



Thunderbird Times

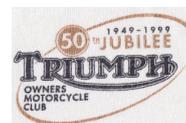
MAY 2012

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

Roy Howard



It was sad to learn of the death of Roy Howard earlier this month. Roy was a member of this branch for some years, until a combination of business commitments and a defunct Tiger 100C stopped him coming to the club. He used to attend all the shows that we used to do, and was a regular on the club runs – he's still remembered for going straight on at a left bend, and having to be dragged out of the hedge around Chipstead golf course. And that was on the outward run! Apart from the good memories, his legacy to the club was the motif for our 50th anniversary back in '99 (right). Thanks to the people who turned out for the funeral to give a bike escort. It was much appreciated by his family, to whom we extend our condolences.



Fleet Run

Not a particularly pleasant day for the run, fortunately the worst of the rain came when we were at the halfway stop, under cover. Wimps that we are, we headed for home instead of going back to Fleet, stopping on the way at a nice little pub near Bagshot, which we'll use again if we can find it.

Somerset & Dorset Rally (Thruyton Treffen)

After what seemed like weeks of never-ending rain, we left Tolworth with blue skies and sunshine for our trip down to Yeovil, Somerset. We were going to stop at Popham Airfield for breakfast but they only serve light snacks on weekdays, so it was on to a Little Chef. When we arrived at the venue we signed in and found a spot to pitch our tents. We were using a rugby pitch and there was quite a breeze blowing, so it proved difficult to put our tents up. We were near the Clubhouse which had a kitchen, bar, and showers. After about 2 hours the countryside was awoken by the sound of Ian arriving on his Rocket 3. Soon after Dean arrived. We all had a good evening meal followed by a pint or three of the local brew, entertained by a disco.

The first night proved to be rather chilly under a starry sky, so the next day we went into Yeovil where I bought some thermal socks and they were a vast improvement. Two ride-outs were planned for the day, we elected to go for the later one, so we all met at the entrance at 1300 along with the other various branches. The ride took us down through Weymouth Harbour and along the coast to Portland Bill. Some went to the pub, myself, John, Martin and Charlie went down towards the lighthouse and had tea by the beach, We all managed to get quite red with the sun and the breeze. Some of us decided to go back another way via Bridport. Paul put the info into his Sat-Nav and off we went, but somehow we managed to ride into a housing estate. Eventually we found the way back to camp. They had laid on a cider-tasting session in the late afternoon, with entertainment by a band, the Mangled Wurzels (!!!).

That evening the entertainment was laid on by a Rock Band called Crosswired, They played what some may say is Soft Rock - Dire Straits, Led Zeppelin, Eric Clapton, Stones etc. They were excellent, even Charlie danced with one of the bar staff. Ian gave us his rendition of Delilah (he is Welsh). Then we had presentations for



Bob, with trophy for best branch attendance

various categories including Best Meriden, Best Hinckley. There was an award for Best Supported Branch that was between 3 branches, but with 10 Members MSL were awarded the Trophy which I proudly accepted on behalf of our group. We all thought it was a great weekend, good facilities, and very well organised. Big thanks to Somerset & Dorset branch, especially JC and Dave.

Bob Simmonds

Quote of the day - Popham Airfield café, Sunday, a.m. whilst struggling to get off his fully loaded Bonnie, the ever youthful & positive Charlie F (75) commented "I hope I can still do this when I'm 90!"
So do we mate, so do we! PS

(More pictures and video on MSL website)

Southern Classic Show

We had our stand at Kempton Park for the show. Dave Kent had a 'for sale' notice on his recently restored Speed Twin, and – **result** – sold it for the asking price. This was after he'd gone round the stalls and bought a mirror and front number plate carrier for it!

Club Run to Kingsfold

Bit of a disaster, there were little groups of bikes running around the lanes independently, but I think everybody got there in the end. It's probably a good time to mention again the 'drop-off' system. If you stop on a junction or roundabout, try to make yourself conspicuous. If you're approaching same, have a good look around, the bike stopped there should be pointing in the direction you want. And finally, please wait on that corner until the last man comes up. It was a bit unfortunate on Tuesday, but we'll be alright next time!

Surrey Branch

Moving their meeting place to the Saddlers Arms, Send Marsh GU23 6JQ as from this Thursday 31st. [[Map](#)] They're having a run there from the William IV, West Horsley, at 8.15.

EVENTS

June 17th London Motorcycle Museum, Triumph Day. Tolworth 1030
June 26th Club Run to Skimmington Castle, Reigate RH2 8RL

CLUB CONTACTS:

Website	http://www.tomccmsl.co.uk/
Chairman	Mog Pharoah 020 8947 7727 (day)
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THE BRANCH:

Meets at the Prince 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**,

4th Tuesday of the month, April to Sept.

Please ensure you have a full tank of petrol.

Someone stole all my credit cards, but I won't be reporting it.. The thief spends less than my wife did.