



Serving the Triumph Enthusiast since 1977

March 2023

<http://www.newenglandtriumphs.org/>

Vol 46 No.1

Although the winter in New England was overall mild, the last few weeks NET'ers were reminded it is not over yet. Nevertheless, it is the time to at least think about removing car covers, dusting off LBC's, and getting a fresh charge on batteries to prepare for top down, or at least window down rides soon. Some members did get their favorite rides out in February on Drive Your Triumph day in honor of the birthday of Mr. Black- Production Manager and Chief Engineer at Triumph. Pictures will follow of some members that braved the weather on Drive Your Triumph Day -February 10, 2023.

This spring's start up newsletter will contain a couple of tech notes from contributors, as well as a member focus similar to past newsletters. Also pictures submitted on Drive Your Triumph Day. As a bonus, there is a trivia question.

Tech Note – LED Lighting

A big issue with driving your vintage car in the modern driving environment is that these cars typically are not meeting line of sight requirements (unless they are raised like the 70's editions) and the lighting is dim with little or no redundancy (eg, no center brake light). A big safety improvement for both visibility and reducing heating in old wiring harnesses is properly converting to LEDs. The article is too long to include in a newsletter so along with this short introduction we have published a white paper located here in the NET Google Drive

[LED article](#)

This paper details the options and the costs and covers the conversion of incandescent bulbs to LEDs on Triumph TR2-6 roadsters (1954-1976), for only around \$220 depending on light choices and car model. It can be applied to other British cars like MGs, Spitfires/GT6s and others.

Thank you Pete Groudas for enlightening us about lights.

Trivia Question

A sign like this inspires me to think of a tour to sponsor in New England.



Question: What famous song written in Scotland was inspired by a sign like this? Artist? Year?
Answer is elsewhere in this newsletter.

Member Focus

This newsletter edition's Member Focus is about **Willian and Evelyn Lepere** of Attleboro MA. Their adventurous spirit for long distance travel is an amazing story that spans decades.

It comes as no surprise that Bill took his current '79 Spitfire out last February 10 for a spin.

Bill's first Spitfire was acquired in the '60's and was his daily driver. The '70's brought along life's events (children) and the need for a real back seat. The spitfire had to go, but it's spirit never left Bill.

The late '80's Bill acquired his current '79 Spitfire to rekindle that spirit. He and Evelyn also added to the stable a TR6 along the way. At another club event, Bill met up with Frank Frett, then Director of NET. With little convincing to do, Frank told Bill about a contingent of NET members who were going to make the 1,000 mile journey to 1994 VTR convention to be held in Asheville NC. So the Lepere's were in.

On that same trip was NET'er Tom Walling from Maine experienced trouble with the clutch on his TR6. The skill set of the small Triumph group succeeded to replace the clutch in the hotel parking lot!

Not to be idle, the brave Lepere's planned a trip to Georgia and Florida in August of '98 in the TR6. However that start date had to be delayed a few months due to persistent brake issues on the TR6. Most people would have replanned the trip till the next warm season but that is not the Bill and Evelyn mindset. They left for the trip south in early *January 1999!* Why not? The TR6 has a heater and pretty good top, right? The amazing trip was described with detail in a springtime issue 1999 NET Newsletter.

A picture of Bill and Evelyn in the TR6 on the sand at Daytona Beach is the headline. Life's a Beach. Great story. That was 24 years ago. That newsletter did not make it to NET archives section of our web site so but a scanned version of that newsletter is available here.

[NET Newsletter March 1999](#)

If you look through the whole newsletter you will see some of the same active members back then are still active in NET today. Sadly though, time caught up to some others. Also notice that the dues then were \$18/year, now \$20/year, so no complaints about inflation affecting our dues.

The Spitfire purchased 34 years ago eventually needed an overhaul. The TR6 went in exchange for the rejuvenated Spitfire shown today on February 10, 2023 Drive Your Triumph Day. The spirit lives on! Looking good.

Thanks to Bill and Evelyn for sharing your story!

NET Annual Dues Reminder

While speaking of dues; A nudge from the Treasurer/Membership Secretary that 2023 dues (\$20) are now payable.

Members can check their dues year on the website under Members Only, or email Rick at membership@newenglandtriumphs.org and I will reply.

Checks shall be payable to New England Triumphs and mailed to: New England Triumphs, P.O. Box 39, Grafton, MA 01519.

From the new bylaws:

Section 3. Annual membership dues are payable on January 1st each year. Dues shall be paid within 3 (three) months after January 1st. If not paid, the member shall be notified by email, telephone call or US postal mail that his or her membership privileges will be cancelled if not paid with 1 (one) month. Unpaid members shall be removed from the active membership list after that time.

NET on Drive your Triumph Day 2-10-23



Bob Totten



Rod Baker



Barry Mendes



Ken Stone



Bruce Pentinnen



Bill Lepere

Trivia Question Answer: Paul McCartney sang and wrote “The Long and Winding Road” at his getaway farm located on winding secondary road called B842 in Scotland. At the time of the writing, the Beatles were breaking up as a group. Paul described his relationship and tensions within the group as a “long winding road” in arguably the last Beatle song. Written in 1968

Tech Note: TR4 Door Check-Straps

Repairing Un-obtainable Early TR-4 Door Check-straps

A big issue with early TR-4s (up to CT22343) are the door check-straps and the fact they are a poor design and no longer sourced. They are important due to their number 1 purpose of keeping the door from hyper-extending and getting damaged, with a secondary purpose to slow the closing to keep from slamming or hitting the operator. The white paper located here on the NET website shows the purchase of piece parts that are readily available and the assembly of those parts to rebuild your existing straps for under \$80.

[TR4 Door Check Straps](#)

Thanks to Pete Groudas for the tech note contribution.

Welcome new members

David & Laurie Maldari	Leominster, MA	'72 Land Rover 88
Anthony Preece	Weymouth, MA	'69 TR6 (Royal Blue)
David Edson	Underhill Ctr, VT	'74 TR6 (Sienna Brown)
Joe & Kerrie Merone	S. Burlington, VT	'74 TR6 (red)
Robert & Loribel Furman	Brewster, MA	'80 TR7 V8 (Cardinal Red), '60 TR3B (Brooklands Green)
Kevin & Heidi Dean	Kensington, NH	'80 TR7 (orange)

The New England Triumph

Find us online:

Website: www.newenglandtriumphs.org

Calendar: www.newenglandtriumphs.org/calendar.html

Facebook: www.facebook.com/NewEnglandTriumphs

Club Officers

Henry Frye, President
Peter Quigley, Vice President
Rick Barnard, Secretary/Treasurer
Stan Foster, Chairman of the Board of Directors
John Gibbs, Board Member
Bob Lang, Board Member
Tim Hutchisen, Board Member and Ramble Coordinator
Ned Sparrow, Board Member

Membership/Dues Information:

New England Triumphs
P.O. Box 39
Grafton, MA. 01519

Membership dues are \$20 per calendar year, and are subject to change any time within the year. This covers expenses such as website hosting, production, and supplementation of some event costs.

See website for membership form, renewals or new membership

New England Triumphs is an official chapter of:

The Vintage Triumph Register (VTR), dedicated to the history, preservation, and enjoyment of Triumph automobiles. VTR welcomes all Triumph owners.

www.vtr.org

The Triumph Register of America (TRA), the only national U.S. organization devoted to the TR2-4A series. TRA was established to aid TR2-4A owners in the preservation, maintenance and enjoyment of their classic cars.

www.triumphregister.com

6-Pack, dedicated to the preservation and enjoyment of the TR6 and TR250.

www.6-pack.org

Another website group that is a great source of Triumph information is called Triumph Experience. www.triumphexp.com

Submissions:

All submissions except classifieds should go to the Editor duphilyl@gmail.com classifieds should go to the department listed above. We encourage our members to submit anything they feel might be of interest to club members. We will do our best to include all contributions within the limits of space, time, interest, and our abilities. If you have supporting photos, please submit them. Send electronic submissions via email to the Editor. If you would like to reproduce anything in this newsletter for another publication, please contact the Editor duphilyl@gmail.com. We ask only that you credit the author and this newsletter as the source.