



# *Clutch Chatter*

*Newsletter of the Victoria British Car Club*

## **NEWSLETTER 2006.**

Welcome to the first newsletter for 2006 done by yours truly. Anne Holloway has done a great job in the past so please excuse any errors of mine until I get the hang of this. The newsletter will include in future a PRESIDENTS MESSAGE, (where Ken gets a chance to exert his authority). I shall be including in the newsletter a tech tip or mechanical info as often as possible; this will be from mine or other members' experiences or from books, internet and professional restorers etc. This in no way means that they are right, wrong, or that you have to act on the information; everyone has their own way of doing things, please keep that in mind.

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Over the eleven years of the club's existence, many people have done a lot of work to keep the club rolling along. I know it is not fair to single out any individuals but because we have created a new position within the Executive I want to explain why, and at the same time acknowledge the terrific amount of effort Helen and Doug Fowler put into the VBCC.

As the club has grown, so has the problem of keeping membership lists accurate, mailing lists for the newsletter current, knowing who has paid their dues, printing nametags and providing a solid link for new members who want info on or to join the club.

Helen has willingly accepted the position of Membership Secretary and like everything else she does for us, I am sure it will solve a lot of our problems.

So, on behalf of the club members I want to thank Helen and Doug for their Annual Fowlers' Golf Classic, for their work on Brits in the Park and most of all, for being great British car enthusiasts.

Ken Inglis

### **FIRST CLUB MEETING !!!**

- April 9<sup>th</sup>, 12 noon, Chemong Lodge.
- 764 Hunter St. Bridgenorth.
- Brunch at 1pm. Cost per person \$18.00 (inclusive of all taxes).
- Full selection of meats,veg, eggs, coffee tea desert etc.

If you plan to attend you MUST contact,  
Gord and Rose Sloan, [randgsloan@sympatico.ca](mailto:randgsloan@sympatico.ca)  
or Roy & Pat Smith at [mrbsa43@hotmail.com](mailto:mrbsa43@hotmail.com) or 705-748-5964 by APRIL6th !!

### **Upcoming Events and Membership Fees**

Enclosed with this newsletter is a copy of this year's club brochure, which is being sent to all members. In this brochure, you will find the 2006 events schedule, a listing of the executive members, and a registration form for memberships.

The membership fees are the same (\$25). If you wish to remain a member, please send the cheque to Victoria British Car Club, c/o Helen Fowler, 493, County Road 6, RR 2 Lakefield, Ontario, K0L 2H0, or pay Helen at the first meeting. This will be the last newsletter sent to those who do not renew their membership at the beginning of this season.

Ancaster British Flea Market is coming up on April16th. The Victoria British Car Club will have a display at the show. If you are interested in helping out at the booth, please contact Dave Holloway, 705-887-9331.

#### **New Item:**

Kingston Auto Jumble on April 26<sup>th</sup>. Those interested in further details, contact Doug Fowler.705-652-3658

### **Future Car**

It has been reported that BMW who resurrected the Mini Brand are now looking at bringing back the Triumph TR6. It was chosen because of its masculine appeal, (much flexing of muscles by Triumph owners) and BMW have already started the design process.

### **Great Product !**

If you are in the USA, pop into a Walmart or Pep Boys and get yourself a couple of cans of Berryman's carb and fuel injector cleaner. It comes in liquid and spray form. Brilliant stuff, will clean any crud-covered aluminum or engine parts. You can also use it as a quick start on lawnmowers and any small engines etc, and as an engine flush (follow instructions). DO NOT GET ON

PAINT or skin, this stuff is not friendly. Needless to say this is not for sale in Canada (because it actually works).

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### **James Bond**

Seems the new 007 Daniel Craig could not drive a stick shift and had to take lessons. What kind of secret agent is this? Mind you, maybe Bond girl Eva Green will help him shift gears.



### **Racing News**

Valentino Rossi the current world motorcycle champion has tested for the Ferrari F1 team, and rumour has it he will sign for 2007 .When asked about his salary, he would only say he was younger and faster than Schumaker so therefore worth more, ( \$50,000,000+ ). Also, Max Biaggi another motorcycle champion has tested for the F1 team Red Bull.

Jeff Gordon - In a recent interview admitted that maybe he should have signed for Williams F1 when he had the chance. Evidently Frank Williams was disappointed at the time as he was genuinely fond of the young American and liked his driving style. You can see his talent in the programme "Tradin Paint" on Speedvision when he drives Montoya's car around Indianapolis and was only a second off the pace after just 5 laps - look out for a repeat of this show.



**A new member Dennis?**

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## **INSIDE TRACK**

### Bronze Valve Guides.

Over the last couple of years it has become apparent in the classic car scene that there can be a problem in replacement valve guides. This problem first reared its ugly head with classic motorcycles (being air cooled and having greater heat expansion). After engine re-builds, during the break in period, valves were sticking in the guides, usually the exhaust valves, and it was found that although the tolerances were correct at the time of assembly, there was a problem with the guides themselves. What has been discovered is that the material these guides are made of is inferior to that used in the past. Guides were previously either made from Phosphorus Bronze or Cast Iron as a rule. Phos/bronze is an excellent material for guides; it is very hard wearing and has elasticity and is used in industry for numerous mechanical applications, plain bearings and bushings the most popular. What is available now from suppliers is poor quality bronze and it is doubtful it's even Phosphorus bronze but just plain bronze.

There are basically 3 things you can do if replacing your guides. One, find NOS guides; two, use cast iron guides (no reports of problems); three, machine guides oversize. In the later case, if the interference is say .001" make it .001.5". There is no guarantee that just .0005" oversize will work. You might need .001" over in which case you'll have to take the head off and redo them. If you take too much off to begin with, you could have excess oil run down into the combustion chamber, so it is better to start in .0005" increments. However it is not easy to take .0005" out of a guide without the right tooling and experience.

I have found that a good tip is to put 2 stroke oil in with the gas on a new engine that has this problem with guides. This helps lubricate the top end and produces very little smoke from the tailpipe. You can also FOG the engine with a good quality oil if you experience a problem; this sometimes works. What has added to the emergence of these problems is the fact that we no longer have leaded gas; lead was a lubricant and was instrumental in ensuring a smooth running top end. Lead additives for sale in Canada aren't worth a "J. Arthur" as they say in England so don't waste your money. Cast iron guides are an excellent alternative; most older cars had iron guides fitted as stock, and now it seems they are regaining popularity over bronze. Although they don't wear as well as bronze (debatable point) they are self lubricating. More care has to be taken when fitting these iron guides to the head as they are prone to crack or chip if not aligned properly and they don't respond as well to freezing as bronze.

I have experienced this problem with bronze guides on four engines now, two cars and two motorcycles. I have spent many hours trying to figure out what the "bloody ell" was going on, and it was Tim Bardsley, renowned restorer in St

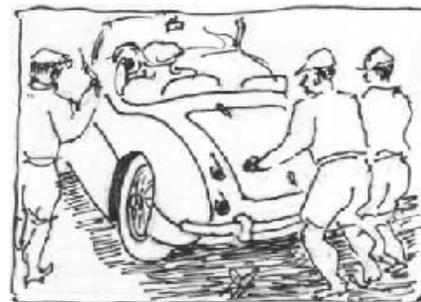
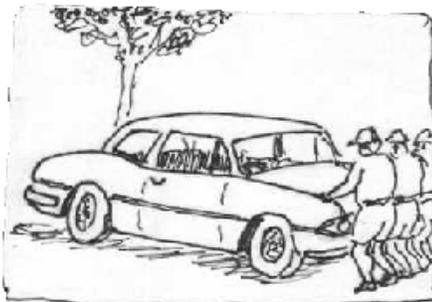
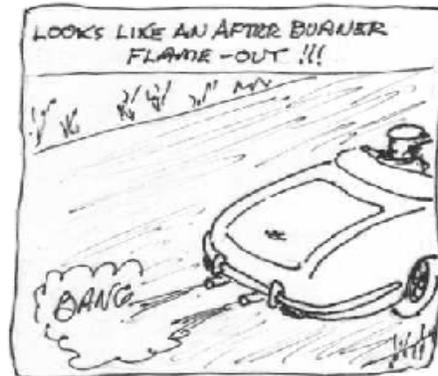
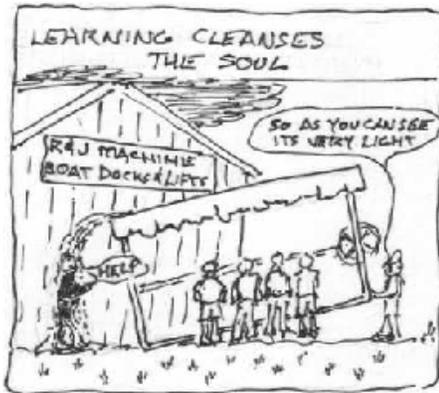
Catherines, that gave me this invaluable information and I have not had a problem since.

Hope this is of interest to you all.

**TIP:** When re-building an engine, don't just replace one or two guides that are worn, as this is a false economy; the others will soon follow suit if not replaced.

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## BRITISH VICTORIA CAR CLUB HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2005 LOW



SOME CLUB MEMBERS WILL GO TO GREAT LENGTHS TO MAINTAIN  
THEIR DAILY EXERCISE ROUTINE.

### Doug's final words on the motoring year - 2005.

#### Women's Friends vs Men's Friends

##### Women's Friends:

A woman didn't come home one night. The next day she told her husband that she had slept over at a friend's house. The man called his wife's 10 best

friends. None of them said they knew anything about it.

Men's Friends:

A man didn't come home one night. The next day he told his wife that he had slept over at a friend's house. The woman called her husband's 10 best friends. Eight of them confirmed that yes, absolutely, he had slept over, and two even claimed that he was still there!!! ....gotta love 'em!

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