

The TRunnion

TR Register Lea Valley Group

2016 Issue 5 (Sep/Oct)

LVG COMMITTEE

Group Leader:

PIERRE MILES ☎ 01438-880460

Email: pierremiles@hotmail.com

Deputy Group Leader:

CHRIS GLASBEY ☎

Email: chris.glaz852@btinternet.com

Treasurer:

PHIL SANFORD ☎ 07919-037321

Email: p.sanford051@btinternet.com

Editor:

BRIAN CHIDWICK ☎ 01462-730676

Email: bjmole1-trlvg@mybtinternet.com

Events Co-ordinator:

PAUL RICHARDSON ☎ 01908-610098

Email: pr124@hotmail.co.uk 07860-414840

Technical:

DAVID DAWSON ☎ 07785-502830

Email: xd.xp@btinternet.com

Membership/Buddy System:

DAVID RANDALL ☎ 01234-302033

Email: d.randall23@ntlworld.com 07528-164723

Advisor:

JON MARSHALL ☎ 01462-673956

Email: jon.marshall@dsl.pipex.com

International Liaison:

JULIAN HENSMAN ☎ 07818-060101

Email: jhensman@seorb.com

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.

Plenty of parking space behind pub. This is a 'lunchtime meeting', not specifically a 'lunch meeting', so food is optional. However...our monthly lunchtime meetings are well supported, so **it would be appreciated if those intending to eat could please contact The Cock 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. 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!

WEB SITES

TR Register: www.tr-register.co.uk

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

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

Facebook: **"TR Register Lea Valley Group"**
www.facebook.com/leavalleyTR

2016 EVENTS CALENDAR

BIG-4 Events

Please read the Committee Minutes for information on proposed 2016 BIG-4 Events (major events which we encourage all members to attend)

Jun.12: ✓ Luton Festival of Transport, Stockwood Park ✓

Jun.26: ✓ CACCC Tibbles Tour ✓

Jul.3: ✓ Bicester Flywheel Festival ✓

Sep.25: Social TRip to Stamford & Burghley House

(This year's events continued below. Nominations for 2017 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

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.

Please contact Paul Richardson if you have queries about any of these events.
"We don't expect members to do all of the events, just good to give them the choice!!!"- Paul
Note: Monthly lunchtime meeting dates are always on the third Sunday.

2016

- Sep.3: Cars in the Claydons, Middle Claydon, Bucks
[\(http://www.claydonestate.co.uk/whats-on/\)](http://www.claydonestate.co.uk/whats-on/)
- Sep.4: HRCR Regis Tap - W.Sussex/Hants
 (Paul & Wendy)
- Sep.7: LVG Evening Meeting (Jolly Coopers, Wardhedges)**
- Sep.10: TRGB Open Day
- Sep.11: Toddington Railway Car Club Day
- Sep.16-18: CACCC Falling Down Tour
- Sep.17-18: Kop Hillclimb, Princes Risborough
- Sep.18: LVG Sunday Lunchtime Meeting**
 (Route to Lunch with TBA)
- Sep.18: All-Triumph & Classics Day, IWE, Duxford
- Sep.25: [BIG-4] Social TRip to Stamford & Burghley House**

- Oct.1: LVG Committee Meeting**
- Oct.2: HRCR Tour of Kent
- Oct.2: Bicester Heritage Scramble
- Oct.15: Nostalgia Motor Sport Forum Film Show
 (Ladies in Motor Sport)
- Oct.15-16: HRCR Autumn Leaves Tour - Mid-Wales
 (Metropole Hotel, Llandrindod Wells)
- Oct.16: LVG Sunday Lunchtime Meeting**
- Nov.20: LVG Sunday Lunchtime Meeting**
- Dec.18: LVG Sunday Lunchtime Meeting**

2017

- Jan.15: LVG 2017 Kick-Off Lunch**
 (The Crown at Shillington - to be confirmed)
- Feb.19: LVG Sunday Lunchtime Meeting/AGM**
 (Venue to be determined)

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-trlvlg@mybtinternet.com.

Facebook - Fear not, help is at hand!

We have had a Facebook page ("TR Register Lea Valley Group" www.facebook.com/leavalleyTR) since December 2014 and despite many visits from Triumph enthusiasts from the UK and abroad, we still seem to have very few LVG members using Facebook and even fewer posting on our page. I know many are concerned about privacy and security but there is nothing to fear provided you restrict the information about yourself to a minimum. The major benefit of using Facebook is the wealth of information, photos, videos and advice available, not only about cars but also other hobbies and interests. If you need advice or help to start using Facebook, please contact me.

You don't even need to be a registered Facebook user to access the LVG page - just click on this link or type it into your browser: www.facebook.com/leavalleyTR.

Just TRY it - you know you want to!

EDITORIAL

An exTRemely brief editorial again as I wanted to get this issue out in time for several important events in September. Fortunately, a number of members have sent in material so I'm almost redundant. Pierre has covered just about every event in his reports. Although he has expressed concern that he doesn't "want to appear to monopolise the content", I include the Social Scene reports in TRunnion since they are no longer posted on our website by the TRaction editor as we (or rather "I") now have full control over website content. This ensures that the reports can be still be read by prospective members looking to see what our group offers. An active presence on the internet is vital to attract new members and grow the group so that we can provide a more varied programme of events so please help us by providing photos for our website and Facebook page, as well as TRunnion and the forthcoming LVG wall calendar (details below). That's all folks - see you at the Jolly Coopers on Wednesday!



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~~

Lea Valley Group 2017 Wall Calendar

YOUR chance to be in it and WIN !



You will remember seeing these excellent images from Magda in a previous Trunnion. The time is right for Lea Valley Group to produce an exclusive Calendar for 2017. With this in mind, we need a good variety of FINE QUALITY photos to select from TR action or interesting scenes including TRs ! If your photo is chosen for the calendar, you will win a prize ! Early entries appreciated, with closing date mid September. Highest image quality please and email to Brian .



We need a lot more photos by 30th of September.

BIG-4: Social TRip to Stamford & Burghley House - 25th September 2016

Please contact Paul Richardson for final details of this last BIG-4 event of 2016 but outline plan is:

- Arrive in your own time OR join a social run starting and arriving en masse.
- Parking in front of the House for photoshoot if possible.
- GROUP LUNCH in the ORANGERY RESTAURANT (time to be confirmed).
- The house & garden is open 11:00 to 17:00
- More info can be found here: <http://www.burghley.co.uk>

This is not a tour or convoy run but for those who wish to meet somewhere en route, Paul has suggested a possible route from Roxton Garden Centre for the TRip to Burghley House. The route goes on minor roads then the B660 to Great Gidding, minor roads to Elton, B671 to Wansford, A47 for a couple of miles, minor roads to Barnack then the B1443 to Burghley House. Around 47 miles.

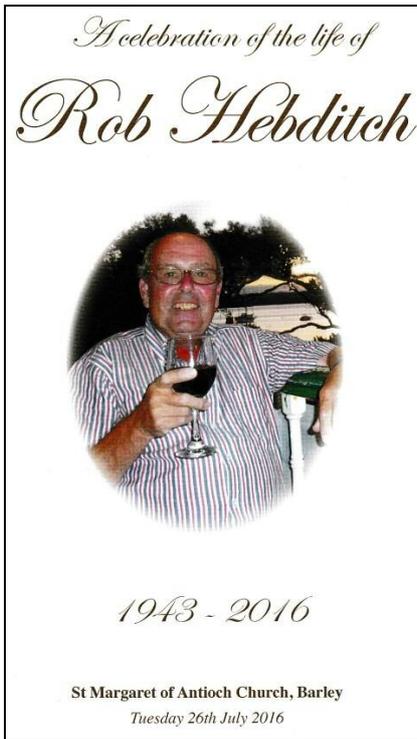
For those who wish to make their own way and spend the morning in Stamford, Paul has the following warning: "We were in Stamford the other Sunday on the Welland Valley Wander and parking is not good. I think it over complicates the event by having two finishes. Everyone can find Burghley House!!! Another point is Roxton Garden Centre doesn't open until 10:30 on a Sunday so we would need to leave there by 11:00 to get to Burghley by 13:00 for Lunch."

Note that the Roxton to Burghley route is a purely social run - nothing is mandatory, even taking part really, and there is no requirement to complete the route even if someone has started on it.

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Those who read the previous TRunnion will be aware that Rob Hebditch sadly passed away on 8th July. June has kindly given me permission to include these photos from the Funeral Order of Service for the benefit of those long-standing members that remember 'Bob' and others who knew 'Rob' as customers of Robsport but were unable to attend. Several LVG members, past and present, were at the funeral, including three now in self-imposed exile in Norfolk. The church was packed with friends of Rob and June, many from their schooldays.

Far from being a sombre occasion, the tone was set by the entrance music - *"Forty Miles of Bad Road"* by Duane Eddy and concluded by *"Swinging on a Star"* by Big Dee Irwin. Totally Rob!

The following 'wake' at The Chequers was very well attended and was still going strong when Lynda and I left at about 7:00pm. It was a good funeral - shame Bob missed it!

Group Leader's Report - 5th July 2016

LVG members from across Herts, Beds and Bucks joined up with local TSSC members to provide a substantial presence at the Luton Festival of Transport on what was probably the wettest day in June, with our TRs being by far the most numerous Triumph model. June also saw a great LVG turnout for the Tibbles Tour designed by Pete Muncer and organised by the Carpenter's Arms Classic Car Club based at Harpenden. Sandwiched between an early breakfast and a fish and chip supper, we enjoyed several refreshment stops while following the route along about 160 miles turnout for the Tibbles Tour designed by Pete Muncer and organised by the Carpenter's Arms Classic Car Club based at Harpenden. Sandwiched between an early breakfast and a fish and chip supper, we enjoyed several refreshment stops while following the route along about 160 miles (more if you got it wrong!) of the back roads of Herts, Beds and Essex. Moggerhanger Park was one of the stops and was new to me, despite having driven past it many times over recent years. The tour also provided us with the opportunity to view MAMILs*, a new species often spotted on the roads during weekend drives. Finally, the LVG met with the North London Group and the Chiltern TRs at the Bicester Flywheel event, with about 30 TRs lined up in the sunshine. Plenty of historic racing cars on a small 'figure of 8' circuit, plenty of historic aircraft flying about, including mock dog fights by biplanes and triplanes, and plenty of old military vehicles to investigate. A good day out when the only hazard was over-exposure to the sun.



Planning is well under way for our autumn trip out, with Burghley House and Stamford looking to be the favoured destination. Planning is also already underway for 2017, with Belgium and Northern France being ear-marked for an early summer overseas venture before the European doors shut – just joking of course.

As for the cars, there are investigations into mysterious clutch judder, wayward steering on a 4A resulting probably from 'proper' replacement track rod ends having differing dimensions from the original parts and carburettors on a Dove that continue to cause concern. On the plus side, replacement of a 31 year old exhaust system on a TR3A has been successfully completed and after a 4-wheel alignment check, all the wheels on one of our TR6s are now pointing in the right direction, making it so much easier to steer.

Attendance at our monthly meetings continues to edge upwards, with a second TR7V8 at our June meeting – thank you to new member Richard Wood for bringing it along. Judging from the interest shown at Bicester, the TRR is likely to get some new members in the coming days, as well. There is much more to learn about the LVG so why not read our TRunnion newsletter that can be accessed at <http://www.tr-register.co.uk/group/lea-valley/social-reports>. Better still, why not come to one of our meetings at The Cock in Broom at lunchtime on the third Sunday of every month. If none of those do it for you, simply give me a call at 01438 880460.

*MAMIL – middle aged men in lycra.

[This report eventually appeared in TRaction #292 Social Scene, but is included here for the benefit of ex-members on my distribution list and new members that have joined after #292 - Ed.]



Pierre Miles

Group Leader's Report - 17th August 2016

LVG members from across Herts, Beds and Bucks have had a busy couple of months gadding about the country both near and far. The 'near' events were a couple of local classic and custom car shows less than 10 miles from our usual meeting place. These were both very relaxing affairs, although there was an impromptu test at one of them to see how many people could be crammed into a sports club house – participation was encouraged by a sudden tremendous cloudburst that had many of us racing to get the hoods up first. The 'far' events included members having a great time surviving the Le Mans Classic weekend, while others were in Wales, either participating in an HRCR tour of the Black Mountains or simply having a more leisurely reprise of some of last year's Triumphant Welsh Classic route. Midway between 'near' and 'far' were two other events: the IWE at Lincoln, where the LVG was represented by our diehards, Jon Marshall, Paul Richardson and Dave Randall, and the Silverstone Classic event.

In July, several LVG current and ex-members attended the funeral of Rob Hebditch, founder of Robsport International. Rob was such an interesting man that having a chat with him was so easy – especially so if you wanted to talk about TRs, as long as you could cope with his wicked sense of humour. Rob was much loved by all who came into contact with him, as was demonstrated by the 200 or so people that packed out the church.

Our Wednesday evening and Sunday lunchtime meetings continue to be popular, with gradually increasing numbers turning up. Our Bright Spark Trophy has been awarded to Dave Randall, following his perseverance in sorting out the wayward steering on his TR.

Planning is well under way for our autumn trip out to Stamford and Burghley House, scheduled for 25 September. This will wrap up our BIG-4 events of 2016, but more events are planned for the autumn, including a trip to the dogs.

We've all seen various items of merchandise associated with TRs, but here are a couple that I think are particularly good. It occurs to me that this could be relevant to quite a few TRR members . . .



In August, we said '*à une prochaine fois*' to our ex-GL, Julian Hensman and Magda who are off to France to start a new life. We wish them well in their new venture, which includes providing holiday accommodation in the Toulouse area, with a longer-term possibility of setting up a technical assistance centre for TR tourers in the region. Sounds very interesting.

Finally, the LVG is planning a 2017 calendar containing photos of our cars in some way or other – it'll be interesting to see just how innovative our members will be when composing the photos.

There is much more to learn about the LVG so why not read our TRunnion newsletter that can be accessed at <http://www.tr-register.co.uk/group/lea-valley/social-reports>. Better still, why not come to one of our meetings at The Cock in Broom at lunchtime on the third Sunday of every month. If none of those do it for you, simply give me a call at 01438 880460.



[This report should appear in TRaction #293 - Ed.]

Pierre Miles

Editorial Notes:

1. Photo of my grandson Joshua Dylan Callis, is by my daughter who runs Patternhill Studio (see ad below).
2. The TR Bear T-shirt is (or was) a TRR product many years ago (when Sarah was a baby herself).
3. Sarah also adds: "*I did design the babygrow myself and had it printed via an online company. If anyone is interested in these, it's fine for them to contact me via email or my Facebook page. It would be so cute to have a whole collection of TR babies!*"

Group Leader's Report - 30th August 2016

While the weather this summer may not on the whole be as sunny as those our memories tell us we enjoyed in our younger years, it certainly has not stopped LVG TRs from getting out and about. Perhaps the upside of this is that the risk of getting sunburnt is reduced.

Our July 'first Wednesday' gathering was at The Luton Hoo Classics in the Walled Garden and was really well attended by our group. Picnics were enjoyed by all that remembered to take them and was lots of interest in our cars. One visitor to our area was David Powell – a long-time member of LVG who despite not being able to drive, has kept his TR6 for decades and has no intention of parting with it. I also had a long discussion with Charlie McDowell and his son Jamie from the Datchworth classic car club. His Pimento Red TR6 has an incredibly low mileage and looks to be in perfect condition – not that I am envious, of course. One thought after the event – where were the Minis? I didn't see one anywhere

Excellent turn out for Brian's R2L for the July meeting, finishing with 12 TRs (and THAT Cobra again) at The Cock. Good to see Mike and Karen Rawlings after such a long time – with their excellent TR4A attracting quite a bit of interest. Sad day though, as it was the last time we will see Julian and Magda before they went south on their new dream in France - we all wish them the very best of fortune down there. More of this later.

Several LVG members made it to Rob Hebditch's funeral on 26 July, along with a couple of past Group Leaders [*actually one former GL and two former DGLs - Ed.*]. The fact that Rob was clearly loved by a huge number of people was demonstrated when something like 200 people crowded into the church at Barley – it was quite literally, standing room only.

Of course, the big TR event recently was the International Weekend at Lincoln – seems to have been an excellent event. Members have been asked to complete a survey on the IWE, whether or not they went. But did you see the car featured by the TRR in their request to do the survey? Another claim to fame for Paul's TR3A.

LVG members turned up at two local shows: Pirton show in support of the RNLI, and the Classic and Custom Car show at Stotfold. Both casual affairs with lots of stuff to enjoy, ranging from a Bren Gun Carrier (complete with gun!) to some of the best burgers that money can buy. The Pirton tombola was particularly good as I won a really nice bottle of wine - not only that, the event raised £1500 for the RNLI.

The turn-out for the August 'first Wednesday' was great, with a couple of dozen people at the Anchor Inn at Gt Barford. Pat and I were a bit late, caused by the car's battery being flat after having the satnav plugged in and switched on for too long. I used one of those little emergency start boxes you see in the various catalogues that keep coming through the letter box. Mine is a 3 inch cube and is called JumpStar - took only 15 mins to get enough charge into the car's battery to get the car going.

I couldn't get to the August Sunday meeting until mid-afternoon, so missed the R2L designed by Chris and Pat Glasbey. I heard that this was a super run – as we have come to expect from them – and I am really sorry to have missed it. Although arriving late at The Cock, I had the opportunity to meet new member Martin Hawkins – welcome Martin. It seems that over the years, he has had lots of involvement with classic cars of various sizes and I'm sure can bring some of that experience to the LVG – all he needs is a TR! Happy hunting, Martin.

One of the things the committee has to do is plan future events and we need your help. We need to know what it is you want from the LVG, be it simply enjoying the Sunday meetings or something else, such as touring for a week. You will have seen our 'Gaining TRaction' survey last year and the new one just out. This has a number of suggestions for you to consider, but that is all they are – suggestions. I'm sure there are other things you would like to do that never occurred to us, so the thing is – PLEASE tell us. Fill out the new survey and use the blank lines to add in your thoughts – it's quite likely that others will come up with similar suggestions.

Those that have looked at the 2017 survey will have noticed mention of a possible trip to the Loire Valley. It's more than 25 years since our last trip there but I can tell you that this is a wonderful region of France to explore and not too far away really. I am hoping that we will see more recent descriptions from Tony and Barbara Bannard-Smith who have recently covered a couple of

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thousand miles in their TR2 touring in that area – ‘his ‘n’ hers’ articles in TRunnion or TRaction, maybe?

The LVG calendar – a few photos have been received but we need more. We will be making choices for inclusion in the calendar at our committee meeting at the beginning of October, so PLEASE get your entries to Brian NOW. Remember that prizes (bribes?) are on offer!

Not quite finally, but 25 September is THE day to visit Stamford and Burghley House with the LVG. If you haven't yet booked with Paul, then do it now. Everything is in place, we know what we will be doing and dry weather has been reserved. No excuse for not turning up!

Finally, back to J&M. Well, they've gone and we are the worse off as a result. All has not gone smoothly for their trip down south though, as the Land Rover decided that leaving the UK was not what it wanted, threw a tantrum and stopped working near Dunkirk. As I write this, the problem has not been identified but at least J&M are safely down near Toulouse with the LR to follow shortly. One of the small positive features of this experience is another entry into J's collection of photos of recovery trucks – one of the more unusual collections. Moving on, we really hope that all goes more smoothly from here on and if they want any help with setting up their new place (once found!), the LVG is here to help. I know that it is a little way off, but we pass on to J&M our very best wishes for their BIG-1 event of 2017 – getting married in May in Mauritius. I'm sure we will be raising a glass or two to celebrate with you from afar.

Dates for your diaries:

17 September: Third Sunday in September: remember to book if you want to eat your lunch at The Cock (01767 31 44 11).

25 September: Stamford and Burghley House

PS: just back from the Little Gransden car and air show – very good day, despite a late heavy shower. Lots of aeroplanes (little and large, slow and fast) and lots of nice cars with, a BMW i8 at one extreme and a 1926 Austin with an engine the size of a shoe box at the other, and in between was Phil Titchner's lovely black TR3A!



Pierre Miles



3 x car transporters and one each of Luton Hoo and Little Gransden in the rain

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DESIGN BY SARAH CHIDWICK

[Sarah did a lot of these a few years ago for TR Register members, including most of the TR range. I have the prototype TR3A version. She can also do other classic cars. - Ed.]

Cadwell Capers (or, should I resign my TR membership now?)

The reason for potentially having to fall on my sword is the following missive, which:

- a) does not involve driving a TR
- b) features a race meeting devoid of TR's
- c) includes photographs of vehicles sometimes known as Mouldy Garbage Buckets

(No doubt cries of "Rubbish! Resign! Get Off!" now will echo around the hallowed precincts of TR Land - in spite of this encouragement, I shall continue with my tale).

Instead of the TR4A, our TRusty campervan features as our means of transport – you see, when you get to my age (no comments please Ed.), camping in a tent becomes a bit tedious – I mean, there is absolutely nowhere to hang up the optics of Irish nectar. By the way, our campervan is a 1998 Mazda Bongo – with the TR dating from 1965, and the everyday Skoda from 2008, our 3 vehicles are 77 years old in total (I'll say it before anyone else does – even older than me).

Anyway, Friday August 5th saw us heading up the A1 initially, and then off into the wilds of Lincolnshire - yes, I know the International Weekend was held near Lincoln, but we were heading into uncharted territory (for me anyway), to the race circuit at Cadwell Park, north of Horncastle. Our campsite was at West Ashby, just a few miles from the circuit, and as we set up camp the Battle of Britain Flight Lancaster, which is based at nearby R.A.F. Coningsby, flew over at low level – nice to be greeted by the boys in blue.

The meeting at Cadwell was organised by the750 M.C., and I guess you would describe it as a typical "clubbie" meeting – a complete change from the F1 circus or the Goodwood or Silverstone festivals, which have become venues where the beautiful people go to be seen. I think you would describe the Cadwell entry list as "varied" or "eclectic" – no open-wheeled single seaters but 750

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Formula cars, sports cars, saloons, “hot hatches” (including MG Metros – hot or lukewarm?), and the aforesaid MGB’s (sorry, I’ve said it now).

Cadwell is a great circuit for spectators, as you can see about half of the circuit from several points (a bit like Brands Hatch short circuit). We watched most of the races from the inside of Mansfield Bend, a tight left-hander following a downhill approach, which guaranteed plenty of excursions and incidents – Mazda MX5’s seemed to find the corner particularly difficult – one guy in a fluorescent orange example spent 20 laps getting it wrong (note: if you are going to screw up consistently, paint your car battleship grey or khaki camouflage). The most popular viewing point is near the paddock at The Mountain (about 20 feet high, not 2,000 – this is Lincolnshire), where the faster cars are very light on their feet, and apparently superbikes take off completely. The other aspect of the circuit from a driver’s point of view is that it is quite narrow in places.

The accompanying photos show some of the action, including those MG’s, the 750 Formula cars, and clearing up after the carnage at Mansfield (even the ambulance was pressed into service as a tow truck). There was a bit of start line carnage in the “enduro” race (all of 45 minutes), where a Porsche 944 was savaged in the rear by a Ford Focus of all things – I did say the entry was varied. Walking around the paddock, the standard of presentation of the cars appeared to be very high – good enough for a concours event in my view, but then again what do I know about concours?

I regret to say that we saw only one TR during the whole weekend, a sedately driven white 4A on the inside lane of the A1 – it must have been at a fairly sedate pace, as we managed to pass it in the campervan. Anyway I would recommend a visit to Cadwell if you have not been before – maybe a possible weekend away for an LVG tour, but preferably to a classic car meeting (which might mean more MG’s).

Pete Muncer

P.S. – on another topic entirely, did you see that Bernie Ecclestone’s mother-in-law is 20 years younger than him? – I know you can do many things with money, but this is ridiculous!



Future Events Discussion

I am including the following email exchange to try to stimulate wider discussion within LVG. It's really good to see newer members getting involved regularly and hopefully this contribution will encourage other members to comment and add their own suggestions.

~oOo~

Hello Pierre

Lovely Sunday drive out and lunch, thanks for the leaflets I will try and make the dates. Rob from Robsport was a chatty, funny and welcoming guy - that's how he came across to me, sad news.

I have lots of photos from the two trips I have done with the TRs and Sunday meetings. Who did you say I should send them too please? I will not be offended if none of them get on the Calendar, but would like to share them anyway for people to see. It will also give an insight of trips abroad. I have seen some of the pictures from your North Coast trip - it is a trip I am looking forward to doing in the future.

Last Christmas at the North London Annual curry night they have a meeting with a slide show, showing pictures from all events throughout the year, home and away, all put on a CD disc that can be bought at the end of the evening and they also sell their calendar for that year along with other things NLTR are selling. Members loved getting their cars mentioned and a picture on the screen with some friendly NL banter.

I mention this as a new member and since you have taken over I am not sure what you have planned for upcoming events at LV group. Maybe we already do this, unfortunately I am not computer minded so it is not something I can do. I have not spoken to Brian regarding this either. It may or may not be relevant but would be good to round up the years events.

Can I also suggest a run to Aldeburgh for fish and chips one Sunday or somewhere a little further afield than Broom - maybe a picnic at Rutland or Ely. I do appreciate people travel further than me from Letchworth for our Sunday meeting and probably all these have been discussed before. I know there are good caterers at Grafham Water and with a little organising they might let us turn up there and park as long as it doesn't coincide with one of their open sailing meetings. It has a lovely dining area for an end of year event too. I know they are keen on getting the placed used - not sure on cost so could be a non-starter but lovely this time of year.

Regards Nick Theze

~oOo~

Hi there Nick

Pleased that you had a good day yesterday - helped in no small part by the weather, as well.

Photos submitted for the calender should be sent to Brian, although it may be a good idea to pass them over on a CD or other mass media device, if you have a lot of them to offer.

I quite like the idea of collecting photos from members for compilation on a CD that can be purchased in the way you described. Also, I quite like the idea of having a showing of the CD contents to not only show what members have been doing throughout the year but also to encourage a bit of banter - never a bad thing!

The idea of a social run out further afield as either a substitute for The Cock or as an additional event is also worthy of consideration. Some (not me though) might consider Aldeburgh to be a bit too far away but the other venues you mentioned would certainly be acceptable to more members. Could be something to add to the less busy months of our calendar.

Thank you very much for this pair of really interesting ideas and I've copied your email and this response to the other committee members for them also to consider. I really hope we can get something to emerge. It is really important that members feel able to make suggestions as to what the group should do and to say what it is they would like to get out of being members of the group.

(If any of this comes to fruition, it will confirm that it was a good idea this morning for me to check my annual mileage against the insurance coverage - I've got only 250 miles left between now and November! Time to get on the 'phone.)

Very best wishes, Pierre

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Continuing the theme of 'future events', we need all members (active or dormant!) to respond to the recent 2017 Survey. We have had responses from most of the 'hard-core' members that turn up regularly at pub meetings and events but we also want to hear from those that don't. I know some members cannot attend Sunday lunchtime meetings or Wednesday evening meetings due to work or family commitments or other interests, but if you have a TR (running or under restoration), and have joined the TR Register, there must be something other than the 8 TRaction magazines and TRRI scheme that convinced you to spend the membership fee in the first place and to continue to be a member. So, even if none of the examples included in the survey appeal to you, please tell us what you want from your local group and suggest alternative events. Better to reply and say "Sorry, I'm not interested in club meetings" or "Sorry, I prefer an alternative local group" than to keep silent. In case you have missed or deleted the original 2017 Planning Survey email:

Dear LVG member

*The committee is planning the group's 2017 events and would really appreciate a few minutes of your time to tell us what activities you would like us to organise for you, using the two tables below. The first table is to tell us what activities would most interest you. We have made a few suggestions to get you started, but - **AND THIS IS REALLY IMPORTANT** - if there is anything else you think would be of general interest, just add them in the blank lines. Mark your choices by annotating the relevant box on the left with an 'X'.*

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Cars on Ramps</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Drive It Day</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Rolling road</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Bletchley Park</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Telford / Ironbridge weekend</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Video / film evening</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Joint tour with local group</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>International tour – weekend</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>International tour – week</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>International tour – WW1 sites</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>International tour – Normandy beaches</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>International tour – Brittany / Normandy</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>International tour – Honfleur / Loire valley</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Local Tulip tour</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Visit to Henlow greyhound racing</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Table top rally evening</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Quiz evening</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Race meeting/hill climb – eg Silverstone Classic</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Track day</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Skid pan/off-road/ high performance driver training</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>'Karts and Kurry' event</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | |

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As you will know, we concentrate each year on our BIG-4 activities where we really do look for extra participation by group members. What events should we focus on during 2017? The table below lists several suggestions and again includes a few blank lines for you to add something we may not have listed - **PLEASE ADD ANY OTHERS YOU WISH**. For this table, we ask you to nominate the four activities in the order that interests you most (*including your own suggestions*), by annotating the box on the left with '4' for the one of most interest, stepping down to '1' for the fourth most interesting for you.

| | |
|--|---|
| | Drive It Day |
| | Rolling road |
| | Bletchley Park |
| | Telford / Ironbridge weekend |
| | Video / film evening |
| | Joint tour with local group |
| | International tour – weekend |
| | International tour – week |
| | International tour – WW1 sites |
| | International tour – Normandy beaches |
| | International tour – Brittany / Normandy |
| | International tour – Honfleur / Loire valley |
| | Local Tulip tour |
| | Race meeting/hill climb – eg Silverstone Classic |
| | Track day |
| | Skid pan/off-road/ high performance driver training |
| | |
| | |

That's it - really simple. Please let us know your preferences as soon as you can so that we can get the planning under way in good time. If using the tables above proves difficult, just send in an email listing your two sets of choices - and if that doesn't work for you, give us a call or talk to one of the committee at the next meeting.

~o0o~

It's surprisingly hard to complete a survey like this. I have tried to balance my personal BIG-4 preferences for active driving events with a couple that are more social in nature.

I just know we will eventually end up doing a similar mix of events next year but it will be interesting to see what other (especially newer) members prefer.

I suspect there will be a lot of driver/mechanical events that will appeal to a reasonable number but getting beyond 20-30 for BIG-4 will be hard.

Maybe the following extracts from responses already received will encourage others to contribute:

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From John Andrews

Hi Brian, see my reply. Note I have added Triumph Training day having recently attended such a day with the Morgan group. It was brilliant. Basically a day with 5 – 6 talks / presentations on aspects of the car, Choice of Oils, Drive Chains, Gearboxes, Driving techniques, using a Lathe and so on. I could see Fuel injection systems, Drive Shafts, Chassis and Body, Electrics and so on being very relevant to TRs. This was held at Bicester Heritage Centre and Triumph owners generously allowed other members to drive their cars on a short circuit accompanied of course. A fab day and perhaps too much to write in an email here. Please let me know if you need more detail.

From Pete Muncer

Brian - my choices below (mainly tours, surprise, surprise!) - I would suggest a visit to Cadwell Park could make a good weekend away, preferably to a classic meeting - might take a bit of research to find B&B / hotel / campsite - not many of any in the vicinity.

Club Triumph Round Britain Reliability Run 2016 in aid of Guide Dogs

As many will know I am a serial offender with regards to this iconic biennial 2000 miles/48 hrs event, having entered twenty since my first in 1974, all in the same car, my 1966 4A. I completed eighteen, with neither of my failures, in 1978 (with the late Paul Howell co-driving) and 1982, due to lack of maintenance on my part, but rather a faulty newly fitted water pump and careless work by a garage respectively. I have successfully completed all sixteen Runs from 1984 to date.

This year represents the golden anniversary for the RBRR and the twenty-fifth Run will start 50 years to the day after the first, on Friday 7th October from Knebworth Park at 18.00 hrs. All are welcome to come along and see us off. The current entry list stands at 152 cars, from a 1934 Gloria Vitesse (with an intrepid team from Belgium who completed the 2014 run in a 1950 Renown) to a 1984 Acclaim. Entries include two TR3As, a GTR4 Dove, four TR4As, two TR5s, eleven



TR6s, seven TR7s, and one TR8. In addition both a TR3 and another TR3A are on the reserve list. You can see that our range of cars is very well represented. Since the 1990 RBRR the Club has selected a worthy charity to benefit from sponsorship raised by drivers and to date we have raised well over half a million pounds. This year we are raising money for Guide Dogs and if you would like to sponsor Team 42, Tim Hunt/Mike Hockaday, please visit my webpage www.justgiving.com/tim-hunt2.

Thank you very much, *Tim Hunt*

~o0o~

I remember our first Group Leader, Paul Howell being keen on longer tours and I believe he did LEJOG and possibly also RBRR in his TR2 in the early days of the group. I had hoped to do the RBRR this year with my son to celebrate our respective 'significant' birthdays but life got in the way. I guess we will have to wait another 10 years but at least we will have time to apply for entry!

Tony Jones (TSSC and TRR LVG Member)

From Peter Lewis (TSSC Herts & Beds Area) [Information received today (3/9/2016) - Ed.]

Many have asked how Tony is; he supported us for a good few years but dropped off the radar a while ago but here's some news if those who remember want to visit Tony - feel free.

"Tony is now in The White House Hospice, Letchworth. He is compos mentus but his speech and stature is affected. If any one is passing there are no restrictions for visiting, but one should say good friend etc."

TRs on Tour - Photos by Nick Theze



December 44 Museum in Belgium, La Gleize. We stopped and took a look inside and I was amazed at how much stuff there was to see.



On the way back from Spa getting a coffee.

August Route to Lunch - Photos by Chris Glasbey



There are more photos on our Facebook page of recent events, including Bicester Flywheel, Classics in the Walled Garden (Luton 500) and July R2L. Please feel free to add your own.

TRials & TRibulations - Part 1: Misfueling at BP Stations - Tony Warner

Jon Marshall sent me this sad tale from a fellow TR-owning member of Letchworth Garden City Classic and Vintage Car Club. This was originally to have been published anonymously, but Pierre and I met the gentleman at the LGCCVCC meeting this month and he not only said I should append his name but that he would also be coming along to meetings at The Cock in future with his immaculate red TR4.

On my way to the drive out day on Sunday I stopped at the BP garage in Hitchin to refuel. I pulled up at the first pump island and saw there were two pumps. The left pump said Regular unleaded, the right pump said Ultimate; both had green hoses. I always put the expensive fuel in the TR as I think it has a higher octane number and a reduced ethanol percentage.

I glanced to my right and the next pump island had two hoses which were black. Reassured, I then topped up with Ultimate from a green hose.

On arrival at The Three Moorhens (about a mile) the engine would not tick over but otherwise ran OK. However when I restarted for the route the engine ran very roughly with CLOUDS of blue smoke. Realising what the problem might be I checked the refuelling receipt and saw what I had done.

What a Dumbo!!

Needless to say it was a stressful day and I was not flavour of the month with the Memsahib!

Three and a half hours later Fuel Assist arrived and did an excellent job of sucking all the contaminated fuel out of the TR and it started on the first turn of the key.

I have e-mailed BP to ask them to label their pumps more clearly but surprise, surprise, no response so far. A check on my local Shell garage shows all pumps having black hoses so the fuel companies seem to have different rules. If this prevents any club member from making the same mistake then it will have served its purpose. My final comment is:

You MUST check what the fuel is from looking at what it says on the pump nozzle.

For reasons that I won't explain here, I have avoided using BP for many years, although I have reluctantly had to fill up a couple of times on tours when fuel stops are few and far between. However, there has been concern over the confusing hose colours for some time - for example:

http://www.ukcampsite.co.uk/chatter/display_printer_threads.asp?ForumID=20&TopicID=161829

TRials & TRibulations - Part 2: Anybody Got an Engine? - Pete Muncer

I have received a heart-rending plea for assistance from John Tibble (of CACCC Tibbles Tour fame). His TR4A apparently is very sick and in need of major surgery - I know not of the details of said malady but it is clearly severe, as Mr. T. is on the look-out for a TR4A engine, for a "winter project" (transplant?). I have indicated to Mr. T. that this may be something of a tall order, but perhaps you could publish this call for help in TRunnion, on the off-chance that an LVG member has something of interest lurking in a dark corner.

In the event that someone can help, please get in touch with me initially [via the Editor] and I'll pass on John's contact details. (Presumably this means that Mr. T. will have to take a grid penalty and start from the back on future tours).

TRials & TRibulation - Part 3: Secondhand Oil Cooler - Tim Hunt

The day before Tim was due to take his TR4A up to Gaydon for a special display he phoned me in a panic needing a sump gasket urgently, following investigation into poor oil pressure. Fortunately, I had a couple of bottom-end gasket sets so was able to help, but the experience should serve as a warning when buying critical parts second-hand from an unknown source:

Once again Brian, thanks for getting me out of a hole. Keith Bennett came over to give a hand yesterday pm by which time I had drained the sump, filtered the contents and cleaned out the filter bowl (you saw the swarf I found in it). I replaced the old filter element too, there was a lot of swarf

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round the outside of it. We took the sump off and found more swarf lying on the bottom. We thoroughly cleaned it then removed and cleaned the oil pump filter and then disassembled the pump and checked that (minimal wear/scoring on lobes). We drained out the cooler hoses and fitted my new cooler. Refilled with the carefully filtered oil, pulled the plugs and turned the engine over until we registered healthy oil pressure. Then started engine and all seemed fine.

Glad to report that I made it to Gaydon and back, around 140 miles today with good oil pressure and no issues. I had never before kept such a careful eye on the gauge! Hopefully the problem is behind me now. I suspect the previous oil cooler must have been the source of the contamination. As a precaution I plan to remove the filter tomorrow and check it.

Update: Had a good day at Lincoln today, saw Paul and Dave. Stayed in Brigg Saturday night and did nearly 300 miles round trip with perfect oil pressure so problem seems sorted thank goodness. I can only assume that the second hand oil cooler I had fitted had come from an engine with a pretty terminal problem - that'll teach me! [And let that be a lesson to all of us - Ed.]

Bright Spark Contender

From Tony Bannard-Smith

I hope to get to the Cock on Sunday, however, I have had a delivery of parts for a 12 M long car port, all laid out in the side drive - and the TR3 being in the garage beyond is currently blocked in! As we have just completed 1500+ miles in it touring the Loire for 2 weeks, it would be nice to get it out and come and see you all. As well as servicing and prepping the car before this trip, its 60th birthday tour, I did overhaul all the brake cylinders, fit new shoes and new Moss servo & brake pipes - in case you are searching for someone who has actually worked on their car since last meeting!

(Oh, and I have also completed the refitting of the rebuilt axle on my 1935 Armstrong Siddeley 17HP, followed by starting the engine last week, and shunting the car back and fore - but it's still in the museum...)

You clearly have too much free time - looks like we had better get the BS award back from David Randall on Sunday. Great news about the AS. [Better make that next month as Tony and Barbara were detained "on church 'lock up' duty which ran on and on...", so Dave can keep it a little longer.]

TR3A - Parts For Sale

Information received from Nick Fairweather of North London Group:

My mate Brian Deacon has the following parts for sale:

- TR3A overdrive gearbox.
- A front panel
- Two doors, some rust but could be saved.

Brian is at Chalfont St Giles and can be contacted on 07716835030 and bhdeacon@hotmail.com.

TR4A For Sale - Tim Hunt

NO BRIAN NOT MINE!!

A local CT member's car is for sale. It is a late (F reg) car, CTC 78134, in signal red with surrey and hard tops and chrome wire wheels with good Michelin XZX 165R15 tyres. The car was fully restored some ten years ago and remains in good all round condition. Unusually it lacks overdrive, I know the gear box was overhauled last year, had it been my car I would have taken that opportunity of having an overdrive fitted at the same time.

Do you know of anyone looking for a nice TR4A? This one has some mostly minor issues requiring attention and anyone capable of doing their own work would soon have a very nice car for minimal expenditure (except for the overdrive!).

Invitation to TRGB Open Day (Saturday 10th September 2016)

TRGB are celebrating our 30th anniversary and would like to invite you to our open day. We appreciate not all of you will be able to attend due to distance, however we are offering a discount for new/second hand parts on the day. Please find attached a covering letter and flyer FOR the event.

If you require an updated catalogue or if you wish to pre-order and collect on the day (it does get very busy)

Please email sales@trgb.co.uk or call 01487 842168 for further information.

If you no longer own a TR or wish to be taken off our email. Please email by return. We do not share information or send frequent emails

Kind regards, Léanne Bates, TRGB Ltd

<https://www.trgb.co.uk/>
01487 842168

~o0o~



Dear Triumph Enthusiast,

TRGB ANNOUNCEMENT
TRGB OPEN DAY ON
SATURDAY 10th SEPTEMBER
2016
TO CELEBRATE OUR 30TH
ANNIVERSARY

Gary Bates and staff are proud to announce that TRGB will be hosting their long awaited OPEN DAY to celebrate our 30th anniversary having been established since 1986!

This event has been great fun in the past and a MUST to add to your TRIUMPH social calendar with a chance for customers to meet each other, have a chin wag and show off their TRIUMPH/CLASSIC.

Doors open 9am – till 3.00pm. There will be a HOG ROAST Starting from around noon and light refreshments served throughout the day.

As well as all of this we will have the usual stack of new and second hand spares with 10% off most new parts, but ALL sensible offers accepted on our vast selection of second hand parts. Car Sales and a chance to get your Triumph inspected (an appointment slot will be necessary to avoid disappointment).

We very much hope you can make our event and look forward to seeing you on the day.

Yours Sincerely

Gary Bates and team TRGB Ltd.

TRGB OPEN DAY!

ON SATURDAY 10th SEPTEMBER 2016

Starts at 9am to 3pm



CELEBRATING 30 YEARS 1986 –2016



Join us in celebrating 30 years in the triumph industry with a free safety check on your TR (We advice Pre booking an appointment to avoid disappointment). Discounts offered on the day for new and second hand parts. Car sales, special offers, Light refreshments and HOG ROAST!!

Enjoy a jolly good gathering with TR enthusiasts

WWW.TRGB.CO.UK

for more information e mail: sales@trgb.co.uk

Tel 01487 842168