



Thunderbird Times

NOVEMBER 2016

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

Sad News..

Some of you may remember Roger Horstman, a branch member for some time. Just had news he has passed away after an illness. No more details as yet. After an accident on one of the early Hinckleys some years ago Roger got more into classic cars, a couple of Triumph sports cars, although he kept a few of his classic bikes and remained a member of the branch.

Changes at the PoW. There's going to be an extension into the garden area to make a function room, with flats above. The back room is mainly boarded off while the work is being done, could be a bit cosy in there if they have a lot of customers in on our night. We shall see.... The quiz night is planned for Tuesday November 29th, that will have to be confirmed when we find if we can go ahead.

NEC trip on Thursday 24th – still a couple of seats on the minibus; let us know if you're interested.

Nuclear Bunker

Martin took a few of us for a run up to Brentwood, Essex, to visit a bunker built in the 'cold war' of the early 50s. Built to take up to 600 people, shut up for months in the event of a nuclear attack, it is 100ft deep, on three levels, with 6 foot thick outer walls. It's hard to see how it was kept 'secret', with that amount of earth moved, and concrete coming in 24 hours a day. Apparently they lit wood fires all around the site to keep the frost off the concrete while it was setting. It is pretty much as it was left when the last shift clocked off in 1983 (or thereabouts). It was to be a hidey-hole for the prime minister and senior ministers. The prime ministers room, still with the original furnishings from the 50/60s, even had a dummy looking like John Major in the bed – with a curious hump in the blanket – Edwina, maybe?

Some interesting stuff, from a nearly forgotten era.

CLUB CONTACTS:

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|-----------------------|---|
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This is the entrance to the bunker. Disguised to look like a farm house, it is in fact constructed of four foot thick concrete.

THE BRANCH:

Meets at the Prince of Wales,

98 Morden Road, London SW19 3BP

(Tel: 020 8542 6084) every Tuesday from 8.00 pm