



WHALE TALES

THE CAPE TOWN TRIUMPH NEWSLETTER

Editor Jamie Hart

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OCTOBER 2021

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

Any big event in one's life leaves a significant memory and is mostly top of mind all the time. For example, with me it was when my son GP passed away. When I think back to things that happened, then it is almost like, was that before or after he passed away. I guess that the same will happen with the COVID pandemic, which will be etched into our memories, was it before or after COVID. I think the end is in sight with this pandemic and I hope things will return to normal again, albeit a new type of normal. I don't care but same as you, have had enough of it now. I can't wait to attend a sports event with friends and family!! Same goes with our outings and get together, would love to have the British Sports Car tour again where we can join in and have fun with our fellow classic car collectors and friends we made over the past 17 years since our first run in 2004.

We have only a couple of events left for the rest of this year and before you know it, it will be another year. Please do join us and have fun with your TRIUMPH or even your regular car, we don't mind at all.

That's it for now, have fun with your family and friends.

Triumphant regards

Gerhard

THE EDITOR'S DESK

I have to send a pretty big apology this month for taking my eye off the Triumph ball so this month's newsletter isn't going to be very large, I seem to have got waylaid with things like the Cycle Tour and Marathon. I really must thank June and Graham Challenger for their interesting insight into working at the Triumph plant, although I am not sure whether this is Triumph Motorcycles at Meriden or Cars at Canley. A big thank you to them, could we have some more articles please?

I have been working on a sequel to Tim Kent's article on Siegfried Bettman who founded the Triumph Company. This will cover the period from the purchase of the Triumph name by Standard Motors at the end of the Second World War to the creation of the first successful sports car, the TR2. The events become pretty convoluted in that era, and every time I think I have got the story straight I find another twist in the tale! The politics of the British car industry seem to put what we endure to shame, it seems little wonder that so little of it remains today. Scoring own goals seemed to be more important than keeping the companies going!

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

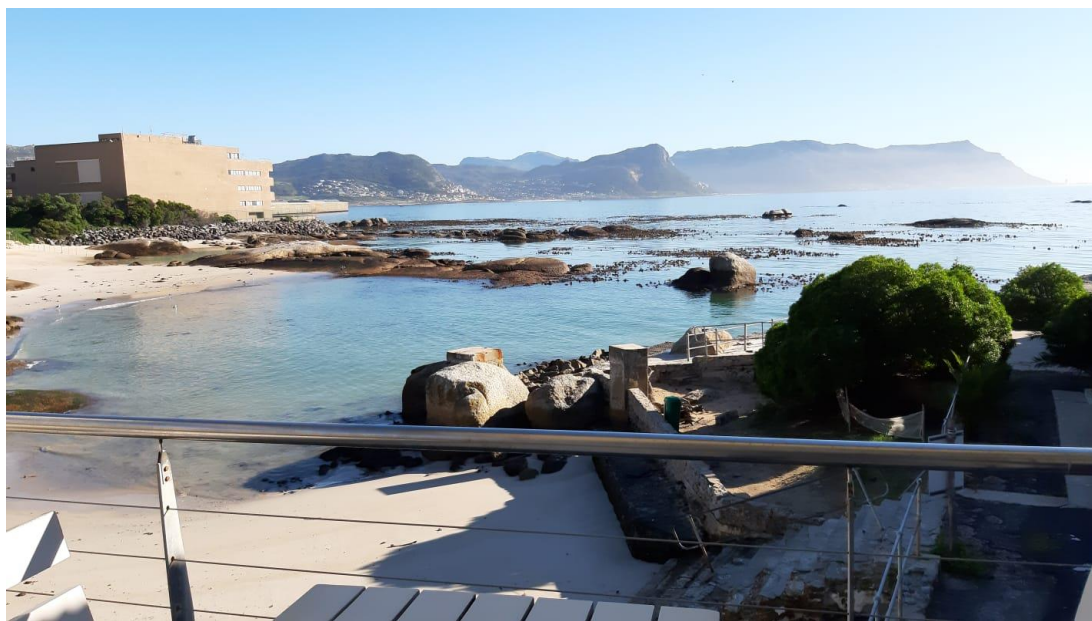
LUNCH RUN TO SEAFORTH RESTAURANT SIMON'S TOWN

SUNDAY 24TH OCTOBER

This month's run is somewhat delayed due to the Cycle Tour, postponed from March, happening on the 10th October and the Cape Town Marathon happening on the 17th, both events that will cause major traffic disruption in Cape Town.

We really think that you will enjoy this venue that Eddie Hughes has organised for the next run. The Seaforth Restaurant is at the top end of Simon's Town and is next to the world famous Boulders beach, home to a colony of African penguins so after a great feast you can work it off by taking a stroll to the boardwalk and looking at these wonderful if somewhat noisy birds. Prior to their name change they were previously known as Jackass penguins due to their call!





We will meet at the Glencairn Total garage at 10.30am for 11am departure. We will go via the expressway, past Masi to Kommetjie, through Misty Cliffs, passing Scarborough and Cape Point to Seaforth. Parking is arranged (be careful - there are a few potholes!) A parking attendant is arranged. Please tip as you see fit! We have to be seated by 12

MENU

Deep Fried Calamari

or

Beer Battered or Grilled Hake

or

Seaforth Beef Burger

or

Grilled Chicken Fillet

All the above served with a choice of Rice, Chips, Seasonal Veggies or Side Salad.

Tea or Coffee

Cost (including tip) R150pp

Confirm attendance AND meal choice with Eddie 082 555 0256 by 21/10

NOGGIN AT THE CLUBHOUSE SATURDAY 30TH AT 10.00

The next noggin will be at the clubhouse on the 30th, hopefully we will be organising our programme by that date for the future.

BRITISH SPORTS CAR TOUR

We had hoped to hold this event in October this year but with the Covid situation still very unclear we are postponing it again to March 2022 to hopefully allow everyone to enjoy the event without the virus hanging over their heads!

The venue will still be the Elgin Country club in Grabouw and starting at the Pot Belly restaurant on the R44 at Klapmuts

REPORT BACKS

LUNCH RUN TO OLD BRIDGE INN, 12TH SEPTEMBER.

September is still sort of in the rainy season in the Western Cape and we had some rain on the Sunday morning on our way to the Engen 1 Stop on the N2 where we got together. We only had a couple of Triumphs due to the bad weather. It was great to see Peter and Esther Colebank in their Spitfire and Nick and Denise Joubert in their TR3 all the way from Struisbaai. Peter Lloyd, his son, and lady friend also joined us after they parked the Spitfire at Old Bridge already. We arrived at the Old Bridge Inn where we had prearranged parking right in front of the entrance. The Triumphs were thus, myself in my TR3A, Nick TR3, Peter Coleman Spitfire and Peter Lloyd Spitfire. The cherry on the cake was that we were in time to watch on the big screen the Springboks take on Australia in the rugby game. The food and drink were great and the 18 people that joined us really had a great time.





NOGIN AT THE CLUBHOUSE 25TH SEPTEMBER.

We had anticipated poor attendance because of a long weekend and people going away but decided that we will still have the meeting. We discussed the program for the rest of this year and into next year and I made lekker boerewors rolls and we had coffee and tea. We were 12 people and had a great chat, also 4 TRIUMPHS, Danie - TR3A, Robert - TR3A, me - TR3A and Margaret - Herald. It is great to attend the



noggins in the revamped clubhouse, it made such a big difference. Alan made name plates for our cupboard, and it looks great, thanks Alan, we really appreciate it. I also handed out 2 trophies to Tim Kent, Roger Robeck Trophy- for the most improved Triumph over the year and Jack Cramp Trophy awarded

TIM KENT RECEIVING THE JACK CRAMP TROPHY

annually to the Concours entrant whose car just misses Bronze medal or are at the bottom of the concours table to encourage members to participate. All in all, a great meeting. It was also good to see Robert's TR3A on the road, well done lad....

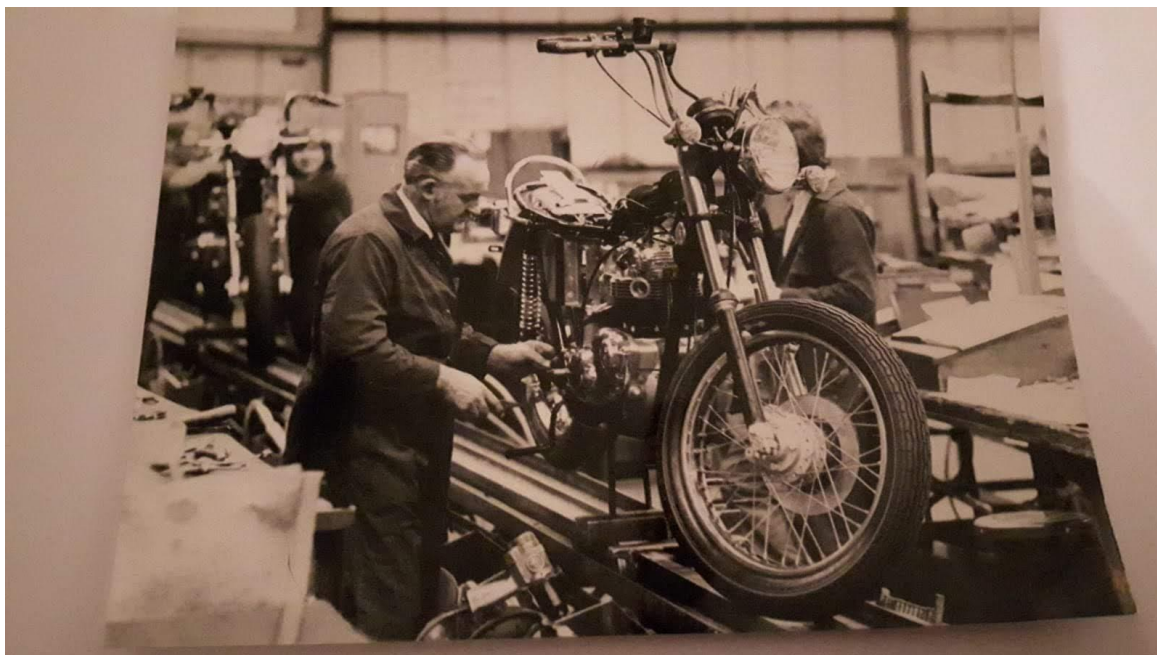


New members June and Graham Challenger sent this wonderful article on their family connection with both Triumph Motor Cycles and Cars as they lived in Coventry, the home of the Triumph Engineering Company as Tim Kent explained in the last issue.

A LITTLE HISTORY OF JUNE AND GRAHAM CHALLENGERS CONNECTION WITH TRIUMPH.

June's uncles, Tommy and Des Pearson both joined Triumph Motorcycle Company in the early to mid 1930s when they left school. Tommy, the eldest was called up for service in the Second World War. Des was listed as reserved occupation.

Tommy rejoined Triumph in 1945 after his war service. He told the story of witnessing his brother assembling Triumph Motorcycles in army colours at the factory in Coventry. They were both employed by the company until its demise due to financial reasons. The last Triumph Tiger cub manufactured was purchased by Tommy when it rolled off the assembly line. Prior to the motor cycle company's closure in the 1970's, both Tommy and Des ordered themselves Triumph 2000TCs, I believe the model was Triumph Chicane in South Africa. The two vehicles were both in British racing green and had following VIN numbers & following licence registration numbers. The brothers drove the cars until 2017 when Tommy sadly passed away. Each car covered approximately 24,000 miles during the brother's ownership. June was offered the vehicles plus the Triumph Tiger Cub, still owned by Tommy. Unfortunately due to the limitation of garage space we were not in a position to accept the offer.



The photographs attached are of Tommy on the Triumph assembly line probably circa early 1960's. I will stand corrected if anyone can recognise the model. Des with the Triumph 2000TC and the final one is the two brothers with their elder sister, 97 years young at the time the photograph was taken, still driving and full of fun. She was sitting in Junes Volvo C70 and asked 'should they go for a spin and try and pull some chaps?' A wonderful family with a great sense of humour. Des is 95yrs young living in Exhall, Coventry residing in the same house he occupied during his career with Triumph.



My connection with Triumph cars over the years. I proudly owned both a 1964 and a 1967 Spitfire, TR3, TR4A-IRS, Triumph 2000, Vitesse convertible, Herald 1200, Herald 1360 Estate (does a Standard 10 count?)(It certainly does Ed!) Last but not least I rebuilt a Triumph Stag in early 1990's with original engine (not overheating)

For my sins I'm afraid we have strayed from Triumph in the last few years. I currently enjoy ownership of a 1932 Lagonda 3ltr and a 1969 MGB Roadster.

Hope you find this article interesting? We are both looking forward to seeing you all at the next event in the not too distant future.

REGALIA

It was agreed at the last committee meeting that we should put our regalia supplier's details in Whale Tales on an ongoing basis so members can view their website and order directly whatever they want. LAZY A have all the club artwork.

LAZY A DESIGNS

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TAIL PIECE



THREE LOVELY TR3AS AT THE LAST CLUB NOGGIN

LEFT GERHARD VORSTER, MIDDLE BOB WINDEBANK AND RIGHT DANIE BARKHUISEN