



Triumph TRumpeter

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF
THE DESERT CENTRE - TRIUMPH REGISTER of AMERICA
PROMOTING TRIUMPHS AROUND THE WORLD WITH OUR
SISTER CLUB,
THE ISLE OF WIGHT TRIUMPH CLUB, U.K

September 2006

VOL. 27 Issue 7

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COMING EVENTS

**CLUB MEETING:
SEPT. 12TH - 7:00 PM**

**EL ZARIBAH SHRINE
552 NORTH 40TH ST.
PHOENIX, AZ**

**COME EARLY-
HAVE DINNER-
SUPPORT OUR
BENEFACTORS!**



The Prez Sez

Alas, September is nigh upon us and it seems like the new month is here too soon prompting me so submit something sooner than I am accustomed to (meaning in a timely manner). I really shouldn't complain about the time passing too fast, what with this being the 'dog days' of summer in Arizona, a time not really conducive to the enjoyment of old Triumphs! It won't be long 'til the evenings actually cool and the morning commute requires a light jacket. I know how quickly we forget the seasons for I remember hearing people complaining about the cold, pining for warmer weather after a chilly top-down drive!

Speaking of drives, have made your reservations and sent off your registrations for Triumphest '06? Rooms are in short supply and registration fee goes up if you wait too long. I'm thinking of touring up to Buelton with the San Diego Triumph club (TSCCSD) so Debbie and I can combine a quick visit to friends and family earlier in the week. We both have the week off and figure a few days in San Diego might be relaxing, since the return trip from Buelton (on Sunday) will be a punishing dash home for a return to work Monday morning!

Those of us who made it over to Deta's for the pot luck/pool party had a great time. I suspect some embarrassing photos will find their way into the newsletter.





CLUB OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Stu Lasswell 480-786-0116
V.P. & Events: Dave Riddle 480-610-8232
Secretary: Deta Hampsch 623-434-1999
Treasurer: John Reynolds 480-968-6078
Newsletter: Deb Tobiasson 480-361-1345
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Historians: Mike & Joyce Bayne 602-938-1282
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AAHC Rep: John Horton 602-843-1399
EDITOR'S E-MAIL: debgrace@cox.net
DCTRA WEB SITE: <http://www.dctra.org>

Meetings are held on the
Second Tuesday of each month.

Dues are \$18.00 per year.

For membership information,
contact Marty Clark at 480-962-7848.

Permission to reproduce anything in this newsletter is
granted provided proper credit is given.

CONTRIBUTORS

We would like to encourage every member to help with
newsletter submissions. We welcome all TR stories,
articles, and photos. Best Regards and thank you to
the following Contributors and Advertisers
who support our current newsletter:

Delta Motorsports, F1 Race Factory, Inc., Deta
Hampsch, Marty Clark, Import Car Parts, Stu
Lasswell, MicroWorks Computer Networking and
Maintenance, Moss Motors, Ltd., The Phoenix Flower
Shop, Dave Riddle, The Roadster Factory, Arthur
Wallis, Craig Kenyon, Jim Bauder and
anyone else we missed.

The effort of John Horton and his crack(ed)
team of mechanics were unable to complete
the work on Deta's TR7, but we are told (once

again) that "just
a few hours
work" will have
it up and
running! Be
sure to check
the schedule of
events in this
issue to find out
what we're up
to and be a
part of it.



By the way, Club member Bill Close went in
for knee replacement surgery on Aug. 28, and
from what I understand this means a couple of
months of recuperation and therapy. This also
means not driving anything with a clutch pedal
for quite a while, and I suspect that might be
the most painful part! Anyway, we wish Bill the
best, and a fast and complete recovery.

Now, get out there and drive your Triumph!

Stu Lasswell

SPLASH, SPLASH!! POTLUCK & POOL PARTY





The Pot Luck, Sausage & Pool Party at Deta's was well attended and we all enjoyed a variety of good food, the spa and pool.

Special thanks to our hostess Deta and her daughter Cindi for taking such good care of us all.

Good Food!



AUGUST MEETING MINUTES

The meeting opened with 21 present at El Zaribah Shriners with Stu Lasswell presiding. The Secretary Report was accepted as printed. Our Treasurer was out of town (meeting in Los Vegas), but left word that we had money (he swore he could double it for us!!). Our visitors included **Dan Kroy** from Gilbert who is rebuilding a TR3 and **Jim Medlin** from Delta Motor Sports.

Upcoming activities are the Breakfast Run and a Swim Party & Pot Luck at Deta's house. We are expecting the work party to finish Deta's car this coming Saturday at John Horton's house.

There is a charity car show in Mesa on September 16 for the AZ Humane Society. Vintage Voyage will take place this year on October 14-15.

John Horton reported from the ADEQ meeting that car legislature is still in process. Look for details of the meeting in upcoming email.

Membership Chairman, Marty Clark, reported that Triumphest 2007 will schedule meetings monthly now. A few names have been suggested as potential speakers, such as previous or current race car drivers.

Kathy Nuss will see that the club business cards are ordered.

Technical Talk - John Nuss discussed an electrical problem with his Spitfire.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

~ Happy Motoring ~ **Deta Hampsch**



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 2nd

1st Saturday British Car Night

This is when we try to get as many LBCs at the weekly car cruise-in at the KMart at Power & Hampton in East Mesa. Last week the attendance started to pick again as it's getting a tad cooler. Call Shirley Blahak if you plan on attending. She'll reserve a spot for you. Weather permitting we hope to see you there. Time: 6:00 pm.

September 10th — Breakfast Run

Meet at 32nd St / Shea Blvd at 7:00 am to leave at 7:30 am. This will be the last early start. In October we will revert to 'winter' hours ~ meet at 7:30 am and leave at 8:00 am. The October run will be arranged for us by the AZMG Club on **October 22nd**.

September 16th is the **Annual Humane Society Charity Car Show** held at Mesa Marketplace. Anything on wheels is welcome, we've had everything from 3 wheeled 'choppers' and quarter midget race cars to RC cars and Tonka trucks. Start now collecting donations and bring your pride and joy out to help raise money for our four footed furry friends. **Request Entry Form from DebGrace or Dave Riddle**

September 16th - 17th — 23rd Annual Colorado English Motoring Conclave, Arvada, Colorado. The Ride the Rockies Tour and Conclave car show are not to be missed. On Saturday, tour Colorado during the fall—blue skies, warm days, and golden aspen covering the mountainsides. At the Sunday Conclave, you can vote by marque for the best of the 600 British cars, trucks, and motorcycles, spread across the green lawn of the park, while picnicking in the shade of century-old cottonwood trees and listening to a Highland pipe band. Web address: www.ColoradoConclave.com.

October 4th (Wednesday)

20th birthday of the Arizona Mini Owners club. All members, past and present are invited to join them for a celebration dinner at the Home Town Buffet on Scottsdale Road just south of McDowell. Gather at 6:30 pm to enjoy a buffet dinner in our own room. **RSVP** to 480-985-2531

October 14 & 15th

Vintage Voyage


8th annual British Vintage Voyage - Drive up north to sample wines of the Granite Creek Winery in Chino Valley. Sunday visit the newly re-located Out of Africa Wildlife Park after spending the night in Camp Verde. **Request Entry Form from DebGrace or Dave Riddle**. Please note the deadline dates of both the entry form and the hotel reservations. If you don't drink wine you are still welcome to join us, several of our regular Voyagers do not partake so you won't feel alone.

October 19th - 22nd

Triumphfest 2006

Hosted by the TRSC (Triumph Register of Southern California) This is the 25th anniversary of the largest West Coast gathering of Triumph automobiles. It is being held at the beautiful Santa Ynez Valley Marriott, Buellton, California.

<http://www.socaltriumphs.org>



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(Cont.)

October 29th

All British Car Day

Hosted by the MG Club

**November 4th 8:00 a.m. - NOON
ALL EUROPEAN CAR SHOW AND
VETERANS FUND RAISER**

Proceeds go to the American Legion and Auxiliary VA Hospital support programs. This is held in conjunction with the Big American Legion Annual Swap Meet at Tucson Estates. Get the registration forms from

<http://www.tucsonestates.com>

FRIDAY EVENING CRUISE-IN

- Alma School & Warner, Chandler.
- Lindsay & Warner (on the East side of the Albertson's Parking lot), Gilbert, 5-? PM depending on the weather.
- The last Wednesday night cruise at Gilbert Town Square has been moved to the new shopping center on Val Vista at Baseline in Mesa.

- Hills, 43rd Street & Union Hills, Phoenix

SATURDAY EVENING CRUISE-IN

- **Wendy's**, Superstition Springs Mall, Power & Hampton, East Mesa, 4-? PM depending on the weather. First Saturday of every month is for British cars. If you are coming let me know so we can hold spaces and all park together.

shirley@azwildblue.com or 480-985-2531

- The Pavilions (**McDonald's**), Indian Bend Rd. between Pima Freeway and Pima Road, Scottsdale. 4-10 PM, 602-443-0800

- **Chuy's**, Arizona Avenue & Warner

- **Dairy Queen**, 108th Avenue & Grand, Sun City. 4-8 PM. 623-977-3303

- **5 and Diner**, 906 N. 56th Street, I-10 & Ray, Chandler. 5-9 PM, 480-753-1114

- **Shoney's**, 59th St. & Bell, Phoenix. 602-948-0719, 623-561-1971

- **Sonic**, 33rd Ave. & Bethany Home Rd.



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DCTRA 2006 Membership Application & Renewal Form

MEMBER INFO:

Name: _____ Spouse: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Other (Work/Cell) Phone: _____

E-Mail (needed for newsletter): _____

AUTO INFO:

Make: _____ Model: _____ Commission# _____

Make: _____ Model: _____ Commission# _____

Make: _____ Model: _____ Commission# _____

Length of Membership Requested (New memberships are prorated at \$1.50 per Month)

☐ ONE year \$18.00 ☐ TWO year \$34.00 ☐ THREE year \$50.00

I Would Like to Receive the Newsletter Via: ☐ E-Mail ☐ US Mail

Comments/Suggestions:

*Return completed form to John Reynolds
Treasurer, 806 E. Campus, Tempe, AZ 85282*



Drawing by Paul Metcalf

JUST A NOTE

My TR's progress... [email from Paul MacAfee Motors]

"All goes well on the TR! I'll write you a detailed progress report tomorrow as I've had several glasses of wine already. The oil pan is on, the head is back on, a multitude of little things have been fixed, and I'm really pumped about the car. I'll need about another week and I hope that's ok with you. Tomorrow I'll get all of the 'accessories' back on the engine block (coil, distributor, etc) except for the intake and exhaust manifold. I'll get the valves adjusted and the engine timed, and I'll start on the carburetors. The fuel pump will get rebuilt too. The exhaust manifold has not arrived yet. I expect it to arrive on Monday or Tuesday.

The lilac head is starting to grow on me. I think I'll paint the intake the same color too. It should look pretty cool.

I purchased all new studs for the valve train and manifolds, and everything looks brand new. I painted the oil canister (that holds the oil filter, located on the engine) hammertone green, which was correct for TR3's and 4's. I repaired the wiring going to the alternator as it was frayed and almost separated.

After the carburetors are done, the rest will go pretty quick. I (think I) adjusted the clutch slave cylinder correctly today while I was laying under the car putting the 3000 bolts on the oil pan. The clutch should engage a little smoother now. I'll know more after the

test drive. Hopefully the leaks will be reduced.

Also, I found several holes in your oil strainer that's located inside the oil pan, bolted on to the oil pump. Holes tend to form in the wire mesh where it touches the oil pan. It's happened to every TR I've ever done. I was able to solder the holes shut with my soldering iron. No large particles will be able to get into your engine now. Hurrah.

Well, on second thought, maybe I won't send a more detailed report tomorrow, as this one is relatively thorough. Please feel free to come visit the TR the is weekend if you and your hubby are out and about. Just call first to make sure we're home. We have no major plans. I will send you one more note regarding tomorrow's progress. I hope that your truck is not damaged! Hope your first week of work went well! Best Regards, Paul"

Yup - It's a 'Girly-Girl' car. DebGrace



ENGLAND ~ CAR SHOW ~

["My most heartfelt thanks to John Horton for his patience and help!!!"]

By Craig Kenyon, Phoenix, AZ

2500+

A TR250/6 with 0.040 oversize pistons? No, the number of TR's attending the TR Register International Weekend in lovely Malvern. I was met by the very cheery and hospitable Chris Cunnington, General Manager TR Register and all round go to guy for the International Weekend. I remarked to Chris that there were less than a handful of Spitfires, GT6's and Vitesses total on the grounds. He laughed and said "This is the **TR Register**, but we invite a less represented marque each year. Last year the Morgan clubs were invited, this year we invited the Peerless and Warwick groups. " These are lovely 2 door four-seat coupes on a TR chassis.



HERE THE GROUP IS ON DISPLAY AT STAGE CENTER

Chris was so amused that I had come all the way from the US, he walked me up to stage center for a quick interview by the Master of Ceremonies. "I understand you came from the states to attend?" Yes, I came from Phoenix, Arizona. "Are you familiar at all with Triumph's?" Well, yes, I've owned a TR6 since 1982..."

Then the highlight of the day came!! Chris asked if I would like to parade the fairgrounds in a 15-car procession. Of course! I was quickly met by Ian Anders, the affable and gregarious Chairman of the TR Register.



He showed us to our chariot, the lead car! He said all you need to do is wave to the crowd (I think I can handle that).

GETTING QUEUED UP AT STAGE CENTER FOR THE PARADE

At first, I thought it was a very very nice crème TR2 but I was very mistaken. The car turned out to be owned by the TR Register and is the right hand drive TR prototype, TS2. The only one. As a reflection of the spirit of the Register, Ian said that all the principals have keys to the car and it is expected to be driven to various events. Note the battered rally plate on the left front. No hangar queen there.



THE WONDERFUL IAN ANDERS AND TS2



TS2 BACK INSIDE THE MAIN HALL

Ian and I cruised the whole TriCounty fairgrounds, smack full of tents. We went honking the horn and waving past the reviewing area down to the “noisy campground” to the “very noisy campground” and then looped around and eventually arriving back at the start. There were thousands of tents, caravans and little pull behind trailers (like oversized motorcycle trailers).

It seemed that a majority of the TR's in attendance had *Trailer Hitches!!*



SOME EVEN HAD MATCHING TRAILERS

The event had several large halls for activities, a reminder of the fickle British weather. The main hall features the TR Register, a couple specialty cars and too many vendors to count. Another hall had a flea market; I saw several used TR6 chassis' for sale, one with a large sign "From California". The last hall held the Concours. One notable winner was an absolutely pristine Italia in green. What a lovely design exercise on the TR chassis.



BLOODY MOLTO BENE!

In the mid-afternoon a 'call to all cars' was held and just about everyone lined up for display. Rows and rows of TR's by model. **HERE IS A STREAMLINED TR2.**



There were several two tone TR3's on the grounds - **THIS ONE IN MOTION**



The choices for photos were endless but an interesting TR4 caught my eye - **PERFECT FOR INCLEMENT COMMUTING.**



**A PAIR OF SIXPOTS, MOST SIX CYLINDER CARS HAD THE LUCAS PI.
THIS IS GOOD FOR ANOTHER 50 HP OR SO.**



A RALLY TR7



**THERE WERE A FEW NON-
TR'S IN ATTENDANCE, BUT
WHO CAN RESIST A
PURPLE GT6!**

CLASSIC-FIED ADS

Trumpeter Classic-fied ads are free to members and will run for three issues, unless extended by the advertiser. (That's why you see a date at the end of each ad). If you sell your item, let us know and we will remove the ad from the next issue. Otherwise, it will automatically disappear after the third consecutive printing.

SERVICE: I am willing to put together an Excel worksheet of all the odd tools people have that they are willing to lend out. Please email me at: kenyonsmiracle@juno.com with tool, contact information and rules of engagement for use. Craig (02/06)

For Sale: 1960 Triumph TR3-A. Serious body rust. Floors are gone. Lots of good parts. Temperature, Fuel, and AMP gauges rebuilt this month at MO-MA in Albuquerque, NM. New tires. Most parts rebuilt in very good condition. Ran last year. Call Dan at 480-634-5542 (08/06)

FOR SALE: I have completed a deal for a Bridgeport mill. I need to sell the Enco mill. It comes with some collets and cutters, The vise is not included. They are available on Ebay for less than \$100.00. I need \$1,000 for it. It is in excellent working condition. It is not too heavy and can moved on a car trailer. John Horton (602) 843-1399 (07/06)

TRIUMPHEST 2006

This site has all the info. you need to register for Triumphest 2006!

www.triumphest2006.com

If you have any questions regarding registration, please contact the Triumphest Registrar, David Patience at triumphest2006@adelphia.net

Updates can be found in "What's New" section of the Triumphest 2006 web site.

Registrations postmarked after September 1st will be charged the higher rate of \$75. This is also the deadline to pre-order regalia.

The primary hotel for Triumphest 2006 is now sold out, but there are many charming smaller hotels in the area, especially in the town of Solvang.



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TRIUMPH 2006



Presenting the 25th Anniversary of the largest west coast gathering of Triumph automobiles.

Thursday, October 19th – Sunday, October 22nd 2006
Held at the beautiful Santa Ynez Valley Marriott, Buellton, Ca.



25 years ago 10 TR3A's, 7 from the Desert Center Triumph Register of America ([DCTRA](#)), and 3 from the Triumph Register of Southern California ([TRSC](#)) met in Lake Havasu for the first Triumphest. This event has grown to include approximately 175 cars from five Western US Triumph clubs.

We welcome Triumph enthusiasts and car buffs to join the Triumph Register of Southern California October 20th through October 22nd, 2006 as they present the 25th Anniversary of Triumphest to be held at the [Santa Ynez Valley Marriott](#), 555 McMurray Rd, Buellton, Ca. 93427 (See the Triumphest 2006 discount rate information below.)

Among the many activities planned are:

- *A car show on the hotel grounds on Saturday, October 21st, 8AM – 11AM, where you can see extraordinary Triumph cars ranging from cars that are ready to be restored, in original condition, to fully restored and everything in between.*
- *A hospitality party.*
- *Tours of Central Coast wineries.*
- *Road rallies.*
- *Imaginative car competitions.*
- *Guest speakers.*
- *Technical sessions.*
- *An awards banquet and more*

The special event room rate is \$109 per night when the DISCOUNT CODE “Triumphest Fall” is used when registering. Marriott's Internet reservation system will not recognize the code word, so we recommend you call the hotel directly at 1 800 638 8882, or 805 688 1000 to make the reservation. The registration must be made on or before September 19th, 2006 to receive the special event rates. The only code restriction is a 48 hour advance notice for cancellation, otherwise the first night was billed to the credit card.

Contact the TRSC Triumphest Registrar

David Patience at

Triumphest2006@alephia.net

<http://www.triumphest2006.com/DesktopDefault.aspx>

TECH INFO

Spark Plug Overview

Taken from the Champion Spark Plug web site

PART 1 of 2

Spark plugs are one of the most misunderstood components of an engine. Numerous questions have surfaced over the years, leaving many people confused.

This guide is designed to assist the technician, hobbyist, or race mechanics in understanding, using, and troubleshooting spark plugs. The information contained in this guide applies to all types of internal combustion engines.

Spark plugs are the “window” into the engine, and can be used as a valuable diagnostic tool. Like a patient’s thermometer, the spark plug displays symptoms and conditions of the engine. The experienced tuner can analyze these symptoms to track down the root cause of many problems, or determine air/fuel ratios.

SPARK PLUG BASICS

The spark plug has two primary functions:

- Ignite air/fuel mixture
- Transfer heat from the combustion chamber

Spark plugs carry electrical energy and turn fuel into working energy. A sufficient amount of voltage must be supplied by the ignition system to spark across the spark plug’s gap. This is called “Electrical Performance.”

The temperature of the spark plug’s firing end must be kept low enough to prevent pre-ignition, but high enough to prevent fouling. This is called “Thermal Performance”, and is

determined by the heat range selected.

It’s important to remember spark plugs do not create heat, they only remove heat. The spark plug works as a heat exchanger

by pulling unwanted thermal energy away from the combustion chamber, and transferring the heat to the engine’s cooling

system. The heat range is defined as a plug’s ability to dissipate heat.

TECH INFO CONTINUED

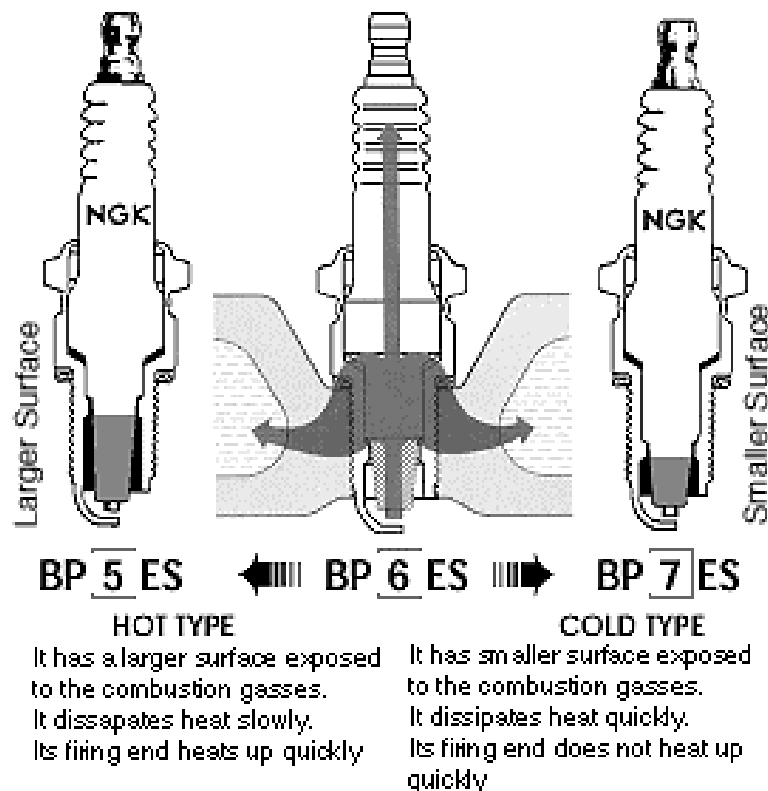
(Special Thanks to Jim Bauder)

The rate of heat transfer is determined by:

- The insulator nose length
- Gas volume around the insulator nose
- The materials/construction of the center electrode and porcelain insulator

A spark plug's heat range has no relationship to the actual voltage transferred through the spark plug. Rather, the heat range is a measure of the spark plug's ability to remove heat from the combustion chamber. The heat range measurement is determined by several factors; the length of the ceramic center insulator nose and its' ability to absorb and transfer combustion heat, the material composition of the insulator and center electrode material.

Heat rating and heat flow path of NGK Spark Plugs



Next Issue -- PART 2 of 2 -- The Insulator Nose Length

TR3 TR4 TR4A TR250

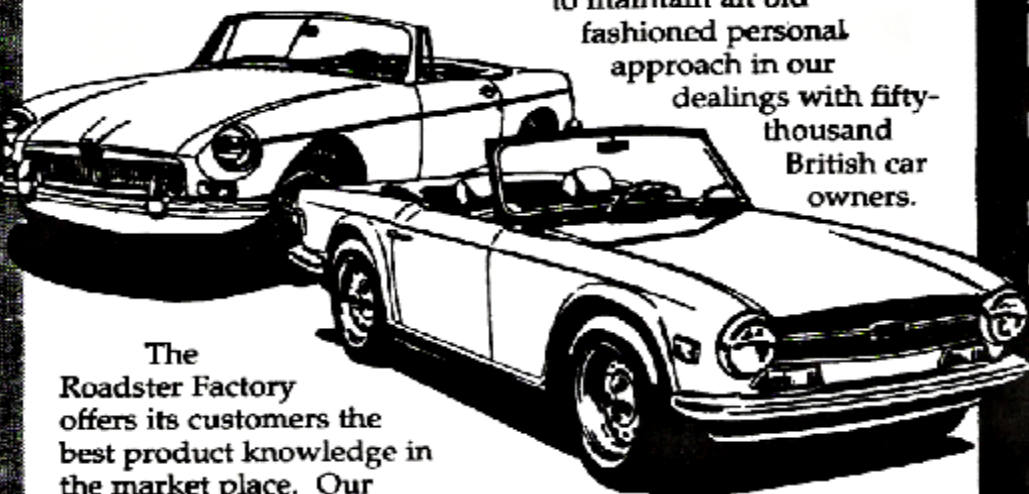
TR6 TR7 TR8

SPLITFIRE I-IV 1500 GT6

The Roadster Factory

The Roadster Factory is the small but powerful British parts company in Western Pennsylvania. Small in size but powerful in customer service. Small in size but big on product knowledge. Small in size but the biggest manufacturer of replacement parts for Triumph models. Small in size but big on enthusiasm for British roadsters, our little company is able

to maintain an old-fashioned personal approach in our dealings with fifty-thousand British car owners.



The Roadster Factory offers its customers the best product knowledge in the market place. Our salespeople answer questions about parts, and they can do part number research. Our technical research representative knows most models well to the nut-and-bolt level, and he is an experienced mechanic and body man. Our Customer Service is helpful. Our shipping is fast, safe, and virtually error free. We ship most orders today, and we offer very inexpensive two-day and three-day delivery. Our business goal is simply to offer the best possible service to British car enthusiasts



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