

The TRunnion

TR Register Lea Valley Group

2015 Issue 2 (Mar/Apr)

LVG COMMITTEE 2015

Group Leader:

JULIAN HENSMAN ☎ 07818-060101

Email: jhensman@seorb.com

Deputy Group Leader/Editor:

BRIAN CHIDWICK ☎ 01462-730676

Email: bjmole1-trlvg@mybtinternet.com

Advisor:

JON MARSHALL ☎ 01462-673956

Email: jon.marshall@dsl.pipex.com

Treasurer:

PIERRE MILES ☎ 01438-880460

Email: pierremiles@hotmail.com

Events Co-ordinator:

PAUL RICHARDSON ☎ 01908-610098

Email: pr124@hotmail.co.uk

Technical:

DAVID DAWSON ☎ 07785-502830

Email: xd.xp@btinternet.com

Membership/Buddy System:

DAVID RANDALL ☎ 01234-302033

Email: d.randall23@ntlworld.com 07528 164723

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

TR Forum: www.tr-register.co.uk/forums

LVG: www.groups.tr-register.co.uk/lea-valley

Facebook: "TR Register Lea Valley Group"
https://www.facebook.com/leavalleyTR?ref=aymt_homepage_panel

2015 EVENTS CALENDAR

(subject to change)

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, as well as 'official' LVG events.

However, last year, we promoted the

BIG-4

These are the four major events which we hope most members will attend. Details of the 2015 BIG-4 events will be published following the committee meeting in February.

~o0o~

Other Events

Note: Monthly lunchtime meeting dates are now moved to the **third** Sunday.

2015

Mar.15: LVG Sunday Lunchtime Meeting

Apr.1: LVG Wednesday Evening Meeting
Yes, really - April Fools Day!

Apr.17-19: CACCC Springing Up Tour

Apr.19: LVG Sunday Lunchtime Meeting

Apr.25: Cars On Ramps at Robsport

Apr.26: MK Classic (DID) Tour
& East Area DID Meeting at Audley End

May.2: Nostalgia Forum Film Show, Albury

May.6: LVG Wednesday Evening Meeting

May.9: LVG Committee Meeting

May.17: LVG Sunday Lunchtime Meeting

May.17: ??[BIG-4] Peter Muncer Tulip Tour to Shuttleworth (Provisional)??

Jun.3: LVG Wednesday Evening Meeting

Jun.6: LGCCVCC Letchworth Picnic, Halls Green, nr Weston

Jun.14: [BIG-4] Luton Festival of Transport, Stockwood Park

Jun.21: LVG Sunday Lunchtime Meeting

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.

2 The TRunnion

Jun.21: CACCC Tibbles Tour
Jul.1: LVG Wednesday Evening Meeting
Jul.1: Classics in the Walled Garden, Luton Hoo
Jul.4: LVG Committee Meeting
Jul.12: SBMC Kimbolton Country Fayre
Jul.19: LVG Sunday Lunchtime Meeting
Jul.22: Classics on the Common, Harpenden
Aug.5: LVG Wednesday Evening Meeting
Aug.7-9: TRR International Weekend, Malvern
Aug.16: LVG Sunday Lunchtime Meeting
Sep.2: LVG Wednesday Evening Meeting (Last one of the year)
Sep.18-20: [BIG-4] Triumphant Welsh Classic Tour (LVG event, open to other clubs)
Sep.19-20: Kop Hillclimb, Princes Risborough
Sep.20: LVG Sunday Lunchtime Meeting
Oct.3: LVG Committee Meeting
Oct.18: LVG Sunday Lunchtime Meeting
Nov.15: LVG Sunday Lunchtime Meeting
Dec.20: LVG Sunday Lunchtime Meeting
This calendar will be updated in TRunnion and also on the website, so please check online regularly for latest information.

TRunnion Deadlines

Please note the following easy-to-remember dates for 2015 TRunnion contributions.

~~Tuesday 1st January~~ **Wednesday 1st July**
~~Sunday 1st March~~ **Tuesday 1st September**
Friday 1st May **Sunday 1st November**
[Late contributions accepted by prior agreement]

EDITORIAL

A fairly brief editorial as there are a number of other important items for you to read. Those who receive TRunnion by email should find separately attached minutes of the recent LVG Committee Meeting, minutes of the LVG 2014 AGM and a TR Register Group Leaders Update from Phil Tucker. I have also posted these on our website with this issue of TRunnion. I am grateful to Julian and Pierre respectively for producing the two sets of minutes so professionally that I no longer feel the need to incorporate them into TRunnion. Those of you on my email list will have already received Phil's update but if you haven't read it yet it is a good indication of the way in which the club is set to develop. There is a lot to read in both sets of minutes but we hope the Committee minutes will encourage more members to get involved,

not only by supporting events, but by suggesting and perhaps even helping to organise some. The AGM minutes include the Group Leader's annual report, Treasurer's report and accounts summary and more, so please have a look and feel free to contact any of the committee if you have any comments or questions.

The events calendar is still a work in progress as some events are yet to be finalised but details will be emailed as soon as they are available. Paul also has a list of additional events which he intends doing, some of which may be of interest to other members. A few may subsequently be added to the LVG calendar but meanwhile, Paul has asked me not to include everything in the official calendar as there is plenty to keep most of us occupied. If you would like a few extras for your own calendar, please contact Paul.

The next special event is the Cars On Ramps visit to Robsport. and details and entry form are included with the AGM Minutes. This is the day before Drive It Day so it should be a great weekend for everyone entered for the MK Classics event or planning to join Howard Pryor's Eastern Groups visit to Audley End.

April 1st is the first of our 2015 Wednesday evening meetings and no doubt there will be a few TRs returning to the road after their winter hibernation, especially late TR6/7/8s still subject to the dreaded road tax. Venue for this is still to be decided, so please contact me if you have a suggestion for a suitable pub, preferably with reasonable parking and bar food. Even better if anyone can find one with 'Fool' in the name!

Time now for me to get back into the garage to finish getting the TR ready for its MOT next week - just built late enough to still qualify for one (and probably just as well as its the one time that it gets an independent, professional check-up).



BrianC

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-trivg@mybtinternet.com.

New East Area Drive It Day

Dear All,

I am now trying to put the finishing touches to the New East Area "Drive it Day" to Audley End

The venue is booked so could you please come back to me with how many members you think may be attending this event

We have been given a 20% discount on all the usual entry prices to Audley End , but I believe English Heritage members are free

SO please come back ASAP with numbers so I can make sure we have enough space allocation available

Best Regards

Howard Pryor

TR Register East Area Director

North London Group Leader

020 8440 8623 07956 544168

howard.pryor@tiscali.co.uk

From Pete Muncer:

Brian -I know that a number of LVG members are going to do the MK Classic Tour on Drive It Day, but for those who have done it before or just want something different, Howard Pryor is organising a picnic get-together at Audley End House near Saffron Walden for various TR groups. I'm intending to go myself, so if anyone else would like to go also, I suggest gather at Baldock Services (time to be confirmed) and we can do a convoy run via some cross-country lanes. Can you publicise in next TRunnion (which I assume will be issued before Drive It Day). [Done - Ed.]

Group Leader's Report 3rd March 2015

Lea Valley Group is on a roll! We have woken up to 2015 raring to go and full of enthusiasm, with more new members attending our AGM in February than we have seen for a long time. Welcome again to Phil, Christine, John, Ian, Yvonne and Mike! The AGM was a great event this year with a superb turnout. We were so short of space we had some people standing in the doorway! That wasn't to say that we didn't have enough food and many thanks to Nick Smith at the Cock in Broom for laying on such a delicious and extensive spread.

Apart from our next Third Sunday event, which will be at The Cock in Broom as normal, our first event of the year will be maintenance related. Robsport International

have very kindly agreed to sponsor a Cars on Ramps event at their premises near Shepreth on the morning of Saturday 25th April. You will be able to put your car on their ramps, get a good look at its underbelly, and benefit from 5 minutes worth of free, expert advice. If you have not registered for this excellent event, I strongly recommend you do so. Please contact me directly for details.

Planning is now well underway for our BIG-4 events, plus a host of others besides. The first of the BIG-4 is Pete Muncer's Tiptoe-in-the-Tulips tour which will be in May. Pete's tours are always excellent, simple, and a great introduction to tulip tours if you have not tried one before. They are also great fun and good value. Again, if you have not signed up, please do get in touch.

Chris and Pat's Triumphant Welsh Classic has now received nearly 30 bookings and places are starting to go fast. This weekend in September promises to be a highlight of the year traversing some of the most beautiful driving roads in the country. Why not take the plunge and get yourself enrolled? All our events are open to all groups. If you are not in Lea Valley catchment but would like to take part, please feel free to join us! The more the merrier! And don't forget the restart of Route to Lunch on April's Third Sunday, hosted by Dave Randall.

As always, please see TRunnion or contact me for more details. I am available on 07818 060101 or at jhensman@seorb.com.



Julian Hensman

*[A copy of this report will also appear in
TRaction #281 Social Scene]*

[I think Pete's tour should be "Tiptoe Through The Tulips"(T4) and we rename Pete as Tiny Tim instead of Pathfinder General! See: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N_PLWqn_fFgU - Ed.]

2015 Kick Off Lunch

A few photos of TR Register Lea Valley Group arriving for the 2015 Kick Off Lunch at The Hermit of Redcoats, Titmore Green. Not everyone came in their TR but many did, including new TR Register East director, Howard Pryor (can you guess which car is Howard's?). The lunch was well attended as usual and having outgrown The Cock for our annual Christmas or New Year lunches, we tried The Hermit at Julian's recommendation and were not disappointed. Food and service were excellent but we still need more space as unfortunately a few would-be attendees were unable to get a place. Nevertheless, we did get to meet Gerry Cochrane who came for the first time just for the drive in his TR6. It was disappointing that the Hermit couldn't manage to squeeze in a couple more but at least he had a good drive and gave the new clutch a thorough test, so I hope it didn't put him off coming again.



And a couple of photos of the type no longer wanted in TRaction (and rightly so), but perfectly acceptable for local group ~~pages~~ newsletters like TRunnion! Looks like Uri Gellar had a go at the table in the top one but all straightened out for the second.



Tulip Or Not Tulip - That Is The Question

Pete Muncer raised this issue which I have included with some responses.

Dear Ed

Following today's excellent and productive AGM (and the superb buffet!), I thought I would try to respond at greater length in TRunnion, to the question raised in Any Other Business about the use of tulip diagrams.

Tulip diagrams have been around since the 1950's, when they were introduced on the Tulip Rally. Since then they have become one of the standard methods of indicating route directions, and certainly as far as tours I organise are concerned (and I imagine Chris & Pat Glasbey would agree), tulip diagrams are the only really effective method of following a route with many junctions and minor roads. However, clearly tulips assume that a navigator is present in the car to read the road book, keep an eye on the odometer (assuming it can be seen from the navigator's seat in a TR!), and generally warn the driver of the route ahead.

So, if no navigator is available, can you follow a tulip-defined route driving solo? Although it is possible, my advice would be DON'T TRY! - as this sounds like a recipe for a self-induced off-road excursion or (worse) an accident involving another road user. This advice may sound a little hard on any soloists, but I'm sure the last thing we want to see is an incident involving a TR on a Lea Valley Group event.

What alternatives to tulip diagrams are available? Well, the route could be defined by a narrative type of instruction utilising signpost directions, village names, landmarks, etc. - however, all these techniques are used by most organisers to supplement the tulip diagrams in tour road books anyway. A tracing of the route from an O.S. map could be made (back in the 1970's any rally route had to be submitted to the RAC for approval in the form of a tracing - you needed a big piece of tracing paper for a 200-mile route). However, these alternatives all rely on someone studying the document before continuing on the route - i.e. the navigator.

In conclusion, I can only suggest that any solo tourists link up at the start of a tour with another car to act as pathfinder - I have often acted as such on tours in the past, and happily will do so again. Mind you, even the route planner can sometimes get lost - can't I, Ed?

Pete Muncer

Excellent Pete - I will include this in the next TRunnion (mid-March) and we should promote Navigators'R'Us along with details for all future tours. This could also be an opportunity for people to experience a longer ride in a different model TR from their own, or participate in active events even if their car is off the road (or even as yet still to be purchased). NRU could also provide the chance to involve younger members who may not yet have a driving license, as happened with The King's Run.

~o0o~

From Chris Glasbey

Dear Ed,

Pat and I agree with Pete's wise words. For a planned tour, particularly MSA approved, the Navigator is the most important part of the team ...the driver just needs to concentrate on driving!

Turning the clock back to 1977, I organised the first of the TR Register - Lakes Tours. The first event only attracted 14 cars but by 1980 the event had grown so much and we were seeing over 120 TRs arriving at the Newby Bridge Services start. I informed the police, who agreed to stop the TRaffic for us as the first convoy of 40 cars departed. After 20 minutes, the second convoy departed and later the 3rd. I won't bore you with the logistics of pub lunch stops etc, or smiling and annoyed locals who

6 The TRunnion

had to wait whilst 40 cars blasted up Wrynose and Hardknott Passes. We had a team of "convoy escort cars", with CB radios (illegal in those days) and each convoy had 2 or 3 escort TRs. I remember leading a convoy and asking the rear TR to advise when he reached that particular cattle grid. We had a solid convoy stretching exactly 1/2 mile. I also remember blocking the road at certain junctions to let the whole convoy outand then overtaking all the TRs to get back to the front !

I co-ordinated that event for the first 10 years. Other TR Register tours were launched, following the same idea of convoy runs.

For years, Paul (Cat) Tunnadine has organised the modern day event but never advertised it in TRaction so that the numbers would be kept low. I believe today's tours attract about 50 cars.

On last year's "King's Run" we had two junior Navigators who were both keen and a little nervous at the thought of reading 'tulip' instructions. Cars were set off from the start at one minute intervals but these 2 TRs were each 'tagged' behind an experienced crew who would keep them 'in-tow'. However, by the time we reached the lunch stop, Beth (age 9) was so confident that she navigated her grandad for the rest of the event unaided.

The bottom line is that organisers, particularly on one day tours, may allow one or two driver-only entrants to tag behind another TR and as Pete says, they may then get lost together !

Chris Glasbey.

~o0o~

From Jon Marshall

I agree with Pete and think we should strongly discourage anyone from trying to read the road book and drive. I tried doing so in Pete's Toe in the Water run and had a 'moment'.

Best wishes, Jon

~o0o~

From Julian Hensman

Hi All,

All good interesting reading and good stuff for TRunnion. Perhaps Brian, for those who have not done it, we could include an example in TRunnion so they can see what tulip diagrams are?

I agree that nobody solo should attempt to navigate. This is just plain dangerous and I was behind Jon when he nearly had his "moment", so I went through that with him! It does however create the risk of the blind leading the blind and both parties getting lost! However, I really don't think we can avoid that.

On the topic of some people getting lost, Pat said yesterday that she makes a point of putting place names on the routes and this I think is the key. I think if we can choose 3 or 4 small villages along any given route and identify a certain point within them (small so the navigation to the certain point is therefore easy), then we can mark these as "WAYPOINTS" or "MILESTONES" which are points where people who have become lost can find them easily, including direction of travel, and therefore get back on track. Could this be a policy we could follow?

Jules

~o0o~

Chris Glasbey has provided the following example for the benefit of anyone unsure what this discussion is about - the name comes from the "Tulip Rally" on which this style of navigation was originally used. I have also raised the topic on the TR Forum: <http://www.tr-register.co.uk/forums/index.php?/topic/50815-easy-navigating-using-tulip-diagrams-a-beginners-guide/>

7 The TRunnion

Please feel free to join in the discussion, either by email or online - we need to know what we can do to make touring more attractive to members and partners, especially those who have never tried it, or who have been put off by a previous experience or fear of overly complex route instructions.

Easy Navigating using "Tulip" diagrams ...a beginners Guide :-

IF you have not taken part in a tour which uses Tulip diagrams, here is a sample page from the Road Book of a previous event:-

Ref.	Total miles	Interval	Tulip	Instruction
13	8.5	0.7		Weston Colville B 1052
14	8.7	0.2		Weston Colville village sign
15	10.3	1.6		Brinkley village sign
16	10.4	0.1		Newmarket B 1052
17	10.5	0.1		Newmarket B 1052
18	12.1	1.6		Dullingham village sign
19	12.5	0.4		Dullingham Station
20	13.4	0.9		Rail level Crossing
21	14.9	1.5		Newmarket A 1304
22	16.5	1.6		Newmarket A 1304
23	18.2	1.7		Newmarket sign
24	18.9	0.7		Moulton B 1063 at the clock tower

The Navigator is in charge

1. You are always travelling from the bottom of the diagram (dot).
2. As soon as you have completed one instruction 'shout' the next one to Driver.
3. It may be useful to tick off each instruction as you go.
4. In Wales, many of the junctions will be miles apart, so you will not have to look down at the map too regularly ...and can also enjoy the scenic route
5. IF you do miss a turn, go back to that last junctionthen use the interim mileage to continue to next instruction, etc.
6. There can be up to 10% mileometer error between different cars, so again use the interim mileage to keep track.
7. Enjoy.

"TRIUMPHANT WELSH CLASSIC TOUR" 18 - 20 SEPTEMBER 2015

Places still available on this scenic tour of mid-Wales. Contact Chris Glasbey NOW if you are interested, E: triclassicwales.44@btinternet.com -or- T: 01223 - 833700

Nostalgia Forum Film Show (31st January)

Motor Sport Nostalgia Forum film shows are always a good day out with entertaining guest speakers as well as the films. The latest event had a special attraction for Triumph enthusiasts, with Brian Culceth and Graham Robson in attendance.

~oOo~

From Richard Hinton

Dear All,

Many thanks indeed to all of you who attended Saturday and braved the cold weather and icy roads; it is your continued support that keeps it going. We much appreciate so many of you travelling such long distances - our thanks for that.

Special thanks to all of you who so kindly stayed behind and put all the tables and chairs away - that really is a massive help and we do so appreciate your help with this task after a long day.

My thanks to Jane & Bill in the kitchen - splendid job as ever; to Geoff Hawkes who worked so hard all weekend and dropped on all the jobs as they occurred; to Glyn who is so very reliable in devising, preparing and running the ever popular lunchtime quiz.

And of course to our special guests:

Brian Culceth who talked so well about his 20+ years as a factory works rally driver with such an exquisite set of photographs.

Bill Price who gave us a fascinating insight into the workings of BMC Competitions starting with Marcus Chambers, through the BL amalgamation and Special Tuning Dept right up to its demise and the semi works/private assistance in its aftermath - brilliant stuff.

Mick Jones who so kindly stepped up - Mick very much the face of Ford Motor Company Boreham Competitions dept at rally service points for 30 plus years; wonderful insight - we must hear more of his tales in the future.

Graham Robson such a professional moderator - been there and done it himself at several major motor manufacturer plants in the West Midlands, also as a rally organizer and an author of no less than 160 books on cars, motoring, rallies and competition over a span of the last 40 years.



Bill Price Mick Jones
Brian Culceth Graham Robson



Graham, Bill & Brian look at Rod Waller's cartoon

All 4 of them were both a delight to meet and a joy to listen to - our grateful thanks to them all for travelling great distances Brian & Graham right up from the West Country and so generously entertaining us with the stories of their lives in motor sport.

As Mick so rightly put it "Those years travelling the world and being paid to do

9 The TRunnion

something you loved doing - they were indeed the best years of my life." Sure we can all empathize with that.



Thank you all again for your loyal support - it was a joy to see you all.

Better start thinking about 2nd May now then it should by then be warm and sunny and we can also enjoy an outdoor barbecue.

Thought you might like to see the cartoon Rod Waller did to present copies to Brian, Bill & Graham



*Kind Regards
Richard*



©RJ Colmar 2015

Steve Rockingham's superb ex-works TR7V8 outside the snowy hall in January with other TR members



Hertfordshire Motor Racing History
Quarterly Talks & Film Shows
richard@hinton1.fsbusiness.co.uk
01279771667

With the emphasis on rallying, cars with an appropriate connection to the theme were permitted to park on the grass. Of course, this included Triumphs, which, despite the early morning snow, were well represented by TRs from several of the TR Register Eastern and Chiltern groups. Unfortunately, not all could get into the sacred area, including Ian Freeman's TR8 which languished amongst the moderns in the packed little car park, but I did manage to take these few photos during the rainy lunch break. At least it cleared the snow but 'gaining TRaction' when leaving later was interesting!





TR Register International Weekend

The TR International Weekend will be taking place over the weekend of the 7th - 9th August 2015 at the Three Counties Showgrounds, Malvern, Worcestershire.

A slightly different format will accompany this years annual festival of TRs. All Standard Triumph clubs are invited and for TR Register members there are discounts for advance booking, TR7 and TR4a anniversary celebrations and even free beer - yes really! We'll keep you updated over the coming weeks about what more you can expect from the biggest TR gathering anywhere in the world.

In the meantime please download the attached flyer / advert and distribute to your friends, publish it in your local group news letters and post on your Facebook page. Lets spread the word, make the show buzz and look forward to a fantastic weekend celebrating our TR sportscars.

Both JPEG and PDF version attached below. More event details to come shortly.

Regards,
Wayne Scott
Press Officer & Editor of TR Action Magazine - TR Register



**Three Counties Showground, Malvern. Worcs.
7-9th August 2015**

- > Family entertainment all weekend
 - > Premier Concours d'Elegance and Pride of Ownership competition
 - > Technical Seminars
 - > Large Trade Exhibition and Autojumble
 - > Autosolo
 - > Arena show of Triumphs with Interviews and demonstrations
- * Discounts available for pre-booking
 - * All Triumphs Welcome
 - * Free Ale for TR Register Members (yes really!)

Watch the club website for further information on all the exciting weekend events and prices: www.tr-register.co.uk

[@trevents](https://twitter.com/trevents)
www.facebook.com/trreg

TR Register

www.tr-register.co.uk
Tel: 01235 818866

We have already booked our usual temporary residence in West Malvern - hope to see plenty of LVG members making the most of what may be the last IWE at this venue for some time.

TR LVG 2014 AGM

As already mentioned, all the details of the AGM are in the separate minutes and report by Pierre Miles which I hope you will now read. Attendance was the best it has been in recent years, both in numbers of members and TRs. The whole event was hectic and thoroughly enjoyable and we managed to win a few brownie points with the locals, whose pub we virtually took over, by inviting them to help us finish off the buffet. I don't know if anyone took any photos but I did manage to sneak out to the car park for a couple of minutes and grabbed these few hasty snaps. Not great composition, but perhaps interesting to see who can spot the cars which are new to the group. Not a bad turnout for February and very encouraging for the forthcoming season.



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**.*