

Shropshire Group's Report for TR Action 315

May and June have proved to be very busy months for the Shropshire Group. May's Club Night at the Fox and Hounds was well attended and was our last Wednesday meeting for the foreseeable future. From 18th June we will now meet on the third Tuesday of each month.

In the middle of May 15 cars (30 people) set out for our Spring Tour of Northumbria. The drive north took us over the Pennines on the A686 from Penrith. This is a fantastic road with fast sweeping bends and exceptional views. We stayed at the Slaley Hall Hotel near Corbridge and we were blessed with brilliant weather for the whole time.

Our runs took us to Beamish, Craggside House, Bamburgh, Seahouses, The Farne Islands, Alnwick, Dunstanburgh Castle, Howick, Kielder and Hadrian's Wall. The roads, in that part of Northumbria are excellent drivers' roads with long fast straights followed by right angled bends and are all but deserted.

Generally, the cars behaved themselves with the normal niggles which all part of the TR's character. However, Steve's TR7 spectacularly cooked its battery. With Bryan Archer's help a new battery and alternator were soon sourced nearby

Many thanks to Bryan Archer and the Northumbria group who were very helpful with route suggestions and joined us for our run to Kielder. They are visiting Mid-Wales at the end of June and we will be joining them for a run which will involve the Welsh Highland Railway. (see "What's On" for details). A more detailed report of the tour can be found on the Group's website.

On Sunday, 19th May, we attended the Classic Breakfast Meeting at Alderford Lake, near Whitchurch. From there the Group drove down to Eaton Manor, near Church Stretton, for the annual Classic Car Show in aid of Macmillan. Many thanks to Malcolm Ling for organising the day.

Ray & Anne, Grafton & Steve took their TRs to France in May making a leisurely trip of Normandy and Brittany involving quite a bit of eating, drinking and walking. They travelled first to Le Mans via Sees with its impressive Gothic Cathedral. The Motor Museum was visited, and the Le Mans circuit driven. Lunch was taken at St. Michel-en-Greves. The Brest hotel was noisy, but the town was interesting.

Then on to Vannes travelling via Lorient to visit the impressive WW11 submarine pens and onto Port Louis for lunch. A boat trip was taken around the large almost land locked bay with its many islands

Fougeres was visited *en route* back to Cherbourg taking in a must do car museum - The Manor of the Automobile and Old Trades at Lohéac south of Rennes. Utah Beach was very atmospheric and preparations were being made for 75th anniversary of the D Day landings. See the group website for more details.

We were invited to provide a display of Triumph cars at RAF Shawbury Families' Day on 30th May. Our gleaming TRs and other Triumphs were appreciated. Many thanks to Malcolm Lainsbury for organising this.

June 1st caused a dilemma for members with three conflicting events. Some members joined the Stoke Group's "Pits, Pots and Peaks" Weekend. Others attended a run and display for "Classics at The College" at Ellesmere College and several attended CMC's (the renowned Jaguar restorers) Open Day at Bridgnorth in celebration of 60 years of the Jaguar MkII. Both latter events were in aid of Hope House, the local Children's Hospice.

Unfortunately, our Open Road Run to Clywedog, Ffestiniog & Bala had to be postponed due to adverse weather. This will be rescheduled for next month.

As we write, 8 members are touring Scotland. Details will be included our next report for TR Action. Please see our website for details of future events and please remember that Club Night will now be the 3rd Tuesday of each month.