

NEC Report

by Jim Webb

Here we are again into that winter season where we partake of the merry go round of indoor shows that start with the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham. We look forward to our restoration show at Wembley in December, our All Triumph Day at Stoneleigh, Warwickshire in February and, of course, our display at The London Classic Car Show at Alexandra Palace in March 2004. All our members are more than welcome to come and visit our stands at these prestigious events. Don't forget that you will find the relevant dates published in *Club Torque* or the Newsletter, so we hope that these events will be awash with members old and new in support of those that put on the displays and your membership of Club Triumph.

As far as the NEC is concerned, here are some photos of our display which consisted of two chassis-based cars, that of a Herald 13/60 and a 2-litre Vitesse. The 13/60 Herald convertible in jasmine yellow owned by Tina Lacey has recently been the subject of a superb facelift by her husband Andrew and, to his credit, drew an



awful lot of attention to our stand, not least from the female fraternity, as they – mostly blondes – could see themselves driving this most desirable motor car along the winding cliff top roads of the Côte d'Azur. The Vitesse, owned by Richard Stubbs, has been the subject of a full restoration over almost two years and was thoughtfully conceived throughout the entire project. To start with, Richard wanted an unusual car so he purposely created controversy by transplanting a coupe roof onto the car with some unusual additives to the rear decking. Thereafter he chose damson red and old English white in an unusual two-tone colour scheme. I think it works but I'm not sure about the proposed white wall tyres (Richard, it's too much) – leave well enough alone. Richard would be the first to admit that there is still room for improvement along the way, but I for one would not knock the lad's enthusiasm, and I commend him for his dedication to all things Triumph and most of all for his determination to get his car ready for display at the NEC..... well done Richard and well done Tina.