



The Car Club Beano



British Engineered Automobiles-Nanaimo Order

Jan. - Feb. 2014

86th Edition

Editor & Publisher: Jim Gislason

Christmas Banquet Dec. 14th 2013



Chairman's Message

Here we are well into the New Year and as I write my first Chairman's Message, we are well into planning this year's events and social gatherings. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank our past Chairman Malcolm Hargrave for doing such a good job of taking us through the past 3 years. The usual tenure is 2 years but he volunteered for the extended run. Speaking of runs Malcolm and Janet have hosted at least two runs a year and with such enthusiasm and imagination! Halloween costumes, silly hats, multi flags, and mini-*Monte*, to name a few. They are an asset to the club bringing a sense of humour and fun – British style!

I'd also like to thank the past executive members who have stepped down this year; Darla Millard - secretary (you never did get your ipad) and Howard Lockhart – events coordinator, and a special thank you to Adèle Hedges for coordinating events when Howard was away. The rest of the executive is staying on (bless 'em) but many of us are new to our roles so be patient while we get used to all the rules, connections, and technology.

This year is shaping up to be one of the best years yet. We have a number of runs scheduled and several more that are just in the idea stages. Also this year we have Brits 'Round BC 2014. The wagon master Jim Gislason has a great route planned with plenty of exciting events in the works. It looks like it will be well attended and it's a trip I am looking forward to.

Our Christmas Banquet ,which hadn't been mentioned yet as it was after the last newsletter, was a resounding success in our new location and fun was had by all. Special thanks to Bob Thompson, Paul Tilroe, Elaine and Stephen Roebuck for organizing what turned out to be a great party, and thanks to Malcolm for being MC for the evening. The same team will be organizing again this year and we should all look forward to it.

I'm very enthusiastic about our year ahead. I'm hoping that people will step up and create some fun runs. I might even do one myself...

...Cathy Gislason - Chairman

Membership Report

To date we have 74 memberships with 135 members. I would like to welcome Stan and Dawn Stevenson from Parksville to the club.

Please take a moment to look at the roster to see if there are any changes or errors in your information.

Perhaps you would like to add your spouses name or email address or if you have added or sold one of your vehicles.

You can access the club roster by going to oecc.ca and clicking on membership in the left hand column. You have been given the password.

Click on Central Island Branch and check out the roster.

It will be updated regularly so let me know of any changes by emailing me at oeccmelba@gmail.com

New members are always welcome. Our next meeting is Thursday, Feb.20, 2014.

*Cheers,
Melba*

2013 Branch Awards

Member (s) of the year

Jim & Cathy Gislason

Piston Broke Award

Trevor & Kim Parker

Restoration Awards

Steve & Barbara Harris
1948 Thames PU

Jim & Cathy Gislason
1966 Sunbeam Tiger MK1A

Ken & Adèle Hedges
1957 MG Magnette

Al & Jill Styles
1951 MG TD

Len & Bonnie Smith
1956 MGA

5th Annual Polar Bear Walk Jan. 5th 2014

We had a good turnout for the Polar Bear Walk on Sunday, January 5th and the weather was very mild and pleasant. Several members showed up in their creative funny hats for the Funny Hat Competition. After the walk around Buttertubs Marsh, 38 of us headed off to the Jinglepot Pub where we had an excellent lunch.

The winner for the adoption of "Oh-Ecc" polar bear for the next 12 months was Paul Tilroe, as well as winning a 2014 calendar and a \$10 Tim's Card. Steve Roebuck's name was picked out for the second draw of the raffle, and he won a 2014 calendar and a \$5 Tim's Card.

The owner/manager of the Jinglepot Pub judged the Funny Hat Competition, which was won by Darla Millard for the most outstanding, creative and innovative hat. A \$10 Tim's Card was awarded for the prize.

The raffle raised a total of \$95.00, and after deducting the cost of prizes, a cheque for \$70.00 was mailed to the Canadian Federation of Wildlife in support of their polar bear habitat protection project.

A big thank you to all those who came on the walk and supported this annual event.

...Malcolm & Janet Hargrave





Which side of the Road??

Did Canada ever drive on the left?

Yes, until the 1920s in some areas, but never in Ontario or Quebec.

Ontario and Quebec have always driven on the right because the first European settlements in these areas were French. (There were of course plenty of native people living there before the French arrived, but in this as in other things, Europeans made the rules.) In the early European conquest of North America, the French controlled the interior from Quebec all the way to Louisiana, and drove on the right. The English occupied the coast and drove on the left in Atlantic Canada and probably in New England. When the English won control of Quebec from France, the French people living there were permitted to retain many customs, including their language, religion, civil law, and evidently the custom of driving on the right. Settlement continued to spread inland across the continent, remaining on the right-hand side of the road.

British Columbia and the Atlantic provinces, however, were administered separately from Upper and Lower Canada, and even after Confederation remained staunchly English and on the left side of the road. They switched to the right in the 1920s in order to conform with the rest of Canada and the USA:

- British Columbia: 1 January 1922
- New Brunswick: 1 December 1922
- Nova Scotia: 15 April 1923
- Prince Edward Island: 1 May 1924

Newfoundland drove on the left until 1947, and joined Canada in 1949.

Nova Scotia, Canada, 1923

(Information in this section was excerpted with permission from Ivan Smith's [*History of Nova Scotia*](#).)

Nova Scotia switched to driving on the right-hand side of the road on 15 April 1923. Nova Scotia Tramways & Power Company Limited, which owned and operated the electric streetcar system in Halifax, sued the provincial government to recover the cost of changing the doors on all streetcars to the other side, and the cost of changes in track layout. In Lunenburg County, 1923 is still known as The Year of Free Beef; the

price of beef dropped precipitously because oxen which had been trained to keep to the left could not be retrained. Oxen are notoriously slow-witted and many teamsters had to replace their oxen with new ones trained to keep to the right; the displaced oxen were sent to slaughter.

The adjacent photograph was taken in the summer or fall of 1923, at Walnut Street, in Halifax, Nova Scotia. The boy is Jim Sangster, then seven years old. The automobile (make and model not known) belonged to Max Manning (brother of Fred Manning, who built up the chain of Super Service gasoline stations in Nova Scotia). The sign displayed on the windshield is painted on sheet metal and reads "Keep to the Right", and faces forward as a reminder to oncoming drivers to drive on the right-hand side. The change from left to right had legally occurred on 15 April 1923, but it took time for drivers to get used to it. During the summer of 1923 there were several accidents due to drivers forgetting the new rule and lapsing into old habits. These windshield signs were manufactured in quantity, and sold as a defensive measure to drivers who wanted to reduce the chance of getting hit head-on by an oncoming vehicle on the wrong side of the road.



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Minutes of Jan. 16th , 2014 General Meeting

Chairperson Remarks (Cathy Gislason)

Cathy Gislason called the meeting to order at 7PM. A motion was requested to accept the November 2013 General Meeting minutes as circulated. A motion was made by Paul Tilroe to accept the minutes and was seconded by Margie Sabourin. The motion was carried.

Cathy then asked if any guests were in attendance – Rob Price from the UK had recently moved to Nanaimo and was a guest of Val & Al Ramsay. At present he does not have a British car but is looking for one. There were no new members present at the meeting.

The attendance for this meeting was 53.

There were no new items added to this meeting's agenda.

Treasurer's Report (Al Ramsay)

The branch has a current bank balance of \$XXXXX with a \$300 liability. As we go into our current year we have a \$XXXX window for operations. The 2014 was reviewed at our Executive Meeting on Sunday January 12th. The budget was passed among the membership. A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report and the 2014 Budget was made by Margie Sabourin and seconded by Paul Tilroe. The motion was carried.

Membership Report (Melba Nelson)

Melba announced that as of this meeting we have 53 paid members. An Early Bird Draw was made for those who paid their membership prior to December 31st 2013. The winner was Bill & Valerie Grace.

Branch Events (Paul Mansell)

Paul Mansell mentioned that the Polar Bear Walk held January 5th was successful and well attended. Paul mentioned that information for Brits Around BC can be found on the website. The membership was asked to let Paul know for any upcoming events not posted in the Calendar of Events.

Regalia (Judy Unia)

At this time Judy Unia and nothing to report to the membership.

Web Update (Paul Tilroe)

Paul Tilroe mentioned that taking on the role as Webmaster has been challenging but now it is going much better. Paul announced that he is unable to attend every Branch Event so it is important that pictures be taken and forwarded to him for the website and for BEANO. His email is oecccib@gmail.com.

Brits Around BC (Jim Gislason)

Jim Gislason announced that as of this meeting 13 members have signed up with 9 planning on doing the complete trip. There will be a participant coming from Medicine Hat, Alberta starting in Victoria and ending in Kimberly. Information is available on the website.

Christmas Banquet (Bob Thompson)

Bob Thompson reviewed the 2013 Banquet with the membership and with the comments received, the event was a complete success. Bob announced that the Committee for the 2014 Banquet will remain the same – Committee: Bob Thompson, Paul Tilroe, Elaine Roebuck, and Steve Roebuck. Bob made a motion to hold the 2014 at the same location (Coast Bastion Hotel) on December 6th 2014 and have the same DJ as last year (which can offer the same package as 2013). A motion to accept the 2014 Banquet was made by Pete Sparke and seconded by Val Ramsay. The motion was carried.

Other Business

Raymond Nichols announced that he has a TVR Tasmin 1981 for sale.

Merv's Mystery Car of the Month (Merv Steg)

Merv Steg presented his "Mystery Car of the Month" and the winner was Doug Unia who guessed the mystery car – "Austin A40 Somerset".

50/50 Draw (Val Ramsay)

The winning ticket was drawn by guest Rob Price. The winner of the 50/50 was Jerrie MacFarlane winning \$38.50 and an addition \$5 as she was wearing her name badge.

Technical Presentation (Dave Sampson)

Dave Sampson from Oceanside Auto Appraisers Ltd., gave an excellent presentation to the membership on ICBC Insurance and Appraisers. Dave gave the following information for those who have questions or concerns on their vehicle.

ICBC - Mark Erickson - Head of Collector Vehicle Program
mark.erickson@icbc.ca 1-800-665-8262 (Extension 6434)

Assistant to Mark Erickson – Neil - 1-800-665-8262 (Extension 4288)

Insurance Coverage Questions - 1-800-661-6890 (Option 3)

Dave also offered an Appraisal Special to the membership and for those interested please contact Doug Unia 55omdu6@telus.net and appraisals can be organized.

The next General Meeting is scheduled for Thursday February 20th 2014 – 7PM.

The meeting concluded at 8:30PM

- *Bob Thompson, Branch secretary*

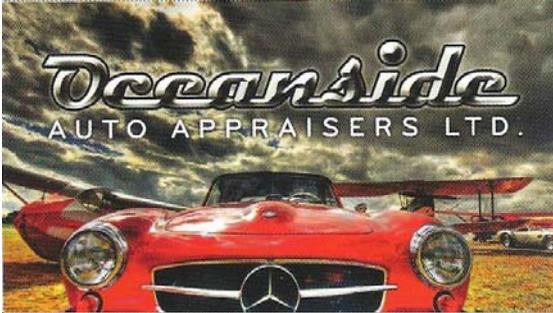
Upcoming Events

April 13th

O.E.C.C. South Island Branch
9th Annual British Car Restoration Fair
& Swap meet at Heritage Acres
Saanich

Upcoming Monthly meetings...

Feb. 20th, March 20th & April 17th
7:00 P.M. @ Lantzville Legion



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