



STOKE

AUGUST 2026 | ISSUE 17



SCAN ME



*A TR STOKE Register publication.
Uniting TR enthusiasts past, present & future.*





Information

TR enthusiasts past, present & future



To enter an article in the TR Stoke Newsletter:

Please send articles to:

Tony Ralph 077897 44422

email: trstoke1981@gmail.com



Any TR related article will be considered for the newsletter.

If you have a project, restoration, or an adventure that our fellow patrons may wish to read, then send the details to the above mail address.

If you wish to advertise your company or services within the newsletter please contact Tony Ralph, costs implied go towards the continued support of the TR Stoke club.

The Newsletter is published Bi-annually, a summer issue in August and a winter issue in February.

The opinions expressed are those of the individual writers and are not necessarily the views of the editor or the TR Stoke Group.

Newsletter deadlines:

February edition (Mid-January)

August edition (Mid-July)



TR Stoke Register:

Meet every first Monday of the month at Longton Rugby Ground, Sir Stanley Matthews Way, Trentham Lakes, Stoke-on-Trent **ST4 8WG**.
(We do provide chip butties) ☺

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..... Front Cover: Lichfield 'Cars in the Park' Show

For more information on TR Stoke:

See our Link Tree for full access.

@ <https://linktr.ee/trstoke>



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A Dream Rediscovered...

Every classic car enthusiast dreams of uncovering a genuine barn find, and for me that dream became reality with a remarkable Triumph TR5.

This particular car had been off the road since 1988, laid up after persistent fuel issues. As so often happens, time passed, priorities shifted, and the TR5 remained untouched for decades.

In **October 2024**, while attending the Tatton Park Car Show, I was approached by the owner, who shared the car's story. Having accepted that he would never return it to the road, he asked whether it might be of interest to me. After a long chat, we agreed it was worth a look.

It quickly became clear I was looking at something special. **Despite nearly forty years off the road**, the TR5 was in remarkably good condition and completely original. It retained its correct engine, chassis and body, all with matching numbers. Even better, it came with the highly desirable Surrey hard top and overdrive, making it an especially appealing example. In that moment, I knew I had found and bought my dream car.

Once the car arrived at my garage, the focus was simply to get it running. Thankfully, the engine wasn't seized, though years of inactivity had left the fuel linkage, brakes and clutch completely solid. With patience and careful work, each component was freed off and repaired. Hearing the engine fire back into life after decades of silence was unforgettable.

With a new clutch and slave cylinder fitted, the TR5 was soon driving again under its own power. Attention then turned to the bodywork. The external

panels were excellent, but the sills and A and B posts required repair. Corroded sections were cut out and new metal welded in, restoring structural integrity while preserving originality.

The final stage focused on safety and presentation. New brake callipers, discs and hoses were fitted, fresh carpets installed, and the interior fully reassembled after nearly forty years. Refurbished wire wheels and new tyres completed the look, enhancing the car's honest, original appearance. In **November 2025**, the TR5 officially reappeared on the DVLA database, marking its long-awaited return to the road.

Today, it proudly wears its history, dents, marks and imperfections included telling its story rather than hiding it. This has been a sympathetic restoration in the truest sense. With thanks to the TR community for their advice and support.

**This Triumph TR5 is more than just a restoration:
It is a time capsule brought back to life, ready for many more miles and memories.**



APRIL

Weston Park - TR Stoke kicked off the season with its first show at Weston Park near Telford, attracting an impressive gathering of around 1,000 classic cars. The club was well represented, with nine TR Stoke vehicles in attendance, alongside members of TR Shropshire, who kindly organised and set up the stand for the event. Although the weather remained dry throughout the day, there was a noticeable chill in the air. Despite this, the event provided a fantastic start to the year's calendar, offering a great opportunity for members to reconnect, admire a wide range of vehicles, and look ahead with enthusiasm to the rest of the TR events planned for the year.



APRIL

Drive it Day 2026, brought together TR groups from Stoke, North Wales, Shropshire and Red Rose for a fantastic day out at the National Waterways Museum, Ellesmere Port. Over 50 TRs were in attendance, creating an impressive display and a great atmosphere throughout the day. The Stoke group met with Shropshire in Whitchurch before enjoying a joint drive up to Ellesmere Port. The weather stayed dry, making for a pleasant run, and the museum itself proved extremely interesting to explore. Many thanks go to the North Wales group for organising such a well-planned and enjoyable event to mark this year's Drive It Day.



Gawsworth Hall The Gawsworth Hall Show near Congleton proved to be a fantastic event, set within the beautiful grounds of the historic hall. The stunning gardens were in full bloom, with thousands of bluebells creating a wonderful backdrop at this time of year. A very popular show, it attracted a wide range of exotic vehicles, including some spectacular cars from the 1930s that drew plenty of attention. TR Stoke joined forces with the Red Rose group to put on an impressive display, with over 20 TRs on the stand. It was a great day, combining excellent cars, scenery and company in a superb setting.

MAY



SERVICE DAY

TR Stoke held a successful Service Day, with several members taking advantage of the excellent facilities at Brown Edge Garage. Cars were given access to the ramps for a thorough check-over, ensuring they are well prepared for the upcoming season of events. Many thanks to Brown Edge for their continued support and assistance in making the day possible.



MAY

The **Auto Extravaganza** at Norton Green proved to be a fantastic and well-organised event, offering something for all the family, including crafts, live music, a dog show and much more alongside the classic cars. Despite torrential rain at times, the TR Stoke gazebo was certainly well used throughout the day. A total of 15 TRs attended, including Tony's TR5 making its first show appearance in over 40 years. Adding to the success of the day, Casey, one of the TR Stoke members' dogs, also took home a prize for Best Bitch, rounding off a memorable event.



MAY

Rolleston Village Festival, held in this picturesque village, was a truly wonderful event. The village green and surrounding roads were filled with an impressive display of classic cars, tractors, commercial vehicles and motorbikes, with the whole community coming out to enjoy the day. Many residents hosted garage sales, offering plenty to rummage through. A popular highlight was the free vintage bus ride around the village. Despite the extremely hot weather, there was welcome shade and the local pub provided a perfect spot to relax. TR Stoke had eight cars attend. The day was topped off with a flypast from a Dakota aircraft. The event concluded with a parade, with villagers lining the streets to wave and applaud.



JUNE

The TR Stoke Group enjoyed a fantastic turnout at this year's **Trentham Classic Car Show**, with an impressive 25 TRs on display. After being held in late September in recent years, the event returned to its traditional June date, which proved to be a great success. The fine weather helped attract a huge number of exhibitors, with the organisers facing the welcome challenge of accommodating well over 1,000 classic vehicles. Visitors were treated to an outstanding display, featuring a superb variety of cars from every era. The sunshine created the perfect atmosphere for members and enthusiasts to socialise, catch up with friends, and admire the diverse range of vehicles, making it another memorable day for everyone who attended to the impressive



JUNE

The group also visited Chesford Grange Nursing Home, bringing a selection of TRs to support residents' wellbeing, spark conversations, share memories, and provide an enjoyable day for everyone.





A NEW TR FAMILY

Like many of us, my love of classic cars started early. My first was an MGB GT at the age of 18—an exciting introduction to open the door into the world of old-school motoring. But as life often does, responsibilities crept in, priorities shifted, and eventually the MG had to go. I always promised myself I'd return to classics one day, but I never imagined it would take almost 40 years.

Last year, at the age of 57, the opportunity finally arrived. For several years I had been quietly searching for the right car. I wasn't just after "a classic"—I wanted the classic, one that made my heart skip a beat. That search kept bringing me back to the Triumph TR3A: purposeful, wonderfully mechanical, and timelessly stylish. But despite years of looking, I had never actually sat in one.

The TR3A Journey Begins

It was at a show last year that I wandered over to the TR Register stand and met several club members. Their enthusiasm and warm welcome played a huge part in helping me decide to focus fully on the TR3A. I soon found myself speaking with Tony Ralph from the club, who kindly put me in touch with Chris Mountford.

Chris invited me to see his own TR3A. Not only did he let me sit in it, but he generously spent a couple of hours talking me through the car—what to look for, what to avoid, and what to expect from ownership. His biggest piece of advice was very clear:

"Don't buy one without seeing it first." Naturally, I ignored that completely.

Taking the Leap

I found a TR3A advertised with Robin Lawton Vintage & Classic Cars. Their reputation was excellent, and the car looked superb. Even though it was more than four hours away and I had still never actually driven or ridden in a TR3A, something told me this was the one. So, I did it. I bought it unseen.

When the car arrived, relief washed over me—it looked every bit as good as advertised. Better, in fact. I was finally back in the world of classic motoring.

Joining the Stoke TR Group

One of the best decisions I made was joining the Stoke TR group. From the moment I walked into my first meeting, I was made to feel genuinely welcome. The advice on classic car insurance was invaluable, and then they added me into the group's WhatsApp chat—a lifeline for any new TR owner.

I've spent the last few months tinkering with the car, and the group has been brilliant. No question too small, no problem too daft. Someone always seems ready with an answer, a photo, or a part number.



This story also featured in TR Action Issue 363



A NEW TR FAMILY

Kevin Bracknall from the group even helped me track down a set of side screens. And one afternoon, Tony came over and spent time going through the car with me, helping fix and fine tune a few things. That sort of generosity really shows what this club is all about.



Looking Ahead

I've already been invited to several events this year, and I'm looking forward to getting the TR3A out on the road and enjoying it properly. What I didn't expect when buying the car was the community that would come with it—a group of people who share advice, enthusiasm, and plenty of humour along the way.

It took almost 40 years to return to classic car ownership, but it's been worth every minute. And thanks to the TR Register and the TR Stoke group, I feel like I've joined a family as much as a club.

"Here's to a year of driving, learning, meeting new people—and finally enjoying the TR3A I've always wanted."

Follow Matida's story on Instagram



Scan our QR Code for full access to all TR Stoke information.

@ <https://linktr.ee/trstoke>



CLUB SHOP



Polo Shirt
£15.00



Gilets
£30.00



Fleece
£25.00



Design will show the TR Stoke club logo (shown above) embroidered.

Caps also available at £15.00
Contact Karen Kelly for orders.



Follow us on Facebook

Search for Stoke TR Group
See the latest places the club has been. (Remember to like)



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For more information on TR Stoke:

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Red = Club Stands Or Club Organised Event
Green = Club nights Black = Planned Events

<i>JULY 03-05</i>	<i>Aysgarth Weekend Yorkshire Dales Contact TR Red Rose group</i>
<i>JULY 5</i>	<i>Lichfield Cars in the Park, Beacon Park Lichfield WS13 6RA (Details)</i>
JULY 6	CLUB NIGHT AT LONGTON RUGBY CLUB
<i>JULY 19</i>	<i>Wem Vehicle of Interest, Park Road, Wem, Shrewsbury, SY4 5DA (Details)</i>
<i>AUG 1</i>	<i>Betley Festival of Transport, Nr Crewe, Cheshire CW3 9BH (Details)</i>
<i>AUG 2</i>	<i>Classic Car Display & Dog Fest at Dorothy Clive Gardens, TF9 4EU (Details)</i>
AUG 3	CLUB NIGHT AT LONGTON RUGBY CLUB
<i>AUG 14-16</i>	<i>Car Club Fest 2026 - Three Counties Showground, WR13 6NW (Details)</i>
<i>AUG 15-16</i>	<i>Tatton Park Classic and Retro Car Revival, WA16 6SG (Details)</i>
<i>AUG 29-31</i>	<i>Oulton Park Gold Cup, Tarporley CW6 9BW (Details)</i>
<i>AUG 31</i>	<i>Apedale Classic Cars and Steam Trains Day, ST5 7LB (Details)</i>
<i>SEP 5</i>	<i>Eccleshall Country Show, Sugnall, Nr. Eccleshall ST21 6NF (Details)</i>
SEP 7	CLUB NIGHT AT LONGTON RUGBY CLUB
<i>SEP 20</i>	<i>Etruria Industrial Museum Classic Vehicle Rally, ST1 4RB (Details)</i>
OCT 5	CLUB NIGHT AT LONGTON RUGBY CLUB
NOV 2	CLUB NIGHT AT LONGTON RUGBY CLUB
DEC 7	CLUB NIGHT AT LONGTON RUGBY CLUB
DEC 14	TR Stoke Christmas Lunch, The Wharf Goldstone

FOR MORE INFO CALL

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Don't forget the website on the [TR Register site](#) and [Facebook](#) search TR Register Stoke Group

