



The Car Club *Beano*



British Engineered Automobiles-Nanaimo Order

May - June 2009

58th Edition

Editor & Publisher: Ken Hedges



1969 MGC

Forty years ago I was living in Southern Ontario, single and driving a '67 Chevrolet Impala SS convertible. About this time I fancied a change of wheels and started looking for a sports car. I had read the specifications of the MGC, which had been announced the year before in July 1967 and after considering other options finally placed an order for an MGC GT from Performance Cars of St. Catharines Ontario. I was informed at the time that a considerable wait might ensue as they had yet to receive a single "C". My first choice of colour was Primrose Yellow but said I was probably willing to accept whatever they could get! Hearing nothing, I would check with them every few weeks only to be told that delivery was delayed yet again but was assured that my order was being processed and that I should try to be patient! This went on for over a year until they told me that reluctantly they were unable to fill the order as no cars were now available.

Continued on page 6

Chairman's Note

I am writing this as I look out my window and see the beautiful sunshine and think that all of us should be touring somewhere.

For all of the tourist going on BATS II, lets hope the good weather holds. We start on June 20.

While I am on BATS II a huge kudo to Adèle Hedges and Candy Francis for organizing the tour. Also for keeping us up to date on the latest 'quirk' in their planning.

I know that through their efforts, it will be a grand success.

Quite a few of us went up to Kitty Colman Woodland Gardens, North of Courtney a couple of weeks ago and had an excellent time wandering around the grounds. Overall a very good trip. Thanks to Wagonmasters Don and Peggy Badger for the organization and for talking to the weather gods; such a beautiful day.

Prior to that the club attended the Nanaimo parade and as a group won first prize. Good going all you devotees to shining up, then looking so good!

Hey, Brits on the Beach is happening. July 19. Lets make a good show again and surpass the entries of prior years, from our club. It is a great event. If you have not attended before, I guarantee that you will have a super time.

The Port Alberni run, which includes the McLean Mill should be another good one. See you there August 2.

The Cowichan run August 23. Isn't this the run that I found out that my DHC leaks, to mildly put the amount of coming in.

All the best for the upcoming touring season.

May the wind be always at your back.

...*Norman Hall*

Chairman

Editor's note.. The Cowichan run will be replaced by a Nanoose Bay run.

Membership

We are at 90 paid to date members with seven full months left in the year to assist other Brit Car admirers and owners, we encounter, to join our auspicious group.

" Brits on the Beach" was a great source for new members, where last year we found 10 eager to join us and so they did. Our Umbrella & Yellow table will again be joining "Nigel" at the event entrance, so please direct any membership inquiries to the Yellow table and The Membership Guy there!

At the June 09 Swap in Parksville we enjoyed the Pancake Breakfast, talked to several interested new member prospects, gave out member apps. and "flogged member parts". Thanks to those members who worked our booth for an hour or so, it was much appreciated by The Club.

If you know someone who has not yet renewed for 2009, please invite them to do so, as we miss their fellowship.

Cheers,

...*Mike Bull*

Get Acquainted—Peter & Jo-Ann Robson



Peter and Jo-Ann moved to Nanaimo in June of 2008, after living and working in Montreal, Toronto and recently in Edmonton. Peter recently retired from IBM after 35 years in the Computer / Information Technology field, and is thankful to have more leisure time on his hands, living here in beautiful British Columbia. Jo-Ann is continuing in her field, and has recently opened a Pilates fitness studio in

Ladysmith, after operating a successful studio in downtown Toronto for many years. Their two sons, Ryan and Jeffrey, are continuing with their education, with Ryan attending the University of Vancouver Island in Nanaimo in the Culinary Arts program, and Jeffrey completing his undergraduate degree this June at the University of Calgary and heading off to McGill University in Montreal in September to undertake post-graduate studies.

Peter has always lived the “Challenge” of owning a British vehicle, having acquired his first car, a 1961 Sunbeam Alpine when he was 16 years old, and then moving on with owning a 1964 MGB, a 1974 Triumph Spitfire, a 1975 TR7, and an assortment of other European cars including a Ford Cortina GT, and a Fiat Spyder. Recognizing the British car reliability factors, especially in Canadian winters, day drivers were always owned and operated. Jo-Ann is only now experiencing the joy of the English Car, and is very impressed and enthusiastic with the OECC club events, members and their interesting cars. For his Series 3 Lotus Elan, Peter has owned it now for 35 years.

Another small project car is also underway, as the Robson’s have acquired a second British car. A 1980 Triumph Spitfire was bought in February 2009, and is currently being brought back to full road condition. Jo-Ann will soon be behind the wheel of her own British machine, and also under the bonnet with her new spanners.

Nanaimo Empire Days Parade

We must be living right! This year – for the second year in succession – the weather was perfect for the Nanaimo Parade on Sunday May 17th. Fourteen of our trusty old English cars turned up (with people aboard of course) and made for a fine showing in the sunshine at the start point. In fact we looked so good that the Parade judges presented us with the Best-in-Parade award in the Classic Car category (we beat out a group of classy-looking Ford Thunderbirds). Once again Mike Minter and Lillian Sly, in Mike’s 1952 Austin A40 van led our cars through a crowded downtown Nanaimo. He was followed by Ian and Shari MacPherson in their beautiful 1948 MG TC, and then a whole bunch of us in our somewhat newer old English sports cars, with Don and Peggie Badger in their 1979 Jaguar XJ6 acting as the caboose in the rear. There was a huge and happy holiday crowd in downtown and they seemed pleased to see our old cars go by. After the parade, 23 of us gathered in Pipers Pub for a very late but enjoyable lunch. Then an intrepid few, in seven of the cars, drove up to Qualicum Beach for ice cream. Some of us didn’t get home until around 7 pm –after a great day with our cars.



...Al Thompson.



7th Annual Bunny Hop Run 2009



Due to the fine weather and the charm of Linda and Dave Harris, 23 magnificent cars gathered at the Tim Horton's (Chase River) for the premier event of the season.

Despite our best efforts, we managed to leave one car behind (sorry). It was a pleasant drive

to our first stop—The Barton Leier Gallery, unfortunately Al and Amy Campbell could not continue any further with us due to a serious electrical problem. After much deliberation Malcom Hargrave agreed to give Al a jump (boost).

The rest of the cruise was most enjoyable except for the fact that we never saw a single bunny. Oscar Taylor broke down near the entrance to the golf club. Geoff Francis, Lyle Cedar, Malcolm Hargrave, Ken Hedges and Peter Robson remained with Mr. Taylor and after an hour of intense mechanical work with all, succeeded in repairing his distributor problem. We had a wonderful sandwich and salad buffet overlooking the golf course and agreed that we will do this again.

...Dave Harris



Continued from page 1



By now I had decided that Ontario winters were not for me so traded my Impala for a 1969 Ford Econoline van and the following Spring headed for BC. (That however is another story!) Fast forward forty years to wife, house, children etc. and membership in the OECC. My wife and I are discussing possible choices for a touring car and I mention my earlier interest in the MGC. Then last Spring we hear through the Victoria MG Club of a 1969 "C" for sale in the lower mainland and after several e-mails back and forth we finally go to see the car. It had belonged to the lady's late father who had lavished lots of time and money on it, leaving it to her when he passed away. After about five years with little use except for the occasional trip to a car show she decided it was time to part with it. We eventually struck a deal and drove the car home to the Island. We were aware that brakes etc. were not working as they should so immediately started getting everything attended to including a much needed tune-up. It's first outing was Brits on the Beach last year followed by some local runs with the OECC and the Victoria MG Club. The "C" is very comfortable, smooth and effortless making a superb touring car. Being fairly rare it also attracts quite a bit of attention at the various car shows we have attended. Buying the car was a real "step back in time" for me, however I have had to come to terms lately with the fact that I am no longer in my twenties and that osteo-arthritis in my knees necessitating replacement of both is going to curtail some of my activities over the next couple of years. We have therefore reluctantly decided to sell it and look for something both old and English which will provide easier entry and exit for me. I already have a couple of cars in mind. We would like to see the car stay in the club if possible and would be happy to provide more information to anyone who might beinterested.

...Bernard Butler

58



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Sussex Auto Car Clinic

Anji of Sussex Motors wrote “We were delighted that Ten OECC members took advantage of our Car Clinic this year. “ I know that everyone who took part valued Alan and Eric’s expert opinion on the condition of their cars. ...*Ken Hedges*



*Sussex Automotive is open 8:30 – 5:00pm
Monday thru Friday
and is located at #5 – 501 Stanford Ave.E. in
Parksville.*

Minutes of April 21, 2009 Meeting

Chairman Norman Hall started the meeting at 7:30 pm with 46 people present. The Minutes of the 17th March meeting were read by Al Thompson. Registrar Mike Bull then reported that 85 members were paid-up for 2009; he then introduced new member Wayne Wispinski (1980 Triumph TR8). He also welcomed member Ron Spence's son Cale, Ross Cameron's wife Judy, and Peter Robson's wife Jo-Ann. Treasurer Bill Grace highlighted the latest financial report, telling us, most importantly, that we had a healthy \$2,622 in the bank. Beano Editor, Ken Hedges, distributed copies of the new Beano at the meeting, and once again reminded folks to submit new articles and photos for future issues. Malcolm Hargrave reviewed the only Past event and told us that 21 members had participated in the VMAC run and tour on 22nd March, most of whom joined in the lunch at the Saltair Pub afterwards. Events Coordinator Candy Francis (with assistance from volunteer 'wagonmasters') highlighted Upcoming Events – including the Sussex Auto Car Clinic, the Bunny Hop Run, the Nanaimo Parade, and the Kitty Coleman Garden tour. OECC Society President Wayne Peddie provided an overview of some Society issues, notably the awards to be presented in 2009. As Wayne is also our Brits-on-the-Beach point man, he gave us an update on preparations for that 19th July event, and asked for club volunteers to help out in the various jobs. As an item of Old Business, Adèle Hedges gave an update on the Brits Around the Sea II (BATS II) tour – 38 people in 20 cars have so far booked on to the tour. Under New Business, Doug Unia described his home-made tool for one-person bleeding of brakes or clutch – cost of materials is \$15. Doug Cavill told us of a 1959 MGA for sale. Merv Steg's Car of the Month was a Bristol – which was identified correctly by Doug Unia. The 50-50 draw of \$35 was won by Ken Hedges. The Chairman closed the meeting at 8:25 pm.

...Al Thompson

Flogger's Corner

1992 Jaguar XJS Coupe 4.0

Racing green. Stock. Excellent condition. Mechanic maintained and winter stored. 152,000 km (only 18,000 in past 4 years). Local car. \$9,900.00 obo. 250-741-0084 evenings.



Minutes of May 19, 2009 Meeting

Chairman Norman called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. With a few late arrivals, there were 44 people in attendance. Minutes of the 21st April meeting were read by Al Thompson, and accepted. Registrar Mike Bull told us that current membership stood at 89. He also introduced several guests present, including Dave Wass (now a member), and Azim Bhatia, Andy Hardie and Donna Hardie, all three visiting from Calgary. Treasurer Bill Grace reported that our financial situation was good, with a bank balance of \$2,246. Beano Editor Ken Hedges asked for members to come forward with photos of their cars that might possibly grace the front page of a future Beano – also any articles are always welcome, especially for the “Get Acquainted” section. Events Coordinator Candy Francis first dealt with Past Events (Dave Harris reported on the Bunny Hop run, Al Thompson reported on the Nanaimo Parade, and Doug Unia reported on the ABFM in Vancouver). She then covered the fairly lengthy list of Upcoming Events, with the responsible Wagonmaster for each event providing details. The Upcoming Events mentioned included: the Kitty Coleman Woodland Gardens (Don and Peggie Badger), Nanaimo Flying Club Car Show, Parksville Swap Meet (Mike Bull), Fathers Day Picnic in Victoria (Wagonmaster TBA), BATS II (Adèle Hedges), British Heritage Festival at Beban Park, Brits on the Beach (Wayne Peddie), Gold River Run (Tony Dowell), and the McLean Mill Run & Show (Mike Lyle). Wayne Peddie then gave us an update on the Society’s Lord Montagu and OXO award plans for 2009; branches should be getting their nominations ready for these awards. He also referred members to the Society website for details on awards and other matters. Merv Steg’s Car of the Month was a Triumph TR6 – guessed correctly by Wayne Peddie. Tony Dowell’s British Car Report gave us an update on the current MG TF and other models expected to be built in China. After the 50-50 draw was won by Mike Lyle, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.45 pm.

...Al Thompson



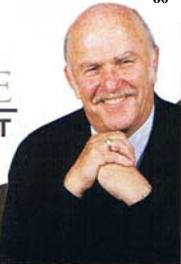
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57



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Kitty Coleman Garden Run



The 20th of May started out bright and sunny with 13 cars meeting at the Canadian Tire parking lot. We were off and running by 9:30a.m. Our first stop was at Qualicum Beach where we picked up

several more cars. Then we were off down the picturesque old highway through to Courtney. Having not lost anyone we diverted to the side roads past the Wildlife Recovery Centre and the Tsolom River Regional Park to our destination. We all arrived safe and sound to be greeted by our host, Bryan Zimmerman at about 11:45. Given the option of eating or taking a guided tour first, we circled the wagons and dug into our picnic lunches. Some people wandered the grounds by themselves and others went with Bryan. He told us the story of Kitty Coleman (those of you who weren't there will just have to come next year to know), then led us around the park. The rhododendrons were lovely scattered through the forest and glades. Bryan answered lots of gardening questions for our enthusiasts. We wandered back to our chairs for a bit of sun and social before some followed Ken & Adèle into Courtney for a visit with their group at Frank's place. If the comments we got were any indication, everyone enjoyed themselves. We might have to make another run next year!!

...Peggie Badger



Central Island Old English Car Club Presents



9TH ANNUAL ALL

BRITISH CAR EVENT

BRITS ON THE BEACH

TRANSFER BEACH LADYSMITH SUNDAY JULY 19th



Free Admission

Car Show starts at 11 am

Spare Parts Boot Sale

Local Charity Raffles

MC's - Music

Concessions available or bring your picnic lunch



Info - Wayne 250-741-0221
peddie@telus.net <http://oecc.ca/cib/>



Just a reminder that Brits on the Beach will be held on July 19 at beautiful Transfer Beach in Ladysmith.

The initial event lasts from 10 or 11 until 3 PM. Then the members BBQ begins.

If you haven't signed up there will be a list at the meeting or give me a call or e-mail. But don't despair no one is turned away. The BBQ is a bit of a pot luck. The club provides burgers, hot dogs and condiments.

We ask those whose last name starts from A-M bring a dessert for 4-6 people and those whose name starts with N-Z bring a salad.

If you have any questions please call me.

250-741-0221

peddie@telus.net

ps; Darla, Do your Sun Dance..

Upcoming Events 2009

BATS II Tour

Date: June 20—July 1
Tour northern Washington State and BC
Wagonmasters: Ken & Adèle Hedges

Brits on the Beach

Date: July 19
Location: Transfer Beach Ladysmith
Organizer: Wayne Peddie

Salt Spring Island Classic Car Show

Date: July 1
Wagonmasters: Geoff & Candy Francis

Gold River Run

Date: July 26th,
Start Location: TBA
Wagonmaster: Tony Dowell

MacLean's Mill Car Show Port Alberni

Date: August 2
Organizer: Mike Lyle
Start Location: TBA
Wagonmasters: Geoff & Candy Francis

Cape Scott Run

Date: August 7,8 & 9
Note on the first day there is interest for those wishing to have a run on the first leg of the journey.
Wagonmasters: Norm & Joyce Hall

Filberg Car Show

Date: August 16
Start Location TBA

Nanoose Bay Run

Date: August 23
Start Location: Canadian Tire North Nanaimo
Wagonmasters: Ken & Adèle Hedges

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