

ASKING

£34,995

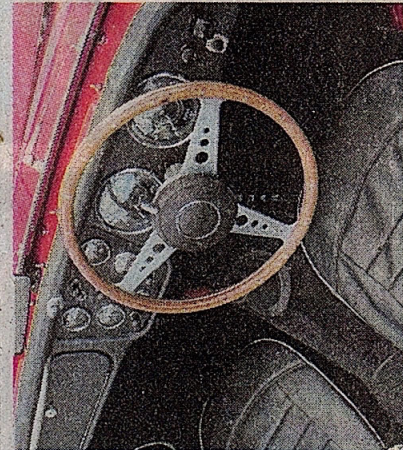
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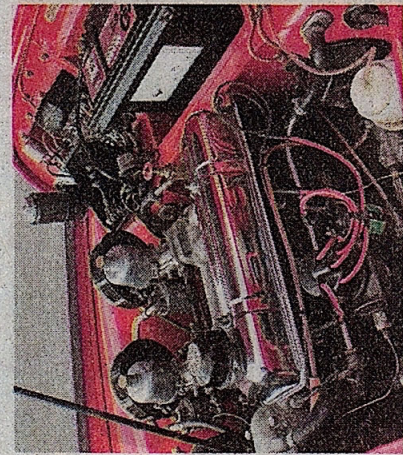
CHASING CARS

1958 TRIUMPH TR3A

- ✓ **PROS** Beautifully presented and drives superbly
- ✗ **CONS** Near-perfection doesn't come cheap



Nothing to criticise in stylishly Spartan cabin.



Engine has enjoyed specialist attention in recent years.

ENGINE 1991cc/4-cyl/OHV **POWER** 100bhp@5000rpm **TORQUE** 117lb ft@3000rpm
MAXIMUM SPEED 106mph **0-60MPH** 11.4sec **FUEL CONSUMPTION** 22-29mpg
TRANSMISSION RWD, four-speed manual **MOT** 12 months on sale **ODOMETER** 5077 miles

WHAT'S IT LIKE TO DRIVE?

You'd have a hard time finding a better put-together Triumph TR3A than this one. The TR3A was never a car for someone wanting a soft, boulevard cruiser, but this example feels extremely well-sorted and put together. 'Refined' is not a word that we'd normally associate with this sports car, but the more you drive it the more you feel comfortable behind the wheel. The 1991cc engine, which according to the car's service history has been re-built recently, bursts into life on a churn of the starter and runs beautifully, with no signs of wear or overheating, even during an extended 'idle in traffic'. It feels lusty and pulls strongly right through the rev range. And it's quick, bowling along happily at the legal limit, with good oil pressure and no valve harshness detected. The stubby and noisy gearchange feels just right; the steering is communicative and predictable and the front disc brakes stop the car straight and without drama.

BODYWORK CHECK

We could find nothing to fault on this car's bodywork. The

EXTERIOR
Excellent restored condition

INTERIOR
First class order and authentic throughout

MECHANICALS
Superbly detailed inside and out

chassis looks like new with no visible signs of welding that weren't made by Standard-Triumph. The doors, boot lid and bonnet close as they should and there are no signs of distortion to any of the panels. We could find no trace of filler and the flanks are free from ripples. The red paint could easily seduce the unwary but it's a top-quality job. The chrome and glass are also excellent. The hood is in excellent condition, the Firestone tyres appear to be almost new and the wire wheels are immaculate.

HOW'S THE INTERIOR?

The original-spec seats, complete with cream piping, are in excellent condition, as are the carpets. The wood-

rimmed steering wheel, with its Bakelite centre boss, is immaculate, all of the dashboard instruments work correctly and the 'ripple effect' is reproduced perfectly. The glovebox opens and closes as it should, with no distortion. The door trims, and pockets fitted to them, are also in excellent order.

UNDER THE BONNET

It's a superb feat of detailing in here with everything authentically presented, including immaculate-looking wiring and hoses. London TR specialist Enginuity has serviced the car in recent years and a reconditioned overdrive unit has been fitted.

THE CCW VIEW

It's bright red, has wire wheels, and looks every inch the seductress. But under that tempting skin lies a TR3A in first class order throughout with absolutely nothing left to chance. It's great fun to drive and very well put together, with extensive history. If this car is what you want and you have the cash it's more than worth a look!

Nick Larkin

BUY IT FROM Classic Chrome, Mortlake, London SW14 8LN.

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