

May 2008

issue #3



THE EXHAUST

News Letter of The

OKANAGAN BRITISH

CAR CLUB

First Meeting
Marred by
Bridge Traffic

Little Britian
Specialty Food
Shop Hosts
OBCC to start
the year.



Meetings are held the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM. Check our web site for locations as we drive to a different venue each month.

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South	Ken Barron	250-490-3012
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Events	Les Holmes	250-786-4007
Newsletter	John Gallant	250-549-2182
Membership	Andy McDonald	250-763-2034
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From the editor;

My apologies for the lateness of this issue. With a new grandson and some other family events I put it on the back burner and just never got it back.

I also don't have full details of some of the events. I would appreciate if someone could write a few words about each event and email them to me.

Advertising Rates

The club has determined that it would be beneficial to accept ads in the newsletter. Several other clubs were contacted about their rates and a schedule was set up which will cover costs but not be too expensive since we have limited circulation. These rates are based on camera ready copy being supplied.

Club Members cars for sale is still no charge

	1 issue	full year
Business card	\$10	\$40
¼ page	\$20	\$80
½ page	\$30	\$120
Full page	\$50	\$150

You can contact any executive or board member by email at obcc@obcc.ca.

Or use their personal email from the membership list.

The Exhaust is published (almost) monthly from February to October by the Okanagan British Car Club and distributed to paid members as part of their dues. It is also posted on our web site but some financial information that may be contained in the emailed or printed copy is removed for web posting.

If you have changed email address please let the editor and the membership coordinator know ASAP.

Opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the OBCC executive or its members.

Bridge Traffic a Nightmare on Meeting Night

The first drive to the monthly meeting was in Summerland. The traffic pattern on the floating bridge on April 16th looked like something planned by Lucas, the inventor of the intermittent light switch. It wasn't just the bridge it's self, cars were bumper to bumper, going 5KPH with frequent stops all the way from the Mall in Kelowna to West Side road. After that the congestion thinned out a bit and speeds of 50 KPH were possible until we passed through West Bank city centre. It's unclear how the addition of one extra lane will eliminate that bottleneck. The meeting was hosted again by the Carrot Top Café and they did a fine BBQ meal with BF cake for dessert. This summer's events were discussed and plans made for each one.

The new Bridge was opened on schedule and PP Bruce had his name drawn to be one of the first to drive across the new structure.



All reports about the traffic flow across the have been positive. You can check out more pictures from Bruce at <http://picasaweb.google.com/brucethebrat>

You may have to use CTL+click to activate this link or copy it into your browser.

The First Run

On April 27th a group of 7 cars met at the Little Britain Specialty Food store in Winfield for the beginning of the season run. Mandy opened the store a few hours early for us and several sales of British stuff were recorded. They are working on a kitchen and may be able to offer tea and crumpets the next time. The drive took us across the mountain to Okanagan Lake then around the other lake and back to Vernon. A stop at Kalamalka Lookout gave a good opportunity for pictures and a view down the Coldstream Valley. The run ended at the home of John & Sandy Gallant where John's new BBQ got a work out.



7 cars from the first run at Kal Lake Lookout

All British Field Meet

The Vancouver show at Van Dusen Gardens held on the May long weekend turned out to be a carbon copy of previous events except for the appearance of several Alvis cars. Alvis was the feature marquee and many cars came out of the garages. One of the nicest was a friend of OBCC secretary Tom Wimperis. The vehicle was owned by friends from California where Tom used to live. Tom also had his Lotus at the show.



Here is some info on the Alvis. The owner is Gary Marquis from Chico CA. which is where Jennifer and I lived before moving to BC. Gary is a retired Computer Software Administrator for the University of California at Chico. The Alvis is part of a car collection that includes 3 Morgans; a 4+4, Plus 8 and a Three Wheeler. He also has a Supercharged Morris Minor Wagon fitted out as a beer truck. Gary is renowned for his backyard car shows sponsored by

Sierra Nevada Brewery, which attract as many as 50 cars with every thing from Bizzerrinnis, to 1925 Lancias Lambda's to Ferraris and other exotica.

The Alvis is an 1932 Speed 20. It has a 2.7 liter straight six with dual ignition. Gary has had the car for three years. It won it's class at the Quail car show at Monterey last year and will be shown there again this year.

Alvis was a British car manufacturer that produced cars from 1920 up till the late 1960's when it merged with Rover and then was absorbed by British Leyland. During the 2nd World War Alvis manufactured aircraft engines and armoured vehicles. The armoured car division was split off at the BL merger and is still producing vehicles.

Alvis was competitor of Bentley during the 20's to 40's. At one point they produced front wheel drive racing cars with their model predating the US Miller racers by several months. They produced several Grand Prix racers, both front and rear wheel drive as well as supercharged. Alvis won their class at LeMans in 1928.

At one point in in the 1930's they they produced the fastest British motorcar with their 4.3 model capable of speeds in excess of 100 MPH. Alvis produced all their own engines and chassis and were rnoned for the quality of their engineering, but the cars were bodied by various Coachmakers similar to the way Bentley and Rolls were made. Gary's car was bodied by Hooper.

Some Alvis trivia; Alex Issigonis of Mini fame developed a rubber suspended V8 model which didi not make it to production, in 1951 there hybrid Alvis engined Healey sports car was produced.

Hope this gives you all you need.

By the the Plus 2 won the class for Closed Lotuses at Vancouver.

Cheers,
Tom

Monthly Meeting May 21st

The monthly meeting was held at the home of VP Lynn Fletcher just outside of Summerland. This was a joint event with the Studebaker club. Lynn had several Gymcana style car challenges set up for us.



Thanks to Bruce, more pictures are available at

<http://picasaweb.google.com/brucethebrat>

Peachland Beach City Cruise

Dennis gage from the TV show “My Classic Car” attended the 2008 Beach Cruise and that drew lots more people and cars. I don’t really have any more info on the event but here are a couple of pictures.



Trip to Rock Creek
Sorry, no info available

Rally In The Valley

The event that has defined the OBCC for more than 10 years went through its death rattles this year with a small run and get together in Summerland, Kelowna and Vernon. Kudu's to Bruce Stevenson for the effort he made to have some sort of activities on the annual weekend. There are many out of town British car owners are conditioned to drive to the Okanagan valley that Bruce again jumped up to the plate and organized the weekend. A Friday night gathering at Thornhaven Winery in Summerland was attended by 42 people and the winery turned out to be a great place to hold such an event. (see report next page)

The driving part on Saturday was a bit disappointing though. Bruce and Les went to a lot of trouble to set out a course and arrange for lunch. 8 cars (only 4 from OBCC) turned up for the rally which started at the Ramada and toured around the east Kelowna area before turning north to end up in Vernon for lunch at the Blue Heron waterfront pub. We lost a few cars along the way and only 12 people actually showed up for lunch.

The plaque for getting the most correct answers on the rally was won by Al & Cheryl Girvin from Calgary driving a Triumph TR8.




Picture from Kalamalka Lake Lookout before heading into Vernon for a drive around the city then lunch.

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A report on RITV from Brian Fleton

RALLY IN THE VALLEY

2008

This year OBCC held a much smaller low key RITV.

On Friday July 4th a group of about forty club members and visitors met at Thornhaven Estates Winery at the south foot of Giants Head in Summerland. There they mixed and mingled, drank a little wine, had some snacks and generally took in the scenery and the ambience the winery patio offered.

All waited for OBCC President to make his decision on who was Best in Show and who had the Neatest Little Car, then the participants decided who had traveled the Farthest so-----

Best in Show was Ken Turner with his 1963 TR 4 from Prince George

Neatest Little Car was Leigh Manyk with his Lotus from Kelowna

And Alex Girvan travelled Farthest in his 1980 TR8 from Calgary

The Club would like to thank OBCC Members Heinz and Annie Smirmaul for organizing the very pleasant evening and for producing all of the food.

The following morning Bruce Stevenson organized a group for a Fun Run around the northern Okanagan.....



Best In Show

Farthest Distance