



VIBRATIONS

APRIL 2023

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TOMCC Northants members met for their annual general meeting

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### CHARITY DINNER

Northants TOMCC gathered for their annual charity dinner

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### WOBURN RIDE OUT

A rather soggy visit to Triumph Woburn Classic Car & Bike meet



# TOMCC NORTHANTS AGM

## TOMCC NORTHANTS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The club members gathered at the Crown in Hardington on the 15<sup>th</sup> of March for the Annual General Meeting. Rickie Anne Gee & Sue North were jointly awarded the Navigator Trophy, with Bob romping home with most of the other awards. It was a busy and lively night.

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It was a quieter month for club biking activities, but with the AGM and Charity Dinner there was plenty to keep members busy. But never fear, the next few months looks full of interesting events, why not take a look and see if anything takes your fancy.

Mark & I have enjoyed gadding about on our new bikes, and special thanks to Toby for accompanying me to Hunstanton to get some extra miles in prior to my first service, thank you. Here's hoping that April will bring fewer rainy days and the occasionally sunny spell.

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](mailto:TOMCC-Vibrations@hotmail.com). Your contributions are always appreciated.

*Kirstie & Mark*

TRIUMPH OWNERS M.C.C. NORTHANTS BRANCH





# INTRODUCTIONS

## WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to our new club member this month

There were no new members during March 2023

# EVENTS LIST – THE BIG LIST

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

## APRIL

Sat 1st	10.30am	Breakfast Meet	Pure Triumph Wellingborough
Wed 5th	7.30pm	Club Night	The Crown Hardingstone
Sun 16th		National TOMCC – AGM	Pavilion, Wolverhampton
Wed 19th	7.30pm	Club Night	The Crown Hardingstone
Sun 23rd	10.30am	Breakfast Meet	Super Sausage Cafe Pottesbury
Mon 24th	7.30pm	Committee Meeting	The Crown Hardingstone
Fri 28th to Mon 1st		TRIFEST Somerset	FULLY BOOKED !!!!!!!
Fri 28th to Mon 1st		Despatch Rally	Nettlecombe Dorset
Sat 29th	10.30am	Breakfast Meet	Pure Triumph Wellingborough
Sun 30th	10.00am	Leader - Bob Swann	Sunday 100 ride out

## MAY

Wed 3rd	7.30pm	Club Night Triumph Twins	The Crown Hardingstone
Sat 6th	10.30am	Breakfast Meet	Pure Triumph Wellingborough
Sat 13th	09.00am	MCN Festival Motorcycling	Peterborough
Sun 14th	10.00am	Breakfast Meet	Stoney Cove
Wed 17th	7.30pm	Club Night Triumph Tiger	The Crown Hardingstone
Fri 19th to Mon 22nd		YORVIK Vikings in the Valley	Barnard Castle
Sat 20th	10.00am	Prostrate Cancer @ Tramshed	Rushden Station (£5 entry)
Sun 21 <sup>st</sup>	10.00am	Distinguished Gentleman's Ride	TBC
Wed 24 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Breakfast Meet	Hoar Park & Huggies Speed Shop
Sat 27 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Breakfast Meet	Pure Triumph Wellingborough
Sun 28 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Volunteer Leader	Sunday 100 rideout
Mon 29 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	South Lincs TOMCC	The Morden Brook, Morden

**MAY cont.**

Wed 31 <sup>st</sup>	7.30pm	Club Night	The Swan Newton Bromswold
TBC		Peterborough TOMCC	3 Horseshoes, Yaxley

**JUNE**

Sat 3rd	10.00am	Breakfast Meet	Pure Triumph Woburn
3 <sup>rd</sup> & 4th	11:00am	Coventry Moto Fest	Coventry
Sun 4th	10.00am	Breakfast Meet	Two Flags Diner
Wed 7th	7.30pm	Club Night Triumph Triples	The Crown Hardingstone
Sat 10th	10.30am	Breakfast Meet	Pure Triumph Wellingborough
Sat 10th	10.00am	Daventry Bike Festival	Daventry Centre
Mon 12th to Fri 16th		Northants TOMCC Club Trip	Borth West Wales
Sun 18th	10.00am	Breakfast Meet	Wymondham Windmill
Mon 19th	7.00pm	Meriden TOMCC	H of E Social Meriden
Wed 21st	7.30pm	Club Night	The Crown Hardingstone
Sat 24th	10.30am	Breakfast Meet	Pure Triumph Wellingborough
Sun 25th	10.00am	Volunteer Leader	Sunday 100 rideout

**JULY**

Sat 1st	10.30am	Breakfast Meet	Pure Triumph Wellingborough
Sun 2nd	10.00am	Breakfast Meet	The Square St. Neots
Mon 3rd	7.00pm	Milton Keynes TOMCC	The Station Inn Woburn Sands
Wed 5th	7.30pm	Club Night - Concours	The Crown Hardingstone
Sun 9th	09.00am	Triumph Day	TBC
Sun 9th	TBC	Grimethorpe Classic	Bourne
Wed 12th	9.30am	Breakfast Meet	Hoar Park / Huggies Speed Shop
Fri 14th to Sun 16th		Essex Treffen Rally	Dog & Partridge Orset
Sun 16th	09.00am	Dambusters Flight	Woodhall Spa
Wed 19th	7.30pm	Club Night	The Crown Hardingstone
Sun 23rd	10.00am	Founders Day (VMCC)	Stanford Hall
Wed 26th	7.30pm	Summer BBQ Night	The Crown Hardingstone
Sat 29th	10.30am	Breakfast Meet	Pure Triumph Wellingborough
Sun 30th	10.00am	Volunteer Leader	Sunday 100 rideout

**AUGUST**

Wed 2nd	7.30pm	Club Night - Scramblers	The Crown Hardingstone
Wed 9th	9.30am	Breakfast Meet	Hoar Park
Sun 13th	9.30am	Breakfast Meet	Rutland TT
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	Volunteer Leader	Sunday 100 rideout
TBC		Rushden Bike Festival	
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
Wed 20th	7.30pm	Club Night	The Crown Hardingstone
Sat 23rd/Sun 24th		Piston & Props	Sywell Aerodrome
Fri 29th	09.00am	McMillan Coffee Morning	TBC
Sat 30th	10.30am	Breakfast Meet	Pure Triumph Wellingborough

## OCTOBER

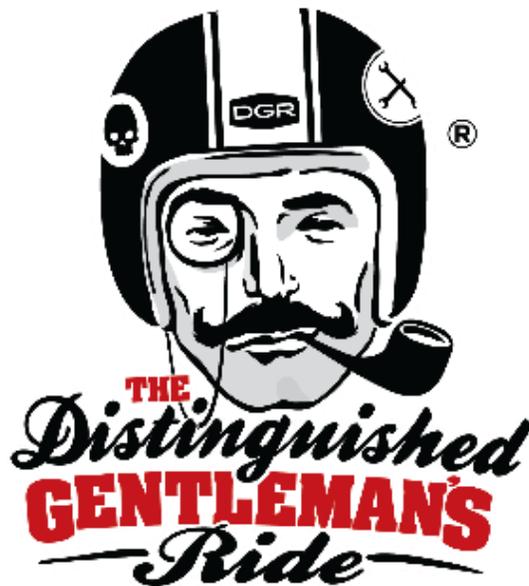
Sun 1st	10.00am	Volunteer Leader	Sunday 100
Wed 4th	7.30pm	Club Night	The Crown Hardingstone
TBC		Skegfest	Richardsons Skegness
Sun 15th	10.00am	Breakfast Meet	Super Sausage Pottesperry
Wed 18th	7.30pm	Club Night	The Crown Hardingstone

## 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



# LAST CHANCE TO BOOK FOR RIDE OUT & DELICIOUS LUNCH

SATURDAY 22ND APRIL 2023

Depart Pure Triumph, The Embankment, Wellingborough, 10.30 am for a cruise around the lanes of North Northamptonshire and Leicestershire for our lunch stop at Bulwick around 12.30pm. Guided return or make your own way home.

Menu for 2023:-

Ploughman's Lunch	£10.75 ( <i>Pork pie or sausage roll, Cheese, Pickle, Pickled onion, Apple or grapes, Salad garnish</i> ).
Ham, Egg & Chips	£10.45
Jacket potato	£8.75 ( <i>Fillings:- Beef Chilli or veg option, Taw Valley cheese, Baked Beans or Gammon Ham</i> ).
Beef Burger and Chips	£13.50
(vegetarian option) & Chips	£14.75

£5.00 Deposit for food required with reservation paid to Bob Swann

## New Lodge Farm, Bulwick, Northants

The farm has been owned by the Singlehurst family for over 100 years focusing on cattle and sheep production by using traditional organic methods of farming.

Over the past 20 years the farm has evolved from livestock production to a highly respected provider of leisure and event catering services.

The farm is run by husband and wife team Simon and Sarah Singlehurst who have developed an award-winning farm shop, butchery and eatery as well as an adults only site for camping and touring caravan enthusiasts.

They have made use of redundant farm buildings thoughtfully brought back to life to house the shop, café bar and camping facilities and there is an eatery that delivers classic hearty cooking to satisfy all appetites.

Situated near the old market towns of Stamford, Market Harborough and Uppingham and set in beautiful countryside there is plenty to see in the area.

For more information contact Paul Ollett

Tel: 07599 209745 or [pauollett@btinternet.com](mailto:pauollett@btinternet.com)



# TOMCC CHARITY DINNER

NORTHANTS TOMCC ANNUAL GALA CHARITY DINNER 11<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2023



It was a very chilly and damp evening in March, but 48 hardy souls gathered at the Elwes Arms Pub in Gt Billing to enjoy good food, a few beverages and great company.

The charity event was in aid of The Air Ambulance Service, which Northants TOMCC has supported for several years, in fact a long as it has been operating for the last 22 Years.

The wealth of gifts brought along in support of the prize raffle was outstanding. Once again Pure Triumph Wellingborough donated an abundance of gifts. Our new members who attended for the very first time also came up with prize donations, very well done to you all.

Bob Swann our Treasurer presented a generous cheque of £515 for The Air Ambulance Service to Les Barras as the local Northampton AA Ambassador.

A very BIG Thank You is sent to all the Northants TOMCC members, guests and friends, who donated to the charity The Air Ambulance Service.

Food was excellent, the company jovial and lively, entertainment was provided by a local Reggae singer, which got us up dancing away the rest of the night. Thanks once again to all, but particularly Paul Humphreys and (Bob) Robert Swann for a great night.

*Les*







# Triumph Owners M.C.C.

## Northants Branch



# TOMCC NORTHANTS AGM

## TOMCC NORTHANTS 46<sup>TH</sup> AGM

This year was Northants TOMCC's 46th AGM and was held on 15th March 2023 at the Crown Pub, Hardingstone. The pub was packed out with TOMCC members which was testament to how much value the club brings, and how well The Club is supported.

As with all AGM's, there's a formal process to follow but thankfully the Executive Committee, the Chair, Secretary & Treasurer managed to maintain a finely balanced approach between official & social. The full minutes of the AGM have been published but for those who haven't managed to get sight of them, just drop us a line and we'll make sure you get a copy or are pointed in the right direction.

A couple of things stood out from the AGM though which whilst business as usual, should be highlighted as their value cannot be underestimated.

Firstly, but in no order of importance, the collective membership of the Northants Club! You the members are the life & soul of the club, the most important aspect of any club, the archive of yesteryear and potential chairperson of tomorrow. We have a huge number of paid-up members and whilst not everyone can make the meetings or the ride outs, your contributions to the club allow others to live vicariously. Some of our collective may be experiencing difficulties with life, health or just time management, so those who do manage to contribute do more than just turn up. You allow others to take a peek into club life, see a variety of machines, old & new, and generally put a smile on people's faces. Just by turning up can put a smile on someone else's face, and for that we thank you.

With the huge news from Sarge that Northants TOMCC has reached 171 members, the highest number since inception has to be applauded.

Following on has to be the diary of events!!! The 2023 diary is jam packed with morning or afternoon rides, dirty weekends away (you know who you are – and by dirty, I mean those who crawl back to their accommodation) and full blown weeks away, all of which have been organised by committed club members for the enjoyment of all. However, and if I may be so bold, we need more people to step up. The usual suspects organise the majority of events and whilst it's enjoyable, it can also be a difficult task. So, if you have any great ideas for social events that relate directly to the Club (or loosely if we can get it past the Committee) then shout out at a club night, or drop us a line at the email below. There's always help at hand to guide you through organising the events, so don't feel like you'll be left in the lurch, there's always someone available to help & support.

Without harping on too much about the details in the AGM, the one thing I think has to be highlighted, no shouted about, is the contribution that Les B has given to the Club. As elected Secretary and self-appointed general dogs' body, the work Les does in the background for the benefit of the club is second to none. He selfishly juggles the physical documentation, the website, the clothing & merchandise as well as being the collator of all attendees that contributes to the awards detailed below (not to mention is plethora of other commitments to other clubs).





The AGM is your opportunity to make positive change. The objectives of an annual general meeting (AGM) are to consider, debate and vote on the proposed plan, financial statements and other relevant matters. The AGM is also an opportunity for shareholders (YOU!) to ask questions of committee and to express your views about the club's performance. Without your input the Club will fall flat on its face, so please, have a voice. Write in early so your point can be an agenda item, especially those more complex issues that would benefit from a little research prior to discussion. Or just shout out at the appropriate time on the night. Either way, get involved. At the very least you get to see the new recipient of the Double-Digit Award (no pressure Bob)...

Committee elections were completed, and the following positions confirmed:

- Chairman Steve Rattley
- General Secretary – Les Barras
- Treasurer – Bob Swann
- Members secretary – Bob Swann
- Public Relations Officer (PRO) – Henry (John Richards)
- Webmaster – Les Barras,
- Scribes – Nacelle – Henry, Vibrations – Kirstie Watson & Mark Lloyd
- Auditor – Alan Price
- GPOs – Paul Humphreys, Phil Tobutt, Steve Patenall, Tim Kitchen

Thanks were given to Ian Sargent and Neville Colvin both retiring from posts, their hard work has been much appreciated. Les Barras noted his intention to stand down from his roles at the next AGM. A handover of his many and varied duties will take place over the coming year.

Everything the Club does is swiftly followed up by some sort of communique to all by Les in his usual, witty, effervescent and cheeky chappy manner. I think I say on behalf of all our members Les has done a sterling job, and in this his last year in post, it's fitting that everyone fully understands the levels of dedication Les has given to the Club. Thank You Les.

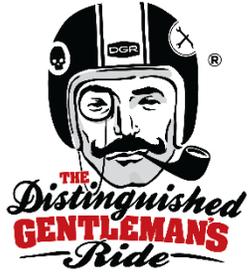
Finally, the awards, those who have contributed in different ways to the evolution of the Club;

**Bob Swann** managed to bag 2 this year, the **Triumph Trophy** & the **Riders Trophy**. Oh sorry, make that 3. We cannot forget Bobs receipt of the **Double-Digit award!** It would be wrong to harp on about individuals' minor indiscretions. However, we the collective don't believe filling your bike with diesel to be minor, so for this we'll harp on about this just a little bit longer.

**Rickie Anne Gee & Sue North** share the **Navigator Trophy** and by some dodgy exchange of used notes in plain brown envelopes, **Kirstie** takes home the **Club Person of the Year award** (I will never ever hear the end of that, thank you to all who voted!!)



# DISTINGUISHED GENTLEMAN'S RIDER



## DGR 2023 REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

On Sunday May 21st, 2023, around the world, the global DGR community will come together and celebrate in trademark dapper fashion. classic & vintage styled motorcycles riding for a cause. Last year the Distinguished Gentleman's Ride raised over \$5.8 million USD for prostate cancer and men's mental health.

Northants TOMCC has always supported this worthy event, with many of our members taking part. We have had some of the best dressed and dapper costumes and classiest classic looking bikes.

The event invites owners of classic and custom style motorcycles and scooters, to dress dapper and unite in a parade ride to raise funds and awareness for prostate cancer and men's mental health. Suitable bikes include Cafe Racer, Bobber, Classic, Tracker, Scrambler, Old School Chopper, Modern Classic, Sidecar, Classic Scooter, Classic Cruiser, Modern Classic Electric or Brat Styled motorcycle.



This year's event will set-off from Pure Triumph Wellingborough and will travel at slow speed in convoy to the Triumph Factory at Hinckley. Several other DGR rides are also riding to Hinckley, where there will be refreshments available and ample opportunity to admire each other's costumes and bikes, so it should make for a very enjoyable day.

Take a look at some of the photos from previous years. It looks like lots of fun so why not register, raise some money for a good cause and come and join this international event spanning over 800 locations worldwide.

You can find more details and register at [The Distinguished Gentleman's Ride \(gentlemansride.com\)](https://gentlemansride.com)



# SUNDAY 100 RIDEOUT TO WOBURN

TRIUMPH WOBURN CLASSIC CAR & BIKE MEET 18<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2023



A few mad folk believed the Met Office report and ventured out to Triumph Woburn for the much heralded Classic Car & Bike meet. Bob Swan, Phil Tobutt, Steve Leadbetter, Worm, Kirstie and myself headed over on a jolly dry morning, ready to lap up the delights our nearest & dearest TOMCC neighbours had to offer. Well that's as good as it gets to be fair. We arrived just as it started to rain, and by rain I'm sure I saw Noah's contribution to the classic vehicles sat in the corner in preparation for good send off!! There aren't enough expletives to support the volume of water we experienced as we huddled under a few garden brollies and the café canopy. Hot tea and bacon butties were the only good thing to come out of the trip over, as the handful of die-hardards stood in bemusement betting on how long we could wait until the rain broke.

For the most part we managed to stay dry, laughing at or predicament whilst Worm ensured his strategically placed carrier bag offered some protection to his old school leather seat & didn't get any more water damage!

The odd car dashed off leaving us billy no mates pretty much alone until about 1pm before we saw some glimmer of hope. A small reduction in the volume of rain and some shards of sunlight gave us hope, and we made a mad dash for the county border. Engines revving, we were sat like GP riders ready to wheel spin away as fast as possible. Well sort of. Whilst Worm jumped furiously on his kick-start, or now renamed kick and do nothing, we sat twitching whether to save our own skins or help the stranded rider. In true club tradition, we left him to it and ran!! Not really, we all chuckled and stood round whilst Toby rolled his proverbial sleeves up and gave it some welly. Whilst Toby didn't manage to work his magic, Worms next attempt saw the bike roar into life, and of course Toby took all the credit!



To be fair, as wet as it was, the craic was good, the company was great, and it did give Bob a legitimate excuse to spend an extra few hours sniffing metal polish! Note to self, the Met Office is rubbish!

*Mark*

# A WINDY WEEKEND IN WALES

## “WHAT’LL IT DO MISTER?”

It’s a question I have been asked on many occasions, mostly by spotty yoofs and on occasion by older gents who should know better. It was also something I was keen to know and in May last year I got the opportunity to find out at an airfield in Wales. As many of you may know, I drag race my Street Triple 765RS at Santa Pod. What is not commonly known is that I also do the occasional sprint elsewhere.

One such event is run by Straightliners at Llanbedr Airfield in North Wales. It is an event open to bikes and cars and is a quarter mile drag race, sprint and also a half mile, standing start, top speed sprint.

Llanbedr Airfield is an ex WW2 RAF base and has had a number of different uses since being decommissioned in the early 1950s. It is still an operational airfield and is home to the Snowdonia Flight School and we had use of the longest of the three runways.

I had entered both the ‘No Mercy’ winner takes all drag race and the half mile top speed sprint. I figured that as I was hitting 136mph at the end of the quarter, I should be somewhere near my bike’s top speed at the half mile marker.



FIGURE 1: BASE CAMP AT LLANBEDR. WHAT A VIEW



FIGURE 2: VIEW FROM THE START LINE

The first exit back to the pit area is on the right at the half mile mark, so if you are completing the half mile sprint or miss the turn after your quarter mile run, it’s another mile to the end of the runway and the service road back.

My quarter mile times were about the same as usual at around 10.4 seconds at 134mph, so after a few sighting runs it was time to try half mile run.

147.6 mph. Not too bad for a first attempt and so close to 150mph. Close, but no cigar this time! It was still early though, so plenty of time to get a few more attempts before close of play.

This was my first visit to Llanbedr and what a venue it is. On the western edge of Snowdonia the setting is beautiful, situated just off the coast the views are stunning. Couple that with warm, clear weather on arrival and the prospect of a great weekend was on the menu.

I had arrived late Friday night after the gates had closed, so slept in the caravan and set up on site at eight the following morning. The Riders and drivers briefing was completed by ten and we were ready to go. Right hand lane for standing start quarter timed runs and the left had lane for either quarter mile runs and half mile top speed runs. Both lanes also had eighth mile times.

Wow. Just wow.

I chose to initially complete a few quarter mile runs to get a feel for the track. Different was my conclusion. Firstly, we weren’t allowed to burn out at the start line, and I was concerned that grip could be an issue. It wasn’t. The runway was surfaced with a compound similar to Shellgrip. Secondly, it was smooth. Really smooth. Possibly the smoothest thing I have ever ridden on.

Thirdly, it’s bloody long! Almost one and a half miles long.





On par with the track time is the off-track activity. The atmosphere at these events is really laid back, everyone chats with anyone, everyone will help anyone and there is great camaraderie – right up to the point when the crash helmet goes on and the visor closes. Then they are your arch enemy that needs to be put in their place. No mercy here....

There is also a wide variety of racing machinery to ogle with two, three and four wheels – and at some of these events, even one wheeled machines! And often a good variety Triumph motorcycles.

In the afternoon, I alternated quarter mile and half mile passes, the weather held out and with just a gentle breeze, good conditions, but a little too warm to be ideal.

Quarter mile times stayed consistent and my half mile speed was creeping up with two runs at 148 mph and one at 149.3mph. So close. Time was running out so I ran 2 half mile runs in succession. On the final run on the change to fifth gear it felt as if there was some slight clutch slip, so a short(er) shift into top. There was a little slip, but it seemed to hook up so I kept it pinned to the line. And that was it, time to call it a day and let the bike cool. Beer and barbeque was calling.



Rider Information	Run Details 9
Number: 103	150.134 mph

As I put my bike on its stands, one of the other racers came across “149.8 mate. Almost there!!!” Damn, drat and double drat. Never mind. Plenty of time tomorrow for another try. Leathers off. Jeans and t-shirt on. Beer open. Time to chill with a steady stroll to the timekeeper’s trailer. Two tickets to collect, the penultimate run was indeed 149.8mph, the ticket behind told a different story. Who would have thought that 0.3mph could put such a smile on my face. I had done it. The final clutch slipping run of the day had seen a terminal speed of 150.134mph. Splendid!

Time for another beer and a steak on the barbie!

### Sunday. A comedy of errors...

This is Wales after all. North West Wales is famous for its rapidly changing weather and Sunday was no exception. Although dry and bright there was a strong onshore wind, gusting at over 50mph, which the clerk of the course deemed to dangerous for top speed runs and that both bikes and cars would be restricted to eighth mile competition for the day.

No top speed runs, but still the little matter of the ‘No Mercy Shoot Out’, today an eighth mile drag race, winner takes all.



No Mercy, is run to an ET format, whereby each rider predicts the time they will run over the course and a handicap is programmed into the starting lights for the faster bike. Qualifying in the morning to set a time and eliminations in the afternoon. Things were going well, consistently running 7.0 something over the eighth and I made it through to the final, beating a turbo Hayabusa and a GSXR1000 on the way.

In the final I was paired against Andy Higham on his 500cc methanol powered lightweight drag bike. I dialed in 6.94 seconds for the eighth mile and Andy 7.45, so he got just over half a second start on the tree. Andy won the Straightliners championship last year and is a seasoned drag racer, so the final was going to be close if we both ran as well as we had been all weekend.

Except I didn't. We both had a really good start, great reaction times with nothing between us. And then the front started to come up. And up. Feather the throttle (right foot still not on the peg). And up. Short shift to second - that should bring it down. Except someone put neutral where second should be. By the time I found second gear, Andy was long gone. Ah well, keep it pinned, it was good whilst it lasted.

Blimey! I'm catching him up. Rapidly. There's the line. Can I get there first? We crossed the line together. Did I catch him, or did he get there first? I had no idea. As we headed back along the return road, neither of us were sure who got to the line first, so off to the timekeepers we went.

It was close at the line, but I had got there first, by 0.05 of a second. Andy had forgotten to pump up his air shifter after his previous run, so his bike wouldn't change into third and by the time he managed to get it to shift it was too late.

The moral of the story is, of course, never give up. It ain't over 'till the fat lady sings as they say.

All in all, a great weekend both for racers and spectators and a great location which is next to Shell Island campsite should you want to extend you break to take in the sights and roads of North Wales.

*Dave Grundy*



# 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

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](http://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, Hardingsstone, Northampton, NN4 6BZ.

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

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of each month, starting at 8pm.

For those months where there is a 5<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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](http://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/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/northantstomcc/)

## OTHER INTERNET LINKS:

Triumph Owners MCC national website: [www.tomcc.org](http://www.tomcc.org)

Triumph Owners MCC events website: [www.tomccevents.co.uk](http://www.tomccevents.co.uk)

Triumph Owners Clothing: [www.tomccmerchandise.com](http://www.tomccmerchandise.com)

The club also has a page on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/groups/4526704577/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/4526704577/).

British Motorcyclists Federation: [www.bmf.co.uk](http://www.bmf.co.uk)

Motorcycle Action Group: [www.mag-uk.org](http://www.mag-uk.org)

Triumph Motorcycles: [www.triumphmotorcycles.co.uk](http://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](http://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.

# TOOLS AND HOW TO USE THEM

### HYDRAULIC FLOOR JACK:

Used for lowering an automobile to the ground after you have installed your new brake shoes, trapping the jack handle firmly under the bumper.



### BAND SAW:

A large stationary power saw primarily used by most shops to cut large pieces into smaller pieces that more easily fit into the trash after you cut on the inside of the line instead of the outside edge.



### TWO-TON ENGINE HOIST:

A tool for testing the maximum tensile strength of all the bits you forgot to disconnect.



# HAVE YOU EVER ....

Have you ever read the manual in the correct order?

Have you ever believed what the guy on YOUTube said?

Have you ever become an expert without realising?

Have you ever had to listen to a friend's tales of riding pillion on a mate's 6-cylinder Triumph?

Have you ever had co-workers assume you have a Harley?

Have you ever bump started a bike with the stop switch on?

Have you ever held the wrong end of the plug when testing for a spark?



*Tim*