



VIBRATIONS

NOVEMBER 2022



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SKEGFEST

October saw many of the Northants TOMCC gang enjoying the last of the summer sun in glorious Skegness

RIDE TO THE WALL

Remembering the fallen at the national arboretum with thousands of bikers and veterans

TRIALS AND TRIBULATIONS OF A CLASSIC TRIUMPH

Paul O shared some of the challenges of owning and cherishing a classic

SKEGFEST 2022

TOMCC NORTHANTS VISIT THE SEASIDE AND TRIUMPH AGAIN!

Well done to both lads for winning over our thoroughly impartial judges, resulting in Northants TOMCC coming away with two of the coveted awards from this years Skegfest.

Once again we have a bumper edition of Vibrations, what an amazing summer it's been. Thanks for your contributions, these are always welcome, please keep them coming in.

This month we headed off to Ride To The Wall (RTTW) with thousands of other bikes. It's an amazing and emotional day and well worth considering for a ride out next year. Have a chat if your interested to hear more.

The weather is starting to change, more rain and chilly weather and fewer guaranteed sunny days. Time to get our wet weather kit ready and prepare for the inclement months ahead.

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

Any feedback welcome, 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.

Kirstie & Mark

TRIUMPH OWNERS M.C.C. NORTHANTS BRANCH





INTRODUCTIONS

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Mark Boulton of Corby
Kevin Church of Thrapston
John Meyer of Raund

Anthony Parker of Mears Ashby
Mark Webb of Boughton

EVENTS LIST

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

OCTOBER

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

NOVEMBER

Wed 2 nd	7.30pm	Club Night	The Crown Hardingstone
Sun 13 th	10:00am	CMA Remembrance Sunday	Sycamore Cafe Billing
Wed 16 th	7.30pm	Club Night	The Crown Hardingstone
Sat 19 th to Sun 27 th		Motorcycle Show	NEC Birmingham
Wed 30 th	7.30pm	Club Night	The Swan Newton Bromswold

DECEMBER

Mon 5 th	7:30pm	Committee Meeting	The Crown Hardingstone
Wed 7 th	7.30pm	Club Night	The Crown Hardingstone
Wed 21 st	7.30pm	Club Night XMAS PARTY	The Crown Hardingstone



SKEGFEST 2022

THE LAS VEGAS OF THE LINCOLNSHIRE COAST



in the evenings and Al & Al managed a small whiskey tasting session after hours; just a small one of course. That didn't interfere with the Saturday ride out up the coast taking advantage of the great weather so late in the year.



Although Northants set off as one group, the mid town traffic lights soon scuppered the whole group cohesion and we splintered into 2 groups. Despite losing sight of each other, it didn't interfere with the outcome of a great ride out up the coast with a return journey of twisties past Cadwell Park thanks to Mark Thomas.

As a first timer breaking their Triumph Skegfest cherry, I can't speak highly enough of the continuing desire for local TOMCC clubs to maintain a good social focus around the global Triumph brand and pure enjoyment of trips away from home base.

Although there's uncertainty about with caravan site next years Skegfest will be held at, the trip will take place and one we're wholly looking forward to (including the great carvery on the Sunday jolly)

Mark

A return to Skeggy for some, and a first for others. And whilst the weather was kind for the most part, the odd bit of wind and rain didn't dwindle the spirits of the hardy few who made the jolly 'up north'.

Not sure what we were expecting (from the Triumph side that is) but the usual welcoming nods from other clubs riders gave a warm familiarity, especially as many of them were this years Big Branch Bash attendees. The usual stand out Thunderbirds stood side by side with the scruffy oik adventure bikes, albeit our very own Steve Wickes Tiger stood out head & shoulders from the rest on the final days best in show and Geoff Davies with his Thunderbird Sport also winning.

The usual beer flowed





RIDE TO THE WALL 2022

THE ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE FOR MOTORCYCLING VETERANS, FRIENDS & FAMILIES

Ride To The Wall, for those who don't know, is an annual pilgrimage for motorcycling veterans, their families, friends and anyone else who wants to pay their respects to those who have given their lives in service of our country, at the beautiful National Memorial Arboretum in Alrewas Staffordshire.

The Ride, or RTTW as you may regularly see, was the original brainchild of Martin Dickinson after a small group of Harley Davidson owners made a trip to the NMA to pay their respects in 2007. A year later, the group had managed to publicise their ride so well, that they were accompanied by another 1000 riders who all gladly subscribed to the ride and in return, received a small commemorative pin and year bar patch.

A committee of volunteers soon formed after the event and created the core values along with the principles of donating any monies raised to the NMA. In December 2008, just 1 year after inception, the RTTW clan managed to donate a whopping £10,300 to the NMA.



Year on year, RTTW got bigger and bigger and fast forward to 2021, over 6,000 riders and pillions made the journey, with the final donation being £115,000 bringing the total RTTW donations to over £1.2m in total. Whilst we're still waiting for the 2022 official numbers, it was a massive event with many coming from overseas.

Registration normally opens around April, and for a mere £10 registration fee, you receive your RTTW pin, the year bar patch, your keepsake entrance wrist band, and access to a fantastic event, regardless of weather.

2022 saw good fortune and the sun was out in all its glory, shocking the unofficial 8,000 attendees who'd prepared for the expected rain!

For those who haven't been, the NMA houses hundreds of small memorials to various branches of the services, regiments, cores & squadrons, and campaigns, all surrounding the main memorial wall where all the names of those who gave the lives in service of our country, are carefully and beautifully etched.

Some are just great hunking slabs of granite that has meaning to that specific unit, others are intricately carved works of art depicting an event or regimental badge.



There is one, that even though I've been to the NMA dozens of times, still brings a tear to my eye – without fail. The Shot At Dawn memorial serves as a reminder of our barbaric and naïve past, whereby so called deserters were shot by firing squads. Many of those who suffered at the hands of our own troops, were later exonerated due to suffering from traumatic stress, or 'shell shock' as we have come to use in such a blasé manner. The memorial is a single marble soldier, wearing his great coat and blindfold, tied to a post, awaiting the fatal shot. The central piece is surrounded by further posts, just bearing name plates of those who were shot at dawn. There are story boards near many of the memorials providing greater detail into the monuments. The Shot At Dawn Describes many of those killed were just young men, mostly teenagers who were faced with sights and sounds many cannot envisage. A sombre memorial to those who's lives were taken through ignorance, and an effort for us to remember them as heroes,

not cowards.

Although the event is based on remembrance, for the most part it's actually upbeat. Military bands smash away at their big drums, solo artists and small groups provide lighter entertainment, and this year saw the Military Wives choir belting out some absolutely beautiful songs.

There is a small period of remembrance in the middle of the day, but it quickly returns to the busy event where laughter is the loudest noise.

Whether you know anyone else or not, everyone will extend a hand. Young children accompany their grandparents, and the old & bold proudly wear their unit regalia, some for that one last time.

Setting off from Northampton M1 services at 0835hrs, some 260 riders elegantly rode up the motorway under police escort. In staggered file, with a 'no overtaking' rule, everyone was impeccably behaved and all arrived safely and in our allotted timeframe.



Medals, plooms, many wonderful shaped 'hats' and lots of leather are literally everywhere. Riders of every type of bike, new, old, 2 wheels or 3 (never seen a unicycle though) little putput's to massive roaring beasts lined up to park just outside the main entrance. Even if the memorial event doesn't hold any real attraction, the thousands of bikes just might. The NMA team have a group of photographers who try to capture every rider attending. Once they're all published, you can donate £5 to the charity and the 'togs' will send you a larger digital file of your photo arriving at the memorial (not as good as mine though eh?)



Whether you take your own butties, or hit the burger/fish and chip vans, have a beer or 2, or stick to the tea & coffee, the day whizzes by as you watch the carnival of leather & denim cuts filled with military and/or manufacturer patches wandering around. It is a day to remember, and it's a day to remember. Join us next year and get a glimpse into what us old farts do when we're allowed to dress up!

The reception centre houses the Poppy shop and café, which is good by any standard and remarkably good value. Inside the grounds, apart from the obvious outstanding collection

of service memorials, are a collection of food vendors selling a variety of beers and grub. These are a little more expensive but in the grand scheme of the day, fades into insignificance compared to other events.

The facilities are excellent, loo's, parking,

Really good representation of a procession ride which allows young riders to join in without fear of not keeping pace or difficult junction etiquette.

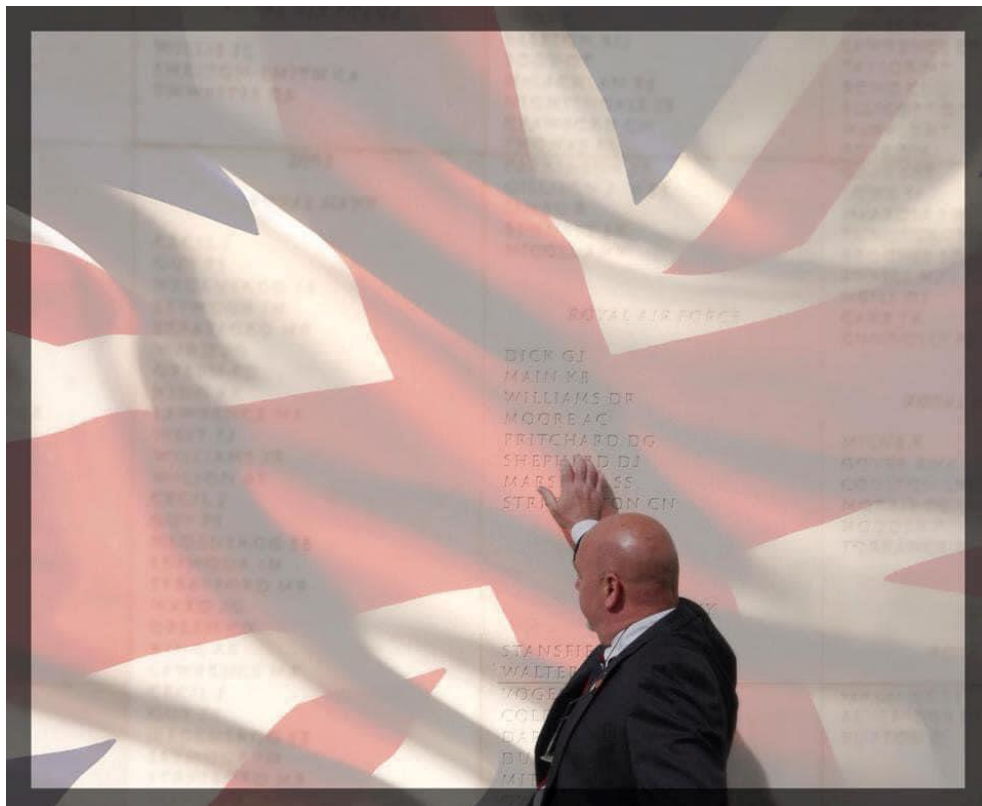
A little bit of transparency, the event is held in October every year so it is often cold and sometimes wet, don't let this put you off joining us. I use it as an excuse to top up on more grub and beer!



For those with a nervous disposition – BEWARE (Chairman)!!! There are flags, lots and lots of flags!

If anyone is interested in the 2023 RTTW, let me know and we'll organise a Triumph centric group as part of the larger Northants group.

Mark





T120 RIDE-OUT COMPETITION RESULTS

PURETRIUMPH WELLINGBOROUGH & NORTHANTS TOMCC HOSTED THE T120 RIDEOUT

Thanks to all of those handed in their entries and to those who helped either at the meeting or from the depth of cyberspace. The ratified results have not altered those declared on the night much to the relief of the organiser, (I did not relish having to hand out a washed 2nd hand T-shirt to the rightful winners).

Some highlights for the entries which probably reflect the entrants school reports

- Only Triumph models were acceptable – not from other brands as stated in the exam question
- There were no villages or towns beginning with B, Y, J or V- so Bonneville, Cub and Harley didn't work
- Some entries showed a certain lack of attention in class and revision
- Some obvious marks were lost by not check the answer before handing the entry – 2 entries did not list Triumph as a brand. (However, kudos to the one mention of Honaka)
- The winner's entry was the tidiest – surprised?

Contestant	Brands	Triumph Models	Total	Incorrect
Bob Swan	46	15	61	12
Kirstie Watson (& friends)	20	14	34	7
Phillip Wallington	22	9	31	5
Paul Ollett	19	7	26	48
Kevin & Rickie Gee	17	6	23	9
Mark Lloyd	12	9	21	22
Steve Patenall	13	0	13	8
Possible	186	38	224	

N.B, You could still have go at an entry and try to beat the current number 1

Tim

SUPERSAUSAGE BREAKFAST MEET

A NICE BREAKFAST MEET UP AT THE SUPERSAUSAGE CAFE



The usual suspects enjoyed a ride-out to the SuperSausage café. The length of the queues only goes to show the breakfast is decent and the tea strong (proper builders tea).

The weather gods were with us and the sun shone all day, bringing hordes of bikers out, of every kind, from gleaming classics, sparkling racing bikes to antiquated souped up pushbikes, and even the odd Royal Enfield 😊

We were joined by one of this month's new members, welcome to the club Steve.

A few adjourned to a near by pub to soak up the sunshine in the early afternoon because a pleasant pootle home.

ps. Bob assures me the strange coloured liquid in his glass was not an exotic cocktail!



WOBURN

A WOBBURN TRIUMPH STOP AND STUFF CLASSIC CAR AND BIKE MEET



Saturday 22nd of November saw the Northants TOMCC setting off from Billing Garden Centre and taking a steady ride out to Woburn Triumph Stop and Stuff classic car and bike meet.

Bob Swann described it as the best selection of classics, particularly Triumphs that I have seen over at Woburn.

Once again the weather was kind and the sun shone.

I was particularly impressed with the photography from Rickie Anne with her "man in the mirror" photograph, very clever.



TRIALS AND TRIBULATIONS OF A CLASSIC TRIUMPH

THE JOYS & CHALLENGES OF OWNING A CLASSIC

We have been together now for some 5 years and have developed a mutual respect for each other being neither in great awe of each other or total contempt so at least it is respect. I suppose you could make an argument that it is really a 'Love Hate' relationship with the love and the hate alternating between the two of us but in spite of this we have been staying together for about five years which is lasting longer than many formal marriages.

When I first saw the Triumph Trophy TR6 R I guess you could say it was love at first sight. She, (it is always a 'she') was conceived in 1967 and truth to tell she's knocked about a bit since then but at least her integrity is largely maintained and her numbers still match.

I know that she spent some time in the USA as there are elements in the construction that appear to reflect this with raised exhausts on either side, wider handlebars and folding footrests. Only front footrests of course as she would not countenance any mortal competition from the human tender gender lodging itself on the pillion.



Her glistening chrome is near perfect and the non-standard teardrop tank is painted in a pearlescent blue which could be likened to a blue rinse were she a real woman of fifty five years. It was the year 2000 that saw her return to our shores and the powers that be, in a cruel twist issued an age related registration plate. A cause for pride I think rather than a slap in the face of vanity.

There is a popular song you may know called 'You don't own me' originally sung by Lesley Gore which coincidentally first appeared on the pop music scene in 1966. Since then there have been many covers by female artists including Dusty Springfield and more recently Grace.



This song could well have been written with the TR6 in mind and although I parted with a wad of cash to bring her home I have developed a belief that I don't actually own her. That attractive appearance and throaty voice are all part of the package but I don't own it, I just have a strong sense of belonging to her.

Oh yes! Just like her flesh and blood counterparts she can let me down badly. Recently such a tantrum caused me to have to push her for over mile to home after total electrical failure of the ignition system. We just do not leave those we belong to abandoned at the roadside although truth to tell it seemed to me to be a good idea at the time.





Nevertheless, it was my obligation to get the situation resolved, before I could again listen to those sweet tones emanating from the shiny twin silencers as I twist the throttle, on a whim to leave the land of the pedestrians and share the thrill of our time together on the open road again. I could feel the corners of my mouth twitching under each ear, yes! This is 'Grin Factor' at its most extreme.

So now I am just about satisfied that all is well with us although of late I have noticed that she is weeping a light film of oil from her front forks. Well I must be forgiving and at fifty five years is a little incontinence that unacceptable? Not 'Always' if I am to believe what I see on the telly and to finish on another popular song 'Hopelessly devoted to you'.

Paul Ollett

AND THE JOYS OF GETTING YOUR HANDS DIRTY WITH A CLASSIC



The front mudguard is now repaired and painted, the seat re-foamed and re-covered by RK Leightons, new battery.

The engine iron head and barrel was rusting, so a mate at Aston Martin Newport Pagnell bead blasted some alloy parts and sand blasted the iron parts, I've 6-coated them both with black engine casing spray paint.



After a gap of a couple of years I'm now the proud owner of another old Triumph, my dream bike a Blue 1950s Tiger T110.

As soon as it was off my trailer and awaiting its first night in the garage, I was listing stuff to do too bring it up too scratch after sitting in a chap's large shed of dozens of bikes unused and awaiting some tlc.

So here is a current pic with stuff removed



And the same mate's mate at AM knocked the dents out the tool/battery box cover and repainted it black.

Last job over winter is to have both wheels rebuilt as both are not originals. Will be going to Stafford mechanics show to buy some SS fixings

Looking forward to riding it around the Northants country B roads

Chris B



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.

MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

THE MACMILLAN RUN – SALFORDS – 30TH SEPTEMBER 2022

I asked the question on how much had been raised for the above event and this is the answer I received today.

"About £3.8K on the day, there's then potentially the part match funding through businesses so overall will be over £4k".

Well done to all who were able to make the ride in on the day. See you there next year.

Paul



HAVE YOU EVER

Have you ever screwed a UNF nut on a metric bolt?

Have you ever started it up just as you saw the unopened oil?

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 polished your chrome even though you can't win as you are judging?

Tim

