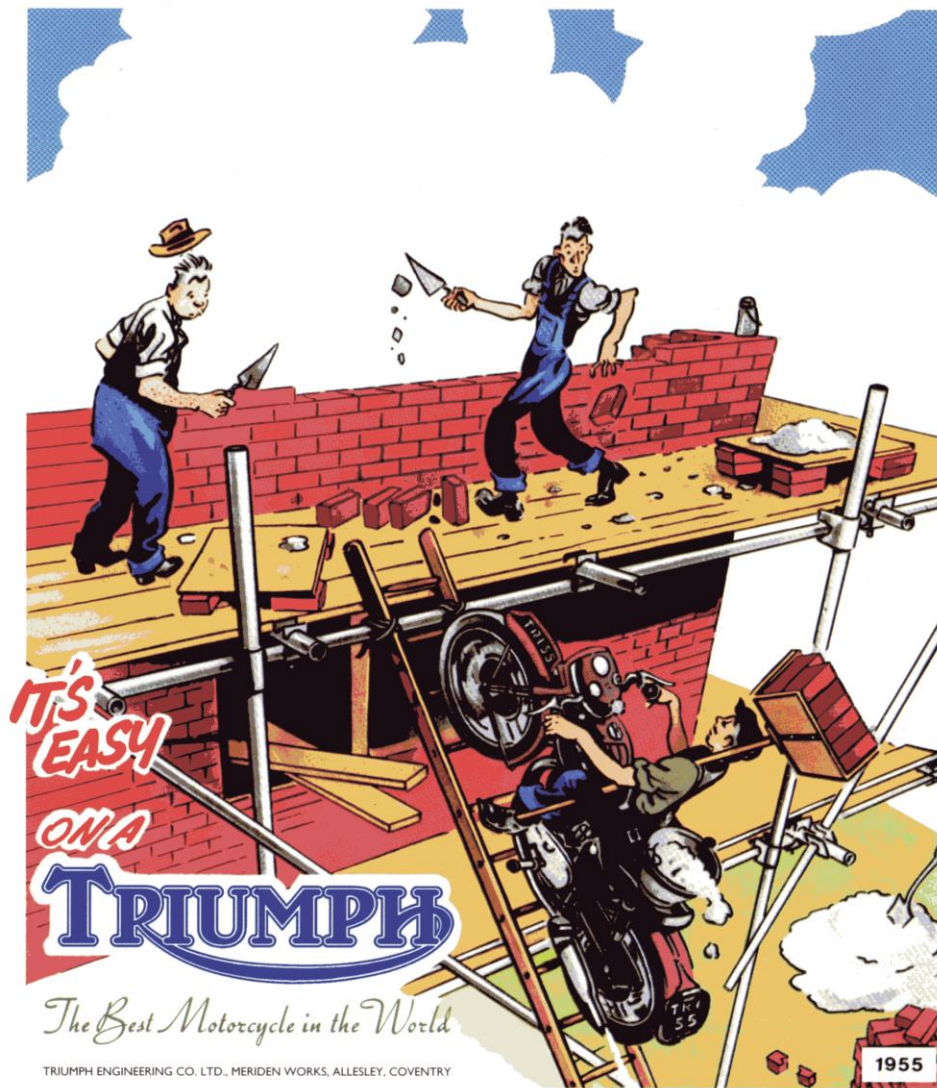


VIBRATIONS!



March 2018



Triumph Owners M.C.C.

Northants Branch



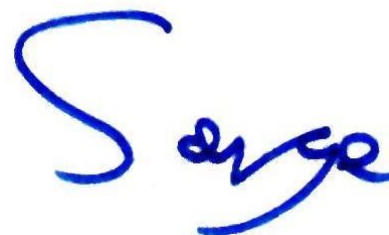
Scribblings

The main events coming up are the Branch Dinner on 17th March and the Branch AGM on the 21st. Then in April it's the National Triumph owners AGM, though as that's in Newcastle it will be a bit further for Northants members to travel than the 2017 one in Wellingborough.

Six people put their hands up in answer to the January Vibrations mention of a trip to Scotland for the North Coast 500. All the accommodation is booked and the half-dozen are eagerly awaiting departure on the 9th June. Some other branch members are also heading up the west coast of Scotland around the same time but I'm not sure whether the dates overlap – be funny if they all met in some out of the way place heading in opposite directions.

For the last couple of years I've had a wealth of articles to publish in Vibrations, but as nobody has been able to give me anything new this time round I have dragged one out of the archives. It's a write-up of the branch's first ever overseas trip in 1984: an enjoyable, but eventful, weekend in the Netherlands. The reliability of modern Triumphs makes such adventures a lot less fraught these days.

And finally, the Wrinklies Runs are back for 2018. Format as per last year: meet at Pure Triumph, Wellingborough, NN8 1LD, at 10.45am for 11am start, For those who have forgotten, or not been before, the pubs shown in the events list are DESTINATIONS - we do NOT go straight there. All are welcome to join us on these outings. Please ensure you have a roadworthy bike and a full tank.



33 Argyle Street, St.James, Northampton NN5 5LJ
Tel: 01604-582468

e-mail: Sarge.Northampton@btinternet.com

New Members

Please welcome the following new members to the Branch, who have joined in the last couple of months.

Brain Bloomfield of Burton Latimer

Peter Swanson of Bicester

Simon Elkins of Flitwick

Gareth Wildman of Slipton

Philip Evans of Rushden

Kevin Woodcock of Brackley

Chris Fellowes of Kettering

Membership Renewals

The Branch only sends membership forms off to HQ for processing twice a month (normally on the weekend after a club night). So, if you are posting off your renewal it will generally be quicker for you to send the form and cheque direct to the HQ address in Horley rather than to the Branch Membership Secretary.

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

Alternatively, you can renew on-line via the club's website: <http://www.tomcc.org/Membership.aspx>; paying by credit card or PayPal account.

And if you do send your renewal to me make the cheque out to Triumph Owners MCC and not to Ian Sargent!

Northants Branch Info and News

Non-club members are welcome at all events unless specifically marked otherwise. Listen out for details at club nights, or check with committee members beforehand in case of short-notice alterations or cancellations. Except where indicated, club nights start at 8pm.

	Events List
Wed 7 th March	Club Night at The Crown from 8pm
Sat 17th March	<p>Branch Annual Dinner at Overstone Manor. Meet at 7pm for 7.30pm start. Numbers limited so pre-booking essential – give your name to Les Barras. (leslie.barras@btinternet.com)</p> <p>Make your choice from the menu on the night, including any special offers.</p> <p>There will be a raffle in aid of the local Air Ambulance. Donations of raffle prizes greatly appreciated.</p>
Wed 21 st March	Branch Annual General Meeting at The Crown. 8.30pm. Agenda appeared in January Nacelle.
Wed 4 th April	Club Night at The Crown from 8pm
Sun 8 th April	National Triumph Owners AGM at Discovery Museum, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. All full members will receive an agenda in the post.
Thu 12 th April	Wrinklies Run to The Barley Mow, Cosgrove, MK19 7JD. Meet at Pure Triumph 10.45am.
Wed 18 th April	Club Night at The Crown from 8pm
Sat-Sun 21 st -22 nd April	International Classic Motorcycle Show, Stafford
Thu 26 th April	Wrinklies Run to The Cross Keys, Kings Cliffe, PE8 6XA. Meet at Pure Triumph 10.45am.
Wed 2 nd May	Club Night at The Crown from 8pm
Fri-Mon 4 th -7 th May	Trifest Somerset. At least half a dozen members will be going.
Sat-Mon 5 th -7 th May	Rushden Historic Vehicle Cavalcade Branch display – give your name to Phil Barton if you wish to put your Triumph on the stand.
Thu 10 th May	Wrinklies Run to The Nags Head, Great Linford, MK14 5AX. Meet at Pure Triumph 10.45am.
Wed 16 th May	Club Night at The Crown from 8pm
Sat-Sun 19 th -20 th May	MCN Show, East of England Showground, Peterborough
Wed 23 rd May	Evening Run to Peterborough Triumph Owners at Stilton. 7.30p, from Pure Triumph or 7.45pm from Thrapston Services.
Thu 24 th May	Wrinklies Run to The Wheatsheaf, Crick, NN6 7TU. Meet at Pure Triumph 10.45am.
Sun 1st July	Triumph Day at Jack's Hill Cafe

Some other events to look forward to...

Daventry Motorcycle Festival, Ton-Up Day at Jack's Hill, East Carlton Transport Gala, Brackley Festival of Motorcycling, Branch Concours, Branch Open Evening, Ride-outs to various local clubs.

Northants Branch Info and News

Branch HQ:

The Crown, Senwick Road, Wellingborough, NN8 1NJ. The pub is on the south-east side of Wellingborough, a 5 minute ride from the A45 and the southern section of the A509. It's only a few hundred yards away from Pure Triumph, so if you know where the dealer's showroom is our HQ will be easy to find.

Meetings are held on the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays of each month, starting at 8pm.

Please park motorcycles in that section of the car park to the right of the pub's front door.

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.

Steve Haughton is the webmaster. If you have any content for it please have a word with him.

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

If you go on any branch events please make a conscious effort to take a photo (high quality mobile phone OK) then send it to Sarge and Steve. This will ensure the newsletter and website have something to show when writing the reports.

Other Internet Links:

Triumph Owners MCC national website: www.tomcc.org

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

Triumph Owners Clothing (temporary):
<http://tomcc.org/Home/News/173e4e78a56044ccbec9c899e0997d3c>

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

British Motorcyclists Federation: www.bmf.co.uk

Triumph Motorcycles: www.triumphmotorcycles.co.uk



Northants Branch 40th Anniversary pin badges still available. £3 each from Sarge. Add £1 for postage if not collecting from a club night.

Northants Branch Info and News

Northants Branch Clothing Range

The range of Northants Branch clothing: T-Shirt, Polo Shirt, Sweatshirt, Hoodie, Fleece, Business Shirt and Baseball Cap; can now be purchased on-line rather than having to wait until the next club night. Each item can include the ordinary branch logo or the 40th Anniversary one shown here:

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

Ordering instructions:

On the web page, click on the Garment you want to purchase then fill in the size, badge version and back print (if required).

Click on ADD TO CART

In the Shopping Cart page double-check your order then GO TO CHECKOUT

One more chance to check your order or Checkout Securely

Enter your e-mail address and password to set up an account

You can now go to > Delivery Details > Order Summary > Payment Details

At the Payment Details you will see 3 Options:

Pay Pal-Click and Pay > Go to Order Complete

Credit Card-Click and Pay > Go to Order complete

Debit Card-Click and Pay > Go to Order Complete

Or you can pay by phone during office hours using your credit card, you will see > Telephone > Click here and the order will be placed and ask you to phone 01327 311125 (office hours) and make your payment. You will be asked if you want Delivery or Collect

When your order has been placed you get an order confirmation, with unique number to quote, which will be copied to you in an e-mail.

If your order gets mucked up during all this, click on Cancel to return to the main Custom Kit page and start again. Select Club wear and then select Northants TOMCC.

The 1984 Northants T.O.G.A. To Holland

This run started out because two members hadn't been abroad before, so Sarge did some investigating and 11 members decided to go to the De Efteling funfair in Holland.

Six members decided to leave Rushden at 4.30pm to catch the boat from Sheerness at 9.30pm, this was because Adrian had only done 400 miles on a rebuilt engine and it needed very careful running in.

The other five were leaving Northampton at 4.30pm and we had arranged a meeting at the Farthing Corner services on the M20 for 7.45pm.

Friday morning 9th June arrived and Phil was frantically rebuilding the Saint that Richard has decided to redesign by using the back end of a car. The trouble was that nobody, including Richard, thought he had done any better than Triumph had done in the first place.

Adrian decided to replace his oil pressure switch and cracked the timing cover, luckily Phil had a replacement amongst his various assortment of spare parts. Anyway, to cut a long story of panic and disappointment short we eventually left at 5.45pm after spending another hour and a half trying to trace an electrical fault to Adrian's electronic ignition.

We arrived at Sheerness docks at 8.50pm after Chris had run out of petrol with only 3 miles left. The others turned up about 5 minutes later having stopped three times on route, once to find that Sarge's zener diode had packed up in the middle of the motorway while trying to overtake a lorry, and twice for a cuppa. Sarge was now running with his headlight on.

We checked in at the port, and within an very short while we all met up on board after a quick wash, and disappeared into the nearest place to have something to eat and drink. The restaurant was a self-service fixed price meal, except for the drinks and the waitress came round to ask us what we would like to drink under much pressure as we found out later, with mutterings under her breath like do I have to go and serve them? After the meal we settled ourselves in the bar, and then all went off to bed.

We docked at Flushing around 7am on Saturday morning and after a quick top up with oil and petrol that Mike had thought to bring along with him, in his van, we all set off for De Efteling.

The first problem was to come about 2 miles later. This turned out to be Adrian yet again, his battery terminal lead had fallen off. We all set off again, but we had to stop again four times for Adrian because his engine kept on tightening up and eventually it seized. Phil towed him off the motorway to the nearest cafe, where we had our first encounter with the Dutch. The man at the garage was very helpful and he said that we could leave the bike there and pick it up on the way home.

We all had breakfast and set off yet again with me in Mike's van and Adrian on the back of Phil.

Richard had had to stop for petrol along the way with a few others and he had filled his bike half full with 2-star petrol, so he paid for the 2-star and then filled up the other half with 4-star, hopefully ending up with 3-star!!!

Without any further problems we got to De Efteling about 12 noon., the weather was warm and a little breeze was blowing, an almost perfect day.

The funfair was amazing. If you have ever been to Alton Towers you would have thought it was a disappointment compared to this. The place was very clean and the Dutch people were very friendly. Even though it was Saturday we didn't have to queue up for very long for any of the rides, which were free but you did have to pay £4 to get in. A few of the intrepid had a go on the notorious Python rollercoaster, and Paul's remark when he came off it was that you spent most of the time upside down.



The 1984 Northants T.O.G.A. To Holland

Mike had been taking a lot of photos of some of the most enjoyable scens in De Efteling, and after he had taken 36 pictures he very carefully tried to take out his old film. He tried to wind it on but it was very slack, and a few minutes later he discovered that he had taken all those pictures with no film; all of us though it was extremely funny while Mike just stood there with his mouth open. After a few more rides and beers we left about 6pm to go to the campsite.

I was navigating and looking at the map, and where we had to go and Mike agreed that if we took a little road that almost went to the campsite it would be a lot quicker than the way Sarge had told us to go. Anyway, after a littel detour around the Dutch countryside we arrived at the campsite.

Torquil and Julia had decided to stay in a hotel overnight, as they didn't think it was worth bringing their camping gear for one night, so they went off into town to see if a hotel had any vacancies.

We got on to put our tents up and get to the bar for something to eat and drink. The barman was very kind to us, they are supposed to stop cooking at 8pm but we turned up at 9pm; but he decided to cook for us anyway so we had a selection of steak & chips and chicken & chips. It was all cooked perfectly except Helen's steak, which was a bit on the raw side, but that is how they cook it on the continent. Mike also had a complaint about his prawn cocktail, but in the end he and the barman came to an agreement that he must have misunderstood the question and that he did like his prawn cocktail after all.

Chris upset the Dutch by beating them at their own version of snooker, but by that time everybody was so drunk that who cared anyway?



On the Sunday we had planned to go to Amsterdam, but seeing that we had to go back that night we decided to go to the Oorlogs War Museum at Overloon. Torquil and Julia woke us up bright and early at 9am. We all had a good laugh when they told us that all the hotels had been booked up except for 2 single rooms in the same hotel. They had contemplated staying in single rooms for the night, but in the end they decided to share just one room, much to the amusement of the hotel receptionist.

The 1984 Northants T.O.G.A. To Holland

Torquil also had a few problems with his clutch, with it coming loose. So he took it to bits at the campsite and put it back together, and it seemed to be alright for the rest of the journey.

We then set off for the museum. We stopped for petrol at the first garage we saw but we had another problem. Richard had decided that he wanted to set his Saint on fire, so after burning out the wiring in his headlight, and calling Phil back to fix it, we set off again.



The war museum was in the heart of "A Bridge Too Far" country for those of you who have seen the film (at least they has some film in their cameras to shoot it). It was set in the woodlands, with some of the field guns still in the same position that they had been left in some 40 years ago. Helen wasn't all that impressed with the place, but overall I think everyone enjoyed themselves. We left there about 5.30pm to make our way back to the port.



After making a few mistakes at various junctions along the way, like almost hitting some cars and then the Dutch seeing your English numberplates and waving you on. After a small navigation error on the motorway, I missed the junction we had to get off at to pick up Adrian's bike. I guessed that I had made a mistake by all the arms and legs and headlights waving and flashing at me. We turned off the motorway and then returned to pick the bike up.

Phil towed Adrian and his bike back to the port, and without any further mishaps we got there well in time.

The 1984 Northants T.O.G.A. To Holland

Paul complained that he didn't like the boat much, as it rocked too much (that is to say that he had drunk too much). He also complained about the engine noise but we think that Chris had given him a thick ear for drinking too much so really it was all in his mind.

We arrived back in Sheerness at 7.15am to find that Phil, Chris, Richard and Paul were almost still in their pyjamas as they had only just got up. They didn't hear the early morning call. Torquil, Julia and Mike were nowhere to be found. After rushing upstairs with Paul and Adrian we eventually found them having a stroll back to their cabins; they had been in the cafe and had not heard the call to go to the car deck.

The rest left Sheerness around 8am, after Torquil and Julia had been stopped and searched going through customs, but Torquil looks suspicious at the best of times! Everyone got home about mid-day after Richard's lucky escape on the motorway, he ran out of petrol but managed to roll right up to the pumps at the service station.

The AA kindly got Adrian and I home about 4pm

In summary, we all had a very enjoyable weekend and are thinking about returning next year. If anyone is thinking of a holiday abroad this year you will find that Holland is well worth looking into.

Lastly though, I must thank Sarge for all the arrangements and the hard work he put into the venture, and to anybody else who heled.

Debbie Crocker.



2018 Northants Branch Annual General Meeting

The 42nd Annual General Meeting of the Northants Branch of the Triumph Owners M.C.C. will take place on Wednesday 21st March at The Crown, Senwick Road, Wellingborough. All members are asked to attend.

The meeting will start at 8.30pm.

Agenda

1. Chairman to open the meeting and take apologies.
2. Minutes of the previous meeting* and matters arising.
3. Executive Officers' Reports:
 - a) Secretary
 - b) Treasurer
 - c) Chairman
4. Election of Officers (see page 6):
 - a) Chairman
 - b) Secretary
 - c) Treasurer
 - d) P.R.O.
 - e) Scribe
 - f) Runs Captain
 - g) Membership Secretary
 - h) Webmaster
 - i) General Purpose Officers
5. Election of Branch Auditor
6. Election of Branch Honorary Members
7. Presentation of Awards:
 - a) Triumph Trophy (for general attendance by a full member)
 - b) Navigator Trophy (for general attendance by an associate member)
 - c) Triumph Rider's Trophy (for attendance by a full member on a Triumph)
 - d) Club Person of the Year
 - e) The Double Digit
8. Propositions (taken from the floor or, preferably, in writing in advance)
9. Any Other Business

Notes:

All Officers posts are open for nominations (self-nomination is permitted) and may be filled by any Branch Member. Any Branch Member may put forward propositions. All nominations and propositions must have a seconder.

7a, 7b and 7c are awarded by points accumulated throughout the year. 7d is awarded by vote of members present on the night.

* Last year's AGM minutes were published in the May 2017 issue of Nacelle. If you do not have that a copy can be obtained from Ian Sargent. Copies of the current Branch rules and constitution may also be obtained from him.