

Five TRs to Scotland June 2019

Five TRs met on a sunny day in June in Whitchurch to set off on a nine day tour of the west of Scotland. Alan Edwards (TR5), Dave Somerville (TR2), Phil and Alice Desborough (TR6), Martin and Sasha Thomas (TR6) and Peter and Rosanne Napier (TR6) made up the group. The road trip started with a hoods down scenic drive to Moffat where we stayed at Moffat House Hotel. Also on a road trip and staying nearby we spotted two vintage Bentley and an E type Jag.



Hotel in Moffat



Deciding whether to carry on the road

start.

In Stirling we took a coffee stop at the Battle of Bannockburn memorial site followed by a tour of Stirling Castle.;

After Stirling we drove in convoy to Ballaculish including a glorious drive through Glencoe again with hoods down. The day after we headed off to the Kyle of Lochalsh where we stayed for two nights and on the second day we toured around the Isle of Skye. On the morning that we were to set off for our next overnight stop in Oban, Dave Somerville's TR2 lost the use of its starter motor. and for the rest of the tour it had to be bump started.

The next day we were heading up to Stirling also via a scenic route planned before the tour and still with hoods down. Along the A701 we encountered a "Road Closed" sign which cut out the most scenic part of the drive. We decided to take a risk and continue anyway. Eventually in about 20 miles, we came to the road closure barriers for the oncoming traffic where road workers were just setting up and they waved us through! It looks like we were very lucky and being early on a the Monday morning when works were about to



Hotel Colesio in Stirling



Waiting for the ferry

The route to Oban involved a ferry crossing as we took in the south of the Isle of Skye and this involved bump starting the TR2 on the ferry. We spent two nights in Oban where there was plenty going on around the harbour including ferries entering and leaving the harbour, a tall ship coming into dock and a steam ship as well as fishing boats and other craft.



All hands to the pump!!



Marching for independence

On Saturday, there was a Scottish independence march with about 7,000 people taking part.

On Sunday we set off for Castle Douglas via the ferry from Dunoon to Gourock. Whilst enroute to Dunoon, Martin and Sasha's TR6 stopped without warning on a bend in the road. The fault was identified as a blown fuse and once repaired they were on their way.

Unfortunately before we reached Dunoon, just outside Inverary, Peter and Rosanne Napier's TR6 suddenly screeched to a halt. The cause at that point was a mystery and after a few minutes the car started and off we went only for the

same thing happened again and this time it was noted that there was no oil pressure.

There was no choice but to call the AA who were marvellous. A patrol man arrived within two hours and he decided to leave the car for their Relay to pick up later and he took us to Glasgow airport to collect a hire car.



End of the journey for one TR6

We were in a dangerous location on the road when we broke down and a local resident came out of her house and invited us to use her drive to park on out of danger. By this time there were four cars as the TR2 had run on ahead and had decided not to risk the ferry. We all took up the lady's offer and she even offered to put us up for the night!



Relaxing in Castle Douglas

Two of the cars on the tour were returning home that day the others were to stay one night in Castle Douglas and one night in the Lake District. Peter and Rosanne picked up a hire car at Glasgow airport and met the other cars at their hotel in Castle Douglas later in the day. Martin and Sasha continued to have problems with their car suddenly stopping and this delayed their arrival at the hotel. The next day the fault was identified as a loose wire in the steering column and was fixed.

Once fixed Martin and Sasha, Phil and Alice set off for the Lake District but Peter and Rosanne decided to drive home to be around when their car arrived home.

The fault with Peter and Rosanne's TR6 turned out to be a faulty oil pump which was fixed by replacing it with a new pump.