



WESSEX NEWS

Preserving the marque in Hampshire

This month's

Highlights

Classical Rambling

Writing Rambling at 35,000 feet while cruising steadily around 350 mph is a pretty alien experience from life in the fast lane – or otherwise – in a TR. But the view is nice – clear blue sky and a blend of fluffy clouds with the odd sight of land. The world of transportation is something that changed beyond recognition from TR 2 – 8 and continues to do so at some pace.

A few warm days in the sun makes one eager to get into the garage and 'do some jobs' but I fear a return to cold and damp may well stifle that enthusiasm. There are simple jobs – that gasket in the fuel filler cap – and those that are less appealing – scraping away underneath to reveal what years of underseal have covered.

Come what may, when Spring finally does arrive a spot of fettling will happily accompany whatever chores are lined up in the garden!

James

Page 3 [The Diary](#)

Page 5 [February Housekeeping](#)

Page 12 [Michael Eatough in New Zealand.](#)

[And much more!](#)



Group Leader Chat



Welcome to the February edition of Wessex News and with the festive season well and truly behind us, we can begin to look forward to Spring and the chance to really enjoy our TR's. Not that we're waiting just for sunny days, our Cobweb Run in February is our traditional season opener and designed, literally, to blow the cobwebs away. 6 cars gathered at Ower for the run over Cranborne Chase to enjoy lunch at Compton Abbas Airfield and a jolly good time was had by all. You can read about it inside. For our first Club Night of the year in January we welcomed Michael Eatough who gave a very entertaining presentation on his participation in the New Zealand "Haka" rally. A dismal drizzly evening affected attendance but we were looked after very well at our new venue, the Sir Walter Tyrell, and I'm hopeful this will become an excellent new home for Wessex TR Group. We return to the Sir Walter Tyrell for March Club Night when Ben and Vicki Freer will be giving a talk on their experience in the 2016 Club Triumph Round Britain Reliability Run. This should be very interesting to hear about the weekend from a ladies perspective, so I hope to see our Wessex ladies turning out in March to support Vicki.

March is also the month of the ever popular Wessex Duck Race, great fun and a great family afternoon. Clerk of the Course Neil Winscom has already been down to Oberwater to inspect the course, so spruce up those ducks, borrow the grandchildren and we'll see you for scrutineering on 19th March at 2pm.

Sunday April 23rd is the Wessex and New Forest Triumph Run. There are already well over 130 cars registered for this popular event, which is celebrating its "Silver Jubilee" 25th anniversary this year. If you haven't registered yet, do it now by downloading a form at:

<http://www.triumphnewforestrun.co.uk/>

That's it for now, please check our diary of events for a full list of what's happening in Wessex Group this year, and if you have any suggestions or ideas for an event please let me or a committee member know.

See you at Club Night.

Nigel

Month 2017	Event	Location / Details
February 28th	Skittles evening	The Silver Plough, Pitton, 7.00pm
March 12th	Club Run	The Bear and Ragged Staff, Romsey, for lunch. Depart Ower 11.00am
March 19th	THE Duck Race	See page 7
March 28th	<i>The Round Britain Reliability Run - Ben Freer</i>	The Sir Walter Tyrell, 7.30pm
April 20th	Dorset Historic Club Quiz Night	See in January Wessex News
April 23rd	Wessex and New Forest Run	Ringwood Long Stay / Lorry Park 10am
April 25th	Away Day	Queen's Head, Fishers Pond 7.30pm https://www.oldenglishinns.co.uk/our-locations/the-queens-head-fishers-pond
May 14th	Club Run	tbc
May 23rd	Club visit	Hurn Aircraft Museum, time 7.00pm £5 per person
June 11th	Club Run to The Boot	tbc
June 27th	Pride of Ownership	The Sir Walter Tyrell, 7.30pm
July 2nd	Vectis Historic Vehicle Club Ltd Open Day	Details in January Wessex News vhvcltd@hotmail.com
July 9th	Run to Sarum Airfield Salisbury	tbc
July 25th	Visiting Car Night	tbc
August 13th	Club Run	tbc
August 22nd	The Wessex BBQ	tbc
September 10th	The Cream Tea Run	tbc
September 11th – 16th	A Fantastic TRip to Brittany	See page 5
September 26th	Roy's Quiz Night	The Sir Walter Tyrell, 7.30pm
October 8th	Members Club Run	tbc
October 24th	Club night	tbc
November 28th	Club night	tbc

All events are covered in full on the Wessex TR Register Facebook page and any late updates or cancellations will be published there.

The Cobweb Run

February 12th



Sunday 12th February dawned very cold, and misty, and stayed that way. Six intrepid TRs gathered at Ower services and headed swiftly off to Compton Abbas Airfield near Shaftesbury. The group included one TR2, one TR3, two 4As, a 5 and a 6. They were accompanied (and guided) by Neil in his fine, aged Volvo. The side screen cars were perhaps excessively intrepid as they used neither roof nor side screens. Some could describe such motoring more as stupid than brave but no permanent frostbite damage has been reported.

It was a delightful run across the northern regions of the Forest, through Sixpenny Handley and Tollard Royal across Cranborne Chase. The views would have been even better had the mist not restricted visibility. The run may well be familiar to many group members but the side screen participants (at least) hadn't met this one before. Because of the temperature, we were grateful that the run was perhaps slightly shorter than some others.

The airfield wasn't functioning because of the weather but the café looked after us very well, providing hot and tasty food very quickly, particularly bearing in mind how busy they were. It was a convivial lunchtime. The group departed in various directions for the trip home, but several went out of their way to try Zig Zag Hill on the way home as that had been fun on the way there.

Thanks to Nigel for arranging the catering at the airfield and to Neil for leading a very pleasant day's outing.

Steve Harridge



February Housekeeping

A Fantastic **TR**ip to Brittany



To secure a place on this fantastic Wessex TRip all we require is a £40.00 deposit per person **by no later than 28th February 2017.**

Please BACS payment to TR Register Wessex Group a/c No: 40909262, sort code 20-79-25, ref your name and trip. Please would you also email me with your choice of double or twin room at tonycd.alderton@gmail.com Tel: 01425 477674.



The run on **March 12th** commences from Over Services at 11.00am and lasts circa 1 hour (26 miles) and finishes at the Bear and Ragged Staff Public House Romsey. The pub has a lunch menu and eating can be arranged on the day.

At the club night on **28th March** at the Sir Walter Tyrell, Ben and Vicky Freer will give a talk on their participation in their TR3 in the Triumph Round Britain Reliability Run. It should be of particular interest to all, as Vicky will talk about her participation and give her viewpoint, so do come along as potential TR teams! If you want to make an evening of it, food is available at the SWT.

The Basingstoke Festival of Transport is on Sunday **14th May**, and although this clashes with our May run, if anyone wishes to attend, Kennet Valley Group have booked a 12 car pitch. To go and show your car please download the form at <http://www.tr-register.co.uk/event/2017/05/0118/TR-Register-exhibiting-at-the-Basingstoke-Festival-of-Transport-2017>.

Following on from his recently published TR and 2000 / 2500 books, Kevin Warrington is now producing a Pictorial History of all postwar Standard Triumph cars for Veloce Publishing. This will be a detailed study of every car model produced and being a pictorial history, will use photographs to highlight the differences between models and the regular facelifts.

He says: "For some obvious reasons, I have plenty of photographs of TRs and "big" saloons and a good supply of general pictures of every Standard – Triumph model – with a couple of exceptions – but what I need to find are some cars to photograph to produce the detail pictures – differences in trim and interiors; that sort of thing".

So, if you happen to have a postwar Standard or Triumph car that you would like to have photographed to appear in published format (other than a TR or 2000 / 2500 that is), or know someone who has, contact Kevin by email kj.warrington@btinternet.com or phone 01329 510667. And the elusive cars? A Phase 2 Vanguard and a Phase 1 or 2 Vanguard Estate.

January Club Night



January Club Night was our first of the year, and our first at our new venue, the Sir Walter Tyrell at Brook in the New Forest. <http://www.sirwaltertyrell.co.uk/> As well as a large car park the Sir Walter Tyrell also do very good food, offering Wessex members the chance to enjoy a bite to eat before club night. This, I hope, will encourage more wives and partners to come along to Club Nights. Finding a good venue is a challenge for all groups, and Wessex is no exception. High up on the list of requirements are usually; large car park, good beer, and availability of a room, and whilst the *quality* of the beer is still important, we can't promise landlords we will consume *quantity* for obvious reasons! and so good food is also on the list. Our previous home at The Nondescripts has served us very well, but you will know the car park there is very restrictive, and they could not offer food. There was the advantage of the room inside which we could use, but a sign of the times is that The Nondescripts committee have introduced a monthly charge, in addition to the membership fee, for using the room. We therefore felt it was time to move on, and find somewhere new, and the Sir Walter Tyrell has ticked all the boxes so far, in particular a large car park and the availability of food, in addition to good beer! As always we welcome your suggestions and if you know of somewhere you think is suitable, please let me know and we'll certainly look into it.

The main event of the evening was a presentation by Michael Eatough on his participation in the New Zealand "Haka" rally. Michael is an experienced long distance endurance rally competitor having competed in the Trans-Am twice, and the Paris-Vienna endurance rallies. The rallies embrace challenge, competition, and comradeship, and comprise long distance driving, regularity sections and some circuit sections, and the Haka event covered the length and breadth of both North and South Island taking in many of the sights along the way. Michael campaigns his 1965 Mercedes 230S Fintail which has been fitted with a 280 engine and back axle. The car is meticulously prepared before each event to the extent the suspension and all perishable components are rebuilt and replaced, leaving nothing to chance. Even so, Michael takes some essential spares with him and was able to help out a fellow Mercedes competitor on this event by lending a spare starter motor, although unfortunately it didn't quite fit. If all else fails Mercedes Heritage also guarantee to get a part that's needed to anywhere in the world within 24 hours! As well as driving there was also the chance to visit places of interest along the way including a couple of large privately owned motor museums, one of which Michael wrote about in January's Wessex News.

Michael flew out to New Zealand on 31st October having packed his beloved Mercedes into a sea container on 16th August, he then returned on 25th November but had to wait until 31st January to be reunited with his car when it eventually arrived back in Felixstowe.

My thanks go to Michael for an enjoyable and entertaining presentation and we wish him well with future events, and look forward to hearing about them at club nights in future.

Nigel

Duck Race 2017

It's the Duck Race 2017!



The time has come to dust off those drawing-boards, sharpen your chisels, remind yourself how to run AutoCAD, or simply pop out and buy a suitable duck for this year's event. Make a note now - this year it's going to be on 19th March.

There will be two classes this year - Standard and Modified, with the usual trophies. There will also be a prize for the most spectacular duck and very probably a few other rewards for valiant rescues, etc.. So get those designs underway!

As usual, scrutineering will take place from about 2 p.m. in the Whitefield Moor car park (on the road from Brockenhurst to Rhinefield). If you fancy Sunday lunch beforehand, there are plenty of pubs serving good food in the Brockenhurst area. Please bring stout walking shoes (or wellies if you plan to step into the water) and you may want to bring a flask of something reviving for afterwards! The course is about a 10 minute walk from the car park, across the moor and sometimes, the ground is a bit boggy in places.

Neil Winscom



TR Register Event List



February

Sat 25th - Sun 26th: Race Retro, Stoneleigh

March

Sun 5th: TR Register Car Club Group Leaders Meeting, Location TBA

Fri 31st - Sun 2nd: Practical Classics Restoration Show, NEC Birmingham

April

Monday 17th: Coleford Festival of Transport (Bank Hols)

Sunday 23rd: National FBHVC Drive it Day

Fri 28th - Sun 30th April: Donington Historic Festival, Donington Park

June

Sat 3rd- Sun 4th: Tatton Park Classic Car Show, Cheshire

Sun 18th: Standard Triumph Marque Day, Santa Pod, Northamptonshire

Fr 23 - Thu 29th: TR Tours Brittany Tour

Sat 24th - Sun 25th: Flywheel Festival, Bicester Heritage Centre

July

Fri 7th - Sun 9th: TR International Weekend, 3 Counties Showground, Malvern

Fri 28th - Sun 30th: CarFest North, Bolesworth, Cheshire

Fri 28th - Sun 30th: Silverstone Classic, Northamptonshire

TBA: TR Register End to End Run

August

Sat 5th - Sun 6th: Croft Nostalgia Weekend, Dalton on Tees, N. Yorkshire

Fri 25th - Sun 27th: CarFest South, Laverstoke Park Farm, Hampshire

September

Sat 2nd - Sun 3rd: TR Register Scottish Weekend at Bo'Ness Hillclimb, Falkirk

Sat 2nd - Sun 3rd: TR Register Lakes Tour, Newby Bridge, Cumbria

Fri 8th - Sun 10th: Goodwood Revival, Chichester, West Sussex

Fri 8th - Sun 10th: TR Euromeet 2017, Dijon, France

Sat 16th - Sun 17th: Manchester Classic Car Show, Event City, Manchester

Fri 15th - Sun 17th: Spa 6 Hour, Spa Francorchamps, Belgium

Tue 26th - Sun 1st October: TR Tours Ireland Tour

October

Sun 22nd: Stoneleigh Autumn Restoration Show, Stoneleigh, Warks

November

Sat 4th: TR Register Annual General Meeting, Location TBA

Fri 10th - Sun 12th: NEC Classic Motorshow, Birmingham

[Click for the full 2017 calendar & information on those listed above](#)

THE TRIP -
SPAIN/FRANCE-
OCTOBER 2016



Well they say the rain in Spain falls mainly on the plain...not so as we docked in Santander and disembarked from the *Cap Finistere* ferry, in the rain under a cold grey sky.

Earlier, the Bay of Biscay crossing from Portsmouth had been as smooth as a millpond as we slept on our overnight crossing. The three veterans, one TR6 and two Sunbeam Alpines were driven onto the quayside, passing customs without stopping or seeing anyone as we drove into the town. We had arrived in Spain in the late October afternoon and despite the weather our spirits were high.

All three couples on this trip had planned the expedition earlier this year. Our aim was to drive through northern Spain travelling west into the Potes National Park for a couple of days and then into South West France and northwards onto Dieppe to catch the ferry to Newhaven in 9 days time.... simple!

We took the main coastal route (A 67) west from Santander arriving at our first stop at Saunces for one night; a small resort with a harbour and sandy beaches where for our evening meal we had our first taste of tapas. Our walk back up the hill to our hotel included 195 steps but was well worth it as we woke the next morning to a glorious view overlooking the bay and a sunny warm day.

After breakfast we set the sat nav and headed for the medieval town of Potes. We took the scenic route heading inland from the A8 coast road passing through small villages along country roads in glorious sunshine. The route took us into the Cantabrian Mountains which are part of the "Picos de Europe" mountain range and a National Park. We drove through an 8 mile stretch of twisty narrow roads passing through narrow gorges surrounded by mountains which demanded high levels of concentration especially with lorries and coaches coming in the opposite direction. Potes is the main market town serving the Picos National Park and very popular with tourists. After lunch by the Rio Deva we headed south west to Hotel del Oso for a two night stay at Cosgaya some 6 miles from Potes.



Next morning we ventured onto the twisty mountain roads, into tunnels and around hairpin bends in temperatures around 28 degrees. Driving to heights of 1400 metres in the brilliant sunshine with hardly any road traffic we reached the hamlet of Cucayo at the top of one group of mountains and took in the fabulous views, along with a well earned rest and coffee in La Posada de Cucayo hotel run by a local Spanish family of three generations. During our two days of driving around the local area we passed numerous groups of motorcyclists, many from the UK riding classic motorbikes. We all had a great time waving at each other as we passed.

The following morning (Day 4) was a long drive east heading towards San Sebastian on the Spanish/French border. Picking up the E70-A8 motorway the route was, as motorways go, scenic with the Atlantic Ocean on one side and the Pyrenees to the south east. We stayed overnight in a campanile Hotel east of San Sebastian close to the French border for a well earned rest. The weather was already beginning to change with more cloud and lower temperatures.

Auch in south west France was our next stop, a trip of about 198 miles but first we had a brief stopover in Biarritz a fashionable seaside resort frequented by royalty over the years with glorious sandy beaches and views across the Bay of Biscay. None of us had been here before and so we parked the cars in the town centre and headed for the beach. We took coffee outside an Art Deco designed cafe building situated on the wide promenade, watching the surfers trying to stand upright, battling against the waves on a cold windy morning. Still Roger and I persisted in our challenge to keep wearing shorts on the trip (not the same ones mind you!), and we kept to our pledge to have the tops down on all three cars whilst travelling.

We left the centre of Biarritz to many admiring looks at the cars and headed for Auch. We took the N124 passing through Bayonne, Dax and Mont de Marsan and then along the back roads – the glorious D roads - so well known in France by classic car drivers, who like a proper challenging drive and scenic views, as we travelled through the countryside and small villages.

We drove through Nogaro well known as a site for the distilling of Armagnac brandy and home of the motor racing Circuit de Nogaro. The Bordeaux countryside was changing to being greener with pastures, hills, woods and of course vineyards and many road side signs offering locally produced foie gras available at the next farm house.

Auch is a large town with imposing grand buildings including the cathedral and Hotel D'Ville within the old town surrounded by open squares and water fountains all of which were spectacularly lit under the night sky. After an enjoyable al fresco meal in the main square we retired to our local hotel.



Next stop was Eymet some 6 miles south of Bergerac. Passing north through Agen we drove along the N21 and then cross country through the countryside arriving at our overnight stop at Hotel LA Ville Ecole, a former girl school just south of Eymet.

The hotel was run by its Dutch owners for the past ten years who made us very welcome. Situated in the Dordogne region Eymet is located on the banks of the River Dropt and main focal point being the central square and arcades with many ancient unspoilt houses. The town also has the ruins of a castle, tower and gateway built as part of the defences against the English during the hundred years war.

After a dutch style breakfast we said our farewells to our hosts and headed towards Limoges along the D21/N21 through Bergerac and Perigueux and along the D20 arriving at our stop south west of Limoges.

Next day after the morning mist had cleared we headed to Oradour Sur Glane some 10 miles north west of Limoges to visit the village museum and walk the streets of the old village as it was left on the 10 June 1944 following the German raid. Very moving and very sad at the loss of virtually all the local inhabitants.

We then drove north along the A20/E9 motorway bypassing Chateauroux. Heading further north the passing countryside was looking more like an English landscape with leaves turning brown and orange in the autumn sunshine. Just south of Vierzon we headed east along the D23 to Bourges passing open arable fields and many wind turbines standing tall against the skyline. We arrived at our Hotel in the cathedral city of Bourges for an aperitif and then a short walk into the square for an evening meal in one of the many restaurants adjacent to the magnificent gothic Saint Etienne cathedral, a world heritage site.

Next morning the trip to Rouen started as a beautiful sunny day travelling mostly along the A roads and motorway. Here we had the only mishap on the whole trip - a broken fan belt on one of the Alpines. Parking up on the hard shoulder the problem was quickly fixed with a new belt. We arrived at our hotel lodge south of Rouen in the late afternoon just as the heavens open with a torrential downpour and hail shower. So, an evening meal and early night at the lodge.

Our last leg to Dieppe started off under a cold, overcast and windy morning. We took a detour into Rouen and parked in the old part of the city and walked along the cobbled streets around the main shopping area and cathedral. In the warm sunshine and surrounding historical buildings we had an alfresco lunch in one of the restaurants close to the cathedral and market place. With lunch over we retraced our steps and vowed to come back for a longer stay in this large beautiful city. The short trip to Dieppe was uneventful as the clouds gathered over the English Channel as we arrived at the ferry port. We docked at the port of Newhaven at 9 pm and drove the 1 ½ hour trip back home with somewhat dim headlights and no illuminated dashboard. Anyhow a very worthwhile trip of some 1247 miles with the only downside being we wanted to stay away much longer!



Brian Campbell

Sir Len Southward and his Magnificent Museum



New Zealanders have a strong motoring heritage and have some very high quality museums, per head of population it is quite extraordinary. The Southward Museum is located about one hour's drive north of Wellington, it holds the largest and most comprehensive car collection in the Southern Hemisphere. This world class collection features more than 400 cars, many motorcycles, four aircraft and countless items of memorabilia. The contents are the result of a collection by a remarkable man - Len Southward.

Born Leonard Bingley Southward, this avid motor enthusiast, automobile collector and motor sport legend first started in the motor industry as a messenger boy working for a car Parts Company based in Wellington during 1919. Following this he started his own business during the 1930's. The business grew quickly and eventually became New Zealand's foremost manufacturer of stainless steel tube and pipe. Today the company is called Atlas Speciality Metals. During a trip to the UK during 1956 Len and his wife Vera, watched the finish of a veteran car run in Birmingham. He enjoyed the event so much he bought a car which started his famous collection, a Model T Ford, and this car was his inspiration. Sir Len built a special building to house the collection, which is now part of a charitable institution.

Sir Len's work in the motor industry was officially recognised when he received his knighthood from the Queen during her visit to New Zealand in 1956. He became a philanthropist and gave generously to many charities.

After the war Sir Len took up speedboat racing and won the Masport Cup from 1948 to 1958 apart from one year, racing his famous powerboat "Redhead" which broke the 100 MPH mark on many occasions. It is worth noting his generous donations made to local charities were mainly anonymous, but since his death in 2004 aged 98, Lady Southward made public this generosity in honour of her husband, so his contribution could be recognised. He was a truly remarkable man, and his multi-million dollar collection was donated to the state via a Charitable Trust for the good of the New Zealand people.

Michael Eatough



Wessex Committee contact numbers



Group Leader and Chairperson	Nigel Jordan
Vice Group Leader	
Treasurer	Roy Clough
Regalia Manager	Tony Alderton
Secretary	Geoff Glover
	Neil Winscom
	John Davies
	Steve Harridge
Newsletter Editor	James Barnes



<https://www.facebook.com/wessextr>

Wessex Group Regalia

Tony Alderton is our regalia manager and he has put together a selection of items that can be purchased to promote your membership of the Wessex group. New members may wish to purchase an item or two and those of you that already have some, may need a replacement's. Shown below is the current range of items available



Low profile heavy cotton drill cap front and rear view



The favourite T shirt
(female)



Jersey crew neck T shirt *(male)*



Short sleeve polo shirt



Full zip fleece



The Club Mug



Sweatshirt Classic
80/20

Full details of sizes and colours available and the all important cost of each item is provided on the order form. Any other queries about regalia should be made to Tony Alderton

TR Register Wessex Group Clothing Order Form

15

Name:	Contact number:	E-mail Address:
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Qty	Item	Size	Colour	Code	£

Please make cheques payable to: **TR Register Wessex Group** **Total**

Send to: Tony Alderton, 9 Coppice Close, St. Ives, Ringwood, BH24 2LB

E-mail: tonycd.alderton@gmail.com

Item	Code	Colours / size	Price £
Low profile heavy cotton drill cap	BC05 8	Black, Bottle Green, Bright Royal Blue, Classic Red, French Navy, Light Grey, Natural, White.	8.50
The favourite T shirt (female)	BE07 6	Mid Grey, Berry (Raspberry), Black, Chocolate, Coral, Dark Grey, Maroon, Navy, Light Orange, Red, Light Blue, Purple, Royal Blue, White, Light Yellow. Size: S=8, M=10/12, L=14, XL=16	8.50
Jersey crew neck T shirt (male)	CV00 1	Aqua, Mid Grey, Light Grey, Black, Red, Deep Teal, Olive, Evergreen, Maroon, Navy, Purple, Light Teal, White, Orange. Size: XS=35", S=37", M=39", L=42", XL=44", 2XL=46".	9.00
Short sleeve polo shirt	BA30 6	Anthracite, Black, Light Blue, Bottle Green, Light Grey, Navy, Purple, Orange, Red, Royal Blue, Sand, White, Light Green, Brown, Yellow. Size: XS=34/36", S=36/38", M=38/40", L=41/42", XL=43/44", 2XL=45/47", 3XL=47/49", 4XL=49/51".	12.50
Sweatshirt Classic 80/20	SS20 0	Black, Bottle Green, Burgundy, Deep Navy, Light Grey, Navy, Red, Royal Blue, Sky Blue, Yellow, White. Size: S=36/37", M=38/40", L=41/43", XL=44/46", 2XL=47/49".	18.00
Full zip fleece	SS52 8	Black, Bottle Green, Deep Navy, Red, Royal Blue, Smoke. Size: S=35/37", M=38/40", L=41/43", XL=44/46", 2XL=47/49".	29.00
The Club Mug			10.00