



The TRunnion

Broadcasting to Lea Valley Group and the TR world

202305 MAY



HAVE A LATE BREAKFAST WITH US



SHUTTLEWORTH



SHUTTLEWORTH



LVG Breakfast

Thursday 11th May - 10am

With Shuttleworth now allowing visitors to use their Cafe without paying a museum admission charge, we are going to visit for a breakfast. Join us from 10am - No booking necessary

SEE YOU THERE - SG18 9DT

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Thanks to the few who do take time to write for TRunnion.

Chris.



DEADLINE DATE ... for articles & photos for next issue is Wednesday 7 JUNE

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*Please send any TRunnion articles direct to the Editor
.....as a **WORD doc attachment** !*

Keep the text small, if possible: TAHOMA, font size 10

PHOTOS : JPEGs of finest quality ...if possible ... please.

EMAIL direct to: chris.trunnioned@btinternet.com

Please keep Text & Photos separate.

My Publisher does not like it if pics are added to a Word doc.



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Meetings Venue and Small Print

Unless otherwise specified, all group lunchtime meetings are on **third Sunday of month** (from 12 noon) at The Cock Inn, Broom. Plenty of parking space behind the pub. This is a "lunchtime meeting" so food is optional. The kitchen at Ther Cock is very small so it **would be appreciated if those intending to eat could please call: 01767-314411 so that they have an idea of numbers.**

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

REMEMBER : All recent Trunnions are available on the website but if you are not already receiving them directly, we may not have your current email address. To keep in touch, update your details : trr.lvg@gmail.com

***Disclaimer** The TR Register wishes 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.*

Welcome to the home of LVGThe Cock Inn, Broom. Remember to book in advance for Lunch

Check our LVG WEBSITE for all you need to know

About, Gallery, Social Scene, Events, Newsletter and Local Happenings !

Just click below to keep yourself updated :-

<https://www.tr-register.co.uk/group/lea-valley>

Click NOW for LVG updates



Shine & Show



**The Cock Inn,
Broom**

Wednesday 19th July 2023
4:30pm to Dusk

LVG Events update...

May Events

Wow Wow Wow. If we continue attendances at LVG events as seen recently, we will have a really good year. 25 people with 10 TR's joined us in Shepreth for our early May midweek evening meeting and we were fortunate to find Simon Hebditch, the owner of Robsport, sitting at the bar at The Green Man buying everyone their first drink of the evening. Thank you Simon.

We are starting midweek breakfast meetings this month, with us trying out the catering at Shuttleworth. The forecast looks questionable for the week after the Coronation, so the turnout of TR's might be a little low, but we know that fine weather is the major factor affecting the number of cars we get out. Around the time this Trunnion will be published we have a visit to the

De Havilland Museum in London Colney with 19 people booked with 10 Triumphs. That should be a great day out.

Luke Searle is currently in Europe, planning to visit Spa and onward to Italy. His co-pilot is his sister, Alice and we wish them well on the TRip. They are certainly adventurous, taking such a challenge as a single car, but we are sure they will have fun and cannot wait to hear all about their exploits, once they get back (the plan is to return to the UK on Sunday 21st May and Luke has not ruled out turning up at The Cock for our regular Sunday Lunchtime meeting).

For the LVG 50th year we are having an Anniversary Drive out on **Sunday 28th May**. We will be doing a 120mile circular drive starting at Baldock Services, onwards to the Old Ferry Boat Inn at Holywell for refreshment, then onto Ramsey Rural Museum, finishing back at the Cock Inn, Broom. This is a resurrection of a previous Trip, many years ago. The potholes will probably be worse, but the scenery and company will be as good as ever. Let us know if you will be joining us by sending an email to:-

trr.lvg@gmail.com

To see what LVG are up to, visit our Webpage where we report on past events and also publish future plans. It's not too late to make suggestions for this year, so if you think there is somewhere we should go, let us know. If anyone wants to organise any TRips that would also be gratefully accepted by the committee.

Calendar link

<https://www.tr-register.co.uk/group/lea-valley/social-report/2023/04/2238/LVG-Events-Calendar>

Phil & Mike

LVG Events





Group Leaders' Report

Phil Sanford

There is plenty to report and to think about this month. Our Drive It Day was a great success, no one got lost, everyone had a great time and the rain held off, we just need to think of where to go next year? The mid-week evening meeting at the Green Man in Shepreth was a great success with 25 folks and 10 TRs turning up. Great to see Paul and Julie's newly acquired TR4A, a very nice car, and it is not red but blue. Amazingly most of the new cars to the group lately, have not been red. Simon Hebditch from Robsport was in the bar when we arrived and very generously bought us all the first drink, cheers Simon it is much appreciated. One TR even managed to fit in two passengers, I've not seen that before!

Graham's 5000 mile tour of the UK mainland coast is going well and he is now over half way. He has received some fantastic support from the Scottish TR Groups and made a lot of new friends. Potholes have been a major pain for him as many of the roads he has been using are minor and they have suffered badly from a lack of maintenance. He will probably have to visit his dentist when he gets back to have his fillings put back in. For those in the WhatsApp Group I have been posting daily reports on his progress, if you would like to join the group just send me a message on 07919 037321.

Coming up this month is our regular club meeting at the Cock inn on Sunday the 21st and on Sunday the 28th it is our 50th Anniversary Drive Out. This is a 120-mile circular drive starting at Baldock Services and finishing back at the Cock Inn. On the way we will call in for refreshment at the Old Ferry Boat Inn at Holywell and at the Ramsey Rural Museum. Please let the Events Team know as soon as possible if you would like to join in the fun.

On the 7th June there will be the midweek meeting, hopefully at a pub near you. As you know this is a moving venue which travels around the Group area. If you can think of a suitable suggestion, please let us know.

It is never too early to start planning for the Shine & Show, which this year is on the 19th July. In a departure from previous years, we are limiting it to pre-1985 vehicles. The space in the paddock is limited as we are in danger of running out of room. There have been more and more "modern classics" turning up and although we would love to accommodate them, we are just too pushed for space. Now this is where we need your help, volunteers are needed in the following roles (no previous experience required): car parking marshals, greeters, raffle ticket sellers and folders, judges, key grips, and general dogsbody. Even if you can spare only a couple of hours it will be a great help, the more the merrier. Don't forget all volunteers receive a free BBQ voucher. Presenting the awards and prizes this year will be Steve Denton, of You Tube fame and well known Triumph mechanic.

This year, from the surplus of the raffle, we are making donations to Guide Dogs for the Blind and also Huntington's Disease Association. These are charities that members of the Group are raising money for. If you have anything you would like to donate as a prize to the raffle it will be gratefully received. Or if you know of a business that would like to



sponsor a prize, please get in touch with us. Decent raffle prizes equate to a good amount of money being raised.

Now for a couple of "Save the Dates"

Tuesday 8th August – Kelmarsh Hall & Gardens + lunch

Sunday 20th August – LVG 50th Anniversary BBQ at Ponsbourne Park, SG13 8QT

Keep up to date with all our events via our website <https://www.tr-register.co.uk/group/lea-valley/social-report/2023/03/2238/LVG-Events-Calendar>

Don't forget to book your place on the Anniversary Drive on the 28th and let us know what you can do for our Shine and Show.

Happy Driving.

Phil



Cambridge Classic



Pat Glasbey

Not the start to the season we wanted with the 1959 bonnet catch (TR3A) breaking the week before the event.....but at least we had the Abarth as an alternative and unlike the TR250 which had collapsed at the start (ball joint broke at 5mph on arrivalbetter than at 70mph a few minutes earlier!) we were able to participate in the run. Paul Richardson and Phil Titchner were on the event in Paul's TR3A.

The start was at Rougham Airfield near Bury St.Edmundswhich was home to the USAAF 94th Bomber Group between 1943 and 1945. After a bacon sandwich and a quick look around the museum (I loved the American Jeep pedal car) we set off through the King's Forest and passed the Anglo Saxon village at West Stoweand continuing on through many pretty Suffolk villages such as Lidgate. Lovely to see daffodils, tulips and cowslips all along the route, in the sunshine; although we were devastated to drive along one road where at least 30 mature trees had been chopped down with no obvious evidence of disease!!

Our coffee and cake stop was at The Fox Inn at Ousden, then we were onwards into Cambridgeshire via Balsham, Hildersham (the beautiful ford had been coned off as too deep for vehicle passage), Shepreth, Barrington and then passing Wimpole Hall. It was then a straight run to Biggleswade apart from going through Potton Brook ford, which stands alongside a 13th Century packhorse bridge. Chris took the ford at some speed with great sprays of water being thrown upmuch to the alarm of the photographer. I thought that he got an absolute soaking but Chris says the photo evidence doesn't really show thisstill think I'm married to a hooligan.

I am not sure why the route took us through Biggleswade as going via Langford and Broom would



have been more scenic but one interesting fact is that Ian Mantle lived here. He was a notable rally driver who drove a Berkeley sports car (manufactured in Biggleswade). He took part in the Netherlands Tulip Rallythe event on which today's "tulip" diagrams originated. At the start we had 3 very small letter boards to find on route and 2 checkpoints to visit. Along with many, we didn't find board number 2, so it must have been well hidden.

We left Biggleswade to arrive at Shuttleworth via Jordan's Mill with plenty of time to have lunch with Paul and Philand a look around the museum.

A gentle start to the season with much more challenging events to look forward to.



Pat.





Well; 2023 showed us that the best attended DiD's are when we organise a visit to a Steam Train museum. Together with this year, our last DiD to get so many cars out, was our Trip to Bressingham Steam & Gardens in 2019. Where can we go next year?

Suggestions on a postcard please.

We managed to get away without rain this year and by inviting our chums at TSSC, we had 9 TR's, 3 other Triumphs and one modern, who all convoyed across Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire and arrived together at The Buckinghamshire Railway Museum in Quinton. That's a feat in itself!!

The best efforts of HS2 (not TS2) closing roads around the venue, couldn't stop us and the organisation and route planned by Graham Teeson were excellent. Where else can you get a great day out, with premier parking within the attraction, all for a donation of £6 a car? Many of us had not been to the museum before and even if you paid the full admission fee of £15pp it would be excellent value to see all the exhibits across the 25 acre site.



We enjoyed walking around the museum and also a full size train ride up and down the short length of track left after Dr Beeching's review of British Rail in the 1960's. Being a specific Festival weekend, there was also a full programme of model train activities on a narrow gauge railway and even smaller. The Steampunk Morris Dancers enjoyed a ride as you can see in the associated photo.

There were a few retail opportunities to spend money and you can read elsewhere in TRunnion about Tony Bannard Smith's TR2 purchase. The second hand book stall had many titles to drool over, but most resisted, so I am afraid you won't see them in the LVG book swap at Broom.

Drive it Day is fast becoming the Classic Vehicle opener for each year and having seen many other classics on the road that day, the future for our hobby and the forthcoming year looks great.

Get **next years date** in your diaries – **Sunday 21st April 2024.**

Mike.





A Model Find

Tony Bannard-Smith



A unique memory of the day was coming across a Dinky Salmon Pink TR2 for sale on a model vehicle collectors stall in Quainton Station. The outer box is original and now with a home-made inner section.

Given a wash, the cars pink paint gleams. Meccano Ltd's Dinky cars are a much truer copy of the originals than Corgi Toys have achieved with their TR2. (Covered in an earlier TRunnion). Their body mould lines are very accurate. The box shows the TR2 in light blue/red on one side and in pink/light blue on the other. Interesting coupling of colours. Maybe I need to find some very small '29' roundels for the doors and bonnet! I wonder how many 111 models were made? It's worthy to note this car has a lady driver under those white overalls. A bargain £12 addition to my TR sidescreen collection.

Tony.





Pete Muncer

Last month I recounted the tale of our venerable Skoda, which developed a nasty habit of losing gears, eventually ending up with just 3rd and 4th. A few days later, I prepared to take the car to our local VW specialist in WGC for an initial inspection, to find that all gears were present and correct – weird. Using the car just for local trips meanwhile, a couple of weeks later it went in for a full check – and this is where I demonstrate my ability to “talk technical” – a connecting pivot in the gear linkage tower had become discombobulated and/or knackered (or something like that). Anyway, the result was just a modest bill for cleaning and lubricating the gizmo, rather than for a new gearbox, which was most welcome – so the Skoda will continue to trundle around when the TR or campervan are not in use. Apparently some spares for 15-year-old Skodas are no longer available from VW – is this a business opportunity for Moss or Rimmers – specialists in Triumph, MG, and Skoda? – perhaps not.

Now back to TR topics. My 4A has been somewhat poorly over the winter – slow to get out of bed in the morning, sneezing and coughing, generally out of sorts (the car as well). Fortunately a couple of sessions with “Doctor” Pete Major before the season got underway restored the 4A to full health. The neighbours are very grateful, now that they don’t have to listen to protracted attempts to splutter into life, followed by the inevitable poppings and bangings (I am talking about the car now). It does help to have a choke which functions correctly when trying to start up.

Drive It Day on April 23rd featured the LVG trip to the Buckingham Railway Centre, for a combination of classic cars and steam trains – just my cup of tea (well, coffee actually) – unfortunately, I had to give this outing a miss due to other commitments on the day.

A few days later it was off to Dorset for the CACCC Springing Up Tour. Recent experiences of the M25 car park have persuaded me to find alternative routes more amenable to a classic car – this time we went across country on A & B roads via Hemel, Wendover, Benson, Newbury, Andover, Salisbury, and Blandford, to Wareham. A slightly longer and possibly slower route compared to the M25 / M3 / A303 option (depending upon M25 traffic jams), and this should have been a more relaxing and enjoyable run. However, stalling the car in Salisbury at the head of an uphill traffic light queue, and having to push it out of the way, was a trifle embarrassing (although the car restarted almost immediately) – the rest of the journey to Wareham in heavy rain was not very enjoyable.

We had stayed at our hotel at Stoborough near Wareham previously for the 2018 SU Tour, and we re-visited also the pub just down the road for our first night rendezvous. After the damp drive down to Dorset the previous day, the weather for the tour itself on April 28th was dry, so hood down. The first section featured a run along the Jurassic Coast road (B3157) with some superb views (even from a TR), to a stop at West Bay near Bridport. A couple of incidents here provided some light relief – firstly, no sooner had one of our group parked his smart MGA at the beach car park, then a seagull dived down and with Stuka-like accuracy, decorated the bonnet with several “bombs” – MGA driver then seen filling a bucket and performing an in-transit car wash. Then another one of our number beached his immaculate Austin A30 in the loose sand, requiring several of us to push the car out.

The second section then went north towards Sherborne Castle, stopping on the way for refreshments at the White Hart pub in Yetminster, a most welcoming hostelry, especially for classic cars. The last section of the day then headed south again, passing down the Piddle Valley (no comments please), before driving through picturesque Milton Abbas and back to our hotel. The post-tour dinner at the hotel was excellent, and inevitably the “Wally of the Day” trophy went to our friend in the A30.

A good start to the touring season, and my 4A ran reliably all weekend.

TR activity is well under way this year, and on the horizon now is the LVG 50th Anniversary Drive on May 28th. Our Group Leader and Events Organiser between them may have shown a certain lack of judgement here, by allowing a person who mutters to design the route (or actually to resurrect a route from a few years ago) – however Phil and Mike will be carrying out the pre-tour route survey, so any mistakes encountered on the day clearly will be “nothing to do with me” (a phrase which apparently I employ frequently). Anyway let’s hope that the British weather is in a co-operative mood, and it will be hoods down for the day – see you at the start at Baldock Services.

May is going to be a busy month, as we will be off to the West Country in the VW campervan for a week. Shortly after returning from this trip, it will be time to do the route survey for the CACCC

Tibbles Tour which takes place on June 25th. This is the traditional one-day tour, which has been running for 30-plus years, and always finishes at the club “HQ” at the Carpenters Arms pub in Harpenden. Not surprisingly it becomes difficult to find new routes and venues, so again this year’s route is really from a previous tour, but run in reverse (no, not the cars) – but don’t tell anyone, they may not notice.

Now for some thoughts on the current situation (chaos?) in Formula 1. First we had the shambles at the Australian G.P. (three race stoppages under red flags, two of them with just three laps to go). Then we had a very near miss at the Azerbaijan race, when officials allowed some photographers and press into the pit lane while the race was still under way. However, just to show the current mentality surrounding F1, recently an item appeared in the press – Felipe Massa (the retired Ferrari F1 driver) was considering mounting a legal challenge to have the result of an F1 championship overturned (to his benefit and Hamilton's loss). This challenge refers to some alleged race-fixing (not involving Hamilton) in the Singapore G.P – but this was in 2008, 15 years ago!! I really have to go into Basil Fawlty mode now – I MEAN, WHAT IS THE BL**DY POINT???

Contrast this with the actions of British driver Peter Collins (see pic) in the 1956 Italian G.P. – leading the race and with the chance to be World Champion, he spotted team leader Fangio in the pits and out of the race. Without any instructions from the Ferrari team, Collins came in and voluntarily handed his car over to Fangio, who went on to finish 2nd in the race and win his 4th championship that year (at the time drivers could share cars and still score points). I cannot recall any 50's F1 driver resorting to legal tactics to overturn a result - just shows how attitudes and approach have changed over the years – thanks to the efforts of Mr. Ecclestone & co., F1 is not really a sport anymore.



I have to finish this month with some sad news - Stuart McRoberts, former LVG committee member and Treasurer, passed away in hospital on April 21st after a short illness. Stuart, along with Rod Hill (also ex-LVG), was largely responsible for getting me involved with classic cars, and the three of us shared the ownership of a TR6 ("Lulu") for a couple of years before I acquired my 4A – we all joined LVG in 1992. Stuart was involved with LVG in the 1990's and early 2000's, before moving to Suffolk, so will be known primarily to some of our older members. You'll be missed, mate – R.I.P. Stuart.

Pete .





LVG Clothing



**You can now get regalia with the LVG logo.
Below is a selection of items already purchased, but we
have an extensive brochure of similar items
See Phil or Mike to order**





Watch out for the Green Man



Bring your pre 1985 Classic car to our

Shine & Show



**The Cock Inn,
Broom
SC18 9NA**

**Wednesday 19th July 2023
4:30pm to Dusk**

All pre 1985 Classics Welcome

show staged in large field at rear of pub



Trophies for -

- Best Sports car
- Best Saloon car
- Best TR
- Oldest Vehicle
- Furthest travelled to the show

Serving great beers
straight from the cellar &
tasty food from the BBQ.

**Live Jazz Band
'Lend Us A Tenor'**



enquiries to - trr.lvg@gmail.com



**Free
Entry**

Grand Prize Raffle

Bonnet Lift Assembly

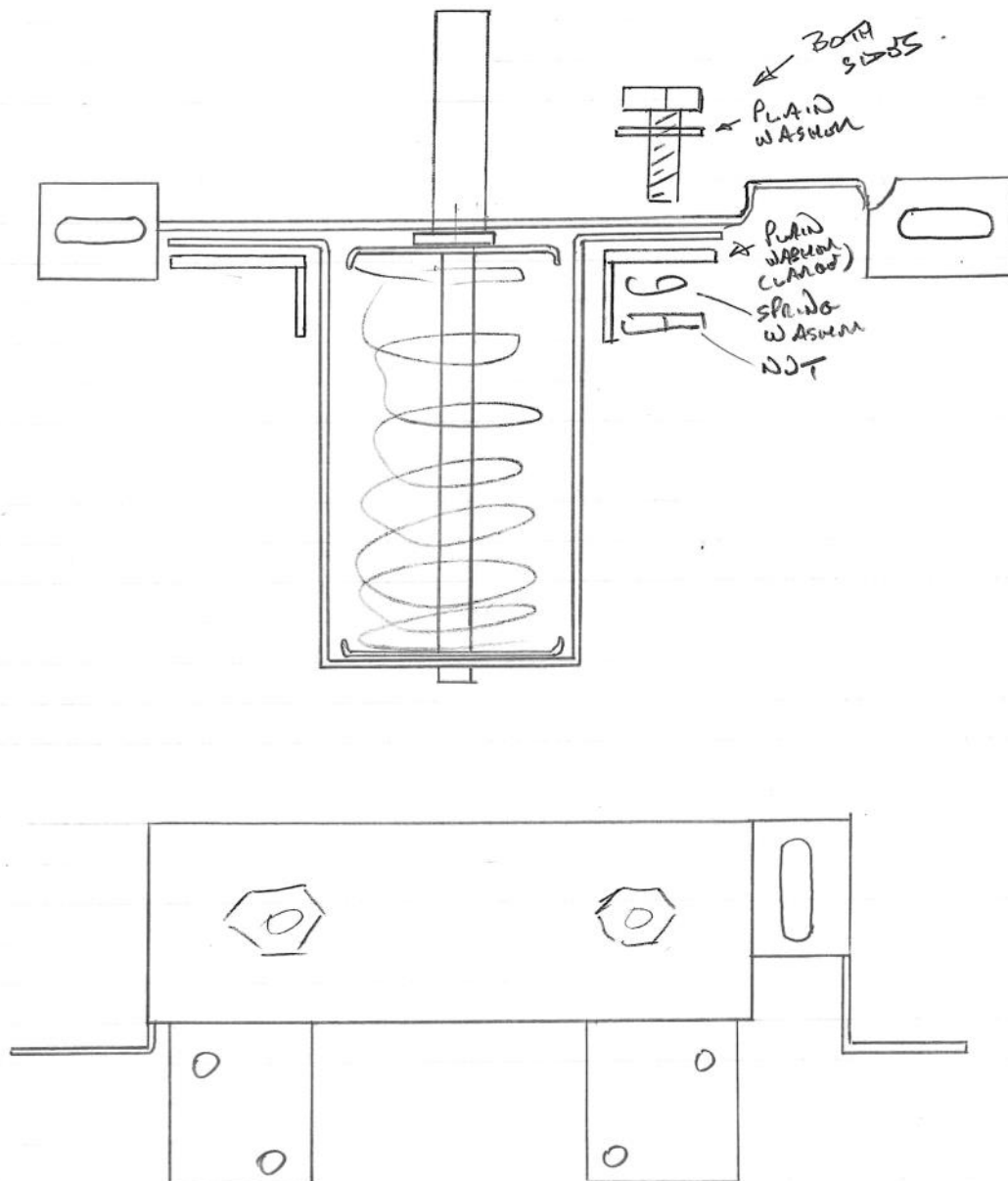
One of the most neglected parts of the TR3A. You may think it's going to last forever but from 1959 until March 2023 isn't so bad. Luckily it rusted through one edge and broke in the garage. I phoned Moss , after checking the parts book and was told delivery should be about 2 weeks. I chased again after 2 weeks and was given the true situation. Moss have a batch of 100 on order since February with British Motor Heritage ...and they cannot get a delivery date.

A local engineering company have kindly heloed with a good welding job on the assembly ...which should last for some time. I have kept the new one on order!

Chris.

BONNET PLUNGER

Illustration: Phil Titchner



1930's Crane

Donation welcome

FREE delivery

...within Beds/Cambs/Herts ...

The garden feature every car enthusiast has been waiting for :

Genuine 1930's garage crane with full patina (rusty and seized) but will respond to tlc.

Top pulley 7 ft high x 5 ft leg reach. Weighs quite a bit!

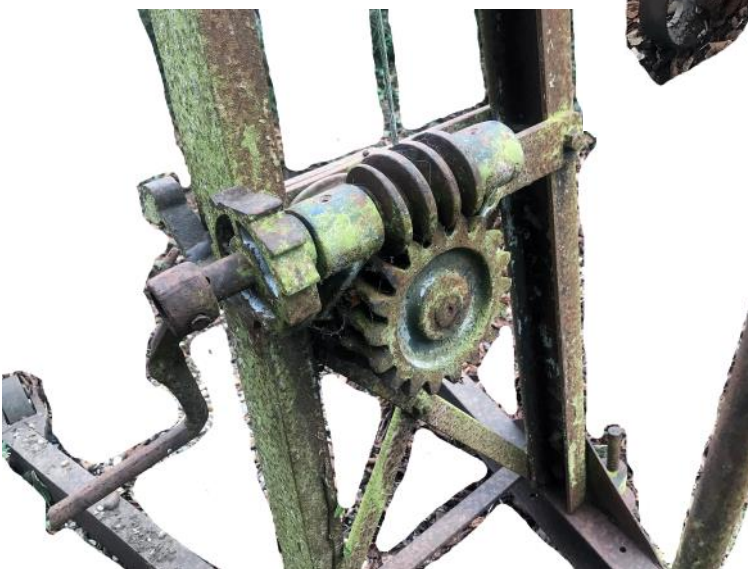
Currently in two sections with bolts and packing pieces ready to go back.

Accept a **donation to a Ukrainian Relief Fund.**

FREE delivery : Beds / Cambs / Herts

Call Tony Bannard-Smith :

07866073148



The Back page

Does "The TRunnion" still have place in LVG today ?

With the push to have everything on website and social media, perhaps TRunnion is not so relevant ?

Do you like TRunnion reportsor is it always about the next event coming up ?

YOUR comments to the TRunnion email address will be appreciated.

Thank you,

Chris.



Calling Alison, Phil T, Mike and others

I have run out of front covers for TRunnion!

If YOU have a portrait fine photo that may be of interest, please send. Thanks.