



VERDRIVE

The Newsletter of the Ottawa Valley Triumph Club

July 1993



1st Annual British Car
Dart Tournament - Aug 22
Grass Creek - Aug 15
Roadster Factory Picnic - Aug 7

The Ottawa Valley Triumph Club publishes *Overdrive* monthly and distributes it to all members, in addition copies are exchanged with other clubs. Articles of general interest to the membership are welcome and should be sent to the Editor. Advertising is welcome and rates are available from the Editor.

The current Executive consists of;

Derek Holbeche
President
1-267-6676

Steve Challinor
Vice-President
837-9317

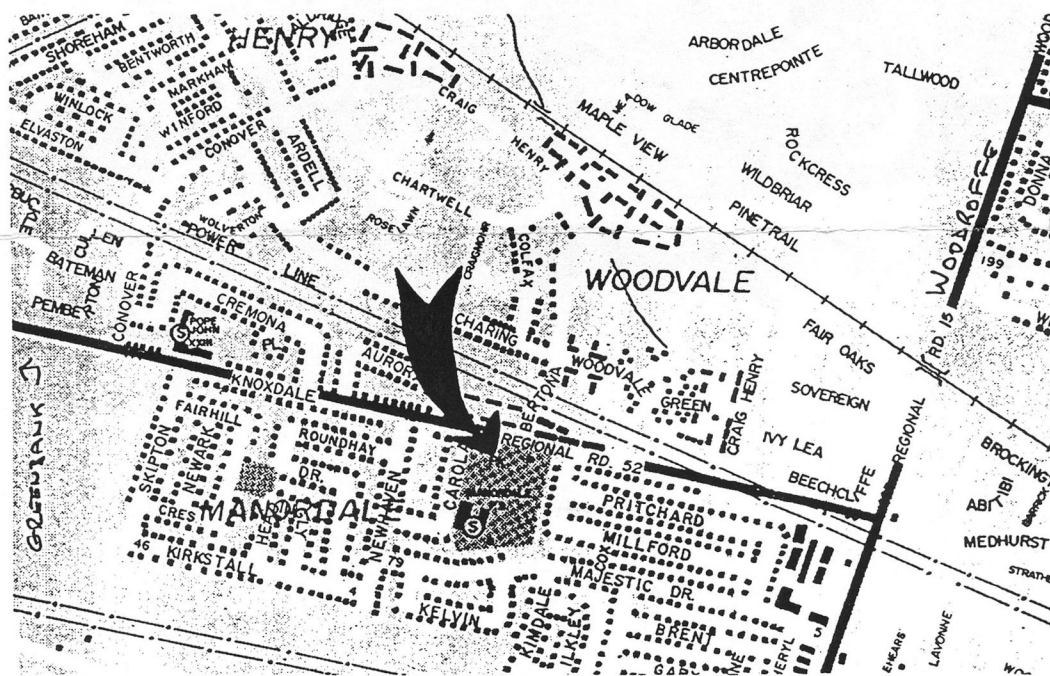
John Day
Secretary
723-9876

Jane Benco
Treasurer
727-8113

Juliano Benco
Special Events
727-8113

Pat Mills
Regalia
825-1698

Membership
Dave Huddleson
822-1315



The OVTC meets the fourth Monday of every month, at 7:30 PM. The club meets at the Manordale Community Centre, Knoxdale Road at Carolla (see map). Meetings include technical seminars, video presentations, general discussion, restoration techniques and more. In addition, the club hosts an annual Christmas party and other social events, as well the club participates in interclub events.

Membership is open to all individuals and companies interested in Triumph Sports Cars, their enjoyment and their preservation. Membership is \$30.00 per year for a household and \$60.00 per year for Corporate members.



OTTAWA VALLEY TRIUMPH CLUB JULY 1993

Editor's Babble: John Day

At long last, I'm "on the road again"! After what can be described as an extended period of time, my TR6 is once again hitting the pavement, just like the good ol' days. Although there are still a few things to sort out (like where I packed my two rear-view mirrors), the car looks and drives like new! Look for it at the upcoming meeting (but not if it rains - I'm still fussy for the first while).

While the car is on the road again, that's not to say that it was an easy task. On several occasions some unexpected obstacles were encountered, the largest of which was the rebuilding of my main wiring harness by Brian Mills! As I was replacing my lower crash pads for the dash some time back, I noticed a wire hanging down below the steering column which looked rather 'toasted'. I followed the wire back up under the dash, into the centre of the main wiring bundle, itself looking like it sat too close to open flame! This would not do, so out came the entire dash, instruments, and harness as a result.

Apparently the first owner of the car had jury-rigged the radio, leaving out the line fuse! For the entire 14 years I have owned the car, with all electricals working properly, the harness had been a solid mass of congealed wire and plastic! How nothing ever shorted out no-one knows, but to see the harness you wouldn't have believed it.

But that was the low side. Now I've got my TR6 looking newer than when I bought it in 1979, with the secure (for the moment) feeling that everything has been looked at from top to bottom - more than once. It's owner is also a little (?) older and, hopefully, a little wiser in the care & feeding of his car. And now that the car has had a thorough going over, it'll stay in top form for some time.

Shortly after writing this month's OVERDRIVE, Lori Day suffered a stroke. Lori is presently at the Ottawa Civic Hospital, however it is John's wish that there be no visitors in the immediate future. The Club has sent flowers to Lori and several members are organizing prepared casseroles for John to ensure that he doesn't starve. It is a measure of John's sense of responsibility that he ensured that the diskette containing this month's newsletter was delivered to Clive, thereby ensuring that the membership was still well served. Juliano will take over the position of Editor until the September General Elections.

Our prayers go out to John and Lori.

Errata in June Issue:

Gord Robertson pointed out a minor screw-up in the last *Overdrive* that I should correct right away. The gaff came on the second page of the article on Brake systems - the page containing the five pictures labelled 2 thru 6. Without noticing it, I reproduced the page so that the text at the bottom of the page was chopped off a couple of lines too soon. I'll print the remaining text for each of the 3 columns below, each in its own quotation marks, beginning with the left column:

"... brakes won't fail immediately a cylinder starts to leak. Typically, the level of the brake fluid in the ..."

"... pitting in its bore or on its piston should be consigned to the bin or to a specialist reconitioner. In ..."

"... but for safety's sake, don't skimp the job and re-use a component with a scored surface."

I'll be a little more careful in the future. Sorry, folks!

June 28th Meeting:

The meeting began after an unusually long session of tire-kicking, in part due to the volume of cars there for the baseball game at the adjoining diamond, but also by the larger volume of Triumphs, all out on a fine evening. Gord Robertson came out for the meeting in his 1964 E-type roadster (which Lori begged to ride over in from our house - I followed in the Honda), prompting further viewing and "Wonder-if-that-engine'd-fit-under-the-hood-of-a-TR6" ideas. Once we all finally remembered we'd come out for a meeting, we all moved inside for coffee and car talk.

OVTC Road Test:

Steve Challinor proposed an interesting experiment to be held in the future if enough people are agreeable. For those of you who weren't at the meeting, I'll let Steve explain it to you in his own words:

If you are like me (OK, enough of the wise cracks), you know your Triumph well but have very little in the way of

appreciation for the feel of other TRs, be they threes, fours, sevens, spits or what have you. I have read many articles about other breeds of Triumphs but have rarely even sat in anything else but my Spitfire. This got me to thinking that maybe I was not alone, and perhaps there would be interest in a club road test / appreciation day. The idea would be to have one of each of the breeds present and let their drivers rotate to gain an appreciation for the general ride, comfort, access and feel of the cars. This is not a jet jockey session! Participants would be asked to take extreme care with others' vehicles, as I'm sure they would. I am looking for a suitable 2 Km course that would be relatively traffic-free in a nice location... suggestions are welcome.

The cost to those who participate would be to write a paragraph on their impressions of each of the cars. I would then put everyone's thoughts together along with some photos and would feature articles on one or two of the cars per newsletter during the next few months. This would allow others in the club to read about our own impressions of the fine cars in the Triumph marque. The tentative date for this exercise would be the 22nd of August at 10:00 A.M. at a location yet to be determined. If you are interested please give me a call at 837-9317 or 991-5988.

Cheers, Steve.

This will be mentioned again at the July meeting, so anyone interested can contact Steve. This is particularly for those members who drive the rarer and/or earlier models. I'll keep you all posted on this one.

Membership Reminders:

Once again, there are a fair number of July expiries who will notice with their newsletter a friendly renewal notice, along with the questionnaire. Along with your \$\$, this is a great time to provide feedback on what you think is right or wrong with the club, so **let's hear from you!!** It's every member's club equally, so feel free to dive right in at any time.

Stowe Reminder:

To anyone who is still undecided about going to Stowe this September, my advice is: HURRY! Accommodation at the 'Yodler' is nil for extra rooms, but if anyone hasn't already done so and wishes to join the convoy to Vermont this September, they should contact Joe Lashley (at 726-6724) or Mike Stapleton (692-3695) a.s.a.p. for advice on alternate options. I have extra

registration forms, so call me at 723-9876 if you want one.

OVTC Grille Badges:

During the Sunday "fun run" on the 25th July, 8 TR's and a mini(!) travelled to Merrickville. While there we stopped in at the Village Foundry" where we were told that the grille badges were on schedule for the end of July. They will make a special effort to complete a few for those members travelling to the Classic in Burlington this week.

Raffle Winner for June:

Steve Challinor picked up the booty from the June meeting - a tool box with miscellaneous necessities.

Tech talk: Horns

Brian Mills gave a technical seminar on Triumph horns, and why they often sound like field mice ("squeak, Squeak!!") These horns are prone to failure, due to their positioning low at the front end, and due to their British nature in general. Brian showed that rather than dashing out and plunking down \$\$\$ for new horns, the originals can be rebuilt relatively easily. Thanks again to Brian for showing us the low-cost way to DIY repair!

Past Auto Events:

Ottawa Classic Sportscar Show - Richmond, June 27

This, the fourth show hosted by John & Evelyn Carr (*Sporting Classics and Auto Restoration*), was again a huge success. This was partly due to the better-than-expected weather (the sun always shines on this show), but mostly the show's success was due to the talents of John, Evelyn, and all other participants. The move to Richmond also provided a refreshing change, and the facilities for automobilia were greatly improved over the Manotick arena. The show got TV coverage on area stations, which only reinforced what those who attended already knew: this is one of, if not the best auto shows in this part of the country.

For the OVTC, the day was a success as well. We had several inquiries for membership as a result of our three shining red models on display (Dave Snasdell-Taylor's TR3A, Malcolm Brown's TR6, and Steve Lashley's TR7 convertible). One new member, Pat Zakaib, must have been a little intimidated by the bunch of us when upon mentioning that her TR6 had needed some

repair and would someone mind having a quick look, discovered a group of OVTC 'crazies' set upon her car like rabid dogs (in particular, Joe Lashley's attempt to spring the hood up by pounding on it!) At any rate, another terrific show for John & Evelyn, and for us all in the OVTC!

Vintage Memoirs Racing. Shannonville, Ont. July 4:
(This couldn't make it to press on time. We hope to have it by next issue.)

OVTC-MG Club Croquet Challenge. July 11:

Our annual "Rite of Summer" with the MG club (which marked the first 'official function' Lori & I attended in our '61). This involved a series of intricate and overly-confusing playoffs to arrive at a pair of finalists from each club vie for the honour (?) of keeping our Inter-club trophy on someone's mantle (attic, cellar, ..) for a year. Suffice it to say that the OVTC did not walk away with the award this year, leaving Juliano to find some other item to grace his shelf until 1994. Those MG people take their croquet pretty seriously. Janet Dallaire & Juliano nearly got into a mallet fight in the semi-finals, while Len Fortin (the host for the event) unceremoniously splashed my ball into the fishpond in his back yard during final-round play. Len also demonstrated shrewd (bordering on evil) team play when, after navigating all hoops, he played 'possum', waiting to strike at Clive and croquet him into another time zone. Watch out next year MGs! We see your strategy now, and in '94 the gloves are off!

In all fairness, though, the MG crew were gracious winners, and Len & Debbie Fortin put on a tremendous feast for both sides to enjoy. The OVTC extends its congratulations and thanks to the MG Club for a good time (had by all)!

Upcoming Auto Events:

8th Annual Canadian Classic - TTC. July 29- Aug 1

Some of us are going down to Burlington for this one, so we'll read their accounts in the next *Overdrive*. This year the focus is the 40th anniversary of the TR2, so there should be some fine examples of this 'granddaddy of TRs' there. The wine region tours also sounded interesting!

1993 Monte-Carleton Rally, Ottawa MG Club Aug 8

The following is a transcript of a letter dated June 26 from Hugo Leech, President of the MG Club:
The Ottawa MG Club will be holding the Third Annual Monte-Carleton Rally on Sunday, 8 August 1993.

We would like to invite your club to enter a team of three cars to compete for the Inter Club Trophy. If you can't raise a team of three, one or two individual cars will be very welcome to compete for the many other awards. The rally will not be overly complicated but will require the use of a pocket calculator.

Details are as follows:

Start at the Cheshire Cat, Carp Road, just north of the Queensway, at 12 noon, Sunday, 8 August.

Navigational run of approx. 80 miles on secondary, metalled roads (no gravel)

The Inter-Club Trophy will be awarded to the club team with the best aggregate result.

Please let us know how many of you are interested in entering by contacting one of us before Sunday, August 1. This could be our chance to win back some prize from the MGs until a croquet rematch occurs!

British Car Day, Grass Creek - Aug 15

Once again the Boot n Bonnet club is hosting a British Car Day at Grass Creek (3 miles West of Kingston on Hwy 2). This will be followed by what has become the traditional "Corn Roast and Chili Cookout" *chez* the Carr's, (Hwy 16 South, East on Bankfield, South on First Line to No.6037.)

Want to see your car on our cover?

Clive asked me to make it known that if you have a favourite shot of you TR, feel free to submit it to he or myself for future Newsletter cover photos! We're serious about this, folks! Clive said he hasn't seen or heard from anyone on this yet, so there's still a good opportunity there - don't be shy. Let's see your cars!

1st Annual British Car Dart Tournament

The OVTC will be hosting a dart tournament at 2:00PM on August 22nd. The chosen pub is the King's Stag at the corner of Highway 16 and Colonnade Rd. All the various Brit car clubs have been invited to participate. The clubs may enter as many teams as they wish, There will be a \$5.00 per team entry fee. Each team to consist of three men and one woman, and at least three of the players must be club members or immediate family (we want to keep the number of ringers down to a minimum.)

The pub has promised us "munchies" on the house and we have had great success in getting prizes from all of the local suppliers and corporate members; Terry Dale, Christian Hollum, Global Auto Care, Mini Man, Brits n' Pieces, and KC Enterprises. There will be an annual trophy and a good time should be had by all. Please consider attending, if you wish to play in the tourney we will make

up a team on the spot, or, come along and cheer your favourites.

September General Elections

Nominations for various executive positions were taken from the floor at the July meeting, more nominations will be solicited at the August meeting and the elections will be held at the September meeting. Positions which are open are;

Editor, No nominations

Vice-President, Hugh Henderson

President, Joe Lashley, Clive Law

The following positions are open and nominations will be accepted, however the incumbents are prepared to stay in office, if acclaimed;

Membership, Dave Huddleson

Treasurer, Jane Benco

Regalia, Pat Mills

Special Events, Juliano Benco

Please consider running for office, or at the very least attend the September meeting and vote.

Stowe Notes - Clive Law

One of the dangers of driving classic cars any distance is that of breakdown. In the past our members have had to rely on local garages, or jury-rigged fixes to limp home, often at a considerable cost to either the car or the wallet. This year for the Stowe trip I propose that those members attending chip \$25.00 into a pot as insurance. This pot, approximately \$300.00, would then pay the expenses (food, accomodation, gas etc...) for Brian "Doc" Mills to bring his truck, complete with trailer and a selection of tools, and act as a mobile repair facility, or at the very worst, our private recovery vehicle.

Brian and Pat may still need convincing on this, but most members who have heard the plan and are going to Stowe are very enthusiastic about the idea. However it needs 100% support from everyone going to Stowe. Think about it - How would you like to be the one person who doesn't pay into the pot, and then you are the one person who needs a tow!!! Do we leave you behind, charge you commercial rates, or do we subsidise you after the fact and feel bitter about it!



OTTAWA VALLEY TRIUMPH CLUB
14 Kelvin Crescent
Nepean, Ontario
K2G 3L9



Pat & Brian MILLS
53 Etterick Cres.,
NEPEAN
ONTARIO
K2J 1E9 94/06

Janet Dallaire to Len Fortin:-
"And if it looks like they're winning,
roquet them into the fishpond!"