



The Car Club Beano



British Engineered Automobiles-Nanaimo Order

Mar-Apr 2007

45th Edition

Editor & Publisher: Ken Hedges

Godfrey Brownwell Winery—March 25th

Rain, rain all week leading up to our first run of the year and then a perfect day, considering it was March. Fifteen cars gathered at the Southgate Shopping Centre for a 10 am departure to Mill Bay to meet with members of the South Island Branch. Participants were given route directions with a wine quiz on the reverse. Merv Steg was waiting for us at the corner of Herd Road and TransCanada Highway with camera in hand to take pictures of us as we drove by. After crossing TC we turned on Somenos Road where Bernie & Betty Butler were waiting for us at the end of their driveway, reading the paper, so engrossed that all 16 cars may have gone by, if Ken had not sounded his horn. A leisurely drive took us passed a few other wineries arriving at Tim Hortons in Mill Bay in plenty of time to meet with members from the South Island Branch. All 16 cars from SIB arrived bit by bit with time for chitchat before our 1pm on the dot planned departure. A slight shower beforehand, which had, some hurrying to their cars. Rob Brodie had prepared a route quiz, which took us through Cowichan Bay and ended up at the train station in Duncan where we were to meet and then on to Godfrey Brownwell Vineyards. Some completely missed the first turn, and either went to the train station or carried on to the winery. The .8km driveway had to be taken slowly, a bit rocky and slight mud at the beginning but that did not deter those with the lure of wine tasting at the end! People either

had their own picnic lunch or partook of the bread; local cheese and salad snack and some members from SIB had the meal. It was a bit cool, to say the least, sitting out on the patio, even though the sun was shining. Most people also went on the two separate tours of the winery itself. It was great to see the different assortment of very fine British cars and to meet and mingle with members from SIB. Doug and Judy Unia had the highest score



for the wine quiz and Kathy Traynor who was riding with Susan Jones of SIB and a group effort travelling with Tom Rivers of SIB tied for second place. People left for home in dribs and drabs and Ken and I left just behind Geoff & Candy Francis, but with those new carbs installed, Geoff's MGB soon became a speck in the distance!...*Adèle Hedges Pictures Merv Steg*



Note from the Chairman

I am writing this from Milton, Ontario, where Irene and I have been for most of March. We plan on being back on March 30th, so by the time you read this Beano we would have been out for the Bunny Hop run, and probably the Alberni run as well.

There's been a good deal of email traffic recently on the matter of the OECC Society's AGM weekend, coming up on the 18-20 May. As the AGM this year is tied in with the All British Field Meet in Vancouver's Van Deusen Gardens, it promises to be a most interesting weekend. There will be lots of fine old British cars, good food, plenty of social activity, the Mini Monte car rally, and (finally) the annual general meeting itself. Of particular note this year is that we have nominated one of our own Central Island branch members, Wayne Peddie, to be President of the OECC Society. It would be nice to have a good attendance from our branch to support Wayne's candidacy. If you can make the AGM weekend in Vancouver, please give me a call at 756-045...*Al Thompson*.

Kudos

To Alan Petrie and Anji on the first anniversary of Sussex Automotive. Well done, and perhaps one day we will take Alan's offer of a visit to his shop.

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Stromberg Carburetors

Did you Triumph owners ever wonder why your Strombeg carburetors look like SU's? Well here is the reason why.

In the 1950's when Standard Triumph was a separate company form British Leyland, Chief Engineer Harry Webster found out SU was charging Triumph twice as much as MG (In house at BMC) for its carburetors. He decided that he could develop his own carburetor, based on the constant vacuum principle of the SU, that he considered the best principle.

The problem was that SU had certain patents so some redesign was necessary.

In the new carburetor the non-patented SU ideas were carried over. The piston and needle were redesigned, this is why the Stromberg has a membrane. By 1960 the prototype was ready.

It proved very expensive for Triumph to manufacture the carburetor so this was handed over to Zenith ergo the name was changed to Zenith-Stromberg. Stromberg was a name take over by Zenith some years earlier.

So Triumph designed the Stromberg carburetors and passed their design over to Zenith. They first appeared on the TR4 at the end of 1962.

The SU is better for performance because it is easier to polish and enlarge the ports and has a far larger range of needles available.

The British market saw the reintroduction of SUs on such models as the 2000, Dolomite, TR7 and 2500S after Triumph became part of British Leyland in 1968. ...*Doug Unia*

Bunny Hop Run —April 1st



It was a beautiful sunny morning for Old English cars and their owners to gather together at Tim Hortons in Chase River to partake in the annual Bunny Hop 2007 “Eggstravaganza”. Twenty nine eager Bunny hunters took to the road through Cedar and Yellow Point, passing by quiet lakes and picturesque farms where we spotted baby lambs frolicking in the fields.



Everyone was keeping a keen eye out for the mysterious Easter Bunny, knowing that the location of the furry creature could very well be the deciding factor in winning the short quiz, who would have thought that this Bunny was five feet tall and waving a checkered flag!!

Eventually we arrived at our picnic location. It was opening day for the Barton-Leier gallery, and they were “Hoppy” to see us.

Before touring the gallery and gardens the mysterious Bunny showed up to hand out chocolate eggs to everyone, Kudos to the bunny!!!

During the picnic, we presented the coveted Bunny Award to Bob and Lynne Cumberland for correctly answering the eight questions and coming closest to the mileage of the Bunny location.

Honorable mention went to Pat Green for her lovely bunny shirt, and to our fearless chairman Al Thompson, for choosing his own route, welcome home Al.

Everyone seemed to have a good time, and this wagon master believes that we should do more picnic runs in the future.

...*Dave Harris*



MG’s answer to the Jaguar cat!



Club Minutes February 2007

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Al Thompson at 7:30PM with 41 members and spouses present. Al extended a welcome to the attending ladies.

The passing of member John Davison formerly of International Auto Repairs was announced. Minutes of the last meeting were read by Past Chairman Doug Unia.

Membership Chairman Mike Bull announced there are 57 paid up members, 11 since January. He also requested the ladies present to identify themselves.

Treasurer Adèle Hedges reported cash on hand of \$2098 with a net income of \$457.04.

Editor Ken Hedges reported the first new issue of the Beano is available and asked for contributions.

Webmaster Doug Bainbridge asked for any interesting links for the website.

Marge Sabourin, events coordinator, requested members to consider doing an event and she will send out a new calendar of events.

Nigel Muggeridge reported the Bowling event will be at Brechin Lanes at 3:00 PM Feb 25 followed by supper at the MGM restaurant.

Adèle advised of the March 25 run to a vineyard in Duncan. Meet at Southgate with time to be announced at the next meeting. Wine tasting and a tour of the winery is on the agenda. She also talked about the upcoming BATS tour.

There will be a Bunny Hop Run April 1.

Mike Minter will be looking after the Empire Days Parade this year.

Tony Dowell reported again the Christmas Party will be the Third Saturday in November with alternate arrangements being made for the Disco due to increased costs. Dave Harris will sell tickets.

The executive has decided to buy a sound system for future use, and it can be used at all events.

Tony Mantell mentioned past problems with

sound equipment at Brits on the Beach so this investment should alleviate this.

Al Thompson was asked to provide an article about our branch to the Times Colonist. The resulting coverage was a picture and a caption.

Under new Business, Wayne Peddie has agreed to run for the position of Society President.

The second Rally for the Haven will take place in June and Allan Petrie gave a short background of the work undertaken by this group.

Tony Dowell's report on the British Car Scene mentioned the Russian buyer of TVR has backed out of the deal due to bad publicity surrounding his plans to move the factory from Blackpool.

The new owners of Rover, Shanghai, will produce the Rover 75 in China. The Martin Bank of Egypt has made an offer to Ford for Aston Martin. Proton will sell the Lotus name to BMW.

Mike Minter mentioned a 1957 Metropolitan for sale.

Ken Hedges reported the Beano can be mailed to members not on Email.

Tony Mantell mentioned the latest specs for motor oil, which now are missing some components helpful to older cars.

Merv Steg's car of the month was TVR identified by Doug Unia.

The 50-50 draw of \$20.50 was won by Marge Sabourin.

The meeting was concluded at 8:41 PM.

...Doug Unia



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Upcoming Events

Port Alberni Run

Date: April 22 at 10:00 am
Place: Meet at Canadian Tire N. Nanaimo
Lunch: Location TBA

Empire Days Parade—Nanaimo

Date: May 20 Time: Parade Start 1:00
For car judging 11:00 others 12:00
Place: Victoria Rd & Needham St Nanaimo
Lunch: Pipers Pub

Fathers Day Picnic Beacon Hill Victoria

Date: June 17 Time: TBA
Place: Meet at Southgate Mall

OECC AGM

Date: May 18—21
Place: Vancouver
Contact: Al Thompson for details

All British Field Meet

Date: May 19
Time: MUST be in place by 10 AM
Place: Van Deusen Gardens

Brits Across the Sea

Date: June 23
Place: A nine day tour of our islands
Contact: Marge Sabourin or Adèle Hedges

Bowling February 25

Club members got together on Sunday, February 25th for their first activity of 2007, an afternoon of five-pin bowling at Brechin Lanes in Nanaimo. We had a good turnout and took up six lanes, with twenty-eight people bowling.

The afternoon went by very quickly with lots of laughter and encouragement from fellow bowlers. Some of us had our scores artificially inflated because the guard rails were left up on the lanes, redirecting mis-aimed bowling balls away from the gutters and back toward the pins. This gave us a very welcome second chance to gain some points.

Prizes were awarded for the highest and lowest score for the men, and highest and lowest score for the women. Roger Tarry and Linda Harris had the high scores, and Michael Davies and Janet Hargrave had the low scores.

Twenty-three people met at the MGM Restaurant on Nicol Street for dinner afterwards. Many thanks to Nigel and Francis for organizing this event!

P.S. Is anyone interested in getting together one night a week to bowl for fun (either five-pin or ten-pin)? If so, please contact Michael and Carolyn at mc.davies@shaw.ca and we will try to organize something.

...*Michael Davies*



Club Minutes March 21, 2007

There were 30 present which included two guests,; Bob Bruner and Brian Collings.

As our chairman Al was visiting family in Ontario, Doug Unia stepped in to chair the meeting. The minutes of the February 20 meeting was read.

Mike updated us on the status of membership to date, with 66 paid members, and also had some regalia on hand to show the members.

Adèle gave the treasurers report, cash on hand \$1985.60 net income \$680.54.

Nigel gave a report on the recent bowling afternoon that was well attended.

Adèle provided details on the upcoming wine run on March 25.

Doug read a notice of the Airport Days at the Parksville / Qualicum airport on May 5 for those interested.

Doug also mentioned that the “Rally for Haven” for which he was to be our representative on the rally, has also been sponsored by Central Drugs, he will take this spot along with Judy, thus leaving the OECC Central Island spot open to another vehicle (plus driver co-driver and passengers). He also mentioned that the OECC South Island Branch will be holding a swap meet on April 8 at the Heritage Acres in Sidney on April 8th.

Tony Dowel circulated a list of all car shows and events to be held on VI during 2007. He also mentioned that the A&W at Turner road in Nanaimo extend a welcome to car owners to their Wednesday night drive in.

Dave Harris gave an update on the

upcoming Bunny Hop Run. He also advised the members of the upcoming RM Auction in Vancouver and the Octogon open house on April 14.

Wayne Peddie advised that Brits on the Beach on July 22nd will be entry at no charge, and requests volunteers for throughout the day. More details to follow.

Mike advised that the late John Davidsons vehicles are being sold (see classified in this issue).

Adèle gave several updates:

The upcoming BATS (Brits Across The Sea) due to commence in Nanaimo on June 23, finalised start time and ferry info to follow.

The BC Triumph Registry will be holding the “All Triumph Drive In 2007” on August 10 –12.

A brief report on the upcoming AGM to be held in Vancouver on June 17.

Tony Dowell advised that a 1957 MGA 1600 is for sale from the family that he recently purchased his Austin Healey. Contact Tony for details.

Merv’s car of the month was the Marcos, that was correctly identified by Doug Unia. The 50/50 draw in the amount of \$22.00 was won by Doug Groth.

Meeting closed at 8:35 pm. ... *Ken Hedges*

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Mystery Car



Last month's mystery car submitted by Michael Cane, seemed hard to discover, but maybe a picture showing the front may help! There were only two entries Steve Diggins (OECC Vancouver) who guessed a Riley, no year or model given. Doug Unia Riley 14/6 Lynx tourer produced between 1929-1934. The car is a 1932 Riley Gamecock, and according to Micheal, Doug's guess was very close. ..*Editors note*

Test your knowledge

- 1.. Where was the world's first traffic light installed?
(a) London
(b) New York
(c) Detroit
- 2.. What did Vauxhall sell before they started making cars?
- 3.. In which year did Rover launch the P4, and what was it's nickname?
- 4.. What was the last sports car to be produced by the Rootes group?

[Answers on back page.](#)

Membership

Hi from the Membership Guy"

A Big thank you is extended to members who have renewed for 2007.....68 of you so far! with just a few still not yet renewed but we remain hopeful they will!

Free entry to Brits on the Beach, the Bi-Monthly Beano, A Lordco Discount Card plus the opportunity to join us on our Free Tour events, make membership in the O.E.C.C. an absolute bargain! How do we do it?

Hope you'll re-new if you haven't done so yet ...*Mike Bull*

John Davison

John passed away at 5 AM February 20 after suffering a heart attack. John will be remembered by club members who new him, he will be missed.

Restoration Fair

The South Island chapter hosted a swap meet and sale at Heritage acres in Saanich on Sunday April 08. There was a good representation of Mid Island members. The rain held off and 30-40 cars and motorcycles were on display. The parts available at the swap meet were a bit sparse but there were several cars offered for sale ranging from a Rolls Royce to a MGB GT. Adèle Hedges almost convinced Ken to buy the MG but it went to a new home in Gibsons. Dennis Watson had a table but complained he had only earned enough to cover gas. Also attending were several other members of the OECC CIB

... *Wayne Peddie*

Floggers Corner

1998 Jaguar XJS convertible, low miles, one owner. California car, dark blue metallic paint tan interior and Koa wood. in excellent condition and runs exceptionally \$12,500 Cdn.

1960 Austin Healy 3000 currently with Ford 289 V8 and 4 speed, NO ROT, California car.

1969 MG Midget runs great many new parts [not yet fitted] needs restoration little or no rust, car imported from USA easy project \$2,000.

1966 Series 4 sunbeam Alpine + re-built Ford 302 high performance V8 and 5 speed box to be fitted or re-fit original engine and gear box.

1948 Standard Flying 8 Tourer 4 seater convertible, engine and gearbox done and out, chassis done, seats re done, body sand blasted and primed some welding needs required and re assembled, its ALL there + some new parts.

Series 5 Sunbeam Alpine engine and gearbox.

Series 4 Sunbeam Alpine engine.

Contact Norm Marshall 250 248 2774 or
Email: rumbleguts44@yahoo.com

1970 Jaguar XJ6 Make Rare 9.1 compression ratio 4.2 L engine 2 owners 72k original miles A1 condition \$12,000

1961 Jaguar Make 3.8 L all mechanical rebuilt, needs body work, comes with Bartlet interior and all rubber seals asking \$10,000.

Contact Mike Minter 250 753 8268

Parts for 1979 Jaguar Series 3 XJ6,

4.2 6 cyl engine fuel injected system, Radiator and shroud, 2 electric cooling fans, trans cooler, alternator, starter, a/c compressor with hoses, fuel pump, drive shaft, broken transmission and hoses. No reasonable offer refused, call Don at 250-716-1651

1972 MGB 4-Synchro Gearbox in good working condition, \$55. Phone Al Thompson, Nanaimo 756-0452, or

2007 OECC CI Executive

Chairman: Al Thompson

Phone: 756-0452; Email: athompo@island.net

Past Chairman: Doug Unia

Phone: 751-8270; Email: 550mdu6@telus.net

Treasurer: Adèle Hedges

Phone: 468-5828; Email: akhedges@shaw.ca

Membership Registrar: Mike Bull

Phone: 757-8850; Email: mikejbull@shaw.ca

Events Coordinator: Marge Sabourin

Phone: 753-9168; Email: mgsabourin@shaw.ca

Beano Newsletter: Ken Hedges

Phone 468-5828;

Email: Beano_Editor@shaw.ca

Web Master: Doug Bainbridge

Phone: 756-2207; Email: cioecc@shaw.ca

Central Island OECC Website

[Http://members.shaw.ca/cioecc](http://members.shaw.ca/cioecc)

Quiz Answers

- 1.. The world's first traffic light was installed in Detroit, in 1919.
- 2.. Vauxhall's London origin was in steam marine engines.
- 3.. The P4 was launched in 1949 and was christened "Auntie" because of it's gentle matronly habits.
- 4.. ... In 1968, the Rootes Group dropped their Sunbeam Alpine two-seater from production.