



COTSWOLD VALE TR **NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2017**

Another busy month, so straight into reporting some of the events CVTR members have been supporting.....

August 28th Plum Festival in Pershore.

Hello everyone and a big thank you to all of those who attended the August Bank Holiday event in Pershore. The fantastic weather brought out lots of classic cars, Brian Bremer the organiser confirmed what he thought was a final number of around 1600 cars , which is a record for a classic car show in our area.. He accepts there were some issues getting people into the site but was badly let down by 5 Marshalls not turning up on the day. The high number of MX5,s (included many new ones - so not classic then. !) but they were there at a special request of their club to celebrate some special event, hence why we were pushed together rather tightly, but next year should be better.

Brian has said he is standing down as the main organiser but will still help, he will be sadly missed but he thinks his successor has been identified and he hopes to bring with him some helpers. Brian also confirmed the Worcester Highways and the Police are conspicuous by their absence and refuse to get involved in traffic management etc. So nothing new there then!

Many thanks to the TRDC guys joining us, a splendid display chaps and of course to our other TR Register members from Coventry, Birmingham , Staffs and Warwick who joined us. I hope you enjoyed the event as much as I did. Great to see you all and role on the next one. Maybe we will get to 40 cars?

Andrew Racey

Well I finally had the opportunity to attend the Pershore Plum Festival after hearing so much about it in previous years. Andrew Racey had organised tickets for our group together with TR's from other groups and the guys from the TRDC and had advised me to turn up early. So just before 8.45am Mick and Joan Parry set off with me following to arrive at the Abbey as near to 9.00am as possible, which we duly did – and the place was rammed already! The marshals on the entrance were pretty much overwhelmed (or understaffed) such that it was a lengthy process just getting in!

Anyway, the weather was fantastic, which no doubt helped swell the numbers at the show.....

I drove along to the Abbey and shuffled the car into line (blue rope in use!), narrowly avoiding a Vickers machine gun....



Clearly the organisers were expecting some trouble from envious non TR owners!



Mick and Joan Parry were well protected, and it's a good job the shaggy dog didn't fancy using Terry Smiths car as a toilet!

Anyway, the CVTR marshal(s) (Andrew mainly) did a great job shoehorning everyone in, starting with a herringbone display along either side of the allocated space:-



Before filling the space down the centre.....





It wasn't very long before Phil Barnet arrived – minus his car, which rather (in)conveniently had broken down just outside the entrance with smoke coming out of the ammeter.....

Now CVTR members are nothing if not resourceful, so Alf Widmer, Dave and Lorna Newberry and myself collected together some tools and essentials (gaffer tape and WD40, what else could you need?) walked out to the entrance road and set about repairing the stricken machine:-



Alf checked the fuses whilst Phil removed the offending ammeter...

Pretty soon we had the car fired up and running, however in removing the ammeter, a number of wires were dislodged from the back of the ignition switch, and when Phil tried to tidy the wiring up, the car stopped running and we were left with several permutations of wires and a variety of ignition switch options.

At this point we decided to get the car off the road and into the display area where we could work on it safely...



Phil in the driving seat with Alf, Dave and Lorna pushing, me taking pictures!

Anyway, it wasn't long before the appropriate wires were connected to the correct terminals and the car was once again mobile, even with an ammeter we had bypassed. It must have been Phil's lucky day as he managed to buy a replacement gauge at the show!!!!

After all the exertions it was time to have a look at the other cars on our pitch, with some surprising and not surprising contents in car boots.....



Not surprising to find a tray of plums, but Pete Priestley was ready for his picnic with runner beans ready for the pot!



And this Rolls Royce appeared to be specifically re sprayed for the event!

And as I was walking through the crowd, there was an almighty commotion, and I saw a man & woman having a shouting match. The woman then slapped the man around the head and they started to fight. A policeman showed up but instead of trying to calm it down he started to hit the man with his baton! Then the guy wrestled the baton off the policeman, and started to hit the policeman, and his wife! They were only interrupted when a crocodile came and stole all the sausages!



When things had calmed down, I wandered over to the Stag Owners Club display:-



And found some of their members deploying a very useful sunshade from a very well known club.....



The Stags were at one side of the entrance, and just as I was moving on this well patinated, original Healey arrived



There are not many of these around, but surprisingly I came across this restored version not far from its sister:-



The guys from Shelsley Walsh put on a display of competition cars



And it wasn't very long before I came across a lovely pair of Dorrettis.....



This Metro sported a great BMC flag



The beach buggy brigade were out in some numbers.....



And if this VW was any lower it might not have made it into the display!



Classic vehicles come in all shapes and sizes, some people have larger garages than others (mine is full of “stuff” anyway)



Some people brought their minions along (others call them staff!!):-



Whilst others are steeped in competition history and folklore:- (I followed this into the Abbey and it sounded awesome!)



There was some modern fast stuff around, like this Ultima GT;:-



And in its day, this Jowett Jupiter really cut the mustard!



And perhaps this Viper is today's equivalent of the Jowett.....



Its not very often you see a Lancia Beta Monte Carlo on the roads (they all rusted away quickly)....



And for rarity value, Don Cluley was on hand with his own Cluley.....



There were literally hundreds of cars on display and the weather was fantastic all day, and just as I returned to the TR area, I was offered a celebratory glass of Champagne – TRDC members Pete and Rachael had just that minute got engaged!



The happy couple!

All in all it was a fantastic day, there were more than a thousand cars on display of all marques, shapes and sizes, the weather was terrific and I even bought a couple of pounds of Victoria plums!



These events don't happen without plenty of planning and organisation, so thanks again to Andrew Racey for coordinating a great display of TRs from various TRR local groups, and to the TRDC guys once again for adding to a great day out.

Ian Brown

September 10th . Sunday lunch at The Chequers at Crowle. September 10th Toddington Classic Car Show

September 10th and its Sunday lunch at The Chequers at Crowle kindly organised by Gareth, who unfortunately was in France so Andrew took the reins for the day.

A couple of late entries took us to 17, however, Jane Canning stayed at home with Ted who has recently had an operation on his leg. Cat phoned to say his TR was on an AA breakdown truck on his way home with brake failure . And our two late entries Stephen and Rosemary Henman phoned the pub to say they had broken down two miles from home. So that took us down to 13 for lunch.

Very good food , well presented however the service was rather slow- nearly three hours for lunch is a bit to long. Yes they were busy but like any eating establishment need to make sure they have enough trained staff both front house and in the kitchen.

Nevertheless, an enjoyable meal and good company.....



With the threat of heavy rain, only 3 TRs in the car park.



Sue found a new friend in the corner



and so did Andy



Patiently waiting.....



Andrew Racey

September 16th Kop Hill



Having heard great things from a number of people (including Richard Durrant) regarding this event, I was finally tipped over the edge with a personal invitation from Chiltern GL, Peter Bowden.

The weather looked decidedly dodgy (hood up) when I set out at 6.30am to make my way across country to Princes Risborough as display cars had to be in position for 9.00am – and as it turned out the arrangements were pretty much more flexible than that.



I parked in exalted company, alongside genuine ex works TR7V8 owned by Steve Rockingham

The Chiltern group already had the urn boiling away for hot drinks, and the BBQ was fired up for bacon, sausages, eggs in any combination in a large bap. Funds were voluntary and excess amounts over costs were donated to the Charity Chiltern group were supporting (or it may have been the event Charity, I'm not sure!).

There was something for everyone there, from Ed China with his sofa, bathroom, bed, and orange (in background)-



the return route to the bottom of the hill was via public roads! (steered by pizza!)



I made sure I bought my ticket!!!!!!!!!!!!

The event has plenty of pre WW2 stuff, particularly motorcycles, some of which I had hardly seen before, indeed the Brough Superior was uncommonly common!



How about these:-



Scott



Douglas



Harley Davidson



Pierce



Henderson



Zenith

The youngsters had their own “soap box racer” section:-



Not to mention early cars:-



Including a 1914 Stanley Steam Car



All Hill runs were introduced by the irrepressible Graham Robson:-



Ian Cornish leaves the start with Wayne Scott alongside.

I was also invited to sit in the passenger seat alongside Iain Paul in his ex Ken Richardson TR3A (and once driven by Mike Hawthorn)



(before I got in the car!)

And talking of getting into cars, Steve Rockingham gave me a driver's tour and simulation is the ex Colin McRae WRC Subaru Impreza:-



Its seriously complicated in there!

I have got loads of other pictures, but just to let Richard Durrant know what he missed:-



A couple of pictures of the 750 club exhibits (stop drooling Richard!)

I had a fantastic time, helped enormously by the hospitality of the Chiltern group, and although monsoon conditions hardly did justice to the biblical rain encountered on the way home, it didn't spoil the memories! Get booking for 2018!

Ian Brown

September 17th - Sudeley Castle.



"I was asked to be a late substitute for an absentee at the event. Driving down Belbroughton with some pals in Jaguars; a 4.2 E type Roadster, a V12 E type coupe, an XJ6 coupe together with an Austin A40 sport. The topless drive down was a tad chilly with threat of getting wet ever present but we arrived without too much moisture and the £5 registration fee gained access to the house and gardens (which by consensus were stunning).

There were an eclectic mix of vehicles (a few too many modern 'classics' for my taste, with a vast lineup of MX5's from original through to the latest incarnations), a nice selection of Italian vehicles, a couple of Bristols (no comments please) one of which won the Visitors/entrants vote for 'Car of the Day'!

Mine was the only TR! With this event on the doorstep of CVTR, perhaps a more mixed line-up could be a plan for next year's diary?"

Nick Simpkiss

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Ed

ANDY CANNING SURPRISE BIRTHDAY PARTY

Andy Canning reached a milestone birthday-70th on 15th September and on the 16th and with much secrecy a surprise party of close friends and family was organised by Michelle, Lorraine and Jane. Guests gathered in the kitchen and garden whilst Andy's immediate family welcomed him in the front room. They suggested he get himself a beer from the kitchen where upon he was surprised to see about 30 people singing happy birthday. Gob smacked would be an understatement. So the many months of planning paid off.



Brilliant birthday cake organised by Lorraine and Michelle (and families)



About to perform surgery



but mind the TR badge!

Andrew Racey

Dear Ed

Unfortunately we had decided to have a number of rooms decorated this month, resulting in loads of stuff migrating from the house into the garage. I don't know about anyone else, but this cartoon sums up my situation:-



Ian Brown

TECHNICAL SECTION



Andy hard at work on the Amazon whilst Ted stands guard!

Meanwhile - Spotted in rural Oxfordshire club member John Walker making acquaintance with his latest acquisition, note rare Snap-On tool barrow with original Whitworth open-ends and Churchill era one-piece all-day work wear



Jim Symons

CVTR Monthly Meeting September 27th

27. members with no cars in the Orchard. Apologies from Brian Wiggins, Alan Wilding and Paul Tunnadine . Welcome to our friends Henry and Linda Brown from TRDC and Bill Skermer and his wife who are currently Birmingham Group members.

Gareth started the meeting by reviewing the activities of the previous 4 weeks - as reported elsewhere in this newsletter.

Future Events

September 29th - Curry night . Pershore .

.....once again at the Shunarga Indian Restaurant Pershore.

I have 30 covers booked for 6:30/7:00pm and can add as many more as we want, but I need to give them notice. I think that you enjoyed the meal in sparkling company last time, so could you please let me know ASAP if you intend to join us. For those of you who have forgotten how to get to Pershore I will circulate details later...!!

Best regards

Richard Durrant (richardidurrant@btinternet.com)

(Already confirmed: Lesley Booher, Michael and Sue Hocking, David and Sally Roberts, Tim and Deb Walker, Alf and Pat Widmer, Brian and Gill Wiggins, Richard and Meg Durrant)

September 30/31st – American Weekend at Prescott

October 8th. Sunday lunch,(organised by Brian Wiggins).

The Three Horse Shoes at Wixford is the location A return to a venue we used a number of years ago. By now you will have seen emails from Gareth with details of menu options. It is a carvery but you can choose off the al la carte menu if you wish. Brian requires your starters and dessert orders as well. Please email him on bcwiggins@hotmail.co.uk

October 15th Autumn leaves run this year to Westonbirt .

Details of where we meet etc will be published meanwhile Brian Wiggins would like some idea of the numbers so please contact him if you think you will be going on bcwiggins@hotmail.co.uk. This will be the last big event of the year before most of you hang up the car keys for the winter.

SATURDAY 21st OCTOBER 2017 CLAY PIGEON SHOOTING DAY

We now have a date for the clay pigeon shooting day. It will be a half day event starting about 11.00am, consisting of a 25 bird introduction to clay shooting with the option of a further 25 bird sporting shoot for those who would like a little extra fun.

The cost for the 25 bird introduction will be approx £16 which includes your cartridges and clay targets and approx the same again if you want to take part in the sporting shoot.

We will need a minimum of 8 people and a maximum of approx 20 to make it work.

There is a club house at the shooting ground so tea's, coffee's and breakfast rolls are available for those who want refreshments.

If we get enough people, a meeting point can be arranged and we can convoy to the shooting ground or you can go directly there.

The Address is -: Nadbury House, Edgehill Shooting Ground, Camp Lane, Warmington, Warwickshire OX17 1DH
www.edgehill-shooting.co.uk if you want to have a look at the website.

Why don't you come and have a go! It's great fun and will be a new experience for a lot of our members.

Ideal for the ladies to take part as well as the guys.

Please contact Phil Blake if you would like to come along 07771 771663 or pb4x4@tiscali.co.uk

October 22nd Stoneleigh Autumn Show.

November 5th National Restoration show Stoneleigh Park.

November 4th/5th TR REGISTER - AGM at Puckrup Hall Hotel.

You need to register if you intend to go, if not then don't forget you can nominate someone to vote on your behalf or by proxy. 10.00am registration, meeting starts at 10.30am. (however TR Action 300 has 10.30 registration for 11.00 am start. We will find out the correct times for the next meeting.)

November 10-12th Classic car show NEC Birmingham .

November 12th .Sunday lunch Thai Emerald .

See Tim Walker tl_walker@tesco.net or phone 01386 48910.

November 22nd . CVTR monthly meeting and AGM at The Fleece.

We will be asking members to vote for their choice of Car of The Year as well as suggesting who they think should be in receipt of The Dip Stick Award and The Sod's Law Trophy (Andrew already has his little black book of suggestions - so be afraid , be very afraid !!)

December 10th . Diary date.

This is a SUNDAY. and it's our annual dinner and awards night at Dumbleton Hall, (expect the hotel to be decorated in its festive overcoat) kindly organised by Bob Heppel. This year we have moved the date into December to hopefully avoid all those of you who decide to leave the UK for winter in January. You will have seen a note from Bob about pre booking rooms at a reduced rate, please mention CVTR event when booking to get the discounted rate..we now need to start firming up on numbers and food orders. Menus are now available - see other emails which will come out with menu choices- so please contact Bob on 01386860499 or bobhp13@gmail.com Cost £26.00 - now where do you get such good company, a nice hotel and great food for that price. Please support us, this is our CVTR big annual event.

December 12th . Birmingham Quiz night at Somers club.

We need to get some teams together and bring back the trophy to CVTR.

FUTURE EVENTS @ A GLANCE **CALENDAR 2017**

September

29th, Curry night – Shunarga - Pershore - Richard Durrant
30/1st, October. American w/e Prescott

October

8th, Sunday lunch – Brian Wiggins
8th Malvern Classic Cars
15th Autumn Leaves Run – Brian Wiggins
21st Clay Shooting, see above, Phil Blake leading
22nd, Stoneleigh Autumn show.
25th, CVTR meeting at The Fleece.

November

4th, TR Register AGM Puckrup Hall.
10/12th ,NEC classic car show.
12th, Sunday lunch Thia Emerald Evesham Tim Walker
22nd, CVTR meeting and AGM. at The Fleece

December

December 10th CVTR Annual dinner and awards night at Dumbleton Hall - Bob Heppel.
December 12th Birmingham Groups annual Quiz night.

SUPPLEMENT

sign(s) of the times....!



Andrew Racey, Ian Brown and Richard Durrant