

Volume 392

August 2023

THE RICHMOND TRIUMPH REGISTER



# THE SPOKES

A Monthly Publication of the Richmond, Virginia Chapter of The Vintage Triumph Register  
and a Triumph Register of America Local Center

[www.richmondtriumphregister.com](http://www.richmondtriumphregister.com)



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**Don't Miss The August  
10th RTR Meeting at  
Gary Kinney's Garage**

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## PRESIDENT'S GARAGE

By **Tim Thacker**  
RTR President



It was good to see so many RTR members at the Moss Car show on July 22nd. There was a great turnout and a really nice selection of British cars. After a week of searing heat and rain showers, Saturday ended up being cloudy with moderate temperatures, which made it a very pleasant day for a car show.

I was able to meet a couple of long time RTR members that I had never met before, the most interesting of which was Jamie Barnhart and his sombrero. Jamie, it was very nice to meet you after all these years!

Great time seeing everyone at the show. At the conclusion, some of the members got together for lunch at a local establishment.

Finally, I would like to put together a drive to a microbrewery or winery (with lunch) in the very near future. I would like some suggestions and if you would be interested! Email me at: [thackett@outlook.com](mailto:thackett@outlook.com).

Cheers, Tim

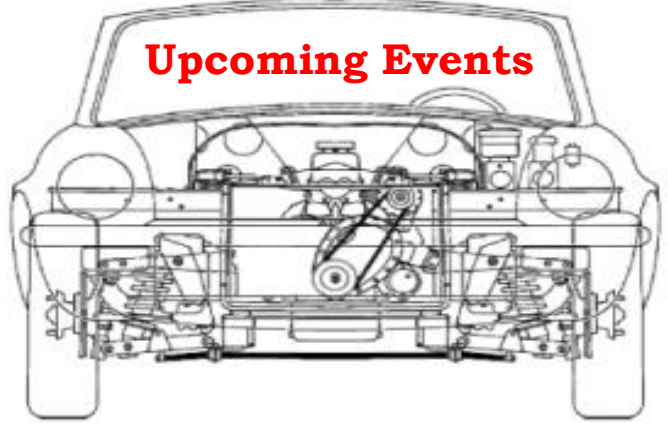
### On This Month's Cover

How many RTR members does it take to reassemble a Spitfire? The guys gather at Tim Thacker's garage on July 8th to work on Tim's 1978 Spitfire. Tim's carbs looked really pretty!

**Issue Photo Credits:** Tim Thacker, Gary Kinney.



### Upcoming Events



### RTR August Meeting Thursday, August 10th, 7 p.m. Tire Kicking Starts at 6:30 At Gary Kinney's Garage 10109 Hearthrock Ct.

RTR's August monthly meeting will be Thursday, August 10th in Gary Kinney's garage. Pizza and drinks will be available, and please bring a folding chair. There is plenty of room in the driveway and street for your British car or support vehicle. After a short business meeting, both Dean Tetterton and Gary will present an update on their work on behalf of the Vintage Triumph Register. They are cataloging and archiving the vast collection of Triumph documents, advertising, manuals, photos and promotional material collected by the late Mike Cook. Mike oversaw much of Triumph's (and later British Leyland's) public relations and advertising efforts in the United States. The Mike Cook archives are currently stored at the Moss Motors Petersburg warehouse in approximately 20 file cabinets.



Please let Glenn Larson ([glarson182@gmail.com](mailto:glarson182@gmail.com)) or Gary ([gkinney72@gmail.com](mailto:gkinney72@gmail.com)) know if you're attending so we have a head count for pizza.

Directions to Gary's House: 10109 Hearthrock Court, Henrico 23233. Gary lives in the Cedar Chase neighborhood, not far from Deep Run Park and the intersection of Ridgefield Parkway and Gaskins Road in Henrico County. From Gaskins, turn on to Ridgefield Parkway past the entrance to the park. Turn right on to Cox Road and follow it to Hearthrock Court. Turn right on Hearthrock. Gary's house is on the right.

## RTR at Gelati Celesti Friday, August 18th, 7 p.m. Stony Point Shopping Center on Huguenot Road

The last RTR ice cream gathering for this summer will take place Friday, August 18th. Drive your Triumph and join RTR for a scoop or two at Gelati Celesti in the “original” Stony Point Shopping Center at the intersection of Huguenot and Buford Roads (across Huguenot from Joe’s Inn Bon Air). Find out more at [www.gelatiicecream.com](http://www.gelatiicecream.com).

## RTR Breakfast Saturday, August 26th, 9 a.m. Joe’s Inn Bon Air

Our next RTR breakfast is Saturday, August 26th at Joe’s Inn, 2616 Buford Rd. in Bon Air. We hope you can join us! For information, contact Tim Thacker at (804) 502-3532.

**Please RSVP!**

## RTR Annual Picnic Sunday, Sept. 10th, 4 p.m. to ? At the Colemans 9314 Sentry Station Road Mechanicsville

It’s time again to get together for our annual picnic. Cely and I are looking forward to all of you joining us. As quickly as possible, I hope each of you will **RSVP by phone, email or text** so we can begin shopping and do our preparations for the picnic.

The club will provide all beverages including soft drinks, beer and wine, paper products, meat for hamburgers, hot dogs, and condiments for our annual potluck affair. We usually have about 30 people here, so keep this in mind when you prepare your food. We always need pastas, salads, and desserts and any other dishes you would like to share. We’d love to see you here with your Triumphs and we like you showing them off in our side yard. Bring a folding chair.



Jim & Cely Coleman  
804-569-9135 or [jimbyjove@comcast.net](mailto:jimbyjove@comcast.net).

**Spokes Editor’s Note:** The next Spokes will not be emailed until Sept 7th., as I will be out of town prior to that. Please RSVP Jim and Cely before you get the September Spokes, as they need a head count. G.L.

## Hunt Country Classic October 8, 2023 Willoughby Farm, Marshall VA

The MG Car Club of Washington D.C. will hold its 27th Annual Hunt Country Classic British Car Show on Sunday, October 8, 2023 (rain or shine) at the same location, Willoughby Farm, 7397 Frogtown Road, Marshall, VA. We expect to open pre-registration in the middle of August. For more information about the show, please visit our website: [mgcarclubdc.com](http://mgcarclubdc.com).



## More Triumphs on the Telly Dalgliesh

One of the fun things about watching British shows is to spot the cars, and occasionally seeing a Triumph. Adam Dalgliesh, a detective, drives an E-Type Jaguar in this 1970s-based murder mystery series. However, the more interesting thing is that the police cars are all Triumph Heralds. In addition to the Triumphs, I’ve spotted several Morris Minors and a Mini. It is a particularly good show, which is based in England, but is actually filmed in Northern Ireland.

Charlie Edmonson



## Moss Motors 75th Anniversary Cars and Coffee July 22nd By Gary Kinney

Moss Motors celebrated its 75th Anniversary at both its west coast location on April 2 and its east coast on July 22nd. The east coast location in Petersburg generated a great deal of interest with a large number of British classics and lots of Miatas. Enthusiasts traveled to the Moss Motors warehouse with an estimated 200 cars arriving around 9 a.m. Upon arriving, drivers were greeted by Moss staff and given a tote bag containing magazines, a coffee cup, a poster of a car marque that Moss supports and other swag. It was the first time in many months that enthusiasts were able to go inside the building since the covid shut down and the first time the showroom was open. Two Triumph's were on display amongst private owners' cars and those donated to the Jaguar Coventry Foundation. The staff at Moss had two spots open in their display room and wanted Triumphs. RTR member Don Tate's very rare black and red TR 250 and my TR8 appeared to filled those slots.

We really appreciated the opportunity to present our cars to all who attended. They generated a lot of interest amongst all the great looking cars on the show field.

Gary Kinney  
VP - Business Services, Vintage Triumph Register



See more Moss C&C pictures provided by CVBCC member Carla Waldren [here](#), and pictures I took [here](#).  
G.L.



RTR member Paul Billing's TR4A.



RTR members Bill and Linda Moore and Ken Simms enjoying the cool weather.



RTR members Paul Billings, Gary Kinney and Jamie Barnhardt in the Moss showroom.



Peter and Irene Churins's repainted 1972 TR6 at lunch after the Moss show.

## A New Triumph? By Glenn Larson

The British publication “Car” magazine recently posted this announcement [online](#) under the banner “Triumph Cars Returns With New TR25 Concept from Makkina.”

“After an almost 40-year hiatus, the Triumph badge has once again found itself on the nose of a new sports car, albeit under rather unusual circumstances. This is the Triumph TR25 concept. It's the work of the British design house [Makkina](#) – and its aim is to both celebrate Triumph's automotive centenary and pay homage to the record-breaking 1953 Triumph TR2”.

The article goes on to say “If you're a Triumph anorak (“geek,” to we Americans), you should probably stop reading now. That's because TR25 is built on a recycled BMW i3S platform which – shock, horror – means it's an electric car. There's a reasonable explanation for this, though. BMW has owned the rights to the Triumph badge since the 1990s and, when Makkina approached the company's executives with its plans for this new concept, they gave it the green light.”

While this design is kind of cool in a very 2023 way, I'm skeptical we'll ever see the Triumph marque re-introduced. Every few years we see a “new” Triumph proposed, but none, as of yet have come to fruition. If we ever do get one, I expect it will be electric and not made in the UK, but China, the now home of [MG](#).



## A Stag's Progress, Part VII: Gearbox Woes By Glenn Larson

*"It's the not the destination, It's the journey."  
Ralph Waldo Emerson*

I love working on old cars, so I'm really enjoying my Stag restoration journey, but boy, it's taking much longer than I anticipated. When I bought the car in November 2021, I was hoping to have it on the road in a couple of months. Well, it's a Triumph, so getting it road worthy has naturally taken a little longer than that. As reported in the May Spokes, our son Andrew and I, with a little help from our friends, re-installed the Stag's engine and attached gearbox. So far so good. Then Sue and I were off to Alaska for a few weeks, followed by a trip to Ohio to visit family, so not much happened with the car the rest of May and June. Once settled back in at home, I ventured back into my garage, and discovered that my gearbox was locked up. Ugh!

Over the last 18 months, while my focus has been on the Stag's engine, the gearbox has not been neglected. As reported in the April Spokes, when we removed the engine and gearbox in the spring of 2021, RTR resident Stag whisperer Dean Tetterton and I checked the gears, which looked good. This spring I also replaced both the rear and front oil seals, as well as the clutch and throw out bearing (of course). Upon inspection of the clutch cross shaft, I realized it had been previously badly repaired with no replacement bushings! New bushings, cross shaft and a fork pin were also installed. Everything looked good, so the gearbox top, which houses the shifter rails and shifting mechanism, went back on.

Putting an engine and gearbox back into a Stag is a scary procedure. To get the angle right, the attached unit literally briefly hangs vertically over the engine bay so the gearbox can then be eased from under-



*Not my Stag, but you get the idea.*

neath into place. So why was the gearbox locked up when everything was back where it belonged? I first thought the throw out bearing had slipped off the fork when the gearbox was vertical, keeping the gears from engaging properly. I managed to ease the gearbox housing away from the engine plate enough to check with my borescope, but I could not



see anything wrong. I was frustrated, but relieved to determine though my online research that I could remove



the gearbox without removing the engine, so out it came. (Tech tip: my new Harbor Freight transmission jack made the job a lot easier.)

Those of you who attended the July 13th RTR meeting at my garage know the story so far. With the gearbox sitting on my work bench, I described in detail my strategy to get the gearbox back in the Stag without the throw out bearing slipping again (zip



# THE SPOKES

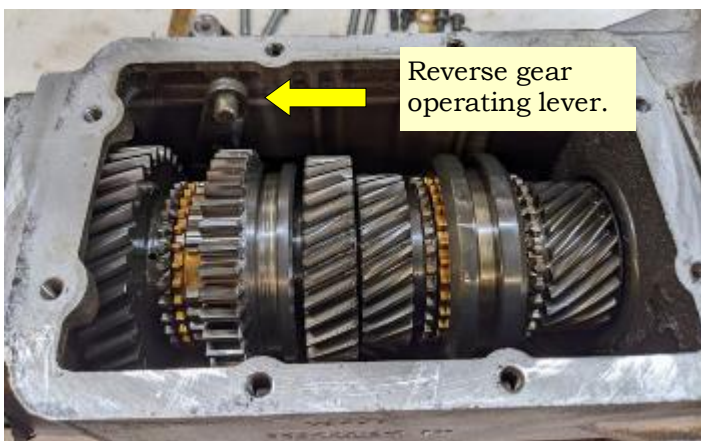
ties!). During Dean's excellent tech session on gearbox repair and restoration, he briefly noted how even the slightest misalignment of the gears will re-



sult in catastrophe. Foreshadowing! I should have paid more attention...

With new, albeit too narrowly focused determination, I reinstalled the gearbox over the July 4th weekend. It's a pain in the a\*\* to do, as there are 15 bolts securing the gearbox bell housing to the engine plate. I was about 90 percent done securing all the bolts and making sure the gearbox main shaft was aligned properly when I realized the shifter was still locked up! What? It shifted when the gearbox was on my workbench a few days before. So out the gearbox came once again. Double ugh!

By this time I knew it wasn't the throw out bearing causing the problem. I unbolted the top cover, and it was apparent that the shifting rods were jammed. Dean came by to take a look, and noted that reverse and second gear were trying to engage at the same time. Not a good thing! He thought the solution was to replace the shifting mechanism's bearings and bushings, so he took the cover assembly back to his garage and subsequently rebuilt it last week. When Dean brought me the rebuilt cover a few days ago, he gave me detailed instructions on how to reinstall it. In addition to the rebuild, he said it is critical



that the reverse operating lever coming down from the shifting housing be properly seated in the reverse gear operating lever slot. I reinstalled the gearbox cover yesterday, and all the gears now shift perfectly, at least while the gearbox is on my work bench. I apparently didn't get it slotted correctly the first two times. I hope to reinstall the gearbox for the third time, and hopefully last, this week. Fingers crossed!

So what's next for the Stag? Because it's a Triumph, fixing one thing leads to another. When I pulled the gearbox, I had to also pull the driveshaft, so it's now getting new u-joints. With the drivetrain back in place, I hope to move on to install my new radiator and hoses soon, along with the my rebuilt carbs. I still need to sort all the electric stuff. Because the battery has never been connected, I have no idea whether anything electrical on the car actually works. Who knows what fun lies ahead? Stay tuned!



*Hopefully this young man had better luck with his gearbox than I have. Thanks to Ray McCaskey for providing this photo.*

## All Spokes Issues Back to January 2021 Now Available on the RTR Website

*All 2023, 2022 and 2021 issues of The Spokes are now posted on the [RTR website members page](#). I posted 2021 this week, and hope to add 2020 and 2019 soon. G.L.*

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## CLASSIC-FIEDS

Classic-Fied ads are FREE for any paid member of the Richmond Triumph Register. Please check your ads and notify the Spokes editor of changes or ads to be removed. Sell most anything within reason. Ads are run for two months unless canceled.

**For Sale:** I'm parting out my 1974 TR6. I also have a black tonneau cover and a mallard boot for sale. All prices are negotiable. If you need any parts or assemblies please email or call. Bruce Vaden. shelleyv8@comcast.net. 804-330-2487.



**For Sale:** 185 X 15 Michelin Red lines, great for spares. \$15 each. Contact Tyler at 804-839-6441 or Tylerh@fordthomas.com.

**For Sale:** TR6 wheels, tires and beauty rings (set of four): \$400. Extra set of beauty rings, new in the box: \$30. Call or email Bennie at 804 339-1214 and email or minibeans@comcast.net. Located in Mechanicsville, VA.



**Wanted:** I'm still looking for a working windshield wiper switch or help to repair mine for my 1973 TR6. Bill Moore. bill.mysonnm@gmail.com.

## Welcome New RTR Members

Michael and Polly Fatsi  
1921 Oakengate Lane, Midlothian, VA 23113  
804-432-4109  
mdfatsi@comcast.net.  
1974 TR6, 1980 TR8, 1972 Stag,  
1954 Swallow Doretta

Richard and Amanda Murphy  
203 Hillwood Avenue, Richmond, VA 23226  
804-512-3483  
richardmurphy1@gmail.com.  
1972 TR6

Scott and Sarah Krzastek  
13231 Behetra Drive, Midlothian, VA 23113  
skrzastek@yahoo.com.  
540-649-1359  
1964 TR4



*Michael Fatsi's 1972 Stag at RTR's June Ice Cream Run.*



*Tom and Robin Hillman's 1976 Spitfire at RTR's July Ice Cream Run.*





## THE SPOKES

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804/350-6820

The Spokes welcomes any submitted material for publication. However, neither its editors nor the RTR accepts responsibility for the accuracy of article content or safety problems resulting from suggested modifications. Articles may be submitted in person, by mail, or by email; material submitted by email is encouraged. If any material must be returned, please include a self-addressed envelope of appropriate size with sufficient postage.

**VTR 2023 Dillard, GA**

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by design

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**VTR NATIONAL CONVENTION 2023**  
HOSTED BY: THE GEORGIA TRIUMPH ASSOCIATION  
THE BRITISH AUTO OWNERS GROUP  
SEPTEMBER 28 - OCTOBER 1ST 2023

VISIT [VTR2023.ORG](http://VTR2023.ORG) FOR DETAILS AND REGISTRATION

## RTR 2023 Officers

<b>President</b>	Tim Thacker	(804) 502-3532	thackett@outlook.com
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<b>Activities</b>	Ken Nachman	(804) 840-1441	Kennachman@comcast.net
<b>Car Club Council Rep.</b>	Jamie Walker	(804) 350-8941	greenspit79@gmail.com
<b>Past President</b>	Bruce Vaden	(804) 330-2487	shelleyv8@comcast.net
<b>Webmaster</b>	Ken Simms	(804) 516-6052	ken.simms56@gmail.com

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### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

If you know of an event, or have an idea for one that might be of interest to our members, contact us with details (or rumors). Please use the contact to confirm event status before making any trips. RTR sponsored events are in yellow.

Month	Date	Event	Day	Contact	Phone
Aug.	10	RTR Monthly Meeting - Gary Kinney's House- 7 p.m.	THURSDAY	Gary Kinney	804-334-2605
	18	RTR at Gelati Celesti, Huguenot Road - 7 p.m.	FRIDAY	Tim Thacker	804-502-3532
	26	RTR Breakfast - Joe's Inn Bon Air - 9 a.m.	SATURDAY	Tim Thacker	804-502-3532
Sept.	10	RTR Picnic at the Colemans - 4 p.m.	SUNDAY	Jim Coleman	804-569-9135
	21-24	Six Pack Trials, Indiana, PA	THU-SUN	<a href="http://www.6-pack.org">www.6-pack.org</a>	
	23	RTR Breakfast - Joe's Inn Bon Air - 9 a.m.	SATURDAY	Tim Thacker	804-502-3532
	27	CVBCC Mini Show - Brandermill	WEDNESDAY		
	28-1	VTR National Convention, Dillard, GA	MON-THUR	<a href="https://www.vtr2022.org/">https://www.vtr2022.org/</a>	
	30	Wings, Wheels and Keels - Topping, VA - 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.	SATURDAY	<a href="http://www.wingswheelskeels.com/">http://www.wingswheelskeels.com/</a>	
Oct.	3-6	Hershey AACA Fall Nationals	TUE-FRIDAY	<a href="http://hershey.aaca.com/eastern-division-fall-meet/">http://hershey.aaca.com/eastern-division-fall-meet/</a>	
	5-8	SVRA SpeedTour & Trans-Am, Virginia International Raceway	SUNDAY	<a href="http://vimow.com/">http://vimow.com/</a>	
	7	SVBCC British Car Festival - Waynesboro, VA	SATURDAY	<a href="http://www.svbcc.net">www.svbcc.net</a>	
	8	Hunt Country Classic - Middleburg, VA	SUNDAY	<a href="http://www.mgcarclubdc.com">www.mgcarclubdc.com</a>	
	12	RTR Monthly Meeting - David Renn's House - 7 p.m.	THURSDAY	Tim Thacker	804-502-3532
	21	RTR Breakfast - Joe's Inn Bon Air - 9 a.m.	SATURDAY	Tim Thacker	804-502-3532