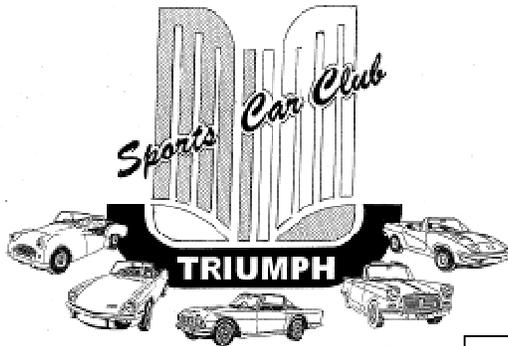


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NEWSLETTER – February 2010

Chairman's Chat

Well, here we are well into 2010 and the club momentum has gone from holiday sleepy mode to fully buzzing in the last three weeks. The committee had a brain storming session early in the month (it didn't take long!) and we have some ideas to develop this year. Anne and Gidion have been busy with regalia and subscriptions which are due now and the administrative hum is heard in the background.

The first noggin of the year was a social one and I was delighted to see a number of ladies present. Girls, you are very welcome and we promise to warn you if the content is to be technical. The February noggin is not only a 'Bring and Braai' but a 'Bring and Buy'. Again a pleasant social evening but you are invited to bring along these parts which are no longer of any use to you and trade them. Put a price on or swap, it is up to you.

The buzz continues with the events. Timour Hall has just passed off successfully for the organisers but also for the club. We had sixteen cars in total which was very comfortable for the courtyard and we were complimented on our display. Classic racing at Killarney is next on the list on Sunday 7th February. Registration has been necessary this year as the organisers have tightened up on entry. On the bright side they are also having a concours d'elegance in front of the clubhouse and we have been invited to enter two cars. Arturo Pastorino's TR3 (now owned by Nick Joubert) has been selected along with Bennitt Joubert's immaculate TR3 to represent the club. Next on the list is George followed by the British Sports Car Tour on 28th March. This event created lots of interest among the clubs at Timour Hall and promises to be a good one.



Theo Brand's Spitfire4 at Timour Hall

Anyone who has read the last Sabrina and this newsletter is aware that the subject of concours is being discussed at national level. As always there are varying views and some of our members have put pen to paper voicing very legitimate opinions born out of long experience. At the last noggin we discussed where we should take this locally and there was an interest expressed in staging a concours d'elegance. It was felt this should be purely a club event and we are working on the idea of a social day where Concours d'Elegance may run alongside a Pride of Ownership. A car may be entered for one or the other or both, or indeed simply parked on display. The overall aim of this is to encourage us to keep our cars as best we can and it will provide us with the deadline we all need from time to time! We are aiming at a social event here and not something which may be divisive within our group. Judging will have to be constructive and not merely critical. Watch this space!

Lastly, please have a look at the short article on 'impromptu runs'. This is a way of developing our social theme where anyone taking their car out for a run may contact other members. Just look at the weather forecast, contact me or Anne and we simply sms the time, date, place and your contact details to everyone. Easy as that!

On a rather sad note, a long time member of the Triumph Sports Car Club of South Africa, Arnie Lowes, was killed in a plane crash in the Magaliesberg on Tuesday 2 February 2010. Arnie was instrumental in getting the West Rand branch of the TSCC going and at one point owned virtually every model of the TR range that was available. We extend our condolences to his wife, children, family and friends.

Drive safely.

Tom

Editor's desk

We hope every one had a great festive season and that the New Year has kicked off well. We had a wonderful trip to New Zealand and Australia, but now we are back and the jet lag has sort of worn off, time to get down to work and get the newsletter out.

As you will see, there are a lot of things happening in the next couple of month's, so although we are possibly a little light in terms of articles, it seemed much better to get a possibly shorter news letter out and work on a bigger issue for March with all the photos of what has been happening.

We were a bit disappointed not to see too many classic cars on our trip. There were a few stuffed and mounted in museums, but we only saw a handful in NZ, the good thing was that most of these were Triumphs! We saw one Herald coupe, similar to Ronan's, in Kerikeri north of Auckland, the lady in question had used it as her daily drive for the last 15 years and was thrilled with it. The rest were mainly 2000's, given that cars in NZ have a long life this was a great advert for Triumph engineering. A couple of MG B's and that was about it. A good friend of ours in Auckland is restoring a MK 3 Spitfire and doing a brilliant job of it so I have included a couple of photographs to inspire the other rebuilders to greater things!



Australia, as ever, continues its love affair with big Holdens and Fords, just a couple of Morris Minors in the more way out places we chose to visit.

Have a great month and please get me your articles in for the March edition as soon as possible!

Report back on Timour Hall - 24th January 2010

The International Police Association once more produced a quality charity event at Timour hall with some 410 classic cars on display on a perfect summer day. Some additions this year were an auction and an auto jumble. Peter Inskip seemed to be the main buyer here and was seen several times making his way to load his car with his new treasures and a broad smile on his face!

Once more we had the courtyard for the Triumph display which is recognised as the best spot at the show. We had fewer cars than last year, 14 Triumphs and two Isuzu Belletts, which made for comfortable spacing and a decent display. We should remember that 20 is an absolute maximum for this area.

It was all action around Arturo Pastorino's TR3. He had prepared it well and put a 'for sale' sign on it. It has to be said he generated some serious interest all day as it caught the imagination of the public but he finally sold it that night to Nic Joubert whose TR3 was parked alongside. Nic's sidescreen is now on the market.



Cars on show at Timour Hall

A thank you to Peter Inskip, Gidion Snyman and Ronan Sanderson for their work at this show. Compliments were received about our display and organisation.

Forthcoming Events - Please diarise!

Sunday 7th February - Classic racing at Killarney

A really good day out watching classic racing, seemingly there will be at least a Triumph Dolomite in the field this year. The organisers have tightened entry up this year so if you haven't yet booked, please contact Ronan to check if there is a place for you, you can always pay at the gate!

We have had an invite from our good friends at the Jaguar club to use their club house, they will be selling food and drinks as well!

Weekend of 13th / 14th February - George Motor show

This show is one of the best in the country, the plan is to meet up with the PE and Border clubs to put on a good display, Triumph has not been well represented for a while.

The plan is to drive up on Friday, stay over in Knysna and then go to the show on the Saturday. We will then go stay in George for Saturday night before coming home via the R62 on Sunday.

Please get hold of Tom Dougan if you are interested in going, ASAP!

Wednesday 17th February - Bring and buy! 7.30 at the clubhouse

Something slightly different this time. Please bring some parts that you don't need any more and either swop them for something you do want, or sell them and put the money to better use. Braai fires will be lit early, come along and have a social evening!

Sunday 28th February - Month end run

The month end run on Sunday, 28th February coincides with a very special motoring event at the Franshoek Motor Museum where they are staging 'a glamorous celebration of classic cars'. This includes some 50 cars put through their paces in a time trial and a concours event. There is a full day's programme of events and the snag is the cost of R200 per head. If you wish to go, please purchase your tickets through Computicket and we will meet at the services on the N1 to arrive as the Triumph Club at the event. Timings to follow. You can get more information from the website www.fmm.co.za. Please note there are no ticket sales at the gate.

If you are not keen on this event (or the price) why not meet at the N1 services anyway and we can do a breakfast or lunch run. To be discussed at the next noggin and details as always by sms a few days before the event.

Sunday 28th March - British Sports Car Tour

After more than a few false starts, the tour will take place on Sunday at the end of March. Starting point will be the Engen garage on the N2 with registration at the truck area starting from 9.00 am. The route is then via the coast road and Houw Hoek pass end up at the Elgin Country Club in Grabouw for a buffet lunch at 12.30 pm. Early birds can go slowly and stop for coffee on route. Special parking has been arranged on the cricket oval for all participants. Cost is R100 per head CASH on the day please! Space is limited so please let us know as soon as possible if you are interested.

There will be more details in the next newsletter, many thanks for the committee for sorting every thing out so well while we were in the Antipodes! Contact Jamie Hart on 084 2200082 or jamie.hart@kingsley.co.za thanks.

IMROMPTU RUNS

It occurs to me that the SMS system may be used by anyone who wishes company for a run at short notice. I see it like this..... you check the weather forecast a couple of days in advance, contact Anne or me and we will SMS all members with the details of time, day, date, meeting place and your cell number. Simple as that!

We would like to encourage informal runs and does anyone have a title for them which simply trips off the tongue?

Contact Anne or Tom (tom.dougan10@gmail.com) or 021 852 1589

CALENDAR PHOTOGRAPHS

It is time for the first submission of photographs for the 2011 calendar. The picture should have been taken in January 2010 and have subject matter relevant to our club and its activities. There will be a selection of a photograph each month of this year.

Submissions please to Tom and Anne (tom.dougan10@gmail.com), who will present all contributions to the committee for selection.



One of the funnier items seen at Timour Hall this year

Internet Triumph - an occasional series by Paul Mitchell

I was taken by the proposal in the last newsletter to create a Triumph Club calendar. Unfortunately my car pictures tend to be rather uninspiring, so I decided to go online and get some advice. Sources are listed below, but my take on the various advice is as follows. I am certainly no expert, and have yet to put much of this advice to the test, so feel free to ignore it as appropriate.

Get the basics right. The main thing is to know how to use your camera. If you have a simple camera, but know how to make the most of it, you'll get much better results than someone with all the gear but no idea. If you graduate past the automatic point & shoot settings, then you have more to play with. Lots of cameras come with software that lets you manipulate the photo, or if not, there are many such things available on line, many free.

Look for something original. We all know what a TR3 looks like, so a three quarter shot of the car with the wheels artfully turned to the camera is nice, but nothing special. Look for interesting ways to show the car, perhaps with a stunning background: mountains, sea, forests are all available locally, free! Another thing I like is details – pick out something interesting on the car and take a close up, or look for a reflection in the gleaming body. Talk to the owner of the car, if it's not yours, and see what the interesting or unique feature of that model is.

Lighting is everything: its angle, intensity, and colour. General consensus is that it's best to shoot either early or late in the day when the light is softer, especially in Africa. This may not always be possible - at car shows, for example - so another tip I pinched is to think of the car as a large 3D mirror that reflects the light towards you. Shadows can also make or break your picture, so think about how they will look.

Get a good angle: low down shots can look much more dramatic than one from eye level. High up works too – the best picture I took at Timour Hall one year involved clambering up onto the wall next to the Triumph compound to look down on the gathering.

Think about how the photo is going to look. Don't take a photo against a cluttered background, or of an interior with junk lying around. The telephone pole behind the car is going to look a bit odd growing out of the roof. If there is a dark patch in the photo, as there would be if you're taking a picture of an engine, then use a fill in flash to illuminate it. Another thing that works well is to take the same photo on several different settings. This is less important if you are going to manipulate it digitally later, but will help to figure out what the right set up is. Digital photography is great because it frees you up to take loads of photos, and also lets you see immediately what has worked.

My final bit of advice is the same as with anything: once you know the rules, then you can break them. Add a bit of clutter, pick an unusual angle, deliberately have part of the subject out of focus. It also gives you an excuse to drive to great locations in search of the perfect photo. Happy snapping!

Sources of ideas:

<http://tinyurl.com/ybym7s4> - simple notes on angles, lighting, etc.

<http://tinyurl.com/yc7qc97> - good illustrative examples of good and bad photography.

<http://tinyurl.com/yevkmrn> - discussion thread on car photography, with some Triumph pictures.

<http://tinyurl.com/yez2toz> - advice from a Mopar muscle car magazine on getting published, with lots of good stuff on page 2 showing common mistakes made by photographers.

Finally, there's a TR7 buying guide in the Telegraph: <http://tinyurl.com/ybaqnu5>

REGALIA

The sale continues into the New Year with a 20% discount on ALL items. There will be no new stock available for some time so if you want something, buy now!

Remember it is not just golf shirts, jackets and caps. There is a wider range including beer mugs, insulated mugs, thermos flasks, caps and key rings. Buy or order at the next noggin or contact Gidion (snymangidion@xsinet.co.za) or 076 427 6854.

HEARD AROUND TOWN

- As you will have read elsewhere, Nick Joubert has bought Arturo Pastorino's wonderful TR3. Nic's current TR3 is up for sale and we look forward to seeing this really immaculate car on our club runs. Nic has been requested by the club to enter the car in the concourse at Killarney next Sunday, here is keeping our fingers crossed!
- We hope that Arturo and Mel will still keep coming on runs in their new wundercar!



Neil's repaired TR5 at Timour Hall

- A wee bird tells us that Neil Cameron's TR5 was in a skirmish with a good Samaritan! The fuel injection system let go while one of Neil's sons was driving recently and a passing motorist stopped to assist, reversed his Kombi to attach a tow rope and bang!!! Faith in human nature is restored as our Samaritan even left his details for Neil. *Neil are you aware that the number plate has been placed at an angle? Ed*

- Fuel injection strikes again and a replacement metering unit being brought to Tom and Anne by a friend from the UK was found by customs at the airport. An expensive R1600 duty was paid on a part being replaced under warranty!
- That experienced aviator Nic Joubert and now proud owner of an immaculate TR3 was crop dusting a field just before Christmas when he flew under power lines. Apparently this is normal. What he didn't realise was that the farmer had erected poles for owls to perch and hunt mice in the field. You don't need to guess the rest..... part of the wing gone and extensive damage to the plane. Experience shone through and he limped back to base without injury, except to his pride. Well done!
- The other car that was due to be entered into the concourse at Killarney, Danie Barkhuisen's TR3, has had a major engine problem and the engine is now out pending replacement of pistons and the like. Being the engineer that he is, we suspect that a few more modifications may be done at the same time! The rush is on to get it done before the George Motor Show.

TSCC Committee members 2010

Your Committee would like to hear your views and ideas at any time. Please feel free to contact us.

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..but not in New Zealand or South Africa!

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