

Flatwater Austin Healey Club Newsletter

Austin Healey CLUB OF AMERICA, INC. Apr 1998

WHY DO WE DRIVE LBCS?

This is an adaptation of "The Station", written by Robert Hastings, for the sole purpose of promoting British Car Week, a non profit endeavor.

Reminder:

British Car Week - May 18 - 24.

Tucked away in our sub conscience is an idyllic vision. We see ourselves on a long trip that spans the continent. We are traveling by British sports car.

Outside of the car we drink in the passing scenes, friendly people smiling and waving, cattle grazing on a distant hillside, the unmistakable sound of the engine purring, the smells that accompany the surroundings, of row upon row of corn and wheat, of flatlands and valleys, of lakes and streams, of roads that are often forgotten, of mountains and rolling hillsides, of city skylines and village halls.

But uppermost in our minds is that final destination, that light at the end of the tunnel. On a certain day at a certain hour, we will pull into our final destination. Bands will be playing, flags will be waving. Once we get there, so many wonderful dreams will come true, and the pieces of our lives will fit together like a completed jigsaw puzzle. How restlessly we spend our time damning the minutes for loitering - waiting, waiting, waiting for that certain time to come.

"When we reach our goal, that will be it" we cry.

"When I turn 18!"

"When I get my first car."

"When I buy my dream house."

"When I get my last kid through school."

"When I get that mortgage paid off."

"When I get that promotion."

"When I reach the age of retirement I will live happily ever after."

Sooner or later we must realize there is no final destination, no one place to arrive at once and for all. The true joy of life is the trip. The final destination is only a dream. It constantly outdistances us.

"Relish the moment" is a good motto. So stop pacing, waiting and counting the miles. Instead, climb more mountains, eat more ice cream, go barefoot more often, watch more sunsets, laugh more, cry less, and certainly drive those British sports cars more often. Life must be lived as we go along. The light at the end of the tunnel will come soon enough.

Don't forget to enjoy those British cars this Summer and keep'em on th

We Might as Well Have a Party Verse II: Omaha Edition

A new FWAHC tradition was started with the eastern version of the "Its too cold to work in the garage, too salty to drive LBCs, football is over and we are bored so we might as well have a party" party. Jerry and Nancy Needham were kind enough to open their home in Bellevue to the FWAHC. Brave souls, the Needhams.

(No comments on the intelligence of such a move will be tolerated. Ed.)

A few folks from Lincoln made the trip and were joined by the Omaha regulars in a feast and a tour of Jerry's basement. This is more than just a basement, for it contains our esteemed president's storehouse of Bugeye and various other British car parts. We were also treated with the first public viewing of John O'Brien's newly restored little red Bugeye Sprite.

Thank you again, Needhams, for having the courage to allow all of us to invade your home.

What We Really Mean

I'm going fishing."

Really means..."I'm going to drink myself dangerously stupid, and stand by a stream with a stick in my hand, while the fish swim by in complete safety."

"It's a guy thing."

Really means...."There is no rational thought pattern connected with it, and you have no chance at all of making it logical."

"Can I help with dinner?"

Really means...."Why isn't it already on the table?"

"Uh huh," "Sure, honey," or "Yes, dear."

Really means Absolutely nothing. It's a conditioned response.

"It would take too long to explain."

Really means..."I have no idea how it works.

"I'm getting more exercise lately."

Really means...."The batteries in the remote are dead."

"We're going to be late."

Really means...."Now I have a legitimate excuse to drive like a maniac."

"I was listening to you. It's just that I have things on my mind."

Really means...."I was wondering if that red-head over there is wearing a bra."

"Take a break, honey, you're working too hard."

Really means...."I can't hear the game over the vacuum cleaner."

"That's interesting, dear."

Really means...."Are you still talking?"

"Honey, we don't need material things to prove our love."

Really means...."I forgot our anniversary again."

"You expect too much of me."

Really means...."You want me to stay awake." It's a really good movie."

PAGE 3 - FLATWATER AUSTIN HEALEY CLUB NEWSLETTER

"That's women's work."

Really means.... "It's difficult, dirty, and thankless."

"Will you marry me?"

Really means.... "Both my roommates have moved out, I can't find the washer, and there is no more peanut butter."

"You know how bad my memory is."

Really means.... "I remember the theme song to 'F Troop', the address of the first girl I ever kissed and the Vehicle Identification Numbers of every car I've ever owned, but I forgot your birthday."

"I was just thinking about you, and got you these roses."

Really means.... "The girl selling them on the corner was a real babe."

"Oh, don't fuss. I just cut myself, it's no big deal."

Really means.... "I have actually severed a limb, but will bleed to death before I admit I'm hurt."

"I do help around the house."

Really means.... "I once put a dirty towel in the laundry basket."

"Hey, I've got my reasons for what I'm doing."

Really means.... "And I sure hope I think of some pretty soon."

"I can't find it."

Really means.... "It didn't fall into my outstretched hands, so I'm completely clueless."

"What did I do this time?"

Really means.... "What did you catch me at?"

"She's one of those rabid feminists."

Really means.... "She refused to make my coffee."

"I heard you."

Really means.... "I haven't the foggiest clue what you just said, and am hoping desperately that I can fake it well enough so that you don't spend the next 3 days yelling at me."

"You know I could never love anyone else."

Really means.... "I am used to the way you yell at me, and realize it could be worse."

"You look terrific."

Really means.... "Oh, God, please don't try on one more outfit. I'm starving."

"I brought you a present."

Really means.... "It was free ice scraper night at the ball game."

"I missed you."

Really means.... "I can't find my sock drawer, the kids are hungry and we are out of toilet paper."

"I'm not lost. I know exactly where we are."

Really means.... "No one will ever see us alive again."

"We share the housework."

Really means.... "I make the messes, she cleans them up."

"This relationship is getting too serious."

Really means.... "I like you more than my LBC, gulp!"

"I don't need to read the instructions."

Really means.... "I am perfectly capable of screwing it up without printed help."

"I'll fix the garbage disposal later."

Really means.... "If I wait long enough you'll get frustrated and buy a new one."