

July 1



Show Me Your Curves

*The Official
Newsletter of*



***Volume 11 No. 3
July 2020***



Editor's message

By Doug Jackson



This is the strangest July edition of the newsletter ever!

Normally, the July edition is filled with cruise reports from the events of spring. The AGM is the first large gathering of our club and is usually very well attended. Active participation at the meeting arouses enthusiasm for upcoming cruises and overnight trips. EVENT CANCELLED. The "Spring Fling" is usually the first cruise of the year and attracts a large number of cars on a Saturday or Sunday excursion. EVENT CANCELLED. May and June Ice Cream Runs are always popular because the tourist season is not yet underway. EVENTS CANCELLED. One, two or three cruises into the lovely Muskoka countryside would have been planned, advertised and held. EVENTS CANCELLED. New members would have been welcomed at the AGM and introduced to the rest of us at cruises and events and then further introduced in the newsletter. The end result of all of the cancellations: NO REPORTS.



With no reports, this edition is much shorter than any other July newsletter. HOWEVER, a very recent ZOOM conference with the Council members has brought a ray of sunshine to our club. Our Activities Councillor, Bob Macaulay, has written a very timely update and I encourage all of you to read it and mark your calendars. There are four dates in July when club members can get outside and enjoy their Miatas, but being mindful of the COVID-19 restriction guidelines. Note the dates and plan to attend some or all of the events.

Thanks to Michael Topping for his submissions of items of interest to Miata owners and drivers. I appreciate getting copies of, or links to, things that may interest our club members. Special thanks to Cal Lander for his continued assistance with the preparation of the newsletter. His sophisticated software program and his skill in using it are extremely helpful.

Stay safe, everyone!

Doug Jackson



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Show Me Your Curves

is a quarterly publication of a Miata enthusiasts group known as the Miatas of Muskoka... We are a small group that like to explore the twisty back roads and scenic lakes in Canada's premier vacation playground Muskoka.

Visit our Website at

URL:<http://www.miatasofmuskoka.com/>

Or

Check us out on Facebook: [miatasofmuskoka](#).



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Meet Our Newest Treasurer:

Marina Hoekstra

We have a great group of volunteers within our “Miatas of Muskoka” membership! Bob Macaulay sent out an email on May 31st thanking Cathy Fedorowich for her years of service as Club Treasurer. He asked that members consider volunteering to assume the role of Treasurer. The executive members are thrilled that Marina Hoekstra ‘stepped up to the plate’ and has become a member of the executive as Treasurer. We welcome Marina to her new position and are confident that she will do an awesome job on behalf of all of us. She has already participated in several ZOOM conferences and has assisted in the decision-making related to the COVID-19 guidelines.





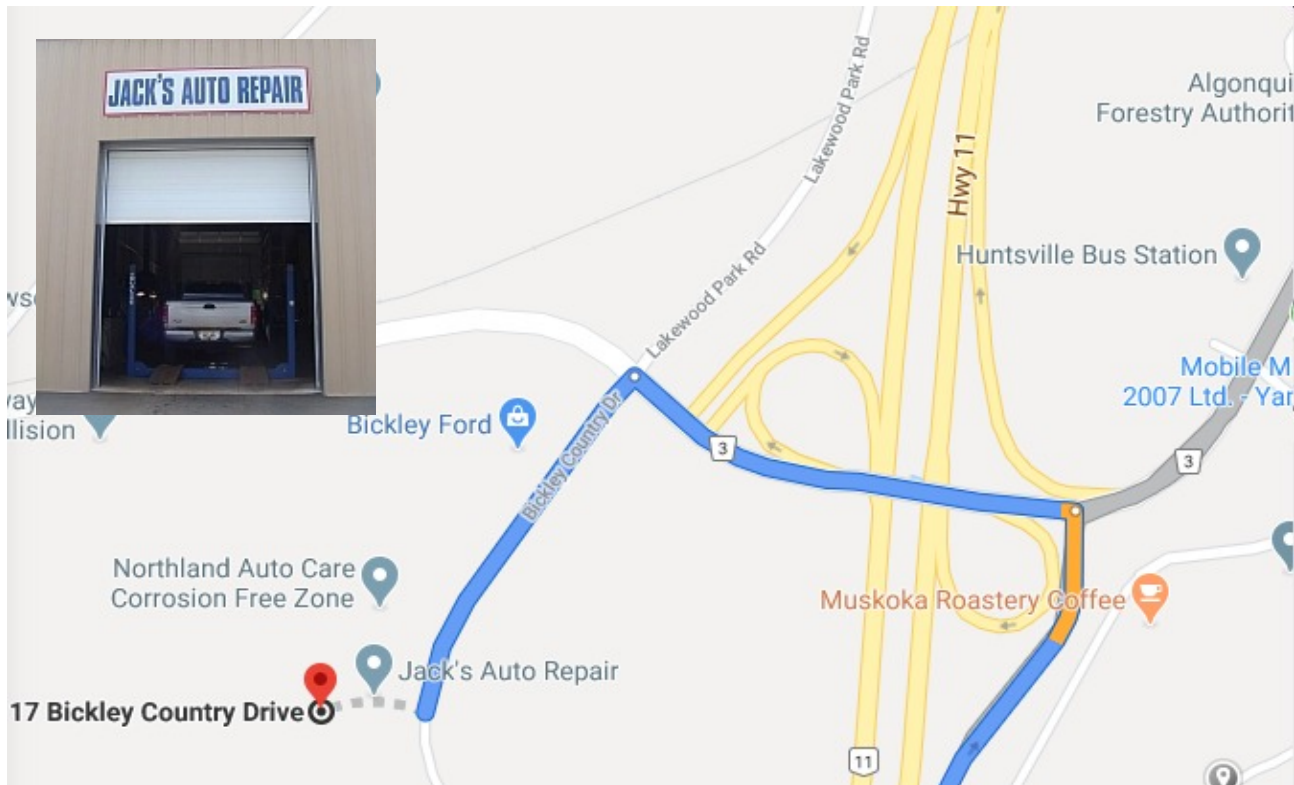
New MoM Sponsor . . .

Jack's Auto

Aaron Oliveira, General Manager of Jack's Auto in Huntsville welcomes any Miatas of Muskoka member to his shop offering a 15% discount off all labour as well as offering a "bring your own parts" service. That's right you can source your own Miata parts from specialty vendors and if desired have them installed at Jack's. Jack's Auto Repair was rated one of the three best repair shops in Huntsville.

Please show your support to our most northern Sponsor.

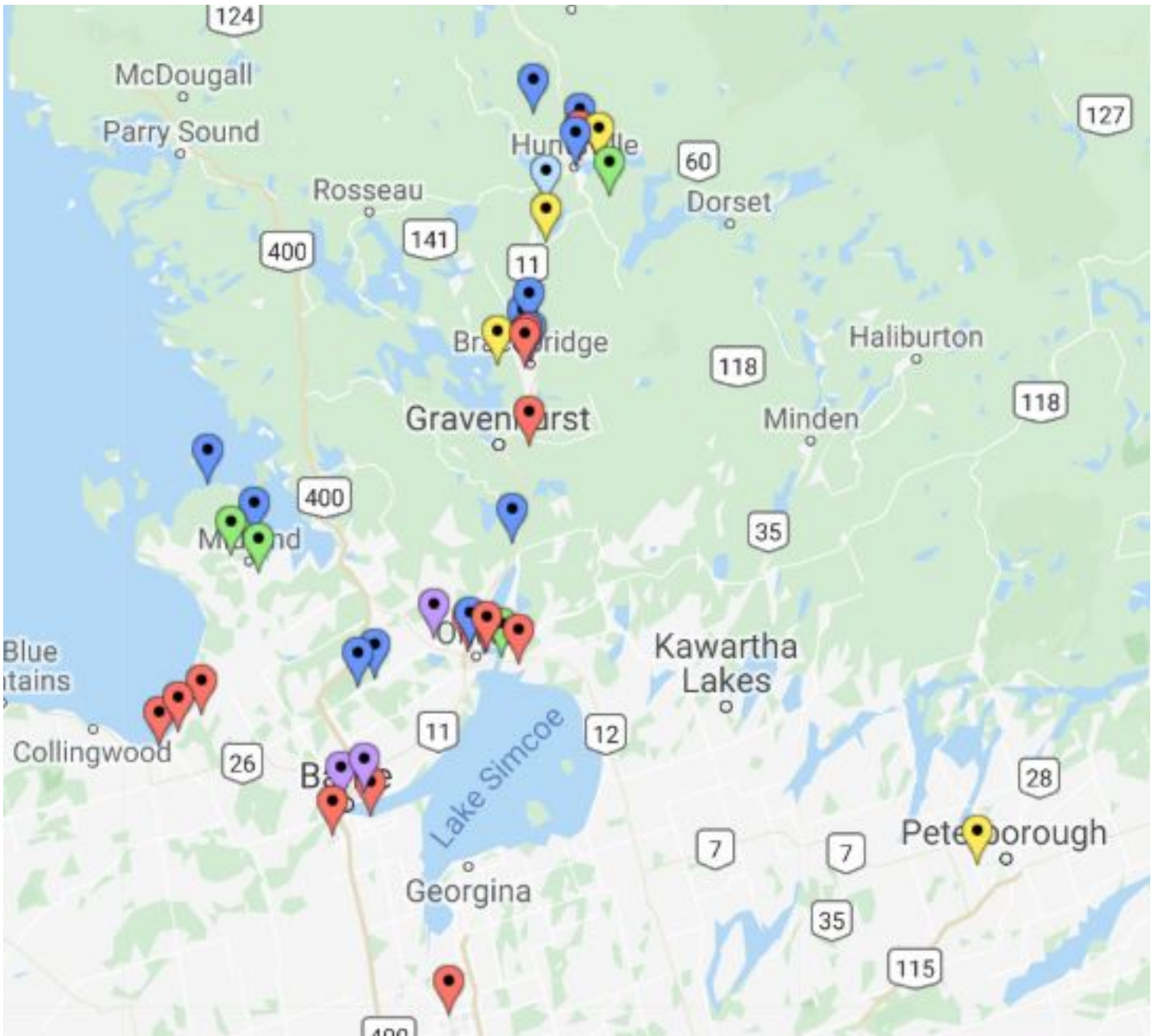
Jack's Auto Repair
17 Bickley Country Dr,
Huntsville, ON P1H 1Y4
(705) 7887510





Where do our Members Live?

Map by Michael Topping



Can you crack the “Code”?

 **Blue** = _____

 **Yellow** = _____

 **Red** = _____

 **Purple** = _____

 **Light blue** = _____

 **Green** = _____



2020 Cruising Season – Monthly Update

Bob Macaulay, Activities Councillor

This is the third in the series of promised monthly updates from your *MoM* Council, related to the continuing challenges we have all been facing due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We have remained hopeful about the potential for at least some limited *MoM* cruise activities this season as the public health situation has evolved.

In that regard, *MoM* Council had our third virtual meeting (via ZOOM) on June 26th, to once again re-visit the COVID-19/public health situation and confer on whether there is now some updated potential to plan for at least some *MoM* cruises going forward into the summer, and with any luck, the fall.

There are some encouraging signs about the progress of this pandemic, in terms of a more significant “flattening of the curve” of new cases, and in particular, a continuing low number of new cases in our Muskoka/Simcoe County region. In addition, and most importantly, our region recently moved into “Stage 2” of re-opening, along with most of the rest of the Province. This has allowed a resumption of many commercial and recreational activities (happy to say I could finally get a long-overdue haircut!), including restaurant patios and many parks, accompanied by a limited range of public washroom facilities (often via port-a-potties.) While encouraging, this limited “re-opening” is all subject to some continuing public health restrictions – including social distancing, diligent hand hygiene, and the recommended wearing of masks where social distancing may be compromised or impossible (e.g. in stores.)

Taking all of this into account, your *MoM* Council decided at our June 26th virtual meeting that it is now time to plan for a few specific *MoM* cruises in July, as we feel we are now able to safely and comfortably organize and hold such club activities, but on an “outdoor” basis only. Thus, as detailed below, we will “test the water” with **2 ice cream runs (ICRs) and 2 picnic cruises in July.** Council has also decided to take a cautious approach; as such, any further cruise activities beyond July will depend on how these initial events work out (i.e. member interest, and participants’ “comfort” with the public health restrictions), as well as the further evolving public health situation after another month has passed. Council will continue our recent practice of monitoring the situation and meeting virtually on a monthly basis, and will report to the membership at the end of each month as to the potential for (and nature of) any prospective cruises/club activities the following month.

Below are the details of what we have now planned for July. Please come equipped with your own mask, and it would also be wise to bring your own hand sanitizer and/or sanitizing wipes, and/or gloves, if you prefer to use them. Also, as has been said in the past, Council would really appreciate some “newer” volunteers from among the membership to take on Cruise Director responsibilities for the 2 picnic cruise events (ice cream runs don’t usually require CDs.) For those of you who have never done this before, please know that there is mentoring available by some more experienced *MoMers* to help you through the CD process. So let’s see some “hands go



up” to help us all go forward with whatever cruise events we are able to hold this unusual season...remember, it’s YOUR club too, and we ALL

have a hand in its success.

In order to fairly reflect the broad distribution of our membership across much of Muskoka District and Simcoe County, Council has decided to alternate starting points for these planned July events, between Orillia and Bracebridge. Here are the details so far...**please mark your calendars:**

Tuesday, July 7th – ICR, beginning from the designated Orillia starting point, in the parking lot of the *West Orillia Sports Complex/Rotary Park Arena*, which is located toward the south end of University Avenue, just north of Old Barrie Road and south of the Orillia Costco store. Plan on gathering there for 6:30 PM, which is our usual ICR rendez-vous time. Doug Jackson has kindly volunteered to plan a suitable cruise route to an ice cream outlet somewhere in the general Orillia vicinity.

Tuesday, July 14th – Picnic Cruise, again starting from the *West Orillia Sports Complex* parking lot. Details of the cruise timing, route, destination, etc. are still to be determined by the Cruise Director, and an Event Notice will be sent to the membership at least several days before the event. More importantly, **we need a member volunteer (or volunteer couple) to agree to act as CD(s) for this one.** Cal Lander has kindly offered to be his/her/their mentor, so **please consider taking this on – we need to have a CD confirmed and “on the job” by July 6th at the latest.**

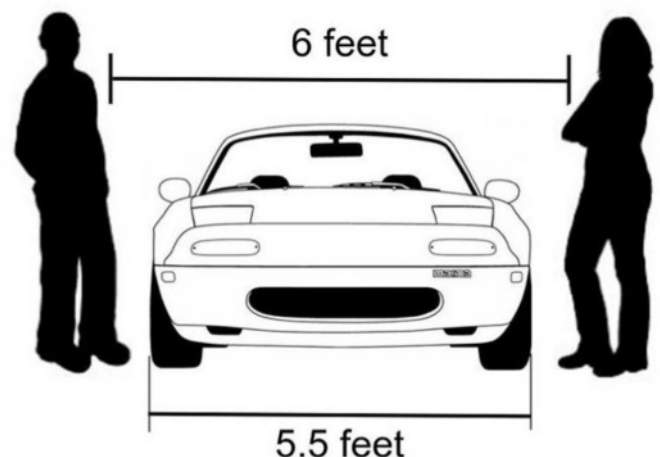
Thursday, July 23rd – ICR, beginning from the usual designated Bracebridge starting point, in the south parking lot of *Gagnon’s Your Independent Grocer*, which is located near the north end of Wellington Street, south of Muskoka Rd. 118 West. Again,

plan on gathering there for 6:30 PM. As has typically happened on ICRs in the past, a suitable cruise route and ice cream destination will be decided “on the spur of the moment” among the participants at the time.

Thursday, July 30th – Picnic Cruise, again starting from *Your Independent Grocer* parking lot in Bracebridge. Details of the cruise timing, route, destination, etc. are still to be determined by the Cruise Director, and an Event Notice will be provided in advance. **Again, we need a member volunteer (or volunteer couple) to agree to act as CD(s) for this cruise as well. Mentoring can again be provided...**just let me or one of the other Councillors know, and we’ll arrange to get the volunteer(s) some assistance with planning and administering this cruise. **Please consider taking this on – we need to have a CD confirmed and “on the job” by July 20th at the latest.**

Council hopes for a good turnout, which will help us decide whether to plan for additional cruise events in the months following July. We hope that many of you will be comfortable supporting our efforts -- and your club -- by participating in one or more of these events.

Social Distancing Guidelines Translated for Miata People





Who Are These Masked People? What Are They Doing? Why?

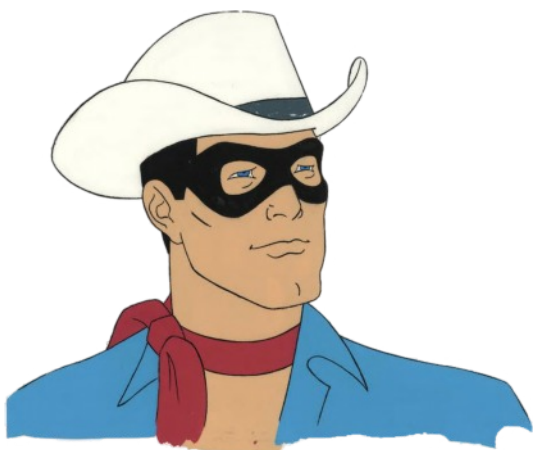
Those questions appearing in the title are very legitimate ones to be asking!
Have you jumped to any conclusions?

Here's a good clue ... those of you who carefully read the message from Bob Macaulay will know that a limited number of Ice Cream Runs and Picnic cruises are in the planning stages for July. Did that help?

You would be correct if you guessed that the masked people are Doug and Sheila Jackson and Cal and Gail Lander, the folks who are helping to plan the first two Miata Club functions of the year. They are studying maps of the Orillia area in preparation for an Ice



Cream Run on Tuesday July 7 and a Picnic Cruise on Tuesday July 14. Both couples would appreciate volunteer assistance from other members of the club, particularly for the longer and more complicated picnic cruise. Please consider offering to help.





Riddle me this?

Who Drives the Miata?

There are five houses in five different colours. In each house lives a man of a different nationality. The five owners prefer a different type of beverage, play a different sport and drive a certain car. Using the clues below, can you determine who drives the Miata?

The Brit lives in a red house.

The Swede drives a Jaguar

The Dane drinks tea.

The green house is on the left of the white house.

The man who plays pool drives a Fiat.

The green house owner drinks coffee.

The owner of the yellow house plays soccer.

The man living in the house right in the middle drinks wine.

The Norwegian lives in the first house.

The man who plays hockey lives next door to the one who drives a
Corvette.

The man who drives a Mustang lives next door to the man who plays
soccer.

The owner who plays tennis drinks beer.

The German plays golf.

The Norwegian lives next door to the blue house.

The man who plays hockey has a next-door neighbor who drinks
water.

Who drives the Miata?



COVID Safety . . .

Safe Storage of PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) in your Car

Now that we are able to get out into the community again, with our regular vehicles and our Miatas, we will be tempted to leave some of our PPE in storage in each of the vehicles so that it is ready for our next journey. Many of us have purchased small bottles of “alcohol-based hand sanitizers” (ABHS) and carry them in our pockets or purses or store them in our cars to be used on journeys into the community. Remember, however, that ABHS expands in closed containers as temperatures rise. The alcohol evaporates more rapidly as the temperature increases. We all know how hot the interior of our car becomes if parked in the sun on a summer day. Be aware that your small bottle of ABHS may ‘explode’ under the pressure of expansion and spill fluid on your seats or in the glove box. Alcohol fumes may be released which could ignite if exposed to a flame source. Spontaneous combustion is unlikely but be aware that exposure to open flames like candles and lighters may be hazardous.



Transport Canada has issued some guidelines for drivers of commercial vehicles and the advice is useful for the rest of us as well. You may want to consult the website:

<https://www.tc.gc.ca/eng/motorvehiclesafety/personal-protective-equipment-uses-commercial-vehicle-drivers.html>



“Rock of Ages” **Cruise and Theatre:** **Cancelled for this Season**



Drayton Entertainment delayed the decision to cancel this show until just a couple of weeks ago because it was the last one in the line-up of events for the King's Wharf this summer. With the extensions of the “State of Emergency” in Ontario, all of the shows scheduled for 2020 were cancelled. Doug and Sheila Jackson asked Drayton to hold a block-booking reservation for our club when the COVID-19 restrictions are eventually lifted. Hopefully, this musical production will be rescheduled sometime in the future so that we can maintain our summertime tradition of having a cruise, enjoying a picnic lunch, watching a performance at King's Wharf, and going out for dinner afterwards. In previous years, we have seen “Mamma Mia!”, “Joseph and the Technicolor Dreamcoat”, “Hairspray” and “Beauty and the Beast”. With a considerable amount of good luck and careful management of the pandemic issues, we hope to be able to see and hear the musical, “Rock of Ages” sometime in the future!



Rock of Ages is a jukebox musical built around classic rock songs from the 1980s, especially from the famous glam metal bands of that decade. The musical features songs from Styx, Journey, Bon Jovi, Pat Benatar, Twisted Sister, Steve Perry, Poison and Europe, among other well-known rock bands. It features 28 classic rock tunes like "We Built This City," "The Final Countdown," "Wanted Dead or Alive," "Here I Go Again," "Harden My Heart," "Can't Fight this Feeling," and "I Want To Know What Love Is."





News !

Members on the Move

Two of our Miata of Muskoka members are planning on leaving their current homes and relocating. All of us should be really happy that they are still going to be close enough to remain as members of our group! Great news!



Bob and Carol Macaulay built their beautiful house on Fairy Lake, just outside of Huntsville, fifteen years ago and have lived there full-time for the past eleven years. We have enjoyed their hospitality at their lovely property during several Miata Club functions over the years. They will be relocating to a waterfront home on Lake Simcoe, just east of Orillia.

Garry and Patty Walker built their beautiful home on the fourth hole of the Marl Lake Golf Course at Wasaga Beach a few years ago, joined our Miata Club, participated actively in club events and volunteered to lead overnight cruises. They are in the process of building another home in Springwater Township, just outside of the northern part of Barrie, near the ski hills of Snow Valley and the famous Barrie Hill Farms.

Best wishes to the Macaulay's and the Walker's as they prepare to leave one house and move to another. We hope that you enjoy your new locations and all of us are pleased that you are still in our catchment area for future cruises and club activities.





Mazda History Trivia

Mazda's MX Models Go Far Beyond The Miata

CAR BUZZ

**MAY 16, 2020
BY JARED ROSENHOLTZ**

Some of them were never put into production.

Mazda's naming scheme has changed pretty significantly over its [100-year history](#). In more recent memory, sedans have a number with a 'Mazda' prefix, the SUVs are dubbed CX, rotary models are called RX, and MX is reserved for sporty halo models like the [2020 Mazda MX-5 Miata](#). In the United States, at least, the Miata has been the only MX-branded model for quite some time now but Mazda recently expanded the MX portfolio with a new [range-extender electric car](#) called the MX-30.

Deliveries of the [Mazda MX-30](#) will begin in the UK starting in early 2021 with pre-orders for the 500 First Edition examples open now. As Mazda's MX portfolio is set to double, the company wanted to take an opportunity to remind fans of the nameplate's history by releasing some cool photos from its archives. There are a few MX-branded models in there that even we forgot about.

Mazda says that the MX prefix is only given to a vehicle that "takes on a challenge to create and deliver new values without being confined by convention regardless of vehicle type." The original Miata back in 1989 certainly met these criteria as it defied industry norms by reviving the idea of a classic rear-wheel-drive roadster. The entire



fourth-generation Miata family is obviously shown in the images along with several concepts like the MX-5 Speedster, MX-5 Spyder, and MX-5 Superlight.

There are also plenty of concepts that were never put into production, some of which look pretty amazing.



The first car to ever wear the MX badge was a 1981 concept car called the MX-81 Aria (pictured below in orange). It was created by Italian design house Bertone, who used Mazda 323 running gear to build a futuristic wedge-shaped hatchback.



None of these concepts ever reached production but only a few years later, the MX-5 debuted and shocked the world.



Mazda followed the MX-81 with the 1983 MX-02, a flat-sided five-door hatchback. Then there was our favorite of the bunch, the 1985 Mazda MX-03 (pictured above in silver). This was a two-door sports coupe powered by a 310-horsepower triple rotor engine.



For a few short years, Mazda also offered the Mazda MX-3, a four-seat coupe hatchback, and the MX-6, a premium coupe. Both of these cars were powered by tiny, sweet-sounding V6 engines.

But some of the company's most recent MX concepts did go on to reach production in other forms.

The 2001 MX-Sport Tourer eventually became the Mazda5, the 2002 MX-Sport Runabout and 2003 MX-Sportif became the Mazda2 and Mazda3 respectively, and the 2005 MX-Crossport eventually became the CX-7.



The 1987 rotary-powered MX-04 was a bit different than its predecessors because it offered two sets of removable fiberglass panels, allowing it to transform from a glass dome roofed coupe to a beach buggy roadster.





Mazda Future Trivia

Mazda MX-30 Still Has Some Unanswered Questions

MAY 24, 2020

BY MARTIN BIGG

ELECTRIC VEHICLES

Mazda's first-ever EV has entered production, but there are still a few things we don't know.

Mazda was late to the EV party, but its first-ever electric vehicle, the Mazda MX-30, certainly made an impression with its rugged styling and unique interior. The MX-30 made its world debut last October, and now the electric crossover is entering production. Mazda has announced that production of the MX-30 has started at the company's plant in Hiroshima, Japan. While the MX-30 is built on the same platform as the Mazda CX-30 and the Mazda



3 Hatchback, it boasts a unique design featuring squared-off wheel arches, a contrasting black roof, and suicide doors. Inside, the interior features a floating center



console, a seven-inch touchscreen, and a range of environmentally friendly materials such as cork and door trim fabric incorporating fibers from recycled plastic bottles.

The new MX-30 is equipped with Mazda's new e-Skyactiv electric drive technology. The front-wheel-drive powertrain combines a 143-hp electric motor with a 35.5kWh lithium-ion battery, enabling the electric





crossover to deliver a WLTP-estimated driving range of around 124 miles.

That may sound low, but Mazda prioritized efficiency over range, and there's still the possibility of a rotary engine range extender in the future.

However, there's no denying the fact that this range pales in comparison to its rivals such as the Chevrolet Bolt and Hyundai Kona EV, which both offer over 250 miles of range. Mazda still hasn't confirmed if the MX-30 will go on sale in the US, but if it does it will need to have a vastly improved range to be competitive. This could still happen, however, using the aforementioned range extender. This setup was also used in a Mazda2 electric prototype and increased the range to a more



respectable 236 miles. Mazda has confirmed the order books for the MX-30 are now open in Europe. It will go on sale in European dealerships this fall, starting at £30,495 in the UK and €33,990 in Germany (approx. \$36,400).

Really??

Michael Topping

found these images on the Internet and passed them on to us. Its called the "Muskoka Special Edition".





Mazda Tech Stuff

Holy Crap! Mazda's Working On a New Turbo Rotary Engine

Rotary engines aren't perfect. They're known to burn oil, blow seals, make very little torque and above all, not do so hot on EPA fuel economy drive cycles. Despite all that, there's something about the high-revving swirly hamentaschen that has our hearts, and now Mazda's filed a patent that could make them feasible again. Mazda showed us the RX-Vision last year, but remained tight-lipped on its engine tech. Admitting only that it had a "SkyActive-R" rotary engine under the hood, the Japanese automaker said nothing of displacement, aspiration method or other engineer-y goodness. But Auto Evolution caught wind of Mazda's recent rotary engine patent filing, and it looks like the automaker's got some tricks up its sleeves to perhaps get a Wankel back under the hood of a production car. Hopefully.

The patent filing essentially describes a rotary engine that's mounted 180 degrees off from a conventional engine (rotated about the output shaft axis). This new mounting strategy puts the intake port at the bottom of the engine, and the exhaust port at the top, opposite to what you'd see in a conventional Wankel engine. Mazda says the major benefits include improved underhood



Photo: MazdaPhoto: Mazda

package-ability and better engine performance. The patent asserts that conventional Wankel engines with high-mounted intake ports tend to have short intake passages pulling air from above the engine. The automaker's new proposed low intake port can offer improved efficiency, because a lower intake port with long intake passages drawing from below the engine can use incoming air's inertia to produce a "dynamic forced-induction effect," ultimately resulting in better volumetric efficiency and therefore better engine performance. Improved performance is always, always good. In case you were confused.

The high-positioned exhaust port allows for an exhaust passage that runs above the engine, and is shorter than a conventional exhaust passage, yielding lower exhaust backpressure. On the packaging front, Mazda says that putting the intake passage, which is fairly simple to package, below the engine allows the engine to drop in the vertical direction compared to a conventional Wankel, since a conventional engine tends to be

limited by turbocharger-vehicle crossmember interference. Mazda says that lowering the engine means fitting a big, whopping turbo could become a lot easier (emphasis mine):

As a result, the space above the rotary piston engine can easily be secured and, for example, a large-sized exhaust turbocharger can be accommodated inside the engine room by being disposed above the rotary piston engine body." Large-sized turbocharger on a Wankel? Please don't be teasing us, Mazda.

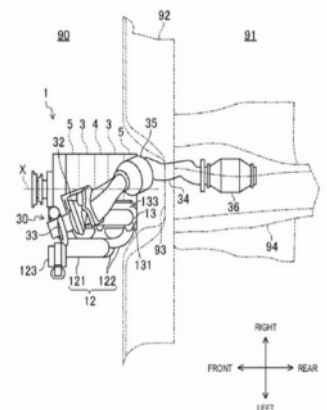


Photo: [patent filing](#)

