



Northumbria Newsletter



September 2010

Greetings to everyone in Northumbria Group

[\(http://www.groups.tr-register.co.uk/northumbria/\)](http://www.groups.tr-register.co.uk/northumbria/)

Northumbria Update.

Keith Hunter, a member in the Durham area turned out to a meeting for the first time at **The Rose Tree** on 4th. Keith has a rebuilt, early 150bhp TR6 which was exactly what we needed on that particular night since new member **Miles Cobain**, who is looking for just such a car, was able to quiz Keith on the pros and cons of TR ownership and examine the six in detail. Whilst Keith regrets he doesn't get enough time to use the TR, Miles is keen to get the chance and has joined the Register before buying to finding out the detail in advance of dipping into the market. We hope this approach helps Miles to enjoy a good TR shortly.

Croft Nostalgia Weekend, followed closely after the Rose Tree, and a sizeable contingent from Northumbria made it on both days. Historic racing, military displays, stalls, aerobatics, car displays, a couple of track laps; what more could you need for a good day out? Well there was a forties/fifties fashion show to keep the ladies occupied while the boys watched the racing, that's what else there was. Cleveland Group was there and a few more individual TRs, which made the TRs probably the largest group present. A side screen TR, 4, 5, and 6 were among the racers along with Minis, Escorts, Porsches, Lotus and Mustang. Single seaters included 500cc. Formula 3 right up to Formula 5000. There were Formula Ford and Historic Touring Car races all to watch from a prime spot beside the hairpin leading into the main straight which Geoff Mansfield had negotiated as the parking/picnic/display area for TRs. If the sound of engines didn't get you into the 'mood' there was a small child doing such a brilliant George Formby impression along the avenue of military vehicles; that you could easily have thought Churchill was still PM. So what was the best bit? Well apart from Karl Wetherell winning the last race in his TR 4 the thought that it'll be run again next year perhaps? Important among the reminiscing is to thank Geoff Mansfield who organised the prime display area for the TRs and negotiated the track laps. (There should be a page of photos somewhere in the letter and some links to more pictures on the web).

Next up was a normal meeting at the **Wagon**, north of Ponteland. Again it turned out to be not so normal because in rolled a couple of cars that were new to us. **Robin Hugill** has been a member for many years and has a cherished short door TR2. Despite their scarcity the number of twos we are aware of in our patch is growing nicely. Although being numerically a small group we have at least six of the earliest TRs on the road and it was good to see Robin's well cared for example. Another surprise at the Wagon was to see a new TR4 pull in. TR enthusiast **Steve Brabazon** brought along a four that he has imported from America and is treating to a rolling restoration. Its condition illustrated again how amazingly preserved these USA cars can be, requiring modest attention before being up and running again. The only major work Steve needed to do was the left to right steering change and pedal work which he did himself, and the finished job showed some very skilled welding and finishing.



Steve Brabazon's TR4

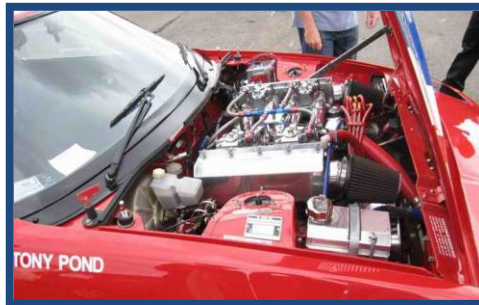
Scenes from Croft Nostalgia Weekend

(More photos on the Register Forum at [Croft Nostalgic Weekend](#))

(More photos on Simon Rutter's web site) [Simon's Croft](#)



Karl Wetherell's winning TR4



Raby Castle, a Mark Woodward event that has been going for several years followed closely after the Wagon. A local TR owner you might have heard of perhaps, **Tom Smith** was his name I think, won a class prize again. There's a rumour going round he might have to sell his car to make room in his garage for his cup collection. The most popular item at this one was Sheila's buffet lunch. Home cooked treats for the TR drivers got nearly thirty TRs to the show. There was a lovely walled garden to hide in while consuming the obligatory afternoon ice cream, and some fine landscaped grounds to walk it off afterwards.

For once, a fine display of Triumph Stags in the Courtyard was out shone, not by another club, but by a herd of their namesake roaming the grounds. Another Triumph treat, the final production model an Acclaim was also seen among the cars on display. Gordon Arkley from the Consett region turned out for this one in his smart TR4, back on the road as recently as July after a rebuild which included many upgrades. The last minute scramble to get him a ticket was thwarted however when his electric fuel pump wouldn't cooperate causing him to call it off. A classic looking red 4 that we look forward to seeing in the future. Gordon made it to the muster at the A1 but decided not to risk the second leg to Raby. First and foremost thanks go to Sheila for feeding the five thousand on this one. The miracle of loaves and fishes was surely repeated here. Secondly thanks to Neil Cawson who kindly lent his camera to get some photos for the record.



Triumph Acclaim at Raby



A Family Day Out at The Castle



Vauxhall Victor a Rare Sight



Just in case you didn't believe there was a Castle



**Austin
Twins at
the
Party**

Swainby Village Show rounded off the month with a mixed reaction. Your Group Leader waited alone at the muster point up to the appointed time, then called around to find support. Renton reported delay on his behalf due to a torrential storm moving south and a need to 'hole up' and dry out. As predicted the storm arrived at the Durham Services and lacking any other hardy TRs your Group Leader cried off!

Its pleasing to report however that Keith Gray and Neil Cawson chose to set out earlier than we had planned and escaped the downpour. Renton, Doug and Ian followed later after the wet and wild had ceased and along with Geoff and Sheila I gather a good day was had by all. Significant about this one was that Neil made his longest journey yet in his six, so is perhaps beginning to believe at last you really can go places in a TR.

TR Media Coverage

A recent issue of Classic Car Weekly, (4th. Aug), became quite a TR issue. A regular two page spread feature, their Classic Car Road Test was dedicated to the TR 5. The club news spotlight picked out quotes from Rob Murphy and our HQ Manager Allen Forster regarding the 2011 International and closer to home Geoff persuaded them to draw attention to the Swallows at Le Mans.



A flock of Swallows at Le Mans for the Classic event

SWALLOWS OVER LE MANS

Having been an advertiser in CCW during my business years and, since retiring, been a subscriber, I use your journal as my main source for the latest news regarding classic cars. It has continued to go from strength to strength.

The July 21 issue had an excellent feature about Classic Le Mans by Jack Carfrae. Having been at this event myself, I congratulate Jack for his efforts in getting the pictures. Given the high temperatures over the weekend, walking around was very exhausting, so I will forgive him for missing out the stand with which I was involved: Swallow Doretis, a very rare breed! We had seven examples on show; six from UK and one from a French owner. The stand was brilliantly organised by Roger Giles and was supported by The TR Register. Next to us was the Marcos stand, another fairly rare breed not mentioned. I enclose a photograph, as seeing seven of these cars together is somewhat unique.

Geoff Mansfield, Rushyford, County Durham

NORTHERN FRIENDS

A major club has bowed down to requests spread to its wings northwards. Northern-based members of the TR Register have been saying that the Oxfordshire-based club has been too southern biased. Its annual International Weekend, which attracts more than a thousand cars, has been held at Malvern, Worcs, on the past 16 occasions.

But the register's general manger Alan Forster has revealed that major action is being planned to redress the balance, not least that the international event, which will be moving to Harrogate next year. In addition, a club stand has been booked in at events taking place at Tatton Park, Glamis and Newby Hall, near Ripon.

"To be honest we have a lot of members and we did hear various comments about our lack of Northern presence. We agreed completely, and decided to take action."



A few more roads lead north for the TR Register next year

The club's north east co-ordinator, Rob Murphy, who oversees five local groups, said: "We have been fighting the north's corner for a while. We're very active members of the register here and we're very loyal. We have been trekking down to Malvern, which although it's

a fantastic venue, is a long way. We're pleased that we have been listened to."

■ Do you feel other classic car clubs have too much of a northern/southern bias, or doesn't it matter? Let us know at [Classic Car Weekly](mailto:editorial@classiccarweekly.co.uk) via our email editorial@classiccarweekly.co.uk or post.



Coming Events.

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

4/5th. September, The Lakes Weekend, convoy meet, 10.00am Sat. at Lakeside Railway.

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

Sunday 19th. September, Selkirk Show

Closing date for a club application was 13th. August, so an application has gone in for those who expressed interest. Tickets will be arriving shortly. Those who haven't ordered tickets can still join us however they are likely to be parked in the normal car park. The time and location for the meeting up point will be circulated closer to the date.

TR Tips

David Rawlinson, (3A), has identified a possible hazard for the older cars. Intermittent poor running, the cause of which may be difficult to track down could be due to flooding of the carbs. These cars are more likely to have original metal floats with soldered joints, rather than the more common plastic floats. Unleaded petrol can be corrosive to some types of solder making the floats porous. MOSS has confirmed an awareness of this problem. New plastic floats or a bit of careful resoldering of the old ones should fix it. Another good tip to bear in mind if your TR gets the hiccups.

TR Internet Item

Local classic car enthusiast **Steve Brabazon**, (mentioned earlier), has an excellent web site which illustrates his experience of importing an American TR4,

[TR4 Import Condition](#)

(Click on the parts illustrated for a more detailed description.)

Another member, **Tom Hall**; has discovered a scene from the sixties on one of the twenty first century's Internet wonders! If you take a walk on Google Street View in the Chopwell area, along Derwent Street, you will find images that could equally be a snap-shot of life forty years ago!

From the last issue of TR Action you will have noticed that the TR Register Coca Cola TR7 will be appearing at the Top Gear Live MPH show in London and Birmingham during November. The press release gives the following links for you to check out more detail of the car.



Period scene that Tom Hall found

<http://petrolblog.com/2010/07/21/triumph-tr7-the-real-thing/>

or

[Coke TR7](#)

For Sale

1) Cleveland Group member Graeme Cook has lots of TR4 parts for Sale as follows,

TR5 Stanpart N/S Rear wing, needs repair	£150	TR4 Stanpart N/S Front wing, needs repair	£200
TR4 Lower repair panel for the above	£45	TR4 Radiator	£45
TR4 RHD Dash panel	£75	TR4 LHD Dash Panel	£50
TR4 Propshaft	£15	TR4 Stromberg Twin Carbs and Manifold	£25
TR4 Front Tub	£55	TR4 Rear Tub	£55
TR4 Boot Lid	£75	TR4 Door O/S	£50
TR4 Door N/S	£50	TR4 Bonnet	£75
TR4 Windscreen frame	£35	TR4 Heater Unit (refurbished)	£50
TR4A Rear Hub x2	£50	TR4A Rear Drive shaft x2	£50
TR4A Rear anti roll bar (Moss-unused)	£80	TR4A Radiator (refurbished)	£100
TR4-6 Seat Runner	£30	4 Cyl. Chrome Rocker Cover	£5
4 Cyl. Head gasket (stanpart)	£30	4 Cyl. Steel sump	£10
4 Cyl. Water pump	£25	4Cyl. Narrow Belt Kit (unused)	£120
4 Cyl. Dynamo	£10	4 Cyl. Starter	£10
O/D Gearbox-Dolomite Sprint J Type	£75	TR6 Steering Wheel	£35
TR4-6 Roll Bar	£95	Surrey Back Frame (Aluminium)	£500
Surrey Top (Steel)	£300	48 Spoke wheels and spinners	£50
Yokohama A539-195/65x15 unused	£25		

2) In addition he has a project TR4 partially completed which is also for sale.

Early 1962 TR4, originally white. Commission No. CT6***

English car with V5C present. (Original Torquay Registration LTT***)

Chassis blasted , painted and rebuilt. Polybushes all round.

Suspension components powder coated and re-assembled with new rear springs and front springs and dampers.

New front brake discs, callipers and new rear cylinders and components.

New Cunifer brake and fuel pipes installed.

Rebuilt steering rack. Engine and gearbox installed and can be seen running.

Extractor manifold and SS exhaust.

Replacement Californian shell converted to RHD. Front accident damage repaired with Stanpart panels. Requires new O/S floor and sill (included), all Stanpart wings, doors, boot and bonnet.

Original Cobra alloy wheels 6x15, powder coated silver with new sleeved wheel nuts.

Lots of parts to finish including,

New water hoses. New brake and clutch master cylinders. Powder coated pedal box and pedals with new bushes and SS pin. All original domed glass instruments. All light fittings.

Dashboard with centre panel and glove box lid. Wiring harness. Fuel tank.

Original early seat frames (not very good). Windscreen and frame. Bumper irons. Grill.

Badges including an original TR4 bonnet shield. Correct pattern H frame.

Plastic transmission tunnel and lots of small parts to complete.

£7000 ovno Contact Graeme Cook 07703 179738(Cleveland Group)

3) In Northumbria area, ex-Dave Wright TR parts for sale in the Whitley Bay area, are available as follows:

TR4 or 5 Bonnet
Sills and Auxiliary Items
Complete Metal Dashboard, TR4 or 5, with Grab Handles.
2 Sets MX5 Seats
Crash Helmet & Fireproof Suit
Race Harnesses
3 Steel Wheels
TR4 Cylinder Head
Crank for 4 & 6 Cylinder Engines
TR 6 Rear Lights
3 Front Grills, 4, 4A & 5
Pair of TR4/5 Inner Rear Wings
Box of Miscellaneous Chrome
4 Chrome Wheel Trims for TR6
Chrome Rocker Covers, TR4/TR6
Complete Roll Cage
Bicycle two wheel bogey, (used by Dave as a dog carriage)

Nearly New Wood Band Saw
4 Ft. Pedestal Drill
1 Medium Size Lathe With Tools
1 Empty Aluminium Tool Case
Stick Welding Set
Various Clamps
Electrical Hoist
Chain Block & Tackle
Large Hand Grinder
1 Bench Grinder
1 Differential(complete)
Various Carbs
Various Suspension Parts
Conrods
TR4 Steering Column Complete
Front Windscreen, (TR4 or 5)

For these items contact Renton Kidd on 0191 2850387

4) In the August NECPWA newsletter, there is a TR for sale as follows

Green Triumph TR4A 1967 E reg. 41,500 miles. Major rebuild included engine unleaded head, pistons, regrind, hood, brakes, shocks. Now unused as husband deceased. Needs a little TLC. Will make a nice car £7500 ono Ring 01325 251454 or 07880911228 (Mrs. Boggom)

5) Russ Swift, (yes, it is that one!) has let it be known through a member that he has some personal vehicles to go on the market. They are as follows:

1964 Mini Cooper 970S. Fully rally prepared £12,000

1990 Mini Minor, prototype, full history, immaculate and unique £6000

1972 GT Beetle. 1600cc, full history, 3 owners, excellent condition, local car from new - £3500

1991 Mini Cooper, totally original, 35,000 miles, local car from new, full history - £2500



1964 NSU Quick 50, totally original and complete, very rare £1200

Anyone interested should contact Group Leader for the contact details.



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.

Member News

Paul Anderson is a TR owner who has come to appreciate the benefits of changing to MX5 seats. So much more comfortable are they that he took his 4A up the rocky roads of west Scotland and declared he has had a superb trip. We don't know whether it was the scenery or the seats that he was referring to but he has sent a picture to prove he was there.

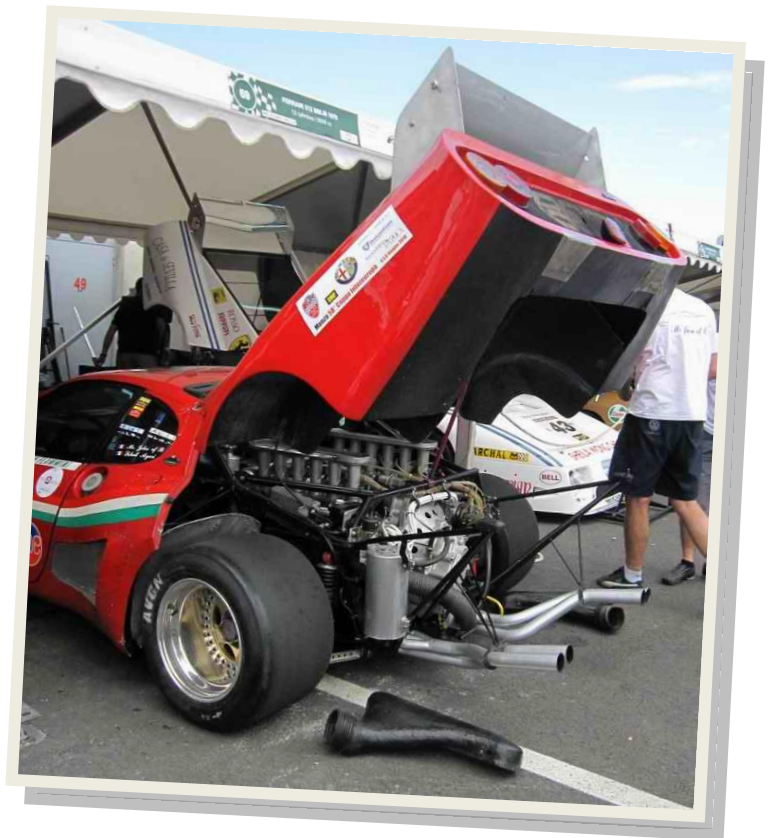
Tailpiece.



1979 Ferrari 512 at Le Mans

5,000cc. 12 Cylinders

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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