



# Brunel TRs

representing the TR Register in Bristol, Bath  
& surrounding area

newsletter 131

april 2011

## hello and welcome

I have good news and bad news. The good news is I have a job. The bad news is I don't get paid! Yes that's right, I have volunteered to take on the mantle of PR Officer for the Register and started my new duties at the beginning of April.

So far, all this has meant is making a few phone calls to a few magazine editors and formulating some half-baked ideas about what the TR Register can do to raise its profile, which conveniently coincide with me going to all the car shows and events that I'd like to attend in the name of all things Triumph.

I'm hopeful that my first official duty will be a visit to the GRRC member's track day at Goodwood with TS2, to introduce myself to some of the classic car press and to enjoy a bacon sandwich or two. As the track day is on the Easter Bank Holiday Monday, I may have TS2 for the weekend, in which case I shall take it along to the car display on the laws at Weston-Super-Mare on Easter Sunday.

I'm not sure that I can wangle it to have TS2 for a European excursion to Spa next month, although I am please to say that I am now joining the small Brunel contingent on their trip. I will, however, plant the thought in the minds of the good and the great for either the Le Mans Classic or Classic Monaco next year. After all, the TR Register will be celebrating 60 years of TS2 and I think it only fitting for the 'old gal' to go to at least one of these classic events, don't you? Watch this space...

### **Publication dates for April's newsletter:**

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Etienne de Coensel

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## group leader's ramblings

Firstly I must apologise for the lack of Social Scene report for Brunel in *TR Action 249*. I did write one and even if I do say so myself, it was particularly witty, but alas arrived just fractionally past the deadline and was ignored. To say that I am a little miffed would be an understatement. It's a shame as this will be the last social scene report in the current format. Revealed at the recent Group Leader's Meeting, which I unfortunately was unable to attend due to a prior commitment, was the proposal to combine local group reports into geographical area for *TR Action 250*. An extract of the official handout follows...

*The Group social scene is the essential part of the TR Register. There is a growing trend for the membership to use their cars more for family and social activity and the Register needs to foster this. Social Scene therefore needs to:*

- *Encourage all members to attend local Group meetings*
- *Motivate all members to attend social events and activities, not just in their Group area, but in their general geographical area. (Any member is entitled to attend any TR Register event, group or otherwise, that they choose)*
- *As more and more inter-group activities are organised, which is a growing trend, social scene needs to reflect this and encourage non-active members across a wide geographical area to attend such events.*
- *However, in its current format, Social Scene is not succeeding in achieving the above aims.*
- *Whilst it is recognised that there is a dedicated core membership who read most of the current Social Scene, the evidence from past surveys and overall response is that most members just read the report from their local area*
- *The majority of the membership never attend local group events*
- *Launched at the Group Leaders meeting was an example of the updated look and feel of Social Scene*
- *Amalgamating the reports from one geographical area*
- *Bringing together in one summary what people in that area have been up to*
- *Bringing together what members in that area can do next and with which groups, so that they know who to contact to join in*
- *Maximises the impact of the best photos that show people having fun and enjoying themselves, either with their cars or at purely social events*

*What will not happen.*

- *Ditching everything that is currently written. The names of people involved, people who need thanking, people to contact for future events will all still be there, the bulk of which will be in the words as originally written and supplied by the Groups. In other words, ALL EVENTS will be reported on, as before, with the name of the Group(s) that organised the event.*
- *The publication of poor photos that are out of focus, too small, too remote or don't show people enjoying themselves. (You will enjoy yourself, or else! Ed)*
- *Active groups that send in exciting reports of what they have been up to and what they are doing next will not lose out; quite the opposite. Most of what they have written will still be on the page and their activities are*



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*likely to be read by a wider audience and hence attract more people, so the change is likely to be their advantage and other groups may have to work harder to promote their own events. The change would therefore be to the advantage of the most active groups and help to promote the less active groups by association.*

The only time anything comes up worth challenging at a Group Leader's Meeting and I miss it. Will it work? I doubt it. I am sure that most members do not like change. You only have to read some of the posts on the Register's Forum for example, complaining about the supposed change in the magazine paper quality. I can see what the committee are trying to achieve, but I have been a member of this club for far too long and know that some members of the TR Register just aren't interested in local group events. Please do not take this as negativity, just a fact of life.

I have yet to see what effect this new arrangement will have on the TR Register's local group's website pages, as Social Scene reports are currently uploaded directly from TR Action on to each group's site. It would be a great shame, and a backward step in my opinion, if local groups were to lose this benefit.

With the constant and seemingly daily increases in the cost of petrol, perhaps social driving will be become a thing of the past. Anyway, this has now turned into a mellow rant, so I will stop before I get a full head of steam up and move on to other things. Any thoughts or comments you have regarding the new social scene pages in *TR Action* would be appreciated.

## Past Events

The walk in the Blaise Castle Estate was a lovely afternoon and we were very lucky with the weather. Splendid hospitality at Chez Harris both before and after the walk, even if the lemon desert disappeared before I could get stuck in. So, we got a little lost en route, but we did see more of the local area than expected. Our thanks must go to Elf for leading us (astray).



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## Future Events

We should have a couple of Brunel cars on the TR Register stand at the Bristol Classic Car Show at Shepton Mallet this coming weekend. Bill Adshead and Tony Luffman have both offered to display their cars and a number of members have also volunteered to man the stand for a few hours over the course of the weekend.

Bill has also brought to my attention the Classic & Sports Car Action Day at Castle Combe, to be held on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> June. Brunel attended this event a couple of years ago, but the weather was not good to say the least and obviously put a few members off, but those who did attend had a good day. I think that we will make a group entry this year and perhaps invite other local groups in our region to join us.

With free entry it can be quite an entertaining day, even if your car goes no further than the car park. It's certainly amusing watching the boy-racers thrash their pride and joy around the track, normally with Sharon or Tracy in the passenger seat, and getting back to the paddock wondering why the engine is making a strange noise. I will raise this event at our next meeting.

Mentioning meetings, I thought that our last one was quite amusing. In Elf's absence she asked Rigby to get names of attendees for a couple of future events our Social Committee had planned. The evening drifted into farce with pieces of paper going up and down the tables for what seemed like an age. Hopefully Elf will be back with us this month. We also had a visit that evening from Ernie Cole, Apple County Group Leader. I can't imagine what he thought of the night.

## Newsletter Subscriptions

If you have not paid your newsletter subs for this year yet, can you please see Roddy at the next meeting, or alternatively pop a cheque in the post for £10.00, made payable to Brunel TR's, to me at 18 Hawthorn Close, Pucklechurch, Bristol, BS16 9TA.

See you on Wednesday

Andy

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## social committee report

I know by now that some of you have taken advantage of the recent warm and sunny weather and been out and about in your Triumphs, illustrated by Tony Luffman's TR5 awaiting his return from the Blaise Estate walk last Sunday!

Once again, the weather was lovely, which enabled Blaise to be at it's best. The walk took us through the beautiful trees past the babbling Hazel Brook, skirting Coombe Dingle and finishing at the magnificent Mansion House, now of course a museum.



Enjoying the sunshine at Blaise Castle.

It should have been a three-mile walk, but we had the misfortune of missing the exit out of the woods, and had to take in the beauties of the main road and council houses before cutting back in to the estate again.

We rounded the day off with a very satisfying meal at the Toby Carvery and the obligatory drink.

### Tynesfield House

By the time you read this we should have had yet another full day at Tynesfield House, followed by a possible visit to a pub for a drink and something to eat. What a life! Unfortunately our planned visit to Derek Robert's new house has been curtailed due to family sickness.

### New Forest Run

I hope by now some of you, who may have your cars already on the road, have booked in for the New Forest Run on 16<sup>th</sup> April. Last year was wonderful and we all came away with suntans. Sadly this time I can't be there since I'm treading the boards and rehearsing for an opera, playing the part of either a drunken guest or a prostitute's mother!



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As for other proposed events, can you please have some thoughts about another TR Workshop and how you might want this to operate, as we feel it should be more specific to the group's needs? I would also like to organise bookings for our weekend in August to Blenheim Palace, so please make sure your name is on the list if interested and clarifying whether you wish to camp or do B&B.

I will sort out a date for a stock car racing meeting, provisionally in the calendar of events for 29<sup>th</sup> May, and will let you know more about this at the meeting. Not forgetting us ladies, suggestions for another day out please and don't forget your diaries!

And finally Regalia, if you would like to buy any regalia, please let me know. I have one order to date but obviously need more. I'll bring the catalogue along with me to the next meeting.

Elf

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## Brunel social calendar

### april

Sun 10 <sup>th</sup>	Tyntesfield visit
Sat 16 <sup>th</sup> - Sun 17 <sup>th</sup>	Bristol Classic Car Show, Shepton Mallet
Sun 17 <sup>th</sup>	FBHVC Drive-it Day
Sun 17 <sup>th</sup>	Wessex & New Forest Triumph Run
Wed 20 <sup>th</sup>	Monthly meeting, the Dovecote, Long Ashton
Sat 23 <sup>rd</sup> - Sun 24 <sup>th</sup>	Weston Lawns' Car Show, Weston-Super-Mare sea front
Sat 30 <sup>th</sup> - Sun 1 <sup>st</sup>	Prescott Hill Climb (weekend events 30 <sup>th</sup> April - 1 <sup>st</sup> May)

### may

Sun 15 <sup>th</sup>	Mendip Run
Wed 18 <sup>th</sup>	Monthly meeting, the Dovecote, Long Ashton
Fri 27 <sup>th</sup> - Sun 29 <sup>th</sup>	Spa Francochamps Classic, Brunel Trip to Belgium
Sun 29 <sup>th</sup>	Stock Car Racing, Mendip
Sun 29 <sup>th</sup>	Prescott Hill Climb, La Vie en Bleu

### june

Sun 5 <sup>th</sup>	Aces Classic Run
Wed 15 <sup>th</sup>	Monthly meeting, the Dovecote, Long Ashton
Fri 10 <sup>th</sup>	Social Committee Meeting, Toby Inn, Henbury
Sat 11 <sup>th</sup>	Classic & Sports Car Action Day at Castle Combe
Sat 18 - Sun 19 <sup>th</sup>	Kemble Air Show
Sun 26 <sup>th</sup>	Chipping Sodbury Run

Contact Andy Spencer or Elf Harris for details on any of the above events