

VIBRATIONS!



Chris Halford: Winner of the January Quiz

March 2022



Triumph Owners M.C.C.

Northants Branch



Scribblings

It's that time of year when you get the opportunity to have your say in the way that the club is run, both at Branch and National level.

The Northants Branch AGM is on Wednesday 16th March at The Crown in Hardingstone. For the National AGM you will need to head down to Berkshire on Sunday 10th April. Details for the latter event can be found at www.tomcc.org and in Nacelle.



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New Members

Welcome to the following new Branch members...

Steve Bacon of Braybrooke

Tony Merritt of Desborough

Liam Eassam of Rugby

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
Sat 12 th March	Annual Branch Dinner at Overstone Manor, Ecton Lane, Sywell. Meet at 6.30pm Places must be booked in advance with Les Barras. Go for the carvery, or choose from the menu. Donations of small prizes for the raffle welcomed. Proceeds go to the Air Ambulance.
Wed 16 th March	Branch Annual General Meeting at The Crown, Hardingstone. 7.30pm. See agenda on last page.
Sun 20 th March	CFM Motorcycle Meet, JBJ Business Park, Northampton Road, Blisworth. From 9am
Wed 30 th March	Club Night at The Swan. Newton Bromswold. 7.30pm
Sat-Sun 2 nd -3 rd April	Kickback Custom & Retro Bike Show at Three Counties Showground, Malvern, WR13 6NW. Paul Humphreys' much-modified 1994 Trident 900 is one of the finalists on the Best Street Racer category. https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/whats-on/worcestershire/three-counties-showground/kickback-custom-bike-stunt-show/e-vbzpxv
Sat 2 nd April	Breakfast Meet at Pure Triumph, Wellingborough. 10.30am
Wed 6 th April	Club Night at The Crown, Hardingstone. 7.30pm
Sun 10 th April	National AGM at Burghfield Community Sports Association, James Lane, Burghfield Common, RG30 3RS. Registration from 10am with meeting starting at 11am Details will appear in Nacelle.
Wed 20 th April	Club Night at The Crown, Hardingstone. 7.30pm
Thu 21 st April	Triumph Factory Tour (all tickets sold out)
Sat-Sun 23 rd -24 th April	International Classic Motorcycle Show at Stafford County Showground. https://www.staffordclassicbikeshows.com/
Sat 30 th April	Breakfast Meet at Pure Triumph, Wellingborough. 10.30am
Wed 6 th May	Club Night at The Crown, Hardingstone. 7.30pm. Theme night: Triumph Twins
Tue 10 th May	Mid-Week Run from Pure Triumph. 10.45am
Sat-Sun 14 th -15 th May	MCN Festival of Motorcycling at East of England Showground, Peterborough. https://www.mcnfestival.com/
Sun 15 th May	Breakfast Meet at the OK Diner, on the A1 at Stamford, PE9 4AD. 10.30am
Sun 15 th May	Norton Owners Club Open Day at The Wharf Inn, Welford. 11.30am-3pm
Wed 20 th May	Club Night at The Crown, Hardingstone. 7.30pm. Theme night: Triumph Tigers
Sun 22 nd May	Distinguished Gentlemen's Ride. More details soon
Sun 22 nd May	Rugby Bike Fest. More details soon

Northants Branch Info and News

	Events List
Wed 25 th May	Run to Peterborough Triumph Owners, Three Horseshoes, Yaxley, PE7 3LD. 7.30pm
Fri-Mon 27 th -30 th May	Yorvik Triumph Owners "Vikings in the Valley" rally. East Ayton, near Scarborough
Sat 28 th May	Breakfast Meet at Pure Triumph, Wellingborough. 10.30am
Mon 20 th May	Run to South Lincs Triumph Owners, The Nags Head, 2 Abbey Road, Bourne, PE10 9EF. 7pm.

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

Club Night Food

We no longer provide food on a regular basis at club nights. However, for those who need sustenance, the Crown has a small bar menu

What is available on any one night may vary but here's an idea of what you might find on offer...

- Pizza (Margareta, Ham & Mushroom or Pepperoni): £6.50
- Baguette (Cheese & Onion or Ham): £3.50
- Soup & Baguette: £3.50
- Sausage & Chips: £3.50
- Footlong Hot Dog: £3.50
- Chips or Wedges: £2.50

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).

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.



Northants Branch Info and News

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.

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



What is Northamptonshire?

The recent announcement about the Pint of Beer challenge caused me to think and ask myself a few questions.

The Chairman's comment that it is set as a challenge and is meant to encourage visits to parts of the county that you wouldn't normally visit prompted two questions, what is local? And what is meant by Northamptonshire?

The first depends on the individual - we know one member who has lived in Northampton for more than 20 years but got totally lost in a village less than 5 miles from his home! I can only speak for myself; I was born and grew up in Rushden, lived away and abroad for a few years but spent 25+ years working for Northamptonshire Highways. So, my knowledge of villages and roads in the county is pretty good but I would regard my local area as being bounded by the A14 in the North, the A43 in the west, the A428 in the south and the Bedford to Kimbolton Road in the east. Only half this area is in Northants and as a young man I was much more familiar with pubs in the North Bedfordshire area than Northampton. It would be fairly easy to do the challenge in this area but that would be too easy so I will pick places in the North or West of the county.

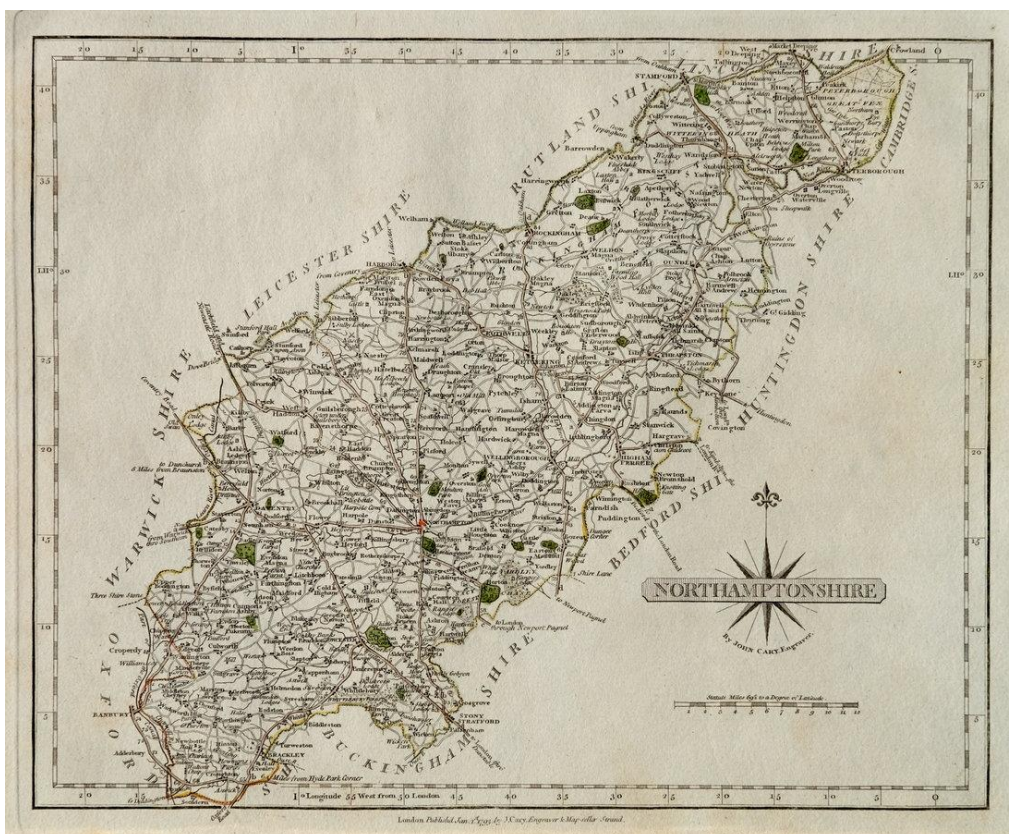
As for the second I know what is meant: the area covered by the administrative county of Northamptonshire in the second half of the 20th century.

Historically Northamptonshire included Peterborough but it was split off in the 1950s. With the inception of the Local Government act in the 1880s Northamptonshire County Council came into being, but it didn't cover Northampton which was covered by the Borough Council which had its own police force and education system (Northampton had upper and lower schools while the rest of the county had Infants, Junior and secondary schools) the 1970s saw the formation of District councils and the amalgamation of the Northampton Borough and county Councils.

2021 saw the formation of two unitary authorities (North and West Northamptonshire) and the demise of the county, so theoretically Northamptonshire doesn't exist.

The other alternative is the postal address and postcode of NN. Unfortunately, a lot of the 'county' isn't covered by this area, for instance Crick has a CV postcode and Oundle and most areas north is PE postcode, although some areas of North Bedfordshire have a NN postcode.

Chris Dickens



Chilly Willy Ride 9th January 2022

On a brisk clear winters morning I joined my first ever Chilly Willy Ride. I cautiously arrived at the venue all Seasons Café Billing Garden Centre, Northampton. In my car my days of riding in winter are over.

The reason for being cautious of course was so many Motorcycles and Scooters had descended on 9th January 2022 for the Annual Chilly Willy Ride, all in aid of the Air Ambulance Charity.

After duly parking up and wrapping up in suitable warm clothing I set off amongst the crowds wandering in and out of what seemed to be hundreds of motorcycles and scooters of all shapes and sizes, Models, makes and manufacturers.

It didn't take long for me to come across friends old and new, as I had been a regular on the bike scene since 1963.

My first encounter is with recently joined new Northants TOMCC members Mark & Kirsty Lloyd, chatting alongside their Triumph Tiger. Pleasantries exchanged I ventured into the crowd, soon coming across more friends and familiar faces.

The local members of the Northants branch had amalgamated in front of the All Seasons Café, in pole position. Meeting up with Barry Gambrill and Chris Dickens, who were both on their respective machines and suitably clothed against the chill. Soon to be seen were, Bob Swann, Phil Tobutt, Steve Rattley (The local TOMCC Chairman), John (Henry) Richards, Simon Tuckley, Mick & Sally Ryan, Steve Wicks, Alan Sanders, Philip Wallington, Linda Francis, Nicky Audley, Kerry Taylor, Mark Thomas & Sue, Geoff Davies (like me, on Foot): and least but not last our old mate "Worm". Calling in to say Hello were Tony & Elaine Merritt and of course, many others, too many to name check.

A lot of local banter and laughter went on amongst the gang with the atmosphere beginning to build, ready for the big off at 12 o' clock.

I continued on my travels around the by now full car park at the Billing Garden Centre. For those that do not know the place we are talking of an area of size similar to a football pitch, with annex car parks adjacent and even bikes parked on the entry road. By this time, we are seeing some several hundred motorcycles parked up and still coming in.

I managed to find one of the organisers from the Northampton Community Motorcycle Team, our friend and fellow hard working member Dave Grundy; Dave had a few quick words hardly stopping to think and breathe before heading off to collect his steed. This time not his usual machine various mechanical failures at MOT /service time. Ouch, but not to worry our Northants TOMCC Partners Pure Triumph Motorcycles, member of staff generously lent Dave a nice Triumph machine to help out and save the day. Fully loaded with spares and a Gallon of petrol strapped to the carrier, off he went to be the first marshal on the road. Well done both.

So, while all this is going on I make my way to the Air ambulance Tent, heavily manned by volunteers. Whilst heading toward the tent I passed the 50-metre queue for the Café, all waiting patiently for the Bacon Butty and Tea no doubt.

At the tent I was warmly greeted and recognized as being from the Northants TOMCC, soon received on behalf of all our members and visitors some kind words of thank you, I pass this on to all who took part: "Well Done".

Paid my Donation and proceeded to meet up with a Clive Proctor and his mate Len, who represented the Triumph Riders East Anglia? I have since been in contact with Clive; plan a run out to meet them.

I was lucky to catch up with 'Bucket man' collecting around the park, he said he had been busy and the bikers were generous, gave him some praise and moved on.

Now for the next few minutes we listened to the words of the Organiser, who used a loud hailer, to no avail, he could have shouted louder, the usual heckling took, place: "Change the Batteries" "using the thing back to front" he gave up and went through the motions. With this said the bikes started up the engines.

Music to a Motorcyclist's ears, the sounds were Great.

Chilly Willy Ride 9th January 2022

At this time I took the time to call a photo shoot of the Northants TOMCC Members, and getting the usual cheer and wave.

I quickly went down to the start area, which by now was getting a build-up of bikes of all shapes and sizes. I took a few snap shots to capture the event.

12pm and we were away, the marshals called for the lower capacity bikes and scooters to go off. This was the start of a 28-mile run the 2022 Chilly Willy Run. Across the local countryside, taking in main roads and side roads, with a spectacular ride through Olney Town, apparently a 2-mile non-stop procession, being waved on and cheered by a very enthusiastic crowd. Olney for those who do not know it is recognized as having the longest and widest main street in the country.

As I was recording the event, I managed to see our supporting Northants TOMCC members make their way out and on the run.

I am able to report some 638 bikes were counted out and the Air Ambulance Charity received total donations on the day of £5127-00.

A BIG Well Done to ALL who took part and a Thank You from The Air Ambulance.

I for one thoroughly enjoyed the experience and hopefully will return another day.

Les Barras



Two Days In June

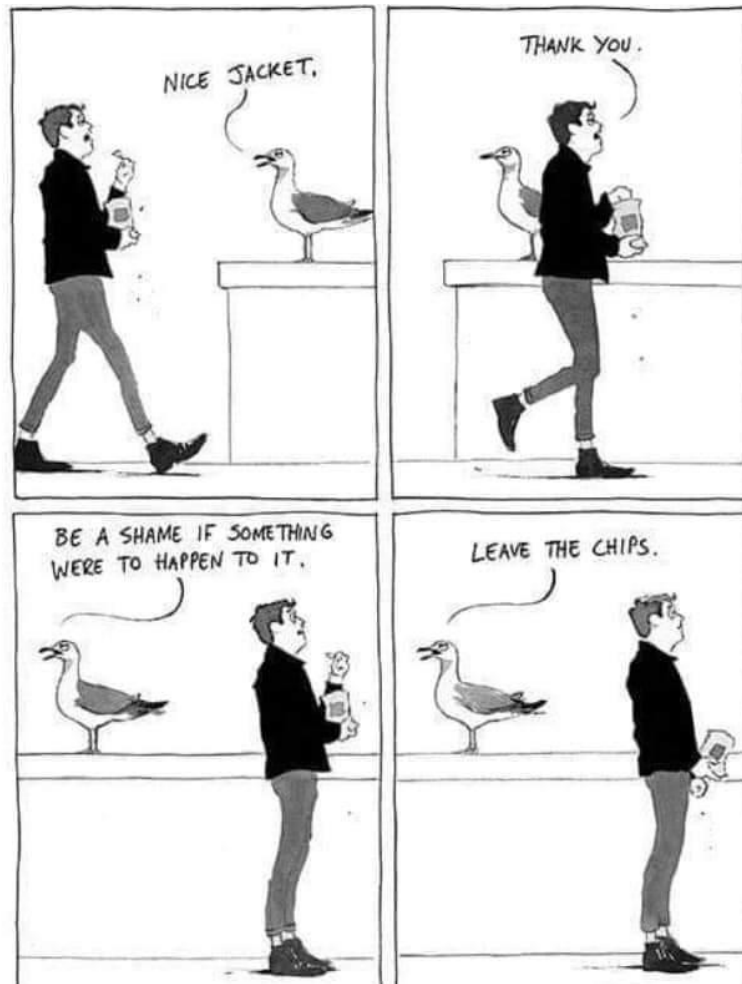
Triumph Day is back for 2022, but at Pure Triumph in Wellingborough instead of Jack's Hill Café. See right...

For those who would like another chance to show off their machine that weekend, we have an invitation to attend the Transport Day at Abington Park Museum in Northampton on Saturday 25th June.

Previous years' exhibits have included a 1937 Leyland Fire Engine, heritage tractors, classic cars, a working Bassett-Lowke gauge one engine, objects from Silverstone Interactive Museum and free bus rides from vintage buses by Northampton Transport Heritage.

The organisers would like to make the show bigger this year and welcome entries from Triumphs of all ages. If we can get enough then a space will be set aside for us.

Entries are required by 31st March and those interested should talk to Sarge.



Northants Branch Annual General Meeting

The 45th Annual General Meeting of the Northants Branch of the Triumph Owners M.C.C. will take place on Wednesday 16th March 2022 at The Crown, Hardingstone. All members are asked to attend. The meeting will start at 8pm.

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:
 - a) Chairman b) Secretary c) Treasurer d) PRO, e) Webmaster, f) Membership Secretary, g) Scribe (Nacelle), h) Newsletter Editor 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 at a branch event by a full member)
 - b) Triumph Rider's Trophy (for attendance at a branch event by a full member on a Triumph)
 - c) Club Person of the Year
 - d) The Double Digit
8. Propositions (taken from the floor or, preferably, in writing in advance)
9. Any Other Business

Les Barras, General Secretary