

Hot Running TR-6

By Terry Young (pictures by Terry and Richard Speck)

We successfully got the TR-6 running. I can't say there was not much to it. We had plenty of help. Besides Bill Wilson, our gracious host and his donor car, a good-looking Triumph TR-6. Besides me, there was Bob Wall, Richard Speck, Greg Bell, a surprise visit by Duane Brown. Lest I forget, Bob's 8-year-old grandson, Finn who was ready to lend a hand but was more interested in his iPad.

Bill even offered to let him drive the golfcart around the neighborhood to no avail. With that, we decided to get started.



As Bill told the story about his adventures getting to and from the November Wilmington Jaycees Christmas Parade with no cooling fan. Limping home with some help from Dunkin' Donuts, his troubleshooting began by deciding to replace the original fuse block with a new one since the old one was coming apart.



Needless to say, when Bill popped the hood, we found all the fuse block connecting wires floating about the engine bay. We, mostly Bob, studied the numbers and where they might connect plus their color-codes to the schematic was able to restore back to the original configuration. Talk about a moment of "head scratching." We finally narrowed down the culprit – or why the fan wasn't spinning. The Temp Sender or EFI trigger sensor failed in the open position**. The internal sensor switch should close when the antifreeze hits the magic temperature – about 195° F running the fan long enough to cool the engine then once cooled down shutting off until the engine heats again in a continuous cycle helping to keep the engine running at peak performance.



Bill made the decision to cut the wires and pig-tailed the ends for continuous running. We checked the fuses one last time and gave Bill the thumbs-up to start the ignition sequence (sounds like the checklist to start a 747). Bill pumped the accelerator setting the Zenith Stromberg dual carbs with fuel. In that first position we could hear the fan spinning with its usual high pitch sound. With the second then third click to engage the starter, the straight-6 cylinder, 2.5-litre engine started perfectly. Bill let it run for very short time shutting it down before overheating, but it ran – cool!

With our mission complete Bill said it was time for lunch. *To get us in the mood, Bill played Andrea Bocelli in the background while he portioned out plates of Baked Lasagna. This wonderful feast was made by Bill's lovely wife, Lynda in anticipation of our Tech Day visit. A wonderful surprise! Thank You!*



Until the next Tech Session, we'll see you out there!



** How to Properly Wire Electric Cooling, <https://shop.championcooling.com/articles/Relay-Wiring>