



TRIUMPH SPORTS CAR CLUB OF SOUTH AFRICA  
JOHANNESBURG CENTRE  
**NEWSLETTER**



PO Box 1102,  
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**ISSUE NO. 6/17**



**From the picture archive**

**Suikerbosrand Reserve - Sept 2011**

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**Please note that all contributions to the newsletter should be directed to John Dobbins, e-mail [dobbins@iafrica.com](mailto:dobbins@iafrica.com) by 25<sup>th</sup> of each month**

## Editorial

Well, winter has arrived so it is time for warm scarves and gloves for top down motoring but at least it is not raining!

Those of you with Club insurance will be receiving notice of renewals soon as they are due in July. Included in this newsletter (*see below*) are this year's values of our cars some of which have gone up in line with local market trends so please check the value you have insured your car for so it is not undervalued and I am available at work or at home to help so give me a ring on 082 508 0910 if you need help. Remember cost of spares especially body parts are very high due to the Rand not being very strong (e.g. a TR3 front wing R16 000).

I am sure you will all join me in wishing Arthur and Amanda all the best on their adventure in the TR3, race number 070, in the Giro di Sicilia starting on 1 June and look forward to hearing all about it.

Safe Motoring,

*John Dobbins*

## Chairman's Chat

The fresh winter chill season has begun and it is showing in the numbers turning out for events.

The Pretoria "cars on the roof" event held at the Kolonade Mall started with an early morning chill, but quickly warmed up to a pleasant day.

There was a good turnout with a nice mix of different car marques and a "new find" of a TR2 in the Pretoria club.....this TR2 has been garaged for approximately 40 years.

After the Mall, we proceeded in an easterly direction to the Olive Tree Restaurant where we enjoyed a delicious buffet lunch.

Unfortunately only 2 cars from Jo'burg.

*Norman*

## Insurance 2017/18

Points	5	10	15	20	25 / Bronze	Silver	Gold
Roadster	75	150	225	300	375	450	525
TR2, 3 ,4 & 6 TR5	70	140	210	280	350	420	490
	80	160	240	320	400	480	560
TR8 & Stag	45	90	135	180	225	270	315
TR7 Soft Top & GT6	30	60	90	120	150	180	210
TR7 HardTop & Spitfire	25	50	75	100	125	150	175
Vitesse & Dolomite	20	40	60	80	100	120	140
Saloons	14	28	42	56	70	84	98

In order to keep up with market trends and increased costs of restoration the insurance values of some of our cars have been adjusted to the above values (in Kilo Rand). The points scoring system remains the same as before where each section (bodywork, interior, wheels and tyres, mechanical and engine compartments) are evaluated out of a maximum of 5 points and total out of 25 arrived at for the car, from which a value is arrived at. The concours at the National Gatherings is an excellent barometer of the overall condition of the cars so we continue to put a value to a car reaching bronze, silver or gold medal status so if your car reached these heights at the 2014 Nationals and you want to increase the insured value of your car, send proof to the brokers and the value will be increased.

If you have any questions please contact me on 011 679 2954 (h) or 082 508 0910 (cell).

John Dobbins.

## Events Calendar

Month	Day/Date	Event	Host	Status
February	Sun 19	Post Valentine ---Ludwig Roses	Jhbg	official
	Tue 21	Noggin		
March	Sat 18-21	Nelspruit Weekend	Jhbg	official
	Sun 19	Piston Ring Swop Meeting		
	Tue 21	Noggin		
April	Sun 2	Angela's Picnic	SAMCA	official
	Tue 18	Noggin		
May	Sun 01	Dam Busters	Sunbeam Club	official
	Tue 16	Noggin		
	Sun 21	Cars in Park-Scottburgh		optional
	Sun 28	Spitfire Run	Pta	official
June	Sat 3	Mampoer Rally	POMC	optional
	Tue 20	Noggin		
	Sun 25	Uncle Tim's Market - Benoni???		official
July	Tue 18	Noggin		
	Sun 16	Scottburgh Classic Car Show		optional
	Sun 30			
August	Sun 6	Cars in Park-Zwartkops	POMC	optional
	Sun 13	4th Ave-Parkhurst Car Show	VVC	optional
	Tue 15	Noggin		
	Sun 27	Concourse/show day		official
September	Sun 03	Wheels at the Vaal		optional
	Sat 03	CANSA RUN		optional
	Sun 17	Piston Ring Swop Meeting		
	Tue 19	Noggin		
	Sat 23-25	Battlefields-KZN???		
October	Sun 15-22	Jacaranda Run	MG club	optional
	Tue 17	Noggin/AGM		
	Sun 22			
November	Tue 21	Noggin		
	Sun 26	Parys Festival???		
December	Sun 3	Year-end Function		



## Autonomous and electric powered cars

*submitted by Mike Gilchrist*

I'm fascinated by the fast-changing world of technology, especially in the field of motoring. What inspired me to write this article was a motoring programme shown this week about how a Tesla and a Mercedes E Class, both kitted out with autonomous driving technology, drove themselves around a thirty mile mixed route in the San Francisco Bay area with only 10% driver involvement for the odd minor adjustments. The show ended one step further with a visit the Ford testing grounds, where the journalist seated in the rear gave a verbal request and destination. The Ford Fusion figured out its own route and did the job without any input by the accompanying test engineer. This was done on private roads since no legislation exists – YET.

The exponential curve of technological advancement will mean that there will be autonomous electric vehicles on the road overseas by 2020 - maybe sooner. From a quote by author Udo Gollub in Berlin, autonomous cars will reduce lives lost in motor accidents significantly from one accident every 100 000kms to one accident every 10 million km. He also states that insurance companies will experience a massive loss of business due to these results. So, I would be terrified if I chose a career in the taxi driving business. Imagine the lives saved in taxi related accidents in South Africa alone.

Now, don't get me wrong, I'm an avid motoring enthusiast and I'll be first in line to hear a car with a V8 motor start up or hear the screaming cry of a Ferrari using flat plane crank technology to achieve those high revs, but let's face it, it is all so complex – spare a thought for the poor mechanic when a six year old Audi R8 V10 arrives on his forecourt, suffering from an intermittent overheating gremlin! Where does he start?

Christmas 2014, I found myself dutifully following my wife around an American shopping mall – all much the same as in SA I can assure you ... just the names are different. I really did not expect to find a Tesla motor showroom on the second floor between a Lindt Chocolate shop and a Swarovski Diamond showroom. On display? A black Tesla Model S. Absolutely beautiful. Fantastic performance and 420km range for the 85kWh motor. I've never seen such a huge info-screen on any car since. I believe a much more affordable Model 3 will be on the floor by the end of 2017. Notwithstanding that release date, over 350 000 reservations have been placed.

What really caught my eye was the display of an aluminium chassis, with the wheels, brakes, suspension and steering system and the *pie'ce de resistance: the rear mounted electric drive motor in a cradle with two cable attached! As simple as that. No complex radiators and water pipes, no air cleaner, oil filter, twin turbos, no maze of pipes and cables. Simplicity itself. There is a dual motor all-wheel drive available too.*

*Roll on the future!*

Mike.





## Triumph TR5 PI/TR250

Triumph's rugged, easily tuned wet-liner four had done yeoman sports-car service since 1953 but was literally out of breath by the mid-Sixties, when it became clear that the larger new TR4/4A would need more power to stay competitive. Enter the Triumph TR5 PI/TR250.

Back in the Fifties, Standard had introduced a small inline four that was later developed for Triumph's compact Herald sedan and the "junior TR," the Spitfire. There was also a derivative six, first seen in Standard's four-door Vanguard Six and later used in the Triumph 2000 sedan. With modifications, this 2.5litre engine was duly installed in the TR4 to create a more potent successor.

Despite its greater displacement, the six was no heavier than the old four, though it was significantly longer. Luck was on Triumph's side though, as the six just fitted in the TR4 engine bay and proved relatively easy to clean up for the new U.S. emissions standards that were being enacted during its development.

Nevertheless, Triumph ended up producing two versions of its latest TR. America got the TR250 with a detoxed 104-horsepower six fed by twin Zenith-Stromberg carburetors. Europe and the rest the world enjoyed the 150bhp TR5 PI, the suffix denoting petrol (fuel) injection by Lucas, the same basic system used by Maserati on its contemporary 3500GTI and Sebring. Needless to say, the performance of these cars was utterly different.



**Fuel-injected TR5 PI departed from TR4A appearance mainly in badges and standard mag-look wheel covers.**

Visually, they differed little from the TR4A, with changes confined to the grille (now minus its vertical support bar), nameplates, and minor trim. The TR5 even retained the original hood bulge needed for carburettor clearance on the TR4. Both rolled on standard steel wheels, adorned (if that's the word) with "mag-look" covers, but many examples were treated to the traditional centre-lock wires. TR250s wore rather silly transverse racing stripes on their noses, and their soft tops had reflective tape above the doors and rear window for night-time safety.

Chassis specs remained much as before, but radial tires were standard and the rigid rear axle option for American models was scratched. Final-drive ratios were numerically lowered to suit the torquier six.



Returning to performance, the TR250 was no faster than the TR4A from standstill or flat out -- no surprise, since it had no more horsepower. But, of course, the six was a lot smoother than the old four, and its extra torque greatly improved drivability at low speeds in the intermediate gears. By contrast, the TR5 would wind to an easy 6,000rp.m. and near 120mph, while cutting no less than 20 seconds from the 4A's 0-100 mph time. Unfortunately, it idled like a racing car and used a lot more fuel than the 250 (perhaps as little as 16mpg U.S.), and the fuel injection proved far more finicky than the 250's good old-fashioned carburetors.

Despite their six-cylinder smoothness and greater flexibility, the TR5 and TR250 were seen by many as new wine in old bottles. What was needed, some said, was fresh styling to match the new engine and its more "manly" character. Triumph, in fact, was already working on it, which explains why TR5/250 production lasted just a year and a half. The TR6 was on the way.



Just a  
Arthur



short note from  
and myself



## Giro di Sicilia

Tomorrow, 28<sup>th</sup> of May, Art and I fly to Palermo to meet our precious little green car which has been on the water for two months.

We start the race, another epic journey, around the beautiful island of Sicily, on Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> of June.

We are again proudly representing South Africa and the South African Triumph club.

Please follow us both on *Facebook* and *Instagram*, as we will be posting our progress throughout the race.

The race starts on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> of June in Palermo, and finishes 4<sup>th</sup> of June in Cefalu.

Looking forward to racing again through the streets of Italy and sharing our stories with you on our return.



Kind regards,

*Mandy and Arthur Wassenaar*



## Super Quiz

Kindly submitted by a New Zealand enthusiast

Solution to last month's quiz

IDENTIFY THE HEAD & REAR LIGHTS | WHEELS | GRILLES | WINDOWS | VENTS | DASHBOARD:



51 Citroen SM



52 Mazda MX5



53 Jaguar E-type



54 Buick Riviera



55 Porsche 928



56 Citroen DS19



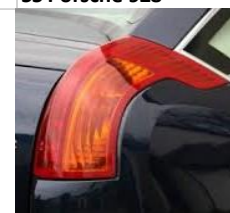
57 Maserati coupe



58 Ford Galaxy



59 Chevrolet



60 Citroen C6



61 Bugatti Type35



62 Porsche 911



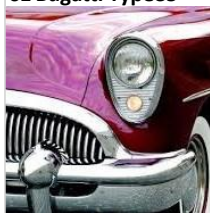
63 Packard



64 Bugatti Royale



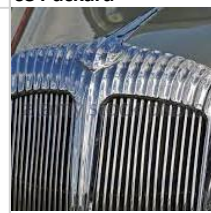
R-R Silver Cloud



66 Buick



67 Riley



68 Daimler



69 Packard



70 Edsel



71 Chevrolet 1936



72 R-R Dawn



73 Chevrolet Corvette



74 Riley Kestrel



75 Peugeot 203



76 Ferrari Testarossa



77 Buick



78 M Benz 300SL



79 A Martin DB5



80 Range Rover



81 Mini



82 VW Beetle



83 Chrysler 300F



84 Jaguar E-type



85 Morris Minor

## Tail End Giggle

*Thank God for churchwomen with typewriters. These sentences actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced in church services:*

1. Bertha Belch, a missionary from Africa, will be speaking tonight at Calvary Methodist. Come hear Bertha Belch all the way from Africa.
2. Announcement in a church bulletin for a national PRAYER & FASTING Conference: "The cost for attending the Fasting and Prayer conference includes meals."
3. The sermon this morning: "Jesus walks on the Water." The sermon tonight: "Searching for Jesus."
4. Our youth basketball team is back in action Wednesday at 8 p.m. in the recreation hall. Come out and watch us kill Christ the King.
5. "Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It is a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Don't forget your husbands."
6. The peace making meeting scheduled for today has been cancelled due to a conflict.
7. Remember in prayer the many that are sick of our community.
8. Smile at someone who is hard to love. Say "hell" to someone who does not care much about you.
9. Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.
10. Miss Charlene Mason sang, "I will not pass this way again," giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.
11. For those of you who have children and do not know it, we have a nursery downstairs.
12. Next Thursday there will be try-outs for the choir. They need all the help they can get.
13. Barbara remains in the hospital and needs blood donors for more transfusions she is also having trouble sleeping and requests tapes of Pastor Jack's sermons.
14. During the absence of our Pastor, we enjoyed the rare privilege of hearing a good sermon when J.F. Stubbs supplied our pulpit.
15. Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.
16. At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be "What is Hell?" Come early and listen to our choir practice.
17. Eight new choir robes are currently needed, due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.
18. Scouts are saving aluminium cans, bottles, and other items to be Recycled, Proceeds will be used to cripple children.
19. The Lutheran men's group will meet at 6 p.m. Steak, mashed potatoes, green beans, bread and dessert will be served for a nominal fee.
20. Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person you want remembered.
21. Attend and you will hear an excellent speaker and have a healthy lunch.
22. The church will host an evening of fine dining, superb entertainment, and gracious hostility.
23. Potluck supper Sunday at 5 p.m. - prayer and medication to follow.
24. The women of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.
25. This evening at 7 p.m. there will be a hymn sing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.
26. Ladies' Bible Study will be held Thursday morning at 10a.m. All women are invited to lunch in the Fellowship Hall after the B.S. is done.
27. The pastor would appreciate it if the women of the congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday.
28. Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 p.m. Please Use the back door.
29. The eighth-graders will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the Church basement Friday at 7 p.m. The Congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.
30. Weight Watchers will meet at 7 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use large double door at the side entrance.