



THE LINK



January 2016

Chairman's Annual 2015 Report by Allen Iggulden

2015 saw another busy calendar for Truro and District Motor Club. John H Collins organised a dozen AutoSOLO's at Cornwall College, Camborne, which were well supported by entrants and marshals alike. Most of these events brought first-timers into motorsport.

The four days of motor racing at the spring and autumn Tregrehan Speed Hillclimbs were a success, with an assorted number of vehicles in various states of engine tune racing up the hill. Andrew Dinner's record was attempted by both Phil Montgomery-Smith and Mike Lee but it proved elusive. The Tregrehan Speed Hillclimb Academy continues to thrive in its second year, also helping to raise new entrants up the motorsport ladder.

In May, a number of us helped marshal on the TSH Stages Rally at RAF Portreath. Amongst the cars entered were a number of highly tuned vehicles that were very entertaining to watch.

In November, Nigel and Rose Stephens organised another excellent vehicle recognition quiz night at The Plume of Feathers, the proceeds, of over £600, going to Macmillan Cancer Support. The evening was supported by over fifty quizzers who had a great time. We all appreciate the research and hard work that must go into planning a car quiz night.

Early December saw Le Jog classic car rally with many club members helping out at Cornwall College, Camborne with the marshalling there.

In mid-December, we had our annual awards luncheon at The Alverton, Truro. Since last year's awards luncheon David Richards CBE has accepted our invitation to be Truro and District Motor Club's President. David presented the many award winners with their trophies and plaques.

We now look forward to 2016, which no doubt, will bring new challenges to the club, but with continued support from the club members, we are confident of enjoying another great year of Cornish motorsport.

An evening with Bloodhound SSC

Thursday 25th February at Truro High School.

Tickets for this event will be on sale soon for £15.00 each. This may be the last time this exhibit will be in Cornwall before they attempt their record breaking run in South Africa. So don't miss out on this once in a lifetime event.



See www.trurodmc.co.uk for more details shortly.

Annual General Meeting - Monday 18th April

Please read this in full as it is important. We have booked the dining room at Truro Golf Club, TR1 3LG on Monday 18th April for the club's AGM. The meeting will start at 7.30 pm prompt. Proposed are Lesley Weeks as Honorary Secretary, Nick Vincent as Honorary Treasurer and David Brenton as Competition Secretary. Immediately following the AGM will be a TDMC committee meeting to propose all the other officials. All paid-up 2016 members are cordially invited to attend. TDMC 2016 membership cards may be requested to be shown, so please bring them with you. You will be able to download an agenda and a nomination form for the posts from our website prior to the meeting www.trurodmc.co.uk. Email clubsec@trurodmc.co.uk for more details.

Allen Iggulden, TDMC Chairman.

TDMC Cornish Seaside Tour

TDMC will organise the Cornish Seaside Tour on Sunday 15th May. This is a non-competitive touring event and is open to all classic cars, sports cars and other interesting cars by invitation. The event will have an MSA Certificate of Exemption as a Touring Assembly. You do not need to be a club member or have a competition licence to take part.

The event starts on the north coast at Portreath beach, heads south to tour the Lizard peninsula and finishes at Maenporth beach near Falmouth. The route will be on attractive coastal and country roads and you will have a tulip road book (thanks to Peter Wellington). Have a great day out and experience some of the exquisite creeks, beautiful beaches and ancient, picturesque harbours of Cornwall's coastline.

The entry fee includes refreshments at the start and at the mid-morning break, choice of light lunch and a cream tea at the finish. Entries will be opening shortly. Please put 15th May in your diary and email Melody if you would like to be sent details or download soon from our website www.truodmc.co.uk.

TDMC Membership

Hello everybody. My name is Amanda Moo and I am the new membership secretary and yes it's that time again to renew your membership to the Truro & District Motor Club. There has been a little increase this year on the membership but not by much.

Single Membership is now £15.00

Joint Membership is now £20.00 (with one non competing member)

Download a membership form from the club's website www.truodmc.co.uk or come along to one of the autosolo's and find me there. Thanks everyone.

AutoSOLO Championship 2015 report by Jeremy Thomas

Truro and District Motor Club again organised their popular AutoSOLO Championship in 2015. Now in its third year, fifteen competitors registered, including both our previous winners, to contest the nine rounds held at Cornwall College Camborne.

Events ran throughout the year, with rounds held in either the Holman or Penhaligon car parks. The first event in March, was entered by all fifteen championship competitors, with Niall Heywood taking the FTD honours. As the year progressed, the competition for first place was keenly fought between Niall Heywood, Jason Metters and the 2013 championship winner Mark Crowle. At the conclusion of the final round in November, and with an impressive record of six championship round wins, including five FTD results, Niall Heywood emerged victorious. Photo of Niall Heywood by Dave Brenton.

Final standings were:

1st Niall Heywood 86 points

2nd Jason Metters 77.25 points

3rd Mark Crowle 72.75 points

Congratulations to everyone who competed in 2015. We hope to welcome you back for the 2016 Championship.

Forthcoming dates:

Sunday 7 February

Sunday 28 February

B/H Monday 28 March



Entry forms and ASR's are available at: <http://truodmc.co.uk/autosolo.php>.

Tregrehan Speed Hillclimb Academy 2015 report by Jeremy Thomas

2015 saw the second year of the Tregrehan Speed Hillclimb Academy. Following feedback from the first year competitors, and with the kind agreement of our friends at Camel Vale Motor Club and Newquay Auto Club, we were able to offer eight academy rounds. As well as the four rounds at Tregrehan in June and October, academy members were also able to compete at Castle in July and the Treloy Sprints in August and September at the same subsidised entry rate.

Once again before the first event in June, TDMC organised a mentoring session at Bradley Motors, Scorrier to discuss paperwork and car preparation, and hill walks at both Tregrehan and Castle. Unfortunately, due to access restrictions, Treloy could not be visited except on the actual event days. Our thanks to David Robertson-Wells, Mr and Mrs Hudson and South West Water for access to these venues.

The fifteen new speed competitors from the academy lined up with experienced hillclimbers in June. The mentors and Andrew Dinner were on hand to answer any queries and concerns, and such is the camaraderie amongst competitors, everyone competing made our academy members most welcome at their first event.

After the practice runs, everyone was able to improve on the times they set throughout the weekend. The Castle events were a tale of two contrasting days. The Saturday was fine throughout, but Sunday proved to be very wet and challenging for old and new competitors alike. Treloy also had its challenges, but everyone took them in their stride as their experience and confidence grew with each run taken.



Once all the times were analysed, the best improver, and winner of the Treburley Garage Trophy 2015, was Liam Brokenshire. Our congratulations to Liam, and all the academy members, for making this year another very successful one. Photos by Dave Brenton of Liam receiving the championship award from David Richards and the 2015 academy group with David Richards outside The Alverton at our awards lunch. We look forward to welcoming a new group of competitors for 2016. More info on our website here: www.truodmc.co.uk

Christmas Taster AutoSOLO – report by Allen Iggulden

With 22 enthusiastic drivers, this fancy dress event proved very exciting. John Collins came up with two new courses, especially designed for this taster event. The four newbies, or virgins as John prefers to call them, all enjoyed the courses, and showed that they could certainly handle their cars.

It must be fitting that the only person prepared to make themselves look silly in a super-hero Batman outfit was Alistair Barnes who did eventually gain Fastest Time of Day overall. Also showing a great example, in an under-powered Ford Ka, was John himself, who really did drive his vehicle as fast as he could around both courses on all six runs.

Everyone drove to the best of their abilities so I will mention the class leaders. Wayne Grimshaw did miracles in his under-powered Nova by taking top place in group 1. Paul Deacon, in his BMW, took the lead place in group 2 by his great consistent driving. After Alistair Barnes took FTD in group 3, (well he was Batman, after all), came Adam Barnes, only half a minute overall behind Batman. Group 4 saw Marek Wojciehowski in his Toyota MR2 take top place in group 4.

Other drivers that deserve a mention, who gave very spirited examples of how to drive your car fast, were Ted Chalcraft in his very fast Toyota Celica, Ross Dodds in his Subaru Impreza Estate and of course Niall Heywood in his MX5 and Jason Metters in another MX5. All these drivers were very entertaining to watch and we thank them for showing us their driving expertise.

On behalf of Truro and District Motor Club, may I take this opportunity to thank all the many helpers, marshals and drivers that over the past year have helped to make our AutoSOLOs the success that they have been. A special thanks must go out to John, Jeremy, Manda, Richard and Lesley, who seem to be present at everything that we organise. Without your help, we would have no events to run.

TDMC Car Recognition Quiz – Report by Darrel (Merlin Farm team)

I was kindly asked to attend the quiz by Pete Rugg & Julian Stevens of the TR Register. Knowing me for over 30 years they surely knew how competitive I am! So my mission was to assemble the dream team of car recognition anoraks with the sole purpose of bagging first place as the fellow TR boys had only ever made second or third.

So I called my chum Pete Trotman, a guaranteed top team anorak to get the offbeat and most obscure cars that I had no hope of. My love of classics and almost devout knowledge to top trump anyone was when it came to cars from the 60s though to the 90s. I asked if he could he think of anyone else? I then found out he and his friend Paul had bagged a quiz second a couple of years ago. Team Merlin was sorted!

We nearly fell at the first hurdle, spending over 20mins on the first sheet trying to get every one! So whip on we must as I found we had 3 more sheets to cover!

The best question was the Cornish jeep, Pete knew it came from Cornwall and I knew I had seen it in a magazine somewhere but bugged if I could remember its name or even which of the hundreds of 1960s Motorsports I saved from the dump back in the 80s. Paul was a star. His knowledge of current Japanese was quite frankly verging on nauseous! His etched memory for model numbers put me to shame. I'll remember that the next time I try to correct him on a Peugeot cabriolet! He also saved me from looking a complete t*t when I said the Corvette was an Opal GT!



I committed anorak hara-kiri when I got so proudly obsessed with identifying the Mazda 13b Wankel twin rotor I forgot to say it was from an RX7! Pete would often go quiet and write an answer that he knew was 100% correct whilst we were still pontificating over it! I was proud to get the new Vauxhall Astra which I recognised as the model of car that has cut me up the most on my daily drive to work!

It turned into a classic school boy competition between Paul and myself to see who could get the answer first only to realise that others could probably hear the answer as well! I've got my son Ruben to thank for teaching me the full name McLaren MP4-12c who until most recently had very little interest in cars apart from did they had a DVD screen in the rear headrest! We all loved the tractors at the end.



Great fun was had by all. We returned a solid second for all sections except the one we pulled a first in. Now we know the format we won't fall foul of knowing the 3rd dotted line is for MK? and that every Mini should begin with BMW!

The only problem being that we will have to do it again next year and I feel the competition will be even fiercer and as Julian said, 'it's good fun just don't take it too seriously' to which we say 'my arse!' Many thanks for such great fun evening and a great fundraiser.

Photos by Dave Brenton

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