Under The Bonnet

Newsletter of the

Wasatch Mountain Jaguar Register

December 2020



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As a follow on from the article on the Hobson Telegauge article in Bulletin 583, Steve Horne has sent this article for those owners with the standard electrical petrol gauge.

JUNE-JULY, 1934

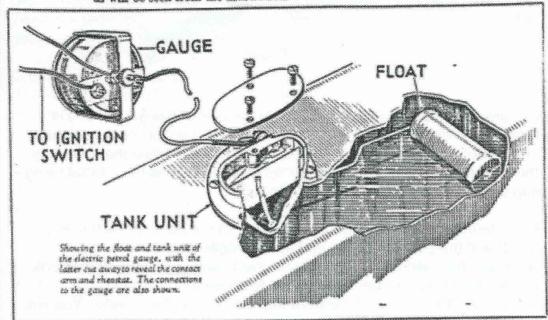
101

ELECTRIC PETROL GAUGES

on the Austin Seven and Ten-Four

THE Smith electric petrol gauges fitted to all Austin Seven and Ten-Four cars, are simple in their construction and operation, working via the ignition switch, and servicing is confined to the few items described below.

There are four points at which a loose or broken connection might render the gauge inoperative, these being one at the tank unit and three at the back of the gauge, as will be seen from the illustration.

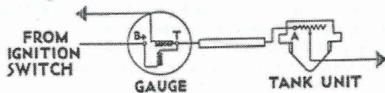


It is important that both the gauge and the tank unit should earth properly.

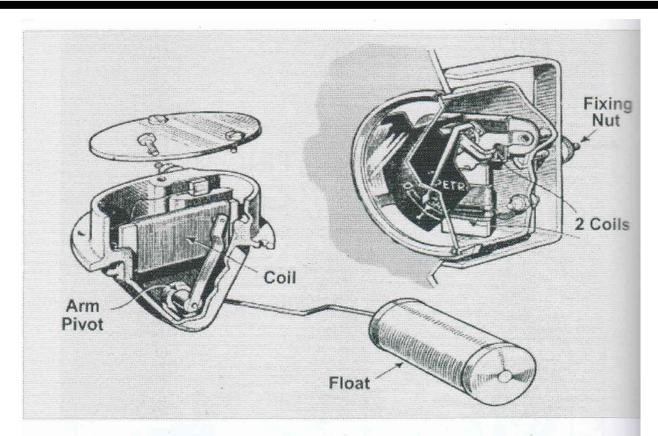
The cable from the tank unit may be earthing at some point if the meter indicates a full tank without cause. If it is the tank unit terminal which is earthed the unit will require repairing.

The gauge can be tested by connecting a voltmeter between the feed terminal "B+" and the positive terminal of the battery, with the battery negative connected to the gauge casing. Alternatively, the battery negative can be connected to the terminal "T" for the tank unit cable.

A voltmeter can also be used to test the tank unit, which should give slightly increased readings as the float arm is lifted.



A diagram of the petrol gauge connections. B+. T and A are the terminals which must be kept secure.



There are three electrical connections on the rear of the gauge; this is where the uninitiated go wrong as they notice the two terminals marked 'B', to the battery, and 'T', to the fuel tank, but fail to realise that the body of the gauge MUST be earthed, the third connection, via the central fixing clamp which holds the gauge in the dashboard.

In basic terms when the gauge is connected to the battery (via the 'B' terminal and the body of the gauge) the two coils are both energised which holds the magnet, and pointer, in the 'Empty' position. If you look at the diagram you will see that one coil is between the 'B' and 'T' terminals and the second coil is from the 'T' to the earthed body. You will also notice that the tank sender unit is connected to the 'T' terminal and the earth return to the battery, it is therefore connected across the same two connections as the coil in the gauge.

The coil in the tank unit is a variable resistor, or rheostat, which can be shorted out along its length by the action of the arm attached to the float, in effect when the tank is empty all the coil in the tank is in action but when the tank is 'Full' none of the coil in the tank is in action. When the amount of coil in action in the tank changes, because it is connected across the coil in the gauge it changes the effect that the coil in the gauge has in terms of magnetism. This change affects the balance of the magnetic fields in the gauge and the magnet swings moving the pointer.

When the tank is 'Full' it effectively shorts out the coil in the gauge and the

magnetic effect of the second coil is removed and the pointer swings to its fullest amount. Well that's the theory over, you need to have some idea of what is going on inside, even if it is only to give you confidence to sort out your problems.

What do you need to do if your gauge stops working?

This depends on what is happening to the pointer of your non-functioning gauge.

If the pointer stays at empty - and there is petrol in the tank!

Check that the earth wire is connected and is making a good contact.

Check that there is current from the battery going to the 'B' terminal

Put a temporary link between the 'T' terminal and earth, if the gauge does

not move then your gauge is faulty, if the gauge moves to '5' gallons then
the gauge is OK and your problem is between the tank and the gauge.

If the pointer is always at 'Full' - even when the tank is empty

Disconnect the wire to the 'T' terminal, if the gauge stays at "Full" then
there is a fault in the gauge, if the pointer drops back to `Empty' then the
gauge is OK and there is a fault between the gauge and the tank.

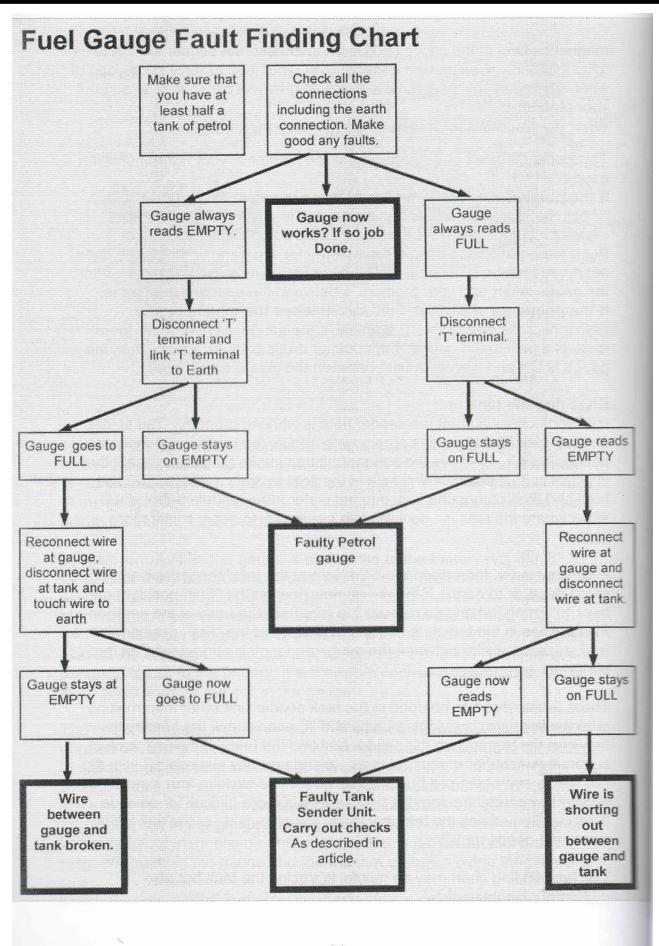
Checking the tank unit

It is worth checking that the sender float is working properly. The solder on the brass float becomes porous with age as the additives in modern petrol attack it. Remove the sender unit and shake the float to see if there is petrol in it. If so drill a tiny hole in the float to drain it, solder over the hole and then plunge the float into hot water. Any tell-tale bubbles will show where the leak is - so it may be necessary to apply a little more solder.

If the float is OK then disconnect the wire at the tank sender unit and touch the wire to earth. If the gauge now goes to the "Full" position, and back to 'Empty' when you remove the wire from the body of the car then the fault lies in the tank unit. If the gauge stays at the "Full" position then it is likely that the wire between the gauge and tank is shorting out on the bodywork somewhere.

There is little that can be done in the tank sender unit other than making sure the float arm is swinging freely and you can check the continuity between the terminal on the sender unit and the body of the unit, lack of continuity will either mean that the swinging arm has lost contact with the coil inside or that the coil has a broken wire. The sticking arm can be rectified by careful freeing; the broken wire is more difficult for obvious reasons. Sometimes the terminal insulation on outside of the unit breaks down and needs replacing.

The fault-finding chart may be helpful in tracing the fault but also understanding this article.







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The Best Road Trip Movies Warning: Hijinks Ensue.

By Condé Nast Travel Editors, March 25, 2020

Road trips are filled with unexpected twists and turns, be they roadside attractions or backseat squabbles. So is it any wonder that this beloved (or stressful, depending on where in the car you sit) travel style has inspired so many filmmakers? Whether they're funny, sad, whimsical, or violent (we're looking at you, Bonnie and Clyde), movies inspired by cars, buses, and motorcycles have one

thing in common: They all share appreciation for discovery on the open road. With editor picks ranging from the 1930s to present day, here are 28 of the best road trip movies of all time.

It Happened One Night (1939)

It Happened One Night is one of the first great road trip movies. The Frank Capra-directed film stars Clark Cable and Claudette Colbert as a sarcastic newspaper reporter and spoiled socialite, respectively, who end up on a cross-country trip full of flirtatious banter and screwball antics. The movie was the first in history to win the "Big 5" at the Academy Awards (Best Picture, Best Director, Best Actor, Best

Actress, and Best Screenplay)—an honor that wouldn't happen again until One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest in 1975 but perhaps its biggest legacy is that scene in which Colbert flashes her leg while hitchhiking. —Caitlin Morton

Bonnie and Clyde (1967)

The tagline of Bonnie and Clyde sums up the film pretty perfectly: "They're young...they're in love...and they kill people". Faye Dunaway and Warren Beatty star as the titular duo in Arthur Penn's 1967 classic, which is not only one of the coolest road trip movies ever made, but an important breakthrough in American filmmaking. Never before had there been a mainstream Hollywood movie with the same amount of bloody violence (that final showdown!), and few other movies have been able to replicate its sexy style. —C.M.

Easy Rider (1969)

One of the films that sparked the New Hollywood era of filmmaking (along with Bonnie and Clyde), Easy Rider is full of artistic cinematography and tons of social commentary—not to mention Jack Nicholson in one of his first-ever roles. The film stars Peter Fonda and Dennis Hopper (who also directed) as

bal lashings of all time—and who can forget when Nicholson jumps onto the back of a truck and starts playing the piano in an impromptu freeway performance? Ultimately, the film is a poignant and subtle portrayal of the alienation and loneliness of a man who can't accept his blue-collar existence. —C.M.

Smokey and the Bandit (1977)



ards, but Burt Reynold's indelible level of cool in this movie is absolutely timeless. —C.M.



two bikers who head east through the American Southwest to New Orleans, searching for the "real America." The film's soundtrack remains one of the coolest in film history, but the opening credits backed by "Born to Be Wild" might just be the best cut. —C.M.

Five Easy Pieces (1970)

After his breakout performance in 1969's Easy Rider, Jack Nicholson took his first leading role in another road trip movie, Five Easy Pieces. Nicholson plays Bobby Dupea, an oil rigger and former piano prodigy living in California with his waitress girlfriend, Rayette. After receiving news of his father's failing health, Bobby and Rayette drive up to Washington state, encountering oddball hitchhikers, sleazy motels, and a poor diner waitress who gets one of the most famous ver-

The Muppet Movie (1979)

Music, mayhem, and Muppets: the ingredients of a perfect road trip movie. The Muppet Movie chronicles Kermit the Frog's cross-country drive to Hollywood to pursue a career in show business, a trip dotted with original songs, tons of Muppet tagalongs, and an evil restauranteur with a burgeoning frog leg business. If you love punny, visual humor (remember the fork in the road) and celebrity cameos, this is the perfect film for you. — C.M.

National Lampoon's Vacation (1983)

Vacation was the world's introduction to the Griswold family, led by accidentprone dad-in-chief Clark (Chevy Chase). The film spoofs the tried-and-true American tradition of the family road trip, taking the Griswold car through at least two real-life national parks—Death Valley and Grand Canyon—on their way to the fictional amusement park, Walley World. Add in an unforgettable cameo from Christie Brinkley and a hit theme song in "Holiday Road," and you have a movie every vacationer should watch once in her lifetime. —Will Levith

Pee-Wee's Big Adventure (1985)

Tim Burton's directorial debut introduced most of the world to Pee-Wee Herman, the exuberant manchild portrayed by Paul Reubens. Big Adventure follows the titular character during his wild trip across the U.S. to find his beloved red bicycle, visiting the Alamo and encountering quite the cast of characters (most memorably Large Marge) along the way. —C.M.

The Sure Thing (1985)

John Cusack in any 1980s movie? Yes, please. This Rob Reiner-directed teen

comedy follows Cusack's unlucky-inlove Walter Gibson as he drives from the East to West Coast in the hopes of hooking up with a beautiful woman whom his friend assures him is a "sure thing." The road trip features ride share boards (remember those?), hitchhiking, and plenty of awkward situations in very close quarters. Just goes to show how the confines of a car can sometimes be a hilarious breeding ground for romance. —C.M.

Planes, Trains, and Automobiles (1987)

Set around Thanksgiving, Planes uses the travel rush in the days leading up to the holiday as a more-than-worthy comedic vehicle. Steve Martin goofs as Neal Page, who faces a series of travel nightmares on his trip from New York City to Chicago in advance of Turkey Day. After his flight is cancelled due to inclement weather, Page ends up sharing his trip home with salesman Del Griffith, played by the late, great John Can-

dy. The actors' chemistry is hard to deny...especially when they're sleeping in the same bed together on the road.—W.L.

Thelma & Louise (1991)

In this film, best friends Thelma (Geena Davis) and Louise (Susan Sarandon) are looking to escape their drab lives in Arkansas, and at the end of its 129 minutes, have done just that. After a stop at a roadhouse bar takes a dark turn, the pair take off for Mexico in a 1966 Ford Thunderbird convertible;



try and evade the cops as they wind through California, Colorado, and Utah; and pick up a young Brad Pitt, for a spell, along the way. In 2016, the film was selected for preservation in the U.S. Library of Congress's National Film Registry for its cultural, historical, and aesthetic significance, which means that it must have gotten something right. –Katherine LaGrave

Dumb and Dumber (1994)

In this Farrelly brothers comedy, friends Lloyd (Jim Carrey) and Harry (Jeff Daniels) abandon their dreams of opening a worm pet store in their hometown, Providence, Rhode Island to return a lost briefcase to its owner in Colorado. Driving Harry's sheepdogstyled truck, the daft duo finally make it to Aspen—but not before driving almost a third of the way across the country in the wrong direction. Ensuing hijinks include kidnapping, accidental murder, games of tag on the highway, and one very awkward encounter with a traffic cop. —C.M.

The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert (1994)

Guy Pearce, Terence Stamp, and Hugo Weaving star as two drag queens and a trans woman crossing the Outback in a tour bus (she's the titular Priscilla). The stark, remote Aussie landscape was the perfect complement to the gang's outrageous style—and, more importantly, for their conversations about life, love, and identity. Priscilla was more than just a fun movie: It positively depicted LGBT characters onscreen and helped bring Australian cinema

to the rest of the world.— Lilit Marcus

Tommy Boy (1995)

Chris Farley and David Spade comprised one of the best comedic duos of the 1990s, and no film exemplified that better than Tommy Boy. Farley plays the titular Tommy, a bumbling but likeable college grad who is forced to save the family auto-parts business after his father passes away. He hits the road with his father's prissy and antagonistic assistant, Richard (Spade), in an effort to sell half a million brake pads. They inevitably hit

some hilarious snags along the way, involving deer, chicken wings, the slow destruction of Richard's car, and a beautifully wicked Rob Lowe. —C.M.

The Daytrippers (1996)

Although the road trip itself doesn't cover too much ground (Long Island to New York City), this still belongs on the list, mainly because it features Hope Davis, Parker Posey, and Liev Schreiber all at their mid-90s, quirky-indie-film best. Davis discovers evidence that her husband is cheating, and sets out to confront him, literally bringing her family along for the ride. It's hilarious, and does a great job of capturing the complexities of family. —Jayna Maleri

Some road trip movies are about friends traveling together but the protagonists of Smoke Signals based on a short story...

Smoke Signals (1998)

Some road trip movies are about friends

traveling together, but the protagonists of Smoke Signals, based on a short story by Sherman Alexie, might be more accurately described as "frenemies." Thomas and Victor are two young men growing up on a Native American reservation in Idaho who set off to retrieve Victor's father's ashes. The long, lonely stretches of road give them time to talk, spar, watch Dances With Wolves for the thousandth time (that one's just Thomas), and unravel what it means to be Native in America. By the end, they may not necessarily be friends, but they understand each other in a way few others could. -L.M.

Arguably the last good movie by Cameron Crowe Almost Famous is equal parts rock n' roll and sugary sweet. The film tells...

Almost Famous (2000)

Arguably the last good movie by Cameron Crowe, Almost Famous is equal parts rock n' roll and sugary sweet. The film tells the story of a high school journalist (Patrick Fugit) who is given the chance to write a story about an up-andcoming rock band for Rolling Stone, and leaves his overprotective mother to follow the musicians on the road. The baby-faced teenager learns some valuable lessons during

his weeks on the band's tour bus, like the importance of honesty, the unimportance of "coolness", and the thrills and pains of a first love. And if there was ever a case to be made about choosing cars over airplanes, Almost Famous definitely makes it. —C.M.

The Coen brothers's take on Homer's Odyssey perhaps the ultimate road tripO Brother Where Art Thou substitutes 1930s...

O Brother, Where Art Thou? (2000)

The Coen brothers's take on Homer's Odyssey—perhaps the ultimate road trip—O Brother, Where Art Thou? substitutes 1930s rural Mississippi for ancient Greece and features George Clooney, John Goodman, and Holly Hunter, all of whom have become repertory players in the filmmakers' universe. Also worth noting: The film has one of

the best soundtracks ever recorded. — J.M.

On one level Y Tu Mam Tambin is a story of two recent high school graduates friends Tenoch and Julio who driven by...

Y Tu Mamá También (2002)

On one level, Y Tu Mamá También is a story of two recent high school graduates, friends Tenoch (Diego Luna) and Julio (Gael García Bernal) who, driven by both boredom and masculine



bravado, embark on a road trip through Mexico with the disillusioned (and very sexy) wife of one of Tenoch's distant relatives in tow. They compete for her attention, with mixed resultsno spoilers, here—and return home with their boyish self-assuredness thoroughly destroyed. But there's another narrative at play: That of modern-day Mexico, whose indigenous cultures and sweeping class distinctions provide the dusty, beautiful backdrop against which the film plays out. It doesn't don the rose-colored lenses of other road trip movies, where things seem to just work themselves out there's pain here, but humor, too. — Betsy Blumenthal

Crossroads tells the story of three childhood friends who decide to take a road trip to Los Angeles after graduating...

Crossroads (2002)

Crossroads tells the story of three child-hood friends (Britney Spears, Zoe Saldana, and Taryn Manning) who decide to take a road trip to Los Angeles after graduating high school, each in search of their own paths in life. It's honestly hard to pick the best scene from Spears's bigscreen debut, which currently has a rating of 14% on Rotten Tomatoes: Is it when the dulcet tones of her "I Love Rock n' Roll" cover change the lives of everyone in a roadside karaoke bar? Is it watching every turn of events go on to

inspire the lyrics of "I'm Not a Girl, Not Yet a Woman"? Is it the mere fact that Britney's parents are portrayed by Dan Aykroyd and Kim Cattrall? Like I said: impossible to pick. — C.M.

This is where it all began for Ernesto Che Guevara whose road trip across Latin America with his pal Alberto Granado ...

The Motorcycle Diaries (2004)

This is where it all began for Ernesto "Che" Guevara (Gael García Bernal), whose road trip

across Latin America with his pal Alberto Granado (Rodrigo de la Serna) opened Che's eyes to political injustice. Director Walter Salles filmed their travels through major landmarks in South America, as they were in Che's memoir, from the Andes mountain range to Machu Picchu and even a leper colony in San Pablo. – J.M.

Little Miss Sunshine (2006)

A suicidal brother, silent son, self-help obsessed husband, druggie father, and a seven-year-old daughter with dreams of becoming Little Miss Sunshine all join an overwhelmed mother in a beat up VW bus on one of the most dysfunctional road trips I've ever seen. That said, the car problems, family fights, and detours aren't that different from the average interstate adventure. This award-winning movie has got quirks for days and a whole lot of heart, plus the cast—which includes Steve Carell, Toni Collette, Ab-

igail Breslin, and Alan Arkin—handles the insanity here in stride. —Meredith Carey

Don't let the naked wrestling fool you Borat Cultural Learnings of America for Make Benefit Glorious Nation of...

Borat (2006)

Don't let the naked wrestling fool you: Borat: Cultural Learnings of America for Make Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan (or, as most people call it, Bo-

rat) might just be one of the most culturally aware movies of the 2000s. The semidocumentary stars Sacha Baron Cohen's character of Borat Sagdiyev, a reporter from Kazakhstan who leaves his village to learn everything there is to learn about America. During his trip from New York to California, Borat encounters rodeo attendees in Virginia, etiquette coaches in Alabama, drunk frat bros in South Carolina, and pente-

costal Christians in Arizona. The oncamera interviews continue to be as hilarious and cringe-worthy today as they were in 2006. —C.M.

Into the Wild (2007)

An adaptation of Jon Krakauer's nonfiction book of the same name, this Sean Penn-directed film follows the real-life travels of Christopher McCandless (Emile Hirsch) across North America and Alaska in the 1990s. If you've survived thus far in life without finding out how this story ends, kudos to you. Regardless of how it plays out, watching McCandless's travels, first in a Datsun Sunny and later in an abandoned bus, makes you want to get out on the trail in one of America's national parks—just maybe take a few wilderness survival classes first. –M.C.

Not so much a journey of discovery as a

frantic attempt to avoid the walking dead Zombieland is a road trip movie...

Zombieland (2009)

Not so much a journey of discovery as a frantic attempt to avoid the walking dead, Zombieland is a road trip movie nonetheless. The post-apocalyptic comedy follows a cast of survivalists (played by Woody Harrelson, Jesse Eisenberg, Emma Stone, and Abigail Breslin) across the country as they search for a zombie-free sanctuary city.



Crammed into a yellow Hummer, the gang learns all about the rules of survival (double-knot those shoelaces, folks), opening up to other people, and how not to treat Bill Murray. —C.M.

Alexander Paynes Nebraska is no road trip noireven though it appears that way initially. Filmed in black and white the...

Nebraska (2013)

Alexander Payne's Nebraska is no road trip noir—even though it appears that way initially. Filmed in black and white (with shades of melancholy), the 2013 indie follows the slow decline of elderly Woody Grant (Bruce Dern), whom we first see walking a busy stretch of highway in Billings, Montana, desperate to get to Lincoln, Nebraska to pick up his \$1 million sweepstakes winnings. His son, David (Will Forte), and

wife, Kate (June Squibb), try to convince him the sweeps are a scam. But cantankerous Woody—a lifelong alcoholic with borderline dementia—wants his million bucks. So David agrees to drive him to Lincoln, leading us on a heartbreaking trip past the corn fields of middle America with a detour through the Grant family's past.—Laura Dannen Redman

Mad Max: Fury Road (2015)

Quirky character studies and tales of selfdiscovery are great, but sometimes you

> just want non-stop, adrenaline-pumping action. That's certainly what you get with Mad Max: Fury Road, the latest installment in George Miller's apocalyptic franchise. This time around, Max (Tom Hardy) gets captured by the tyrannical Immortan Joe, ruler of a desert fortress; he eventually escapes and teams with Imperator Furiosa (Charlize Theron), a warrior at the wheel of a big rig on a freedom mission. It's one giant chase scene through the red deserts of Na-

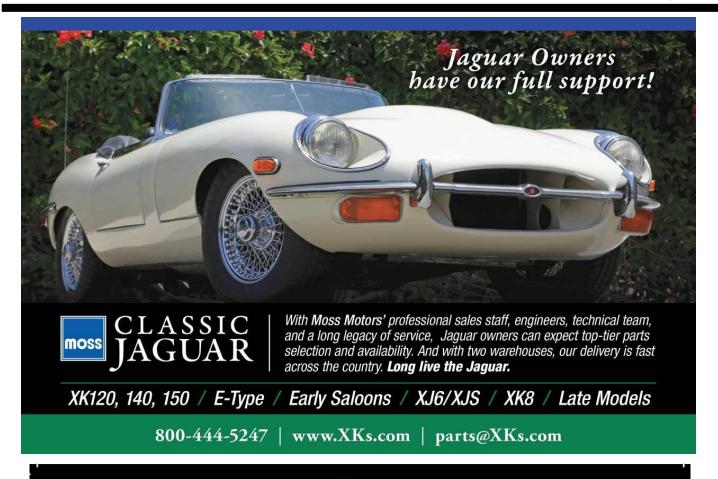
mibia's Skeleton Coast, meant to stand in for post-apocalyptic Australia. —C.M

Most blind dates end the minute they begin but right away something is different about the one that kicks off Queen ...

Queen & Slim (2019)

Most blind dates end the minute they begin, but right away something is different about the one that kicks off Queen & Slim. This romantic crime drama shows the social injustices that run through many African American communities with New Orleans, Mississippi, and Florida as a backdrop. It's a true love story that has ties to slavery, feminism, masculinity, and religion. And it lays bare the ebbs and flows of a relationship and how the challenges in our lives can either push us away or bring us closer together.

—Shauna Beni



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WMJR members have a standing invitation to participate in events of the <u>British Motor Club of Utah</u>.

Here is their <u>calendar</u> of events

Have you received your 2021 club calendar? If not, contact Gary Lindstrom



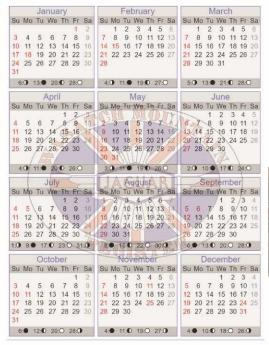


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2021

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