



COTSWOLD VALE TR **NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2018**

The weather is still a bit on the chilly and wet side for too much TRaditional event activity this month, but that is not to say there were not plenty of activities happening to fuel our enthusiasm for classic cars. The first of these events was a classic long distance rally event, featuring active participation by CVTR member, Dave Roberts, who was spannering for his brother on the Rallye Monte Carlo Historique, see below.

This was followed by the Stoneleigh MG & Triumph Spares Day – more of a social event in today's happenings, with people buying on line from the suppliers and that well known auction site, no waiting for shows to find parts these days (we are lucky to have choices with such a strong network of suppliers for TRs!)

This was followed by the TRaditional CVTR Sunday Lunch, again see below, and anything else I could scrape together to keep members informed.

There is an update, towards the end of this newsletter, on the feedback requested on alternative CVTR events, so you might get a good indication of the other activities planned, early in proceedings, for 2018.

That's it for the introductions this month, you can either read on, or skip to future events if you wish to keep up to date with our local group happenings.....

February 1st – see Classic Monte passage control Banbury



Well it was sunny and dry when we set out for Banbury taking a lovely scenic run through Chipping Campden, Shipston and into Banbury via the country roads. No problem finding the venue for the passage control as it was situated on the entrance to the car park I was intending to use - needless to say permission to enter the passage control was denied..... A quick detour to a multi storey car park nearby and we were soon ready for our elevenses, and with Cafe Nero in front of us what else were we to do?

Guess who was the first person we bumped into.....????



fellow CVTR member Mike Hill

Mike certainly knows how to treat the family as it was his daughter's birthday, what better to treat her (and Sue) than a cold day in February stood outside looking at rally cars?

Anyway, suitably warmed up and replete we wandered out to the passage control to find Dave Roberts, and to look for TR's and other friendly faces.....and any interesting photographs.....

The first TR we saw was Gareth's - aptly lined up at the front of the MG club display.....result!



You will notice in the background, another red TR4A.....



Nearby we came across Peter Lockley and his lovely Dorretti



There were also examples of other absent CVTR members favourite cars:-



drool on Richard Durrant and Andy Canning.

There were also some lovely examples of Triumphs heritage, both on display and entered in the event:-



Like this Dolomite



and this 1934 Triumph Monte Carlo – based on a Gloria Chassis with a Coventry Climax engine (top down all the way!)

One of my favourite cars was this Ford Popular



“car prepared by Dave in a shed”

this car has completed two Lejog and one Monte previously and has raised £’000’s for charity, combined age of car and crew 198 years!

As we made our way around all the entrants and show cars, we happened across Mick Parry who was there with camera looking for some great images he could share with his camera club buddies.

It wasn’t very long before we met up with Dave (and Sally Roberts), standing by his brother’s Fiat 124, just before leaving to head off to the next control (or breakdown, whichever came first)



Dave and Sally are in the background whilst brother John poses (by request) by the side of his Fiat 124 Coupe, and waits to join the starting line ready for the next leg of the trip to Monte Carlo.

Not long after the picture was taken, we wandered across to the official starting ramp ready for the off, and the MC introduced Tony Mason, ex Paddy Hopkirk Co Driver and presenter of Top Gear for many years. Tony recalled some of the moments he recalled from his years in the “passenger” seat, and it transpired he did a great deal of the driving between stages, as well as reading the maps!

After watching several cars depart, it was soon the turn of the very pretty Fiat to climb the rostrum to be officially started on the next leg of the rally.



There were many many interesting rally cars from various eras on display, along with everyday cars representing numerous marques, it was a great few hours spent admiring and reminiscing to some degree. Good luck to Dave and his brother, and all the other entrants on this year's event, it was a pleasure to be able to support fellow CVTR members and enthusiasts. And for those who think the Classic Monte may be a stroll in the park, this image from the 2018 event might show otherwise.



Ian Brown

Rallye Historique – Passage Control in Banbury



On a freezing but sunny February day, the historic rally had a staging point in Banbury, following its Glasgow start the previous day. There were thousands of people there including a number of CVTR members there on the day so I will restrict myself to a few photographs and not too many words. Suffice to say that despite the cold, it was an enjoyable day with lots of cars in the rally or just on display in the Market square with lots going on in the town.

Rally cars



1961 Herald Coupe



Saab 96



1934 Lagonda M45 (Competed in 1936 Rally)



Ford Popular



Volvo 122S



Fiat 124 coupe – Dave Roberts' Brother's car with white haired bloke pretending to be a mechanic – sorry Cat



1949 MG TC



1972 Lancia Fulvia 1600HF

Cars on display

There several more rally cars but also a couple of clubs, below you can see the local MG club with Gareth's lonely TR4A in the background



Clubs from Cirencester, Oxford and quite a few solo riders like myself were parked up in the market square for the punters to see while we waited for the rally to kick off.

There was a decent variety of cars but my two favourite was an early Jaguar SS100 in immaculate condition and a 1938 Triumph Dolomite 14/60.



Late 1930's Jaguar SS100



1938 Triumph Dolomite 14/60



1931 Riley 9hp – historic not on this Rally



1937 Austin 10/4



Group B Champion Rally Cars



So the rally begins in the high street

It is worth attending the event next time it is in town
Gareth Davies

February 11th. International MG and Triumph Spares day at Stoneleigh.



An early start in order to miss the traffic and to park relatively close to the exhibition halls – Alf and Richard arrived at my house on the dot at 7.45, and we were straight away on empty roads to pick up Keith.

Sat nav dialled in, and we were soon ignoring instructions as local knowledge always beats mathematical algorithms! Combining empty roads and this intimate acquaintance with local roads, we were soon at the Stoneleigh showground, parked up, ahead of the queues, and sorting out the TRaditional start to this long running event.....



Next port of call, when the show opened (earlier than advertised), was the TR Register stand:-





Cat's TR2 and Wayne's Grinnal flanked the stand appropriately

It was a good job we had just finished our coffee in the restaurant as the boiler on the stand had been emptied by the numbers of TR members refreshing their thirst after the drive to the event and the queue to get in.

We also called in on our TRDC colleagues situated behind the TR Register stand and exchanged pleasantries and greetings with Mike Satchwell and Peter Priestley (but no coffee or biscuits!)

Adjacent to the TR Register stand was this well patinated MG



1931 MG M Type – 87 years old and only four owners – it attracted lots of interest!

Whilst not the parts treasure troves of previous decades, there was still plenty of stuff for the enthusiasts, not just parts and tools, but catching up with fellow TRR members and generally having a great social time.

Despite Richard stating he was not buying anything, particularly not many more books, guess what? Simple – he bought two books under the guise that they were for Meg (one was a map book and the other a TR7 manual, he certainly knows how to treat a girl!). His new door strap may also save some embarrassment, or at least a creased door!

Alf resorted to buying some heavy duty hacksaws and steel rulers – always remember the adage, measure twice – cut once, so not only did he buy two rulers to measure twice, he bought two hacksaws just in case.....

Keith bought some vinyl to cover a box he is working on, nothing to do with his TR, and a few other bits, making his briefcase/holdall very heavy to carry around all afternoon. Although a number of 6RA relays (long running search) were inspected, none were bought.

I managed to buy an OE TR6 clutch kit, pressure plate, friction plate, and RHP release bearing – not that I needed a new clutch, but just because there may be a need one day.....hope fully not, but I now have a proper kit just in case!

Richard lent me £1 to buy an original lhs sidelight repeater lens (duly repaid), and I also purchased a box of examination gloves. These are nothing to do with intimate body parts, they simply keep my hands clean without losing any feel when doing oily jobs.

It was good to see Dave McHattie there (his first drive out after his kidney transplant). We also saw Bob Heppell several times on his hunt for raffle prizes no doubt!

Brian Wiggins arrived on the TR Register stand whilst I was there, and I met Laurence McCarthy (fellow CVTR member) to pass over a set of seat belts.

Andy Canning arrived and caught up with his many TR mates, and when we returned to the TR Register stand, Keith promptly said that he would travel back with Andy to keep him company. Thus began another trawl of the halls for those elusive bargains, and Keith wasn't about to allow any bargains to slip his examination (maybe I should have lent him some gloves?), as Andy discovered.....

Anyway, whilst it did seem that we were outnumbered by our MG colleagues, there were plenty of TR parts available, including a complete surrey rear backlight, and I lost count of the number of trailing arms that were available, maybe it was the season for them – or that some sold for a ridiculously high price recently on ebay and they were chancing their luck.....?

As to the venue, the cowshed atmosphere of old has been well and truly consigned to history, the halls were clean, bright, and heated (good job as it started hailing just after lunch).

Definitely one for the calendar in 2019!

Ian Brown

February 18th. Sunday lunch at The Kings Court Hotel at Alcester.



Our first Sunday lunch of 2018, arranged to his usual excellent standard by Andrew Racey who was unfortunately indisposed and unable to attend. However, 28 of the usual suspects were there, including new members Jeremy and Gilly. Alfred and Pat, Nick and Jayne, Cat, Dave and Sally and Keith and Gill turned up in TRs, Dave and Jenny in the well travelled 1100, and Andy and Jane in one of their Volvos.





After the real ale group were persuaded out the bar, we all settled down in anticipation of an excellent lunch – which it was!!





“Rabbit caught in headlight” expression! You should keep your eye on the snapper, Dave.....For a small consideration I will destroy the enlarged image!



What on earth is Keith indicating the dimension of.....I'm pretty sure that he isn't a fisherman.....!



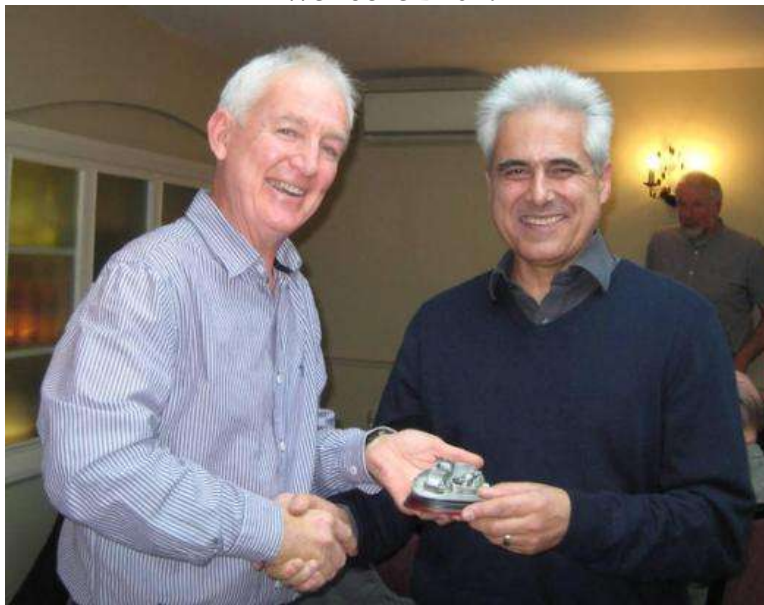
Anyway, Andy and Alfred look suitably doubtful of his explanation!



Sorry Keith....another one who should keep his eye on the snapper!!

A highlight of the lunch was the presentation to Brian of the award for his significant contributions to Group, including organisation of the Autumn Leaves run and arrangement of Sunday lunches. The presentation was made today as Brian and Gill were unable to be at the re-arranged Awards Dinner.

Well done Brian!



A big thank you to Andrew for organising the lunch today, and we hope that you have recovered from the bug by the time the Newsletter hits the streets.

Richard

Race Retro 23-25th February

This is a big show if you are interested in historic motor sport of all varieties. It was held over three days and well worth attending and here a brief report through pictures. There were hundreds of cars on display and a lot of driving action to watch outside – many famous cars and drivers were there



Just a small selection of cars parked up waiting to demonstrate Rallying on the Stoneleigh circuit set up for lots of twisting and sliding and spins



Several Sunbeam Alpines, a collection of Ford, Hillman Imps and of course our own TR7's in full livery on display in the Parking area. All the cars were being started, bonnets up and preparing to go on the continuous rally demonstrations

Then there was the Hall of Fame crammed full of famous cars driven by the big names including live interviews on stage with some famous names



In one hall there were many famous cars parked up in the hall of fame spanning the decades

This car one of four genuine Cooper S cars built by Paddy Hopkirk as exact replicas of works cars and driven to victory in 1992 by Rauno Aaltonen beating his fellow Finn – Timo Mäkinen



Historic Ford Anglia 105E, winner of several rally's in its class



ERA R4D – the final and unique D type which recorded wins in into the 50's. The engine delivers 300bhp and reaches 160mph

Subaru Impreza 555 – driven by Colin McRae in 1996 Rallye Catalunya, securing the World Rally Championship. Also driven by Carlos Sainz and Ari Vatanen. Currently under Prodrive's care.



Porsche 956 – As driven by Derek Bell, Jackie Ickx – one of the most successful racing cars ever built clinching numerous le Mans victories and sports car world championships – 2.6L, 217mph

Aston Martin GTE - based on the Vantage V8 using the same Aluminium chassis as well as the same core engine. The successful GTE car that got Aston back into FIA endurance racing eventually winning Le Man Pro GTE class in 2017



Ford Focus WRC – X7 – a significant rally car for Colin McRae who won 25 rounds of the WRC around 2000. It has a Cosworth 2L 300bhp engine and the only thing in common with the standard Focus was its windscreen and rear lights!

Of Course there were many stands from Motorsport suppliers including TR suppliers as well as the outdoor demonstrations to enjoy



TR Enterprises Stand, incorporating TR Register representation at the show.



Gareth Davies

February 28th. CVTR meeting at The Fleece.

It was freezing outside, and the Barn wasn't much better, - Gareth started the meeting with apologies from most of the club including John and Yvonne Walker, Andrew Racey, Phil and Sandy Blake, Richard and Meg Durrant, Dave and Linda Gillespie, Ian Benfield and Phil Barnett. Due to the weather we only had 7 members in attendance.



(7 includes Gareth as photographer)

Gareth reviewed the last four weeks of activity which included the Stoneleigh spares day, Sunday lunch, the Historique Rallye at Banbury and Race retro at Stoneleigh as covered in the newsletter. Due to the low attendance, we quickly went over what was coming up, see the future events section.

AOB.

- Lesley Boother has said she would like to host a Fish and Chip supper during the summer. Date to be agreed. Andy Canning to check when possible
- Via Terry Smith, the Register had asked whether CVTR would organise the “bring and buy” at the IWE in Lincoln in 2018. It was agreed that it was not practical for CVTR to do this due to the distance, and unknown CVTR numbers attending. However it was suggested that CVTR would consider doing it again if the IWE was in Malvern subject to getting volunteers

And rather than draw the raffle, for which there were possibly more prizes than entrants, this delight was held over until the next meeting, where hopefully the weather will not intervene.....

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Ed

Historic Monte Carlo Rally – Car No 141

As reported elsewhere this year's HMCR had a passage control at Banbury where the Oxford Motor Club and Cherwell District Council hosted the event.

I was again asked by my brother and his navigator to be part of the service crew to assist in keeping his Fiat 124 Coupe oiled, watered and shod for the 3500km run from Scotland to Monte Carlo.

Banbury was one of many stops made during the event which started on the Wednesday evening from Paisley Abbey, with twelve cars and their crews heading south through the sleet and snow to Dumfries then to Scotch Corner and on to Barnby Moor (Retford) for an overnight stop.

The remaining 300+ cars entered for the event were departing from various other cities around Europe, all routes converging initially at Valence before heading down to Monte Carlo.



The Rally consists of basically three elements, the concentration section, road sections and the regularity sections. The concentration section being from your start city to the first road section which can be between 1000km to 2200km, as is the case for the Paisley starters. Each day's road section has a start and finish time control and varies between 250km and 500km and within these sections are the regularity stages. These have to be covered at an average speed of 50km/hr, which on the face of it may not seem very fast, but on the narrow mountain roads, some with snow and ice, it takes a lot of skill. The 50km/hr average must be maintained not only from A to B, which can vary from 20km to 50km but there are also secret timing points along the route where your time is checked (each car is fitted with a GPS tracker), the penalty for being one second before or after the target time is 10 points.



This year there were 15 regularity stages and it was unfortunate that on regularity 3 our navigator misread a junction and it took the crew some time to sort themselves by which time they incurred a maximum penalty of 20,000 points!! This mistake made the difference of 60 places in the final result, however, the car and crew finished without any damage or incurring any problems with the car.

After five days of tearing around France in a Peugeot Boxer high top van, both with and without a trailer it was pleasant to sit in the Rascasse Bar on the Harbour side at Monaco having a cool beer, before setting off for a black tie Gala dinner at the Sporting Club de Monaco (well someone has to do it!)



It then comes hard when next morning it's back on the road with rally car on the trailer heading north to Calais and home.
Dave Roberts

Dear Ed

“Spotted at Redditch Shotblasting”

was a tubular chassis of a TVR (red) and a really well restored TR6 chassis frame under a Lotus Elan chassis. The TR6 belongs to a guy called 'Julien' apparently but his surname wasn't readily available. Anyone know someone by that name restoring a '6'?



Brian Wiggins

TECHNICAL SECTION

John Walker is continuing with the “weldathon” on his recently acquired TR6, which he intends to pass on to his daughter, how appropriate is the registration number! In order to reduce his welding task, John is looking for a better TR6 bodyshell, so if you may know of anything appropriate, I’m sure he would appreciate a call. (Ed comment – I’ve seen a lot worse shells than this one brought back to life!)



Meanwhile, Alan Wilding has had a replacement head fitted to his 4A after discovering leakage from the water jacket into number 4 exhaust port, rendering the head commercially scrap. I took the head to see if anything could be done to resurrect it. Unfortunately the issue was caused by the removal of too much metal from the ports when it was performance modified a number of years ago, leaving the water jacket wall between the port and the water like tissue paper/lace. That and the inaccessibility of the problem confined the valiant attempt to the waste bin:-



Pressure testing reveals the leak



Welding lace is an art form

On a more DIY friendly attempt to improve the rear brake lighting on my TR6, without drilling holes and altering anything significantly, I made up an LED strip that hopefully will give a clear indication to those following me that I am trying to slow down.....(all simply reversible without any evidence!)



Ian Brown

COMPETITIONS SECTION

Here is Tim Walker as featured in TR Action (in case you missed it)



And Tony Cotgrave has been comparing engine preparation notes with Richard Durrant, after having his head examined and reworked.....



Looking good!

FUTURE EVENTS

At a glance, coming shortly:-

March 4th. Malvern auto jumble.

March 4th - Group Leaders Meeting at Gaydon - GD and Terry Walker attending

March 18th Sunday lunch. PLEASE NOTE change of date (11th is Mothering Sunday) and venue (Crown and Sandys couldn't accommodate us) so John Walker has kindly stepped in to help and has arranged for us to return to a venue we used last year, however he is a bit concerned that as its some distance from our usual venues that it won't be as well supported- so please come along to this lunch at The Carpenters Arms at Fulbrook (drive through Stow and head for Burford - as you approach turn left at the first roundabout before the bridge onto the A361 - pub is on the right after about 250 yards). We used it last year. Unfortunately John couldn't be at our meeting however he says we can order off the menu on the day BUT the pub would like a rough idea of what people would like for main course. Choice is Beef, Pork or Turkey with all the trimmings. You can contact John on 01993868541 or email ydgwalker@hotmail.co.uk 1 course £9.95, 2 courses £13.95 .

March 23/25th Practical Classics Restoration show at the NEC.

March 28th. CVTR meeting at The Fleece.

April 2nd - Coleford Festival of Motoring

April 15th. Sunday Lunch - A return to this very popular venue (usually sells out!) The Green Dragon at Sambourne hosted by Linda and David Gillespie - details will follow.

June 10th Churchill Show – contact Andrew Racey for tickets and arrangements.(see separate attachment)

August 16th Colin Boother Memorial Run – Phil Blake and Alan Wilding are organising once again.

March	April
4 th Malvern auto jumble. 18 th Sunday Lunch – see detail above 23/25 th Practical Classics Restoration and Classic car show NEC. 28 th CVTR meeting The Fleece	1 st Motor Fest Weston Park. 2 nd Coleford Festival of Motoring 6/8 th TRR Spring Ball - Chesterfield. 8 th Malvern Festival of Transport. 14 th MG Triumph open day - David Manners. 15 th Sunday lunch . The Green Dragon at Sambourne (see above) 22 nd National Drive it day . Details announced near the time. 25 th CVTR meeting at The Fleece..
May	June
4/5/6 th Donnington Historic Festival 5-7 th Welsh Weekend 7 th (Bank Holiday) Gaydon TRR - Annual steam fair and regional get together, (see below). 13 th Sunday lunch TBA 25 th CVTR meeting The Fleece 26/27 th La Vie En Bleu et Rose. Prescott 27/28 th Ragley Hall classic car event G Davies will organise if enough interest	10 th Churchill classic car show (contact Andrew Racey) and Sunday lunch? 10 th TRR and JDC E Type joint register track day . Prescott ?? Maybe a Saturday . Mid summer Cannonball Run 23/24 th Bicester Flywheel classic car show - G Davies will organise if enough interest 23 rd – Feckenham Wake car show (TRDC) 23 rd – Hampton Ferry (Evesham) car show 27 th CVTR meeting The Fleece 30/1 st IWE and Standard Triumph Marque Day. Lincoln s ground

July	August
8 th Sunday lunch and CVTR Car show event at The Fleece. 6/9 th Le Mans Classic 7/8 th RAF Cosford Museum LMA model air display 12/15 th Goodwood Festival of Speed. 15 th Classic car motor show - Shipton Oliffe Sports Ground 20 th Classic car show , by invitation only . See Andrew Racey 25 th CVTR Meeting The Fleece. 28/29 th Shelsley classic Nostalgia	12 th Sunday lunch The Coal House at Apperley. Andrew Racey 12 th Cotswold festival of motoring - Bourton on the Water 19 th . Tewkesbury classic car show 16 th Colin Boother memorial run 22 nd CVTR meeting The Fleece. 27 th . Plum Festival Pershore. Andrew Racey will get tickets
September	October
1/2 nd LMA Much Marcle 9 th Sunday lunch TBA ?? - Peopleton show 7/9 th Goodwood revival 26 th CVTR meeting at The Fleece 28 th Curry evening. Pershore.	6/7 th Prescott American w/e 14 th Sunday lunch TBA Brain Wiggins ?? Autumn leaves run - Bodenham (near Kidderminster) Brian Wiggins . 24 th CVTR meeting The Fleece. 28 th Stoneleigh restoration show
November	December
11 th Classic car show NEC (NB Sunday lunch moved to avoid) 18 th Sunday lunch. Thai Emerald Tim Walker 28 th CVTR meeting and AGM - The Fleece	9 th Annual CVTR dinner and awards night Dumbleton Hall

NB - note, due to the annual awards in December, we are planning to hold a Sunday Lunch on January 13th 2019

POSSIBLE EVENTS VOTING RESULTS (Poll now closed)

Crich tramway museum near Matlock - Peak District tour <https://www.tramway.co.uk/> **8**
Clay pigeon shooting -- popular in 2017 Phil Blake will organise. **14**
Donnington collection <https://www.donington-collections.co.uk/> **7**
Fleet air arm museum <http://www.fleetairarm.com/> **3**
Hayes motor museum <http://www.haynesmotormuseum.com/> **8**
Shuttleworth air and transport museum <http://www.shuttleworth.org/> **9**
Imperial war museum Duxford <http://www.iwm.org.uk/visits/iwm-duxford> **2**
Iron Bridge museum <https://www.ironbridge.org.uk/> **8**
Black Country museum <http://www.bclm.co.uk/> **3**
Inter group karting event **7**
Didcot railway museum <http://www.didcotrailwaycentre.org.uk/> **16**
Aerospace Bristol. <http://aerospacebristol.org/> **10**
Bovington tank museum <http://www.tankmuseum.org/home> **1**
Gloucester docks river trip **12**
Cotswold distillery Shipston on Stour <https://www.cotswoldsdistillery.com/> **13**
Drakelow tunnels near Kidderminster <http://drakelow-tunnels.co.uk/> **13**
Wythall transport museum <http://www.wythall.org.uk/> **12**
Midlands Air Museum <http://www.midlandairmuseum.co.uk/> **4**
Cold War Jets day at Bruntingthorpe <http://www.bruntingthorpeaviation.com/> **7**

Without contacting the relevant individuals (absent from the meeting) it is difficult to confirm which events will go ahead. However anything with an interest level above 10 is sufficient to warrant further investigations – watch this space...!!! (That is not to say other events will not happen)

CLASSIFIEDS

WANTED

If anyone knows of a decent TR5 for sale, this chap is looking for one - bryanjarcher@hotmail.co.uk

FOR SALE

Four HiFly tyres, 195/50 R15, as new with 7mm tread across all contact surfaces. These tyres came fitted to my TR6 wheels, but profile too low for me, now replaced so going spare! £50



Contact Ian Brown ianbrown11252@googlemail.com

No apologies for repeating this - There is one other hugely important issue facing us, and that is the upcoming changes to the data protection act, which is aimed at stopping a great deal of unsolicited emails and communications, which most of us would agree is no bad thing! There are, however, implications for our group that means we will have to gain acceptance from everyone in order to continue to receive the newsletter. Rather than asking for everyone to consent positively, I would ask that anyone who wishes to be removed from the circulation list simply needs to make their view known to our GL, Gareth Davies, who will update the editorial team as required. Thank you for your understanding, and keep on Trucking!

Andrew Racey, Ian Brown and Richard Durrant

SUPPLEMENT

Dietary advice for the New Year

What do we learn from
cow, buffaloes & elephants?



It's impossible to reduce
weight by eating green grass
and salads and walking

I'M SURE GLAD SOMEONE FINALLY
CAME OUT WITH A DIET WATER



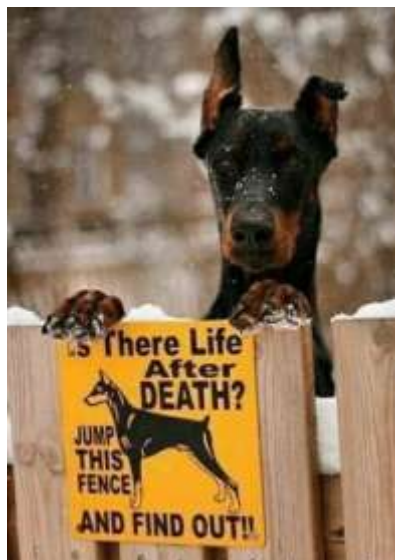
MY WEIGHT WAS
GETTING OUT OF CONTROL
DRINKING THE REGULAR STUFF



And some wise words.....



Be careful out there.....



THE END