



Clutch Chatter

Newsletter of the Victoria British Car Club

MAY/JUNE 2007

Well, first I must inform you that this will be the last newsletter in hard copy, since the executive has decided we are to go electronic. So after this May/ June issue, the newsletter will be posted on line at the club website (www.glenhunter.ca/vbcc.com) and members will be informed by an e-mail when it is available. Anyone who wishes to still have their newsletter in hard copy, **must reply in writing to me as soon as they receive this**, and arrangements will be made to continue that service. This change in distribution will save the club approximately \$360 per year. The other important inclusion with this newsletter is your copy of the updated membership list for 2007. We currently have 47 members for this year.

May Run

The Bob Deshane run on May 6th was very well attended, meeting at Little Britain in Lindsay for coffee and Danish. We set off in designated groups and we worked together to answer questions and clues on the trip. We all arrived at the Victoria Inn on Rice Lake for a very tasty lunch. The winner's of the competition were announced but hotly contested by the other members who claimed the fix was in! There was even a petition circulated! All in all, poor Ken and his crew probably wished they had never won. Our thanks to Bob Deshane and Pat and Dave Holloway for arranging a successful first outing, which was a lot of fun.

Upcoming Dates

Neil & Debbie Coleman host the next run on **Sunday June 10th**. Club members are to meet at Fowlers Corners Coffee Time at 10 am; bring a picnic lunch and sunscreen as I'm sure it will be a nice day. (Lunch stop around 1:30)

Next date to mark on your calendar is **June 24th**, the Vintage Racing Days Car Show at Mosport. (See last newsletter for more details of the event) Cars going from Peterborough usually meet up with Roy Smith at Tim Horton's in the Brookdale Plaza in Peterborough at 9:00 a.m. to travel to Mosport, where we will park our cars together as a club entry. Lindsay members usually meet at the Bonfire Restaurant before heading out. Entry is through Gate 6 and the cost per car is \$20.00. Don't forget you will have a chance to drive a lap of the circuit during

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the lunch break. This year is Grand Prix Reunion for Formula 1 cars of the era. (For more information or directions, call Roy Smith 705-748-5964)

July 5th Ken and Marg Inglis will be running the show for a shorter weekday run (Thursday) and the lunch will be a pot-luck event!

July 15th - BRITS IN THE PARK OF COURSE. - the committee has met and plans are well underway to make sure all details are covered.

July 29th - Ken and Marg Inglis - details to follow.

Editorial

It has been suggested (by myself) that we try adopting a different way of organizing our car runs.

Our club has grown a lot over the years and it continues to attract new members, which is good in one way but not so good when trying to organize a club run. There are two major concerns that have grown out of this expansion. Firstly, because we all run as a group and there are insurance concerns, we are now having to sign a club liability waiver before each run (not my idea of what a Brit car club is about). Secondly, because of the large turnout of cars, the actual driving element has become very processional, again not really getting at the fun element in these cars. So, after consulting members of other car and motorcycle clubs who faced similar circumstances, and after discussing their recommendations with the members of the executive, it has been agreed that we will try their approach for the next two runs after the June 10th run.

The idea is that we still meet for stops, lunch and suppers as posted but the driving element and responsibility is taken upon oneself. This method is very flexible as one can choose what time you wish to leave, what route you want to take and with whom you wish to drive. This does away with any insurance issues and the need for organized route, meeting places

So, on the Mosport run in June you may wish to make your own way there. Members can elect to meet up and drive together if they wish but there will be no supervised run to the event; we will simply meet up at the vintage car parking spot allocated to us at Mosport, entering by Gate 6. Similarly, Ken Inglis will also try this method with one of his runs, the date and event meeting place being posted but it will be up to members to make their own way there.

Racing news.



- Fernando did the business and won the Monaco Grand Prix. Consistency in lap times is what sets this man apart, while Lewis Hamilton continues to impress. Masse was 3rd.
- Dario Franchitti won the Indy 500, the second Scotsman to do this after Jim Clark's win in 1965. Clark, in a Lotus Ford, averaged 150.686 mph.

while Franchitti averaged 151.774 mph in a Honda. That's only 1.088mph faster in 42 years, which just shows you how good that Lotus Ford and Jim Clark were!

- Nascar's Coca Cola 600 winner was Casey Mears (whoever he is) emerging from the usual mêlée of crashed cars to win.

Enjoyable "poodles"

One of the best parts of owning a Brit sports car is going for a backroad poodle through the countryside at this time of year (while there are still not too many bugs out) when the sights and smells of early summer are abundant, and there are lots of garage sales to stop at and the odd Brit car for sale. You can always see something new and interesting or find some new lunch spots, meet other Brit car enthusiasts and generally enjoy driving that old car. This is what makes all that swearing in the garage worthwhile. One of my favourite poodles is to meander from Peterborough through Keene, Hastings, Roseneath and end up at the Oasis restaurant in Cobourg. Tell us yours, and maybe we can try each others and keep a list for members. Just a rough guide without too many details could be sent to my e-mail (mrbsa43@hotmail.com) and I'll include them in future newsletters.

Tech Tips



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Lots of interest in the oil article by Bob Deshane; members seem split on the issue but it's good to get this type of information out there. Thanks Bob.

Try Pledge furniture polish on your windshield so the bugs don't stick; motorcyclists have been using it on their visors for years. Keep a pair of silicone ear plugs handy, great for temporary plugging of leaks - they roll down in size and then expand either side of the hole. Remember when tools were expensive? Unless you use your tools for a living, in which case there is no substitute for quality, its amazing how cheap tools are now. For the average backyard mechanic just about any tool is so cheap you can almost adopt "a use and throw away policy". Take wrenches for example; gone are the days of cheap rubber "Made in India" wrenches, the Chinese cheapo's work well .Bike lifts used to be priced around \$1500-2500, but now Pep Boys in the States are selling them for \$299. They might not last 10 years but who cares when you only use them now and then. You can get a 3/8" electric drill for \$ 10.00 at Princess Auto in Oshawa and if it only lasts for a year so what. On a recent trip to Texas, I did not have a particular screwdriver bit, and the dollar store came to the rescue. Gone are the days of taking a huge tool kit along; use it and dump it, save the weight and the space and gas.

For Sale.

1979 MGB.
Pageant Blue. 128.000.Km
New convertible top. Black hard top New 185R65 tires. Many improvements. \$7,000.
Call David 705-887-9331 Fenelon falls.

A couple of TR3s for sale by Ottawa Valley Triumph Club members.

1961 Triumph TR3A - Good Condition - Safety - No Winters - \$8,500.00. Red and white.

Call Juliano at 613-727-8113 or email jbenco@rogers.com
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1958 Triumph TR3A - red with black interior, white piping 60 spoke wire wheels, full synchromesh transmission with overdrive.
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2100 cc motor. Older restoration \$18,500

613-830-0121 Shaun Hennessy

LOOKING TO BUY

An early Triumph GT6 with body in good condition. If you know of any available please call Roy Smith 705-748-5964.

Humour.

Woody Allen once said, "sex is like playing bridge, if you don't have a good partner you better have a good hand".

A man was overheard saying to his buddy "I don't exercise. Why would I want a six pack when I already have a keg".