



# THE Ottawa Tri-Star

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## Enough With The Rain!!

If you are like me you are sick of all the rain we have been getting and want to see some warm sunny weather. We have been fortunate on the days we held our two events so far this year that the weather cooperated and we enjoyed sunny days and reasonable temperatures. Let's hope things improve for the rest of the summer!

We had excellent turn outs to both the lunch at the Cove Restaurant in Westport and visit to Jabulani Winery near Richmond. It bodes well for the remaining events this year. I do want to remind folks of the importance of confirming to the event organizers on whether you plan to attend. In some cases the places we are visiting have to prepare food and beverages based on the number of attendees so the Club has to make commitments ahead of time to the hosts. It is understandable that sometimes plans have to change but please let us know about this prior to the event.

As was agreed at the last Annual General Meeting, there will not be an event in July due to many members being away on vacation. The next event will be in August and details will be sent out in advance.

Hope everyone has the opportunity to get out and celebrate the 150th birthday of this great country we live in.

### Drive Safe!



Mike McKinnon  
Vice President &  
Ottawa Tri-Star Editor

Visit the Ottawa Section of MBCA at  
[www.ottawa.mbca.org](http://www.ottawa.mbca.org)



## Message from the President By Larry Lomas



### Our Proud Military, Older Than the Canadian Confederation

As we celebrate our nation's 150th anniversary, it is important to recognize the contribution made by the men and women who served in the military to give us the freedoms we all enjoy today. All Canadian military personal that I have known and served with share a strong sense of security for our country along with a very firm bonding with the women and men of the regiments, ships and squadrons to which they served, long after they retire. Some combat veterans have stated that in battle it's very much more of the latter than the former. And we will never forget they that died in combat for our Canada. They are high above us on our national cenotaph as that is their proper place. Many of us have family members who have served in combat and have died or were wounded. We, who are directly linked to survivors, are very fortunate indeed.

My grandfather Lewis James Lomas at age 22 was left for dead as merely one body of the staggering death count after the extremely bloody battle of the Somme. Three days later the burial

parties arrived to set about their gruesome duty and one of the soldiers noticed either that rigor mortise had not set in on my grandfather's body or that whatever flesh that was not covered in mud, other's flesh or blood appeared to have the colour of life or there was some other sign of possible life. We will never know what caused him to stop and investigated further. He may have found a weak pulse or some other sign that he was alive although in a deep coma. His leg was so badly wounded that the field hospital medical staff found it necessary to immediately amputate it above the knee. He should simply have bleed to death on the battlefield like so many others where the trench care providers were either dead or badly injured themselves. Yet another stroke of good fortune for us, his kin.

I often think of that unsung Canadian soldier in particular for saving my grandfather allowing our family to come to life and unknown generations to follow. He would never have known the impact his action had on our family. I hope he too survived the war and enjoyed a long life with a loving family of his own.

The photo contains Louis's battle worn 100 year old, yet highly readable, lone of two, issued "dog tags". The missing one was removed from his assumed dead body to be recorded as such for following military admin procedures including the routine notice to family that he was killed in action. There were tens of thousands of such notices in the WW1 alone. This one remained with his body for burial identification. It is as durable as the generation that helped build and defend our beautiful country, now in our hands.



Mine, never in battle, much newer and of two identical parts, one to be broken from the other and both serving the same purposes as above is almost unreadable. I will ignore for the present, any possible implications.

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## The Ottawa Tri-Star

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# Tour to the Cove

By Mike McKinnon

We kicked off the driving season with a visit to the Cove Restaurant located in the pretty and historic village of Westport. Westport is located on Upper Rideau Lake system and is a popular stop over for boats transiting the Rideau Canal as well as for tourists who drive there to visit the shops and restaurants.



The Cove Country Inn is known as one of the grand old houses in Westport. It was constructed in 1876



by the Fredenburgh family who owned the local sash and door mill. In the late 1920's, the buildings were converted into the Lexena Hotel. In 1932, the beverage room (now the Lounge) was added and the

Tweedsmuir Hotel became the place to visit on the Rideau. As time passed, the hotel's ownership changed several times, but the late Dick Ready's name stood out as giving his heart and soul to the hotel. In 1988, renovations were undertaken by the Cowans and the Carvers to restore the Inn to its original proud state.

Today, the Inn is a special place for local residents and visitors alike to enjoy great food, comfortable accommodations and the best in live entertainment. The Cove stage is home to the long-standing Blues on the Rideau Series, popular Jazz Night, MUSICwestport and many incredible local and international artists.

Check out the list of entertainers coming to the Cove at the following website. (<http://coveinn.com/index.php/events/>)

Thanks goes out to Bob Mather for helping to set up this event and for organizing the convoy of cars which safely travelled from Manotick to Westport.

We had 36 participants for this event which is a great way to start the driving season. Everyone enjoyed reconnecting after the winter hiatus along with sampling the pub food



offered by the Cove.

Bob also demonstrated his prowess at the computer by handing out pamphlets he had produced with suggested side trips to other sites near Westport.



After lunch many of the Club members enjoyed touring the town and taking in the interesting shops located in the village. A great day to start the season.

Mike McKinnon



# Vineyards and Pubs

By Mike McKinnon

There seems to be a common theme to many of our outings - they all involve eating and drinking! (Not that that is a bad thing). We are of course very conscious to ensure that we drink and drive responsibly so that everyone is safe and complies with the laws.



Our second event of the year included a visit to one of our popular venues, the Jabulani Winery located near Richmond, followed by a late lunch at the Old Mill pub in the village of Ashton. A total of 29 people participated in the



event. We were glad to see some new members come out as well. We met in Richmond and travelled in convoy for the short drive to the winery. Our hosts at Jabulani, Tom and Janet Moul, have been very busy since our last visit a few years ago. They have expanded their vineyard and built a beautiful post and beam facility where they now host weddings and other receptions.



Tom, in his ever present hat, (this one trimmed with fur from a Springbok Antelope from Tom's native South Africa), gave us an excellent tour and lecture on his vineyards. We learned about the trials and tribulations of growing good quality grapes in a cold climate like Ottawa's. We also learned that Tom has had a life long interest in wines. When most 14 year old boys would be thinking about girls and sports, Tom spent his youth making wine - including an unfortunate incident involving exploding Mulberry wine bottles. Jabulani continues to improve the quality and variety of wines it produces and has recently won

several medals—gold, silver and bronze in competitions against other Canadian wineries as well as in international competitions. This is definitely a testament to the hard work that Tom and Janet have put into developing their vineyard.

Jabulani has also expanded its products to include homemade cheeses which we had a chance to sample as part of the tasting event.

We were offered white, rose and red wines as well as new ports that Jabulani are producing. Tom explained how to properly taste the wines and what aromas and

tastes to expect in each sample.



After the tastings and everyone had a chance to purchase some of their favourite wines, we headed off in a convoy to the nearby village of Ashton for lunch at the historic Old Mill Pub. The Old Mill Pub has the feel of an



authentic English Pub. In recent years the owners, the Hodgins family, have started brewing their own beer, the Ashton Brewing Company. This craft beer is available in the Pub as well as the LBCO and Brewers Retail and is proving to be very popular.

A few folks sampled some of the local brews but others, just had water, having just finished the tastings at Jabulani. Most enjoyed the pub lunch fare offered by the Old Mill Pub.

We again lucked into good weather that day with warm temperatures and abundant sunshine which is something that has been in short supply this June.



# HOW GOOD IS YOUR CONVERTIBLE (AS A HAIRDRYER!)

By Bob Mather

CAR	HAIR DRYER
3.2 liter V6 (approx 215hp)	110v max 1500watts ( approx 2hp)
time to dry at 80 kph, 27 C 9mins time to dry at 80 kph, 20 C 11mins	time to dry 4m 30secs, indoor temp 21 C
Energy cost \$1.29 (12km at 27C) \$1.67 (14.7km at 20 C)	Energy cost \$0.2025
Capital Investment \$50,000+	Capital Investment \$23.99

In

These are energy conscious times and as a service to its members, the MBCA Ottawa Section Consumer Affairs Department has done extensive research to discover if you can save time and energy in your daily routine by giving up your hair dryer and using your convertible more.

A highly scientific test was conducted to compare the drying times and energy consumption between a 2005 CLK 320 Cabriolet and a Phillips 1600 Cool-Professional dryer.

An independent research team analyzed the facts and figures. It concluded surprisingly that it is rather wasteful to use your convertible as a hair dryer.

Nevertheless it is worth looking a bit deeper into these results. If you have an urgent appointment and your are running a bit late, an advantage of the convertible is a saving over 4 minutes, that could make the difference. Not using the hairdryer does make for a

small saving of close to 2 cents per use.

Now to address the important issue of the results; see for yourself.

The picture on the left is the convertible dried hair; the subject looks happy and confident. In the right hand picture the subject is less happy but slightly better groomed.

conclusion, while there may be some minor economic benefits of using your conventional hair dryer vs your convertible there are less tangible but more important benefits in using your convertible.

Therefore the MBCA Ottawa Section Consumer Affairs Department recommends driving your Mercedes convertible in the sunshine if you want to be happy. You can save 4 minutes in your busy day and about 2 cents on your hydro bill.

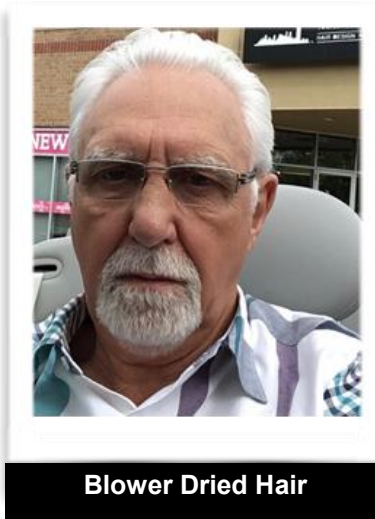
This report is provided as a courtesy service to MBCA Ottawa Section Members. Please check future TriStar issues for more consumer affairs investigations.

Submitted by:

Professor Robert Mather - Research "Head".



Car Dried Hair



Blower Dried Hair



## MERCEDES-BENZ'S VISION OF LUXURY MAKES DRIVING OPTIONAL

By Gabe Nelson -  
Automotive News

**Never before has living in your car been made to sound so glamorous.**

Mercedes-Benz unveiled a concept car that illustrates its vision of luxury circa 2030, when self-driving vehicles would be sophisticated enough for drivers to be able to hand over control to a network of computer chips and sensors, and use their onboard time for work, play or rest.

The four seats in Mercedes' concept car, including the "driver" seat, rotate inward, allowing travelers to have a face-to-face conversation in a loungelike setting. The design reflects what Mercedes believes customers will want from luxury cars within a few decades: a private, comfortable retreat in the crowded megacities of the future.

"The car is growing beyond its role as a mere means of transport and will ultimately become a mobile living space," Daimler AG CEO Dieter Zetsche, who was scheduled to deliver a keynote address here on Monday night, said in a statement before his speech.

That's a far different vision from the podlike prototype unveiled in May by Google Inc., which sees its autonomous driving technology not as a luxury platform but as the basis of a point-to-point, on-demand public transit system. Yet each of these companies is helping to accelerate the effort to bring self-driving vehicles to market. Google not only has been testing a fleet of self-driving Lexus RX 450h hybrids around its Silicon Valley neighborhood, but has used its mapping expertise to refine guidance systems for autonomous vehicles.

Mercedes, which offers technology in its S-class flagship sedan that allows the car to largely drive itself in a traffic jam or on the highway, has built one of the auto industry's most ambitious research programs in autonomous vehicles.

### No human intervention



forward-facing orientation if the driver wants to take the wheel, at which point the steering wheel automatically extends out of the dashboard. There are six display screens in the instrument panel and the rear and side panels, which can be controlled by gestures, eye-tracking or touch.

In August 2013, a modified S class drove a 100-kilometer route, roughly 60 miles, from Mannheim to Pforzheim, Germany, without human intervention, retracing the path that Bertha Benz took in 1888 to show husband Karl Benz that the motor car he invented was a viable mode of transportation.

Mercedes also has tested vehicles at its r&d center in Silicon Valley. In fall 2014, it became one of the first automakers to get a license from California to test self-driving vehicles on public roads, and announced plans to test its cars at a decommissioned naval base east of San Francisco.

The new concept, called "Luxury in Motion," takes a longer leap into the future. The car is powered by a plug-in hybrid powertrain that pairs batteries with a hydrogen fuel cell for a peak output of 272 hp peak.

### Rotating seats

Inside, the rotating seats twist outward once the doors are opened, so it's easier to step out of the vehicle. The front seats rotate into a traditional,

The exterior features a low-slung roofline that flows in one curved line from fender to fender. The body is made of carbon-fiber-reinforced plastic, aluminum and high-strength steel, making it 40 percent lighter than today's production cars. It has suicide doors that open to 90 degrees for easy entry. Mercedes says the body structure could withstand a side-impact crash because of a mechanical system that locks the side doors against one another, as well as to the roof frame and side skirts. In place of headlights and taillights, the car has color-changing LED light modules that glow blue if the car is driving itself and white if the driver is in control.





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# 2017 Events Calendar

By Mike McKinnon

We've had a couple great events so far this year with excellent member turnouts and more to come. We hope that you will be able to participate in the remaining activities.

The following is the list of upcoming Club events. Details on each event will be sent out by email closer to the event dates.

**August - Constance Bay** - The specific date and details for this event are still being worked. We will be sending out more information once details are available.

**30 September - Benz meets Rolls** - After a few years off, this event returns as a collaboration with the Montreal MB Club and the St Lawrence Region Rolls Royce Club. Held at the historic Fairmont Chateau Montebello Hotel in Montebello Que, the event includes lunch, car gazing and a walkabout on the grounds of the hotel. We are looking at having a group rate for anyone who is interesting staying over at the hotel.



**17 October - Army Officers Mess Lunch**— Join fellow Club Members for lunch at the historic Army Officers Mess in downtown Ottawa. Non-member guests are welcome to attend this event.



**2 November - MBCO Annual General Meeting** - Details on this event are still being worked. Information will be provided closer to the date.

Further details on all events will be sent to members in good standing at least two weeks prior to each event.

Please advise membership director Bob Mather of e-mail and phone number changes at [robert.mather@rogers.com](mailto:robert.mather@rogers.com)







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Always wanted to drive a your chance. This sale. Lovingly restored work includes: new new fenders and paint headlights. Car comes

**SOLD**  
with removable

classic MB convertible? Here's beautiful 1977 450SL is for and maintained. Recent MB radiator, new soft top, job. Rare Euro-style hard top, MB mats, cover.



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