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NEWSLETTER – October 2014

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Editorial

Jamie is away on vacation and I have volunteered to send out a newsletter in order to keep you informed of happenings and events as we run up to the AGM, the Concours and year end. Being guest editor does give me the chance to say things that Jamie would not publish, but I will try not to let it go to my head!

Oh gosh, winter is just behind us and we are anticipating year end! It is true, it is true- as you get older life goes ever quickly by. Whilst the Cape Town weather seems not to know it, winter is over and the prospect of pleasant open top motoring beckons. October and November is jam packed with events and outings to entice you and your Triumph outdoors, but still leave you enough time to prepare your car for the Club's annual concours.

There are less than 2 months before the Club's AGM when you will be asked to elect a new Committee or persuade the current office bearers to stay on. It seems that a number of people are intending to step down from the Committee so please make a point of attending the AGM to have your say and to ensure the continuity of the Club. With so many of our members now retired, you may be prepared to give a little of your time to help the Club?

Chairman's Chat

Hi Everyone,

Well time is drawing near and we are back to AGM's and concourse judging. This year has really gone by so quickly that some of my projects are seemingly just not going to happen.

I must thank Dale Jacobs for the very interesting talk he gave of his flying career WOW ,I know quite a few friends who are sorry they missed out.

It is time again to dust off our vehicles and enjoy the sun shine that lies ahead and as well as joining in our runs, the calendar is busy with out of club runs coming up very frequently as well as our own functions. I hope to see more members once the summer is settled in and, weather permitting, on our runs and functions. Please note on the program the visit to the body shop, Executive coachworks, as one can only then understand what work actually goes into getting vehicle looking like new.

Folks another run that promises to be fun is the Ceres Festival, check the program and see for yourself. A big thank you to Dennis Cook for organising various runs and speakers and for standing in as editor while Jamie is overseas.

From me I wish you well

Frank

Welcome to new members

Harold & Vanda Oliver. ex member re-joining (Spitfire MK 1V)- we are glad to see you back in the fold Harold and Vanda.

Dave & Dolores White (TR7). Although Cherry Mason sold her TR7, we are glad to see that the new owners have joined the club.

NOGGINS, RUNS AND EVENTS FOR REMAINDER 2014

4 October	Run	Whales and Wheels Hermanus	Dennis
11 October	Event	Executive Coachworks	Eddie
18 October	Run	Ceres Festival	Frank
25 October	Noggin	Clubhouse	Frank
2 November	Event	Hot On Tar Motorshow- Langebaan	Eddie
8 November	Event	Concours and AGM-Hazendal/Hermitage restaurant	Frank/Dennis
16 November	Run	Plaaskombuis Hermanus	Jamie
22 November	Noggin	Clubhouse	Frank
29 November	Happening	Year-end function – Clubhouse	Frank/Dennis

The Lowdown on events:

4 October : Whales and Wheels Show : This year will be the 23rd Annual Whale Festival in Hermanus. The festival is a popular and enjoyable event with food stalls, arts and crafts, markets, beer tents and music as well as an opportunity to sight whales from the cliffs around the harbour. The Whales and Wheels show will be held on Saturday 4 October from 09h00 to 17h00 at the Hermanus Primary School. The school hall, as always, will host an exhibition and sale of scale model cars. There will be a parade of classic cars through Hermanus at 10h00 in which we will be expected to participate. A modest entrance fee charged to the public raises money for the school, so you will be doing a good turn by attending. **Meet on Saturday 4 October at Engen N2 at 07:30 for 07:45 departure.** SMS attendance to Dennis on 0832434881. Enjoy breakfast in Hermanus.

11 October : Visit Exclusive Coachworks in Killarney Gardens.

Exclusive coachworks is a panel beater, spray-painter and rebuilder of cars, while in his workshop next door he builds V8 Hotrods. Our host will be the owner Johan van Eck. The address is 1 Monzac Park, Monza Road, Killarney Gardens. **Meet at Exclusive Coachworks at 10am.**

Directions; use Gate 1 (opposite racetrack). Turn first left into Monza Road. Carry on for 500 metres and you will see it on the right. (if you go past it the road comes to a T junction).

Kindly let Eddie Hughes know if you will be attending- Mobile : 082 555 0256 or email : eddiehughes@telkomsa.net

18 th October Klein Karoo Fees

This will take place in Prince Alfred Hamlet, near Ceres and here is an opportunity to enjoy a cultural experience with the farming community, including boeresport, folk dancing, and equestrian events. **Meet at the Engen on N1 at 08:00.** There will be an opportunity to see the Basil Wesson collection on the Sunday if staying over. Please confirm attendance to Frank on 083 261 5508.

25 th October Noggin : 10:30 at the Clubhouse. As this will be the last noggin before the Concours and AGM, please make an effort to be there.

2 November ;Langebaan Hot On Tar motorshow will take place at the sports fields of Curro school from 09h00 - 16h00. There will be food stalls and a market and the organisers would really appreciate

the support of The Triumph club. SMS attendance to Eddie 082 555 0256. **Meet at the Engen filling station on the R27 at Sunset beach at 08:30 for 08:45 Departure.**

8 November : Annual Councours to be held at Hazendal. Wine Estate. We will hold the AGM and lunch in The Hermitage Restaurant at Hazendal which offers affordable South African cuisine in the splendid old wine cellar now refurbished into a stylish dining area. Hazendal is situated along the scenic Bottelary Wine Route, between Stellenbosch and Kuilsriver. Arrive 09:00 for 09:30 start.

29 November : Year end function and Prize giving at the Clubhouse. There will be a catered spitbraai and Frank will provide a disco for the energetic ones. Time 6:30 for 7 pm. Cost will be approximately R120 per head.

Report : Combined Club run- Bistro at Alleé Bleue

The combined clubs run once, this year, organised by the Jaguar club, who decided to ring the changes on the perennial Elgin country club and arranged a really pleasant drive ending at the restaurant in Alleé Bleue wine estate just outside Franschoek. The event was favoured by idyllic sunshine weather making for enjoyable open top motoring through the beautiful Winelands. Our Club seems to have gathered a reputation for not being particularly interested in the combined clubs run which is a pity because the run, as in previous years, was well supported by other British sports car clubs. Six couples from the TSCC entered with 5 TR's and Eddie's smart new Benz. Apart from the usual British marque sports cars no less than 7 Morgans participated. In keeping with tradition there were some relatively simple clues to be collected en-route, and the answers, together with 10 general knowledge questions, were used to test the skills of the clubs to compete for the shield. Rudy Schatz deviously placed the first two clues within about 100 m of the start point, catching most people unaware; although Frank had a tail gunner in his TR6 , Anthony, who was wide awake and caught them. The Sunbeam club thrashed the opposition whilst those attending from the TSCC had the dubious distinction of coming last, but a fun time was had by all.



Obituary

Godfrey Gericke of the PE Centre of the Triumph Club passed away recently after a battle with the big C. Godfrey, a long standing and Honourary member of the TSCC was well like and respected for his willingness to assist others with their cars. An avid petrolhead; Godfrey owned an immaculate Spitfire, GT6 as well as other cars, including Porches and a lovely black Morgan that is now resident in Cape Town. Our condolences go out to his wife Jackie and family.

Out and About

Ashley Ellis has sold his lhd TR6 to a fellow petrolhead as part of his reducing the number of cars, and to focus on rebuilding the ex- Peter du Sautoy Lotus Elan. If you have seen his beautifully restored AH Sprite, then you will know what to expect of the Lotus. Ashley says that, although he does not own a

Triumph, he will remain a member of the TSCC as he likes the guys in the Club. We like you and Maggie too Ashley and we are pleased that you will still be around.

Geoff Bowers had an offer spurned to re-purchase his old TR3 so has instead purchased an MGA; he must have been p***ed off!! Like Ashley, Geoff and Norma will still stay in the Triumph fold making us happy, so we must be doing something right.

Eddie Hughes is so determined to hold onto the Pride of Ownership first place spot this year that he has had "My TR7" resprayed for the concours. Watch out for this sparkling beauty you judges and spectators alike.

Dr Adrian Morris, an old Club member, rejoined the club recently and paraded his TR3 at the recent Rhodes Memorial breakfast- nice to see you back, Adrian and hopefully we will get to see your TR7 at an event soon.

Geoff Coombe who had previously restored a beautiful TR4 for his son has for quite some time been busy with a TR3/3A that originated from Graham Johnson. When first I saw the car, bent, battered (dare I say bugged) and hopelessly asymmetrical, I admired his courage at tackling this project. Geoff has had a professional over to advise him, who declared the task as beyond economical repair. Nothing daunted, Geoff is now undertaking major panel creation. If you know of anyone with a TR3 front valance lying in his garage, please let us know.

National Gathering 2016

By now our members will be aware that the Cape Town centre submitted a proposal at the last BGM to host the Triumph Sports car club National Gathering in 2016. This is an honour and a duty that comes around only once in 10 years. It may be called a duty because organising a National Gathering requires some innovation and imagination as well as a tremendous amount of work. The National Chairman is waiting for a detailed proposal from the Cape Town centre which, I guess, will be formulated by the committee elected for 2015. The Cape Town centre organised very successful National Gatherings in 1996 (Simonstown) and 2006 (Hermanus) and I believe that we owe it to ourselves to ensure that we repeat the success in 2016. To do this will require some of our members to come forward and assist the new Committee. Your club is going to require a number of new committee members next year but, even if you are not considering serving on the committee, please give a lot of thought to how you could help by becoming part of a subcommittee to organise the 2016 National Gathering; getting sponsors, arranging events, getting stuff printed (giving money??) are just some of the tasks. The more people involved, the less each one will have to do.

Encounter with a Kudu - in a TR6

By Gordon Waring

Road-kill; it is often small nocturnal creatures that are caught unawares by a passing car. Imagine hitting an animal weighing-in at anything up to 270 kg and standing over 1.5m high at the shoulder! Just such an occurrence happened to Gordon Waring, our TR6 member who farms and lives near Riversdale.

Gordon and his wife were invited to visit friends for a meal at the end of July. A spur-of-the moment decision resulted in his deciding to drive his Gold Medal Concours-Winning 1975 TR6; with winter at an end the vehicle was in need of a good run to get the fluids circulating again! It was during the drive home that disaster struck - a well-surfaced tarred road enabled the Triumph to cruise along at a speed of 100kph when a Kudu gently ambled across the road....

Instinctively, his wife called him to 'Look Out' as the brakes were slammed on; to no avail. The heavy car was destined to hit the heavier animal that had been attracted by the lights and - as in most accidents - whilst the action seems to go immediately into slow-motion the crash happened in an instant; an instant when ones whole life passes through the mind. On impact the windscreen shattered and they found that they were covered in their own blood. Fortunately, it soon became apparent that their cuts and scratches were not sufficiently deep to need medical attention. However, the TR6 was a different matter, as investigation showed that the bumper, bonnet, hard top, windscreen frame and glass, the windscreen

wipers, and dashboard had all been destroyed. Closer observation showed that it was the hard top that had taken the brunt of the impact, and undoubtedly it had saved their lives - the Kudu had been thrown onto the hard top roof on impact. With winters in the Klein Karoo usually being quite mild, for the last nine years the soft top had been on the car. However, this year was different - it turned considerably colder in June and Gordon decided to install the hard top. Thank heavens he did - without it this story would have a much different ending. Sadly the Factory hard top was very badly damaged in the accident and is considered to be irreparable.

The hardtop had been salvaged from Gordon's first TR6 which caught fire and burned out whilst he was changing a petrol filter. Another accident; another near-miss; Gordon switched on an incandescent lead lamp and the spark in the switch ignited the vapours, which engulfed him in a ball of fire that resulted in a four month stay in hospital and 8 skin graft operations.

We hope that this will be the last TR catastrophe for you Gordon!

In Spring a young man's thoughts..... well the tradition started by Mike Napoli has the Spring newsletter carrying a pinup ; here is a nostalgic one for this Spring.



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