



Old Brits

Saskatchewan British Car Club Newsletter

September – October - November 2006
Number 46

Cruise Weekend 2006

Text by Bob Forward / Photos courtesy Ed Driver



Cruise Weekend was another successful event. Lots of good-looking cars were cruising 8th Street on Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights.

The Sunday car show downtown got started early this year due to the bright sunny morning. Our usual block on 2nd Avenue had been already assigned to the SBCC, but as usual there were a few non-British vehicles that wanted to be with us. The SBCC had another good turn out and as always we put on a good show for the crowds.

Rob and I were asked to judge the event, which enabled and forced us to look at and judge all the vehicles. We had fun doing this and meeting the winners. The untimely closing of the Black Duck meant that there was some exercise involved when getting a beer as the nearest pub was Winston's. Thanks to all the club members for making this a great day.

P.S. We had to give ourselves the "Club Award" as we had the largest club turn out (again).



A vintage Morris



A Morris of unknown vintage



A row of fine British Cruisers



Go ahead...., read my license plate!

Beer Nite II

By Rob Svoboda



Our second semi-annual Winston's International Beer Night on September 22nd was another success. Approximately 35 members and their spouses attended. It always amazes me that we never run out of car stories to talk about at these beer nights. It also amazes me to see how many of the different beers we consume as a group (there must have been a couple of headaches the next day). A good time was had by all and I look forward to our next one in March 2007.

September 30th

By Bob Forward

This was a great day for a few reasons. The new Celtic gift shop “Clans, Celts and Clover” on Broadway was having a grand opening, so a few of our members showed up and helped out with a small car show. It was a nice sunny day again, so all was well.

I found time to get my TR 8 over there, but prior to the event Roger and I stopped at the Nigel West’s house to do a road test in the TR3. This car has been totally rebuilt from the ground up. Nigel and I drove this car in the back alley off Main Street nine years ago. The restoration started after that and many fun hours have been spent working on this classic.

This TR3 has had a very eventful life while being restored. It has been relocated due to moving houses four times, it survived a garage fire, and it was moved twice following that event. Amazingly there have only been a handful of lost parts. The back alley road test was a huge success and brought many smiles to all involved.

Two doors down the alley a white Mini van was sitting in the back yard. Its owner Paul and myself spent about nine hours getting the Mini road worthy. Brakes and clutch hydraulics, tune up, battery, and hard work was all it took to get this one going. Another quick back alley road test..., all was well, lots of smiles. After a couple of beers and some good stories it was back to the car show on Broadway. We sampled Haggis and Scottish sweets, the dancing and pipe music were also very enjoyable. It was a very good day!

SBCC WEB SITE

By Ed Driver

Well, the new model year is only a month away and after re-tooling (most modern techniques first added then discarded in favour of older methods -simple html with some modern stuff thrown in) the current web site was been re-built from the chassis up. The appearance and views are very different but the intent is the same - something that represents who we are, what we enjoy and participate in and that we are proud prairie British car owners.

As a volunteer I took Bob Forward's comments that he made at one of the early summer's meetings to heart - "we need some change, something new " (sorry, Bob, if I have paraphrased your comments poorly).

Well, thanks to Bob and to Scott McGibney for their early encouragement and guidance I started in September to redesign and re-build SBCC.ca. Not only was there a lot of support from Bob and Scott but Terry provided a great deal of input early on. Bob Seaborn was generous with his time in providing information regarding the IT requirements. Ken Roach, a real saviour, Ken provided not only some software to allow me to experiment with pictures but also his experience with his Phase Two's web site. The final format for the site was driven home by comments that Ray and his son made to me at Cruise 2006, these followed the ideas expressed by Bob, Terry, Ron Bland, Dick Noordman, and others.

A very good friend, Bill Noble, who is the moderator on the UK Morgan DG and also the webmaster of the UK Morgan club site and his home Centre Yorkshire Morgan club provided me with materials, suggestions and ideas as I build SBCC. Bill is truly an example of what car clubs and car guys are all about.

Finally I wish to thank my fellow club mates who took the time out of their busy schedules to submit photos, items, and ideas, comments - the site is ours and hopefully represents who we are! Thanks!

OUR CYPRESS HILLS ADVENTURE (VIA MEDICINE HAT AND MAPLE CREEK)

JUNE 23 – 25, 2006

BY: DICK J. NOORDMAN
Photography by: Members, SBCC

Like many of our other adventures, this one started out as a simple idea by Terry Yuzik and some of the SBCC gang sitting around discussing the merits of short, fun trips taken during our all too-short summers. Before you could say: "Here come the Brits!", we had 12 people signed up for the great Southern Saskatchewan cruise to Cypress Hills Provincial Park.

It all began on a beautiful Friday morning in late June. We assembled at our 'usual' spot – the Esso Garage on 11th Street and Highway 7. Everyone was in a great mood, ready for 3 days of driving, exploration, and comradery. Many of us had never been to Cypress Hills Park, or to Swift Current for that matter, so there was a real sense of excitement in the air. More so when Roger Siemens pulled a hose connector off his engine, causing coolant to flow liberally forth. Did he panic??? Nooooo!!! He had the problem fixed before you could say: "Roger, what the... !@#\$\$%^&!".



Gathering at the Esso station.

The rush to depart was halted by Terry Yuzick's missing cell phone – probably left on top of his car as he left home. He quickly went home and returned shortly thereafter with the life-saving phone.

Off we went: 7 Beautiful Brits and 12 Courageous Canucks. The roar! The dust! The shouts of joy!!

We cruised comfortably down the highway, everyone feeling their cars out, listening for odd noises, squeaks and rattles, but all we heard was the purring of our engines, and the occasional burp from Rick Middleton.

Our first pit stop was Rosetown. Everyone checked their cars' fluids, topped up fuel as necessary, and would have soon been on the road again but for Scott and Cathy's detour to find a Co-op. Apparently British cars owned by Federated Co-op employees will not run on anything but Co-op gas. Go figure.

While were all standing around looking pretty, Rick Middleton got into a conversation with a flatbed truck driver at the gas station. The name of the trucking company was: SPITFIRE. The owner/driver once owned a Spitfire, and decided to name his trucking company after the car. Rick was rewarded for his friendliness with a gift of the official trucking company t-shirt, emblazoned with the Spitfire name.

Once refreshed, fueled, and gratified in other ways, we headed off to Saskatchewan Landing, one of the prettiest valleys in the west.



Saskatchewan Landing.

Not stopping to gawk, we booted it up the other side and soon found ourselves in Swift Current, also known as "Speedy Creek". We had no trouble finding the golf course and club house just in time for lunch. We parked our assorted rides in the parking lot and had an instant, impromptu car show. Several onlookers stopped to admire the eclectic collection and were fascinated to learn this trip was organized out of Saskatoon. We had a wonderful lunch, great fun, and took many pictures. After lunch, we did some rubbernecking of the fabulous golf course and its surroundings. Truly a beautiful place!



Lunch for 12.

Wanting to stay, but having to go... we motored on down the TransCanada highway in search of Maple Creek. (No nickname for this one). It was a time to open 'er up and see what our rides were capable off. Everyone really gave it, and we made excellent time down one of the nicest stretches of highway in the province. A spot of rain freshened things up, but did we put up our tops? (Hoods). Nooooo! We soldiered on and soon it was sunny again.

About halfway to Maple Creek, we took a short break to stretch our legs and to take a rest stop. It always amazes me to see how great our British cars look parked by the side of the highway. Waves from passing motorists confirmed we were all in our element. Life was good!

End of Part One - To Be Continued Next Issue...

Spitfire to the rescue

By Ed Aldred

A cold and rainy November morning arrives and I jump in my Ford Mustang to take my daughter to daycare and myself to work. As I pull from the driveway the alternator belt breaks. Only two blocks to the babysitter's and then back; the Mustang makes it, then I park it in my driveway. So I go to jump in my girlfriend's car that she left for me to repair, when I remember that I have started the repairs to the drive axle and the car is not drivable. (What are the chances?) So looking around the yard the only vehicle accessible is "Frankenspit". So..., with no top and the dash wires hanging out I spring to work on a cold November day..., little British car to the rescue, the only time it has started with no trouble all year. Truly a Canadian Triumph I guess.

Saskatchewan British Car Club
Minutes – Sept 13th, 2006

Meeting called to Order at: 7:50 PM

Chairman: Bob Forward

Members present: 40

Location: Boffins Club, Innovation Place

Saskatchewan British Car Club
Minutes – October 11th, 2006

Meeting called to Order at: 7:45 PM

Chairman: Bob Forward

Members present: 35

Location: Boffins Club, Innovation Place

Saskatchewan British Car Club
Minutes – November 8, 2006

Meeting called to Order at: 7:55 PM

Chairman: Bob Forward

Members present: 25

Location: Boffins Club, Innovation Place

SBCC OFFICERS / 2006-07

President: Bob Forward

Vice-President: Terry Yuzik

Secretary: Ron Bland

Treasurer: Larry Chapman

Webmasters: Scott McGibney, Ed Driver

Newsletter Editor: John Pharr

Founding President: Alan Wilson

Website: www.sbcc.ca