



**VCCC - Preserving Vintage Cars Since 1958** 

# Victoria Vintage View

Newsletter of the VCCC – Victoria Chapter



Mystery Car. Guess the make AND the owner? Answer on Back Page.

#### WELCOME



Welcome to the SUMMER 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: <a href="mailto:normtatlow@gmail.com">normtatlow@gmail.com</a>. Preferred length is 1 -2 pages, including pictures. Or longer articles in installments over a few issues. 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 each members' vehicle(s) to have a good representation of the club. Happy Motoring. Thank You, Norm



Is a possible merger underway? The VCCC could merge with the VCC (Victoria Cannabis Company). New meeting space, similar signage, free samples and goodies?

#### **MEMBERSHIP UPDATE**

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: 🥓



#### Major mystery solved and HISTORICAL archival find!!

Thanks to the diligent efforts of Dolores Stevens and Liz Taylor we have located the famous and comprehensive VCCC Victoria Vinettes Cook Book from 1985 ish. This is a beautiful, color coded, organized, illustrated and bound treasure trove of dozens of delicious sounding and heart felt recipes from the ladies of the Victoria Chapter of the Vintage Car Club of Canada! It's a thing of beauty!! Maybe we should consider re-issuing this beauty? Here is the cover, story and the list of Vinettes who worked on it. See "Island Rewind" section for yummy appie recipes. . More to come!







Authors- VINETTE COOK BOOK ......A PRIZE!!

(Thanks to Dolores Stevens for this story and pictures)

In June 1985, The Victoria Vinettes produced a cookbook to raise funds, to further contribute to the Victoria Chapter of the V.C.C.C. Favourite, family tried recipes were contributed by the following Vinettes: Peggy Bowcott, Gwen Bruce, Bernice Fiorin, Helen Fisher, Rita Green, Joan Huddleston, Greta Jarvis, Betty Kathren's, Barb Kent, Kathy Lewis, Elaine Little, Ann Sage, Lil Small, Dolores Stevens...and typed by Dolores Stevens. The "Powder Puff" Lady on the cover was created by Marlene Howell-Jones. The food illustrations in each section were drawn by Bob Huddleston. The Vinettes, collectively decided to colour code each food category. A collating party was held at Ann Sage's where the books came together, and were then sent to be coil bound. We do not remember how many books we asked the printer to produce, but we do know that they were so popular that we could have sold two or three times as many. We think we sold them for \$5.00 each. Our newer Car Club members may not recognize many of the names mentioned here. However, for our long-time members, the names will bring back many fond memories.





Vinettes. 1985.

#### <u>Victoria Members Cars - "Please Send Me Yours"</u>



Here's the background and a picture of my '35 Ford truck. ( Ken and Heather Showers ).

I bought this truck in 1990. Previously it had belonged to Bob Millar, who drove it for 15 years to work at the car museum. Prior to Bob's ownership, the truck had been owned by a man in the ambulance service, up in Duncan. Before that, it had sat, unused, beside a barn in Metchosin. The ambulance guy had only "fixed it up", gave it a paint job, and put on hydraulic brakes, so this truck has never been restored in any way, qualifying as a true survivor. By happenstance, I met, at a local store, a person who turned out to be the son of the original owner. They had a local dairy farm, located on what we now call Dewdney Flats, until the early 1950's, when the Sooke Rd was realigned to go through the farm, called Morwenna Dairy.

Prior to my learning the background of the truck, I had been exploring along the original road which ran by the farm, near where the Co-op gas station is on Sooke Rd. Shaded by huge maple trees, was the old milk house, still standing, with the Morwenna Jersey Farm sign still clearly visible facing the roadside of the little building. Seemed a great place to

park the truck beside it for taking a picture, which I did. I had no idea then, that years ago, my '35 Ford pickup would be parked beside that building when it was part of the dairy farm operation! Quite a surprise, when I talked to the man by the store that day, who knew the truck when it was on the farm prior to the early '50's. So after buying this truck, I drove it for a few years until our son Mike, rebuilt a fully balanced flathead V8, to replace the tired one that had been in there since the seventies, anyway.

We were thinking of cleaning up the paintwork, removing the box to clean up the rear frame, and replacing the rather wrinkly looking back fenders. But that May, was the Cloverdale swap meet, so I decided to go there. Unusually, I arrived as the gates opened, and began checking out vendors' tables. One had some early Ford parts on it, and as I moved in closer to check out the items, my foot hit something under the table. "Don't kick my fenders", said the seller. "What fenders" I asked. He says rear fenders for '35 to '37 ford pickup. Bring them out, I'm looking for some of those. They had light surface rust on them, but were REALLY straight. I asked where they came from, he said off the inside of an old service garage up in Clinton. They're basically new old stock. "How much are you asking" was my question. Very expensive, says he. Four hundred dollars for the pair. I Couldn't get the money out fast enough! Had several offers on the pair as I was quickly walking back to my truck, which was the very vehicle needing these fenders. So back home, with the NOS fenders at hand, we removed the box, cleaned the rear frame, straightened up the box sides, did some other repairs on the cab and doors, put on a 6 volt alternator, then repainted the whole truck in the green as it is now.

Since then we have put tubeless radial tires on the 16 inch spoked wheels, driven 72,000 miles on that new flathead Mike rebuilt, without any overheating, hard starting or any of the old wives rumors we hear about ford flatheads. In fact, with the 3:78 ratio rear gears, highway cruising at 60 MPH is very smooth, and that's fast enough!

I use this truck as daily transportation, no overheads needed !!

......Ken Showers Victoria BC



Jamie Cox and Sherrill Kerstens. 1963 Oldsmobile Starfire Convertible in N. Saanich. Beauty!

Monday, January 14, 2019

All things came to a serious head when we did the annual January 1st Vintage Car rally in Victoria, BC with the local Club. Around 75 vintage cars of all makes and models came out since the sun was shining with 9 deg C / 48 deg F. About an hour into the run, we stopped at a traffic light in downtown Victoria where the car folks in front of us jumped out to inform us we had a flat tire!! So as all good car guys do, they all stopped to help, we had just installed 4 new American Classic radials on the car, with less than 100 miles on them, we wondered how it went flat and hoped it was not ruined. See the picture of us doing the change on the driver's front tire. We found the lug nuts so hot we could not handle them and putting the flat tire into the trunk almost burnt my hand, so we knew there were other issues at play here too.\*\* Once the spare was installed we finished the run with no more difficulties. The next challenge was to fix/ repair the flat and fix & solve the heat issue which had been pointed out to us previously 5 months ago but we had not used the car.

Here are two pictures of the springs, first is the upper return springs and the second is the lower spring across the adjuster. Mark (owner of Claire Downey Services) NOTE: the difference between them, the red color spring is the original and heavy duty with shorter ends.

We had a serious heat problem with our driver's front brake unit on the car of late, This was pointed out by Victoria Frame folks when they installed new tires on the car. We used them since they have a Hunter Road Force balance unit which gives exceptional computer balanced tire to rim and tires, eliminating any issues of high speed vibrations, etc. The car had all new brakes installed 5 months ago but the original mechanic shop could not see or find any issues with the work to suggest we had an issue or that is was unsafe. So this flat gave us the drive to finally look more seriously at the issue. We took the car into Claire Downey in Sidney to have them check it out. They did confirm the unit was unusually Hot (about 147 deg F vs 90 deg F

on the passenger front brake assembly area, driving the car to the ferry and back (about a 20 minute run in total). First thing they tried was to clean and adjust the front brakes on the driver's side, took it for a road test and got the temp. difference down to about 35 deg F more than the right side. Car did pull to the left when braking and it did need adjusting badly. Next they replaced the Brake Shoes with new ones and took car for same road test.......temp. difference now 15 deg F.. No more 'pulling' to the left when braking. Since they replaced the brake shoes on the passenger side also, they had a chance to look and compare the assembly to the driver's

side. Next they inspected the brake hardware springs as we had some old used ones in a box from previous brake job. They also looked at the 4 holddown springs on the shoes & put the older lighter springs in. Replaced the top 2 springs and bottom 1 spring back to the older ones (see pictures). the RED colored springs are the older ones and more heavy duty. These springs certainly were very different on the driver's side vs the passenger's side. Once they put the Old Springs back in place and did the road test to the ferry and back, no more temp. difference issues between the two front brake units, the problem appears to be solved now. Not sure where the brake springs came from but it is obvious they are made differently. Different tensions and lengths......thus affecting the 'spring' back of the brake shoes once you let off the brakes. The shoes "drag' on the drum causing excess heat, that heat transfers to the rim and lug nuts. One more thing to watch for in new replacement parts for our older cars.

Had we not made this correction, we would have continued to 'wear down' the brake shoes and brake drum prematurely to failure. It would also give cause to a potential dangerous heat build-up relative to how much braking is done on particular outings or road trips, that may have

caused failure in bearings or such and compromised our safety. The least concern would be a break-down that may have left us stranded on the road somewhere giving rise to a new nightmare to get it all fixed and home safe. Such are the challenges of vintage 56 year and older vehicles: ones we still love and enjoy!



1963 Olds. Flat Repair.



The culprits (1)



The culprits (2)

#### **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

Fathers Day Model T Run - June 15, 2025

Annual Swap Meet - June 22, 2025

25 th Annual Ice Cream Run - July 13, 2025

Summer Bar B Q - August 17, 2025

Sept. Corn Roast for all members. Appreciation for Swap Meet volunteers. Sept. 7, 2025

Christmas Party and Awards Banquet - Nov. 30, 2025. or TBA

Annual New Years Day Run - Jan. 1, 2026. PLEASE BRING FOOD AND CASH DONATIONS.

#### Classified Ads: For Sale or Wanted

FREE ADS Contact Murray Firth 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 <a href="Caleb.com/GasCart">Caleb.com/GasCart</a> \$900. Caleb 250-361-7439



#### "THE PREZ SEZ"



Rudy and Ted at 2025 Awards and Christmas Banquet.

#### **Greetings VCCC Victoria Members!**

We have quite an exciting Summer coming up!

Once again Rod Forbes, our intrepid Tours and Events Chairman, has lined up a string of Sunday Runs and other events that promise to be fun and interesting. Many thanks Rod! I am very pleased to be working with such a good and helpful Executive team that our Chapter presently enjoys. My sincere thanks to each and every one of you! I hope to see some of you at the May Tour in Chilliwack this year. I'm working on a new valve-cover racer to campaign. Should be interesting. If you read this before May 13, there might still be time to register and join in on our province-wide main event. Our Chapter has lost some members, and has gained new ones. Welcome to our Chapter! We also

have opportunities for you to contribute to your Chapter by getting in on helping out with what makes our Chapter work. We would like someone, or a group, to look after providing coffee and goodies at our monthly meetings, for instance. Our main event, our Swap Meet, has room for as many helpers as possible! Please contact Rod or myself to find out just how you can help.

Clean up your vintage vehicle, feed it some fresh fuel and oil, grease up the chassis, and bring it out to our events! I hope to see many of you this Summer!

Regards,

Rudy Ewert, Chapter President.

# Winnipeg retiree can bring dream car home after classic was briefly caught in trade war

Levy mistakenly applied to vehicle amid 'incredibly confusing' tariff legislation



Pat Fletcher, 77, had to leave behind a car he had recently bought in the U.S. at the Canadian border after he couldn't pay more than \$46,000 worth of tariffs to bring it home.

A Winnipeg retiree has narrowly dodged a roadblock that would have prevented him from getting the dream car he'd spent years saving for. Pat Fletcher, 77, had to leave the 1968 Dodge Charger at the Canadian border earlier this month when he was told it had been slapped with a \$46,000 levy because of the Canada-U.S. trade war. He said he believed he'd done his due diligence to ensure the car was exempt from tariffs, but was still hit with a 25 per cent surtax when he tried to bring it into Canada. "I almost blacked out, you know. It was terrible," he said. Earlier this month, Ottawa imposed a 25 per cent counter-tariff on certain U.S. goods coming into Canada in retaliation for U.S. President Donald Trump's tariffs.

On March 15 Fletcher met up on the U.S. side of the border with a trucking company that was hauling the vintage car he purchased 10 days prior for \$98,000 US. He loaded it on his trailer and tried to come back into Canada, but border services told him to pull aside.



Pat Fletcher is relieved he can bring his 1968 Dodge Charger RT, shown here, into Manitoba. (American Steel Classics). He was given a paper slip with the sum of \$46,636 written down — the tariff amount he was required to pay to import the vehicle from the U.S. into Canada. "That's just too much money, that's just ridiculous," he said. Fletcher was told he could pay the tariff with a credit card but didn't have a limit that high. "I was desperate to get my car. I said I wasn't leaving without it. I was scared and not thinking right," he said.

#### 'They're hard to find'

Border agents advised Fletcher to get a storage locker for the car in North Dakota, then head back to Canada until he could get the money to pay the tariff. He slept in the car that night and the next day found a heated, covered garage in Pembina, N.D., where he could leave the vehicle. Fletcher has had a vintage car hobby for decades, but owning the '68 Charger has a special meaning for him. He owned the same model when he was 17. "They're hard to find. Nobody wants to sell them and the price is way up on them," he said. "I thought I'd never ever find [one]."

A spokesperson for the Canada Border Services Agency said people bringing in products from the U.S. can request a ruling on tariffs classification in advance, to determine whether their product qualifies for a levy. Fletcher learned a border customs brokerage contacted the Emerson border crossing his behalf — and that he was now able to bring the vehicle home. "Right now it's like 'Pinch me, is this real?" he said, adding that it's "going to be awesome" bringing the car home.

#### 'Incredibly confusing': Broker

Sarah Abbott, director of operations at Border Brokers, said that a "classic car" classification that could be used to exempt the vehicle from the tariffs was instead used to apply the duties. She said the trade war has made things "incredibly confusing" at the border. "There's been a lot of changes lately in legislation regarding the tariffs in place," Abbott said. "Emerson came back to us. ... They said they agreed with Border Brokers that this will be able to come in without those surtaxes applied as a classic car. It's not applicable, and that could change come April so we want to do this quickly." More of Trump's tariffs are set come in effect on April 2. Canada said it's ready to hit back with another round of counter-tariffs. A spokesperson for the Canada Border Services Agency said certain importers can request advanced rulings on tariff classifications, which helps determine whether they'll have to pay a levy.

#### Travellers can request adjustment

The federal agency also said travellers who feel their imported goods were improperly taxed at the border can request an adjustment. For now, Fletcher is warning other collectors to be careful when purchasing a car or parts in the U.S. "Trump, Canada and Mexico, they gotta get together and straighten it out because they're wrecking their own countries," he said. "The three of us have been neighbours and friends for all these years, this great relationship. Why hit each other?"

(Thanks to Kurt Hansen for forwarding this story.) ED.

#### Ghost Encounters of the Garage Kind (Thanks to Caleb Small)

#### Rolls Royce Phantom 1 Touring. (Caleb at the wheel. 1960s?).

It is said that certain cars, like ships on the sea, take on a life of their own transcending generations and outlasting strings of owners. The original Rolls Royce Silver Ghost is a testament to that, as are the many cherished cast iron wonders that come out of their garages on sunny Sundays. Each car has a story, and if only they could talk. Still, we do personify them and this article and those to follow will be a trip back in time to explore some of those stories.

Bill Small, my dad, was an avid car collector who some readers will still remember. When he passed there were over a dozen cars in his collection, most of which have dispersed to various parts of the country. Ghosts and Phantoms populated the garage at home which was, indeed, his castle - enlarged twice despite having purchased this house because of the large garage.

The day after his funeral we worked up the muster to open the garage door. The counter balance spring snapped and the door jammed. Seemed his spirit wasted no time in returning. Forty-one years have passed since and only now are some corners of that castle finally being cleaned out in at act that feels more like exorcism.

The few cars and parts thereof that still remain have been in the family longer than myself. The prize possession - "The Ascot" - is a 99 year old Rolls Royce Phantom I touring car. Originally a Hollywood car owned by movie producer Mack Sennett she's had a colourful life, literally. Dad acquired her in 1950 and began an extensive restoration. Sanding down to the aluminum bodywork various layers and colours of paint came off finally revealing the original blood red which she sports today.

As usual, various sister ships of lesser condition were acquired and dragged to his private junkyard on "the farm" back in the mid-West. Some of those chassis did make it as far as Port

Angeles before he passed, and eventually all the way home to the back of the garage-castle with the help of certain VCCC members.

In one of her finer moments slightly before my time, she was called on the tarmac to launch the McDonnell Aircraft F4-K Phantom Fighter jet for the Royal Navy. The connection being that the British variant of the Phantom Fighters were powered by Rolls Royce engines and the official media launch was intended to attract attention, which she is good at.

Another spotlight moment was a segment on CHEK-TV's Weekend Report at Rudi's Deep Cove Concours d'Elegance resulting in this author's one and only mention in the newspaper Society Column. The Ascot has won awards, carried dignitaries in parades, attended weddings, and was cast in silver by the Franklin Mint. She brought great joy and provided a veritable funhouse for Mom and Dad to play dress up in authentic period costumes during their latter years.

There's a lot more to this story but ghostly aberrations do tend to be brief. The Ascot does still get out and more recently did a photo-op at Macaloney's Island Distillery sampling some world class whiskey. She's aging better than me. Look for her to be parading around town soon enough to celebrate her 100th birthday. Caleb.





**Escorting Test Pilots** 

Launching Royal Navy F4-K.

#### 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!

#### **VCCC Sunday Runs**

On April 13, 2025 our scenic VCCC Sunday Run ended with a garage tour at the home/collection of Bill Jamieson Sr. and Bill Jamieson Jr. on Latoria Road. They have a wonderful display of several high end cars, well displayed and some on lifts to allow 2 high displays and storage. And memorabilia nicely displayed. Here are some of the beautiful top of the line Pontiacs. Many other nice classics there including a 63/64 Ford Fairlane that looked like a pretty mean "sleeper". Apologies if I don't get the exact years and models.



Bill Jamieson Sr. and Bill Jamieson Jr. Our hosts.



1958 Pontiac Parisienne 2 Dr. HT. Loaded.



1955 Pontiac Star Chief. 2 Dr Hardtop.



1960 Pontiac Parisienne Convertible. Bill Jamieson.

**On March 16 our VCCC Sunday Run** took us to scenic North Saanich and a visit to the fabulous Torque Masters Clubhouse and garage. Wow. We are so jealous! Pool table, bar, pinball, etc



Cam Mclennan, TorqueMasters President showing us the Clubhouse

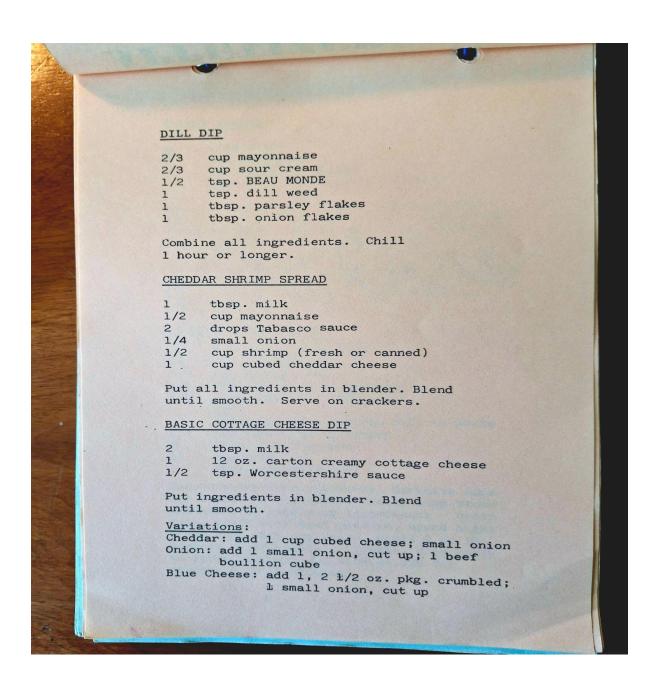
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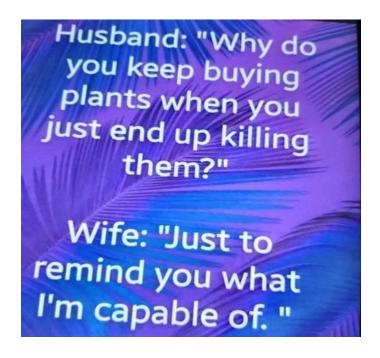


 $\hbox{\it ``ISLAND REWIND''} \ \ \text{for VCCC History: Who remembers this? From 1985 Vinettes Recipe Book.}$ 



Balance Sheet	
Hours on the toilet searching the Internet	\$0.00
Purchase of a ton of rust on four wheels	\$5,000.00
Flowers for wife to break the news	\$50.00
Dinner at restaurant after argument with wife	\$120.00
Restoration cost - engine and transmission rebuild	\$8,000.00
Restoration cost - chassis rebuild	\$5,000.00
Parts and endless trips to Swap Meets	\$1,600.00
New Lounge suite to balance ledger and keep wife happy	\$3,500.00
Restoration cost - bodywork and paint	\$7,000.00
Flowers for wife to save buying new kitchen suite	\$50.00
Dinner at restaurant after argument with wife	\$120.00
Family trip to Tropical Island to offset 1000 hours spent in the workshop	\$4,000.00
Restoration cost - new upholstery and soft top	\$6,300.00
New out fit for wife to save another argument	\$450.00
Dinner at restaurant after argument with wife	\$120.00
inspection, Registration and other on-road costs	\$1,200.00
Dinner at restaurant to celebrate completion	\$120.00
Hairdressing cost after wife's first ride in a open top tourer	\$60.00
BBQ to have neighbours over to see the finished project	\$90.00
Paint touch up after neighbour's son drew on the car	\$150.00
Settled out of court cost for clobbering neighbour's son	\$600.00
New outfit for wife to go out rallying	\$450.00
New shoes to go with the new outfit for wife to go out rallying	\$150.00
New hand bag to go with new shoes and outfit for wife to go out rallying	\$100.00
Dinner at restaurant after asking wife to economise	\$120.00
New clutch after teaching wife to drive a classic car	\$400.00
Dinner at restaurant after shouting at wife while teaching wife to drive	
a classic car	\$120.00
Repairs to front guard after wife's second lesson	\$600.00
Candlelight dinner at home (can no longer afford restaurant) after	
shouting at wife to watch where she is going	\$20.00
Advert on line for Classic Car For Sale	\$20.00
Total	\$45,390.00
Proceeds from sale of Classic Car	\$29,500
Balance added to mortgage	\$15,890

# (Thanks to David Pollock)



(Thanks Kurt)

### AND THAT'S A WRAP

Thank you for reading this SEVENTH 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 <u>normtatlow@gmail.com</u> Cell: 778 977 6346.

THANK YOU, Norm Tatlow. Editor. Happy Motoring

Answer to Mystery Car on Page 1: 195X Mercedes Benz Gull Wing. Owner Jay Leno. Spotted at Coachwerks, Victoria for mechanical repairs. Paint will stay with patina.