



# *Clutch Chatter*

*Newsletter of the Victoria British Car Club*

APRIL 2006

## **April meeting**

On April 9<sup>th</sup> club members met at Chemong Lodge for brunch. Thanks to Gord and Rose Sloan and Jim and Bonnie Hancock for helping to set this up. As usual there was an excellent turnout and a wonderful buffet was enjoyed by all. A number of club issues for the year were discussed, including switching Clutch Chatter to e-mail or a web-site format. Ken and Doug were very rasily sporting their car club "colours" on their new waistcoats!

## **Electronic newsletter.**

As we are considering moving to either a website format for the newsletter or sending the newsletter to individuals by e-mail, we now require those with e-mail addresses to forward them as soon a possible to one of the following:

[mrbsa43@hotmail.com](mailto:mrbsa43@hotmail.com)

[helenhcdf@aol.com](mailto:helenhcdf@aol.com)

[vbcc.rah.@sympatico.ca](mailto:vbcc.rah.@sympatico.ca)

At the next meeting, members may request a current membership list.

## **Upcoming Events (Mark these dates on your calendar)**

### **Sunday, May 7 - "Circle the Scugog" Tour**

Leaving at 10am from Whitney Town Centre (Tim Horton's across from Canadian Tire on Kent Street). Lunch will be in Port Perry at a restaurant of your choice. If you require additional information, call Jim or Bonnie Hancock at 705-793-2915 or email

[jim.hancock@sympatico.ca](mailto:jim.hancock@sympatico.ca)

### **Sunday June 11**

Car Run being arranged by the Horns, Stephens', and Colemans. Meet at Fowlers Corners at 10:00 a.m.

Bring a picnic lunch. The destination is still a secret.

**Sunday June 25<sup>th</sup>**

VARAC Vintage Festival at Mosport International Raceway. The marque this year is Trans-Am.  
Roy and Pat Smith will be organizing a tour to the event/car show. Details to follow in next newsletter.

**Sunday July 16<sup>th</sup>**

BRITS IN THE PARK

2.

### **Victoria British Car Club Photo Contest**

Get out your Kodak Brownie, Disposable or Exotic New Digital Camera and take pictures of club activities. Prizes will be awarded in each of the following categories:

- ◆ Best Car Photo
- ◆ Best Landscape Photo
- ◆ Most Humorous Photo (must include a caption)

All photos must relate to club events. Photos will be judged at the November year-end luncheon.



### **RACING NEWS.**

The new Williams Cosworth engine revs to 20,000 rpm; this propels the car from 0-100 mph in 3.2 seconds. New Williams driver Nico Rosberg (son of ex- world F1 champion Nikki Rosberg) is showing great promise in this new car.

### **SOMETHING SMELLS IN DRIVE CLEAN.**

By Murray Jackson.

NATIONAL POST APRIL 7<sup>TH</sup> 2006.

The old car hobby is a multi-million dollar contributor to the Ontario economy. The tourism industry benefits from the thousands of Canadian and U.S. Visitors who travel to Ontario car shows. Charities

gain from car club fundraisers, at the same time old-car hobbyists do much to preserve Ontario's motoring history.

In November, Laurel Broton, Ontario's environment minister, announced several proposed changes to the Drive Clean program. Chief among the changes was an increase in the exemption period for new cars to five years from three. That has new car owners smiling.

But other proposals will negatively and disproportionately affect Ontario's old-car hobbyists.

3.

One key change would eliminate the rolling 20 yr old exemption from testing. Collector cars that are 1988 or newer will not be exempt from testing until they reach 30 yrs of age. Even then, these vehicles will only be exempted if they qualify for special historic vehicle status, which relegates the vehicle only to shows and special exhibitions, parades etc and moving the vehicle for repair, testing and demonstrations. Many vehicles 30 yrs old will not meet the criteria for these plates so they never will be exempt from emissions testing.

Data compiled by DesRosiers Automotive Consultants shows that vehicles more than 20yrs old comprise a very small proportion of Ontario's light duty population. Yet these are the vehicles that will be adversely affected by the proposed changes.

Under the proposed system, vehicles from 5 to 11 yrs old would be tested every second year, as is now the case. But all vehicles more than 11yrs old and made after 1988 would be tested annually.

This proposal lacks logic, It is unlikely that doubling the testing frequency for collector cars will result in more failed tests. Ontario's old-car hobbyists often store their cars during the winter months. Because of this, owners with winter birthdays already cannot renew the registrations for their vehicles during their birth month every second year-the emission test years. That's because the drive clean certificate that is required to renew a registration cannot be obtained while the vehicle is in winter storage. Owners must purchase a trip permit in the spring to legally take their vehicles to a Drive clean test station before renewing their registration.

The proposed changes mean that Drive Clean stations would have reduced revenues because new cars would not be tested until they are 5yrs old. A cynical observer might conclude that the removal of the 20yr exemption and the imposition of annual testing for vehicles more

than 11yrs old are convenient ways of replacing new car revenues lost by Drive clean testers, thus reducing potential complaints from that quarter.

### Editor's Comment:

I would advise those that haven't yet obtained a Historic Plate to do so before these proposed changes in emission testing come into effect. Another thing to consider is that the McGuinty Government is looking at new home-made trailer regulations that will prevent future home-made trailers from being licenced. Such trailers as already exist would be grand-fathered. This has come about from lobbying from large companies like Canadian Tire and Walmart, since they are now selling trailers and want to corner the market.

### Inside Track



### Great product.

If you're in the market for gasket sealant try Loctite 515. This is wonderful stuff and does not go hard until air is eliminated. This means that you can place it on anything and let it sit until you're ready to assemble without fear of it hardening up. Also any excess sealant that is squished out into the inside of things assembled does not solidify and is dissolved by oil or coolant thus reducing any risk of slivers of sealant circulating with fluids and getting into things it shouldn't do. Quick and easy to use, seals gaps up to .010" cleans up with Varsol and when disassembling anything it's been used on, the sealant simply pulls off the parts. This product is only available at industrial suppliers so don't go looking at Canadian Tire.

### The Mechanics Tool Guide (1<sup>st</sup> installment)

HAMMER - Originally employed as a weapon of war, the hammer nowadays is used as a kind of divining rod to locate expensive parts not far from the object you are trying to hit.

MECHANIC'S KNIFE - Used to open and slice through the contents of cardboard cartons delivered to the front door; works particularly well on boxes containing newly trimmed seats and motorcycle jackets.

ELECTRIC HAND-DRILL - Normally used for spinning steel pop-rivets in their holes until you die of old-age but it also works well for drilling mounting holes in floor pans just above fuel tanks.

PLIERS – Used to round off bolt heads.

### **How to Read a Haynes Manual**

<b><i>Haynes wording</i></b>	<b><i>Translation</i></b>
Rotate counter-clockwise with	Clamp with vice-grips, then beat repeatedly with Hammer counter-clockwise.
This is a snug fit with	Clamp with vice-grips then beat repeatedly Hammer.
Pry –off	Hammer a screwdriver into
Press and rotate to remove bulb	OK, that's the glass bit off, now fetch some good pliers to dig out the socket part.
Apply moderate heat	Unless you have a blast furnace, don't bother. Alternatively, clamp with vice-grips then beat repeatedly with a hammer.

6.

### **Was this man in an MGB we wondered?**

#### **The First Speeding Offence**

On 28 January 1896, Walter Arnold of East Peckham, Kent became the first person in Great Britain to be successfully charged with speeding. Travelling at approximately 8 mph, he had exceeded the 2 mph speed limit for towns. Fined 1 shilling (5p) plus costs, Arnold had been caught by a policeman who had given chase on a bicycle.

### **Potential new member?**

Following the discussion at the recent meeting about the club's responsibility regarding alcohol at events, we wondered whether the owner of this vintage vehicle would be allowed to join?



**FOR SALE:**  
**(any members having parts or vehicles for sale please feel free to e-mail me with the details)**

**MGB Part**

“I have a California Electronic Ignition module and distributor I'd sure like to get rid of. I put an internal Canadian one in this weekend and it runs much smoother”. If you are interested, please call Roger Hunter at 292-9859.

**SERVICES AVAILABLE**

Sonic Carburetor Cleaning – please contact [mrbsa@hotmail.com](mailto:mrbsa@hotmail.com)



These photos show highlights of a Big Brake installation on a TR. Complete instructions are online at [www.mossmotors.com](http://www.mossmotors.com)