



VCCC - Preserving Vintage Cars Since 1958

Victoria Vintage View

Newsletter of the VCCC – Victoria Chapter

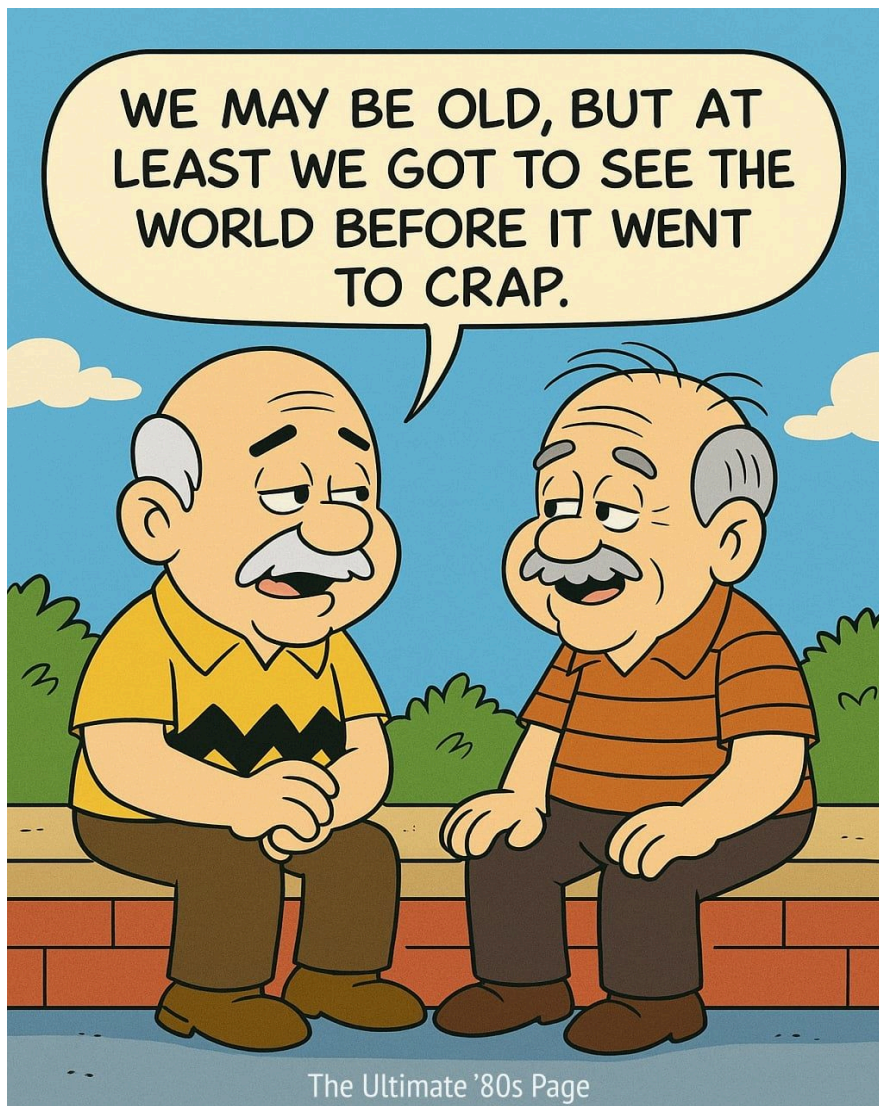


Mystery Car. Your Guess? Answer on Back Page.

WELCOME ♦♦

Welcome to the FALL 2025 edition of the Victoria Vintage View, the periodic newsletter of the Victoria Chapter of the Vintage Car Club of Canada. Please submit a story and picture of your vintage vehicle or other subject to the Editor: normtatlow@gmail.com. Preferred length is 1 -2 pages, including pictures. Please send in e format (email, word, pdf, jpg, etc.) if at all possible. Paper articles are very laborious to deal with. But better than NO article! 😊 THANK YOU to those new contributors with great stories. We hope to keep it fun, interesting and informative. Your ideas and feedback are very important. We would like to eventually feature all members vehicles to have a good representation of the club.

Happy Motoring. Thank You, Norm Tatlow.



MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Victoria Chapter Membership Update

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

You will recall that our total membership for last year was 66 = 63 regular memberships and 3 associate memberships.

Sadly, our numbers had dropped by the end of 2024 – but on the bright side, we have signed up the following new members this year:

Bob & Barbara Botten	1930 Ford Model A 2-dr Sedan
Bill & Ann Jamieson	1953 Ford Pick-up
Mike & Lynn Patterson	1956 Packard Caribbean
	1948 Hudson Super Six
	1951 Hudson Hornet
	1950 Ford F47 Pick-up
	1947 Cadillac Series 62
	1961 Pontiac Parisienne
	1961 Oldsmobile Starfire

Robert Nowland	1969 Mercury Cougar XRT
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Also, a 24-year Victoria member, returning after a 2-year hiatus:

Caleb Small	1926 Rolls Royce Phantom 1 (see story and pics in VVV Summer - 2025)
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And, a member from the Central Fraser Valley Chapter for 10 years,

Martyn & Irene Hough	1955 Ford Thunderbird
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With these new members, our Chapter now has 67 members!

**Please join me in making them feel welcome
when you see them at our car club events.**

If you have any questions about your memberships, please do not hesitate to contact me
-- vccc.vic@gmail.com

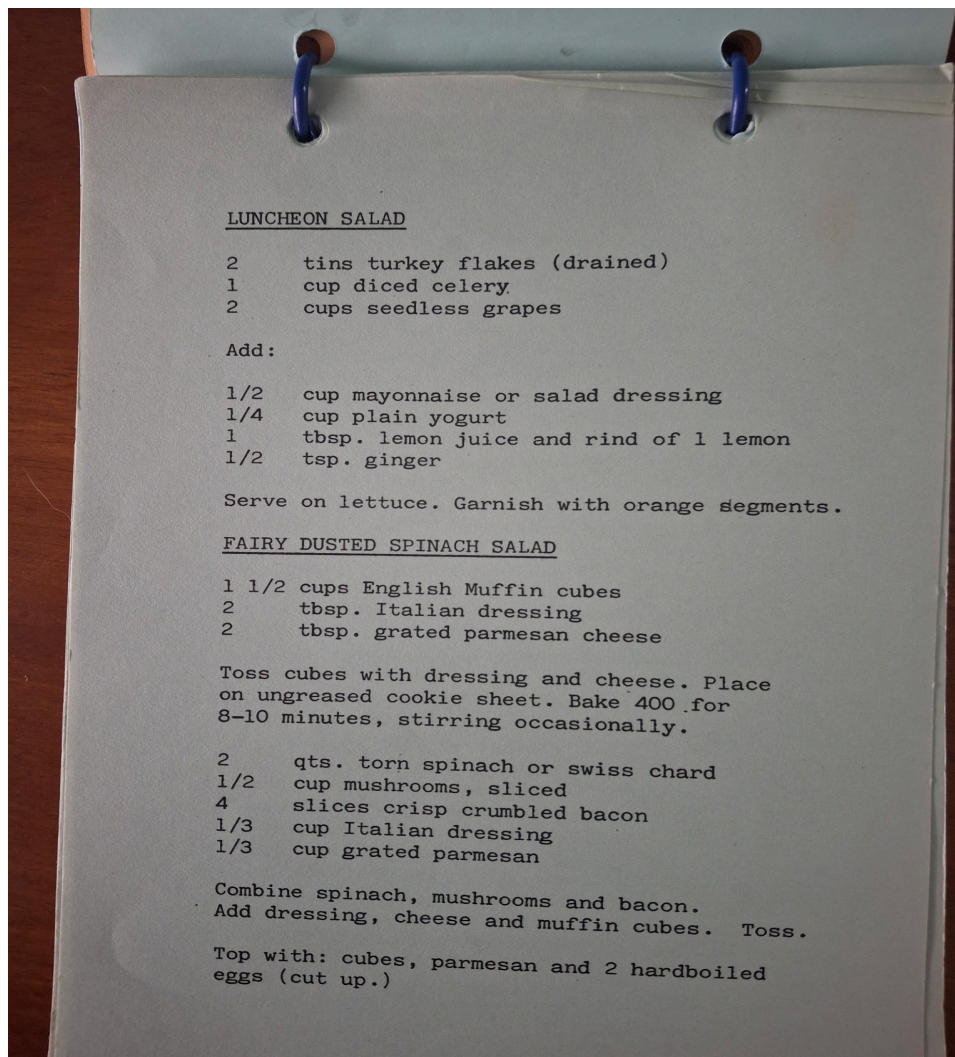
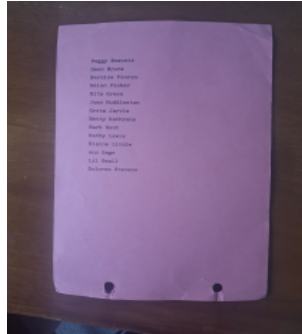
Thanks to everyone for your prompt attention to my mail-outs regarding your renewal.

Liz Taylor, Secretary

COOKING CORNER: ? ? ? ? ? ?

VCCC Victoria Vinettes Cook Book from 1985 ish. More to come!

Authors- VINETTE COOK BOOKA PRIZE PUBLICATION !!



Father's Day/Model T & Model A Sunday Run
Sunday, June 15th



It was another beautiful sunny and warm day - perfect for riding in an open car - enjoying the sights, sound and smells of the beautiful Saanich Peninsula!



A covered picnic shelter had been reserved for us - providing picnic tables and lots of seating for those who took advantage of the Ham 'n Egger breakfast - capably cooked by Kurt Hansen and Paul Taylor. Coffee and fruit had been organized by Rod Forbes.

Sadly, attendance was down - with only five Model Ts and four Model As. And about 30 people on hand to support this event.



Two separate challenges had been formulated - one for the Ts and one for the As. The routes were reversed, so that the cars would pass each other during the course.



The winners of the Model T division were DREW & MARIE FIDOE. They were presented with the famous Oldfield Trophy, along with a \$100 gift card donated by ROB OLDFIELD.



The winners of the Model A Division were MARC & CAI BROWN, who were presented with the new trophy for the Model As (created by Rod Forbes). They also received a \$100 gift card donated by ROB OLDFIELD.

Also present at this event was the SPIRIT OF TOMORROW - created and built in 1938-1940 by Rob Oldfield's uncle, Barney.



The VCCC Victoria Chapter would like to express our sincere gratitude to ROB OLDFIELD for his continued support of this special event.

Rob can be found most days at OLDFIELD'S GAS BAR, at the corner of West Saanich Rd. and Sparton Rd.



Thanks Liz Taylor ! Great report and pictures.

Victoria Members Cars - "Please Send Me Yours"



1922 Wills St. Claire A 68. Patrick and Karen Jones.



JOHN LENNON 1965 Rolls Royce Phantom IV Limo. (not a VCCC member). Royal BC Museum.

VCCC - Victoria Chapter Fact Sheet

Chapter Address: 3741 Casey Drive, Victoria, B.C. V82 4J6

Chapter General Meeting - 1st Tue. of the month: 7:30 PM View Royal Community Hall. 279 Island

Hwy Secretary: Liz Taylor Treasurer: Brent Morrison

Tours & Events : Rod Forbes President: Rudy Ewert

Vice President: Paul Taylor Governor: Brent Morrison

Other Directors: Marc Brown, John King, Doug Symonds, Murray Firth.

Vintage View Editor and Vintage Car Contributor: Norm Tatlow ~

normtatlow@gmail.com Victoria Chapter Website ~ victoria.vccc.com National

Website: WWW.VCCC.com **UPCOMING EVENTS:**



Chapter general meetings held at 279 Island Highway. Victoria, B.C.

General Meeting Dates. In 2025 - Jan. 7, Feb. 4, March 4, April 1, May 6, June 3, Sept. 2, Oct. 7, Nov. 4, Dec. 2. All at 7:30 PM.

SUNDAY RUN DATES for 2025. Jan. 19, Feb. 16, March 16, April 13, May 18, June 15, July 13, Aug. 17, Sept. 7, Oct. 19, Nov. 16. -Meet at The Pacific Forestry Centre at 1:00 PM. Depart at 1:30.

May Tour 2025 - Chilliwack. May 13 - 15, 2025

Father's Day Model T Run - June 15, 2025

Annual Swap Meet - June 22, 2025

Summer Bar B Q - August 17, 2025

Island Tour. Sept 6 - 7, 2025. Or TBA.

Corn Roast for all members. Sept. 14. 2025. Appreciation for Swap Meet volunteers.

Annual Awards Banquet and Christmas Party – Dec. 7, 2025. Scout House.

Annual New Year's Day Run - Jan. 1, 2026. **PLEASE BRING FOOD AND CASH DONATIONS.**

Classified Ads: For Sale or Wanted

FREE ADS Contact [Murray Firth](mailto:murrayinvictoria2000@gmail.com) murrayinvictoria2000@gmail.com

We will run each ad here for 2 editions of the newsletter. They can be re submitted upon request.

Bentley Mark VI 1950 parts: gaskets, ignition, electrical, bulbs, headlight, chrome, brakes, engine heads & parts, valve covers, filters, oil pan, transmission (for parts), clutch plate, springs & suspension, chassis parts, gas & rad cap, turn signal flasher conversion kit, dashboard, weather-strip, and more. Call for details or make an offer on the lot. Caleb. 250-361-7439

Early Wayne Gasoline Cart, last used 1980's, drained and been sitting inside since. Tires and hose are in very good shape other than flat spots from sitting - probably replaced in the late 70's. Sold "as-is". Expect some sludge in bottom, gauge is broken, serial #269617. Full set of pictures at Caleb.com/GasCart \$900. Caleb 250-361-7439



LOTS OF ROOM FOR MORE ADS. FREE * FREE

Wonderful Deuce Days. Victoria. July 2025



“Herman Munster Car”



“ 1935 Auburn Boattail Speedster”



Nice Woody - Deuce Days

World's Oldest Licence Plates

During the reign of the dithering King of France, Louis XV, great-grandson of his predecessor, the flamboyant "Sun King," Louis XIV the world's first automobile huffed, puffed, rattled and heaved its way through the cobbled streets of Paris at the break-neck speed of 2.5 mph [4 kph]. It was a strange steam-propelled three-wheeled contraption, designed specifically for military use. This was in 1769, about 20 years before the Bastille was stormed, ushering in the French Revolution and the same year that Napoleon was born in Corsica. The following year, its inventor, Nicolas Cugnot, produced a steam-powered tricycle to carry four passengers and so began the age of the automobile.

Between 1860 and 1880, American factories produced steam-driven coaches for the mass movement of people and freight by road. Francis Jones Bamard may well be credited for introducing mechanically propelled vehicles to British Columbia offering "steam to Cariboo" through his General Transportation Company that owned four Thomson "Road Steamers." It was a failure. Then on February 22, 1890, the electric streetcar system launched in Victoria - the third in Canada. This was a highly successful mode of transit for over 50 years.

Alongside steam, the electric car had gradually evolved from the 1830s. Invented by Robert Anderson of Scotland, it used rechargeable batteries and by the early 1900s, electric vehicles outsold all others. However, two German engineers, Daimler and Benz independently developed a gasoline-powered vehicle, which led to the creation of the modern automobile. Both engineers used the research of Dutch engineer Christian Hygervs who, in 1680, produced the first internal combustion device, using gunpowder! Daimler and Benz substituted gas for gunpowder.

The early 20th century was awash with more than 100,00 patents of every conceivable kind, all related to the automobile. For many years, no one thought of licensing vehicles. First, there were not enough of them to worry about and, next, any suggestion that a licence would be necessary to use a public road was an outrage. Again, it was France who led the way and the police demanded "number plates" be used to identify mechanical vehicles on the streets of Paris in 1893. Some history books say that in North America, New York was the first jurisdiction to require that licence plates be affixed to vehicles on April 25, 1901. Others claim West Virginia and Massachusetts should be given that honour since their legislation was State-wide and required the use of officially produced plates in 1903

British Columbia also started registering vehicles in 1903, but it was up to the owner to make up markers to display the assigned registration number. Leather, metal numbers and wood were often the materials used. The letters "BC" appear on the majority of these owner-provided plates. It was not until 1913 that the province began to issue official licence plates, made of porcelain. This followed legislation introduced in 1912 that required all motor vehicles to be registered annually.

What is generally not known, however, is that Victoria is the true pioneer of the North American licence plate. Long before the advent of the mechanically powered vehicle, Victoria had already begun a system of licensing for commercial road users. Local enthusiast John Roberts has been a licence plate collector for over 30 years and is an expert in the field of what he terms "plateology."

About three years ago, John purchased a 5 x 8-inch [12.7 cm x 20.2 cm] porcelain on steel licence plate, the type of which has mystified collectors for years. These plates were issued by the City of Victoria to be affixed to Hackney carriages, and express wagons as early as January 1, 1884. It turns out that city council had received many complaints from tourists to Victoria (yes, there were tourists back then) being overcharged by Hack drivers of horse drawn carriages, the forerunners of today's taxicabs. Councillor Baker, in October 1882, suggested to council that Hackney carriage drivers in the city be issued with badges to identify them, and that fares be regulated. In July 1883, the city council enacted bylaw 100, known as the "Hack Regulation Bylaw." Clause 2 of the bylaw states that two badges will be issued on which shall be inscribed the number of the licence, and the smaller of the badges to be displayed in a prominent place inside the vehicle. All hack and express wagon drivers were to ensure their vehicles were displaying the two plates (each costing \$1 annually) effective January 1, 1884. By March 1886, there were 42 hacks plying the streets, of which 28 had not paid for a licence, so there was general reluctance to accept responsibility for the fees imposed by city hall.

In 1902 the first motorized vehicle arrived in Victoria, startling many of the horses. It was a \$ 900 Oldsmobile driven by Dr. E.C. Hart, a local physician. It took a while for the new "horseless caniage" to catch on, but by 1905, there were about 20 cars and 10 motorcycles, so an automobile club was formed. The same year, the Hutchinson Brothers began an "automobile livery service" - Victoria's first automobile taxi company. Among Victoria's early car owners was Robert Butchart who, on May 14, 1904, paid two dollars for licence plate Number 11. The speed limit was 10 mph [16 kph] within residential areas and 15 MPH (24 kph) outside.

There are only 6 of the original "Victoria Licensed Vehicle" plates known to exist, numbered 1 to 200. John Roberts owns plate number 6, the lowest number of the set. This may well be the oldest license plate in the world! Bragging rights to Victoria as the birth place of the license plate have now been forwarded to the Guinness Book of Records, and John is waiting for a reply.

By Norman K. Archer. Senior Living Magazine. March 2010.

(Thank you to Don Spencer for sending this article)

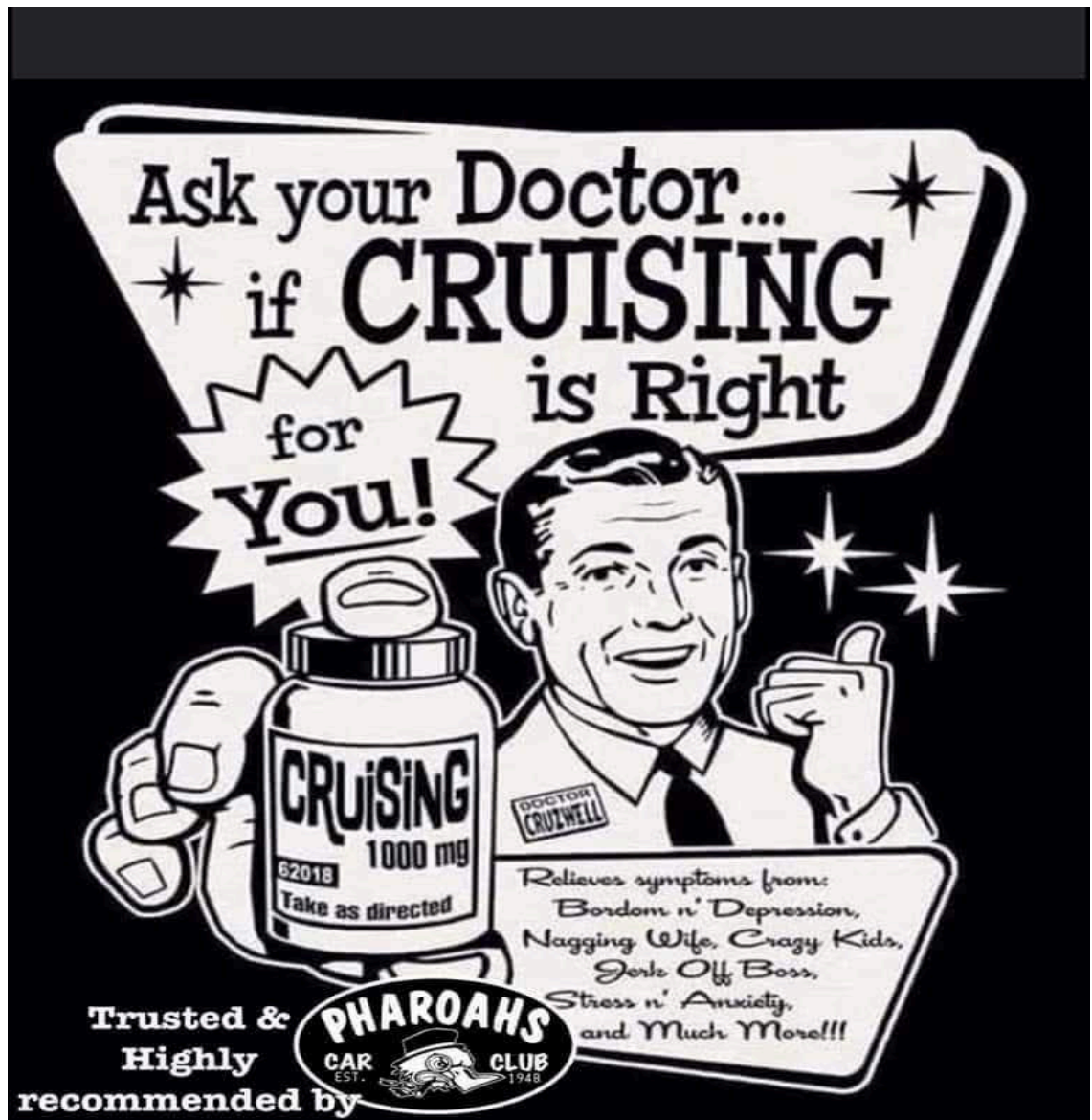
Thank You for your input and stories.

- PLEASE Send: A good Picture of your car and a few notes?

- Sunshine Report, Obituaries, Classified Ads, Mystery Vehicle Photos - Old Photo Corner, Automotive Trivia, Cooking Corner
- Special and Unique Topics, Jokes and Stories, **AND....More!**

****NEW Newsletter FEATURE ****    

"ISLAND REWIND" for VCCC History or other trivia.



AND THAT'S A WRAP

Thank you for reading this EIGHTH edition of the re started Victoria Vintage View Newsletter. We hope you enjoyed it. A true work in progress. We appreciate your comments and praise. Articles and ideas are coming forward from you - the members. Thank you!

- My apologies for any errors and omissions in this edition, or any other. 

- Please help us by suggesting ideas, writing articles, sending pictures, etc.
- Let me know what you would like reported here.
- Contact me at normtatlow@gmail.com Cell: 778 977 6346.

THANK YOU, Norm Tatlow. Editor. Happy Motoring



Answer to Mystery Car on Page 1 :

1949 Triumph. Note the rumble seat and rumble seat windscreen!