

The Car Club Beano



British Engineered Automobiles-Nanaimo Order

March—April 2010

63rd Edition

Editor & Publisher: Jim Gislason



What's this??

Well...yes, it's a boat ...on the cover of the BEANO... and yes, it's too late for April Fools' But wait... there's also a car ! And the boat and the car have something very much in common...

Continued on page 10

Chairman's Report

Hi!!

Another season has started and we have already had 3 runs! Which is just terrific. Glad to see all the "crew" again.

As mentioned before we had the "Polar Bear Run" in January, the more recent one's are:

Nanaimo-Victoria-Nanaimo.

The run on March 21 was Wagon-mastered by Geoff and Candy Francis. Geoff and Candy led us on what turned out to be a great run to Victoria.

You can read all about it in this issue of the magazine.

Coombs-Errington

The run on April 11 was led by Joyce and myself to Coombs/Errington, and, on to Steve and Barbara Harris' home, and then on to supper.

As chairman of the Nanaimo branch I would like to thank Steve and Barbara Harris for the great hospitality on April 11. This run too has a write up in this issue.

It was encouraging to see so many new faces at the runs. I hope we can encourage more participation from all our member, but especially the new members, to show them that we really have such a great time at our outings.

Just a quick note that Dave Harris has his Bunny Hop run on Sunday April 18. I encourage you to participate as it will be great fun. This is a little earlier than normal because of a conflict with the swap meet the next week-end.

We also have many great runs coming up and we should have a great year of touring. Take a look at our (Candy's) schedule.

By the way, don't forget Brits Around BC, Wagon-master Robert Brodie, which is coming up pretty soon.

We currently have 84 members, Mike Bull reports. Roughly the same as last year at this time. Nice to see all the faces back again and especially the new younger members; all of us interested in the great English Marques.

As a footnote I say that Jim is doing a great job as editor and is up to Kens standard and Ken was no slouch. Thanks Jim.

Norman Hall

Chairman, O.E.C.C. Nanaimo Branch

OECC Run to Victoria - Jan. 24 2010



There were only 6 cars who had a great day out today, on our run to Victoria, via the Brentwood ferry. It was a beautiful drive with the flowering trees out with their pink, yellow, and white flowers. The weather was fairly cooperative, with only a small amount of rain. It was a full day's outing with an amazing lunch at the Red Robin in Victoria. It was a very windy road through the Highlands and some back roads back to Ladysmith, ending with Ice Cream at the Dairy Queen. I don't think anyone will be having much for dinner tonight.

Candy & Geoff Francis



OECC Coombs / Errington run to Steve & Barbara Harris' April 11 2010

The Coombs/Errington run was held on April 11. Roughly 20 cars arrived at our start point, the rest stop in Qualicum Beach on the waterfront, beside Highway 19A. Even a couple of North American cars showed their ugly selves at the start-up and followed us all through our run. (The owners real cars were still in winter storage or under repair.)

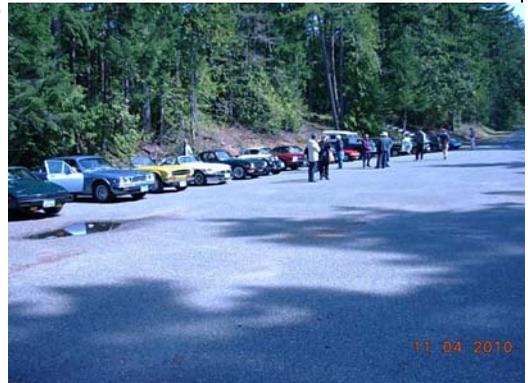


The cars left and ran along highway 19A to Laburnum Rd., or as commonly known Qualicum Beach bypass road, then around the roundabout onto highway 4. We found out afterwards that we lost one car there, which showed up later.

We continued along Highway 4 to Errington Rd. which winds past Hamilton Marsh, a nature reserve. Continuing along Errington Rd. we passed the building that once held the "Wooden Nickel Antique Store" now apparently gone forever

Coming out of Errington Rd. we were once again on Highway 4 and continued along it for a few kilometres until we reached the turn-off for Little Qualicum Falls. (Passing the Ice Cream Shop, to the chagrin of at least one of our members.)

Qualicum Falls is a great place to stop. Most of the members took advantage of the half-hour and took a short stroll along the shore of the river falls.



After the respite of the falls it was onto highway 4 again and headed for Pratt road which took us parallel to Highway 4, bypassing the Coombs Market "Goats on the Roof" as we had too many cars to make a stop there.

We continued along Pratt road, took a few other ones, eventually arriving at "Fawly Towers" the home of Steve and Barbara Harris. What a great old house they live in. Originally this house was built and stood in



Nanaimo for a great many years and was transported to its present location. This house is so interesting, with loads of memorabilia, antiques, photos, replica car collection. Absolutely Unforgettable. Oh, and, at least one strange friend has his abode there.

A great surprise was the collection of real cars that they have (probably all Steve's as Barbara is a Quilter). Very impressive even the ones that are still in bits and pieces. I could describe most of them or give names, but you must see them to appreciate the collection.

Leaving the Harris' house we supped at the Boston Pizza in Parksville. Then headed home after another great day on the road.



Thanks to all participants,
Joyce and Norm Hall

...photos—Norm Hall & Russ Heughan

President's Update

Scuttlebutt

Our Hobby

Steve Hutchens

Just for fun try this: When you see someone under age 30 driving an 'old' English car (something other than a new Mini), note what they are driving. It seems that most often it will be a classic Mini. We recently saw a woman who appeared to be in her late 20s in an MG Midget. These people are part of the OECC 'target market'.

New members are important to the vitality of our Club. When we think about recruiting new members, we need to be pragmatic in our efforts and realistic about what we have to offer that they would enjoy. This month I want to write about 'picking the low hanging fruit'.

Looking at the most recent new members of my Branch, almost all have been between 50 and 60 and have had a long term relationship with English cars. They are retired or nearing retirement and have more time, energy and money to play with their hobby.

Picking the low-hanging fruit: If you find a tree laden with apples you will likely first pick apples within easy reach. To take advantage of readily available enthusiasts, there are a number of things we can do:

- Advertise: a) Advertise our big shows to the public to help enthusiasts find us. Ads in local newspapers build awareness and are usually inexpensive. b) Gain awareness of enthusiasts with OECC information placed in parts stores they frequent. Stress that OECC can provide camaraderie and a knowledge base to help them enjoy their English cars even more.
- Place OECC Contact Cards on windshields of English cars we see parked.
- Have a special 'Family Day' event in which we invite our family members (kids



and grandkids) to a special event. Provide food and games built around our English car hobby for all generations to enjoy.

Please share your ideas on attracting new members with me. I will appreciate as much input as I can get.

Enjoy your English cars and the beauties of spring. I hope to see you on the road!

Contact information:

Steve Hutchens

sphutchens@yahoo.com

2090 North Shore Road

Bellingham, WA 98226-7864

360-733-3568

Skype: stephen.hutchens

Membership

As of mid April we have 84 paid up members in 2010, and our hope is the non-renewals to date will forward their Dues to Membership Guy Mike Bull at 381 Cottonwood Dr. Qualicum Beach V9K-1M2.

We respectfully remind all, that non renewed members are NOT able to participate in Club activities due to our Liability Insurers position, that non renewed members are excluded from our General Liability Insurance cover.

This month we welcome New Members

Kevin Gordon (Marilee) - 1987 Jag XJ6 VDP

Bob Nelson (Melba) - 1975 MGB Roadster

Howard Lockhart (Kathy) - 1980 MGB Roadster

Bill Dean - 1962 Vauxhall Victor Sedan

Please make yourself known to and warmly welcome these fellow enthusiasts to our friendly Brit Car Club.

Regalia Items can be ordered through the Membership Guy who carries a few items like Name Badge, Grille Badge, Driving Cap, OECC Shoulder/Jacket cloth badge, windscreen decal, Badged denim shirt.

Cheers,

Mike Bull

Membership/Regalia Guy

Minutes of February 16 th , 2010 Meeting

Chairman Norm Hall opened the meeting at 7:30 pm, at the ABC restaurant with 31 people present. The Minutes of the 19th Jan meeting were read by Al Thompson, and accepted as read. Membership Registrar, Mike Bull reported that 2010 membership renewals were proceeding as expected with 68 members paid up to date. He introduced one guest who was present – Dieter Schwetz (1980 Bentley). In the absence of the Treasurer, Chairman Norm highlighted the main items from the financial report – there was \$2330 in the bank account. There was no Beano report as the Editor was away. The Webmaster, Geoff Francis, said there was nothing new to report concerning the website. There had been only one Past Event and that had been the Polar Bear Walk and Run on 24th Jan; Wagon master Malcolm Hargrave reported that it had been very successful with 22 people and 10 cars participating. Dealing with Upcoming Events, Coordinator Candy Francis provided info on the Club Bowling day (21st Feb), the 11-day Brits 'Round BC tour in the summer, and the Campbell River Club's run to Tofino on 4th-6th June. She also asked for a volunteer to lead a run in March as none was scheduled so far. There was no New Business to discuss. Tony Dowell gave his usual State of the British Car Industry overview – this time mentioning the new Bentley Super Sport (approx \$350,000), and the new updated Lotus Elise (approx \$50,000). Merv Steg's Car of the Month this time was the Wolesley Swallow Hornet (no one guessed it!). There was no 50/50 draw this month. The meeting was closed by the Chairman at 8:15 pm.

....Al Thompson

Have a look at what's happening South of the border next month...



British Car Week
May 29 - June 6, 2010
International
Classic British Car
Awareness Week

Minutes of March 16th , 2010 Meeting

The March monthly meeting was opened at 7:30 pm with 32 people present. The Minutes of the 16th Feb meeting were read and accepted. Chairman Norm then called for the reports and Treasurer Bill Grace started with the financial statement, the main feature of which was that we had \$2519 in the bank and in cash. Membership Registrar Mike Bull told us we had 77 paid-up members, which was slightly ahead of last year's dues-payment progress. Beano Editor, Jim Gislason, had produced his first Beano issue and distributed paper copies at the meeting – many good comments were heard. Events Coordinator Candy Francis reported that we had had a very successful bowling day on 21st Feb, with 28 people coming out for the bowling and a fine meal afterwards at the Jingle Pot pub. Dealing with upcoming events, she said that there were three event scheduled: a run to Victoria and area on Mar 21st, a run to Errington, Coombs, and Steve Harris's home and car collection on 11th Apr, and the annual Bunny Hop run on 18th Apr. There being no Old Business to discuss, the Chairman moved to New Business. Alan Petrie outlined the plans for the annual free car clinic to be held at his shop on Sat 24th April – 24 slots would be available and members were invited to contact Alan for an appointment. Following an update of the British car industry by Tony Dowell, Merv Steg tested us with his usual Car of the Month quiz – this time it was the 1926-1930 Sunbeam Super Sport. Finally there was a unanimous vote of appreciation to Jim Gislason for producing his first issue of the Beano. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm

....Al Thompson

FREE CAR CLINIC for OECC members for their British Classic Cars.

REMINDER

Coming up this weekend !!

Saturday, April 24

There are only a couple spots left so
call or e-mail Anjii to get in on this
great annual event

ALAN PETRIE
BRITISH CAR
SPECIALIST

250-954-0506

sussexauto@gmail.com



SUSSEX AUTOMOTIVE LTD
5 - 501 STANFORD AVENUE EAST, PARKSVILLE, BC V9P 1V7

64

...continued from page 1

Both of these 'vehicles' came from Donald Healey companies!



The car is 1949 Healey Silverstone Prototype ... Chassis #X2

Built between 1949 and 1950 these limited production cars (105 total built) were significantly lighter than other Healeys. They were a dual purpose race-and-drive sports car, designed to be simple, functional, and light. Weighing in at 2100 pounds the Riley 2.5 litre engine produced 104 horsepower propelling it to a max speed of 110 mph. Driven by Donald Healey and Ian Appelyard (of Jaguar SS100 fame), the car competed in the 1949 Alpine Rally and many other races. It is presently in 'The Auto Collections' in Las Vegas and is not for sale.

The boat is a 1956 Healey Ski-Master.

It's one of about 1750 boats produced by Healey Marine LTD. over a 6 year period. This particular example is owned by Reid Trummel, a member of the Cascade Austin-Healey club, and is powered by a 'period correct' 55 HP Mercury Thunderbolt Mark 55E motor and easily cruises at 30 MPH.

"There is only one other known Ski-Master in the USA, and it was brought over from a museum in England a few years ago. Therefore, this boat is likely the last surviving example of the model that was sold new in this country," Reid commented. Judging from the comments about the boat, Donald Healey's boats are still highly appreciated by those who also appreciate his cars.

10th Annual Bunny Hop Run April 18 2010

What can I say after ten years of cruising Mt Benson, Cedar and Yellowpoint other than it just keeps getting better. Thirty seven members in twenty-one cars made the run with a stop at the wonderful Barton Leier Gallery. Grant and Trixie were very happy to see us. We carried on to the Cottonwood Golf Course for a lovely lunch and chin wag.



Luckily, Oscar Taylor did not need any assistance making it into the parking lot this year. Lyle and Marie won the dancing bunny (Marie picked her own ticket). Linda and I would like to thank everyone for making this event so successful. See you all next year for number eleven.

Dave Harris

Upcoming Events

April 24

Sussex Automotive car clinic

April 25

5th annual restoration Fair & Swap meet, Heritage Acres, Central Saanich

May 23

Vancouver ABFM at Van Dusen

May 24

Nanaimo Empire Days parade

June 20

Father's Day Picnic, Beacon Hill Park

June 24th-July 4th

Brits 'Round B.C.

July 1st

Salt Spring Island Antique & Classic Car Show

July 10

British Heritage Festival. Beban Park, Nanaimo

July 18

Brits on the Beach, Transfer Beach, Ladysmith

July 25

Circle Tour to Port Renfrew—Wagon masters Geoff & Candy Francis

July 31

Ladysmith Parade

Aug. 8

Mc leans Mill British Car & Bike Show

Aug. 14 & 15

Filberg Car Show Comox Valley Branch

... please e-mail/phone Candy to verify all dates ,times and Wagon master info ...

Upcoming Monthly meetings...

April 20th, May 18th, & June 15th

OECC CI Executive

Chairman: Norman Hall
Phone: 250-752-0403
Email: comdata@telus.net

Past Chairman: Al Thompson
Phone: 250-756-0452
Email: iralthompson@shaw.ca

Treasurer: Bill Grace
Phone: 250-390-0779
Email: bigrace@shaw.ca

Membership & Regalia: Mike Bull
Phone: 250-752-3946
Email: mikejbull@shaw.ca

Events Coordinator: Candy Francis
Phone: 250-758-7314
Email: geoff001@telus.net

Beano Newsletter: Jim Gislason
Phone 250-723-4372
Email: jim@island.net

Roster : Peggie Badger
Phone: 250-716-1651
Email: peggiebadger@shaw.ca

Web Master: Geoff Francis
Phone: 250-758-7314
Email: geoff001@telus.net

Central Island OECC Website
<http://oecc.ca/cib/>

