



# Thunderbird Times

July 2009

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

## Surrey Branch BBQ

A very good evening, well attended. MSL pretty much cleaned up in the raffle, & Dave Lidbury got 'Best Hinckley' trophy for his Bonneville. Sandy was pleased to announce the presence of 51 bikes - I was pleased to note that at least 28 were MSL members.

John LeFevre's run to The Old Crown at Edenbridge was a different story. Atrocious weather all day put most people off, in fact I was surprised to see John had come all the way from Edenbridge to take us back there. Although the roads were still wet at least the rain held off for the rest of the evening, a mere nine of us out on the run joined at the pub by a few more who had opted for four wheeled transport.

## New Thunderbird

I was lucky enough to test ride the new Thunderbird a day before the official launch. I had a quick look over the bike, and I have to say I think Triumph have got it just about right. The only point I would make would be the size of radiator, It seems to spoil the overall look especially from the front, You can't please everybody!. After being given the keys and shown over the controls and the onboard computer AAARGH, I fired up the big twin. The demo bike was fitted with shorter louder pipes which gave a nice bark. The forward controls mean that vertically challenged riders may have to stretch or adjust the gear and brake levers as I did on the America. The seat is low as you would expect for a cruiser 27". My initial reaction was this is very pleasant and sedate, I then found a stretch of open road, opened the throttle and was transported to another galaxy. I always thought the 900 triple had torque but this motor is something else. Handling was excellent, twin discs up front, mirrors were nicely placed. It would be very easy to get a tug from Mr Plod, at one point along the top road to Titsey Hill I hit 70 at just over 3000 rpm. After 20 minutes I took the bike back to Mr Rosner. My overall assessment is if you like this style of bike and you have the funds, around £9500, GET ONE!. My birthday is in December. Bob

## Devon Weekend

I am putting together plans for a late Summer break to Lynton in North Devon.

After speaking to several members the likely date could be Fri Sept 4- Mon 7 although this is flexible. To pitch a tent £ 7.00 per night. Also there are a couple of Cottages on site that sleep 4-5 each. There is also a luxury caravan that sleeps 4-5. There is a newly refurbished shower and toilet block, A small shop for food & drink and essentials, also a Snack bar/ Cafe which serves breakfasts and evening meals. A nearby village that has several Pubs. This is a Biker friendly site, 5 minutes bike ride to the beach or 20 minutes walk.

If interested in a long weekend in Devon please see the Information Pack on the notice board.

Bob Simmonds  
Social Secretary.

**"Political correctness is a doctrine, fostered by a delusional, illogical minority, and rabidly promoted by an unscrupulous mainstream media, which holds forth the proposition that it is entirely possible to pick up a turd by the clean end."**

Texas A&M University student

That's all, folks! I was hoping for something from our intrepid explorers who ventured to the frozen fastnesses of the north, a.k.a. Scotland, but nothing forthcoming. All I know is Andy and his ST decided on different lines around a bend resulting in a write-off (the bike that is - Andy was pretty much OK). Prior to that, a roofing tile landed on the tank of Jackie's bike, so not the best family outing for them.

### **Forthcoming Attractions**

August 15th - Capel Classic Car & Bike Show - Ryka's, 1200

August 22nd/23rd - Bonneville Celebration, Gaydon

August 25th - Club run, The Sportsman, Mogador

### THE CLUB:

Meets at the Princess of Wales, **98 Morden Road, London SW19 3BP**

(020 8542 0573) every Tuesday from 8.30 pm

Runs leave the pub at 8.00pm sharp, 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month, April to Sept.

Please ensure you have a full tank of petrol.

### CLUB CONTACTS:

<b>Chairman</b>	<b>Mog Pharoah</b>	<b>020 8947 7727</b> (day)
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Malcolm Orpin</b>	<b>020 8640 2608</b>
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<b>Membership Secretary</b>	<b>Dave Kent</b>	<b>Ditto</b>
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