



The Car Club
Beano



British Engineered Automobiles-Nanaimo Order

November — December 2009

61st Edition

Editor & Publisher: Ken Hedges



1958 MG Magnette Varitone

The latest edition to our garage is this 1958 MG Magnette purchased “on line” at an auction held in September in Houston Texas. I have been looking for a Magnette for a couple of years now, and was directed to the auction in Texas. Of course we did not go to the auction personally, so we bid on the car sight unseen, except for a few pictures in the auction catalogue. It was quite an experience on the auction day waiting for the car to cross the block, I was so nervous I could hardly push the “Enter” key to up the bid. In the end we were successful, and are happy with the price we paid.

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The next thing was to arrange transport from Houston to Bellingham Washington , where thanks to the kind offer of our Vancouver branch friends Steve and Celia we were able to store the car until all of the paper work was received. It was a little worrying not knowing where the car was en route, but again thanks to Steve who arranged for a tilt bed tow truck to meet the transport truck and winch the car off, as it was not running.

The paperwork took longer than we expected, as there was no title with the car, and the auction company had to obtain a new one.

Once we had all the documents and submitted them to the US Customs, we had to find a way to bring the car from Bellingham to Nanoose Bay. Again thanks to another car club member, Jim Gislason who offered to go over with his car trailer and pick up the car, along with some other items that he purchased on line.

The transfer at the border was quick and easy, we were in and out of the US Customs in about 10 minutes, and then onto the Canadian Customs to fill out the necessary forms and of course pay the GST.

Now the car is home the fun begins, the interior is perfect , the engine runs, but the carbs need some attention, and the brakes don't work. I plan on pulling the engine, repainting the engine bay and engine, and check on the steering and suspension items. Maybe we can have it ready for Brits on the Beach 2010, see you there.

...Ken Hedges

Membership Report

Thanks very much to all who re-newed their membership in 2009, and to those who assisted with obtaining new members for the Central Island Branch.....and many of you did! Special thanks to Sussex Automotive, the Hedges two, Doug B. and others, its appreciated very much.

Dues will become due by 01 January 2010 \$20.00

Those re-newing BEFORE 31 December 2009 will participate in the Early Bird Draw to win a refund of Dues paid for 2010 and perhaps other inducements!

It is not yet too late to mail your 2010 dues of \$20 to reach Mike Bull at 381 Cottonwood Dr, Qualicum Beach, B.C. V9K 1M2 before 31 Dec 09, or bring your dues to the 15 Dec supper meet at The ABC Restaurant 6.00pm - tell Candy Francis you are coming please!

Cheers and good wishes to all members of the Club.

..Membership Guy Mike Bull

Chairman's Note

Greetings

The Annual General Meeting of the Branch was held on November 17, at the ABC Restaurant. There was no change in the elected positions.

The elected positions remained as:

- Bill Grace - Treasurer
- Mike Bull - Membership Registrar
- Norman Hall - Chairman
- Al Thompson - Past Chairman

We had replacements for Ken Hedges, Beano Editor, and, Adèle Hedges, Roster Keeper. Both of these have worked really hard at bringing both of the positions to a level that will be hard to beat.

The appointed positions are:

- Candy Francis - Events Co-ordinator
- Jim Gislason - Beano Editor (**)
- Geoff Francis - Website
- Peggie Badger - Roster Keeper (**)

(**) new to position

Looks to me like a very good crew to work with. Thanks to Jim and Peggie for taking on their new tasks. Also I thank the other members for extending their positions for another year.

I was very impressed with the turn out for all of the runs this year. Not one was a disappointment. Thanks to all of the Wagonmasters and the co-ordinators, who worked so diligently on setting up the runs.

I know that the coming year will be just as fun filled as this year.

On that note please mark your calendars for the various runs, such as Brits on the Beach, Brits Around BC, etc. as soon as Candy lets us know what events are happening and the dates of the planned events.

In closing, I would just like to say: A Merry Christmas, and, a Happy New Year to you all, And may the mechanical gods keep us off, and, out of large trucks.

Norman Hall

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Get Acquainted—Glen and Leslie Stainsby



I am a completely disassembled 1949 English Ford Thames ¼ ton Van. I have been adopted by Glen and Leslie Stainsby. Leslie is a speech-language pathologist, working out of our home and Glen is a Technology /

Science teacher at Ladysmith Secondary School.

Glen and Leslie live in a quiet area of Yellow Point with their “fur” kids, 2 dogs and 2 cats. Besides me they are the adoptive parents of a mostly disassembled 1959 Austin Healy Bug-Eyed Sprite.

Glen's interest in English vehicles began with his first vehicle in 1966. It was a 1950 Prefect in very good condition. His older brother had bought the car and drove it for a while until it broke down. He was unable to repair it, so Glen bought it from him and soon determined that the problem was a broken rear end, and fixed it. Soon after he bought a 1949 ¼ ton Thames van and used it to commute to University for a while.

After a while he bought a Bug-eye Sprite and kept it running by rebuilding the engine, transmission, and many others items that needed to be repaired. Then he started to restore a different Bug-eye Sprite.

His life changed direction and he reluctantly had to sell the Thames van and stop the restoration of his Sprite. He has kept the Bug-eye since then, but he wasn't able to store it properly and it went through a flood and subsequently lost and damaged some parts.

Since then he has been driving newer more reliable vehicles, but they are not as much fun to drive or keep on the road.

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Beaulieu: The Ultimate Car Holiday???

Steve Hutchens, President



On October 10th I went to the Monroe Swap Meet with Gerry Parkinson and Les Foster. Although mostly North American car-related, Les found Standard Vanguard literature and I bought a Volvo book (in German, but only \$3). Gerry passed on an MGA hardtop. It was a really enjoyable day. On the way home, Gerry mentioned the Beaulieu Autojumble in the UK. Conversation centered around the fascination of immersion in a massive collection of British car bits. At some point the idea of an OECC tour surfaced.

The focus of this month's ramble: Wouldn't it be a once-in-a-lifetime thrill to go to the Beaulieu International Autojumble with a group from OECC? Yes, I know, this is thinking well outside the box. And yes, it's far greater in scope than a Saturday run with lunch at a delightful pub, but, again, wouldn't it be fantastic?

What would we find at Beaulieu on September 10th and 11th besides 38,500 enthusiasts?

- Europe's largest autojumble (2102 stands covering 30 acres)
- Undercover Grand Marquee stands (2000 sq metres)
- Automart (275+ vehicles for sale)
- Bonhams Auction (collector cars and automobilia)
- Trunk Traders (autojumble bargains from the boots of cars)
- National Motor Museum (over 250 vehicles)
- Beaulieu Gardens (dating to the 1770s)
- Palace House (dating to the 13th century)
- Beaulieu Abby (serene cloisters dating to the 13th century)
- World of Top Gear (odd, strange, and unique cars)
- James Bond Experience (vehicles from the films)
- Secret Army Exhibition (where SOE agents trained during WWII)

So for the last few years he and Leslie have been keeping their eyes open for another Thames van. Unfortunately, when he did locate one it had the fire wall cut out, the back fenders cut off and too many other parts missing or damaged, which would make it difficult and expensive to restore.

Eventually, they found me in Qualicum. I was a shadow of my former self, but, they immediately adopted me and promised to bring me back to life!

Glen knew Phil McLaren (Comox OECC) through teaching. Phil directed him to Les Foster, who gave him a list of contacts including the Beenhams. Leslie and Glen have found that these people have been very helpful in regards to information and generous with their time and advice. In helping me become whole Glen has expanded this contact list to over 45 people.

So Glen and Leslie decided to join the OECC for it seemed to be a group of like-minded individuals willing to share ideas, swap parts, socialize and appreciate Old English vehicles. In a couple or 3 or 4 years (Thames willing) they will be able to join in some of the local “van” road trips. If they get into high gear they may even join the “wagons” in their Sprite.

There’s something for everyone, more than enough to fill two days. Beyond that, one could visit other locations of interest that suit your fancy. I’d like to tour the Morgan factory (now the largest British-owned car manufacturer) and go to Towcester in Northamptonshire (my Hutchens ancestors left there in the 1640s for Maryland).

Now, right up front, let’s get something clear: I’m not proposing to be the “wagonmaster” for a group tour. I just wonder if there is interest in a loosely structured holiday to Beaulieu with everyone setting their own agenda. After Beaulieu, each could continue to tour whatever would be of interest and return home whenever ready. Group rates for the Beaulieu portion might be available.

If this strikes you as special adventure of possible interest, let me know. If you’ve been there (and I know several have), I’d especially like to hear from you. More information is at www.beaulieu.co.uk/beaulieu/events-internationalautojumble.

...*Steve Hutchins OECC President*

The Annual Banquet



The 2010 Executive



King Steve

This years annual banquet at the Nanaimo Golf Club was a fun filled night to end our 2009 season.

Thanks to all those who worked to make it so pleasant, Al Thompson who arranged things plus being our MC and DJ with canned music for the evening, Thanks to Irene and the BEANO Belles for the entertainment with lots of laughs. Thanks Larry and Virginia Blatchford for the live pre dinner music. Thanks to Dave Harris for selling the tickets and being in charge of the door prizes. Thanks to those who provided the door prizes, and thanks to all of you, our club members who have all made the Central Island branch of the OECC a place to enjoy and make friends

..Editor Ken Hedges



Oscar hands over the coveted "Piston Broke" award to Cathy for her fine and memorable "Break Down" during the BATS (Brits Across the Sea) tour this Summer.

Be careful all you club members out there, as Cathy will be looking for some unfortunate soul to pass the trophy onto at the 2010 banquet.



My 1948 Ford Prefect

In June of 1997 while displaying my 51 Prefect at a car show in Vancouver, a fellow came over and told me he had an older Prefect that he was thinking of selling. He said he was the



third owner of the 1948 car, and that he had bought it at the age of fourteen from the son of the original owner, a farmer from Saskatchewan. They had wintered in Vancouver and had stored the car for use only when they were in BC. The low 28,938 original miles, can be explained by this and that the owner just parked it in his parents garage until he married and had it towed to his own place. Now twenty nine years after first buying the Prefect his wife had bought a new car for herself and was asking him to

sell it so she could use the garage. He was reluctant to do so but felt that someone with a Prefect would at least take care of a second one which is why he was approaching me. I headed over to his house the very next day and when he opened the garage you couldn't help but feel sorry for the old gal. There she sat looking so sad on four flat tires covered with empty boxes and half an inch of dust. He was asking \$500 but I knocked him down to \$425 after learning he hadn't ever run her in all these years.

I trailered her home and got to work. The motor still turned over by hand which was a good sign so I cleaned the points plugs and carburetor, hooked up a gas can to the pump and used a hand crank to turn the motor over. No fuel was getting through so I removed the fuel pump and found the pin that holds the lever in the pump was half out. I had a used pump so I put that in, hooked up a battery, pulled the starter and away she went just purring along. I have kept this car in it's original condition right down to the black paint. She still has the Ford factory markings on the firewall, L.H.D—left hand drive, N.A.S.S.—North American Sales & Service, Br.Con.Hide—Brown Connolly Leather, 2724—Body number and OK P.—OK Passed. I have taken her to many shows where she even won Best Original one year at Van Dusen.

...Paul Beenham

Nanaimo Christmas Parade



The Cox Method for Christmas—Decorations—Drive Land Rover through Holly & Cedar Hedge!

December 5 Christmas Parade in downtown Nanaimo. We had a very good showing with 10 cars out - all nicely decorated. After the parade, 12 of us went for a most enjoyable lunch at Piper's Pub.

...Al Thompson



It's the Nanaimo Parade. It's 3 degrees C, but Dave's gotta have his chair time!



Nanaimo Christmas Parade 2009
Cars are Decorated and Ready to Set Off



Minutes of October 20, 2009 Meeting

Chairman Norman Hall called the meeting to order at 7:33 pm. Thirty-six people were present. The minutes of the 15th September meeting were read by Al Thompson, and accepted. Membership Registrar Mike Bull told us that the membership had remained at 105 for the past month. He said that there would again be an early-bird draw, for a free membership, for those who paid dues for 2010 prior to 31st December 2009. He introduced two guests present – Amanda Avender, who has a '92 Mini, and her friend Dave Keaton. Treasurer Bill Grace reported that our finances were in good shape with \$1,973 in the bank. As the Beano Editor, Ken Hedges was away, we were informed, on his behalf, that the Sep-Oct issue was ready, that paper copies were available at the meeting, and that the new Beano was on the Website. A brief report was also given by the Events Coordinator, Candy Francis. On the matter of the November Annual Banquet and the cost of tickets, Chairman Norman Hall made a Motion that the Branch increases its subsidy for the Annual Banquet by up to \$5 per person (to reduce the ticket price from \$45 to \$40). Tony Dowell seconded the motion, and spoke in support. Peter Sparke also spoke in support of the motion. There was a vote by show of hands, and the **Motion was Carried**. It was agreed that the \$45 tickets would be sold for \$40 each. As to Old Business, Doug Unia reminded us that our Brits-on the Beach Coordinator for several years, Wayne Peddie, would not be able to do the job in 2010, and that we urgently need someone else to step forward and volunteer. Moving to New Business, Doug spoke on the subject of old gearboxes being susceptible to damage by most of the new modern lubricants. There was wider discussion on this subject; a consensus seemed to be that Red Line lubricant is the best bet for older gearboxes. Tony Dowell gave us an update of the British car industry, and then Merv Steg tried to get us to guess his car of the month. This month it was the Ford Transvan, which was eventually correctly guessed by Dave Keaton. Following the 50/50 draw, the meeting was adjourned at 8:29 pm.

...Al Thompson

Minutes of November 17, 2009 Meeting

Chairman Norman Hall opened the meeting at 7:30 pm with 41 people present. He noted that in addition to regular business, the November meeting would also be our **Branch Annual General Meeting (AGM)**. Al Thompson read the minutes of the 20th October meeting, and the minutes were accepted as read. The Membership Registrar, Mike Bull, told us that the membership count had not changed in the past month and was still at 105. Treasurer, Bill Grace, said that club finances were in good shape with \$1,742 in the bank account. Beano Editor Ken Hedges announced that he would be stepping down at the end of the year and handing over the Beano to Jim Gislason. A vote of thanks to Ken Hedges, for his excellent work as Editor during the past three years, was moved by Tony Dowell, seconded by Marilyn Tarry, and carried out enthusiastically by loud applause from all present. Events Coordinator, Candy Francis, said there had been no events during the past month, and then called on Al Thompson to review arrangements for the upcoming Club Banquet, on 21st

November, and the Nanaimo Christmas Parade, on 5th December. Candy also said that, as there was no club meeting in December, there would likely be a branch dinner at the ABC on 15th December - more info would follow. As for next year, it was reported that Laura Taylor had volunteered to look after the BBQ for Brits on the Beach. As well, Adrian Rice and Steve Wareing have volunteered to manage the car show part of Brits on the Beach. Chairman Norman then directed the members to the AGM portion of the meeting – essentially the election of branch table officers, and appointments, for the year 2010. As all the executive were deemed to have resigned, new nominations were made, seconded and approved by the membership as follows. **Chairman**: Norman Hall, nominated by Al Thompson, seconded by Doug Unia, was unopposed and re-elected by acclamation; **Treasurer**: Bill Grace, nominated by Norman Hall, seconded by Adèle Hedges, was unopposed and re-elected by acclamation; **Membership Registrar**: Mike Bull, nominated by Norman Hall, seconded by Don Badger, was unopposed and re-elected by acclamation. As well, the following were appointed to serve on the 2010 Executive: **Events Coordinator** – Candy Francis (reappointed); **Webmaster** - Geoff Francis (reappointed); **Beano Newsletter Editor** – Jim Gislason; and, **Roster Publisher**: Peggie Badger. Al Thompson will continue to serve on the Executive as **Past Chairman**. Following the AGM, Tony Dowell reported on the state of the British car industry, Steve Harris spoke of some rare cars that can still be found in BC, and Merv Steg tested the members with his mystery car of the month (Ascari). Merv also won the 50/50 draw. The meeting ended at 8:35 pm.

...Al Thompson

OECC CIB Members of the Year



This year the trophy for members of the year was awarded by Ray and Marge Sabourin at the annual banquet to a deserving couple..

Malcolm and Janet Hargraves.

The award could not have gone to a more deserving couple for their organization in providing such wonderful runs year after year.

The picture shows what they do best, issuing instructions and questionnaires before the start of a run, some say that Jan thinks of questions that are too hard, especially when trying to negotiate our way to the restaurant for lunch, but that's what makes it all the more interesting.

Well done Malcolm and Janet.

....Ken Hedges

New 2010 OECC CI Executive

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Editor's Note

Well the time has come for me as editor of the BEANO for the past 3 years to put away my pen and empty the ink well.

I must say that I have enjoyed being editor of the BEANO, and it was a bit of a challenge in the early days of my tenure, but thanks to all those members who submitted articles, it made the job that much easier.

I would also like to thank my wife Adèle who has been my proof reader and critic, without her help you would have seen numerous spelling and grammatical errors.

The next issue, our Sixty Second for the club, will be handed over to Jim Gislason, who I am sure along with Cathy will keep you reading and entertained, although he might be inclined to print too many Tiger pictures and write ups!!

In closing I would like to wish you all a Happy Holiday and a Very Happy New Year.

...Departing Editor Ken Hedges