



TR Register Australia Inc. ABN 95675396315

TR REGISTER AUSTRALIA Inc
Committee Meeting

Venue: Via Zoom from committee members homes

Date: Tuesday 20th February 2024

Meeting Opened: 7.34 p.m.

In Attendance: John McCormack, Tony Xerri, David Ferguson, David Pearce, Tony Knowlson, Ross McLeod, Steve Bradford, Andrew Pitchford and Bob Watters.

Visitor: Peter McEwan joined the meeting to report on progress for the 2024 Concours

Apologies: Ian Cuss, Chris Olson, Colin Baldock and Mal Munro

President: President John greeted all attendees and commenced proceedings by asking Peter to present his Concours report.

Peter reported that all the key elements are in place with some details to be finalised. The program was printed in the latest Sidescreen with some pricing still to be confirmed.

The registration form will be included in the April/May Sidescreen.

After some questions the President thanked Peter for the update and Peter then left the meeting.

Minutes of the previous meeting:

Correction: Nil

Moved: Bob Watters **Seconded:** John McCormack - carried unanimously

Business Arising:

Dealt with in General Business.

Reports

President (John McCormack)

The President thanked Ross for the work he has done to create the new website. He has only received positive feedback from members about the new site.

The President also thanked the Treasurer for his diligence in managing the club's finances.

The President advised that he had found the newspaper advertisements in 1976 calling for a meeting of Sidescreen TR owners to form the club and for the first run to the Blue Mountains.

The President will address other items in general business.

Report to be accepted - Moved: John McCormack **Seconded:** Andrew Pitchford – carried unanimously

Secretary (Bob Watters)

Correspondence In: Emails from AOMC and HMA. TSOA Victoria magazine and the TR Register UK magazine.

Correspondence Out: Nil.

The secretary reported that all the relevant information for the AGM will be published in the April Sidescreen. This will be in accordance with the requirements of the constitution.

Report to be accepted - Moved: Bob Watters **Seconded:** David Ferguson - carried unanimously

Vice President (Ian Cuss)

There was no report as Ian is currently in New Zealand attending the NZ TR Register National Meeting.

Treasurer (Tony Xerri)

The Treasurer had circulated his report prior to the meeting.

End of year 2023 financial report is awaiting confirmation from BareCo regarding stock valuations before being completed.

Report to be accepted - Moved: Tony Xerri **Seconded:** John McCormack- carried unanimously

Membership (Andrew Pitchford)

Current membership is 322, with some overdue renewals still being received.

Andrew to liaise with Ross to review the payment option on the website.

Report to be accepted - Moved: Andrew Pitchford **Seconded:** Tony Xerri - carried unanimously

Website (Ross McLeod)

Ross reported that there have been 88 logins to the new website with 67 being from members. There have been 2 new member applications through the site.

Ross is currently working on improvements to the membership application process.

The Historian will liaise with Ross regarding access to the database.

Report to be accepted - Moved: Ross McLeod **Seconded:** Andrew Pitchford - carried unanimously

General Business:

State Coordinator Resources

It was agreed that Coordinators need up to date member information. Ross will set this up on the website for Coordinators to access.

2026 Concours

After discussion and taking into account members feedback the Committee decided to abandon the proposal to hold the 2026 Concours in Parramatta Park in Sydney.

It was planned as a celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the formation of the club but other options will now be explored.

Darryl Dobe Proposal

Darryl's proposal which was printed in the latest Sidescreen was discussed.

Specifically the suggestions that the club import a TR for restoration and to also restore a car for use by members and overseas guests.

After much debate it was decided that it was not practical for the club to proceed with the proposal.

The Secretary noted that those members who attended the Merimbula Concours and visited the Sapphire Coast Historical Vehicle Club would have seen a lot of Darryl's suggestions at work. The club has excellent facilities including a fully equipped workshop where members can work on their own cars and club members can work on the restoration of interesting cars owned by the club. In addition the club runs a mentoring program for local high school students to learn practical skills. The best example of this was building a battery powered Morris Minor. This was possible for a local club with the resources in place.

The Committee decided that it would not be practicable to undertake a similar project with the Register's geographically diverse membership, lack of physical facilities and the financial cost involved.

The Secretary will write to Darryl to thank him for the amount of work and research that went into formulating the proposal.

Opening the club to other TR models

A recent Sidescreen article raised the idea that, to increase Register membership, the Register could expand to include all TRs.

The Committee noted that this suggestion has been raised previously, as far back as 2001. On each occasion the Committee of the day has not proceeded with it.

The Committee again discussed the proposal.

The Register is quite special as a single type club dedicated to the Register's first objective "To provide and manage an organisation that encourages the restoration, preservation and use of Triumph TR2, TR3, TR3A, TR3B and derivative motor vehicles."

The Committee noted that there are numerous clubs that include other Triumphs and our focus allows us to provide spares and technical support to our cars in a way that is not possible for a more diverse club.

The President observed that any such move by the Register would be very likely to create divisions between the Register and the other Triumph clubs. This is particularly so in NSW where substantial efforts are being made to improve inter club relationships.

It should be noted that the Register's average membership over the past few years has been close to or exceeded previous membership levels.

The Committee agreed unanimously the Register's Objectives will not be changed to include all TRs.

Younger Members

The article in the latest Sidescreen regarding this topic generated a single response that suggested a way to attract younger members was to find a way to highlight the cars through exposure in television commercials and film or by raffling a TR for charity with support from a company like Shannons.

The club is not in a position to donate a car for charity.

The President will contact Film Cars Australia based in Sydney to have the club added to their register of vehicles.

This prompted a wider discussion about younger members and prompted the question of what is a younger member? It was agreed that the demographic to target is not the social media generation but 40+ group who are looking for a different type of recreation. How to best target this group will be discussed at the next meeting.

New members with limited mechanical knowledge

It has become apparent that some new Sidescreen TR owners have limited mechanical knowledge of older cars. This situation was discussed and it was noted that in the past decade that several specialist classic car workshops have closed or are intending to close. This will exacerbate the situation and will cause problems for members without the necessary skills who cannot access a suitable repairer.

This situation will be an issue across all classic car clubs.

It was decided that the Secretary will write to all of the motoring association bodies to determine if that are aware of the situation and what action they have taken.

John and David Ferguson will contact local specialist repairers in Sydney and Melbourne to arrange an open day at their premises to be attended by interested members.

There being no further business the President closed the meeting at 9.19 p.m.

Bob Watters

Secretary

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