

VIBRATIONS!



TOMCC Summer Barbecue

August 2022



**Triumph Owners M.C.C.
Northants Branch**



Northants Branch Info and News

Hello all, August's edition of Vibrations is usually just a short update. But we'll be serialising Paul Ollet's grand tour over the next few editions.

We're already looking forwards to a few articles planned for Septembers issue including Founders Day, the TOMCC Barbecue and the Worlds Largest Female Bike Meet at the Triumph factory in Hinkley. But we are always interested in what else is going on.

If you have any contributions for future editions they will be gratefully received via email at: TOMCC-Vibrations@hotmail.com

Kirstie & Mark

New Members

Welcome to the following new Branch members...

Ruth Collins of Brackley

Craig Harris of Wollaston

Brian Letts of Middleton Cheney

Julie Rattley of Northampton

Dan Risch of Litchborough

François Rossi of Cogenhoe

James Sherratt of Kettering

We hope to see you at our branch events.

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.

Northants Branch Info and News

	Events List
August	
Wed 3rd	Club Night - SCRAMBLERs at The Crown Hardingstone at 7.30pm
Wed 10th	Breakfast meet at Hoar Park at 9.30am
Sun 14th	Barrel Bikers Show MK at 10:30am
Wed 17th	Club Night at The Crown Hardingstone at 7.30pm
Fri 19th to Sun 21st	South Lincs - TOMCC Rally (Big Branch Bash) at Greetham Ctr. Oakham
Sat 27th	Breakfast meet at Pure Triumph Wellingborough at 10.30am
Mon 29th	Rushden Station Classics-ride at 11:00am
Wed 31st	Club Night at The Swan Newton Bromswold at 7.30pm
September	
Sun 4th	Breakfast meet at GILKS Garage Kinterton at 10.00am
Mon 5th	Committee meeting The Crown Hardingstone at 7.30pm
Wed 7th	Club Night at The Crown Hardingstone at 7.30pm
Sun 11th	Fish & Chip Run at Hunstanton at 09.00am
Wed 14th	Breakfast meet at Hoar Park at 9.30am
Wed 21st	Club Night at The Crown Hardingstone at 7.30pm
Sat 24th	National Motorcycle Museum-Birmingham-TBA
Sun 25 th	T120 Ride details to be distributed at club night
Fri 30th	McMillan Coffee Morning at TBC at 09.00am

In addition to the above calendar, many ad hoc rideouts are being arranged via the branch's Facebook page.

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.

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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.

Northants Branch Info and News

BIG BRANCH BASH

Reminder for those who have purchased wristbands, (be sure to dig them out ready), for THE BIG BRANCH BASH, 19th to 21st August, to be held at Greetham Sports Club, Near Oakham.

We have been allocated a space on the camping field which should be big enough for all of those camping, to be near together. For those in vans/campers, there is also an allocated space.

The general feedback from our branch attendees was that on the Saturday it was preferred to "do our own thing" and not join either of the 2 organised events, to Iron Horse cafe and/or the Triumph visitor centre. We can probably do something together for those interested.

Final update and details for those who wish to ride up together, will be discussed at club night on Wednesday 17th August, please come along.

Regards

Bob

TOMCC BIG BRANCH BASH



19 AUG 2022 AT 16:00 – 21 AUG 2022 AT
13:00

Triumph Greetham Rally

Great Lane, Oakham, LE15 7, United...

The Pint of Beer Challenge 2022

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



Paul's Pint of Beer Challenge

So! A challenge to attract motorcyclists to explore parts of our beautiful county not normally on our routine journeys around and about. Sounds like just the job to me!

Having consulted my Collins Road Atlas (other publications are available) and with the blessing of gorgeous sunny and warm Spring weather I devised a simple route around the villages mostly in my area to the North of what was formerly Northamptonshire. Now apparently divided into two Unitary Authorities?



It wasn't too difficult at the outset and with a sunny Saturday afternoon to enjoy and my shiny 1967 Trophy TR6 R brought out of hibernation I set to ticking the villages of the list.

Very soon I had Polebrook, Islip, Nassington, Titchmarsh, Oundle, Fotheringhay Barnwell & Elton in the bag and pictures of the bike and village signs to prove it in my camera with only two more letters to get.

Come Monday the sun was still beaming down and after lunch I set off on the classic Triumph again to pick off Ecton & Ringstead. On to a winner here, easy peasy!!

Back home with the PC, I down loaded the pictures into a table, transferred to a word document which in true fashion I plastered all over the club's Facebook page announcing my success. But wait a minute! It appears that I had involuntarily strayed over the county boundary into Cambridgeshire when I visited Elton. A school boy error but it disqualified me from receiving my much anticipated Certificate of Achievement even though Elton had been in Northamptonshire until 1974.



Well it appears the Rules are Rules and my PINT OF BEER was missing one 'E'. The annoying thing was that the previous Monday I had actually ridden through Earls Barton to get to Ecton. It is now Sunday again and at least it's still dry as I leave home towards Earls Barton and the missing 'E'. Soon parked up on the Doddington Road next to the village sign for the photograph and just a short ride into the centre of the village to get a picture of the pub The Stag's Head.

Ride home again and follow the same process eg: Download pictures onto PC and plaster Facebook again but now with renewed confidence I am looking forward to club night at The Crown and the presentation of my certificate.



During the evening several of us are called forward to the presentation of awards so best smile on and pose for Les and his infernal phone camera that no-one escapes. Finally I have my hands on this coveted and personalised certificate, something to cherish, pass onto my grandson perhaps?

When I got home I took a closer look and guess what?

They got my name wrong! Ah well, it's not a perfect world but

where's my other 'L'? **Paul Ollet**

The Grand Tour – Lands' End to John O'Groats and Back Part 1

It was an idea born from a spirit of adventure in 2019 when I took a notion to make a circuit of mainland Great Britain. Being in possession of a large touring motorcycle and conscious that for me the sand in life's hour glass was running through the hole at an alarming rate there was no time to waste.

My friend Francis was enthusiastic from the start about coming with me along with his buddy Jeff.



We had an opportunity to meet up in July 2019 and started to develop a plan.

Our original chosen dates were in June/July 2020 and as I was taking delivery of a brand spanking new BMW RT1250 tourer in March it was to be perfect timing.

We were due to meet in Plymouth to begin a clockwise circumnavigation of mainland England and Scotland. All the accommodation was researched and booked. Then, quite out of the blue came the awful Covid 19 pandemic and everything had to be immediately cancelled.

There was to be an abortive attempt to resurrect the tour in 2021 but as we know Covid 19 comes in different variants and we weren't out of the woods yet.

With some trepidation in March 2022 and the situation for travel apparently easing I started to prepare for another attempt. I reviewed my earlier plan and set to making the reservations with thirteen Hotels and Guest Houses for Grand Tour 2022.

A valid piece of advice for anyone contemplating a motorcycle tour of any type or duration is don't follow my example and throw yourself off your push bike at speed onto the pavement, thereby injuring your left shoulder and right thumb a week before you are due to go.



A tentative 50 mile ride out on the BMW two days before departure confirmed that I could manage, just!!.



I finally left home on 30th June 2022 for the first 'leg' of the journey and my Guest House arriving in Plymouth soaking wet.

It was a comfortable guest house in Plymouth at only £50 including breakfast and secure parking for the bike, not bad at all.

Suitably rested and dried out I made my way to Plymouth Hoe and the ferry port to greet my travelling companions. They drew up on their bikes, Francis on his beloved Harley and Jeff on a Guzzi 85, neither with the barn door of a screen like the BMW.

The Grand Tour – Lands' End to John O'Groats and Back Part 1

First stop for the group was St Michaels Mount. Then off we headed to Land's End for the mandatory photographs.

We continued along the coast road to St Ives on the most beautiful of twisty narrow roads in glorious sunshine with frequent views of the sea heading for our Hotel at Camborne.

Another comfortably overnight but it meant a walk down the street to the local pub for enormous portions of Fish & Chips which the French think we Brits eat all the time.

To be continued in next issue

Paul Ollet

