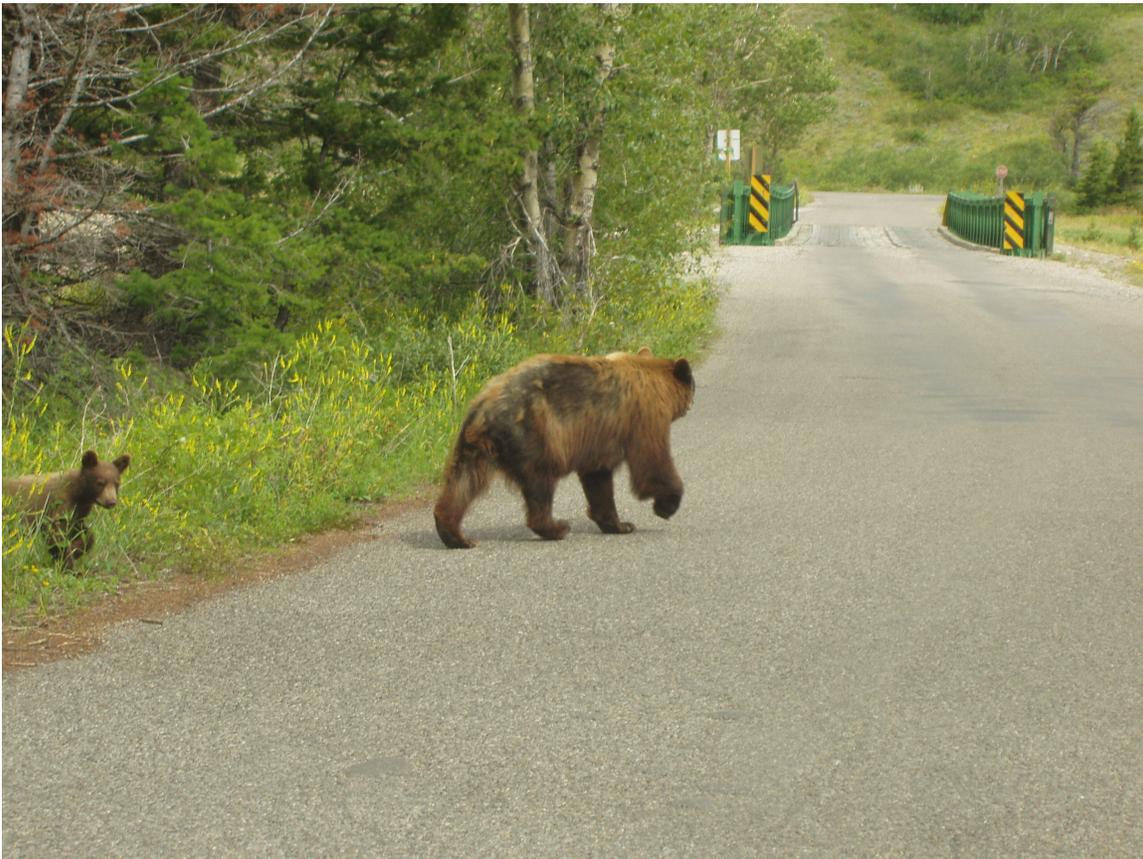




**THE LOTUS 7 CLUB**  
**Western Canada**

**2013 GRIZZLY BEAR BLAT**  
**8<sup>th</sup> August – 17<sup>th</sup> August 2013**



**General Information & Route**

## GENERAL INFORMATION

The idea of organizing a Blat through the Rocky Mountains from Calgary to Vancouver has been talked about several times by some of our western Canadian Caterham owners, so we thought that rather than just keep talking about it, we'd do it! *(To download this document as a PDF file click here)*

During this Blat you will drive through some of the world's most stunning scenery and see some of the planet's most amazing wild-life, and what better car to do it in than a 7? You will experience the outdoors like no other place on earth and be bombarded with Canadian hospitality. The drive from Jasper to Lake Louise is regarded as one of the most spectacular mountain roads in the world. ***"You'll just have to come and see for yourself"***.

As you can appreciate, the logistics of organizing such an event is huge. Our goal in putting this together was to make it fun, cost effective and flexible. The accommodation issue was always going to be the biggest challenge, but I believe the strategy we have adopted has simplified what could have been a complex nightmare. **We believe that YOU will have an unforgettable holiday.**

## UK SHIPPING

For those of you coming from the UK, we would highly recommend that you arrange your shipping through David Smith of Auto Freight. *(Link below)* David is the Caterham Cars Ltd authorized shipper and has been shipping Caterhams all over the world for many years. We would like to suggest that your cars arrive at least 4 days before you do; we have seen train delays before. We would also recommend that you book your flights and cars into Calgary and out of Vancouver, unless of course you plan to drive back to Calgary which will make the shipping cost much cheaper. David Smith (Auto-Freight) will advise the best way to do this. *(Link to Canada Customs below)*. Please contact our UK coordinator Angus Denny (contact details at the end of the document) who is liaising with David Smith over the shipping.

## FLIGHTS

It would be preferable if those of you coming from the UK could all fly in together, arriving no later than the 5<sup>th</sup> August. We can then collect you all at the same time and drop you at your Hotel of choice in the Calgary area. For those of you flying in from the UK, we strongly urge you not book your flights without first getting in touch with Angus Denny our UK coordinator. Angus's contact details at end of document.

## COLLECTION OF CARS

The following morning after everybody arrives we can collect you from your Hotel and get you to the Customs office and then on to the collection terminal. The last thing we need is being in a corner for time. Please see link below which describes the procedure for getting your car in and out of Canada.

## OUT OF PROVINCE/ USA

For those coming from out of province or the USA we would recommend Mackie Movers. *(Link below)* We have used them several times in the last 12 months to move Caterhams around the country; they are a top-notch company that will treat your baby as if it were theirs. Again if you are having your 7 shipped please arrange to have it arrive in Calgary several days before you do. You can always have your 7 dropped off here in Red Deer and we will deal with the transport company for you as well as make

sure your 7 is tucked up safely till you arrive. If you are arriving from out of province in your car, we suggest that you head straight for the Reynolds Museum, which is our starting point. A list of local hotels will be made available at a later date.

## **HOTELS**

We have obtained a cooperate rate at all the Hotels listed below. It will however be the responsibility of each entrant to book (*in advance*) and pay for their own rooms. In many ways it would be easier if we all stayed in the same location; however you are more than welcome to choose your own accommodation. No cancelation fees will be charged as long as rooms are cancelled 48hrs prior to date. (*When calling to book your rooms please quote: GBB, Terry Johns or the Lotus 7 Club to get the corporate rate*)

## **CAMPERS**

For those wishing to camp (*please notify us*), a list of campgrounds (*approx \$20 per night*) near the overnight stopover will be provided. For those who have not camped in the Rockies before please be aware that cougars, black & grizzly bears roam freely in Canadian National Parks. (Hence, The Grizzly Bear Blat) (*Link below*); what did you expect, wild rabbits?! On a positive note, the likelihood of having an 'in your face' bear encounter is close to impossible. We camp in the mountains every year and although most years we do see bears around, once they see humans (*that may not include some 7 owners*) they run off! **DON'T LET FEAR TALK YOU OUT OF THIS ONCE IN A LIFE TIME TRIP.**

## **ACTIVITY BOOKING**

There are clearly some activities that will need to be booked and paid for in advance, such as the return ferry trip to Vancouver Island, White Water Rafting and Whale watching; other than that, most of the expenses of the trip will be paid for by you on the day. We do accept credit cards out here in the colonies! Once we have closed the booking on the 30<sup>th</sup> April 2013 we will invoice all registered owners for the activities they have chosen; once again payment can be made via Pay Pal.

## **ROAD BOOK & ROUTE**

At the start of the Blat each car will be provided with a Road Book which will include maps, route, directions and fuel stations. It is not our intention to control any of your daily activities and if you or others decide not to engage in any of the daily options listed below or in the Road Book, or stop at any of the suggested view points and press on to the next overnight halt, then no problem at all. In the end this is about you enjoying your car and the scenery however you choose to do that, is up to you. [Click here](#) to see route on Google Maps.

We anticipate the total mileage will be around 2500 km + another 1000 km for those returning to Calgary or else where in Alberta. There is a \$30.00 charge per car to enter Banff National Park.

## **MOBILE PHONES/ 2 WAY RADIOS**

If you have an un-locked mobile phone, we suggest you bring it and purchase a Rogers SIM card \$10.00. We also suggest that each entrant bring a 2 Way Radio so we can all stay in-touch with each other.

## **RECOVERY VEHICLE**

We will be bringing an enclosed car trailer which will also act as a mule for luggage, spares, equipment as well as a recovery vehicle in case of breakdown. The trailer will follow behind the last car. The trailer will carry a full toolkit including jack, stands, compressor, generator and 40 deck/lawn chairs. We will also bring a selection of tyres; rims, coolant and oil, plus the kitchen sink to wash up afterwards! Please bring a selection of spares that you feel are appropriate for your car. *(See suggested spares list)*

## **PAYMENT**

The cost per car is \$250.00 CAD or approx £160.00, this amount is payable in full at time of booking. Booking closes on the 30<sup>th</sup> April 2013. We would like to encourage all who are considering this event to register their interest with us as soon as possible. Payment can be made via Pay Pal; once payment has been received, a receipt will be issued.

## **BACK HOME**

For those who have an extra few days, we would recommend the drive back to Calgary, 12hrs if done in one hit, or an overnight in Revelstoke. Most of the roads back to Calgary will have not been used on the Blat, except for the section from Revelstoke to Lake Louise. The scenery from Vancouver to Calgary is spectacular.

## **BLAT MEMORIES**

We are very excited to announce that a professional photographer will be joining us on the GBB. Steve Speer is one of the top photographers in Western Canada, as well as a good friend of mine, so his involvement in the GBB will be at no cost to us. What you guys will go away with, is a photo portfolio including a video of the whole event. This will ensure that the memories of this life-time holiday go on forever.

## **FUTURE UPDATES**

All future updates and the final last minute details of The Grizzly Bear Blat will be emailed to all registered participants, as and when they are available.

## **THE ROUTE**

Putting the route together for this Blat has been a real challenge. Because the distances here in Canada are so great and the time is limited, we have had to think carefully what we do, how long we spend doing it and which of the many spectacular roads do we choose from. We feel sure that those who participate will have a memorable experience. The start location of our ten day Blat will be the world famous Reynolds Museum in Wetaskiwin, Alberta.

## **LOST**

If you get lost or separated from the group, we suggest you call either Terry, John or Angus and we will give you our latest location and GPS co-ordinates. If that isn't possible we suggest you drive to our next overnight accommodation.

## **SUGGESTED SPARES LIST**

As mentioned in the recovery vehicle section we will be bringing a selection of spares, however we would encourage each entrant to bring items that are specific to their car, such as:

- Clutch cable
- Throttle cable
- Thermostat
- Selection of coolant hoses
- Alternator belt
- Dry sump belt (if applicable)
- Spark plugs
- Brake pads
- Emergency tyre inflator
- Small 1<sup>st</sup> Aid Kit
- Small tool kit

Or anything specific to your car, that you may be concerned about. Most of the above items which will be specific to your car will not be available here in Canada.

## **GAS/PETROL**

Due to some of our cars not being very economical and that fuel stops in Canada can be long distances apart, we suggest that each entrant on arrival purchase a 5 gallon fuel container which can be carried in the recovery vehicle. The last thing we need is people running out of fuel.

## **CLOTHING/WEATHER**

Because the weather here in the mountains is susceptible to change at short notice (*they say if you don't like the weather wait 20 minutes*), we suggest that all participants bring a warm winter coat/anorak. If you decide to go snowmobiling on the Glazier you will need a warm coat and gloves, etc. On a typical August day in the mountains you can expect the day time temperature to be around 25 / 30 and can drop to as low as 5 at night.

## **OUT OF TOWNERS**

The two following days are only relevant for those traveling from either the UK or USA.

### **DAY 00: Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> August**

Arrive/fly into Calgary early afternoon.

Suggested overnight stay near Calgary Airport. (*See link below*)

### **DAY 0: Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> August**

Complete custom's paperwork and collect cars from terminal.

Drive to Red Deer (150 km).

Overnight at the I Hotel in Red Deer. (*See link below.*)

## **DAY 1: Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> August Grizzly Bear Blat Starts**

Early start from Red Deer (8am) approx 1.25 hrs drive.  
Meet at 9.30am at the Reynolds Museum, Wetaskiwin, Alberta.

Once we have done all our introductions and the necessary paper work, we are hoping to be on the road at 10.30am.

The drive to Jasper is 432 km, ETA Jasper 5.30. Lunch stop en route.

Overnight in Jasper at the Best Western. *(See link below)*

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## **DAY 2: Friday 9<sup>th</sup> August**

Spend a day in the Jasper one of Canada's top tourist locations

Option 1: Visit Edith Lyle Glacier. *(Walking shoes required; great road to get their)*

Option 2: Trip to Maligne Lake *(great road to get their)*

Option 3: Lots of guided hikes or tours out of Jasper

Option 4: Chill out in Jasper

Overnight in Jasper at the Best Western. *(See link below)*

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## **DAY 3: Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> August**

Drive to Lake Louise 235 km (one of the world's most photographed locations)

Option 1: Visit to the world famous Ice Field Glacier

Option 2: Visit Lake Louise & Moraine Lake

Option 3: Visit Banff (One of Canada's top tourist location)

For those who wish to go hiking this is one of the top locations in Canada.

Overnight in Field just outside Lake Louise at the Emerald Lake Lodge. *(See link below)*

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## **DAY 4: Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> August**

Drive to Revelstoke 240 km. Trip will include multiply stops. ETA Revelstoke 1pm

Option 1: Hiking or strolling in and around Revelstoke (lots to see)

Option 2: Chill out in the stunning indoor Spa at The Glacier House Resort.

Overnight and evening BBQ at Glacier House Resort. *(Highly recommended Log Cabin accommodation)*

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### **DAY 5: Monday 12<sup>th</sup> August**

Drive to Vernon 340 km. via Nakusp.

This will include a memorable ferry ride from Shelter Bay. This is a real popular route with bikers. Lots of places to stop, to take in some of British Columbia's wonderful scenery. Lunch stop en route.

Overnight in Vernon at the Super 8. *(See link below)*

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### **DAY 6: Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> August**

Drive to Pemberton 384 km. This will be a long day, with loads to see on the side of the road.

Overnight in Pemberton at the Pemberton Valley Lodge. *(See link below)*

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### **DAY 7: Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> August**

Drive to Horseshoe Bay ferry terminal in North Vancouver, 135 km.

Option 1: Spend time in Pemberton

Option 2: Visit the world famous, Whistler Mountain Resort, top ski location in Canada

Today will include a 1.45 hr Ferry crossing from Horseshoe Bay to Nanaimo on Vancouver Island. The ferry crossing departing at 3pm will be a group booking, so we all need to arrive at the ferry terminal together no later than 12.30pm. Please note that the Ferry will need to be booked and paid for in advance; car length, height and number of passengers required at time of booking. *(WARNING, LARGE SPEED BUMPS AT TERMINAL ENTRANCE)*.

The scenery from the ferry is stunning. Once on the Island we have a 40 km drive to Chemainus, where we will be based and hosted by, Canadian Caterham Dealer, David Saville-Peck. ETA Chemainus 5pm.

Evening meal and Blat to the famous Crow & Gate Pub. 60 km round trip.

Overnight at the Best Western in Duncan, or camping at David's. *(See link below)*

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### **DAY 8: Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> August**

Based in Chemainus

Option 1 Visit the picturesque town of Chemainus. 5km

Option 2: Whale watching in Victoria 160 km

Option 3: Butchart Gardens 150 km

Evening BBQ at David's.

Overnight at the Best Western in Duncan, or camping at David's. *(See link below)*

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## **DAY 9: Friday 16<sup>th</sup> August**

Based in Chemainus

Option 1: Blat to Tofino 480 km. (world famous surfing resort) will require 6.30 start.

Option 2: Sightseeing the beautiful capital city of Victoria. 160 km

Evening meal at local Salt-Air Pub.

Overnight at the Best Western in Duncan, or camping at David's. *(See link below)*

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## **DAY 10: Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> August**

Early 7am start from Duncan, drive to Victoria 80 km. Catch ferry to Tsawwassen, Vancouver. **Spectacular scenery from the ferry.** ETA Vancouver 10.35

Option 1: Bus tour sight seeing in Vancouver

Option 2: Visit the World Famous Stanley Park

Option 3: Do your own thing

Evening banquet and overnight accommodation at the Delta Town & Country Inn. *(See link below)*

We will have a private function room for our banquet, where Steve our Blat photographer will show the pictures he has taken during our trip.

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## **DAY 11 / 12 / 13 / 14 Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> August (UK /USA travelers only)**

### **PROVISIONAL ONLY**

Option 1: (Preferred): Overnight Sunday in Vancouver. Leave car at shippers, fly back to UK from Vancouver on Sunday

Option 2: (Cheaper shipping): Drive back to Calgary, overnight Sunday in Revelstoke. Leave car at shippers in Calgary, overnight Monday in Calgary, fly back to UK on Tuesday or Wednesday.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT NO ACCOMIDATION HAS BEEN ARRANGED FOR THOSE STAYING EXTRA DAYS.**

The option chosen will depend on the numbers of people wanting to do it and the actual shipping costs. It is unlikely to be possible to arrange cost-effective car shipment from both Calgary and Vancouver unless in multiples of six cars.

Please contact Angus for more info and to express a preference.

The organizing team will head back to Calgary early on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup>. If you wish to join us you would be most welcome. We will overnight at The Glacier House Resort in Revelstoke. ETA Calgary on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> 2.30pm

## LINKS

Below is a list of links that give additional information on some of the activities that we will be doing and places that we will be stopping at, as well as some practical sites that may help with flights/shipping and import. Please click the following links for additional information:

## SHIPPING/FLIGHTS/IMPORT

[UK Shippers](#)  
[Canadian Affair](#)  
[Air Canada](#)  
[USA/Canadian Shipper](#)  
[Canada Customs](#)

## POINTS OF INTEREST EN-ROUTE

[Reynolds Museum](#)  
[Jasper](#)  
[Dealing with bears](#)  
[Lake Louise](#)  
[City of Vancouver](#)

## VANCOUVER ISLAND

[Town of Chemainus](#)  
[Tofino](#)  
[Victoria](#)  
[Whale-Watching](#)  
[Butchart Gardens](#)

## HOTELS/CAMPSITES *(A list of campsites will be emailed to each entrant if requested)*

DAY 00	<a href="#">Book on Hotwire</a>	\$100.00	(Anywhere near airport will do)
DAY 0	<a href="#">Hotel Red Deer</a>	\$119.50	(Nice Hotel, pool, steam, hot tub)
DAY 1/2	<a href="#">Best Western Jasper</a>	\$190.00	(Great location good facilities)
DAY 3	<a href="#">Emerald Lake Lodge</a>	\$190.00	(One of the nicest Hotels in the Rockies)
DAY 4	<a href="#">Glacier House Resort</a>	\$125.00	(Highly recommended, excellent Spa)
DAY 5	<a href="#">Super 8 Hotel, Vernon</a>	\$112.50	(Good value, pool, hot tub)
DAY 6	<a href="#">Pemberton Valley Lodge</a>	\$119.00	(Fabulous Hotel in great location)
DAY 7/8/9	<a href="#">Best Western Duncan</a>	\$128.00	(Ten minute drive from Chemainus)
DAY 10	<a href="#">Delta Town &amp; Country Inn</a>	\$95.00	(Close to ferry, located in Ladner)

## USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS

### Organizing Team

Terry Johns  
Angus Denny

Canada: 403-872-2153  
UK: 07967-275656

[terryjohns@live.ca](mailto:terryjohns@live.ca)  
[angusjdd@gmail.com](mailto:angusjdd@gmail.com)

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### Canada Customs

Call from outside Canada 1-204-983-3500 / 1-506-636-5064  
Calls from inside Canada 1-800-461-9999

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### Emergency services

911

Call this number if you require Police, fire or ambulance

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### Shipping

Autofreight David Smith 01144-7929 008836 - email: [autofreight@aol.com](mailto:autofreight@aol.com)  
Universal Packing LHR 01753-561461  
Mackie Movers Canada 1-800-565-4646

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### Airlines/Ferries

BC Ferries 1-888-223-3779 [costumerservice@bcferries.com](mailto:costumerservice@bcferries.com)  
Canadian Affair UK: +44 (0)207-616-9184  
Air Canada 1-888-247-2262

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### British Consulate

Suite 800  
1111 Melville Street  
Vancouver  
British Columbia  
V6E 3V6

(1) 604-683-4421 – Fax: (1) 604-681-0693

Opening Hrs Mon Fri 8.30- 3.00

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### USA Consulate

1095 West Pender Street  
Vancouver  
British Columbia  
(1) 604-0685-4311

## NOTES