



Thunderbird Times

JUNE 2014

Newsletter of the Mighty South London branch of the **TRIUMPH** Owners Motor Cycle Club

Wimbledon tennis is with us once more (deep joy), so I thought I'd share this picture from 1966, nicked from Metro, of the old bill on a Thunderbird...

Club Run to Rudgewick

Things started off badly. As we were waiting at the Goat, the rain started. This soon changed to hailstones, for a few minutes. We lost a few riders who hadn't brought wets, and didn't want to take a chance. As it turned out, it was very localised, and a quarter mile up the road there was no sign of the wet stuff, and the run out and back stayed dry.

ATTENTION ALL MODERN BONNEVILLE & SE OWNERS AND PROBABLY THE T100 WITH ALLOY WHEELS

by David Lidbury

Are you frustrated, occasionally when out biking and not getting a satisfactorily pleasant ride?

You sometimes think you aren't in 5th gear, hacking along, because the revs seem a bit high and you try changing gear only to find there's no more?

Do you sometimes think first gear seems a bit pointless?

Do you wish you had a 6th gear?

If all your answers to these questions are yes there is a solution at hand. It's simply by changing the primary (front) sprocket from the standard fitted 18 tooth to a 19 tooth sprocket.

It can be purchased from Jack Lilley PART NUMBER 34152519 £26.09 + P&P, unless you pick it up yourself. It's easy to fit yourself, if you're that way inclined, or, at an extremely competitive price, by Roy Bateman.

I spoke to Triumph because I was concerned about any change in the speed reading. The speedometer reading is derived by a semiconductor counting the teeth on the first gear in the gearbox so no change there, and so the engine management system can't be remapped to change it.

Triumph informed me that the speedometer reading has an error tolerance of between +5 to +10%.

A date with history: 24/06/1966



They said they don't condone the change, but suggested using a SATNAV to determine your correct speed and mark your speedometer accordingly.

I had a professional mechanical expert (friend) have a look at the ratios etc, to come up with some of the expected differences in the speedometer reading. The result is approximately +7 to +8% if you are driving on the rev-counter. These results look as if it could actually improve the speedometer error.

I drive using the speedometer and found that, before the change, in 5th gear 30mph was at 2000rpm. Now 30mph is reading approximately 1700-1800rpm.

30mph in 4th at 2000rpm feels like it did in 5th and I can stay in 4th longer before requiring 5th gear.

It should be slightly better on fuel consumption. Acceleration is better and at high speed there seems less engine noise.

Basically it's a much more pleasant ride and I am delighted with the results and I'm not frustrated.

Apparently Carl Rosner has done "hundreds" (their words) of these changes, but what price?

Roy did mine as part of a service, but his price will be low, he tells me!

One last important point my Carole Nash insurance is not affected by the change, but they "made a note on my file"!!

Dave

(Dave mentions having his bike serviced by Roy Bateman. Roy services and repairs bikes, of any make, and quite a few of our club members use him. If you should need any work done on a bike, Roy is reliable and his prices reasonable – I've not heard any complaints. He is in the Worcester Park area, and worth talking to if you need anything done – **02083307937**.)

July 5th Old Coulsdon Fair, Coulsdon Rd/Cannon's Hill CR5 1EB 1200

July 6th Ton-Up Day, Brooklands

July 15th MSL Bike Show & BBQ. The Goat, 7.30 on.

July 19th Claygate Flower Show. Meet Tolworth Bowl 1200

July 22nd Club Run. The Royal Oak, Rusper RH12 4QA

July 26th Kempton Park bike jumble

July 27th Classic Superbike Show & jumble, Ardingley

CLUB CONTACTS:

Website	http://www.tomccmsl.co.uk/	
Chairman		
Vice Chairman	Paul Cooper	020 8394 1909
Secretary		
Treasurer	Malcolm Orpin	020 8640 2608
Membership Secretary	Barry Bryant	020 8407 0130
TT Editor	Mal Orpin	malcolm.orpin@talktalk.net
Social/Show Secretary	Bob Simmonds	020 8669 0921
Runs Leader	Fred Reavell	020 8873 2545
Website Administrator	Dave Lidbury	Triumph@lidders.fsnet.co.uk

THE BRANCH:

Meets at the Goat,

Carshalton Road, Mitcham, CR4 4HJ

(Tel: 020 8648 1935) every Tuesday from 8.30 pm

Runs leave the pub at **8.00pm sharp,**

4th Tuesday of the month, April to Sept.

Please ensure you have a full tank of petrol!