manuals and had replaced many parts. Currently I have many boxes of parts in my garage and the car, minus engine and trans in front of my garage. I hope to get it inside within a few weeks.

Wen Harris

Wanted to make you aware of the site listed below where we have 5 Z Magnettes in the "MG Aisle". This should help educate the unitiated about our wonderful cars! http://www.mfasco.com/~mike/gltr/html/british_car_show.html Terry Trovato

Wayne Hardy recieving the 1st place trophy for his Magnette at the All British Car Show in Houston, TX.



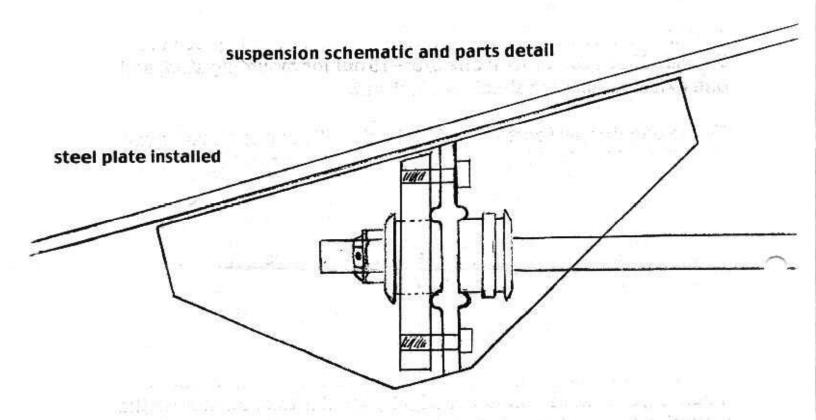
Repair to Front Suspension Trailing Arm Bushings by Jeff Powell

A common problem is showing up on our Magnettes. Does your car make a dull clucking noise that seems to come from the firewall/floor area when driving over rippled roads or hitting a bump? Your problem could be deteriorated rubber bushings that secure the lower front suspension trailing arm. The bushings in question are located at the end of the arm which is mounted in a boxed bracket under the floor. To determine if your bushings are worn, jack up the front of your car and look at the boxed bracket from the rear. You will see the end of the threaded rod, nut, washer and rubber bushing. The rod and bushing should be in the center of the bracket. In our car, the rod was not centered but had moved to one side with the washer making contact on the bracket. The original design is that the two rubberbushings are located within a ridge in the boxed bracket and held in place by compression of the nut and washer. When the rubber deteriorates, the compression is lost and the rods are free to move, causing the clunk. The easy fix for this is to install new rubber bushings and be done with it. It was my experience that this was not good enough as five years after doing just that, I had the problem back again. Are the replacement parts not the same as the originals? I'm not sure because the originals were too worn for comparison. The fix that I came up with was to install a steel plate on the rear side of the boxed bracket that locates the rear rubber bushing not allowing it to move. This involves making the plate and mounting it to the bracket and making new rubber bushings.

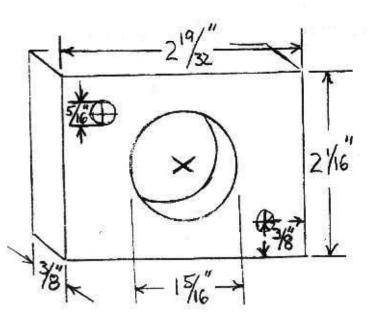
I made the plate from mild steel using 1/4" Allen head screws to secure the plate to the bracket. The plate should be made so that it fits tight in the sides of the bracket. The top of the plate should be ground at an angle to fit the bracket as shown. I found the rubber bushing material at an automobile swap meet and trimmed it to the dimensions shown. The rubber could also be purchased in 3/4" thick sheet and drilled with a hole saw to make the bushings.

When installing, the bushings should fit tightly in the steel plate. When the nut us tightened the washer will compress and flair the rubber on both sides of the bracket. When reinstalling, a tapered punch may be used to help align the holes in the bracket to the mounting holes in the floor.

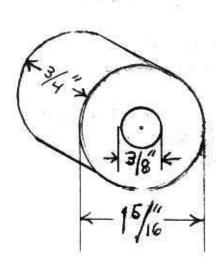
When completed, your Magnette will drive quietly down the road and should remain that way for many years.



steel plate



rubber bushing

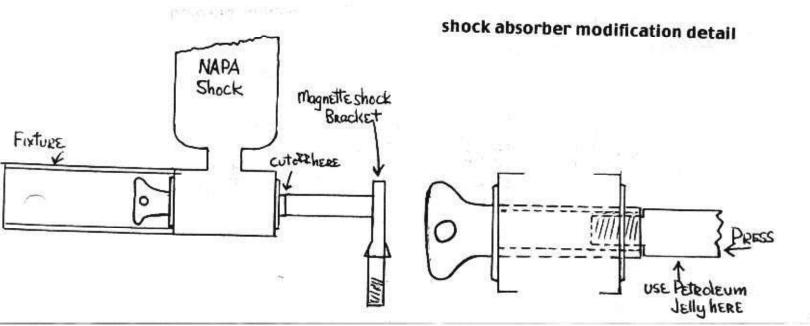


Magnette Front Shock Absorbers by Jeff Powell

NAPA #94001 approx. \$18 each extended length 14 1/4", compressed length 9 1/2"

Changes to NAPA shock to fit a Magnette:

- 1) NAPA uses course threaded nuts on top mounting in place of fine thread. Shock comes with one 3/8"-16 nut for mounting stud, add one extra nut on each shock as a lock nut.
- 2) The adapter pin (bottom end of shock) will have to be removed from the rubber bushing so that the Magnette mounting bracket can be used. Hold one end of the pin in a vise and cut off one side of the pin nearly flush with the rubber. File edges smooth. Make a fixture from 1" pipe approx. 2" long to hold the shock. Use the Magnette bracket as a drift pin. Insert the threaded end of the Magnette bracket into the cut off pin and press out using a large vise or small press. Coat the Magnette bracket with a small amount of petroleum jelly to ease assembly.
- 3) The rubber mountings supplied with the new shock for the top mounting area have a shoulder slightly smaller than the hole in the mounting tower. This should not be a problem as there is no side force on the shock in this area.



SECTION L

THE HYDRAULIC DAMPERS

General Description.

Section No. L.I Removing and replacing a front damper.

Section No. L.2 Removing and replacing a rear damper.

Section No. L.3 Test data,

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Telescopic hydraulic dampers of the double-acting type are fitted to the suspension. All working parts are submerged in oil. They are carefully set before dispatch and cannot be adjusted or refilled with fluid. Defective dampers must be replaced by new components.

Note.—It is important that dampers be kept in the upright position when removed from the vehicle until they are replaced.

To release the eyebolts from the lower end of the damper, remove the nut, bolt and spring washer, and withdraw the distance tube.

When reassembling a front damper, replace the eyebolts, bushes and distance tube, and tighten the bolts with the eyebolt set at 12½° to the centre line of the damper. Position the damper, engaging the eyebolts with the holes in the lower suspension arm before replacing the top cover and bushes. Ensure that the washers are fitted to the flat sides of the rubber bushes.

Section L.1

REMOVING AND REPLACING A FRONT DAMPER

Place a jack below the outer end of the lower suspension arm and raise it until the wheel is clear of the ground; remove the wheel.

The weight of the car should not be released from

the jack until the damper has been replaced unless the spring is also to be removed.

Detach the brake pipe bracket from the cover. (Up to Chassis No. ZA.1867.)

Remove the locknut, nut, steel washer and rubber mounting at the top of the damper cover.

Unscrew and remove the four nuts and spring washers securing the cover to the upper spring cap assembly.

Unscrew and remove the two nuts securing the damper to the lower suspension arm.

Withdraw the damper and cover.

Retain the damper in an upright position until it is refitted to the suspension.

To release the cover from the damper, hold the bolt against rotation by the flats provided and unscrew the locknut and nut.

Remove the upper washer and rubber bush; the cover can then be removed.

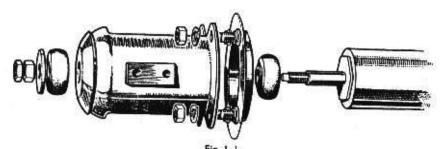
Replacement is a reversal of this sequence of operations.

Section L.2

REMOVING AND REPLACING A REAR DAMPER

Unscrew and remove the upper and lower mounting nuts. Remove the washers and withdraw the damper end ferrules from the mounting bolts.

Examine the rubber bushes and renew as necessary. Replace by reversing the dismantling procedure.



The components of the front damper upper mounting.

Cars For Sale

1958 ZB Magnette – grey/balck. Needs work on rocker panels and engine/drive train. \$1500.

Bob George

H: (757) 850-2962 W: (757) 723-8053

georgeb@monroe-mpri.com

1956 ZA - New tires, call for details. \$3500 OBO.

John Allinson
(317) 823-0781

Two rusty ZB parts or project cars.
Allen Bachelder
(540) 544-7333
bachldrs@swva.net

Parts For Sale

Parting out a ZA - call or email your parts list.

Aaron Spaulding
(310) 639-2582

aaronspaulding@compuserve.com

Manumatic Shift and clutch assembly, adapter plate between engine and trans. Right side rear door, boot lid, windscreen, rear glass, complete rear end assembly.

Ron Cobb (904) 789–5749 peggco@totcon.com

Many ZB parts to sell, too many to list. Call or email with your needs. Dee & Wayne Johnson (619) 583-0976 waynemg@pacbell.net

Windscreen and rear window seals for ZA & ZB (not varitone rear window) \$85 front, \$75 rear - free shipping Jeff Powell (708) 344-2268 mgracer@ync.net

Parts Wanted

ZA windscreen washer bottle and bracket. Chrome flash along bottom of rear number plate. Pattern for adapter bracket to use MGB calipers in disc brake conversion. Proper R.T. Shelley tyre pump.

Michael Dawson
(909) 279–7736
bridgedwsn@aol.com

Rebuildable master cylinder. Usable front and rear bumper guards (not needing chrome).

Tom Abbott
(910) 764-0460
tdabbot@pol.net

Wire harness, bumper overriders. Brian Warmuth (304) 232-8008 warmuthb@wlsvax.wunet.edu

Looking for seat covers /original leather or after-market as original style, or cloth non original. Information wanted covering the installation of air conditioning - compressor, plumbing, brackets required, etc. Arch Boston archboston@webtv.net

Car wanted - ZB body shell with minimal rust or a decent driver.

Allen Bachelder (540) 544-7333 bachldrs@swva.net

James Phelps unloading the restoration project with the parts car in the backround



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The symbols KAKP 33/1002 when decoded give—M.G. Magnette, Saloon 4-door, Light Red (top), Ivory (bottom), L.H.D., Celiulose, Car No. 1002.

Z MAGNETTE GROUP POLO SHIRTS \$22.00 EACH



Quality shirts embroidered by ZMG member Jim Pesta.

White shirts with your choice of maroon, green. or navy blue logo.

Send this form to: Auto Graphics 8360 Curzon Avenue Cincinnati, Ohio 45216 or call (513) 761-3748

QTY: _____ SIZE: L

•		XL	
Your Name	Embroidery Color:	Green	
City		Maroon	
State/Zip		Navy Blue	

Please include \$3.00 for postage when ordering 1-2 shirts, \$4.00 postage for 3 or more shirts.



ZMG WINDOW STICKERS

White printing on a clear backround that adheres to the inside of the window. Buy one for Magnette and one for the 'other' family car!

\$3.00 each or 2 for \$5.00 (price includes shipping)

Send your check to: Jeff Powell 910 Hirsch, Melrose Park, IL. 60160