

# The TRunnion

TR Register Lea Valley Group

2016 Issue 1 (Jan/Feb)

## LVG COMMITTEE 2015/6

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## MEETINGS VENUE

Unless otherwise specified, all Group Lunchtime Meetings are now on the **third** Sunday of the month at The Cock Inn, 23 High Street, Broom, Biggleswade SG18 9NA (Tel: 01767 314 411), commencing 12:00.

This is a 'lunchtime meeting', not specifically a 'lunch meeting'. Food is optional, so no need to book. Plenty of parking space behind pub.

## WEB SITES

TR Register: [www.tr-register.co.uk](http://www.tr-register.co.uk)

TR Forum: [www.tr-register.co.uk/forums](http://www.tr-register.co.uk/forums)

LVG: [www.groups.tr-register.co.uk/lea-valley](http://www.groups.tr-register.co.uk/lea-valley)

Facebook: **"TR Register Lea Valley Group"**  
[www.facebook.com/leavalleyTR](http://www.facebook.com/leavalleyTR)

**REMEMBER:** All recent TRunnions are available on the website, but if you are not already receiving them directly, it's probably because I don't have your current email address. To keep in touch via TRunnion (or to contribute letters, articles or photos), email [bjmole1-trlvg@mybtinternet.com](mailto:bjmole1-trlvg@mybtinternet.com).

*Our monthly lunchtime meetings are well supported, so it would be appreciated if those intending to eat could please contact The Cock (Tel. 01767 314411) so that they have an idea of numbers. The kitchen is very small and cannot cope with a sudden influx of people wanting to eat, especially if they have other customers booked or campers in the adjacent field. I think most people stay for a couple of hours and are happy to wait, so it shouldn't be a case of everyone needing food on the table at the same time. Hopefully we can avoid anyone going hungry and also overloading the kitchen!*

## 2015/6 EVENTS CALENDAR

Events with an 'official' Lea Valley Group presence are shown in **bold type**. Please let me know of any other events that may be of interest to members and I will include them, plus others that I hear about.

### **BIG-4 Events**

**A reminder of 2015's four major events which we encouraged all members to attend:**

**Peter Muncer's Tulip Tour to Shuttleworth**

**Luton Festival of Transport, Stockwood Park**

**Fun on the Farm, Oundle**

**Triumphant Welsh Classic Tour**

*(This years events continued below. Nominations for 2016 BIG-4 and other events welcome now)*

### Disclaimer -

The TR Register wish to state that, whilst we are pleased to assist our readers/members by providing technical information, this is given on the strict understanding that no legal liability of any sort is accepted in respect thereof by the club, company, or its servants. Neither the club nor its technical advisors can be held responsible for the consequences resulting from the advice given. Any products recommended are used at the owners own risk and are not endorsed by the club.

## Other Events

*This year's calendar events are still to be confirmed following the Committee meeting in February. Meanwhile, Paul has provided a list of events which he is considering and we welcome any other suggestions from all members. Note that Paul's list contains some events which may not be relevant to other members as I have not had time to type up an edited version!*

*I have scanned Paul's handwritten 2 page list as a PDF and also as a pair of JPEGs so everyone should be able to read in one form or the other and also added a list of events provided by Jon Marshall which may be of interest. Both lists are on our website on the Future Events page ([http://www.groups.tr-register.co.uk/lea-valley/future\\_events.html](http://www.groups.tr-register.co.uk/lea-valley/future_events.html)).*

**Note: Monthly lunchtime meeting dates are always on the third Sunday.**

### 2016

Jan.17: Kick-Off Lunch (Venue to be determined)  
 Jan.30: Nostalgia Forum Motor Sport Film Show  
**Feb.13: LVG Committee Meeting**  
**Feb.21: LVG Sunday Lunchtime Meeting/AGM**  
**Mar.20: LVG Sunday Lunchtime Meeting**  
**Apr.6: LVG Evening Meeting**  
 Apr.10: MK Classic Tour  
 Apr.15-17: CACCC Springing Up Tour  
**Apr.17: LVG Sunday Lunchtime Meeting**  
**Apr.30: Cars on Ramps at Robsport**  
**May 4: LVG Evening Meeting**  
**May 7: LVG Committee Meeting**  
**May 15: LVG Sunday Lunchtime Meeting**  
**Jun.1: LVG Evening Meeting**  
**Jun.19: LVG Sunday Lunchtime Meeting**  
 Jun.26: CACCC Tibbles Tour

**Jul. 2: LVG Committee Meeting**  
**Jul.6: LVG Evening Meeting**  
**Jul.15-17: TRR International Weekend - Lincoln**  
**Jul.17: LVG Sunday Lunchtime Meeting**  
**Aug.3: LVG Evening Meeting**  
**Aug.21: LVG Sunday Lunchtime Meeting**  
**Sep.7: LVG Evening Meeting**  
 Sep.16-18: CACCC Falling Down Tour  
**Sep.18: LVG Sunday Lunchtime Meeting**  
**Oct.1: LVG Committee Meeting**  
**Oct.16: LVG Sunday Lunchtime Meeting**  
**Nov.20: LVG Sunday Lunchtime Meeting**  
**Dec.18: LVG Sunday Lunchtime Meeting**

*This calendar will be updated in TRunnion and also on the website, so please check online regularly for latest information.*

## EDITORIAL

Happy New Year to all of you. Winter seems to have arrived at last and my fingers are freezing to the keyboard, so this will be a very brief editorial, although I'm sure Julian will summarise 2015 fully at the AGM. You are all coming to the AGM aren't you? Suffice to say, the year ended with a surprisingly well attended December meeting. Despite a number of regulars being engaged in family, shopping and other activities (excuses included sailing, golfing and shooting) just a few days before Christmas, we still managed to fill the dining room at The Cock and enjoyed an excellent Christmas lunch. The 2016 Kick-Off lunch is fully booked but if anyone else fancies a drive on the day, we will be pleased to see you if you drop in at The Crown, Shillington for a drink.

In February we will be back at The Cock for the AGM (you haven't forgotten that have you?). You won't need to book with the pub for this meeting, but it would be helpful if you could email me if you intend coming so that we can ensure that we order enough food for the buffet. This was a huge success last year and will again be provided **free to all members** from club funds (thanks largely to Pierre's successful raffles). Apart from the attraction of the buffet, this is an ideal opportunity for all members, especially those new to the group, to contribute directly to the way LVG develops in the coming year. This year is especially significant as we will be electing a new Group Leader and deputy. Fortunately, we have two willing and enthusiastic volunteers and welcome any others who would like to join the committee. Brief biographies of the Group Leader nominees and details of the voting process will be emailed to members a few weeks before the AGM which is on **Sunday 21st February at 12:00**.

See you there, but don't be late.



**BrianC**

**TRunnion Deadlines [Late contributions accepted by prior agreement]**

Please note the following easy-to-remember dates for 2016 TRunnion contributions.

**Friday 1st January**

**Tuesday 1st March**

**Sunday 1st May**

**Friday 1st July**

**Thursday 1st September**

**Tuesday 1st November**

## Group Leader's Report 25th November 2015

As most people now know, the 2016 Kick Off lunch will be held at The Crown in Shillington on Sunday January 17th. Please note this is a reservation only event and you will not be able to turn up on the day. If you are interested in attending there is a small, albeit unlikely, possibility that there may be cancellations so do get in touch, just in case.

The first Committee Meeting will be held on 13th February just ahead of the AGM on 21st February. If you have anything that you would like to have discussed, please let me know. As you are hopefully aware we will be electing a new Group Leader at the AGM as work commitments prevent me from continuing. We are also encouraging volunteers for Committee membership, so if you are interested in either of these positions, please contact me. As last year, food will be provided at the AGM which will be held at the Cock in Broom. All Lea Valley Group TR Register members are encouraged to attend but please let us know ahead of time so we can estimate numbers for food.

Our BIG-4 events for 2016 include supporting Howard's East Area Drive-It Day on 24th April where you can meet other members in the East Area. It is also anticipated that we will again attend the Luton Festival of Transport at Stockwood Park on 12th June. Other suggestions include a Day Trip to France (including military sites etc), a social event, Tibbles Tour and Standard Triumph Marque Day. Preferences and other suggestions gratefully received!

I am also delighted to confirm that Robsport have kindly agreed to host us again for our Cars on Ramps event on Saturday 30th April. This is a great opportunity to have a look underneath your car and get a 5 minute FREE once-over, courtesy of Simon and Co at Robsport. Bookings for this will be advertised in TRunnion as space will be limited!

We will soon be sending out the revised Gaining Traction survey that we request our members to complete prior to the AGM.

This questionnaire allows you to state your preferences, advise us what you would like the group to do, and generally rate what you like the group to do, and generally rate what you like and don't like.

Please give it your attention when you receive it as it will determine what we do next year!

As always, please see TRunnion or contact me for more details. I am available on 07818 060101 or at [jhensman@seorb.com](mailto:jhensman@seorb.com). See you at The Cock in Broom 3rd Sunday each month.



*Julian Hensman*

*[A copy of this report will also (have) appear(ed) in TRaction #287 Social Scene. I really wouldn't know - at the time of writing, today's post has come and gone with still no sign of TRaction #287 and yet I know other members received theirs as much as 10 days ago. Delivery of the magazine is worse now than at any time I can recall since joining the TR Register. I used to be one of the lucky ones receiving my copy on publication date or even a few days early, but recent issues have been arriving several weeks late. How are these being distributed? Is it geographically, alphabetically or by membership number? If either of the the latter two, then it must be in reverse! Is anyone else experiencing these delays? - Ed.]*

### **Members' Stories...will be back if anyone sends me anything!**

*This feature is intended to encourage members to introduce themselves by way of TRunnion, so to set an example, I began by including the story of my current TR3A (long since, thankfully finished). I know many others have stories to tell, not only of rebuilds or major projects, but how they became ensnared by this strange TR-addiction and how they use their cars – touring, competing, concours, etc. It would also be really interesting to hear from newer (and, maybe, even younger) members and some of those who do not, or cannot, regularly attend local meetings.*

*Views of wives, girlfriends and partners would be especially welcome.*

**&**

*In case you missed my appeal in previous issues of TRunnion to encourage more of you to contribute, I will be pleased to hear from **rebuilders**, **racers**, **rallyists**, **tourists**, **concours specialists** and especially **partners** and **new** or even **prospective TR owners**.*

## Scuttlebutt

In my first edition of TRunnion (January 2011) I included a column under the heading 'News, Rumours & Gossip' inviting members to let everyone know what they have been up to or are planning to do with (or without!) their TRs. This eventually morphed into "Scuttlebutt"†:

### †**Scuttlebutt - definition from Wikipedia:**

Scuttlebutt in slang usage means rumour or gossip, deriving from the nautical term for the cask used to serve water (or, later, a water fountain).

The term corresponds to the colloquial concept of a water cooler in an office setting, which at times becomes the focus of congregation and casual discussion. Water for immediate consumption on a sailing ship was conventionally stored in a scuttled butt: a butt (cask) which had been scuttled by making a hole in it so the water could be withdrawn. Since sailors exchanged gossip when they gathered at the scuttlebutt for a drink of water, scuttlebutt became Navy slang for gossip or rumours.

[N.B. Not to be confused with "scuttle-shake" which will be familiar to drivers of chassis-based TRs, especially sidescreens!]

### Mystery Car #1 - Twin Screen TR

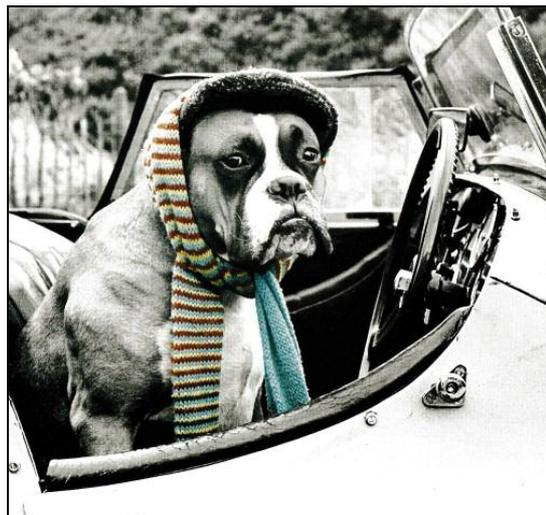
I thought I'd start this Scuttlebutt with something completely different. How many members recognise this car? I'll give you as clue - it was in the Lea Valley Group for many years. If you do recognise it, can you also remember who owned it and do you have any photos?

Answers at the bottom of the barrel...



### Mystery Car #2 - Not a TR but what is it?

And just for something different, I received a card recently with this picture (no comments on the possible identity of the driver please). I've been racking my brains since, trying to think what this side-screen car might be. No prizes, but I would be impressed if anyone in our group can identify it before I put it on the TR Forum.



~o0o~

### From Pete Muncer

*Brian - reading my TRunnion and attached committee minutes, I thought it would be useful to let you have a sneak preview of CACCC tour dates for 2016 for future publication:*

*Springing Up Tour - April 15th-17th, based in Salisbury (hotel details to be confirmed) - we will be visiting an aviation museum and a heritage railway as two of the checkpoints (which will keep you happy!).*

*Tibbles Tour - June 26th (I think you had it shown as 19th) - the intention is to go east this year (once I have found some venues to visit and devised a route). Starting as usual at Aldwickbury golf club for breakfast, finishing at Carpenters Arms for fish & chip supper.*

*Falling Down Tour - September 16th-18th, based at Ullesthorpe, south of Leicester (Mallory Park and Bruntingthorpe are nearby, so maybe opportunities for Saturday activities). Sorry if this date clashes with Kop Hill Climb again!*

## 5 The TRunnion

*John Tarbox will be issuing a CACCC newsletter soon, giving more details, but as ever LVG members are more than welcome to join any of the tours. Brian, you can provide an unbiased opinion from your experiences over the last few years, but I think Tibbles Tour is a good one for any tour novices to try - I know some people are put off by Tulip road books, but there is always someone to follow on the day. Given the small turnout of members on LVG tours organised by Chris & Pat and myself over the last few years, maybe those "tourists" in the Group would like to have a go at other clubs tours such as CACCC.*

*Finally, I note that Julian inevitably is calling it a day as Group Leader (work getting in the way of TRs? - outrageous!). I think he has done an excellent job as GL, giving the Group a boost and taking it forward - well done, mate. Whoever takes over will have a sound base to work from (and no, I'm not volunteering - got enough on my plate with CACCC duties!).*

*Pete*

Firstly, I have to agree that Julian has brought a breath of fresh air to the group and it's a great shame that he cannot continue as Group Leader. I'm sure he will be back in the role in future, if not in LVG than perhaps in more exotic climes! He will be a hard act to follow, but we have some likely replacements who will continue the good work with the support of the current committee members (of which Julian will remain). And so to the subject of touring...

My personal preference is that we have a break from organising tours and major events for a year whilst we gather our breath and regroup under a new leader. I can recommend the CACCC tours for anyone wanting a social but not too mechanically challenging tour. Tibbles is perfect for a beginner, especially with a novice navigator who may not be as excited by the prospect of a day bouncing around the countryside in a 50-60 year old car. This is a tour which can be enjoyed at leisure, starting with an excellent breakfast, then taking in some or all of the suggested stopping points or choosing your own en route and finishing with the traditional fish and chip supper at the Carpenters Arms. Needless to say, most of us have usually worked up sufficient appetite for a lunchtime barbecue if it's on the agenda. The Springing-Up and Falling Down tours are ideal as weekend breaks, with most people taking the opportunity of an extra night at the chosen hotel, usually at a reduced rate, and an excellent pre-tour dinner at a suitable local hostelry or restaurant. Although these tours are aimed at classic car owners in general (and there is usually a very wide range of marques), they have always been well supported by TRs from Lea Valley and other groups, so I would wholeheartedly recommend them to new members that are looking for a driving event that will not break the car, bank balance or marriage!

~o0o~

### From Nick Theze

*Since I last saw you I have bought a Californian import TR3a 1960. We were going to MOT and register it but were let down with spares not arriving before the break. We had the car running but have decided to strip over the Christmas break ready for shot blast & weld. Being Californian not too much rust, some bolts put up a fight but have got undone, the body is almost ready to come off chassis - just a few wires and steering to disconnect. I will be keen to get from our members who to trust with the engine rebuild. I want the fastest car I can and would like to do some hill climbs in the future - also any advice on upgrades. There's more work to do than first you think but will push on. I am giving the car to my son when finished so he is also enjoying the steep learning curve. See you at the dinner.*

Congratulations on an excellent choice Nick - mine is a 1960 car as well, with service and plenty of other work to do before the MOT due in April. I'm sure you will get plenty of advice on appropriate mods, costs and suppliers!

My engine is only Stage 2 (fast-road) with uprated (rally-spec) suspension, but otherwise very standard, including worm and peg steering box! However, I can recommend a couple of people in the group worth talking to that have experience of mods for racing, sprinting, etc.

I suggest you set a budget (although you will break it - probably by a considerable margin). I'll look forward to seeing the car and it would be nice to have some photos and progress reports for TRunnion. I'm sure if you need a hand or advice at any time there will be plenty available.

## 6 The TRunnion

Nick has since provided a few photos and promises more will follow as the rebuild progresses.



~o0o~

### A Tidey TR

No, not a typo. NLG members Jack and Pat Tidey dropped into The Cock 'on spec' for our December meeting and joined us for our Christmas lunch. Unfortunately, I missed seeing the car (too busy talking as usual) but Pierre Miles managed to get this photo. It is a very tidy car, so much so that it won the NLG Shiny Car award earlier this year. Jack and Pat stayed until the end and we certainly hope to see them and their TR2 more regularly.



### From Wayne Scott

*Standard Triumph Marque Day announced as 17th July 2016 - Lincolnshire County Showground.*

*The Standard Triumph Forum have accepted an invitation from the TR Register to host the Standard Triumph Marque Day at Lincolnshire Showground on Sunday 17th July 2016.*

*The event will take centre stage for day three of the TR Register International Weekend 15-17th July 2016, which is also hosting the national weekend for partner club, Club Triumph.*

*The July festival is set to offer an Autotest, Trackday at Blyton Park, Meguiars supported Concours and Pride of Ownership contest, a large number of trade stands, free technical seminars, a packed programme of arena events as well as evening entertainment and live music on the Friday and Saturday night. The event also hopes to gather together the largest collection of non - restored Standard Triumph 'Survivors' ever seen. Each of the represented Standard Triumph clubs will be allocated club stands and displays and the TR Register is looking forward to enjoying a huge variety of Triumphs and associated clubs coming together in partnership to celebrate the marque.*

*Tickets and more details to be announced in January 2016 via the TR Register website: <http://www.tr-register.co.uk>*

*Regards,*

*Wayne Scott*

*Press Officer & Editor of TR Action Magazine - TR Register*

*Email: [press@tr-register.co.uk](mailto:press@tr-register.co.uk)*

~o0o~

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### **Gerald Arthur Lant (Gerry) - Former Licensee of The Cock (1996-2013)**

Lynda and I were wondering recently whether Gerry and Jean were still in Broom. We knew they had moved to a bungalow in the village after retiring and often used to see them, especially Gerry, in The Cock on our visits but hadn't seen either for some time. I mentioned this to Nick and he told me that Gerry passed away in April but Jean is still in Broom and comes into The Cock most days.

That's sad news, but not entirely unexpected. I guess the last time we saw Gerry was around March/April and he looked in a poor way then.

It's a shame that so many couples don't get a chance to enjoy their hard-earned retirement together. I hope Jean is still able to make the most of her retirement from the harsh pub-life. They were always very welcoming to us personally and to the club, as are current licensees, Nick and Michelle, who I hope will continue to enjoy the life-style for a good while!

~o0o~

### **From Phil Sanford - Le Man Classic (1)**

*Dear Brian,*

*Happy New Year and I hope you had a most enjoyable Christmas. I was wondering if it was worth putting a note in the TRunnion to see if any members were interested in doing the Le Mans Classic, 8th to 10th of July. It need not be an official club organised thing just an interested group who would like to travel down and back together. I would be happy to do the coordinating or if the club would prefer to do it I would obviously be happy with that too. The Register is offering favourable terms so we could book through them.*

*It is just a thought that might be worth pursuing but I am happy to be guided by your experience as to whether it would be worthwhile doing.*

*I'm keeping my fingers crossed I get my car back in time to do it!!!!!!*

*Kind regards,*

*Phil*

It just so happens that we had a similar enquiry from a new member about a group run to LMC:

### **From: John Andrews- Le Man Classic (2)**

*Dear Julian*

*I understand you are the coordinator / contact for the TR Register Club near to me in Welwyn Herts and understand you meet at the Cock in Broom. Sean Leonard, kindly made contact from the North London group and I hope he was not too offended when I explained that I had hoped to make contact with the Lea Valley group. I would very much like to come along to one of your meetings and specifically ask if you or the local group is organising a trip to the Le Mans Classic in July next year. We always go although we have always taken a "modern" car in the past. As the new owner of a TR, I am very much hoping to take this car next year and it would be great to join a group if you are indeed going.*

*Perhaps you can let me know.*

*Many thanks*

*Kind regards*

*John*

If John or anyone else is interested in pursuing this, email me (Brian) and I will forward your contact details to Phil.

~o0o~

### **Mystery Car #1 - Twin Screen TR**

This photo was posted recently on the TR Forum with the request "*Is this car well known ? Perhaps someone could enlighten me ...*". I recognised it immediately as probably did several other long-standing LVG members, but before I could respond, Graham Robson beat me to it:

*"That is Ken Richardson at the wheel of OVC 276 before it left to take part in the 1954 Mille Miglia, when it would be driven by Maurice Gatsonides.*

*The background is of the Banner Lane factory in Coventry.  
Hon. Pres."*

I don't ever remember seeing the car with those beautiful curved twin windshields which Stuart Edwards (TRR Tech. Ed.) believes are Derrington type.

As for who owned the most famous TR we have ever had in LVG, I'm sure many will remember it during former Group Leader Eddie Holden's ownership. Perhaps even, like myself, a few will remember it when it was just a lot of TR parts dismantled and spread around various sheds on allotments in Gravenhurst when our first Group Leader, Paul Howell owned it. Eventually Paul started the restoration and subsequently discovered just what he had. I remember the restored chassis being displayed at Old Warden one year, although Paul later sold the car to Eddie who completed the full restoration. The rest is history and the car now resides in Belgium and leads a busy life in continental tours and rallies in the hands of Pascal Quiryren.

I'm sure many of our more recent members will have been unaware of the car, but I would be interested to know how many actually do remember it. As an afterthought, I wonder whatever happened to those screens - were they lost before the car fell into Paul's hands or are they lurking unrecognised and unloved in a dark corner of one of those Gravenhurst sheds?

There is also some interesting discussion on the original wheels and tyres on the TR Forum (<http://www.tr-register.co.uk/forums/index.php?/topic/54649-twin-screen-tr/#entry453488>).

Footnote: After writing this, I had a TRawl through some old photographs and came across the following. Quality is not brilliant as they were scanned some time ago from prints. Photo on the left is of Eddie Holden, with Paul Howell in the driving seat. The photo on the right was taken at the Lea Valley Group 25th Anniversary Lunch in 1998 at our original meeting place, the Station Hotel, Knebworth. This shows OVC276 next to another famous car, the Works TR4A 4VC owned then as it is today by TRR Vice President Ian Cornish. I believe this photo was specifically of founders and early members. Left to right:

Guess Who?, Paul Howell (co-founder and first GL), Ian White (second GL), Ian Cornish, Rob Hebditch, Eddie Holden (third GL) and Graham Shipman. Apparently perched on my shoulder but actually sitting on the wall behind me is my son Ben, aged 11 at the time and incredibly tolerant of the 'old farts' and the speeches on their special day. He is now 29 but still apparently a 'young driver' according to the TRR Insurance and consequently no longer economically insurable on my policy as he was before with the previous company. So much for encouraging young members.

