

Faulty Oil Pressure Switch

On our recent TCCV Car Club event, John and Fay Seeley's TR7 engine oil light came on. John immediately stopped. The problem ended up being the failure of the engine oil pressure switch. The Bakelite piece that has the 3 terminals on comes loose and falls out. When this happens the engine just pumps the oil out of the sump. The only indication to the driver is that the oil pressure light comes on. In most cases when this happens the light tells you that you will need an engine rebuild. Hopefully John will be lucky and there has been no damage to the engine.

This has happened to me twice. Once in my 1986 Rover 3500 Vanden Plas and with a 1977 2500S. Both times I noticed an oil leak before the Bakelite piece blew out. This is a common fault with these pressure switches. It is good insurance to carry a spare in the tool kit. This is more prone with the switches with the 3 terminals. I have not done this in many years but I will carry one from now on. If your Triumph still has the Pollution gear still connected check the pressure switch for any signs of oil leaks.

Graeme Oxley