

THE

Jan. 2024 Edition



OCTAGON

Newsletter of the Victoria MG Club



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PLEASE— Mark events on your Calendars

Cover Photo: MGB's, New Year's Day Burn at Oak Bay Marina Parking Lot JAN 1,2024 by

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Lorne & Jan Mitchell *(Correction to Dec.2023 Issue)*

Thanks to the following for their contributions to this month's newsletter

Malcolm Ives, Ken Lockley, Malcolm Baster
Jenny Cape, Tim Marks, Stu Moore, Terry Sturgeon

*Extraction from the Societies Act Constitution of
THE VICTORIA MG CLUB"*

The purpose of the society is:

1. a) **To promote the enjoyment of MG cars:**
b) **To encourage the preservation, maintenance and use of MG cars and:**
c) **To conduct gatherings of a sporting or social nature for enthusiasts of the MG marque**
d) **To encourage involvement of British and other marques in the Club**

EXECUTIVE

--- 000 ---

President

Malcom Ives
president@victoriangclub.ca

Vice-President

Gayle Adams

Secretary

Maurice Emery
secretary@victoriangclub.ca

Treasurer

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Tim Marks
events@victoriangclub.ca

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Patricia Sparks
newsletter@victoriangclub.ca

Webmaster

Marc Speed
webmaster@victoriangclub.ca

Historian

Position Vacant

NOTM Ice Cream Runs
(North of the Malahat)



OCTAGON DEADLINE:

Submissions:

Please submit as you can.

Ads: 2 month maximum unless re-newed.

NO PDF's please - they are not that easy to process.

Please use a Word type program or email.





Editor's Notes:

Hi all,

Gosh, it is hard to believe that it is 2024 already. Time really does fly.

2023 certainly saw a lot of changes. The membership in our club grew, which was wonderful to see, and there was tremendous participation at the wonderful events that were created and led by Ken Lockley. A big thankyou to Ken for doing an awesome job.

But, 2024 is here and we have a new Events Leader, Tim Marks, who, I am sure, is going to continue on with the tradition. Let us all 'get out there' and support the runs, as—as you know— it is the membership's participation that makes the run that much more enjoyable. And to that end *The write up for "The Octagon" to let those that were, for whatever reason, unable to participate, know all about the run and be able to enjoy it through our 'words'.*

This year, Derrick and I may or may not be around to enjoy the summer with you. We are hoping to be able to make use of our Motor Home for a little while. This means, that although I may not be around, The Octagon should still exist, so I will definitely be hoping that little bits and pieces of information will drift my way, via Internet, and I will be able to get an edition or two out to you whilst on our journey. (Or maybe there is someone out there that may wish to volunteer their time to help by becoming the Editor .. even if only for the time we are away!)

Keep those engines burning, and the wheels turning.

Patricia

WE SAY FAREWELL:

David and Armande Morton have made the big decision to leave our fair land, to go far afield, across the equator and down a-ways to Australia to be closer to their daughter. We, as a club, will certainly miss them as they have been contributing members of the Victoria MG Club since October 1st, 1981, volunteering to help the club grow by leaps and bounds.

Over the years Armande has been a definitive force. Beside volunteering her time for other duties, she also became the Club Historian, which did the Club proud, as the records we have been left with are excellent. David, also did his part by being Editor of the Octagon for quite a few years. It is up to us now to preserve these documents for the future generations that may still wish to keep our Club and MG Cars running.



Although David and Armande are leaving, they still remain fully paid up members and are only an email away! This, indeed, is a far cry from a time—not that long ago—when communication was by surface or air mail, oftentimes taking a month or more to arrive. A phone call was also possible, but truly a great expense!

We would like to extend our heartfelt good wishes to both of them in their new adventure which is about to unfold and we wish them Godspeed in this their new life journey.

From the Executive and Team Members of the Victoria MG Club (i.e. all of us)





The Driver's View!

VMGC Presidents Message: January, 2024

As a club we are off the new year in fine form, we have a strong executive team, and some great ideas for this coming year.

41 members have signed up for the year, if you have signed up thank you very much, if you have not signed up, we are looking forward to you renewing your membership. It is easy to renew, information on how to do so is included in this Octagon.

For everyone attending the AGM zoom meeting, you will know that the start of the year and the end of the year bank balance was within a few dollars, expenses of the 2023 year were met with the membership fees, therefore it is important we have enough funds to work with for this year as there are some expenses that are larger than others and have to be paid as they occur.

I am look forward to the coming year, especially as we have hit some record low temperatures for this area and warmer weather should be on its way.

Our events team is busy planning some great drives, all that is required is your participation.

We have a some new members, be sure to introduce yourself to them!

See you on the next Drive About?

Be safe and "make every drive the perfect drive".

Malcolm



JANUARY 1, 2024, NEW YEARS DAY BURN WRITE-UP — BY KEN LOCKLEY

What a great start to our Victoria MG Car Club's first event of the year. First off, sunshine with some high cloud and dry conditions brought out a high number of cars. Malcolm Baster and Len Smith came from points up Island .

This year we kept the drive easy and short, just one hour with a stop at Oak Marina Parking lot for a group picture and meeting up with several more cars. A short drive from the marina to the 1550's Pub for Lunch. This facility has worked well for several of our New Years Day Drives, and once more did a great lunch for the group.

I would like to finish this little report up with a thank you to Gayle Adams and Stu Moore for their suggestions and continual support and help over the last year. I believe our club will have a good year ahead with Tim Marks heading the team and Gayle and Stu to help out when needed. Finally I want to thank all the members that came out to our events during 2023, to make them all successful with lots of fun and interesting chit-chat.

Thanks Ken L.



Taken by onlooker on Pat's camera



The 'slow' race begins!! Thanks to new speed zones P:Patricia

NEW YEAR'S DAY BURN - 2024



OAK BAY MARINA : PHOTO STOP







A SUPER TIME WAS HAD BY ALL

LUNCH AT THE LAST DAY OF THE '1550'S' PUB, ON CEDAR HILL X ROAD

THE DOORS CLOSED BEHIND US

AND THE

PUB, WHICH HAD CHANGED OWNERSHIP, IS NOW BEING RECONFIGURED—NAME AND ALL!

This is the first time our Club has literally “Closed Down a Pub” !!!!



TECH TIPS TO AVOID PROBLEMS

Summer is coming, the car is in the garage or under a tarp All ready to go??!

Well perhaps but last year's driving season is just a memory and this year is yet to come, so I thought I would share some pre-season notes and reminders, for the ***Summer Driving Season***.

Start with the inside of the car, how are all the switches and driver controls, seatbelt buckles, retractors, seat track runners and recline mechanisms. Under the hood of the car, if you have carburetors are they serviced & lubricated, check the fuel filter and air filters. When were they last changed? Moving on to the electrical side of the engine how are the spark plugs?, ignition wires and distributor. Dielectric grease can work wonders in preventing corrosion at the contact points of high tension wires and if you have push on connectors at the fuse boxes, this is also a good place for a small amount of dielectric grease to prevent problems in the future. How are all the hoses if you have any surface cracks or swellings this is a good time for renewal of hoses and clamps.

Moving onto the fluids: How is the coolant level and what is the age of the coolant? After a while coolant loses some of its properties, and should be renewed. When was the engine oil and filter changed, one of the misconceptions about long life engine oil is that it has a long life? However if it gets contaminated with antifreeze or gasoline, it is no longer effective as a lubricant and both the filter and oil should be changed. (a quick test is to look at the dipstick - if there are any water droplets on it or if it smells of gasoline, then the oil and coolant needs changing).

Brake fluid contamination from water,,,,, There is in the marketplace, some quite inexpensive testers to detect water in brake fluid or clutch fluid, obviously if there is any water present, it will cause rust in the components that use this fluid. Normally, you would change your fluids every couple of years, but with a tester you can be more accurate in the change intervals.

How are the engine drive belts, any cracks or parts missing? Confirm in the manual for the car how tight they should be, over tension can cause failure of the component it is driving.

An item most often overlooked is the washer fluid and function of the switch, pump, and the jets.

Battery servicing is important, most are sealed these days, but basic checks are important, terminals should be clean at the battery post and at the grounding point. When the car running what is the voltage? It should be over 12v ideally 13.5 to 14.3v
Next test would be voltage when cranking the engine, it should not drop below 10v, if it does then you would need to have the battery and starter load tested to see which one is at fault.

Always buy a good quality battery, and if you have to replace the starter look at buying a high torque, low load starter. These are quite inexpensive these days, plus have the benefit of less voltage drop when cranking, leaving more voltage available for easier starting, plus less weight.

Continued on Page 11



TECH TIPS TO AVOID PROBLEMS continued:

Are all the lights working, horn working, wipers, heater motor and controls?

Next would be one of the more important checks!

TIRES **how are they are they wearing?** Vvenly across the tread? If not then an alignment may be needed. How deep is the average tread depth per tire - consult the tire manufacturer for the specs, and your owners handbook for the correct tire pressures, (do not go by the Max tyre pressure on the tire). Your tires are the only contact point with the road for both going and stopping, be sure they are up to the job!

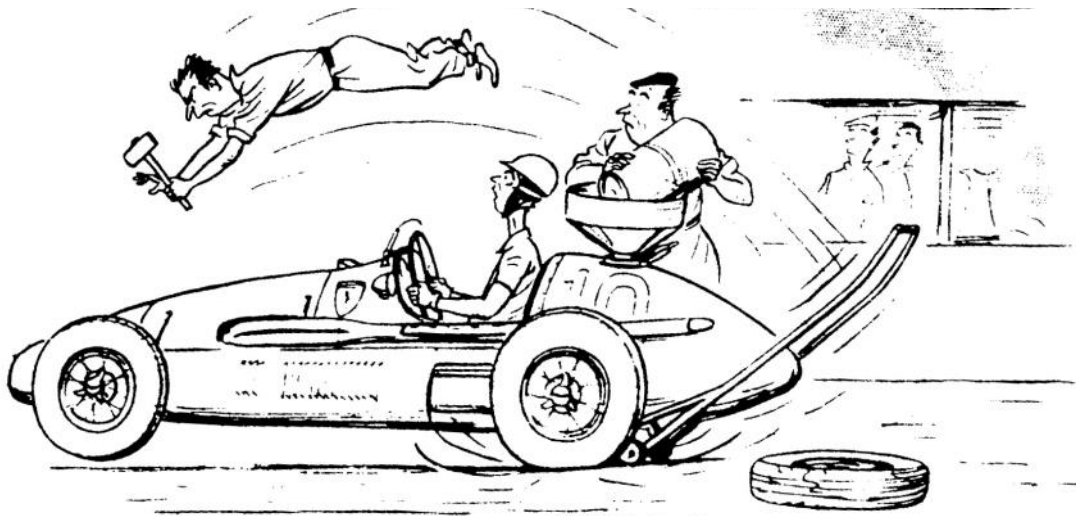
Finally, but not least, is the braking system. Just like the tires are they up to the job they do? Depending on your skill level, brakes, steering and suspension work, you may want to have this work done by a professional shop.

Lastly, I can't emphasize this enough: Safety is Paramount.

Please use the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) and dispose of waste products responsibly.

These are my own notes on these items. I think I have covered most things and hope this is of help to you.

Malcolm



LIMITED EDITION MG-100th YEAR COMMEMORATIVE COINS

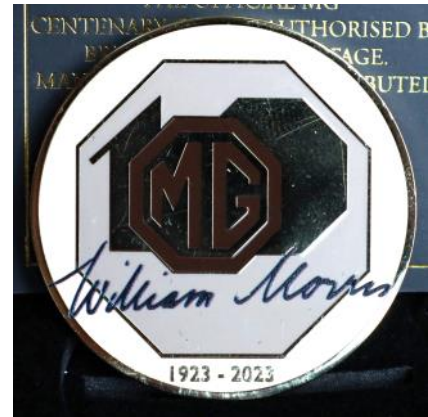
Terry Sturgeon brought a coin to the Luncheon at the 6-Mile Pub on Saturday. This beautiful 'coin' has been manufactured for the commemoration of the MG's 100th year - **WHICH IS FROM July 1, 2023 to JUNE 30, 2024**

The MG-100 Commemorative 'coins' are a limited edition, designed and manufactured by Zenith Coins Ltd., Scotland. Each coin comes complete with a certificate,

- MG Presentation Box
- Certificate of Authenticity
- ZC Branded Lint Free Cloth
- Unique Serial Number (matching certificate)

Coin specification:

- Coin Weight - 35 grams
- Diameter - 44mm
- Thickness - 3mm
- Enamelling - Hard
- Plating – Gold Metal - on Brass



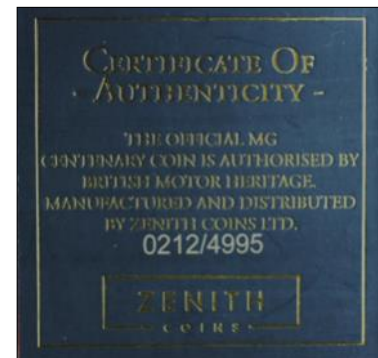
Larger photo of Back View



Front View



Back View



Certificate of Authenticity

Price: Cost \$42:00, all in! No shipping fees.

Contact: Terry at 250-370-2299 or E: terrysturgeon@telus.net

For Further details please contact Terry. The person who has them is in Vancouver and he will be shipping them over.

The coin could make a great Birthday or Special Gift.

Photographed at the party at 6 Mile Pub, in December

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

THE NAMGAR EVENT IN 2024, will be held the week of:

July 15 - 19, 2024 GT – 49, Welches, Oregon, U.S.A.

ALL MG's are welcome to attend. The featured marque is **MGA**. The other MG marques will be displayed in their own groupings.

This is such a beautiful area of the country you don't want to miss it. There is no time like the present to start planning for next year's GT.

There are a few members that are wanting to attend. So if you would like to join in with them for the trip down and back, let Stu know (membership@victoriangclub.ca) as he will be keeping a list. Patricia, Ed.



Below is the PDF for the GT-49 Convention. Try clicking on it—it may work. Or copy and paste into your computer. It describes the surrounds and the main accommodation for the GT-49 event.



GT-49.pdf

WANTED !!!

Stu Moore E: stu.m@shaw.ca

2000 watt generator suitable for charging an RV.

Bruce Taggart E: va7bgt@icloud.com

I am looking for parts for my car ('77 MGB).

Wiring harness,

Soft Top, (with zip-out back window if possible), etc .

Kevin Wood (part of the Jaguar club) E: kevinsgreat@shaw.ca

is looking for a differential from a midget. 3.90 ratio. He's working on a Nash Metropolitan project!

He currently has a 4.22 ratio differential and is looking to change that.



THE ROAD AHEAD

NOTICE HOT CHOCOLATE RUNS — Mill Bay Area — North of the Malahat.

As the winds and dark days of winter creep ever closer, we will make our seasonal switch from Ice Cream Runs to Hot Chocolate Runs. Accordingly, we will meet on the Last Wednesday of each month at the Mill Bay Tim Hortons at 3:00 PM.

Welcome to our New Events Chairman - Tim Marks.

Tim has outlined the events schedule for 2024, please list these events on your 2024 Calendar's now, so that you have them noted!!

2024 should be another great year. If you have any ideas, or would like to help, please give Tim a call.



- February 11 - Valentine's Day Poker Run
- March 17 - St. Patrick's Day Run
- April 7, 14, 21 ? - Soupçon Run
- May 26 - Metchosin Run; Pearson College
- June 2 - Restoration Fair & Swap Meet. [Heritage Acres \(OECC event\)](#)
- June 16 - ? [Father's Day Picnic - to be confirmed](#)
- July 14 - Brits on the Beach, Transfer Beach Park, Ladysmith [\(OECC event\)](#)
- July 15-19 - NAMGAR, Oregon
- July 28 - [Lower Island Drive](#)
- August 12-14 - [Port McNeil and Gold River \(See info on next page\)](#)
- August 18 (or 25) - Sheringham Lighthouse Run, 17-Mile House
- September 15 - [Enrico's British Car Run](#)
- October 6 - [Saltspring Island Run](#)
- November 3 - Saanich Run, Aircraft Museum, Mary's Bleue Moon Cafe
- December - Christmas Party

MG Club Trip to Port McNeil and Gold River

August 12, 13, 14

If you are looking for a little more adventure than a Sunday drive but not sure you want the hassles of going off the island, your club is putting together a little adventure this summer on the island.

The plan is:

Everyone gathers for lunch on the 12th just north of Qualicum Beach (Shady Rest restaurant possibly). Take highway 19A to Campbell River and continue to Port McNeil for the night. (There is a large motel with good parking within a couple blocks walk to craft beer and excellent pizza.)

The next day, early risers can take a lovely, twisty, out and back, road to Port Alice (about 45 minutes each way) for their morning coffee. Regrouping at Port McNeil we will head back to Campbell River and then on to Gold River where we will stay at the motel and restaurant on the hill.

August 14th we will return to Campbell River and make our way home. **The first day** is the longest, close to 600 km from Victoria (6hrs). **Day two**, a little less than 400km with the side trip to Port Alice or 100km less if you choose not to do the out and back (5hr or 3.5hr). **The last day**, 360km back to Victoria, (5hr). Times and kms were taken from google and do not include stops for gas, food, (God forbid, repairs).

I think this should be a worthy undertaking, qualifying as an adventure. The roads to Gold River and Port Alice are exceptionally pleasant, suited to twisty, top down, less traffic, slower driving. The road north of Campbell River is faster two lane, typically with less traffic. Highway 19A is a scenic drive, particularly south of Campbell River along the ocean but sometimes with enough traffic to be less than a perfect drive, still worthwhile though.

For those looking to open it up, returning home from Campbell River highway 19 has minimal traffic and a 110km/hr speed limit on a divided highway to just north of Nanaimo. (North of Campbell River also lends itself to higher speed travel on two lanes with minimal traffic. The local constabulary has their opinion on this that bears consideration.)

All those interested in this club adventure please contact the **events coordinator, Tim Marks**, at events@victoriamgclub.ca

Reservations must be made early in the year, particularly for accommodations at Gold River.

Tim Marks






REGALIA


PLEASE CONTACT STU MOORE FOR ALL YOUR REGALIA NEEDS


Email Stu: membership@victoriامجclub.ca


Stu has contacted a company that can EMBROIDER the badges onto shirts
FOR SPECIAL "COINS" - PLEASE CONTACT STU—email above



Ball Caps	Made to Order	\$ 25.00	
Please order through: Teamworks Promotions, 784 Spruce Ave, Victoria Ph: 250 380-9535			

Grille Badges (Victoria MG Club)	16	\$ 15.00	 
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Name Badges	Made to Order	\$ 7.50	
Choose Pin or Magnetic style to 'pin on with'			

Jacket Badges (Cloth, Iron on Badges)	14	\$10.00	
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M.G. Mugs	In Stock	\$ 15.00	
PLEASE NOTE: Mugs have MG Logo printed on both Left and Right sides			

100 Year Grille Badge	SOLD OUT	 
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NAME BADGES ARE VERY HELPFUL AT CLUB EVENTS



PAYING BY E-TRANSFER:

You now have this option.

E-Transfer your \$25.00 directly to:

treasurer@victoriangclub.ca

We have auto deposit for the club account - no password required

PAYING BY CHEQUE:

\$25.00, made out to the **VICTORIA MG CLUB**

Please fill out the following form and mail it, together with your cheque

to: **VMGC, c/o R. Draeseke,**

405—105 Gorge Rd East V9A 6Z3 Victoria, B.C.

IF YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION CHANGES PLEASE EMAIL

membership@victoriangclub.ca Thanks a million. (Follow the Application Form on this page.)

Victoria MG Club Membership Renewal and Application Form

PAYING BY CHEQUE:

Name: _____

Spouse/Partner Name: _____

Address _____

Postal Code _____

e-mail Address _____

Partner e-mail Address _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____ Cell: _____

Club Use Vehicle(s): _____

We have an on-line membership list which is NOT TO BE USED for solicitation, or distributed to non-members. It is meant for communication by Club Members only. So, by applying for, or renewing membership in the VMGC, I agree that I will not use other members' personal information for any commercial purpose. Please accept my/our membership application/renewal



Always happy to oblige, Stu is at the ready if you want to sign up and become a member!!

New Memberships are always welcome!

The runs are happening!!

Keep well,

Stay Safe

Stu:- membership@victoriangclub.ca

Welcome to all the new members that have

just joined - and to those that have

renewed their memberships -

Thank you!