



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



PO Box 1102,  
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[www.triumphclub-joburg.co.za](http://www.triumphclub-joburg.co.za)

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1912 Sunbeam



1926 Ford Model T



1929 Austin 12/4



1938 Morris 18/6



1955 Mk1 Ford Zephyr



Vauxhall Velox



Fordson pickup



1937 Chevrolet



Vincent Black Shadow



1976 Leyland



1936 Austin 7 Ruby



1936 Plymouth

**From the picture archive**

**New Zealand, South Island (Owaka & Oamaru) - November 2012**

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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**

## Events Calendar for 2016

### October

Tuesday 18th           AGM  
 Sunday 23rd           Kitty Hawk Aerodrome

### November

Tuesday 15th           Noggin  
 Sunday 27th           Run

### December

Christmas              Lunch

## Editorial

It was good to see such a good turnout at the September run and the venue was loved by my grandchildren so thanks to Rob and John C for organising it.

The next noggin is the AGM so it is your chance to have your say and elect a committee for next year who will carry out your wishes so please come with any ideas for events and different venues.

My thanks to Chris Harvey in New Zealand for his contribution on the classic car scene there, Chris was a member of the JHB centre for many years and had a very nice LHD TR6 that he brought back with him from the USA.

Cliff Turnbull has once again kept us abreast with his and Rhys Collins activities in the UK, so thanks a lot Cliff.

It would be nice if some of our local members could put pen to paper with regard to their motoring experiences?

That's all for now.

Safe motoring,

*John Dobbins*

## Chairman's Chat

The Sunday breakfast run to Trés Jolie heralded a beautiful spring day, top down, clear skies, pleasant surroundings....a good meal and company.

A good turnout for this event, and good to see Dave Ball, Dave Beard and son, joining the run.

Our AGM will be held on 18 October at the VVC. You are all urged to attend, comment and support the future of this proud club.

We are looking for somebody to come forward and offer their services as Treasurer of the club.

Ed Grondel has relocated to the Cape and is unable to continue this duty. Thanks Ed for your dedication to this task for the past few years.

Our Sunday run this month (23<sup>rd</sup>) will be to the KittyHawk Aerodrome to the east of Pretoria. A chance to enjoy the drive through the countryside and mingle with aircraft of the bygone era.

Yours in a Triumph,

*Norman*

# **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**Held at the VVC Clubhouse**

**AT 8.00<sup>pm</sup> Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER, 2016**

## **AGENDA**

1. Welcome, Apologies and registration.
  2. Approval of previous minutes.
  3. Matters arising from previous minutes.
  4. Secretary/Membership report.
  5. Treasurer's report.
  6. Regalia report.
  7. Chairman's report.
  8. General.
  9. Election of Office Bearers
  10. Meeting Closure
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## Letter from New Zealand

by Chris Harvey

Hi John (*ed. Dobbins*),

A few words as promised and apologies for taking a while.

How did your members handle the Car Cracker quiz?

The Vintage and Classic car scene in New Zealand is alive and well, with 33 branches of the Vintage Car Club throughout the country – not bad for a population of 4.7 million. Apart from the clubs there are several large car museums and any number of smaller private collections of considerable size. Owing to the restrictions on the importation of new cars which prevailed for a large part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, cars were expensive here and consequently a lot of effort was put into keeping them running longer than in most countries except Cuba. There are still many highly competent motor mechanics who work on and restore the old cars but unfortunately they are a dying breed. Cars which rely on computers rather than mechanical components has seen to that but the VCC is supporting a move to introduce an apprenticeship scheme for car restorers to retain the old skills. Notable in this field is a company called Beacham (<https://beacham.co.nz>) which started restoring and upgrading Jaguar Mk II saloons which it sells locally and exports around the world as a new car. It does the same for the XK150 and E-Type and is now making a reproduction E-type with a carbon-fibre body and the mechanicals from the new Jaguar F-type.

The premier car museum in the country is Southward Car Museum at Paraparaumu near Wellington ([www.southwardcarmuseum.co.nz](http://www.southwardcarmuseum.co.nz)) which has over 250 vehicles as well as three aircraft. I was impressed when I visited it in 1974 and a revisit is high on the cards. This reminds me of the wonderful and extensive collection of old cars which the undertaker O.D. Inggs had in Grahamstown where I grew up. Unfortunately it got sold and split up after he died but I remember well being shown around it in the sixties when most of the cars were “only” fifty or so years old. What a treasure that would be today.

Nearer to home in Warkworth (65kms north of Auckland) is the Packard and Pioneer Museum ([www.packardandpioneer.co.nz](http://www.packardandpioneer.co.nz)) near Whangarei which is purportedly the largest collection of Packards in Australasia and contains some very fine cars, particularly those of their heyday in the twenties and thirties. It was very sad to see them decline into rebadged Studebakers. There are many other cars in the collection as well as motorbikes, guns, heavy construction machinery, a R-R Merlin engine and even a 5.5” gun turret from HMNZS Achilles which was one of the three Allied naval ships to take on the Graf Spee in the battle of the River Plate. Up in Kerikeri further north a friend of a friend has not one but two R-R Silver Ghosts. He bought the first for Stg 50 when a midshipman in the British Navy during the fifties. Originally it belonged to the Viceroy of India and he has driven it over 400,000 miles at rallies all over the world since he acquired it. On one rally in Switzerland he needed to take alternative gearing for the diff to make it up the steepest passes. It’s worth a mint now.

I joined the local branch of the VCC in 2014 and got co-opted onto the committee organizing sponsorship for the North Island Easter Rally which we organised in 2015. The club is very active and social but I don’t have a “club eligible vehicle” which needs to be over 30 years old so am the club’s quizmaster, photographer and webmaster, having built a website for them: check it out at [www.vcc-wells-wark.org.nz](http://www.vcc-wells-wark.org.nz). Not having a car means I get to ride in other interesting ones: on various runs and rallies I have been in a 1950s Studebaker Hawk, Mk II Jaguar, MGA, MGB, MGTF, MG Magnette, awful 1960s Holden, 1938 Chevrolet similar to the 1936 model my father had and “on” a 1904 Cadillac which was quite an alarming ride as it was very rudimentary and made one feel very much out of



control. There are not many TR6s in evidence here and the windy roads and dramatic scenery are perfect for open top motoring. I really regret having to leave my TR6 behind in Johannesburg. Riding in those other cars makes one realise just how good and comfortable and spacious the TR6 was, especially compared with the cramped MGs with their raucous exhaust instead of that wonderful six-cylinder hum. This weekend I will be off to see another private collection at Helensville North West of Auckland, riding in the MGB again. I hope the current rain stops so we can take the top down to enjoy the spring weather.

Cheers,

*Chris*

## Meeting of Friends

*by Cliff Turnbull*

One of the great benefits we have found about becoming a member of the Triumph



community is the fact that one builds lifelong friendships and you never quite know when and where you will bump into people that you know. We were thus excited to hear from a couple of folk in Johannesburg that Rhys and Cathi Collins had decided to make a move back to their home country and we were provided with updated contact details. We made contact with Cathi and got hold of Rhys's UK number and kept abreast of their move progress. Once they had time to catch their breath we decided it was right to get together and have a meal and a few frosties at a pub which was roughly half way between where we each stayed at the time. Rhys chose the Old Mill House in North Warnborough with its elegant pub/restaurant in a medieval watermill with a working water wheel, open fires and oak beams.



We certainly did not need the open fires as it was yet another glorious day on the 6<sup>th</sup> August – the beers were a necessity to cool us down and we were able to go to the venue topless in our Triumphs which was a bonus. Rhys and Cathi accompanied by sons' Adam and Scott met Coral and me in the lovely surroundings and we had a great time together.



We can remember back to the time Adam came on his first run with his parents. If my memory serves me correctly it was to the crocodile farm near Hartebeestpoort Dam and Scott had not even been thought of at that stage! Now they are fine young men enjoying life in the United Kingdom.

Anyway we are not sure whether Rhys felt that he needed to get further away from the Turnbells or whether he had other reasons, but they have now bought a house in the lovely village of Nash which lies north of the county of Buckinghamshire, between the towns of Buckingham and Milton Keynes. It is a convenient commute for Rhys to his place of work in Uxbridge and is in the country with all the benefits of a laid back lifestyle. It is only a little over an hour or so away from us and fairly close to Silverstone, so maybe we will just be popping in there when we attend some or other activity at the famous race circuit.

Cliff Turnbull

## Tail End Giggle

### **Laws They Don't Teach in Physics**

#### *Law of Mechanical Repair*

After your hands become coated with grease, your nose will begin to itch and you'll need the toilet.

#### *Law of Gravity*

Any tool, nut, bolt, screw, when dropped, will roll to the least accessible place in the universe.

#### *Law of Probability*

The probability of being watched is directly proportional to the stupidity of your act.

#### *Law of Random Numbers*

If you dial a wrong number, you never get an engaged signal; someone always answers.

#### *Variation Law*

If you change lanes in traffic, the one you were in will always move faster than the one you are in now.

#### *Law of the Bath*

When the body is fully immersed in water, the telephone will ring.

#### *Law of Close Encounters*

The probability of meeting someone you know **INCREASES** dramatically when you are with someone you don't want to be seen with.

#### *Law of the Result*

When you try to prove to someone that a machine won't work, **IT WILL!!!**

#### *Law of Biomechanics*

The severity of the itch is inversely proportional to the ease of reach.

#### *The Coffee/Tea Law*

As soon as you sit down to a cup of hot coffee or tea, your boss will ask you to do something which will last until the drink is cold.

#### *Murphy's Law of Lockers*

If there are only 2 people in a locker room, they will have adjacent lockers.

#### *Law of Physical Surfaces*

The chances of a slice of jam on bread landing face down on a floor are directly correlated to the newness and cost of the carpet or rug.

#### *Law of Logical Argument*

Anything is possible **IF** you don't know what you are talking about.

#### *Law of Physical Appearance*

If the clothes fit, they're ugly.

#### *Law of Public Speaking*

**A CLOSED MOUTH GATHERS NO FEET!**

#### *Law of Commercial Marketing Strategy*

As soon as you find a product that you really like, they will stop making it **OR** the store will stop selling it!

#### *Doctors' Law*

If you don't feel well, make an appointment to go to the doctor, by the time you get there, you'll feel better. But don't make an appointment and you'll stay sick.