

# What's Your Car Called?

By Rich Wagner

Last month we asked members to tell us about any pet names they have for their British cars. Here's the story behind the names Rich and Adrienne Wagner have given to their's.

It's all my wife's fault that we own British cars! 13 years ago, Adrienne said to me, "Wouldn't it be nice if we could have another sports car like you had when we first met?" Way back then, I had a 1961 Triumph TR-3A. I didn't know what I'd find when I began looking, but we settled on a 1975 MGB with a "mirror finish" black body, creamy gray interior and matching cloth top. This car was absolutely stunning to look at and quite naturally, we thought of her as a she. Since "Babycakes" is a pet name for Adrienne (she also has one for me), this beautiful car soon became "Babycakes II".

The inspiration for Babycakes actually came from a 1966 movie called "The Russians Are Coming". It's a comedy



Mr. Majestic

about a Russian sub that gets stranded in New England and there's a memorable line in the film where one the stranded sailors says; "200 watts of power Babycakes" as he's trying to flirt with a woman in an

electronics store.

A year later, we bought a second 1975 MGB. This one was Tahiti Blue with a very loud exhaust and a competition cam that together, reminded me more of a dragster than a British sports car. This was certainly no lady, and it wasn't long before he became known as Mr. Majestic reflecting both the deep blue color and the toughness of Charles Bronson's character in "Mr. Majestic".

Three years later, we found another Triumph TR-3A. The long sweeping curves were too pretty to be thought of as anything else but female, so she's called Ruby because of her original deep red color and the Kenny Roger's tune, "Ruby, Don't Take Your Love to Town"

TODAY:

"Babycakes II" eventually was restored to her original beautiful finish and sold. Mr. Majestic (much like it's owner), has mellowed over the years and now purrs along sporting a stainless steel exhaust. The rebuilt engine also has an original equipment cam for that healthy sounding classic British car exhaust and he's ready to travel anywhere.

"Ruby" is ready to travel too, but after one successful drive to Florida, any trips in her will probably be limited to less than a week.

Giving your car an affectionate name can really make for a closer relationship between you and your vehicle. You'll never really understand unless you try it yourself.



Ruby