



# Brunel TRs

representing the TR Register in Bristol, Bath  
& surrounding area  
newsletter 129  
february 2011

## hello and welcome

Did you enjoy the Nostalgia Evening? I'm afraid due to a prior arrangement to watch England stuff Wales (always a nice feeling) in the Six Nations Rugby tournament and to celebrate a birthday on that particular Friday evening, I'm afraid I missed the dressing up and slide-show. I even understand that those present were subjected to some video 'highlights' of Brunel's 2003 Scottish trip, a week that I have very fond memories of, despite the rather shaky camera work.

I'm afraid I don't have much to report on the Triumph front for this month. I don't think my TR will be venturing out on the streets again this year. Due in part to increased budget cuts, but also a general state of apathy and a number of other cars taking priority. I am seriously considering continental driving again, however, with the proposed trip to Belgium for the Spa Classic.

The last time I went to Spa was in 1999 to watch the Belgian Grand Prix. I have relatives in Belgium and they were not best pleased that I was in the country and didn't pop in to say hello. So I don't think I could get away with that again!

See you at the AGM.

### **Publication dates for March newsletter:**

Articles to be received by: Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March.

Published and distributed by email on: Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March.

Etienne de Coensel

### **contact details:**

**tel. 07811 112065**

**email: [edecoensel@hotmail.com](mailto:edecoensel@hotmail.com)**



# Brunel TRs

representing the TR Register in Bristol, Bath  
& surrounding area

newsletter 129

february 2011

## group leader's ramblings

Well, that's January out of the way, along with the cold spell, for the time being at least.

Due to me totally ignoring our Editor's strict deadline, this month's newsletter will not contain my review of the year prior to our AGM. This has the unfortunate downside that you will have to listen to it in its entirety at the meeting. Something for you all to look forward to!

The new season is beginning to take shape with events imminent and in the planning stage. I mentioned in last month's newsletter the TSSC's plans to organise camping and tickets for the Spa Franco champs Classic in May. This has now moved on and booking is now open. Brunel are considering organising a trip over and Bill Adshead will co-ordinate this if we have sufficient interest. At the time of writing we have two, maybe three potential cars. If you are interested, please contact Bill via email on [badshhead@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:badshhead@blueyonder.co.uk) as quickly as possible. Full details can be found on the TSSC website, [www.tssc.org.uk](http://www.tssc.org.uk)

Entries are open for the Wessex and New Forest Triumph Run on Sunday 17 April. These can be found on, [www.triumphnewforestrun.co.uk](http://www.triumphnewforestrun.co.uk), or alternatively I shall bring some to the meeting. Brunel usually have a good attendance at this event, so I look forward to the same again this year. Have I mentioned that yours truly will be entering?

Next up is our Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 16 February at the Newman Hall in Westbury-on-Trym. I am sure that most of you will know where it is by now and it would be good to see as many of you there as possible. Hopefully the evening will be fairly straightforward. All club officers are willing to stand for another year, so we can plan for stability and to further the aims of the TR Register and Brunel TR's respectfully.

The meeting will be chaired by Kevin Jones, our Local Group Co-ordinator, and will start at 8pm sharp. The Agenda, Minutes of last year's AGM and Accounts will be attached to this newsletter.

So what has happened since last month's newsletter? The Dovecote was flooded out during a spell of torrential rain. Oddly enough, the room that we use for our meetings was not affected, but the cellar was, which resulted in £6000 worth of stock being unfit for consumption and ending up in a skip. Luckily the pub was soon up and running again.



# Brunel TRs

representing the TR Register in Bristol, Bath  
& surrounding area

newsletter 129

february 2011

What can I say about the Nostalgia Evening? Well apart from Derek Lee's talk and presentation of his trip across Europe in a Bristol bus, I was not quite sure what to expect of the evening. If you couldn't make it, you missed a very enjoyable and entertaining evening. Derek enthralled us all with his exploits of taking a bus (aka Dougal) full of students across Europe in 1968. From initial purchase, conversion, planning and the actual trip itself.



We're all going on a summer holiday...



Derek and Margaret with stick

Derek is obviously, and rightly so, very proud of his achievement along with his fellow students. Not without the odd trial and tribulation, i.e. the big ends letting go in Italy, his 'grand tour' seemed to have been a totally wonderful experience. Derek backed up his talk with numerous slides and had the audience glued to their seats throughout.

Our thanks must go to Derek and Margaret Lee for putting a lot of effort into organising the presentation and of course, not forgetting the Brunel ladies for providing the food.

A very successful evening and a new style of event for Brunel. Hopefully we'll do something similar later in the year or early 2012, possibly showing some of the TR Register's videos of old.

Andy

## **contact details**

**tel: 07971 506851**

**email: [andyvspencer@aol.com](mailto:andyvspencer@aol.com)**



# Brunel TRs

representing the TR Register in Bristol, Bath  
& surrounding area  
newsletter 129  
february 2011

## social committee report

What a lovely day to be writing this report. The sun is streaming in through the window, the birds are singing and I think my TR is saying 'let me out'.

With this in mind I have added another date to our calendar in March; a walk into Blaise Castle Estate followed by a meal. Thought it would invigorate us ready for the season! Many thanks to Derek and Margaret Lee for entertaining us at our Nostalgia Evening. It really did live up to its title with nostalgic dress, food, music and of course, Derek's nostalgic slide show.

We were back in the 60's, with Margaret and Derek as students at Southampton University. Derek had planned to buy a double-decker bus and to travel Europe with 20 other students! It showed how they transformed the bus into a campervan, with every amenity you could imagine! I didn't realise students were so resourceful (although I'm sure they weren't in my day). They tackled the challenges of the bus being too big to get under the Austrian bridges and, oh dear, the 'big end' has gone, with amazing adaptability. It really was interesting and has made me think that we must make sure that Derek is always with us on our more ambitious Brunel trips.

I can't quite remember Derek's introduction as to how they fitted this into their study schedule. It's no wonder the fees have gone up. It was a lovely evening and thanks to Derek and Margaret, and to all who contributed to the yummy food and of course, dressing up.

Attached with the newsletter is the 2011 Calendar for your reference. There have been a few changes and we are planning to provide everyone with their own diary of events at a future date. As yet nothing is written in stone, so if you have any thoughts about social events, please mention it to either myself, or one of the two Dereks.

I would also like your opinions about our Christmas meal for 2011. Would you like to use The Compass again?

Don't forget it's the AGM this month at Newman Hall, Grange Court Road, Westbury-on-Trym, 7.30 for 8pm. If you need direction, please give me a call as the map on the website isn't very good. And finally, ladies, if you feel you could provide some 'nibbles' for the AGM, I'd be very grateful. You can even claim expenses!

Elf

### contact details:

tel: 0117 9082155

email: [elfdendom@hotmail.com](mailto:elfdendom@hotmail.com)



# Brunel TRs

representing the TR Register in Bristol, Bath  
& surrounding area

newsletter 129

february 2011

## **brunel's officers and contact details**

### **Group Leader**

Andy Spencer

tel: 0117 9372045

mobile: 07971 506851

email: [andydspencer@aol.com](mailto:andydspencer@aol.com)

### **Treasurers**

Roddy Halliwell

mobile: 07768 322982

### **Social Committee Co-ordinator**

Elf Harris

tel: 0117 9082155

mobile: 07969 191168

email: [elfdendom@hotmail.com](mailto:elfdendom@hotmail.com)

### **Newsletter editor**

Etienne de Coensel

mobile: 07811 112065

email: [edecoensel@hotmail.com](mailto:edecoensel@hotmail.com)



# Brunel TRs

representing the TR Register in Bristol, Bath  
& surrounding area  
newsletter 129  
february 2011

## Brunel social calendar

### february

Fri 4<sup>th</sup> Brunel Nostalgia Evening, Newman Hall, Westbury on Trym  
Sat 12<sup>th</sup> – Sun 13<sup>th</sup> Auto Jumble, Shepton Mallet showground  
Wed 16<sup>th</sup> Brunel AGM, Newman Hall, Westbury-on-Trym  
7.30 for 8pm start

### march

Sun 6<sup>th</sup> International Triumph Show & Spares day, Stoneleigh Park. Full details:  
[www.triumph-show.co.uk](http://www.triumph-show.co.uk)  
Wed 16<sup>th</sup> Monthly meeting, the Dovecote, Long Ashton

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