



VIBRATIONS
OCTOBER 2022

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What could be better than a bike ride, a breakfast butty, and support of a worthwhile charity?

TRIUMPH OWNERS M.C.C. NORTHANTS BRANCH



T120 RIDE OUT

TOMCC NORTHANTS SUPPORTED TRIUMPH'S 120 YEARS WITH A RIDE OUT

Once again we have a bumper edition of Vibrations. Thanks for your contributions, these are always welcome.

If you have any contributions for future editions they will be gratefully received via email at:

TOMCC-Vibrations@hotmail.com

We have been experimenting with changes to the look and feel of Vibrations over the last couple of months. Any feedback welcome and we will be asking for your input on the subjects you're most interested in for future editions, volume and tone. We want to ensure that Vibrations has something for all and is a worthwhile read. Winter is often quieter for the club, with fewer ride outs and this will be the appropriate time to take on board your thoughts about how best to take our newsletter forwards.

A shout out to Al and his flags during the T120, especially the Ukraine flag, after losing a friend who was providing support to the Ukrainian people. Thoughts are with you.

Kirstie & Mark





INTRODUCTIONS

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

There were no new starters during September. Winter is coming...!

EVENTS LIST

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

OCTOBER

Sat 1st	10.30am	Breakfast meet	Pure Triumph Wellingborough
Wed 5th	7.30pm	Club Night	The Crown Hardingstone
Fri 7th to Mon 10th		SKEGFEST	Richmond Holiday Park, Skegness
Sun 16th	10.00am	Breakfast meet	Super Sausage, Potterspury
Wed 19th	7.30pm	Club Night	The Crown Hardingstone

NOVEMBER

Wed 2nd	7.30pm	Club Night	The Crown Hardingstone
Wed 16th	7.30pm	Club Night	The Crown Hardingstone
Wed 30th	7.30pm	Club Night	The Swan Newton Bromswold

DECEMBER

Wed 7th	7.30pm	Club Night	The Crown Hardingstone
Wed 21st	7.30pm	Club Night XMAS PARTY	The Crown Hardingstone





T120 RIDE

PURETRIUMPH WELLINGBOROUGH & NORTHANTS TOMCC HOSTED THE T120 RIDEOUT



On the 25th of September to mark its momentous 120th anniversary, Triumph Motorcycles celebrated with 120 ride-outs across the UK during 2022. In conjunction with Pure Triumph Wellingborough, TOMCC Northants stepped up and held our very own ride out, superbly organized by Tim Kitchener.



motorbiking family along to bolster the numbers, so we hope they enjoyed the day as much as we did.

Breakfast butty and tea in hand we gathered around as Tim and Kevin provided the safety and route briefing, particularly useful as this was the first group ride for some riders.

Kevin at Pure Triumph Wellingborough kindly opened the doors to hordes of bikers (80+) bright and early on Sunday morning providing much needed supported (and toilet facilities) to all.

With the weather in our favour, the masses gathered in springlike sunshine and mild temperatures with riders arriving as early as 8.30am. Triumphs of all ages from modern to beautiful heritage models arrived in style, and we even welcomed bikes from other manufacturers, even zee Germans!! The riders were also as varied, with young learners rubbing shoulders with old sweats (you know who you are).

Tim even managed to drag most of his





We set off not long after 10:00 in a good orderly fashion using staggered riding positions. The ride spanned 43 miles through historic North Northants, through villages and towns, with some nice curvy A roads between them, all at the regulated speed limits of course.

Along the way there were some fabulous views and Mark Lloyd picked the best spots to capture each rider in the most scenic locations.

Tim did us proud with a ride that proved to be suitable for all riding styles, and at sensible speeds.

We took the opportunity of a quick stop at Kettering College to regroup before heading off to our destination in Sywell.

The ride ended at Piston and Props, where the riders dispersed to enjoy the variety of food available and to take in the sun whilst browsing the many stalls and exhibits.

All in all the ride went for really well and was enjoyed by all. Particular thanks to Tim for planning the ride and to Kevin and team for providing wonderful support to all riders, including following along with a support vehicle in case of incidents. The day was a great success.

Kirstie



HUNSTANTON CHIPPY RUN

WITH SCRUMMY CHIPS & LASHINGS OF ICE CREAM!



The idea of a seaside trip was shared by over 200 Mods & Rockers who also made their way to Hunstanton, obviously overshadowed by the bigger, better, and more desirable trusty Triumphs our dedicated bunch had on show.

As with most Scooter shows, there were some weird and wonderful machines on display. The incredible artwork adorned many a machine, whilst some rust and a silly number of mirrors adorned others!

On what turned out to be a nice sunny day with great company and plenty to see, fish, chips and ice cream were enjoyed by all (thankfully the ice cream was after the fact).

A good old fashioned chippy run is a staple of any decent motorcycle club, and in good form, TOMCC Northants set out for their routine pilgrimage to Hunstanton to enjoy the seaside fayre.

On 11th September, a welcome distraction from the week tragic news of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II passing, a group of about 15 hardy riders set off from Thrapston on a damp and misty morning.

Undeterred by the less-than-ideal weather, the ruffy tufty's set out east in search of their fishy prize. Thankfully by the time they reached Wisbech, the weather had turned in their favour and the cruddy weather at the start was soon replaced by a warm sunny day.



However, due to Hunstanton's proximity to Sandringham Royal Estate, the roads were very busy, especially on the way home.

But considering it was mid-September, the weather was on our side, and everyone got home safe & sound after a thoroughly enjoyable day out.

Roll on Skegfest for more seaside shenanigans!



Steve (The Gaffer)

SANTA POD SPEEDSTER RACES AGAIN!

A NEW PERSONAL BEST BEFORE RAIN SPOILS PLAY!



Santa Pod, the most famous drag racing track outside the America attracting the best drivers and race teams in European Drag Racing. Affectionately known as the 'POD', Santa Pod is the place to race! Just 12 minutes ride from Pure Triumph Wellingborough (on a normal motorbike) the track is a great place to delve into the world of weird and whacky motorsports. From stock 1.1l engines in mums' car, to nitrous dripping monsters that move faster than the eye can focus.



One of our very own, Dave Grundy is a regular at the 'Pod' and has been for over 50 years. Racing a stock Triumph Speed Triple R, Dave still loves the wind in his ample hair at the grand age of 66! As our very gracious host, Dave escorted us around the 'Pod' highlighting some of the lesser-known stats and facts about the quality and type of racing held there.

Racers from age 8 upwards pit their wits and engines against each other, the clock, or even themselves in a series of races over a $\frac{1}{4}$ mile ($\frac{1}{8}$ for the youngsters). It was great to see this sport was absolutely all inclusive regardless of age, sex and disability.

Heads Up – race between two racers, literally pitting their wits and machines against each other.

Bracket Racing – is a form of drag racing that allows for a handicap between predicted elapsed time of the 2 cars over a standard distance, typically $\frac{1}{8}$ of a mile or $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile.

Elapsed Time – Registering a time to get as close to without going over (sounds much easier than it is). This is Dave's class and is routinely in the top echelons of this category.

Regardless of what type of race you enter, all form up at the start line and bow before the Christmas tree, the large tower of lights that warn drivers & riders of the imminent start as well as showing any violations. Ahead of the racers, the immaculate track surface glistens in the sun from burnt rubber and looks like a mirage from an old desert movie.



There's also plenty of time to meet the crews in the form up area or in their pit areas to get a better look at the madness behind the noise. Whether you're admiring the expensive custom artwork, the huge amount of gleaming chrome that would make Bob Swann quiver, or the sheer ingenuity of how a well placed jubilee clip and hose can hold such massive pressures, there's something for you too 'Oooooo' or 'Kwah' over!

Spectators can view all the races from either the seated grandstand or the embankment; elevated and safe viewpoints from which to observe the speed demons proving their worth. However, Dave was able to get us track side access to be even closer to the action.

It's far paced too, there's literally only a minute between each race as long as the track is clear of debris. There's no time to get bored, it's like a much better, louder tennis match. Your head spins to the finish line, then snaps back the other direction to see the start of the next race. Intense, loud (did I mention it was bloody loud) and utterly thrilling watching all ages of drivers and riders fearlessly absolutely spank their machines to within an inch of it's life!

A total family environment, Santa Pod offers good old greasy spoon style cafes as well a few things a little more gourmet. Lots of sweets and ice cream to keep kids of all ages satisfied, and plenty of tea & coffee (or beer if you're not driving)!

There are also plenty of merch stores there to get t-shirts, hoodies and all manner of petrol head memorabilia. In addition you can buy a pair of ear plugs or ear protectors if the volume gets too much.

From a motorbike perspective, the annual cost of racing is less than £2,000. That's race fees, bike maintenance cost of travel, so in the grand scheme of things not OTT. However, for some it's a hobby, but for Dave it's part of his life. Starting at age 16, motorsports in various guises

has played a central part of his life, and we were extremely grateful to get a very small glimpse of his intimate relationship with motorsports. A little bit star struck, I didn't quite manage to do Dave justice with some of the photo's (more through me going wow then realising I was there to take photo's). Next year though Dave, I promise to be more professional about it!

We thoroughly enjoyed watching the racing, and were thrilled to see Dave achieve a new personal best. However, late in the afternoon the heavens opened and brought a halt to the event for the day. The pristine race track rapidly turns into an ice ring with even a small amount of rain, and becomes unsafe to race. Despite the interruption Dave carried on the next day to come in at a brilliant 4th position, equaling his previous year.

Take a look at a couple of videos of Dave racing that I've popped on YouTube, [Preparing to Race](#) & [Dave Racing](#)

In 2023 there will be a 'Best of British' race event at the 'Pod', let's see if we can rustle up some support for Dave and go down en-masse for a beer, hot dog and some petrol fumes!

Mark



MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

THE MACMILLAN RUN – SALFORDS – 30TH SEPTEMBER 2022



The weather forecast was filled with doom with the presenters delighting in showing RADAR images of huge swathes of rain sweeping in from the West for Friday 30th September and to begin with I thought that our ride to this annual event was in jeopardy. As it happened the day dawned misty but dry so maybe we had a stay of execution?

I had attended this popular charitable event previously on several occasions and would have been disappointed if I had been prevented from going this year especially as I was down to lead the group.

I arrived at Pure Triumph for our planned departure finding Bob already on the railings awaiting the arrival of the rest. Unfortunately, several members had already posted on the club Facebook page that the COVID virus had done its stuff and they could not attend. No worries! What we lacked in quantity we more than made up for with quality even to the attendance of our Chairman Steve and his good lady.

It was really good to see Barry ride in at Salford even though he had made his own way there, with his recent problems hopefully behind him now.

I chose a rural route out through the villages of Grendon and Yardley Hastings to Olney and eventually by way of Weston Underwood to Newport Pagnell where we came upon a road closure that was a bit inconvenient to say the least. However, my years of working in the area were not wasted as the knowledge I had gained from the time came to the fore and I had soon worked out an alternative route.



On arrival at our destination in the 'Mary Agate Hall', Salford at around 10.00am it was surprising to see how many people were already there but we were hungry so we didn't stop to count them and bought our drink and food tickets, all-inclusive for a fiver.

A choice of bread rolls with bacon, sausage or egg filling or all three if desired served by local ladies wearing their green Macmillan T Shirts. The sustenance was very welcome after the cool but still dry conditions of our ride in.

The Swan pub opposite the hall had made their outside tables available for use by us visitors to the event and we had good banter as we tucked in.

Anyone who has knowledge of what the Macmillan Nurses do in support of cancer patients cannot help but be proud of helping out such a noble cause. I am particularly pleased that in some small but important way we of the Triumph Owners Club have done our bit to help make a difference. Well done!

Paul Ollett



PINT OF BEER CHALLENGE

ANY EXCUSE FOR A NICE RIDE

Following on from the success of the 2021 National TOMCC challenge event "CUP OF TEA", we have arranged a similar challenge event to run through 2022 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 PINT OF BEER.

At each location take a photograph of your bike adjacent to the town/village sign which denote the letter in PINT OF BEER

For example - PIN"**T**" could be a picture at "**T**"OWCESTER.

ENTRY SUBMISSION

When you have completed your route through Northants and have taken all 10 Photographs for each letter of PINT OF BEER, 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 December 2022 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 "Pint of Beer" 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 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 and Baseball Cap; 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.



OVERLANDER FESTIVAL

Another event to think about adding to your calendar. Mark and I took a trip to the Overlander Festival this month. Free camping, great facilities, loads of different food options and a reasonable priced beer tent. What's not to like?

Whilst the event is targetted at 4x4's and campervans there was a whole field set aside for bikers and it was a nice weekend camping.

Kirstie

HAVE YOU EVER

Have you ever led your mates down the short cut you remembered from years ago and got lost?

Have you ever ridden your first bike again and wondered why?

Have you managed to get your Mum to understand being a biker?

Have you ever tried to get into your old waterproofs?

Have you ever tried being mature?

Have you ever finished a rebuild with one extra nut?

Tim

