



Back to a familiar front page, the July edition ran out of space so the colourful heading was somewhat reduced to make way for a few more words of wisdom.

Leicester Group Weekend July

The group based the weekend around King Richard III.

I will start with the weather report. It was a

mixed hoods up, hoods down weekend with a mixture of sun and rain.

For me a straight forward drive to the Millers Hotel Sibson just north of Nuneaton. A number of us had booked in for two nights except Anne and Bill who stayed nearby with their daughter for a freebie. As usual the Friday night was a fairly relaxed affair with drivers

and co-pilots getting “fuelled up” for the following day. The evening saw the majority shuffle up to The Cock Inn for refreshments and a bite to eat. I heard varying reports from slow service to excellent food. One man's poison I suppose. I chose to stay in the Hotel and have an early night in preparation for Saturday's big day.

Saturday started with a hearty breakfast followed by car prep. and a 9.00am start. Probably a little early for some of our seasoned revellers! A total of 37 cars took to the roads, all TRs except the odd one or two which included a very nice E-type. The star for me was a very nice black TR3.

After an enjoyable run through the Leicester countryside via The Bosworth Battlefield Visitor Centre and then onto the Royal Arms, Sutton Cheney, for a buffet lunch. The afternoon had a choice of a couple of short runs or a “do your own thing”. I chose the latter.

The evening formal dinner turned into an informal event when Mick Forey appeared dressed as Richard III.

“Now is the winter of our discontent. Made glorious summer by this sun of York.” That is all I know from William's play. Mick had written his own script which went down well. The dinner was excellent,

followed by the obligatory quiz which was based on the weekend theme of Richard III. I must admit the life and times of Richard III is not my strong point probably a quiz better suited to BBC Mastermind. Anyone not familiar with the latest story, it revolves around a body being dug up in a Leicester car park and hailed as the long lost king and after a long and bitter struggle with the house of York, Leicester finally won the right to bury their man in Leicester Cathedral.

After a long, long night the weekend was nearly over.

Now for the Sunday run. A 10.00am start for most was much more civilised.

After a short run we

arrived at our lunch stop at Barton Marina, a waterside venue with a host of shops and eating houses. We had been booked into the Thai restaurant for a buffet. I was fortunate to be near to the front of the queue; however those at the rear probably waited quite a long time. The afternoon was time to make our way home. Many thanks to Mick and Linda and the rest of the Leicester team who put together a super weekend.

IWE Lincoln

For the big event of the year for the TR Register, most our group arrived on the Friday to take advantage of the free evening bar. Bob turned up early to run up the Red

Rose flag in the tradition of the British Army in the Falkland Islands to stake a claim of camping land near to the shower and toilet block.

I arrived on site on the Saturday. From my experiences of the queuing at Malvern this was a sheer delight. I drove straight in around 9.30 am. I must say that I was pleasantly surprised with the setting and layout of the facilities.

Now my gripe, I thought that the attendance was not as it could have been and the number of cars on display was not up to Malvern standards. I suppose this could be understood as I found the drive across from Cheshire

quite tedious. Imagine what those from the south coast clubs would have endured.

Of the show itself pretty much as before. That is not a criticism because it must be difficult for the organisers to dream up new ideas every year.

I thought that the number of companies in the sales hall was down on previous years, as was the area allocated for the auto jumble. The arena at the rear of the main block was very quiet. Bob and I sat with a beer and listened to the thoughts of President Graham Robson ably assisted by Wayne Scott. I made an appeal on our Facebook page for our

members' thoughts on the show and what follows is a word for word crib of their views.

Gordon Bayley Travelled down Friday across Buxton way avoiding the motorways, got caught up in the small towns en route, on arrival we were pleasantly surprised with the showground. It was well planned although the arena was on the other side of the main building. The hall with the traders in was a bit dark and too small, the bring and buy could be easily overlooked as it was tucked away. The entertainment Friday night (the ventriloquist) was abysmal although with the free wine and beer was easily forgotten. We didn't

go to the Saturday night entertainment as we heard them rehearsing and as normal it was far too loud and people couldn't hold a conversation. On the whole it was very good but last year at Malvern couldn't be beaten. It was also very nice to meet up with old friends and make some new friends.

Stephen Cooper Well done to all who put the IWE on but prefer Malvern - Better toilets, brighter halls and larger, more space for concourse, arena and auto jumble more accessible/joined up and better scenery.

Tony Shearin This one was for the campers brilliant. Improvements to catering and entertainment as well as

displays could be made but only needs tweaking.

Other views related to me included, dirty showers and toilets, the arena being hidden by the main admin block and with poor access.

From my perspective it will make interesting reading in the next edition of the TR Action to read the views from the rest of the world.

TR FEST

No excuses for moving onto the main event of the year our very own TR FEST held at Antrobus Village Hall on the 6th August. I'm for once nearly lost for words, the day was as perfect as one could imagine. The weather was idyllic, the organisation

superb, the facilities top rate and the company most charming. That is the end of my vocabulary of adjectives.

71 cars took part, the vast majority TRs with the numbers being made up by others. Those on the run around local Cheshire were flagged off by Caroline with her Union Jack.

Those of us who chose not to participate in the run sat and enjoyed the sun and devoured the endless supplies of tea, coffee and biscuits. As a group I thought it was quite nice to sit and chat without the hubbub of the A.A.

The side shows proved a great success. Tombola, raffle, bring and buy and

chucking the wellie (I suppose in Cheshire it would be better termed and more politically correct as throwing the wellie). I must say that watching the contestants they all had their own unique styles and interpretation of throwing. It ranged from Hazel Bayley swinging it between her legs to some demented character pivoting around like an Olympic hammer thrower.

What followed was the Hog roast; those already not full up after firsts, seconds and thirds were invited to devour cake that was left over after the judges of the cake competition had had their fill. To say the room was full would be an understatement. Who

appointed all these judges I have no idea.

Well done to Tony Lambert who won the coveted first prize of Red Rose Bake-off Champion.

Who won the Wellie throwing competition I have no idea, but perhaps they would want to keep it quiet anyway.

What followed was a remarkable raffle. First ticket drawn belonged to Caroline, who won the beautiful quilted car rug made by Audrey Foster. Prizes came thick and fast and the afternoon finished with praises all-round for those who helped on the day. Particularly Caroline, Jonathon, Carole and Mike who originated the idea of

a 45th celebration and put so much effort into making it such a memorable day. Thanks to all four of you. It was said to me by more than one that we should consider making this an annual event. That I think as a group we will need to think long and hard about, especially as 2017 is the Red Rose Weekend and it would be

unfair to burden them with this too.

As my parting shot on the TR FEST you will not be surprised to hear that Caroline has received many emails thanking her and everyone for such a good day.

Next up Tatton, see you there.

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