



VIBRATIONS

AUGUST 2023

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Fun in the sunshine with classic British motorbikes

MANOR CLOSE & DUKE ARMS

A great ride out with Paul to visit the residents of Manor Close

ACCIDENTAL RACER UPDATE

Dave G provides an update on his progress this season. It's not long until the **Best of British** at Santa Pod, why not come along?



FOUNDERS DAY 2023

NORTHANTS TOMCC HAD A GOOD SHOWING AT FOUNDERS DAY THIS YEAR

I hope you've managed to find a few dry days to gad about on your bikes, summer seems to have deserted us, I think I'll give up trying to mow the lawn and start working on an ark.

Thank you so much for your contributions this month, I look forward to seeing more for the numerous activities and events running in August. Don't forget to keep your contributions coming in, if you attend an event you want to share with other Triumph riders why not put down a few words, fill up the gaps with some interesting pictures and send it off to TOMCC-Vibrations@hotmail.com. Your contributions are always appreciated.

A quick plea for help please - Les B is putting together the final chapter of the HISTORY STORY UPDATE of the Northants TOMCC. He is missing the Years 1990-1994, can old friends assist with some input, please, from Vibrations and or Nacelle or even Memory Lane. Contact Les at leslie.barras@btinternet.com

Kirstie & Mark

TRIUMPH OWNERS M.C.C. NORTHANTS BRANCH





INTRODUCTIONS

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to our new club members this month

Stephen Corless - Northampton
Robert Hall - Wellingborough
Ian Joyce – Wellingborough

Bernard Giller - Newport Pagnell
David Hall - Daventry

EVENTS LIST – THE BIG LIST

IN ADDITION TO THE EVENTS BELOW FIND OUT MORE ABOUT ADHOC RIDE-OUTS VIA THE BRANCH'S FACEBOOK PAGE

AUGUST			
Wed 2nd	7.30pm	Club Night - Scramblers	The Crown Hardingstone
Sat 6 th		Rushden Classic Car & Bike Show	Hall Park, Rushden
Wed 9th	9.30am	Breakfast Meet	Hoar Park
Sun 13th	9.30am	Guest Member Rideout	S. Patenall
Wed 16th	7.30pm	Club Night	The Crown Hardingstone
Fri 18th to Sun 20th		South Lincs - TOMCC Rally (Big Branch Bash)	Greetham Ctr. Oakham
Sat 26th	10.30am	Breakfast Meet	Pure Triumph Wellingborough
Sun 27th	10.00am	Guest Member Rideout	P. Tobbutt
Wed 30th	7.30pm	Club Night – Meriden	The Swan Newton Bromswold
SEPTEMBER			
Sat 2nd	10.00am	Breakfast Meet	Pure Triumph Wellingborough
Sun 3rd	10.00am	Breakfast Meet	GILKS Garage Kinerton
Sun 3rd	10.00am	ABF Charity Event	Triumph Factory Hinkley
Wed 6th	7.30pm	Club Night	The Crown Hardingstone
Sun 10th	09.00am	Fish & Chip Run	Hunstanton
Wed 13th	9.30am	Breakfast Meet	Hoar Park
Sun 17 th	9.30am	Peterborough Branch Bike Show	The Bull Newborough
Wed 20th	7.30pm	Club Night	The Crown Hardingstone
Sun 24th		Country ride to Piston & Props	Sywell Aerodrome (Tim Kitchen)
Fri 29th	09.00am	McMillan Coffee Morning	TBC
Sat 30th	10.30am	Breakfast Meet	Pure Triumph Wellingborough
OCTOBER			
Sun 1st	10.00am	Guest Member Rideout	TBC
Wed 4th	7.30pm	Club Night	The Crown Hardingstone
Fri 13 th – Mon 16 th		Skegfest	Golden Palm Resort, Chapel St Leonards, Lincs
Sun 15th	10.00am	Breakfast Meet	Super Sausage Potterspurry
Wed 18th	7.30pm	Club Music Quiz Night	The Crown Hardingstone

NOVEMBER

Wed 1st	7.30pm	Club Night	The Crown Hardingstone
Wed 15th	7.30pm	Club Night	The Crown Hardingstone
Wed 29th	7.30pm	Club Night	The Swan Newton Bromswold

DECEMBER

Wed 6th	7.30pm	Club Night	The Crown Hardingstone
Wed 20th	7.30pm	Club Night - Xmas Party	The Crown Hardingstone



FOUNDERS DAY 2023

WOULD RAIN SPOIL FOUNDERS DAY THIS YEAR?



I arrived around 3pm at the showground on Saturday with my trusty camper and my bike on the trailer. I was due to have my 3 companions again this year. But, they all could not make it for personal reasons, so there I was sitting in the motorhome, the rain lashing down outside and thinking would the show go on. I was starting to wish it was a jet ski on my trailer.



I couldn't have been more pleased to see the sun on show day, what a relief not having the event spoiled by pouring rain.

As I surveyed the weather, all around me the show was starting to come alive, and within 2 hours almost everything was in place. Except the TOMCC stall!

By 9 o'clock I was still on my own and there was much to do. Imagine my relief when the Chairman texted to say "I'm on my way". Thank goodness.



The first riders to arrive where Kevin and Rickie-Lee, just behind chugging along came the chairman with Les and his Tiger 90.

Now work could begin, Les was on it and the Gazebo was up and before we knew it we were ready. Just in time for the show opening at 10am.

I met Mick and Sal at the gate for their passes, and Paul rode in soon after. Les got a sweat on after all his hard work, so I rustled up tea and coffee for the team, I even managed to knock up a few bacon rolls too.

We had a great day, the Chairman was chuffed with his 1930 CSD 550, that ran like a

dream on the way to the show, and the great amount of interest it had on show, you could see from the smile on his face all day.



I only had one thing to achieve this year and that was to ride the arena, to show off our club. We experienced some mix up on the show times, Paul then went up and rode around on his own, which caused some consternation as they were just finishing off trophy presentations. I got ready, Kevin said he would come too, only to find they had finished and taking the arena apart, whoops I missed it. I'll try again next year.



It is a wonderful event and a great location, for the site and sound of the British bike a year gone by.

Henry



MANOR CLOSE & DUKE ARMS

A RIDE OUT TO MANOR CLOSE THRAPSTON

July Wednesday Evening Ride Out - Manor Close and Dukes Arms

Summer? You would hardly have thought it with Julie Reinger, TV's Look East weather girl foretelling doom and gloom since the beginning of the week. Floods, pestilence and a plague of frogs as well as thunder lightning and heavy rain.

I could tell that fellow riders for the trip were getting jumpy by the messages appearing on the club Facebook page. Wednesday arrived but with true British grit I gave assurances that I, at least would be at Pure Triumph for the 6.00pm departure.

Riding to Wellingborough as the rain poured down on me from a leaden sky I was beginning to wonder myself if it was such a good idea given the conditions. By the time I arrived at Wellingborough to meet Bob the deluge had ceased and although there were heavy clouds it was looking more promising.

As 6.00pm approached more riders arrived and by the time of the Grand Depart we numbered 11 bikes and a few pillions, they're a hardy lot at Northampton TOMCC.

Of particular concern to me was the photographer Nikki Marshall and her husband Ian whom I had arranged to take a few pictures of us actually riding the route and I must say that a few nervous texts were exchanged before we set off.

Apart from a dark cloud or two and a flash of lightning on the A6 Higham Ferrers bypass the weather was improving all the time and we continued towards Kimbolton in evening sunshine passing Nikki and Ian at Chelveston bends for our first photo point.



It seems there was a lot to chat about and as Dave Grundy already knew Nikki & Ian from Santa Pod there was much chatter of exploits on the drag strip at our end of the table and a good deal of friendly exchanges relating to our roughly 40 mile tour as well as from rides recent and past all around. As for Julie Reinger? Well do your worst and it won't stop us!

I had a good evening in the very best of company and thanks to everyone for your support and kind words of thanks.

Paul Ollett



ACCIDENTAL RACER 2023

DAVE'S MID-SEASON UPDATE

Round 1, Easter Weekend (3 days).

Was remarkably average! I qualified half way down the field, only 0.09 off my dial in, but with 7 qualifying sessions over two days of racing, I needed to be within 0.03 to be in the top six. A first round win set me against Liam Holgate, ex junior drag bike competitor in round 2. So I set off 0.004 of a second too soon. Oops. This left me 8th in the championship, not the start I was hoping for.



Round 2, May Bank Holiday Weekend (3 days)

With the words “Must do better” ringing in my ears, my first qualifying session felt really good. Q1 was close, 0.04 reaction and 0.02 under my dial-in. Unfortunately, it was 0.02 under my dial in! Q2 a bit of a whoopsie daisy with a cock-up off the line and a decent banker at the end of Saturday moving me to mid pack.

Sunday morning saw me up to P3, 0.05 off dial-in. Unfortunately no improvement on the final qualifying session saw me pushed down to P7 and a first round draw against Carl Hester scheduled to be run at the end of the day. Rain put a stop to a Sunday night racing, so the first round was pushed back to Monday morning. Then afternoon. Bloody weather.

Race time and once again I had forgotten how to ride and managed to find neutral instead of second gear. Game over. You can't give Carl half a second and expect to be anywhere near him at the stripe. Especially when he had a better reaction than me.

That was the end to my racing weekend, but not the end to the fun.

There were some great performances throughout the day, some unexpected finalists and some great pb's set.

Well done everyone from all the car and bike classes for putting on a great show.

But the biggest thank you goes to the track crew and Santa Pod staff for persevering against the weather and getting the meeting to its conclusion, finally running the last of the finals at 8pm.

Carl's Old Skool Suzuki.

Sportsman Nationals, 17th and 18th June.

What an awesome weekend. Qualifying was a bit iffy, consistent 10.55 second runs on a 10.42 dial-in. So switched the dial-in to 10.53 and ran 10.46. oops. This left me as number 11 qualifier.

This gave me a first round elimination against Liam Holgate, ex-junior drag racer, currently 4th in the championship and a force to be reckoned with, having already beaten me this season at Easter. 10.57 on a 10.50 dial was enough to squeeze the win – less than ½ a bike length at the stripe. Round 2 put me against Jake Boden who was way off form – a point 3 reaction from him and I was past just after the eighth and could back off to take



the win which gave me a bye run to the semi-finals against Gary Hester (Carl's dad), last year's runner up in the championship and always consistent. I got him on a holeshot after he slept on the line – still too close for comfort, but a win is a win and into the final we went.

Scott Collier is another ex-junior and had taken out current champion and number 1 qualifier on his way to the finals and is 3rd in the championship. He's also been running bang on his dial-in with lightning quick reaction times.

This was going to be tough – but what a final!

I had almost a second start on the tree. It felt like a decent light but I could hear him coming all the way on his TL1000 based drag bike. I wasn't going to back off. If I break out so be it. At the stripe he was right alongside but I got there first. Where the hell is that win light? Did I break out?

Then ping, on it came. In my lane.

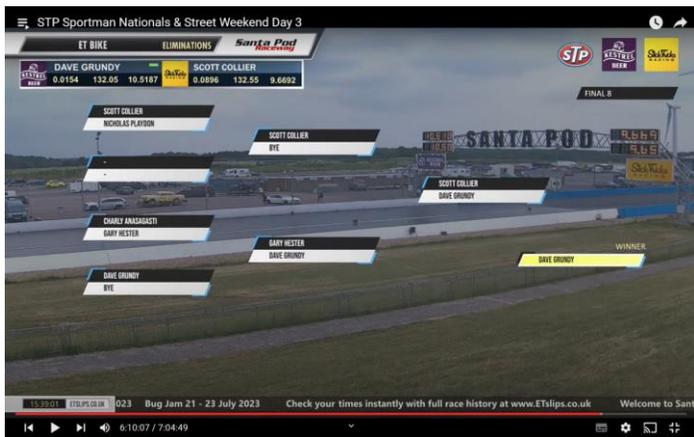
I've only gone and bloody won it!

10.51 on a 10.50 against 9.66 on 9.65. The clincher was a 0.01 reaction time against Scott's 0.08. That was one helluva race.

Races like this are what drag racing is all about.

And the win has moved me up to P3 in the championship.

And we get to do it all again in two weeks time at the Summer Nationals. See you there.



Summer Nationals 1st and 2nd July

What is going on with my qualifying??? Only 3 qualifiers on Saturday before Sunday race day. Big head wind, so dialed in 10.52 and ran 10.70 and 10.63. Way off, so changed the dial in to 10.55 for the final run and ran 10.53!!!

So P12 it is then, which should put me against number 4 qualifier which is Scott Collier. Bigger. Scott will want revenge for last meeting. This will be another close thing. And it doesn't get much closer than this.

I was a little further off my dial, 0.05 over, but fortunately, Scott broke out. He went 0.008 of a second too quick. Phew.

Unfortunately, I couldn't repeat this in round 2 when I met Angelos Karandreas, one of the Dutch competitors on his incredibly quick GSXR1000. He beat me fair and square, with a better reaction time and closer to his dial in.

Luckily, most of the other riders on similar points didn't do much better than I did, so I remain P3 in the championship, although it is really close between 2nd and 6th place, so everything to play for in the last 2 rounds, the Greenlight Nationals and the National Finals.

We now have a bit of a break before Greenlight which is August 19th and 20th.

We do get to go out playing a couple of times before then. I will be crewing for a friend who races his Golf VR6 at BugJam and I will be out for a bit of practice at the Best of British event on the 12th of August. If you fancy it – you can have a go too at this event, as the track will be open to British vehicles for RWYB.



Dave Grundy

SUMMER UPDATE

FOUR ROUNDS COMPLETED, WE ARE CURRENTLY 3RD IN THE CHAMPIONSHIP

Realistically, we are unlikely to win the championship, as the leader has an almost unassailable lead. Mathematically possible, but unless disaster strikes, the chances of him being beaten are slim.

I can still get second place as I am only a few points adrift, but I also have several other bikes withing spitting distance on me too, so lots still to play for.

The last two rounds are the Greenlight Nationals, 19th - 20th Aug and the National Finals, 22nd – 24th September.

Meanwhile, we also have a couple of non-championship events coming up. The first one is 'Best of British' day 12th August at Santa Pod. The day is a celebration of all things British, classic cars and bikes, tractors, steam engines and a chance to see Graham Sykes' Force of Nature, steam powered bike. Don't be fooled into thinking a steam bike is slow – it has run the quarter in less than seven seconds. I'll be playing on the Street Triple and might even let the Tiger and my MG out to play too.

Then on Sunday 3rd of September I have an event that is new to me. Hoghton Tower Sprint up near Preston. A bike only 1/8th mile sprint uphill. Classes for all bikes from pre 1940 to the present day. Looks like a lot of fun with no pressure. I will be running in the BEARs class (British, European, American. Restricted) for 4 cyl to 1000cc, triples and twins to 1200cc.

<https://www.hoghtontower.co.uk/special-events/3rd-september-motorcycle-sprint/>

Mind you, when I say no pressure, if I can run within a couple of tenths of what I run at Melbourne, I can win the class.... Like I said. No pressure!

I'll try to get some photos and report on the even for the next edition.

Dave G





GREASY FRY UP CHALLENGE

ANY EXCUSE FOR A NICE RIDE

Following on from the success of the 2021 National TOMCC challenge event "CUP OF TEA", and 2022's "PINT OF BEER" challenge we have arranged a similar challenge event to run through 2023 just for Northants Branch members.

The Challenge

Ride your Triumph in and around Northamptonshire, including adjacent villages and towns, where their first letter forms part of the spelling of **GREASY FRY UP**.

At each location take a photograph of your bike adjacent to the town/village sign which denote the letter in GREASY FRY UP.

For example – "F"RY could be a picture at "F"LORE.

ENTRY SUBMISSION

When you have completed your route through Northants and have taken all 11 Photographs for each letter of **GREASY FRY UP**, send them in an e-mail to Branch Secretary Les Barras at: secretary@northantstomcc.org.uk. Please include the date that you finished the challenge.

EVENT TIMING

You have until the end of December 2023 to complete the challenge. It's up to you whether you do it all in one day or over a number of rides. If you have more than one Triumph, then you can use different machines for different sections.

CERTIFICATE

All Northants Branch members who complete the "GREASY FRY UP" Challenge will be awarded a certificate of achievement.

Any questions please ask any of your Branch Committee

Les





NORTHANTS BRANCH INFO



MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Any queries about membership or other matters you can reach us via northantstomccmembership@btinternet.com

If your club membership is due for renewal here are the best ways of dealing with it...

- 1) Renew on-line via tomcc.org/Home/Membership with a credit card, debit card or PayPal account. You can also get a £2 discount using this method.
- 2) Fill in the membership form that was sent to you, then post it direct to the HQ Membership address at Horley, as shown on the form. Include a cheque made payable to Triumph Owners MCC.
- 3) Fill in the membership form and hand it to the Branch Membership Secretary at a club night. Payment by cheque or cash. Memberships renewed this way are only sent to HQ a couple of times a month, so will take longer to process than 1 or 2 above.

Don't worry about the money as the Branch receives the same amount per member regardless of the method used to renew.

BRANCH HQ:-

The Crown, High Street, Hardingstone, Northampton, NN4 6BZ.

The main access to Hardingstone village is from the roundabout at the junction of the A45, A508 and A5076 (ring road). Other access from the Newport Pagnell Road (B526).

1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month, starting at 8pm.

For those months where there is a 5th Wednesday there will be an additional meeting at The Swan in Newton Bromswold, near Rushden.

PURE TRIUMPH:

Our local Triumph dealer is based at The Embankment, Wellingborough, NN8 1LD. The company's website can be found at www.puretriumph.co.uk.

On production of a current Triumph Owners membership card, Pure Triumph at Wellingborough will give a 10% discount on the following items: Clothing, Oxford Products, Helmets, Oil products, Labour on Servicing.

THE BRANCH ON THE INTERNET:

Our website can be found at: www.northantstomcc.org.uk. Most pages are public but there is one small section that is restricted to branch members only, accessed via the password that is advised separately.

We also have Facebook page: www.facebook.com/groups/northantstomcc/

OTHER INTERNET LINKS:

Triumph Owners MCC national website: www.tomcc.org

Triumph Owners MCC events website: www.tomccevents.co.uk

Triumph Owners Clothing: www.tomccmerchandise.com

The club also has a page on Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/4526704577/.

British Motorcyclists Federation: www.bmf.co.uk

Motorcycle Action Group: www.mag-uk.org

Triumph Motorcycles: www.triumphmotorcycles.co.uk

Northants Branch Clothing Range

The range of Northants Branch clothing: T-Shirt, Polo Shirt, Sweatshirt, Hoodie, Fleece, Business Shirt, Baseball Cap, and new Beanie hat; can be purchased on-line.

Some items can also be done with a large back-print for an additional fee.

To order click on this link:

www.customkit.co.uk/northants-triumph-owners-club-52-c.asp

Club Night Ordering: If you would prefer not to go on-line you can place an order with Les Barras at one of our club nights. Your selection should then be ready for collection at the next club night.

HAVE YOU EVER

Have you ever had a wasp in your helmet?

Have you ever Arial 3?

Have you ever braked hard in the wet on 70s discs?

Have you ever ridden in Northants when the road surfaces were good?

Have you ever had a Lewis leather jacket?

Have you ever had a recovery service guy do a road side fix?

Have you ever told your insurance that the bike was modified?

Have you ever changed the cable before it broke?

Have you ever bought a replacement exhaust that fitted perfectly?

Have you ever dropped it with every one looking?

Have you ever got it to run almost long enough to get your helmet on?

Have you ever wished it only had one carb?

Have you ever wished that the new stuff was as good as 4 star?

Have you ever ridden to a club night in the rain?

Have you ever pinched the web of your thumb with a pair of pliers



Tim