



COTSWOLD VALE TR **NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2015**

This month is rightly overshadowed by the death of our Group Leader, Colin Boother. His wife, Lesley, and their children Neil, Kate, John and Tom, and their families, are in all our thoughts.



If you wish to read more about Colin's funeral, together with words spoken at the service in Pershore Abbey, and his obituary, please read the separate file, circulated last week, dedicated to specifically to him

“When our tears have dried up and all the words forgotten, we will still have our memories”

November Events Review

November 8th. Sunday lunch at The Thai Emerald in Evesham,



26 members sat down to yet another excellent buffet. The atmosphere was somewhat subdued given recent announcement about Colin. However lots of stories across the tables about Colin and his involvement with CVTR and the bigger club. Lunch was organised by Tim Walker, and our thanks go to him for the arrangements.

NEC Classic Car Show 13th – 15th November



Sunday morning dawned, and by 7.30am, Keith had arrived at mine and we were off to pick up Richard and Alf en route to the NEC. We had planned to get there early, ahead of the traffic and grab a parking place within walking distance of the show. The traffic on the way was pretty good, not too much of a queue for the NEC, and the bus was waiting to take us from the car park straight in. Good job we were early, or so we thought, because when we arrived the show was already open.

Alf and Keith went to the ticket desk armed with the correct monies, only to be confronted with a demand for £3 more per head as the pricing on the board above the ticket office stated. Not wishing to be fobbed off with that story, the duty manager was summoned and he maintained the same line on pricing, until Richard produced the show literature from his pocket stating what the advertised prices were – at that the duty manager completed a volte face and agreed to honour the advertised price – he had no choice then!

For those of you who have not been for some time, the show is huge, covering five halls, all stuffed with great exhibits and traders, so a plan was hatched – we were ready for a cup of coffee so we headed towards the TR Register stand, taking in the TR Youth stand in hall 5, alongside the sporting bears charity rides, on the way:-



Spotting a complete range of cars on display, and Richard made a bee line for the ones he felt most comfortable with,



which made a change from the “Beast of Turin” a 1910 Fiat, 28.4 litres from 4 cylinders, and 116mph on Saltburn Sands in 1911, driven by Pietro Bordino (clearly a man with fabled gonads!)



(image from internet because mine was crap!)

And so it was on to the TR Register stand to admire the cars on display, in particular our own Dave Gillespie's TR3A recently completed a ~20 year restoration, only two of which have been in Dave's hands, you can guess which two!



Very astutely, Dave's car was positioned alongside Roger Hind's patinated TR2 for best effect both ways:-



Instead of Autoglym or Maguires, Roger uses linseed oil on a rag to wipe the car down



I believe Dave uses a more TRaditional cleaning method!

When I spoke to Dave on the stand he said that some people were so impressed that they had asked if he would carry out restorations for other members – testimony to his workmanship indeed!

On the plinth this year was the racing Italia seen at the IWE, and being prepared for racing in the hands of Mark Field of Jigsaw:-



Supported by the superb Fibrefab Jamiacan, also seen for the first time at the IWE:-



And this is a shot of the car at the 2015 IWE with a very envious member taking time out from the Bring and Buy...



Completing the line up on the stand was Chris Hale's TR6 and a TR7V8 FHC

Also prominent on the stand:-



2015 C&SC Inaugural award for Innovation, won by the TR Register



The nomination, which was prepared by the clubs Press Officer, Wayne Scott detailed the series of day long seminars held throughout the year as well as the free sessions held at the TR International Weekend. The judges mentioned the collaboration with TR specialist companies and we must extend a huge thank you to Pete Cox, the teams at [TR Enterprises](#) and at [Revington TR](#). Without their willingness to share specialist skills, this program would not have been possible. Thanks are also extended to the members who deliver seminars at the TR International Weekend like electrical matters from Tony Thomson, Lead loading by Stuart Edwards and Superchargers by Peter Cobbold. Furthermore Chris Hale, Paul Tunnadine and Ian Brown deserve recognition for organising and coordinating the seminars and to Robert Longstaff for covering them in TR Action Magazine.

The judges were also impressed by the follow up media coverage on the Technical Seminars including the free videos available to members via the members area of the TR Register website.

(.....and I even got an honourable mention!)

And the 2015 awards didn't stop there, the Dorretti stand won the best Club Themed stand at the show, and Bill Piggot entered the show quiz and won first prize for the TR Register, £150 for the club coffers!

Needles to say there were hundreds of other cars on display, including this ex John Lennon Rolls Royce:-



Not to mention the Meguiars Masters concours entries, including this winner belonging to Paul Griffies, from our own IWE:-



On our way around, Keith collected/purchased various rare goodies, including two foot of white cable, a pair of spark proof overalls to stop his other clothes catching fire when he is welding, and the bargain of the day – a pair of TR4A sidelight units at a very respectable price. He also spent quite some time mulling over whether to buy a new hide hammer to replace the one he bought last year - but promptly lost.....!!!

Richard was a man on a mission, with arrangements and appointments all over the show.....

Alf and I, well, we moseyed around trying to take it all in, and enjoying the cars, the Porsche 911's of various guises came in for careful scrutiny.....

If you fancy a look around at the TR Register stand, TRy this link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t2YxinZY7gk> (or copy and paste to your address bar)

And to finish this report, there is a prize for anyone identifying this dashboard (easy peasy):-



Entries specifying year and make on the back of a £20 note to the usual place please! Answers next month....

Technical Section

Dear CVTR Newsletter Editor

Over the weekend I was able to remove both TRailing arms, springs and mounting brackets, ahead of re-bushing, refurbishing and reassembly.

Not an easy job in a confined space but eventually the car gave up and I succeeded. The Trailing Arms are in good condition having been under sealed some time ago and will clean up ok but the mounting brackets are corroded without being dangerous! These will be replaced along with new stainless steel shims, bushes and a complete set of nuts and bolts! The springs have compressed with age so will be replaced with new and uprated units! The only snag is that the bump stops won't come off so there're up here in Yorkshire to be worked on prior to the TA's going to Redditch Shotblasters!



Brian Wiggins

(ed comment, and to think it all started with a simple wheel bearing check.....!!!!!!)

Dear CVTR Newsletter Editor

Lucas - Prince of Darkness



There can't be many members who drive their TRs regularly at night time, and my TR7 chose the right time to throw a few gremlins in the electrickery department after Colin's wake.

It must have been around 5.00 o'clock when we left the Berkeley, so already night time in mid November, the car started fine, turned the lights on and all the external bulbs lit up as normal, looked down at the dash – no panel lights at all..... No worries, just drive home and sort out in the morning were my thoughts, until it dawned on me that I had no idea what speed I was going, so steady Eddie driving was necessary.

Having pondered what the issue could be, and consulted the workshop manual and wiring diagrams, a faulty rheostat was diagnosed, and what a tortuous job it turned out to be (much easier on all earlier TR's than a TR7), necessitating access to the dash/heater console. The workshop manual is not particularly user friendly in finding the right section, and having discovered that it needed the removal of the centre console first before you could even get to the bit that needed dismantling to get to the rheostat, I tried to work out a shortcut.

Aha! If I removed the radio and could perform gynaecology through that aperture, that would do the trick! So out came the radio, in went my hand and out came the rheostat, along with a sliver of skin removed from my knuckles.... Test it first were my instincts, so, after cleaning up the blood, I connected up both terminals to the same spade, effectively bypassing the rheostat, turned on the lights, and hey presto – b*gger all! Just to be sure, I connected the rheostat to the cigarette lighter supply and bingo, all the lights came on, yippee.....no power to the rheostat was the problem.

Back to the wiring diagram, follow the supply back to the master light switch, dig out a replacement switch (luckily I had acquired one as insurance a year or so earlier after Tim Walker and I experienced a total light failure in the middle of the night on the RBRR due to a switch failure).

Unscrew the switch panel and pull out the offending switch to replace it, and the switch fell apart (picture) in my hand, the plastic had gone brittle over the years, the new switch was inserted and tested before reassembly – all working fine again! Screw everything back together, renew the elastoplast on my knuckles and put the kettle on, job done!

I was recounting this story to Andrew Racey, and having told me all his dash lights on his own TR7 were pretty dim, I suggested it might be – guess what – a faulty rheostat! “Where’s the rheostat” said Andy.....and a couple of twiddles later, all sorted with his dash lights!

Ian Brown

(ed comment – too late for the 2014 sod’s law awards thankfully)

FROM THE ARCHIVES

TR ACTION 74, SUMMER 1988

COTSWOLD VALE

John Gibbons

Spring has sprung and we all leap into our sprightly TRs, turn the key and either fly off down the road to melodious tones from the engine and exhaust all working in perfect harmony or remain very stationary with harsh rather strained tones from the other half to the effect "you spent enough time working on it during the winter! And now we are ready to visit the NEC you tell me the battery's flat!". Yes, like every coin there are two sides, I hope yours fell right side up this year.

Talking of the NEC, the Classic Car Show held during May, I thought was very interesting. Nice to see Paul Palmer's TR4A on the TR Register stand. Obviously much work has been done to produce a car every bit like his fathers TR4. Well done! Nice to see Geoff looking better and able to walk now. We all hope you continue to recover and that Barbara is getting better.

We shall be heading toward Peterborough in early June for the International Weekend. Andy is currently tuning his Disco equipment ready to engage top gear and provide his usual splendid Disco.

Nice to see Paul Tunnadine back in circulation after three years in Australia. Thanks for coming to our April meeting. No, the boobagram was not intended for our group, but for the local football club. we are not generally like this in the Vale, unfortunately!!

We continue to run our usual Sunday lunchtime drinks at local pubs and met some of Staffs and Warks group at the Fleece in May.

Steve Redway of Glavon keeps sending me his monthly newsletter which seems to improve with every issue. When are you going to produce the colour version! Thanks Steve, I promise to arrange a skittles match with your group later in the year.

Terry and Fran have moved to a village outside Evesham and held their housewarming during early April. Lots of people turned up, which shows how popular they are! Steve and Lorne, who I had not seen for ages were there. He does not change much, still succeeds in winding me up!

We have plans for another TR car tug for charity during August, so we shall all be lifting our TRs between now and then to build up our muscles.

The Group Leaders meeting at Higham near Derby was well attended I thought. Some useful comments and recommendations should come out of this meeting. Could you do something about the phone at the next meeting Paul? Thanks for the tea, Jenny, "It were right nice, pet" as they say in your neck of the woods. Must dash, petrol tanker has just arrived to fill the tank on my Jensen!

TR ACTION 76 WINTER 1988

COTSWOLD VALE

John Gibbons

Once again another year has almost come to an end and time to think about putting up your girl friend for the winter. Although this year anti-freeze, it seems, will cost you as much as five litres of engine oil! I noticed our local Accessory shop advertising two litres for £2.99, still you cannot afford not to keep the concentration right. The cost of a new gasket and core plugs still works out dearer, (if you include the labour.) However I have digressed slightly. What sort of year has it been for us down here in rural Worcestershire? Well, quite pleasant actually. Our Sunday lunchtime drinks have seen us at Bishop Cleeve, near Cheltenham, to the Plough at Ford in the scenic Cotswolds. I think the great asset of our region is its vast variety of natural beauty, and only thirty miles from Birmingham!

We have several new members attending our monthly meetings including a TR7 lady owner from Winchcombe. I feel TR7 owners have become an ever increasing force in the Register, especially when you see the prices of their ancestors these days. I remember those good old days back in the mid Seventies when young men like me were lusting after a real sports car and could pick up a good clean example (in my case) a 1973 model one owner TR6 for £1,800. Now, sadly, we have seen them elevated to collector status or 'investment' purposes. But they cannot take the memories away from me!

We are holding our Christmas dinner this year in the Abbey Hotel, Tewkesbury, right on the river Severn in late November.

It will have a Medieval Theme so mead and stuffed duck should mingle well with the Court Jester. I believe Andy is bringing his 15th century stereo system complete with bellows.

See you at the AGM in York. Have a nice Christmas and New Year. Must dash just heard where I can syphon some second hand anti-freeze.

TRACTION 77 SPRING 1989

COTSWOLD VALE

John Gibbons

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all out there still living with the memories of Christmas Day and the turkey sandwiches which have lasted into early February! Even with Helman's relish they are wearing a bit thin I expect?

The Group went to Abbey Mill, Tewkesbury on 26th November to celebrate the coming of Christmas and what a marvellous evening it turned out to be. There was a Medieval Banquet and it was *finger lickin'* good! The fair maidens were a-plenty and much mead and claret flowed. The jokes were not 13th century more circa 1988 Soho, London!

My Birthday has the convenient or otherwise honour of falling around New Year's Eve, so it is a very opportune time to have a party. Thirty people turned up to disco the night away in my cellar or just chat intelligently in the living room. Thanks for the drinks and thanks Mum for the sherry trifles which everyone enjoyed.

There is talk of chartering a plane and flying over to Le Mans this summer. We enquired last year and reckoned on £160 a head return, but our scheme never got off the ground!

We have a commercial pilot in our group who could do the flying. Maybe if the mortgage rate does not go up yet further, we will be able to enjoy this adventure.

Our Group remains quite buoyant. Sunday lunchtime drinks are attended by many of us throughout the whole year, while midweek meetings have become much less well attended of late. I hope to plan outings to Prescott Hill Climb and arrange a charity event during the summer in the form of a Tug-a-TR event.

Nice to receive a Christmas card from the Register office, thanks Bill.

Happy New Year (TR) Motorinnng.

CVTR Meeting at The Fleece November 25th.

Apologies from Mike Hill, Brian Wiggins, Phil Barnett, Charles Taverner and Alan Wilding.

Thirty four people attended with one solitary TR in car park - well done Rob King - and the top was down on a damp evening!

Ian Brown reviewed the past 4 weeks of activities as outlined elsewhere in this newsletter. He also gave feedback on the AGM at Gaydon. Details of that can be found on the TR web site.

Andrew Racey thanked all of the members who attended Colin's funeral and also confirmed that we have a book of remembrance which we would like members to contribute to. This book was shown round the meeting, please send contributions to Ian Brown.

FUTURE EVENTS

December 6th Date for the diary, Christmas lunch at The Fleece.



Please ensure you have given your name to Keith Brown who is organising this event-- .01386 830604

December 13th - Breakfast club at Prescott followed by an auction. All are welcome.

Saturday 19th December

Matinee performance of Dick Whittington at The Artrix in Bromsgrove:-

Brian Wiggins, Vice Chairperson, Stage Manager and Publicity for Artrix (& CVTR member!) comments:-
"The show is suitable for all ages and is based on the traditional British pantomime formula where all the double entendres go straight over the children's heads!"

I will of course be back stage but I can also arrange a tour 'behind the scenes' after the show. "

Brian has said that due to the popularity of the weekend shows the only discount he can propose is the Family Ticket offer which is £47 for either two adults and 2 children or one adult and 3 children. Four tickets would normally cost £57 so that's really good value. Should you wish to attend then please contact Brian ASAP with requirements AND payment in advance. He will then try to ensure everyone sits together. bcwiggins@hotmail.com or phone 01527 542164.

January 20th - CVTR "committee" meeting at The Fleece.

The Fleece in the "dugout", starting at 7.00pm.

This is the meeting where we attempt to pull together a diary of events for 2016, plus gather any ideas for trips etc throughout the year.

New Years Annual Awards Dinner to be held at Dumbleton Hall on January 23rd 2016

Bob Heppell is organising this popular event. A menu is available. This year the cost is £25 per head (£1 cheaper than last year). Cheques should be made payable to R Heppell. Please book your rooms with Dumbleton Hall and quote Cotswold Vale event.

Polish off your best bib and tucker!

Cotswold Vale TR Club January 23 2016

Meal time 6.30 for 7.00 PM

@

Dumbleton Hall

Menu

Starter

Cream of butternut Squash, Sage Beignets.....

Ham Hock & Guinea Fowl Terrine.....

Pearls of Melon, Fruits & orange Sabayon.....

Main

Roast Pavé of Lamb, Flageolet Puree & Balsamic Glaze.....

Take on a bed of Warm Tomatoes with Chariso Crumb & Herb Oil.....

Pan Fried Chicken Supreme with Haggis Farce & Whiskey Cream.....

Mushroom Guinness & Root Vegetable Casserole with Cream Potato.....

Dessert

Lemon Tart with Berry Compote.....

Apple and Sultana Sponge, Anglaise Sauce.....

Sunken Chocolate Cake with Clotted Cream.....

Cheese and Biscuit Selection.....

Freshly Brewed Tea or Coffee with Dinner mints

Name.....Tel number.....

Name.....Tel Number.....

Meal price is £25.00 per person rooms @ special price £85.00 Double Quote Cotswold vale when
Booking Dumbleton Hall Tel Number 01386 881240 Post Code WR11 7TS Book Rooms Direct

Please Make Cheques Payable to R Heppell (Meal Only)

Contact details for Bob Heppell are robert.heppell@btinternet.com or phone 01386 860499

At this point in time the numbers are down on what we have come to expect, PLEASE let Bob know if you intend to attend phone Bob Heppell on 01386 860499

January 27th - CVTR meeting at The Fleece.

This will be the first chance to review the 2016 diary of events.

February 8th - Sunday lunch. TBA

February 24th - CVTR meeting at The Fleece.

This meeting will also cover our postponed AGM and we will hopefully be electing our new Group Leader. Please give some thought as to who you would like in this role or even better volunteer. There will be lots of support to our new GL from the existing team.

SUPPLEMENT



Andrew Racey, Ian Brown and Richard Durrant

STOP PRESS

Rather than me reporting on it, you can read all about the TR Register AGM via this link:-

<http://www.tr-register.co.uk/article/2015/11/0036/TR-Register-TR-Owners-Club-Limited-Annual-General-Meeting-2015>

Wayne Scott produced a great short film of 2015 TR Register events (featuring several CVTR members and cars!):-

<https://vimeo.com/144648362>

Most notable was the TR Action award for the best Article in 2015, and this was awarded to Dave Gillespie for his series or reports restoring his TR3A – a worthy winner! Well done Dave.