

First of all I would like to remind everyone that the Febuary meeting will be on Febuary 4th at Rusty's Pizza on Carrillo in Santa Barbara. It wil start at 7:30 and we will discuss among other things upcomming events.

The Wine tour on January 25th was a great success. We had a total of 13 cars. We had to cancell one of the stops because the group was so large. Attending were Michael and Lorrie Ling in the TR3, Julie Bonnet and EricAkau in a Spitfire, Cheryl Williams and her Mom in her TR6, Doug and Diane Morgan in a MGA, Geoff and Jolanda Kimler in a MGTD, Ron Kibbe in his TR4, Alonco Gavin and Friend in a TR7, Bill and Christie Hopper in a Mustang, Steve and Meera Walker in a TR4, Noel and Janice Wall in a Stag, Paul, Dawn and Nicholas Senior in a Stag, Ed and Bert Lang in a Stage, Mark Niblett in a TR6, and Lee Fitch and Dave's Cousin Pam in the GT6. Our only missadventure was when Paul lost a wheel cover on the pass and everyone managed to avoid it except Ron who cought it in his front licence plate, knocking loose a piece which put a hole in his radiator. He made it to Solvang where we fixed it with some radiator patch and some water and he made the rest of the trip with out incedent. Breakfast was at the Mustard seed in Solvang. It was our first time there and they handled the crowd extremly well. Next stop was the Gainey Winery. This was an extremly nice winery and a highlight of the trip. Our last stop was the Firestone Winery where we had yet again a nice tour. Those of us who had brought picnic lunches stayed at Firestone to eat. Everyone made their own way back to there homes.

We hope to do this again next year so you can catch up with the fun if you missed out this year.

Good news. TRIUMPHEST '86 will be in Morro Bay this year. It will be the weekend of the 18th of October. They are planing the Car Display, a Gymkana, Driving tours, Dinners, Swapmeet, and much much more. Since this is so close to home you should make plans to attend. More details as I get them.

THE MISSING LINK?

Most of us are familiar with the Triumph genealogy from TR2 thru TR8, but how many have wondered of the elusive TR1? The grandfather of all Triumph sports cars we know so well. More than once I have overheard questions as to what the TR1 must have been. Or how many. Both of which Graham Robson handles admirably in his many books. To begin, there never waqs a car officially recognised as the TR1. The car shown was originally designated as the 20TS by Standard Motors and was assembled just prior to the Earls Court car show in 1952. It was the second attempt by Sir John Black produce a modern sports car. (The first was the TRX which proved to be too costly, lacked sportiness, and appeared certain to fail.) The 20TS came very close to the TR2 as we know it today, except for the rear end. Because Walter Belgrove, the cheif designer at Standard, did such an excellant job at constructing the prototype in accordance with predetermined objectives, ie: low cost, utilization of existing parts, and marketability; the final production form for the TR2 was firmed up a mere three months following the show. Much credit must be given to Ken Richardson, developmental engineer, for his work in the area of chassis reinforcement, sorting out handling problems, and an increase in power in the aging Vanguard engine. After the Earls Court show, 20TS was used as a mule to study suggested production changes to include the now familiar tail section - later incorporated into four TR2 prototypes. At that point the 20TS was scrapped. With some hindsight, I find it difficult to understand Standard's lack of appreciation, at least not to the degree of preserving it whole. No doubt 20TS' pieces were put to good use, knowing the frugulness of Sir Black. It is important to remember that in the early 50's the English were rather short on material resources, therefore it was not uncommon for manufacturers to dismantle components to serve their next projects. Only yers later, did Triumph affici-. endos begin to wonder about the progenitor of the TR2 was the significance of the 20TS realized - and the simpler title of TR1 was attached to the one and only 20TS ever constructed.

Minutes December Meeting:

This was our best meeting in some time. Eleven members were present and we welcomed new member Richard Armstrong and friend Sandy. Richard is a long time TR3 owner. We all introduced ourselves and listed the many different cars we own/owned. Minutes from the last meeting were approved by default (nobody had a copy). Michael Ling gave us a balance of \$415.53 in the treasury - soon to be depleted by the upcoming Christmas Party - next on the agenda. Everybody present pledged to attend. Arrangements were made for food and drink of all sorts. It was beginning to look good. Next was discussion of a wine tour as a January event. A schedule that would include three wineries and possibly a late afternoon lunch at the Union Hotel in Los Alamos or similiar establishment. At this point Lee Fitch reminded everyone that the event in January would substitute for the next meeting. And in fact for the indefinite future the club will meet at Rusty's only on even months (Febuary, April, June....) and events will be held on odd months (January, March, and so on). There will be a board meeting every month which all are welcome to attend - please call Lee or Michael for information. So what does the future hold for us? The next meeting is February 4. Tuesday. We need a March event - all suggestions are welcome. The 3rd Annual Poker Rally is scheduled for the moment on April 20, Sunday. And in the far off future is Triumphest to be sponsored by LA's SCTOA tentatively the third weekend of October in Monterey or the Grand Canyon. And with such visions the meeting disintegrated into mutual admiration of fine British autos and Bill Hopper's wonderful pictures of the Palm Springs Grand Prix!

Dave Fitch

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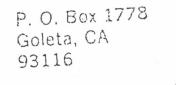
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