

# *The 19<sup>th</sup> Round Britain Reliability Run 2004*

Back in 1966 Club Triumph members discussed the feasibility of driving from London to John O'Groats to Land's End and back to London within 48 hours using a Triumph car such as a Herald. In June of that year on a trip to Le Mans other members started to discuss the merits of long distance motoring and within a short period of time plans were drawn up proposing the first of what has become the Round Britain Reliability Run. For the first run six crews took part using all six representations of the Standard Triumph range of cars, one being provided by Broadfields Garage in Cockfosters. The assistance was enlisted of Triumph agents around the country to provide refreshments and refuelling stops. Since then the event has been run approximately every two years and has become one of the focal points of Club Triumph's activities. So far 534 crews have participated (please see the table that lists all the different models and the number of crews that have taken part in this event). Most of the post-war range of cars produced by Triumph have been used, Herald 948 to TR8.

Since 1990 the event has also been run on a charitable basis and since then the participating crews have raised £170,000 for such worthwhile charities as the British Heart Foundation, Imperial Cancer Research, Alzheimer's Research Trust and the Multiple Sclerosis Society. The 2004 event will be for the benefit of the Children With Leukaemia charity. This charity was the benefactor of the 2000 event and has been chosen partly because of their enthusiasm and support for our event.

The next running of the event is due on 1-3 October 2004, which will be the 19<sup>th</sup> in the series. The minimum number of entrants will be 15, the maximum will be 75, after which a reserve list will be operated. The costs of the event are very reasonable, these being the entry fee of £50 per crew member (minimum 2 people per car), plus fuel and oil and the like at approximately £250. The entry fee does include breakfast at John O'Groats and Land's End plus snacks which are provided at many of the stops, a finisher's car plaque and awards for all successful drivers. The entry fee also entitles crews to attend the Club Triumph Annual Dinner in March 2005 at a discounted ticket price where they will be presented with their finisher's award.

As is usual a pre-event drivers' meeting will be held at The Plough, Crews Hill, Enfield on Monday 20 September 2004 at 20.30hrs. Participants will get to meet representatives from the charity and hear how monies raised will help charity. A comprehensive review of the event will be presented to the crews and the fully detailed Route/Road Book which gives a non-compulsory route and the timings/locations of the manned stops will be issued and explained by one of the organisers. Also the car pack that includes the road book and the event's car stickers will be handed out and additional sponsorship forms can be obtained. Of course crews will get to meet other participants which inevitably includes many experienced old hands at the run. It should be noted that the event is not a competition, it is purely a reliability run.

This event gives an opportunity for the crews to prove that motoring within this country can still be enjoyable and rewarding, although it does demand determination, concentration, stamina, a sense of humour, and above all a sound Triumph motor car. The suggested route passes along every type of road, ranging from 4-lane motorways to single track roads, and the scenery that is viewed can be breathtaking, typical examples being the North Sea with the sun rising, the landscapes of the Scottish Highlands, the rugged coastline of Cornwall and the joys of the M25 on a Sunday evening! Possibly the best aspect is the camaraderie of all the crews that take part and the pleasure of seeing lots of Triumphs being used. The condition of participating cars varies from concours quality vehicles to some that have the appearance of an old shed. However, all are welcome and it is rare for a car not to finish. Don't worry about the pace of the event as the route/timings have been designed to allow for all types of Triumph. This is the event to see if your car is reliable, but be warned it can become addictive!

So come on, join in and send your completed entry form (as found overleaf) plus fee to: Tim Bancroft, 42 Greenlands Road, Staines, Middlesex TW18 4LR, England.

Should you require more details either phone on 07966 289 782 or e-mail to [timbancroft61@hotmail.com](mailto:timbancroft61@hotmail.com) Also visit the Club's website: [www.club.triumph.org.uk](http://www.club.triumph.org.uk) where a discussion group/forum can be found.