



Thunderbird Times

MARCH 2011

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

A.G.M.

The AGM came and went with no momentous decisions. Chairman Mog was absent after an operation, on the previous Saturday, to have the nuts and bolts in his leg replaced. They were probably cross-threaded if he'd been let loose with the spanners. He seems to be recovering well. There were no nominations for the committee so that remains the same. Awards – Rider of the Year to Martin Bayer (left) & Rider of the Year to Dave Vaughan (right). This will be the first he knows about this as he's currently swanning around the USA with some rock band in tow.



Back on the subject of legs, amongst the apologies for absence was Dave Tester, a long-time member of the club, who is having some mobility problems at the moment. Dave found us our current venue, the PoW, when the old Kings Head was turned into an extension of the bus garage. Hope you get well soon Dave, & get back down the club.

PIONEER RUN

The official start to the season for us fair-weather bikers. A good number of our members were at Epsom to see Bernard off on his 1911 Triumph 3.5hp. He completed the run again for the 11th time in just over two and a half hours – not bad for a 100-year-old bike. His account will follow. Amongst the 371 runners and riders was a Latvian gentleman on a very shiny Rex – over-restored is the expression, I think. Somebody suggested he'd had a nickel plating kit for Christmas. His flat rear tyre was pointed out to him, but he didn't seem concerned, and disappeared off up the road leaving a huge cloud of smoke. We hope he made it OK.



BERNARD, LEAVING THE START LINE AT EPSOM.

From Epsom, a group of us made our way to the Ardingley bike show/jumble, via Surrey branch member Terry's place, where we were kindly provided with coffee and toast.

And now for something entirely different – a book review. The first you've seen here...

Triumph Bonneville: Portrait of a Legend (Haynes 2011) By James Mann & Mick Duckworth

The Triumph remains a legend amongst motorcyclists for its style and performance, a media icon beloved worldwide of sportsmen and counterculture heroes. The most famous Triumph, the Bonneville, is deserving of a pictorial history all of its own... and here it is.

Mainly covering 650cc T120 and 750cc T140 models, the authors display nearly all the variants including Thruxton, Competition Special, TT, TSX and TSS – as well as Harris and Hinckley versions.

Notably missing are the T140D 'Special', home and export versions of the Royal Wedding and Jubilee, respectively and the touring Executive model. That said, my rare (3 made !) 1983 TSS-AV is extensively photographed (it now sports UK 'bars and a stock centre stand) as are home and export T120s from the classic 1960's and a T110 , the precursor to the 1959 'Bonnie', an example of which is also well-illustrated.

The text is informed, crisp and clear as are the photographs, all bikes being photographed against a white studio background. Compared to other similar titles, the text is informative yet concise, the photography telling much of the model history.

I expect that this book will sell well worldwide so get yours now !

Buy it from a real bookshop rather than Amazon and save your high street. You'll pay normal RRP but this book is worth it. Despite this featuring my TSX and TSS-AV, I assure you that I have no financial interest in this !

Expect a 2012 calendar based on these photographs , no doubt ...!

Erum Waheed

Paul Skeet got the following from TFL, may be of interest...

I am writing to let you know that motorcycles can currently use most bus lanes on London's Red Routes as part of a trial period ending 23 January 2012.

Please look out for motorcycles when turning across bus lanes as they can be hard to spot.

For more information please visit tfl.gov.uk/motorcyclesinbuslanes :

<http://info.tfl.gov.uk/re?l=9xfnckI2uzvg7f10>>

Yours sincerely, Ben Plowden Director Better Routes and Places

A DIY bike servicing centre? Whatever next... <http://www.ovalmotorcyclecentre.co.uk/web/index.php>

EVENTS

April 17 th	Charlie Goddard Memorial Run, Last Chance Rescue. Leave Godstone Pond (A25) 1100.
April 22 nd	VMCC Bun Run, Red Tree lay-by A217 (south side of M25) 1000
April 25 th	Tadworth Childrens Hospital run, leave Ryka's 1030.
May 2 nd	Fleet Run (TBA)
May 6-9 th	TOMCC Rally, Norfolk (TBA)
May 21 st	Southern Classic Bike Show, Kempton Park
May 24 th	Club Run to The Sportsman, Mogador

THE CLUB:

Meets at the Prince of Wales, **98 Morden Road, London SW19 3BP**
(020 8542 0573) every Tuesday from 8.30 pm

CLUB CONTACTS:

Website	http://www.tomccmsl.co.uk/
Chairman	Mog Pharoah 020 8947 7727 (day)
Treasurer	Malcolm Orpin 020 8640 2608
Secretary	Doddie Kent 020 8660 5227
Membership Secretary	Dave Kent Ditto
Show Secretary	John Flower 020 8942 9976
TT Editor	Mal Orpin malcolm.orpin@talktalk.net
Social Secretary	Bob Simmonds 020 8669 0921
Runs Leader	Brian Peters 01737 551762
Regalia	Robin Maynard 020 8224 7421
Website Administrator	Dave Lidbury lidders@lidders.fsnet.co.uk

"Before you criticize someone, you should walk a mile in their shoes. That way when you criticize them, you are a mile away from them and you have their shoes." Tommy Cooper.