



Jul-Aug 2006

41st Edition

Editor & Publisher: Al Thompson

Another Great "Brits-on-the-Beach"



Glorious Weather and the beautiful setting of Ladysmith's Transfer Beach Park made for a most enjoyable Brits-on-the-Beach car gathering on Sunday July 16th. This was – as it has been in past years – the premier event put on by the Central Island Branch of the Old English Car Club. It was most gratifying to have some 170 fine old English cars, from all points on Vancouver Island and from the Lower Mainland, show up (*The Picture shows some of them*). Seventeen old English motorcycles were also on display. Needless to say, there were lots of good-natured folks enjoying the afternoon and examining the cars and motorbikes in great detail. Congratulations to Wayne Peddie and his team for laying on such a good event.

(Many thanks to Geoff Francis and Malcolm Hargrave for photos in this Beano)

Cadboro Bay Meet 23 July 2006

Doug Bainbridge, Dave & Linda Harris, Ken & Adèle Hedges, Geoff & Candy Francis and Marge & Ray Sabourin left Southgate Mall around 8 am with Doug Bainbridge in the lead in his red MGB with white hardtop. We were enroute to the Victoria MG Club's 25th Anniversary Meet at Cadboro Bay. We had our usual brief stop at Tim Hortons at Mill Bay and then continued down on a very pleasant drive to Cadboro Bay (*Victoria*) and were amongst the first to register as we arrived about 9:50. Cars were arranged in groups, most of us were in the rubber bumper MGBs, Doug was with the chrome bumper MGBs and Dave was grouped with other (non MGs) which included Jaguars and other Triumphs. Despite being a very hot day, we did manage to keep very cool under the trees at Cadboro Bay as there was a nice breeze coming off the ocean. At around 1:45, after we had all had our picnic lunches and chats, we were summoned by Wayne Watkins to gather in the hot sun to have the draws for various prizes for those who had purchased raffle tickets. Both Candy and Ken had tickets drawn and won prizes. Next winners of the various trophies were announced, but none of our group received any awards. As Ken had to pick up some bushings from Craig Hunter in Esquimalt, we lead the way there and after joining TransCanada, Geoff took over and took us on a detour through some very winding roads. I think he thought he was doing the LeMans! We then headed up to Mill Bay and ate Fish and Chips, and then Chemainus where we had ice cream, before heading home...*Adèle Hedges*

Scavenger Hunt 30 July 2006

On the Scavenger Hunt we had 14 cars turn up with a total of 28 people. We left the Southgate Mall by 10.30 and we met at the

Honey Pot Pub in Honey Moon Bay (Cowichan Valley) around 2.00 pm. We lost 1 car en-route - the red and blue Mini (I think it was Mike and Anna Gilbert). Everyone had a good time and really enjoyed the clues and scavenger items. Martyn and Pat Green won a compass because they were the last to arrive and got lost a few times. Don and Peg Badger were the overall winners of 2 martini glasses filled with chocolates. The weather was good most of the time, but we did get quite a downpour when we were at the pub...*Malcolm Hargrave*



▲ Nice Old MGs at the Cadboro Bay Meet



▲ Everyone's concentrates hard to hear who won the Scavenger Hunt!

Ladysmith Parade 5 August 2006

Nine of our cars made up the Old English Car Club's entry in the Ladysmith Parade. It was a fine day (*Cont'd on Page 7*)

Brits 'Round BC 2006 – June 25th to 30th ...by Adèle Hedges

Our relentless editor, Al Thompson really wants a write-up for this Beano; so here goes. To sum up the whole trip, renewing old friendships, making new ones, great scenery, lots of places to visit along the way, lots of laughter and *very* hot weather.

As Brits 'Round BC (BRBC) incorporated the AGM in Kamloops June 24 and Rally in the Valley in Penticton at the end of our tour I will also mention a little about each.

On June 22 we met Dave and Linda Harris at Duke Point in order to catch the ferry to Tsawwassen. Around 10 am we met up with Wilf and Linda Craven from Pender Island in their 1947 Bentley and several people from the Vancouver Branch at a McDonald's, some of whom were there to greet us and send us on our way. Some came along with us as far as Agassiz, including Bence and Helen McIntyre in their 1964 MG Midget, who had mapped out a great route which took us through White Rock, along the US border where we passed the drug tunnel to the US, had our picnic lunch at Aldergrove lake park where we were met by yet another Vancouver Branch member, Walter Reynolds with his 1968 Rover. Our final destination for the day was the Skaggit Motor Inn in Hope – great place to stay when with a group as we found out last year on BRBC 2005. Later on we were met by Rob & Elaine Brodie from South Island Branch in their 1982 XJ6 Jaguar. Next day we were joined by Steve Hutchens & Celia Obrecht in their 1962 Morgan and Bart & Audrey Shaw in their TR4A, both from Vancouver Branch. We all then set off for Kamloops, stopping at Spences Bridge for lunch and then on to Merrit, where we took Highway 5A and stopped at the Quilchena Inn for a cool drink and then on to Kamloops to the Riverland Motel. Some people who had left later in the day were there before us as we had made several stops along the way and took our time. They included David &

Danita Nishioka in their Buick and many other people who were going to be joining the BRBC tour. We enjoyed our stay at the Riverland Motel, but we did miss Nigel and Frances as they were with us last year and especially Nigel telling his chicken jokes and having us in stitches.

Kamloops branch did a wonderful job of the AGM and the events leading up to it. We got to see lots of Kamloops on the rally on Saturday morning. Teams were sent off in different directions and there were 5 challenges. Before receiving instructions for each challenge, we had to decide who would do the challenge. Afterwards we had lunch at the golf club (where the AGM was held in the evening). For those who wanted to, there was golf in the afternoon, but all our group chose to relax back at the Motel. After the AGM there was entertainment by a group singing many oldies.

Day 1...the official start to BRBC 2006 after a pancake breakfast put on by the Kamloops branch. Now here I should mention a hard luck story. About a week before we were to leave I received an email from Steve Hutchens, who lives in Bellingham and teaches at the Northern Washington University. Apparently someone who was to be teaching a course had had a heart attack and Steve was the only one available who could take over. So the plan was that they would come as far as Vernon and then leave from there, drive back home teach the course Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and drive back on Friday and meet up with us again in Penticton. Well the Morgan (which did the same thing in Kamloops last year) had a problem. So Morgan was left in Kamloops, they rented a car to go back home and then returned back on Friday to pick up the Morgan and then on to Penticton. I should also mention that it is Steve that did the web pages for Brits 'Round BC 2006.

Participants were given a book, which outlined the routes for each day, places of interest to visit along the way and location of accommodation for each evening. We quickly discovered that the two Bentleys - Doug & Anne Courtemanche from Vancouver also had a very fine 1957 Saloon - were often found to have arrived earlier at the accommodation and looking well refreshed when the rest of us arrived!

We left Kamloops a little after 9 am with 12 cars. Duncan Lowe from Salmon Arm was there in his 1951 MGTD and offered to take us on a scenic detour to our first stop of the day, the O'Keefe Ranch. As some had to fill up with gas we were a little late in setting off from our rendezvous spot. Consequently Ken and I decided not to take the detour as Geoff and Candy and also Elaine & Patrick from Vancouver branch in their 1961 Wolseley (who camped in tents the whole trip), were going to meet us at the O'Keefe Ranch as they were both visiting relatives in Vernon that weekend. After lunch at the O'Keefe Ranch we were met by a large group of cars from Vernon, many of whom came with us to our next stop of the day, the Fintry Manor House in Fintry Provincial Park. Our final destination for the day was Vernon where Bence & Helen McIntyre met up with us once again. They had troubles with their Midget on and off the whole trip, but did make it the whole way. We met up for our evening meal with some of the Vernon group.

Day 2 we left with 14 cars and were met at our final destination, Halcyon Hot Springs near Nakusp by Wayne and Lou Watkins from the Victoria MG Club (1969 MGB Mk11) and Ken and Pat Miles from Vancouver Branch (1969 Morgan). The route took us through some spectacular scenery through Monashee Mountains and a five-minute ferry ride across the Lower Arrow Lake.

Day 3 we left with 15 cars and David & Danita left Halcyon early in the morning to drive

straight home via Revelstoke. Stops were made in Nakusp, New Denver, Sandon and most stopped for lunch at the Retallack Resort located halfway between New Denver and Kaslo our final stop for the day. We arrived there at various times, which worked out well as we were all able to sit outside on the deck surrounded by trees and were greeted by the chef whose lunch creations were superb. Our group arrived as some were leaving and all mentioned the homemade ice cream. They were right; it was good! We had lots of time to relax at the Kaslo Motel and some of us washed the dirt off our cars. A good time was had by all at the Rosewood Café that evening – or so I hear. I unfortunately had to stay behind as I suddenly became ill, but was well recovered the next day.

Day 4 we were all gathered with cars lined up outside the motel as the local TV were going to film us, but they did not show up, so we took the opportunity to get pictures of the cars before we all took off for the day.



Our BRBC Cars lined up in Kaslo for the TV 'Shoot' that never happened. Too many cars to get into one photo so Geoff took two.

Our final destination today was Creston. Wayne and Lou left us for the day as they were visiting people in Balfour and rejoined us again the next day in Nelson. Some people spent some more time in Kaslo in the morning before leaving for Balfour to take the longest free ferry ride in the world, a 40 minute scenic crossing of Kootenay Lake to Crawford Bay. Others stopped on the way down at Ainsworth Hot Springs.

We noticed a red MGB parked by a creek and at the ferry line-up found that it was one of our friends, Greg Granstrom from the West Kootenay British Car Club who joined us stayed overnight in Creston. As the ferry was just loading, we did not think we would make it on that one, but they took a look at our little old British cars and squeezed us on beside some large motor home a trailers.



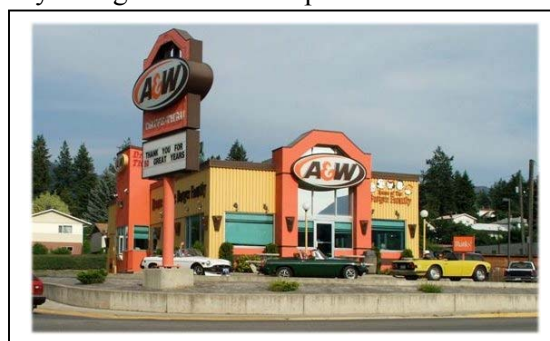
Hedges MGB, Harris TR6, Bart & Audrey Shaw's TR4A (Vancouver) and barely visible Francis MGB

When we were leaving, we noticed a couple on the shore waving which we thought were Robert and Anne Atkins from Victoria and Ken and I waved back, as did all our other group who were on the upper deck. The couple standing next to us were also waving – it was her Mum and Dad! We had a hard time convincing the others that it was not Robert and Anne. We stopped in Crawford Bay and visited some of the artisan shops and watched some weaving and glass blowing. Next we stopped at a picnic area and ate our packed lunches.

Luckily I had mosquito spray, as they wanted to feast on us – especially Dave. Next some of us visited the Glass House of the late David Brown, which features half a million empty square embalming fluid bottles. It was surprisingly very nice inside and the grounds were also very beautiful with a lookout over the east arm of Kootenay Lake. We then decided we should head straight to the motel in Creston with the lure of an outdoor pool, only to find it had not yet been filled up. Quite a few others were also already there, also to be disappointed.

David Cooper (Victoria) who was travelling in his newly, and very nicely restored 1963 Morris Oxford had Ian Sparks as co-driver, was staying with his daughter and family who live in Creston. Pat Sparks who had Susan Jones as her co-driver joined them for an evening meal at their place. Most of the rest of us opted to eat at the restaurant at the motel. But first of all, Central Island group had a very important mission as it was Wednesday – A&W night. So we all got in our cars and drove to the A & W which was next door and Geoff took the next picture (*in this section*) and wanted to email it back to you, but was unable to get email access.

By now our Central Island group and those who stayed close by us most of the trip were getting a reputation of having too much fun. But at the end of each day it was so nice to meet up with everyone again and catch up on what we all did.



Central Island Group at A&W on Wed nite!

Day 5 was a busy day. Those who wanted to visit the Creston Wildlife Management Area

(where David Cooper's daughter and son-in-law work) had to make an early start. Robert Leonard from Mayne Island traveling solo in his 1966 Sunbeam Alpine, did just that. After leaving Creston we made the very long climb to the top of the Kootenay Pass, BC's highest elevation highway and the equally as long descent down to Salmo and then on to Nelson.

The McIntyres visited friends in Nelson and rejoined us again in Rossland, our final destination for the day. Shortly after 1pm we all gathered just outside Nelson, including the Watkins and Ken led everyone who had indicated they wanted to visit the Fortis BC (used to be West Kootenay Power) dam at South Slokan. A few people opted to also come along and relax in the beautiful grounds. Many people do not realize that BC has another hydroelectric company. It really gave people a good understanding of what is involved in producing and distributing electricity. We were taken above the dams and then inside and saw turbines and other equipment. We then made our way to Rossland and that evening we were met by 12 people from the West Kootenay British Car Club for our evening meal.

Day 6 - Nearly everyone went to visit the Rossland Mine and Museum, which was located almost across the highway from the motel, **and here (below) you can see Candy (2nd from Left) trying to find gold.**



Around 11 am we were all set to leave and were joined by two other cars from the WKBCC, Dave & Doreen Butler in their TR4A and Greg

& Nadine Grandstrom in their MGB. We drove past Christina Lake and shortly after Dave and Karen Heck from Grand Forks joined us in their recently acquired limited edition MGB. Dave had read about BRBC on the web. They were originally going to come with us to Penticton for Rally in the Valley, but Dave had just been transferred to Terrace and they were moving on Sunday. We had lunch at the Station Pub in Grand Forks where they had a room set aside for us upstairs.

Our next stop was Greenwood – Canada's smallest city where some of us stopped at the Copper Eagle Cappuccino and Bakery for coffee and dessert.

By now it was getting very hot, so we were anxious to get through Osoyoos and then on to Penticton. Linda and Dave had stayed behind in Grand Forks as Linda had a rendezvous with someone at a quilt shop. We left Greenwood and then made our way to Penticton and gradually met up with everyone including Steve and Celia in their Morgan. **This was the official end of BRBC 2006.**

Saturday morning was the big show and shine with cars displayed in groups; our 75 MGB was with the other 1974 ½ - 1977's. We did not attend the banquet and awards that evening, but those that did, came back with Ken's plaque for 2nd place in his class.



Still enjoying each other's company – Saturday evening in Penticton.

(Cont'd from Page 2 – *Ladysmith Parade*)

and there was a big crowd out along Ladysmith's Main Street. Those of us there thoroughly enjoyed ourselves before, during and after the parade. And just to round off the day nicely, our boy Zach Smith came oh-so-close to winning the soap-box derby – but, in the end, had to settle for third place...*Ed*



◀ The front of our Line

The Back ▶ of our Line



◀ Zach in his Soapbox gets a push from Tony

Saratoga Beach 6 August 2006

On 6th August several of our stalwarts accepted the Dave & Linda Harris invite to join them for a BBQ at their “pad” at the Pacific Playgrounds camp site at Saratoga Beach near Campbell River. It was indeed a lovely day. Ten cars in all left Nanaimo, picking up the Bulls at Qualicum Bay, and the Mugeridges who came a little later. The coastal route is always enjoyable as there is so much to see, and very little traffic these days. Salt, seaweed, oysters, rotting wood and birds of prey kept us company both ways, and the generosity of our terrific hosts added to this day of great pleasures.

Dave and Linda Harris did a superb job ensuring our comfort, and the food was well catered to. It was a pot-luck and byob event but they hosted the burgers, chips, and drinks too! As well, some went on the “Cooks Tour” to check out the fishing, camping, ice-cream, and tall stories about the “pinks they saw “ coming upstream. Nice one Dave and Linda!...*Mike Bull*

Upcoming Events

Tue Aug 15 – Club Meeting, ABC Restaurant
 Sun Aug 20 – Run TBA
 Sun Sep 16 – Fort Rodd Hill
 Tue Sep 19 - Club Meeting, ABC Restaurant
 Sat Sep 23 – Whistler All British Run
 Tue Oct 17 - Club Meeting, ABC Restaurant
 Sat Nov 18 - Club Annual Dinner



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STOP PRESS! – CIOECC WINS AT COMOX
Filberg Park, 13 Aug: Pre-1950 cars, 2nd Prize – Mike Green's 1939 BSA Scout. 1970's cars, 2nd Prize – Ken&Adèle Hedges's 1975 MGB. 1980+ cars, 2nd Prize – Martyn&Pat Green's 1993 Jag XJS. Overall Best-in-Show – Al&Irene Thompson's 1965 London Taxi

Club Meeting 20 June 2006

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7:36 pm, with 30 people present. Membership Registrar Mike Bull reported that we have 64 members for the current year – new folks present were Mike Gilbert ('78 Mini), Mike Findlay (Lotus Europa), Mike Hitchcock (no English car at present), and Jim Smith ('71 MGB). Treasurer, Adèle Hedges, reviewed the financial state – bank account plus cash-on-hand stands at \$1,898.32. Al Thompson reported that the May-Jun Beano was available for pick-up, and would be mailed, and on the Website within a day or so. Wayne Peddie provided a Brits-on-the-Beach overview, and then asked for volunteers to help out on the day (Jul 16th). He also asked for approval of some funding for the Kinsmen to provide hamburgers for the evening BBQ. It was moved by Oscar Taylor and seconded by Al Thompson that \$200 be allocated for the BBQ supplies; this was approved by the members present via a show of hands. The Chairman noted that the Canada Day run and show on Salt Spring Island was a 'go' and that those attending should aim to catch the 8:30 am ferry. Tony Mantell gave an outline of the Ladysmith Parade, coming up on Aug 5th. Dave Harris spoke about the Saratoga Beach Show-and-Shine, which is just for our branch, and will take place on Aug 6th. Chairman Doug reported on the Father's Day Picnic in Beaconhill Park, Victoria; 250 old English cars were there this year. He also noted that the Comox Branch show at Filberg would be held again this year, on Aug 13th. Adèle Hedges told us that the Brits 'Round BC tour leaves Thursday Jun 22nd – 44 people and 24 cars are expected to participate. Merv Steg decided not to give us a T-Shirt Car-of-the-Month for this meeting, but instead described in detail the procedure he had to go through to bring his newly purchased 1980 Triumph TR7 into Canada from the US. The 50/50 draw was won by Dave Harris. The meeting closed at 8:45 pm.

Club Meeting 18 July 2006

The meeting opened at 7:33 pm with 26 folks present. Chairman Doug Unia read the minutes of the previous branch meeting, and then followed with the minutes of the Society AGM.

Treasurer Adèle Hedges gave an overview of the club financials; we have \$2267 in the bank. She told us that Brits on the Beach had taken in \$369 (from 50-50 ticket sales etc) and had expended \$40 to date; BBQ and gift expenses were yet to come in. A donation to the Ladysmith Little Theatre will be discussed at the August club meeting. Registrar Mike Bull reported that we have 68 paid-up members. He introduced three new members: Mike Hitchcock, Alan Petrie, and Paul Watkins. Wayne Peddie reviewed Brits on the Beach; we had had problems due to the Kinsmen pulling out at the last moment, but the recovery plan turned out well, and we had a successful show again this year. CDs and DVDs of Brits on the Beach pictures will be available at the next club meeting from Merv Steg. The \$200 approved at the previous meeting as a donation to the Kinsmen was cancelled. Malcolm Hargrave outlined arrangements for the Scavenger Hunt on 30th July. Nigel Muggeridge spoke about the Ladysmith Parade coming up on Sat 5th August, the theme for which will be "Heritage by the Sea". The Parade will start at 10am, but judging of entries will be at 8:30 am. Dave Harris told us about the Saratoga Beach Show & Shine and picnic on Sun 6th August; we will start from the Nanaimo Canadian Tire at 10 am – and everyone should bring chips or salad to share (burgers and buns will be provided). It was noted that the following weekend (12th/13th Aug) was the Comox Valley Branch's All British Meet at Filberg Park. Doug Bainbridge mentioned the Victoria MG Club's Meet at Cadboro Bay the coming Sunday, to be followed the very next weekend (29th July) by the "Jaguars on the Island" gathering also at Cadboro Bay. Chairman Doug gave a brief report on the Salt Spring Island Show & Shine, which had attracted about 144 cars. Merv Steg's Car-of-the-Month was the A/C Bristol. The 50/50 draw was won by Mike Bull. The meeting finished at 8:32 pm.

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