



COTSWOLD VALE TR **NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2012**

Hi everyone, this is part two of the January newsletter to close off the month.

January 10th

Meeting at Flacons Bar in Evesham of the "committee" to discuss and put forward ideas for our programme of activities for 2012. A draft diary was presented to the meeting on 25th January.

January 21st CVTR Annual Dinner at The Kings Court Hotel, Alcester.

This was our best turnout yet with 53 CVTR members and their guests. Once again the hotel did us proud a super evening was enjoyed by all. Andy Canning presented the awards for the year and one or two members were very surprised to receive theirs (that included one of the writers of this bit of the newsletter).

So onto the awards then:-



Car of the year

Andrew Racey - GTR4 Dove



Tony Holland Memorial Cup **Engineering excellence**

John Walker – TR3A

for his work on building his TR3a and defeating the bureaucracy
at the DVLA

(apologies from photographer for poor picture quality!)



Carbon Foot Print Award
Most distance travelled in a TR

Phil and Sandy Blake – TR5

Trips to France and Belgium and not forgetting Harrogate.



CVTR SPECIAL AWARD

Richard and Meg Durrant

Drakes Broughton Show, countless pictures, and knitting individual covers for 53 Ferrero Rocher chocolates!



CVTR SPECIAL AWARD

Terry Smith & Jackie Bailey

Excellent arrangements at Wyre Boat Club and RAF Kemble



Sods Law Trophy

A close run thing (51 votes to the winner out of 53) voted by the members on the night went to:-

Andy Canning - Volvo

Volvo write off on his way to pick up an engine he was going to take to the International. The runner up was Colin Boothe for putting diesel in his petrol driven car (or the other way round) Colin had the pleasure/honour of presenting Andy with the trophy.



Special Award

Keith and Gill Brown

for Gill putting up with Keith and his efforts as our loyal treasurer over the past 10 plus years in support of CVTR.

Keith was also informally nominated for the "ball cock" award 🛠️ " for the most confusing, non TR related acceptance speech in the history of Cotswold Vale TR..... (why didn't he just swap over the hot and cold supply pipes?)

And on the subject of our Treasurer, Keith Brown, many thanks for a super raffle and organising the prizes. But we all now know that the hot tap should be on the right - or was it the left??????????

January 25th, CVTR meeting at The Fleece.

Andy welcomed everyone to the meeting with apologies from Phil and Sandy Blake, Malcolm and Wendy Holmes, Phil and Be Collins, Dave McHattie, and Keith Brown (fixing his plumbing--sorry its an "in joke you had to be at the New Years Dinner) who was attending a musical event.

Andy then reviewed what we had been doing since we last met (see report above) . The meeting confirmed that we should go ahead and book The Kings Court Hotel for 19th January 2013 for our annual dinner (Action - A Racey)

We then spent some time reviewing the draft diary of events following the committee meeting at Flacons Bar in early January.

This newsletter will not go through that diary in detail (it will be sent out by the group Leader in the next couple of weeks)- however there were one or two actions arising from the meeting to be followed up as follows.

Ian Brown to pursue a trip to The Legends Showroom at Bourton on The Water

Brian Wiggins - proposal for a visit to Carmichael Fire Engine plant (suggested dates required).

Barry Jeffrey - to suggest some dates for a trip to the Nuclear bunker at Broadway Tower

Barry Jeffrey - suggested a trip to Bletchley Park, dates and details needed.

Andy Canning to check if Nigel Cluley is organising a day event at Curbrough sprint track this year

Andrew Racey – to pursue a visit to the Triumph Motorcycle factory at Hinckley.

We also had a number of volunteers for organising Sunday lunches this year.

John Walker will investigate a venue around his area of Witney, and Gareth Davies will also look at an appropriate venue.

Diary for next few weeks.

February 12th Sunday lunch at The Hunters Inn at Longdon--organised by Dave Lees.

February 25th Race Restoration show at Stoneleigh

March 4th Triumph show at Stoneleigh

March 11th Sunday lunch - TBA

March 28th CVTR meeting at The Fleece.

Here is a report carried over from a previous publication, courtesy of Phil and Sandy Blake

Belgium at Easter

With winter here, I have started to think back to some of the brilliant events of 2011 we attended and some of the great weather we experienced.

Maybe not the first place you would think of going for a long weekend but we thought that it was worth a try as we had not been there before. So with cases packed we had arranged to meet our friends Colin and Hilary with their Morgan at the Dover ferry for the short trip over to Calais.

The classic car weekend was hosted by the Kemmel Historic Car Club which is located very close to Ypres (that reminds me, must check my windscreen ypres before we set off). Calais to Ypres is only about 80 miles, so we had the chance to take a slow journey through France and into Belgium. Continental Car Tours, who arranged the weekend, had mapped out a very nice quite roads route which gave us plenty of time to stop for coffee and eats. We had decided to go on the Thursday to make the weekend a little longer so were the first to arrive at the hotel which was a couple of miles outside the city centre. This gave us the Friday to ourselves, so we caught the bus outside the hotel which took us into the centre of Ypres. It was warm, the sun was shining, so it gave us a chance to have a good look around the town.

It is about the size of Evesham and probably best known for being near the centre of some of the most fearsome battles of the first world war. There is a huge arch at one end of the town which has engraved in the stone the names and regiments of all the allied soldiers that fell during that time.

Back at the hotel, in the late afternoon, some of the other cars started to arrive that were going to take part in the weekend events. MGA, TR2, Lotus Elan, Morgan plus a variety of other British classics.



There was a group meal organised for the Friday evening which gave us the chance to meet and chat to the other entrants of the weekend's events. Saturday was a free day so the four of us decided to have a drive around the area to look at the war graves and take in the very nice countryside that Belgium has to offer.



Sunday was the big day. A 100 mile rally had been organised by the Kimmel Car Club with a book full of tulip instructions. We had made friends with another 2 couples on the day before, so the eight of us decided to stick together and do battle with the instruction book taking in turns to lead the four cars. I have to say we did quite well in the morning and stopped at the arranged place for lunch, although we seemed to be about the last to arrive and had to squeeze on the end of a table to get served.



The afternoon went very well and we were leading the four cars, until Sandy (well you have to blame somebody) missed a narrow turning. When we turned round to tell the others what had happened we were surprised to see that there was a queue of another twenty cars that had followed us down the wrong road. At one point we were behind a car that was nearly as old as some of the CVTR members (no names mentioned).



What a great weekend. So good, that we have just booked up a trip to Holland for this Easter.

Phil and Sandy Blake.



And I think we can all agree with these.....

Murphy's Laws

Law of Mechanical Repair - After your hands become coated with grease, your nose will begin to itch and you'll have to pee.

Law of Gravity - Any tool, nut, bolt, screw, when dropped, will roll to the least accessible corner.

Law of Probability - The probability of being watched is directly proportional to the stupidity of your act.

Law of Random Numbers - If you dial a wrong number, you never get a busy signal and someone always answers.

Supermarket Law - As soon as you get in the smallest line, the cashier will have to call for help.

Variation Law - If you change lines (or traffic lanes), the one you were in will always move faster than the one you are in now (works every time).

Law of the Bath - When the body is fully immersed in water, the telephone rings.

Law of Close Encounters - The probability of meeting someone you know increases dramatically when you are with someone you don't want to be seen with.

Law of the Result - When you try to prove to someone that a machine won't work, it will.

Law of Biomechanics - The severity of the itch is inversely proportional to the reach.

The Coffee Law - As soon as you sit down to a cup of hot coffee, your boss will ask you to do something which will last until the coffee is cold.

Murphy's Law of Parking - If there are only 2 people in a car park, they will have adjacent spaces.

Law of Physical Surfaces - The chances of an open-faced jelly sandwich landing face down on a floor, are directly correlated to the newness and cost of the carpet or rug.

Law of Logical Argument - Anything is possible if you don't know what you are talking about.

Law of Public Speaking - A closed mouth gathers no feet.

Law of Commercial Marketing Strategy - As soon as you find a product that you really like, they will stop making it.

And, here is a sign that behind every good man is a good woman:-

A Good Woman.....

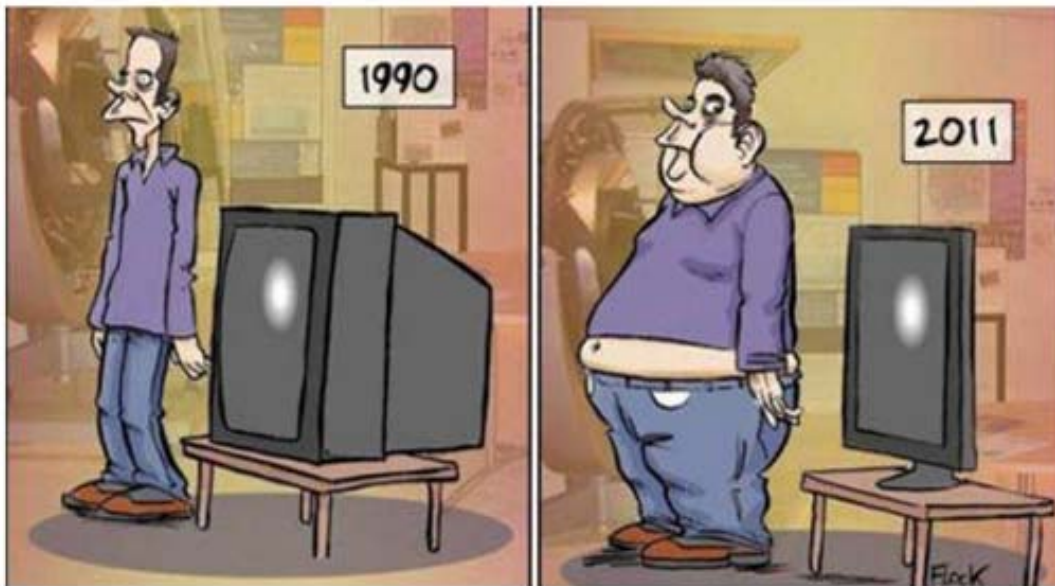
Irrefutable proof that a good woman can bring balance and stability to your life.



And here is a sign of the times:-

	IN THE OLD DAYS	NOW
LISTENING TO MUSIC		
WATCHING FILMS		
CHATTING WITH FRIENDS		
READING THE NEWS		
PLAYING MUSIC		

which leads to this:-



So fellow CVTR members (and special friends), with a diary starting to fill up, get the engines turning and the wheels rolling ready for hopefully another good year with the club – before we all look like the above!!!!!!

Watch out for the publication of the full diary in the next couple of weeks.

Andrew Racey, Ian Brown and Richard Durrant