



November 2008

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From the Editor:

We shall soon be marking the end of the eighth year of the Wharfedale newsletter and from the beginning we have tried to include news of Wharfedale activities as well as information about forthcoming events. Over recent months it has become very difficult to get this news from members, except of course Stan.

Surely there must be more of you going places in your TRs and doing things with them? If the newsletter is to be more than a Stan and Mike talking shop we need your input. It doesn't need to be very elaborate or great literature, just tell us what you did, especially if you can include a picture. Matt is showing us how.

Let's have your support to make the newsletter more interesting.

Mike.

AND SO TO BED

Well that's it folks, another TR season over. Where was the sun? Those of us who managed to venture to the continent did at least enjoy some good weather.

Mike & Kate braved the weather on Saturday and found themselves caught up in the tail end of the lakes storm. Their TR didn't like it but they managed to wade through the floods and limp home. The forecast for Sunday was reasonable and so Mike, Kate and ourselves arranged to go out for a short run and meet John & Pat for lunch. I drove to Mike's house with the hood down. Unfortunately while we were drinking coffee and inspecting Mike's excellent 00 electric train layout, it started to rain. So up went the hood and it stayed there all day.

However we enjoyed the short run even though I got lost! (What's new?)

SUMMER BALL

I was disappointed with the TR Action report. The event was superb and warranted a more comprehensive description along with more photos. As I remember THE WINTER BALL had a two page spread !

I will have a word with our co-ordinator.

Stan Lowe.

Future Group events in 2008:

- 11th November Monthly meeting. Hopefully with a programme of TR related films from the 60s.
Don't be late.
- 23rd November TR Register AGM at The Heritage Motor Centre, Gaydon.
Anyone interested in going, contact Mike for transport.
- 6th December Wharfedale Christmas Party at the Tempest Arms, Elslack.
Menu choices needed now, please.
- 9th December Monthly meeting.

AUTUMN LEAVES RUN

The Friday before the Autumn Leaves run I was informed that a car boot sale was to take place in Ripley Village on Sunday. So, Ken, Keith and I arranged to go early doors to try and arrange an alternative meeting place. I found a pub, The New Inn a mile or so up the road and so as members arrived Ken and Keith directed them up the road to the pub where I was waiting. Very good, you might think, unfortunately, a large Christening Party started arriving at the pub, just as we were filling up the car park with Triumphs. The landlady came and very diplomatically asked us to leave. So, off we went up the road to a Cricket Club car park, where we reassembled ready for the convoy.

Fifteen cars set off in fine dry weather towards Masham. We did actually see a bit of sunshine while we were crawling along behind a tractor full of hay. Finally he turned off to his farm and we put our foot down and got a move on. On arrival in Masham we sorted ourselves out for lunch and reassembled an hour or so later. At this stage a few people made their way home for various reasons. The rest of us continued to Fountains Abbey for afternoon tea and scones. This marked the end of the run.

This run was originally prepared by Nigel Dormer a few years ago, so thanks to him, once again for a very good run, enjoyed by all.

Stan Lowe

Wharfedale's Own Yoof Group Report.

In case you missed last month's notice, if you've read your TRaction at all recently you'll know that a Yoof Group has been formed to encourage younger members along the road to TR ownership, even if it involves some saloon work on the way. Our own Matt George is an active member of this group and he has agreed to share some of his recent reports which go to the Practical Classics (PC) office. Read on....

I know it's not strictly a Triumph-related story, but a few people have shown an interest in what I'm getting up to recently with my van, so here you go.

Matt G Blog – 10-10-08

Matt finds out what VW really stands for...!

Vanquished wallet. A strange term you might think, but one which certainly applies to me at the moment.

As mentioned in my last blog, I'm currently attempting to reunite my Volkswagen T25 van with the Queen's highways after a broken cam belt rendered its original engine useless.

To that effect I have been spending money like a mad man (probably quite literally!) and my humble cash receptacle has taken quite a beating.

The whole project of swapping the engine for one from a turbo Golf, simple as it sounded in my head, has actually been as major an undertaking as I should probably have realised.

There really has been too much done to fully go into, but suffice to say, the work required has been pretty epic to say the least!

I managed to source a second-hand Golf engine and the project pretty much snowballed from there, acquiring mountains of parts along the way.

Although the Golf engine uses the same basic block, there are a number of modifications required before it can be fitted to a van.



With the help of my dad I have stripped a donor van engine of the parts needed to go on the Golf engine, in order to make it fit my van. I can't thank him enough for the time and effort he has put in, without which there is no doubt I would not have been able to get anywhere near completing the job.

The greatest difference between the two installations is the angle they sit at; in a car the engine sits upright whereas in a van it is canted over. This means that the sump on the new engine has to be changed for a different shaped item.

A whole host of other ancillaries also have to be sourced and swapped, the majority of which has now been completed.

After much time and perseverance we're now approaching the part of the project where we can start building up the new engine.

We've also managed to drop the gearbox out, so the next task is to remove the original engine in preparation for the big swap.

These are exciting times for me, as hopefully someday my new toy will be moving under its own power again, rescuing it from its current position of automotive ornament.

Early morning drives to work will become a doddle, as the more modern van has a perfect de-misting arrangement in the cab, especially compared to my 2000's somewhat hit and miss performance in that regard!

Mostly though, I'm just looking forward to spending a bit of time driving my van, enjoying the improved performance and basically remembering why I fell in love with it in the first place.

Fingers crossed and I will keep you all posted!!

Matt George.

Obituary.

Just as the newsletter was ready for printing the news came of the death of Pat Moss Carlsson. In 1954 she used money won at show jumping to buy a TR2 which she then rallied successfully before moving on to various cars in the BMC range and finally the big Healeys in which she won the Liege-Sofia-Liege Rally.

Shortly before her death she collected a speeding ticket whilst towing a horse box!

Members' News.

Unique opportunity.

Ronnie Clayton has announced that he is hanging up his helmet after many years racing his very successful, and much modified TR4. This car won four TR championships and would be a fantastic car for anyone with aspirations on the track. Contact Ronnie on 01423 883696 if you are interested. More details next month.

For Sale.

Tony Calvert has a TR6 for sale. Rebuilt and painted by TR Enterprises about 3000 miles ago. Many special parts to achieve 180 BHP. More details from Stan Lowe on 614243 or 635041.

Wanted. Near side door for TR6, rust free if possible. John Collinson on 01535 647872

Members' Details. Some members have given me updated details but I'm sure there are still some errors and omissions. Please check your details and let me know.

TR Action. Please remember that John Dennison is our correspondent for TR Action. If you have any news for the Social Scene report you can e-mail it to j.dennison3@ntlworld.com. John would be delighted to get items about club or TR activities especially if you have photos.

Newsletter.

To receive the newsletter by e-mail contact Mike at mike@mikesloan.freeserve.co.uk.

Deadline for material for the next newsletter is **at least a week before the next meeting**. Please mail to: Mike Sloan at 3, Thompson Green, Baildon, Shipley, BD17 7PR or e-mail to mike@mikesloan.freeserve.co.uk. **Comments** on the newsletter to Mike Sloan, 01274 582615 or e-mail.