



Northumbria Newsletter



August 2010

Greetings to everyone in Northumbria Group

<http://www.groups.tr-register.co.uk/northumbria/>

Northumbria Update.

Tom Smith pronounced while at the International, that there would be plenty to write about in the next newsletter. He was correct. Although July's first outing, the Jaguar Day at Wallington Hall was poorly attended by TRs, many regulars having commitments elsewhere, **John Thornton**, TR 4, and a couple of others did go along. **Tom** meanwhile was at the MG Northumbria Show at Corbridge, starting on his campaign to make Newsletter material. Yes, he got a first in class again with his six. **Renton** was also there and reports that the show is growing in stature, set in an excellent showground and maybe one to go in a future TR programme.

By the time of the next meet at the Old Mill, some had already left home on their French adventure, from which they would return to regret having missed the opportunity to drive the Register's Coca Cola TR Se7en. **Rob Murphy**, group Co-ordinator for the NE, brought the car to entertain members on a summer night only to find a lot of regulars away. **Bryan Archer** and **Simon Rutter** were among those that did have a drive, Simon being quite at home in it after his own Se7en.

By mid month, the touring contingent of Northumbria had arrived in France for the **Classic Le Mans** meeting. Three cars and occupants, **Tim Wilson and son Tom, Sean Tindle, John Cook** and your group leader arrived at the Maison Blanche camp site on Thursday afternoon after an incident free journey of 650 miles. Most significant event of the journey was perhaps the group leader's 4A being pulled over by the border control officers at the channel tunnel entrance to be asked, "Are you carrying any guns!" Camping gear for two, tools, spare parts and clothes when packed in a TR do not leave much room for anything else, but the one word answer seemed the more diplomatic reply.



TRs on the Camp Site

Tony Hughes, TR6, was to arrive a little later to the TSSC area, and **Jim Duff**, TR6, had by coincidence, already staked his claim to the adjacent pitch. TR members were prominent as shown by the plethora of red Register polo shirts, which also gave entry to **Duncan Jolly's** Friday evening bar-b-cue. Even seasoned Francophiles declared the weather exceptionally hot, 35deg. plus being the norm. Parked alongside us was the TR3S replica of **Phil Tucker**, (organiser of concours events at the International), and



They are real and they do race.

the second such replica of **Paul Hogan**, was seen circulating the site and the track on Saturday for the parade laps. TS2 was there and, through a count of beef burgers consumed, at least 230 Register members according to Duncan. The site is huge encompassing one make club parking areas, six paddocks with full access to the public, a museum, five shopping villages, bars, catering, children's paddock for junior racers, and all the grandstands and track facilities that go with international motor racing.

Several TRs were racing including the TR3, SRW 992 described in the February Newsletter. There was a French entered TR2, painted blue of course, and the TR2 of Mark Hoble, also owner of the TRS built by Revington. This TR2 ran successfully in the event in 2008 and was featured in the official programme for this year.



Ready to roll at Le Mans



Mark Hoble TR 2

Cars are grouped into different age groupings for racing, the TRs being spread over the '49-'59 group and the '57-'61 group. Many exotic machines, too numerous and outrageous to mention here, were included in the six groups, and racing in both daylight and darkness made for a petrol head's perfect weekend. There are already many web sites relating to the event but it is hoped we can put a taste of Northumbria at Le Mans on our own site shortly.

Craig Alderson was a winner at **Newby** the following weekend. **Allen Forster, the General Manager** brought his Road Show, **Rob Murphy** brought the Coca Cola Se7en to front the display and the TRs rolled in en-masse. We outnumbered the Stags and MGs for a change with 56 TRs listed in the programme to go on the stand, and several more entered in the concours and parked further afield. **Stan Scorer** was there in his red six sporting a rebuilt engine. Out on a leisurely drive, Stan suffered a mangled metal incident in the engine region, (broken piston) and has been off the road for some time. After a bit of sourcing of parts and with the help of a handy nephew Stan now has the engine rebuilt and has also refurbished a few ancillaries to give him back the reliability he wants. **Tom Smith** had a class win again in the official concours, and **Craig?** The popularity of this event has been so noted by the Register that **Rob** was able to persuade them to provide a cup for the favourite TR on the stand as voted for by the TR owners. Late in the afternoon the slips were counted and **Craig's Topaz Torpedo** excelled among a display of quality TRs. Whether you want to see originality, quality restoration, innovative development or simply study a finished detail to help your own restoration, it was there in abundance.



Tom's Class Win



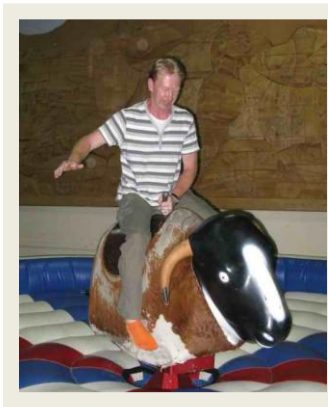
Coca Cola Se7en and Relatives



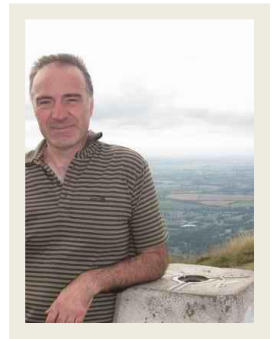
Craig's Topaz Torpedo

Mac Young gave his TR 6 a spin to meet us at **The Anchor Inn** in mid July. Living north of Rothbury, he has quite a distance to reach us but admitted the trip in the TR on a fine summer night was entertaining. Having spent several months ironing out a series of ailments in the suspension, he is at last able to give the car some exercise and enjoyed the journey south down the spine of Northumberland. He hopes to be out and about in it a lot more now that it's sorted.

The **International** was the final TR blast for July. Twelve Northumbrians made it and the weather behaved for a change. The `works competition cars` was the theme, and there was a brilliant display of cars that will have been many people's favourites in the past. From early TRs through to Wedges, and 2.5 saloons, some still competing and some now leading a more leisurely life. Prominent among them were the two genuine TRS cars with the Sabrina engines which collected the team prize at Le Mans in 1961. Apparently four cars existed originally and only nine of the engines were ever made to power the



competition cars. 927 HP and 928 HP both have owners in Germany and were just a small part of the `Works Cars` display. 927 HP having been on display at Le Mans two weeks earlier, it has covered more miles than many members' cars this month despite being a celebrity. Away from the Triumphs, the disco entertainment was based on a `western` theme including a competition on a `bucking bronco`. Less strenuous exercise could be obtained by admiring the scenery that inspired the music of Elgar, the Malvern Hills, and Paul Anderson, on his first visit to the International took this option climbing to the `trig. point`



Paul

at the top on a sunny Sunday morning.

Sean



928 HP at Malvern

Sabrina Engine TR Car Park at Malvern

There was also the buying and selling part of the weekend. The usual main TR traders were there and some specialists like Overdrive Repair Services, Prestige Developments, Revington and Racetorations. Spares were traded in at the `bring and buy` stall, and lots of bargains and shiny bits purchased. Only the size of the TR seemed to limit what you could take home. All this of course, is coming closer to our patch next year when Harrogate will host the show.

Coming Events.

Wednesday 4th. August, Rose Tree, (Shincliffe)

Wk/End 7/8th. August, Nostalgia Weekend at Croft Race circuit.

Classic racing, displays, stalls, flypast and lots more. To find out more about the nostalgia at Croft click on this link,

<http://hmvf.co.uk/forumvb/showthread.php?17061-Croft-Circuit-Nostalgia-Weekend-7th-amp-8th-August-2010&p=189246>

Many will already have sent in the form, attached to recent Newsletters for their admission tickets. These will get you onto a display area free and we are told our chosen plot gives good access for watching the racing. The deadline for the free tickets has passed but you can still attend by paying on the door.

Wednesday 18th. August, The Wagon, (A696 West of Ponteland)

Sunday 22nd. August. Raby Castle Show.

A classic car show in the grounds of this local historic stronghold. If you filled in the forms that were available with the Newsletter, your group leader has your ticket which can be collected at a meeting or on the day. Those who haven't pre-ordered a ticket can attend using the public car park system.



Sunday 22nd. August, Swainby Village Show, (North Yorks.)
There'll be a convoy run to this one.

Wednesday 1st. September, Floaters Mill, (A1052 Fencehouses)

Wednesday 15th. September, The Ridley Arms (Stannington A1 North)

Sunday 19th. September, Selkirk Show

Closing date for a club application is 13th. August If you want to convoy up to Selkirk in the Borders where there is auto-jumble, club cars, concours competitions, stalls, and displays of all types of machinery; you need to get your name, car Reg. No, model and year, plus £2 to your group leader well before then so that our application can be sent off.

Members News

Welcome to two new members this month. Andy Trotter of Sunderland who has brought a tasty TR 6 into our area and Miles Cobain of Washington who is on the lookout for a similar TR



TR Internet Item

Using this link you can watch Phil Tucker's lap of the Le Mans Track. Watch carefully at the later stages for the dark blue TR 6 on the left, with the passenger in a pink shirt, which is the car of local member Tony Hughes!

Andy Trotter's Six

[TR3S lap of Le Mans](#)

For Sale

TR cars for sale are on our web site at,

<http://www.groups.tr-register.co.uk/northumbria/cars-for-sale.html>

Wanted

A Northumbria member is in need of a right hand pedal box and rack for a TR 4.

Contact: <mailto:kmaudsley195@btinternet.com>

Another is looking for a TR 6. Let the group leader know of any local cars on the market.

Tailpiece.



Peerless and accessory seen at Classic Le Mans

If you have anything you can send about TRs, a TR tip, a TR picture, a one liner of where you've been in the TR, or a special tool you found useful, please send them to Paul or myself. Any information is useful for the Newsletter or Social Scene reports.

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