



WHALE TALES

THE CAPE TOWN TRIUMPH NEWSLETTER

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JULY 2019

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

Wow, the winter has arrived in full force and you can see why they call it the Cape of Storms. We are very happy with the good rains we received and are looking forward to more before summer arrives.

Sadly, Graham Goetze who was your leader for the past couple of years resigned as chairman with immediate effect at the last committee meeting that was held in May. This left a huge gap in the committee who is already running with some positions not filled. They approached me and asked whether I would be prepared to fill the Chairman's post, which I accepted.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking Graham for all the hard work, blood, sweat and tears during his tenure as Chairman. The club members and I really appreciate the effort you have put in Graham to make this work, to keep the club going. Also extend our thanks and appreciation to Aurelia who assisted with many aspects of the club's running. Please do join us for our outings and events and we hope we can still call on you for your support in future.

Also a huge thank you also for our committee members who is working hard to keep the club going and on track still as one of the best and successful classic car clubs in the Western Cape. I am now calling on you, our club members to assist me and your committee to keep the club going. We are still looking for a secretary to assist us with admin related tasks, so now is the time to put your hand up and volunteer. It is

our club for like-minded Triumph enthusiasts and friends getting together with our cars and have fun. That's what it is all about. I am also calling on you to let me know what you want to do with regards to outings, events, get-togethers, car shows, etc. that we can work it into our programs.

This brings me to our next event, which is our Christmas in July lunch run. It is a special event and I am personally inviting you to this fun event, you will not be disappointed. Have a look at the events and save the date, 14 July 2019.

We have a couple of important events coming up, so please get your cars ready for summer and let's have fun together.

Be safe and God Bless.

Triumphant regards,

Gerhard

THE EDITOR'S DESK

Welcome to this bumper edition of Whale Tales. I had hoped to do a mini June edition on my return from our travels, but events have rather overtaken us to here is a combined edition.

As you will have read in the Chairman's chat, Graham stood down from the Chairman's role with immediate effect. I am delighted that Gerhard has come to the plate, I have known him for a long time and I am absolutely positive he will do an outstanding job. We also have some really good members on the committee, please give them all the support they need and things will soon be back to normal. Think about JFK's often quoted phrase, think not of what the club can do for you but about what you can do for the club!

Eddie Hughes has arranged a great programme for the rest of the year, one event that will need a lot of club input is the Century Run in October. This has been a stand out event for the club and was previously run by Tom Dougan with support from John Parker. Both have gone from the club so we need plenty of members to put up their hand to help as we need to get the planning done in the near future. The proceeds go to a very good cause, the Red Cross Children's hospital and as one of our founders, the late Chris Schultz, was one of the founders of the hospital let us make sure this year's event is a great success.

CHRISTMAS IN JULY 14TH JULY

Please join us for a great event, our annual Christmas in July lunch run. Meet at the Engen on the N2 at 10h30 to leave at 11h00, for a short scenic drive, final destination Antonio's Restaurant at Harbour Island in Gordons Bay. They have a great venue and depending on the weather, we can sit outside next to the sea with views of the harbour and moorings, if it is cold, then we will sit inside with gas heaters going. Nevertheless, they have a great menu and reasonable prices for pizzas, pastas, seafood, ribs, steaks, etc. and plenty of beers and wines for all tastes. Safe parking will be in front of the restaurant. It is going to be fun, so please

RSVP by 9 July 2019 to Eddie Hughes at 082-555-0256 as we have to give the numbers through to the restaurant.

NOGGIN 27TH JULY TRIUMPH MAINTENANCE

This will be at the clubhouse at 10am and will be an interactive session lead by Frank Dreher. Frank's famous boerie rolls will be served before hand. This will be a great opportunity to solve some of those niggles that occur on old cars or a case of where do I find that spare that I have been looking for!

SUNDAY RUN MAY 19TH BY EDDIE HUGHES

On Sunday 19th May 9 Triumphs (the most for quite a while!) and 15 people met at Constantia Centre next to the Engen Garage at 10.30am. After a good 'natter', catching up with 'things Triumph', and perhaps having enjoyed a coffee, we set off at 11am for Simonstown Golf Club. The weather was good and perfect for open top motoring (providing you had a heater that works in your Triumph!).



The scenic route took us over Old Kaapse Weg and past Longbeach Mall. We turned right to Kommetjie and up Slangkop. We stopped at the top of Slangkop to admire



the view and take photos. We then proceeded past Misty Cliff's and Scarborough, taking the right fork towards Cape Point, following the Coast and its beautiful views, until we reached Simonstown Golf Club just after 12.30pm.

Here we met Neil Cameron at the Club - giving us a total of 16 people. A very good turnout to enjoy the three course lunch followed by tea or coffee, all for R105 which included the tip, was exceptional value.



Just after 3pm it looked like it was going to rain soon so most of us left to avoid driving in it!

Thanks to everyone for their support!

NOGGIN 25TH MAY ANDRE BREDENKAMP Mk2 JAGUAR

It was good weather when we got together at the clubhouse with the smell of bacon in the air... Hmmm, really hungry now. Frank and Sonja made the bacon rolls which went down very well so to speak. We had a good turnout of members and friends on the day.



Andre Bredenkamp informed us that our chairman Graham Goetze resigned and that we need to find someone to fill his shoes. A discussion was held and Andre then showed a couple of videos on the Jaguar MK2 and spoke about his own car that he acquired recently. We then went outside where we had a proper look at the Jaguar MK2 inside and out and the differences between the different models as well. There were 3 Jaguars MK2s and 7 Triumphs on the day.



Andre also informed us that he is going overseas for a couple of months. Brian McKirdy also came to say goodbye as he and Rene are off to Scotland for an

extended stay and will only be back next year. We wish them well on their travels and look forward to see them again.

All in all a very successful day with fellow car enthusiasts and friends.

NOGGIN AND RUN 29TH JUNE

A glorious mid winter's day saw us meeting at the Olive Bistro in Durbanville for coffee and a natter before a run back to the clubhouse for a braai. Poor Gerhard went for a scenic tour of the area due to his GPS being programmed for the old



address, those like me who use old fashioned technology called a map arrived at the right place, albeit in my case somewhat late due to traffic!! Peter Lloyd had organized a circular route via Conterman's Kloof and other scenic parts of the area. I took the short cut as I was in a plastic but managed to get a few shots of the cars as



they drove past before braving the rugby crowds at the club and waiting for all to arrive.

Daan Barkhuisen soon had the fire going and much nattering took place, in all it was a really great day and many thanks to both Eddie and Peter for their organisation, definitely one to do again!

A WHALE OF A TALE PART 2 BY TIM KENT

If you have been waiting with baited breath for the second episode of this Whale of a Tale, (as many have) here it is. Those who read part one with an iota of attention will recall that the TR4A had a new engine and that I was living with my cousin in

Henley-on-Klip which is near Vereening and my place of employment was in Springs.

This meant an early morning dash across the southern Witwatersrand, a journey of about 50 miles (80kms). For the pleasure of the open road I took the route through Heidelberg, onto Nigel, Dunnottar and then Springs.

All I know is that on December 8th 1972 I set off for work, behind the wheel of a 100mph Sports car. Tuned by experts.

Oh man, life was great! " Light up a Lexington, you'll be so glad you did!" Remember that?

Ten days later I woke up in the Intensive Care Department of Johannesburg General Hospital. I had been in a coma for 10 days and physiatric evaluation declared that I was brain dead, or at least that I had suffered severe brain damage. How accurate was their diagnosis? Well, Doctors aren't often wrong, but I am here to tell the tale, so you decide. Do I hear you muttering under your breath that the Doctors were right?

I have no recollection of the accident (even to this day) because one suffers from anterior loss of memory which is the body's way of shielding one from acute trauma. The simple powers of deduction concluded that I was travelling at very high speed as I entered Heidleberg and a uniformed Policeman in his Holden entered an intersection and did not stop. He hit me on the A pillar, (or did I hit him?) I hit the steering wheel with my face (no seat belts in those days) and the TR hit first the left hand curb and then the right curb and ended up in a children's play ground, having gone through a steel palisade fence. My upper and lower jaw was broken in five places

(Yeh, that steering wheel is not cheap plastic)!

I had severe lacerations to my face and upper body. The Ambulance crew declared me dead at the scene. Was I doing 80 or 90 mph? Judging by my injuries it was probably the latter

The front and rear windscreen (surrey top) had been ripped out of their sockets, the front right wing, door and rear fender were flattened, but this was not the most serious damage. More to follow.

I was released from the Hospital on December 20th which was a mistake but all the staff wanted Christmas off, so bugger the patients, so what's new? During this hospital vacation I experienced the most excruciating pain as the breaks in my jaw began to heal but, as they healed they trapped the nerves and I was rendered inconsolable. An emergency visit to the hospital revealed that my jaw needed to be broken again to relieve the trapped nerve! Hell on earth.

By about mid January I received a phone call from Cousin's lawyer which instructed me to be in the Heidleberg Magistrates Court (by 7am) for the criminal court hearing. I was there, having borrowed Cousin's friends Peugeot 403, for the whole day.

All day I sat through hearings of Pass Law infringements committed by un-suspecting Africans who were hauled up from the bowels of the building, in shackles and sentenced to lashes or incarceration. May Verwoerd twizzle in his grave. However, at about 4pm a young man came up and sat next to me. We exchanged pleasantries and I (foolishly) declared that I was lucky to be in South Africa because in England the point system on one's driving license was already in place, 12 points and you're on 'yer bike', literally. I had accumulated 9 points for various offences so another 3 and it would have been game over ! "Insert another coin", except there were no more coins.

To my horror this young man was none other than the driver of the offending car, Sergeant Joubert who then, when my case was called got up to conduct his own defence and used my admissions of guilt (in England) to claim that I was driving at a reckless speed. Cousin's lawyer objected furiously and these were sustained. I was told, by the presiding Magistrate that I need not come back the next day for sentencing of the accused. Was the Magistrate his father –in-law, uncle, cousin, I will never know. But I have my suspicions.

Now, many, many, weeks later the TR was ready for release from the paneel klopers (panel beaters) and cousin phoned to say he would collect it and drive it to the home of the Massey Ferguson director with whom we were invited for dinner. Splendid, I thought, roast beef and Yorkshire pudding and my TR. Light up a Lexington, I was so glad I did!

In the fullness of time I arrived and there to my utter jubilation was my TR, fresh out of the spray booth and resplendent in the setting sun; what joy; what ecstasy in true British Racing Green, chrome knock- ons too. I was tearful, my baby had come home.

However, all was not as it seemed. The dinner was delightful, the company got pissed and the wine was nectar, in that order. The M.F. director's wife was not so pissed (or was she?) that she tried to kiss me during "Strangers in the night". I was rudely extracted from her warm embrace and summoned to the Director's study whereupon he and Cousin advised me in parental terms to get rid of my beloved TR. It will never be the same quoth he. He, (cousin) and the M.F. director explained that the car would never ever be the same again, and he quoted chapter and verse about his experiences with the 1955 Lea Francis Le Mans experiences (when he was the chief engineer) and when a write off was the only option. Cousin was nodding in full agreement. Dam him!

What the hell does he know about anything, I asked myself. This was salt in the wound and my response was "when I want your opinion I will ask for it, until then keep your sanctimonious opinions to yourselves." I stormed out into the night, the Moon was high, the new paint glittered in the star filled sky. I got behind the wheel, gripped it and urged my beloved to prove them all wrong. We were one, whole and indivisible as I powered my way through the night at 5000 rpm through each gear, overdrive clunking in on demand I was in the seventh heaven. But all was not as it seemed, there were issues that were about to threaten my life once again.

Stay tuned for the next exciting episode.

Tim Kent

(With tears in my eyes)

UPCOMING EVENTS



EVENTS CALENDAR 2019

Date	Time	Event	Organiser	Contact No.
JULY				
14th		Christmas in July		
27th		Noggin. Maintaining your Triumph Interactive talk by Frank Dreher		
AUGUST				
31st	10:00	Noggin André Bredenkamp presenting old car videos		
SEPTEMBER				
22nd		Run : Historic tour of Wellington & Surrounds presented by Ronald Lloyd	Peter	
OCTOBER				
6th		Century Run	Comm	
26th		Noggin. Jamie Hart presenting his TR4		
27th		Killarney Motor Show	MMC	
NOVEMBER				
10th		Concours		
30th		Noggin		

TECHNICAL MATTERS

Not too much this month but I have an interesting article on modern fuels for your edification next month.

TRIADS

Not very much for sale this month except that a family member has a whole stack of A/F spanners to give away. He was going to sell them for scrap but if you need both open ended and ring spanners please give me a ring on 084 220 0082

TAIL PIECE

There were not too many classic cars on our trip to Scandinavia. On the way to one of our hosts in Sweden we must have passed over 50 classic American cars from Plymouths to Mustangs but I am not sure they really count!

I did find this Triumph on the only sunny day we had in Copenhagen, I thought at first it was a Spitfire, but on chatting to the owner I discovered it was actually a Mk2 GT6 that had had the top taken off. Had I not gone sightseeing on a boat but driven south, there were about 40 Triumphs at a classic show, such is the price of ignorance and wanting to see the sights!!

