



VERDRIVE

The Newsletter of the Ottawa Valley Triumph Club

March, 2001

Hello, Dolly!!



- ***Notice – Dart Tournament supercedes March meeting!***
- ***2001 Season underway – never mind the snow!***
- ***Plus much more!!***

Send Newsletter submissions to: OVTC, c/o 8 Pentland Crescent, Kanata, Ontario K2K 1V5

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Cover: As you can see, this month's cover is the Triumph Dolomite 1850. Why, you ask, is a Dolomite on the cover? There's not even one of those around! Well, you'd be mistaken, because there IS (or at least there will be, whenever the snow is gone). The Dolomite comes to Ottawa by way of New Zealand, and is now in the possession of Ed Burman of Carp. Ed has been a Morgan man, but has now joined the OVTC and will soon be a Triumph convert. Ed had contacted me a few months back to learn more of Dolomites, as he had learned an aunt in NZ had passed away and that the 'Dollie' was available. More on the Dolomite's journey later in this issue.

Message from the President (for Life):

Cause for Optimism - Michael Graham

As I sit down to write my ramblings this month it is encouraging to note that the sun is shining and the temperature is above zero ... can Spring and driving our TRs be far behind?

John Day has been checking on the progress of the clubhouse for us and the news is not too encouraging. Looks like we will be without a permanent home until June, so we will be seeking alternative locations for meetings once again. This month there is no regular meeting scheduled because we have the annual the dart tournament on 31 March at *Le Skcratch*. Our vendors have as always been quite generous with prizes, so it should be a fun day for all. Look forward to seeing everyone there on Saturday afternoon. For April and May we will try to line up some interesting visits.

On the home front, I have been working with Brian Mills to rebuild my starter and the carbs for the TR6. As usual, it is a great opportunity to learn. The starter is now back together and bench-tested. All is working as it should, and it will be nice to no longer get the funny noises that used to occasionally haunt me last summer. The carbs are next on the agenda. They are disassembled and most of the parts for the rebuild are on hand. All parts are now bead blasted and ready for re-assembly. Now it is just a matter of finding the time to get back to Brian for my graduate course in Stromberg 175 CD rebuilding.

I, along with several others in the club, am planning to build a sand-blasting cabinet. Brian is now starting to build his "Mark 3" design, Louis Boucher has built a very nice unit (see his article in a future issue of the newsletter), and Stephane St-Amant is planning to build one as well. It is really nice to talk to others who have gone this route to learn from their experiences. Perhaps we can arrange a technical session on blast cabinets sometime over the summer to share our experiences with others who may be interested in adding to their arsenal of "necessary" restoration tools.

See you on 31 March at *Le Skcratch*. Cheers, Mike.

Report from Last Meeting:

We're still a nomadic club while the clubhouse is unfinished, and with this extended winter still hanging around our necks, being 'homeless' isn't easy. Still, we made the best of it again in February with a return to Lolita's Pizza at Prince of Wales & Fisher Avenues. Even without a specific purpose in mind, we still had a friendly evening of chit-chat. We also welcomed back to the fold a 'prodigal' member, Don

LeBlanc, who has a Spitfire. Don had been absent the past couple of years, but is determined to get back in the thick of things. Interested in a job on the Executive, Don? Editor? President?!

OVTC Clubhouse - March Meeting – Dart Tournament:

The latest word on the clubhouse is that we now may not be in until May or perhaps June. I was talking to the Prez of the Manordale Community Association, and our new 'super city' has done nothing to speed up capital projects in the area. All the former Nepean contacts on the project are in new duties, and there is a new cast of characters calling the shots on the clubhouse. We're looking into alternate activities for the coming months, but unfortunately nothing could be arranged for March. With the Dart Tournament kicking off the season of activities, we just decided to skip the March meeting, and those who wish to come out and cheer on the OVTC dart teams instead will be welcome. This is the 9th year for the tournament, and we hope to maintain our undefeated status. In a few decades, we may even get the Guinness people to watch as we pass the World's Cup yacht race as the longest undefeated streak. Parents - get your kids a dartboard today!

The Dart Tournament will be at *Le Skcratch* at the Merivale Mall on the 31st of March. Those wishing to participate (\$5 per team of 2) should expect to arrive & register between 1:00 and 2:00. There will be prizes from 'the Big Three', as well as British Auto Sport, Obsolete Automotive, and Rogers Media. Come and see the OVTC (probably the Onions family!) Defend their crown!

First Fun Run of 2001:

Jeff Patterson has volunteered to lead the first OVTC fun run of the season. It will be on April 8 (so TR's may or may not yet be on the road), and the destination will be the All-British Autojumble hosted by the Boot'n'Bonnet Club at Portsmouth Harbour in Kingston. Fred McEachern of British Auto Sport is going to be there with his extensive display of wares, as will some of our other usual vendors from Richmond. If you need to get some supplies from Fred, think about ordering them now, and picking them up & save shipping. I'm ordering new uprated rear springs for the TR6 this way.

The following are Jeff's plans for the day: *I've got an idea for a Club Run. The Club could meet somewhere (I was thinking perhaps Tim Hortons on Hwy. 7 in Carleton Place). From there, we drive down to Kingston via Westport and all those nice winding roads. At Kingston, we all go to the Auto Jumbo. On the way back, we could stop for supper either at that Pub in Westport, or somewhere in Perth. The weather could be a big factor in this. As we all know, in April we could get anything from a beautiful sunny day to a snow blizzard. If the weather's crappy, we just all rough it and drive our family sedans down. I'm not sure when the Auto Jumbo starts, but we could figure some times after we get that info and put it in this month's newsletter. It could make a nice 1st run of the season. Those who want to go can contact me either at home (839-2891) or my E-Mail pattersonj@ottawapolice.ca.*

Long Distance Award - British Car Council

Once again, the British Car Council is sponsoring the Long Distance Award, for any British cars who accumulate 3,000 miles or more in a season (April 1 - November 1). All you need to do is at the first opportunity, have your odometer recorded by a member of the OVTC Executive for verification. The ending reading will then be taken to determine if you are eligible for an award from the BCC. People expecting to do some extensive touring this summer are particularly invited to participate. Please contact John Day for a copy of the application form.

Triumph Trivia:

Some of you may recall the January 26 'Wheels' cover story in the *Citizen* about the red-light enforcer cameras that have been installed at various spots across the city. Some of you may have even seen these high-tech boxes at some of these major intersections around town. Some others may even have had the misfortune of having been nabbed in the act of running a red light, then receiving a ticket in the mail later on. What most of you may know is that you have a former Triumph Rallye celebrity to blame for your woes. Before you start calling Kit Heathcote and spouting off a bunch of obscenities, it's not Kit! In fact, it was Maurice Gatsonidies, or 'Gatso' as he was known, who later devised the camera in the U.K., and it is now at loose on Ottawa streets, as well as several other locations worldwide. Kit & Ken Richardson piloted TR2 'OVC 276' during the 1954 Alpine Rally, while 'Gatso' drove TR2 'PDU 20'. The *Citizen* article referred to the camera as a 'Gatsometer' – not what you'd expect a former rally driver to dream up, eh?

2001 Preliminary Events Listing:

We have the following preliminary list of Events for the 2001 season listed below. As the time approaches, more details will be provided on each event, but this will allow everyone to begin pencilling in some key dates. OVTC-hosted events are in Bold.

| | |
|-----------|---|
| March | No OVTC meeting – members invited to play or cheer on at the Dart Tournament. 31 – Inter-Club Dart Tournament – <i>Le Skcratch</i> – call John Day for details. |
| April | 8 - All-British Autojumble in Kingston – call Jeff Patterson (xxx-xxxx) for convoy info. 22 – British Sportscar Flea Market, Ancaster, Ont. – call Ron @ (519) 453-5333 for details. 29 – BARC Grand Prix of Ontario, Mosport Park – call Ron Wanless @ (613) 359-1013. |
| May | 12 – CHEO Duck Race / Car Show – Corvette Club – details next issue. 18-20 – Carlisle Import-Kit/Replicar Show, Carlisle, PA. – Dave Huddleson @ 822-1315. 27 – OVTC BBQ @ Alex Bustard's home/shop – excellent fun run potential! , as well as: – Oxford Mills Vintage Car & Motorcycle Show – details next issue. |
| June | 3 – ByWard Market Car Show – details elsewhere in this issue. 17 – Billings Estate Picnic w/ Antique Car Club of Ottawa. 17 – ACCCC Odessa 2001 Antique Flea Market & Car Show. 24 – RICHMOND!!!! – Need we say more? – Yes, but in later issues of <i>Overdrive</i>. 29-July 1 – VARAC 22nd Vintage Festival – call John Day for details. |
| July | 15 – Croquet Match vs. MG Car Club – details to come; call Len Fortin @ 821-3140. 22 – Kingston Autofest @ RMC in Kingston – Boot'n'Bonnet Club – Wes @ 613-386-3797. |
| August | 26 – Boot'n'Bonnet British Car Day – Kingston City Park – details to follow. |
| September | 15-16 – British Car Day, Bronte Creek – Toronto Triumph Club. Details to follow. 13-16 – British Invasion XI – Stowe, Vt. – see BritishInvasion.com . Details to follow. 21-23 – Club Equipé – Vintage Grids, St. Jovite – details to follow. 26 – meeting at clubhouse |
| December | TBA – Christmas Party |

There'll also be other OVTC events (BBQ's & the like) once we've dreamt them up.

2001 ByWard Market Auto Classic:

I received the following e-mail information from the organizer of the ByWard Market Auto Classic recently. It reads as follows:

Dear Car Enthusiasts,

Please find attached a registration form for the 5th annual ByWard Market Auto Classic, to be held on Sunday, June 3, 2001. We sincerely hope that you or the members of your club will take part in this event. This year there will be a tribute to Italian cars on the grounds of the National Gallery!

The registration forms are to be submitted individually (one per vehicle) before April 30. You can fax your registration form to 562-3326 or by replying to this email with the complete information or send it by mail to the ByWard Market BIA, 55 ByWard Market Sq. Ottawa, On, K1N 9C3. New this year, you can now register online at www.byward-market.com. Confirmations will be sent out in early May.

This Auto Classic is open to all car owners, please help us make it a great show and pass this email along to someone who might be interested! Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 562-3325. Sincerely, Josée Meunier Special Events Coordinator, ByWard Market BIA

This show is always a fun gathering (provided the weather co-operates – it's rained the past couple of times). We'll try to ensure a central locale for the Triumph autos. See John Day if you require an entrance form and do not have Internet access.

JD's Ebay Rip-off of the Month:

We had a dandy one this month, folks! Would you believe, a 1967 Herald convertible, being UNSOLD at \$18,200 U.S.? Why was it unsold, you ask? Apparently, the car had undergone an \$85,000 (U.S.) nut-and-bolt restoration!! It takes all kinds! A funny choice for an \$85k restoration, wouldn't you say? I'm sure the restoration shop thought so, but not out loud!

JD's Ebay purchase (of the Month?)

I couldn't resist this one when it appeared – it's an unused 'Triumph Sports Owners Association' crest and lapel pin from the 1960's & 1970's. The only patch I'd seen before was Mike Graham's from when he had his TR3A back in the 1970's. I guess I'll have to sell some parts to justify this one. At least it was WELL below \$85k!

PEI Show in July:

Fancy holidaying in PEI with your Triumph this July? I received a detailed information package from the British Motoring Association of PEI, promoting their “British Car Days Across The Bridge” event. This is a fairly new show (3rd year), but appears to be fairly well organized. The events schedule looks as follows:

| | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| Friday, July 13: | 6:30 – 10:00 pm | Opening Reception, New Glasgow |
| Saturday, July 14: | 8:30-9:30 am | Wash & Shine |
| | 9:30-11:00 am | Registration - \$10 Cdn. |
| | 11:30-4:00 pm | Public Viewing & Judging |
| | | Valve Cover Races (like at TRF) |
| | | Miniature displays & more |
| Sunday | 4:00-5:00 pm | Awards Ceremony |
| | 9:30-11:00 am | Breakfast – British style |
| | 1:00-2:00 pm | North Short PEI Tour |
| | | Closing Ceremony |

The cover letter reads as follows:

“On behalf of the organizers of British Car Days Across the Bridge we are pleased to arrange for a 2001 Tourism PEI information package to be sent to you to help with your travelling plans this summer. Should you wish further information regarding our great show please contact us by phone at 902-964-3294, e-mail at rtbentle@isn.net or visit our website at www.peiisland.com/bmapei”.

Bob Bentley
British Motoring Association of PEI
Hunter River R.R.#3
PEI, C0A 1N0

Anyone wishing to have a look at the PEI material should contact John Day @ 723-9876.

Roadster Factory Summer Party Sign-up Call from Dave Huddleson:

Gentlemen,

I know that you are amongst the most likely to consider a journey to TRF in August. The dates don't seem to be published yet, but let me guess that it will be Friday August 10 - Sunday August 12. Last year, the cost was \$US 79.95 by May 31, so likely about the same this year. Camping is \$10 extra per site (of course we SHARE out site!!!). Motels are available in the area also, and TRF will provide a list. I just wanted to get this out early to gauge interest, and any committed travellers... let me know, because I am likely going again. David (822-1315)

Fram Filter Source for OVTC-ers:

I can get anyone who's interested the Fram oil filter for their Triumph. The Tractor Supply Centre

(TSC) store in Belleville has the correct elements for TR3A's and TR6's right on the shelf, for about \$9 and \$10 respectively, after tax. People interested should call me at 723-9876 and I can pick up as many as needed. I can also check into elements for others (Spits, TR7/8's), if you know the code. I may also investigate ordering the 'CA656' stock TR6 air filter elements if anyone would also be interested. Cheers!

Technical Tip for the Month:

This tip comes from a John Reynolds of the Triumph List on the internet: "A couple of years ago I saw the suggestion to improve on the fiber washers used on the TR6 valve cover mounting studs. Go to your local Honda motorcycle dealer and get three valve cover seals used on one of the Honda Goldwing motorcycles. Part # 90541-371-000. It's a rubber grommet with a chrome washer that fits perfectly on the valve cover mounting stud and stops any oil from leaking. It also stops you from denting the valve cover by over tightening."

Membership Plan for the Future:

For those of you who remember, at one time the club had a June-June renewal practice, with a pro-rating scheme for those who had joined at some point other than June. Somewhere down the line things got off-track, but we'd like to return to that practice and maintain it. Thus, for the next newsletter we will be in touch with some of you (a few are in fact expired, but we'll get to that at the earliest possibility) to arrange this system for the coming years. We thank you in advance for your understanding.

Classified:

For Sale: 1980 TR7 convertible, 103,000 km, excellent condition throughout, header, Stebro stainless steel muffler, K & N filters, Moto Lita leather steering wheel , chromed valve cover , TR8 mags, equipped with factory automatic transmission , car is originally from Vancouver (no salt)....\$5900 or best reasonable offer. Jeff Patterson E-Mail: pattersonj@ottawapolice.ca (613)839-2891

Dave Huddleson has the following for sale – call 822-1315:

- Brand new Addco swaybar for TR7 (Addco #776). 3/4" diameter, fits cars without catalytic converter (so, non-USA!). This is an add-on bar for the front end, so the original swaybar stays! \$75.
- Pair of TR7 rear springs, original for 1980 TR7, part # TKC3300. \$30./pair
- Lucas electronic distributor for pre-1980 TR7. Working order. \$25.

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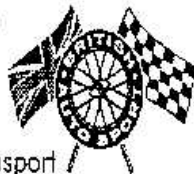
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The Ottawa Valley Triumph Club is comprised of approximately 65 members. The Club meets at 7:30p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month at the Manordale Community Centre, Knoxdale and Carola (see map). Meetings include technical seminars, video presentations, restoration techniques and much more. The Club also publishes a monthly newsletter, *Overdrive*, which is distributed to members. *Overdrive* is also exchanged with newsletters from other clubs.

Membership is open to all individuals and companies interested in Triumph sports cars. Membership is \$30.00 per year (June/June) per household and \$60 per year, corporate. **Please send membership application to:** OVTC c/o 5053 Limebank Road, Gloucester, Ontario K1X 1E8

The OVTC is a member of the British Car Council and is affiliated with the TR Register (UK)

OTTAWA VALLEY TRIUMPH CLUB

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| | | | |
|---------------------------|--|----------------------|--|
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