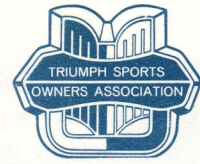




Triumph

TSOA

TRIUMPH SPORTS OWNERS ASSOCIATION



NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 20, NUMBER 10

600 WILLOW TREE ROAD • LEONIA, NEW JERSEY 07605

OCTOBER, 1974

# Tennis Champion Gets His TR6

## -Triumph Newsletter on the Professional Tournament Circuit

**Beverly Hills, Calif.:** Way back in July over in London 22 year-old Jim Connors from St. Louis won the Wimbledon tennis tournament, one of the world's most prestigious. The organizers presented him with a Triumph 2500 TC sedan (see July Newsletter). But since this model is not imported to the U.S., he decided on a TR6, which he would rather have had anyway.

Catching up with Jimmy to present him with the second car has not proved easy. He certainly wanted the car, especially as he's going to live in Los Angeles now and that's the place you can put the convertible top down from April to November with nary a worry about rain.

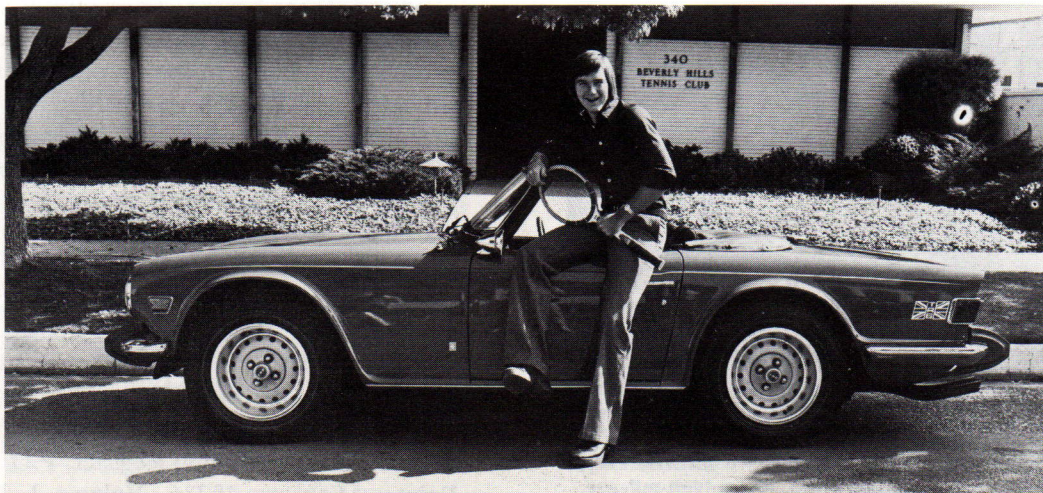
The trouble was Jimmy's busy schedule with a top tournament every few weeks. We thought we would meet him when he was in New Jersey near British Leyland's headquarters, at the East Orange tournament. But strangely for an athlete, having fought his way through to the finals, he got stomach trouble and had to cancel—losing a pretty certain \$50,000 prize. Then we thought we would be able to photograph not only him but his fiancée as well, Chrissy Evert, the 19 year-old Wimbledon women's tennis champion, since both were in New York for Forest Hills, which

Jim also won. But there was not a free moment for the young couple.

Finally we tried California and met up personally with Jim at the Pacific Southwest tournament in West Los Angeles in September. His manager Bill Riordan and brother Richard Riordan of Beverly Hills asked us over to watch him play Australian veteran Malcolm Anderson in an early round. And what a match that was! Anderson, who is fully 38 years old (really ancient for championship singles tennis) and who had not been seen on the U.S. circuit for nearly a year, took Jim to match point three times in the last of three sets. Finally Jim pulled himself together for a supreme effort and managed to win the game.

Here's what our reporter wrote at the time:

"Jimmy Connors is 22 years old and plays tennis as if it were a boxing match. He seems to make no effort to save himself. He takes every ball as if it were going to be in the court, never leaving anything to chance. As he runs after every wide ball he sometimes leaps clear into the stands as he cannot stop himself before the wall. At another dash to take a short lob, he almost demolished the referee's stand.



Wimbledon and Forest Hills tennis champion Jimmy Connors is happy with the TR6 he won in the English tournament. He is shown in Beverly Hills, California, last month where the car was delivered by Triumph representatives British Motor Car Distributors, of Compton, L.A.

"He has a very characteristic service. Head tucked into his shoulder, with eyes down like a golfer trained to keep his eye on the ball. But after the match, when he asked old maestro Pancho Gonzalez what he had done wrong the latter said 'You were looking at him (his 6ft. 3 in. opponent) not at the ball.'

"Jim 'I'm the Greatest' Connors—he once said that jokingly to the press but asked them not to quote him—is actually just about the greatest today, an extraordinarily strong player. In this whole match he scarcely served a double fault, his second serve being unbelievably reliable. Although all these young singles players have very strong first serves, the surprising thing about Jim is that his return is just about as strong. To sum up—amazing eye, coordination, confidence, speed and training."

As leading champ he still has to practice several hours a day and it was at one of these sessions we finally photographed him at the Beverly Hills Tennis Club. "Why do you like the TR6?" we asked him. "Because it works!" was his immediate reply.

Jim is off on the circuit again. He lost one in San Francisco. But Caesar's Palace at Las Vegas have offered him \$100,000 (winner take all) for a special match in February. Soon he's going to South Africa. No wonder his marriage plans to Chris Evert have had to be postponed well into

next year because of their heavy tournament schedules. One hopes these young stars are not getting the old Hollywood exploitation treatment which will wear them down. Unlikely, for they are trained athletes. We asked Jimmy why he never seemed to save his strength, chased every ball. "You've got to win" was his reply.

**LATE NEWS: ATLANTA RESULTS . . .** This issue of Triumph Newsletter was held to bring readers the latest results from the exciting racing at the SCCA championships at Atlanta, Ga., Nov. 2/3.

Triumph's hero of the day was Rick Cline of Gainesville, Florida, who placed first in F-Production with his 1300 Spitfire; second in D-Production with his GT6; and was leading G-Production with another Spitfire when he fell out due to lack of oil pressure. Rick prepared no fewer than eight cars for the racing and was nominated "Outstanding Mechanic of the Year".

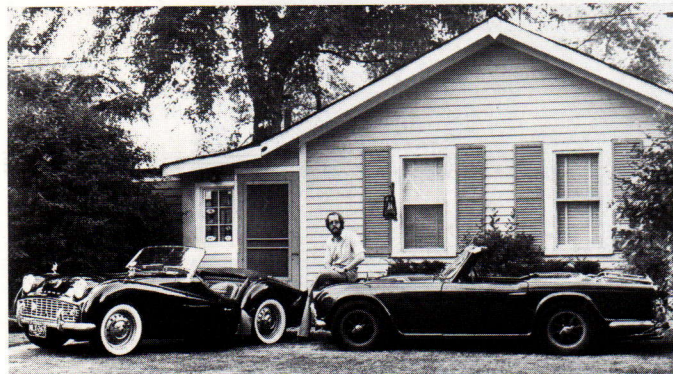
Group 44 ran out of luck this year and had to be content with John Kelly's Spitfire's second place in F-Production (only .6 sec. behind Cline).

## CLUB NEWS

# New "Vintage Triumph Register"

Following Triumph Newsletter's comments in the May and September issues about the formation of at least two Triumph Registers in the U.S., we have received the following press release:

"DEARBORN, MICHIGAN. Isn't it about time that enthusiasts of the good old Triumph automobile had an American-based, historically-oriented club to celebrate their well-founded enthusiasm? Isn't it time that Triumph reaped its fair share of respect for its glorious past, just like M.G. and Jaguar? A handful of Triumph-lovers across the



**Randy Mason, assistant curator of Transportation Collections at the Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn, Michigan is shown in front of his residence "The Shack" with his two favorite TR's, a 1958 TR-3A with 11,000 original miles, and a high-mileage, California-bred 1965 TR-4. Randy is currently acting president of the new Vintage Triumph Register.**

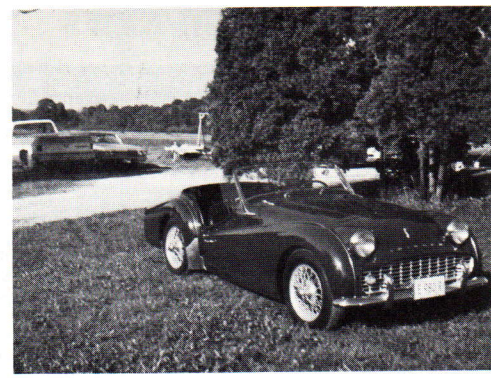
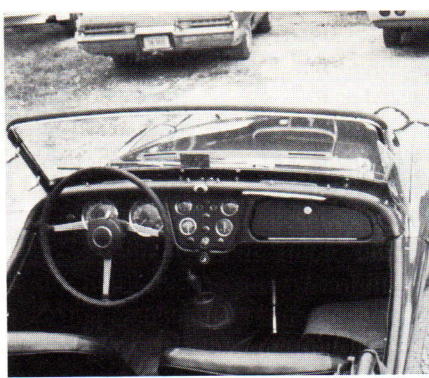
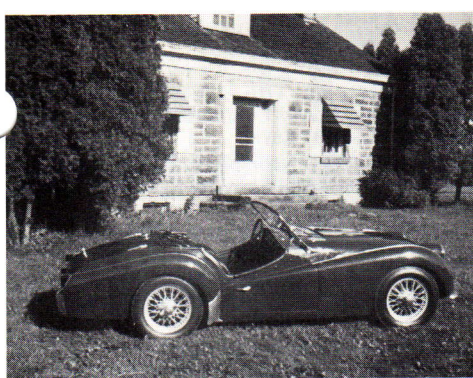
country have recently banded together and shouted a resounding 'Yes!' The result is the Vintage Triumph Register and its new publication *The Vintage Triumph*.

The purpose of the Register is basically the preservation, restoration, and enjoyment of all automobiles built by The Triumph Motor Company (1945) Ltd., and its predecessors since 1923, which have attained a model-year age of ten years or more. Further, the Register encourages research related to Triumph history, and acts as a clearing house for all types of information relating to older Triumphs.

What does the Vintage Triumph Register have to offer to prospective members? Basically, four things: (1) Technical information relating to the restoration and maintenance of old Triumphs; (2) All possible leads on parts availability and discounts; (3) Historical information; (4) A chance to drive and enjoy TR's in the company of other enthusiasts.

First acting president of the VTR is Randy Mason of the Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn, Michigan. Other active founding members include Harry Barnes of Sunnyvale, California, editor of *The Vintage Triumph* newsletter; assistant editor Dick Milligan of Santa Clara, California; secretary Terry Telke of Minneapolis, Minn.; and treasurer Bill Smith of Detroit, Michigan.

Prospective members may write for further information to The Vintage Triumph Register, P.O. Box 6934, Grosse Pointe, Michigan 48236. Volume I, Number 1 of *The Vintage Triumph* is presently being printed."



**A COMPLETE RESTORATION:** This 1958 TR3 has been rebuilt from the frame up by owner Ron Plesnicher of 2601 Maple Drive, Twinsburg, Ohio 44087. All this involved some 900 to 1000 hours of work, all new sheet metal, etc., but the car is now in showroom condition and is Ron's pride and joy.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Senior and Junior TR6s

*"Thought you might be interested in Father & Son's twin (not quite identical) TR-6s.*

*Dad's is a '72 navy blue with white top, while son's is a '73 French blue with black top. Both are equipped with Stebro free-flow exhaust and driving lights, but Jim Jr. has*



*outdistanced Dad by adding front and rear over-riders, console, chrome in engine compartment and has the factory hard top.*

*On both, the TSOA badge and others are mounted at the front with neat home fabricated brackets. How many other father-son owners are on record?*

*We always look forward to your fine newsletter."*

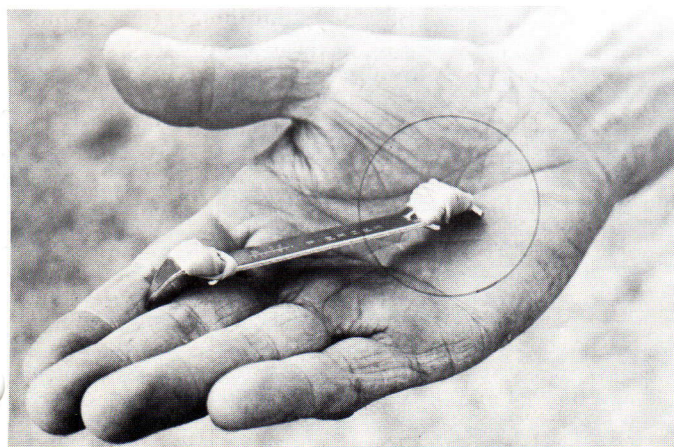
Jim Jr. and Jim Sr., Brumley, Greenboro, N.C.

### Mastering Soft Top Press Buttons

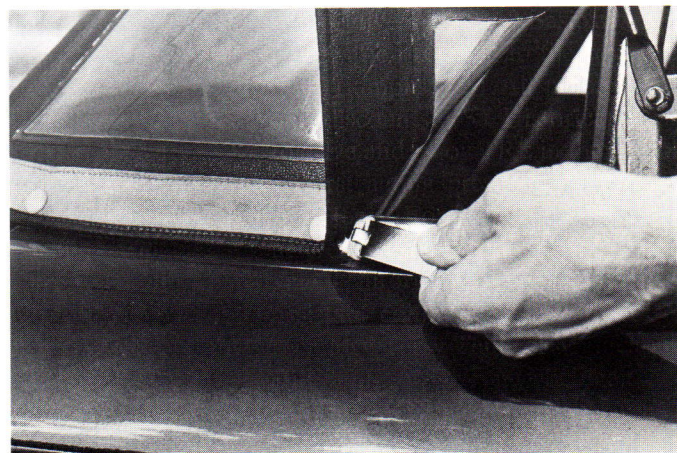
*"Being a Triumph owner for the past 8 years, and having encountered many broken finger nails and soft top buttons while putting up and taking down the soft top, I would like to pass on the following tip to my fellow Triumph owners.*

*I have enclosed two photographs showing what kind of tool I use and how to use it. It is a very simple matter. Just get a can and bottle opener and wrap it with rubber bands as shown in photograph No. 1 to prevent scratches and paint damage on the body of the car, and then take the tool, put it in position (as shown in photograph No. 2) under the button and press downwards and the button pops loose nice and easy. This 25¢ deal will almost guarantee you that the buttons will outlive the soft top and soft top cover. If everybody that likes the idea and makes use of it would send me \$1, I may be able to take my wife and I out for a lobster dinner."*

Wilhelm Herhaus, Box 244, Mica Creek, B.C., Canada



Here is the simple instrument invented by Wilhelm Herhaus for reluctant soft-top press buttons . . .



. . . He claims they are mastered by this converted can opener, insulated with rubber bands to prevent paint damage.

## CLUB NEWS



**CLUB BADGE MOUNTING:** Rear mounting for the TSOA badge has been neatly effected on Robert Madison's 1973 TR6. Bob writes us from Southern California and urges anyone in the San Diego area who is interested to re-form the San Diego TR Club to get in touch with him at 4663½ 30th Street, San Diego, Calif. 92116 (714) 280-4491.

### TRIUMPH NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL

In the September issue a notice was published regarding the rates for renewals of annual subscriptions to the Triumph Newsletter. If as a member of the TSOA you have now been receiving the Newsletter for one year or more (i.e., membership registration before October 1973) and you wish to ensure continuing to receive our publication, kindly complete the form below, enclosing check or Money Order. Cost is \$3 annual subscription for members of TSOA or a Triumph club, and \$5 for non-members.

The Triumph Newsletter brings you motoring news from the Triumph point of view, together with details of new models, technical and other informative features, club news, Letters to the Editor, and free classified advertising.

#### TRIUMPH (T.S.O.A.) NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION

TO: Triumph Sports Owners Association  
600 Willow Tree Road  
Leonia, New Jersey 07605

Date \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to renew my subscription to the Triumph (T.S.O.A.) Newsletter for one year and, as a member of T.S.O.A. or a Triumph Club, enclose my check for \$3.00. Non-members \$5.00.

Checks and Money Orders should be made payable to T.S.O.A.

(Please Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Last Name) (First Name) (Middle Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

Triumph Club I am a member of \_\_\_\_\_

Model Triumph I drive \_\_\_\_\_

Please send information about nearest Triumph Club \_\_\_\_\_

## CLASSIFIED

### ITEMS FOR SALE:

4 Ansen aluminum sprint wheels for TR6. 15x15½ with lugs & spacer plates. \$140 plus shipping. David Southerlin, P.O. Box 511, Wilmington, Vt. 05363. (802) 464-5601 days.

Studded snow tires: Semperit 5.20x13 (for Spitfire), one year old. Alan Feinberg, 1 Larsen Ave., Glenwood Landing, L.I., N.Y. 11547. (516) 671-1543.

Tonneau cover. AMCO, black, new. For TR6 with folding headrests. Perfect condition. \$25. Also AMCO detachable luggage rack that fits all sports cars with rear deck lid. Very good condition. \$15. Contact: Stephen C. McConnell, 1337 South 2nd Street, Waco, Texas 76706; (817) 755-2771.

Two new AMCO tonneau covers (black) for Spitfire Mk IV 1971-74, \$24. each ppd. George A. Oulton, Autosport, 287 Washington St., Newton, Mass. 02158; (617) 969-6666.

1959 TR-3. Best offer. Complete & running well. 92,000+ original miles. Needs Body work, includes new AMCO mats, upholstery kit, 2 spares & miscellaneous parts. Ken Landry, Suite 850, American City Bldg., Columbia, Md. 21044; (301) 997-9558 after 5:00 pm.

TR-3 completely dismantled. All parts bumper to bumper. Larry Condie, 13275 Hobnail Dr., St. Louis, Mo. 63141; (314) 434-5867.

TR-6 parts. Complete car except for left front sheet metal and suspension. 1800 miles on car. Ted Schumacher, Route 1, Pandora, Ohio.

Spitfire parts: 4.8 third member w/locker, camber compensator, velocity stacks, lens covers, MK 3 header, oil cooler kit & any other TR parts lying around my garage. \$350 for everything. Ron Johnson, 4461 Green Avenue #B, Los Alamitos, Calif. 90270; (213) 594-0152.

1957 TR3 right door, red, black upholstery. This is the pre-handle type door. D. Strang, 120-9 Flagstone Dr., Nashua, N.H. Telephone (603) 885-4488 weekdays; (603) 882-8858 evenings.

D/P TR4 Stage IV Paco engine, Minilite wheels with Goodyear Blue Streak mounted, 5 spares and many spare parts, updated to 74 specs, owner transferred to South America. \$1500 with trailer or best offer. Charles Eichorn, 136 Roberta Dr., Hendersonville, Tenn. 37075; (615) 824-2693.

Black boot cover for Triumph Spitfire. From 1971 model but it probably will fit other years. It can be purchased for \$10 by writing Charlotte Gostigian, RFD 4, Box 298, Young Rd., Katonah, N.Y. 10536, or by calling (914) 232-4707.

1973 AM-FM radio for TR-6 with speaker; all mounting brackets are included. Ready for shipment immediately. Will negotiate price. Please contact L. J. Cook, 32 Goldie Rd., Youngstown, Ohio 44505; (216) 759-3900.

Triumph Herald full tonneau—like new, \$15. Excellent set of full chrome hubcaps for Spitfire or Herald, \$20. William J. Moses, 6506 Clover Ave., Jenison, Mich 49428.

### TSOA SUPERMARKET

The following items are to be ordered from TSOA Leonia.

Local TSOA Club "Calling Cards" .....	FREE
List of Triumph Dealers and Distributors .....	FREE
Replacement TSOA badge .....	\$2.50
TSOA Handbook, 2nd Edition .....	\$2.50
Supplement to TSOA Handbook, 1973 .....	\$.75
Triumph Automobile Association badge .....	\$2.50
GT-6/2000 Competition Preparation Manual .....	\$2.50
TR-4/TR-4A Competition Preparation Manual .....	\$2.50
SPLITFIRE Mk-I-II-III Competition Preparation Manual .....	\$2.50
TR-250/TR-6 Competition Preparation Manual .....	\$2.50
GT-6+ Competition Preparation Manual .....	\$2.50
Competition Parts list (Specify model) .....	FREE
TSOA Jacket Emblem .....	\$1.00
(Club Discount—1 Dozen) .....	\$10.00
Official Triumph Jacket Emblem .....	\$.50
Triumph Sportscar Champions Jacket Emblem .....	\$.50
British Leyland Competition Stickers, Mylar .....	3 for \$1.00
Triumph history 34-page reprint ("Automobile Quarterly") .....	\$1.95
"Triumph—50 Years of Sports Car" history poster .....	\$3.00

Send Check or Money Order. No C.O.D.'s please.

Please make checks payable to British Leyland Motors Inc.

The TSOA NEWSLETTER is published monthly by the Triumph Sports Owners Association, 600 Willow Tree Road, Leonia, N.J. 07605. TSOA is a national organization of American sports car enthusiasts who own a Triumph or are interested in the purposes of the Association.

EDITOR, JOHN F. DUGDALE