



Sylvan Lake & DISTRICT ARCHIVES

Preserving the Past ~ For Future Generations

BALMORAL SERVICE STATION AND TEA ROOM

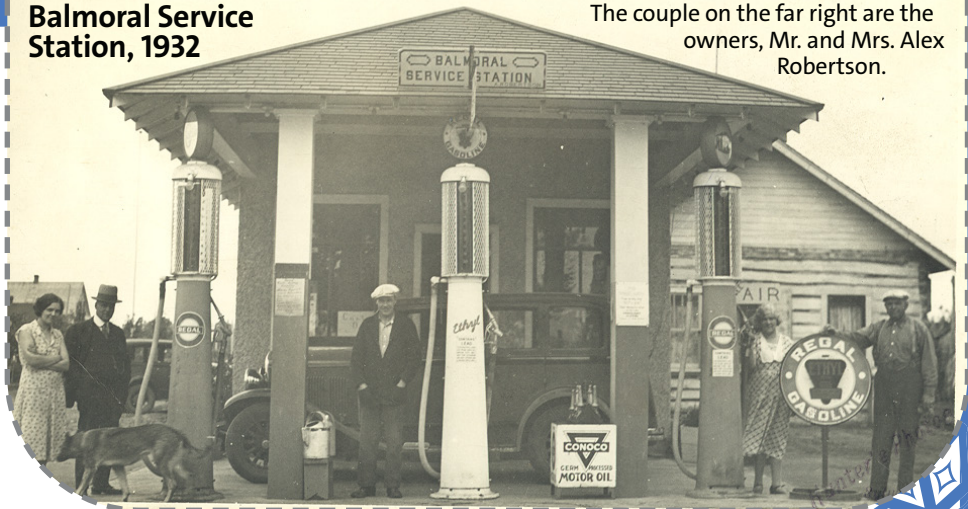
The Balmoral Service Station and Tea Room, along with a few rental cabins, were built in 1932 by a retired member of the Red Deer and Alberta Provincial Police, Alex "Sandy" Robertson. The Balmoral Service Station was on the southwest corner of 46 Street and Lakeshore Drive where the Big Moo and Ice Cream Parlour stands today.

Alex's wife, Isabella, and four daughters operated the Balmoral Tea Room and the tourist cabins. The Tea Room became a popular spot for those who wanted a lunch or a good cup of "Scottish Tea with Dainties". A few groceries, candy and sundry items were also available. An ice cream cone or an ice-cold coke was enjoyed for only 5 cents while relaxing by the shores of beautiful Sylvan Lake. Gas at that time was 30 cents a gallon!

The business was sold to Robert Campbell in 1948 and again to Robert (Bob) Brown in 1950. Very poor weather and the construction of the highway through town forced the closure of the Tea Room in 1952. It reopened in 1956 as a laundromat. Upgrading was needed resulting in the demolition and reconstruction of a new service station and coin laundry in 1962.

In 1974 the service station was sold to Wally Iverson and he sold it to Al Quick in 1977. In 1978, the property was sold to Walter Pritchard who sold the service station to his son Steven Pritchard, the present owner of what has become a favourite spot for ice cream and other treats at the Big Moo Ice Cream Parlour.

Balmoral Service Station, 1932

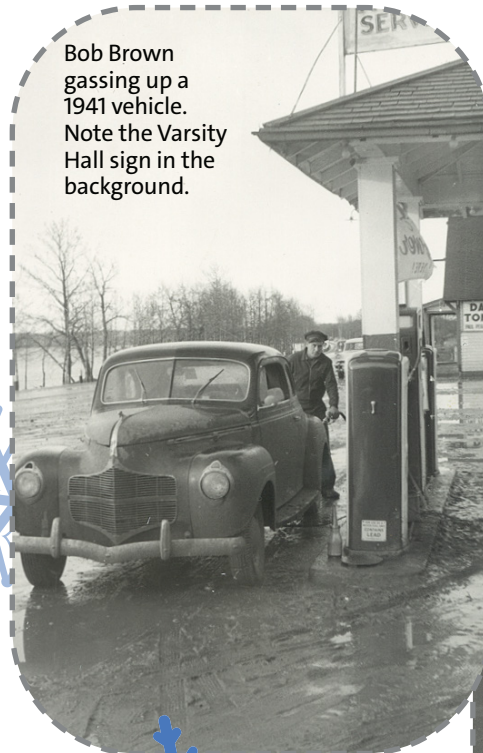


The couple on the far right are the owners, Mr. and Mrs. Alex Robertson.

Balmoral Service Station and Tea Room with staff.



Bob Brown gassing up a 1941 vehicle. Note the Varsity Hall sign in the background.



Bob and Doris Brown, c. 1950

Contact Us!

5012 48 Avenue, Sylvan Lake, T4S 1A2

T 403 887 1185 Ext. 262

E archives@sylvanlake.ca



@sylvanlakearchives