

### All this and more...



It's all at Daytona



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# what's inside

### 4 News

Details of our Summer Festival in Germany and National Rally in the States, plus events in England, France, Sweden and Greece. It's going to be a busy Summer, so read on and find out how to get

### I I On Tour

We head out West for an odyssey through the lonely plains of America's heartland: A voyage of discovery in more ways than one.



### 14 Scooter scoop

Remember the Triumph Tina scooter? We do. Read the story of its chaotic launch from someone who was there

### 17 Fine finish

How we put the shine on our bikes. A look inside Triumph's own chroming plant.

### Editor/International Club Manager

Design

### Market Deeping, Lines., England. 01778-380696

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Phoenix Photolitho, Leicester,

Printing William Gibbons & Sons.

Torque is published quarterly by the and distributed to all members.

### 18 Tuscan delight

Some guys have all the luck. The editor spent a weekend touring the beautiful heartland of Italy's Tuscany region in the over 40 fellow Triumphlowners. It's a hard life!

### 20 Club services

Discover what RAT can do for you. New savings on sea crossings, hotels and holidays.





# international news

# Spring at Stanford

OVER 500 club members from Britain, France.

historic Stanford Hall, Leicestershire, on April 27

Germany and Sweden joined together to launch

the first full year of Riders Association of Triumph activity as:

Henry April showers during the build up to the eve

broke to bothe the half's beautiful landscaped garden in-

club merchandise was on sale.

Over 50 riders took advantage of the demonstration runs hosted by Triumph and local dealer Windy Corner to try an alternative Triumph machine - including the T500 range - while 18 lucky members went away with brizes from the free prize draw

Too prize winner was Northampton based Mark Reneelens who took away a Tiper lacket. Other winners were S Lock from Leicester (Trophy gloves) and David Hanscombe from Willingham (club sweatshirt).

We struck gold with the weather, and it really was a great day," sald Club Manager Neil Webster, "If anything, we were surprised by the number of people who turned up. At one stage we counted over 350 Triumphs parked together which made a terrific sight. "The plan is to make the event a regular season

opener and we are already looking at a bigger and better programme for next year, with a range of added attractions and activities."

sun for the day allowing visicors to relax on the ground to the sound of a jazz band while sampling the products of the pie roost and burger mill and Roensed but Exhibits included the Triumph mabile exhibition unit a large display of vintage RAC vehicles and a police at theft unit, while the range of Triol-



Entertainment RAT-pack style,









### RATs get rolling riding, eating and drinking

'HE club's touring programme starting rolling during the Spring, with organised trips around Rutland in England, Alsace in France, Tuscany in Italy and Texas, USA.

together for a mix of

Highlights of the Rutland tour included the 800 year old Rockingham Castle (pictured) and Rutland Water, while the Each trip saw dub visitors to Alexes took the members and staff join apportunity to look

around the French National Automobile

and sightseeing.

you have any suggestion

Museum. planned, organised both as national or local level, so if

Worldwide exposure S the Riders Association

ontinues to expand. members from a range of different environments. We are now active in 19

countries with membership reaching the 9000 mark by May and on schedule to top 15,000 by the end of the year.

route in ten days.

left).

Monorcyclist magazine are sponsoring Trophy 1200 rider Chris Cimino as he attempts to cover the 11,000 mile

eave 22 12 noon (CST) on Monday August 25 and are

due to return no later than 12 noon (SCT) on Friday

rom Butt web site on www.inpnbutt.com and lookin

September 5. Between then they will have to visit

Gorham, Maine: Daytona Beach, Florida: Orange,

California: and Yakima, Washington.

The evert starts and end at Westmorr, Illinois, Riders

You can keep up to date on the event by visiting the

launched group desert state of

their regular runs by Triumph export manager Mark Fletcher (third from



#### Hard rider contact either the clubmanages; your rational manager or your pade RIUMPH are taking on the world's toughest touring event, the American Iron Butt Rally! RAT and

### Daytona launch

AYTONA Race Weel in March saw che move into action, with a

club party and run. Over 150 members attended the Friday night party at the Dayto

beach Hilton Hotel, with Took music vinture racing videos and a display of members took part on a

Delind for lund in Deleon Springs, Several

iders took the opportunity to test midthe new Daysons T595 and T509 Speed Triples.

Circuit action at

Dayrona included a vacing debut for a TS95 when

Michael Gage tools an excellent fourth place inthe Sound of Thunder class with support from Michael also contested

> LISA open class, and although a fall late in practice left him in mid pack, he managed 24th and 27th

> > places in the two lees.

e article on the evert in Motorcyclist megazine Gary goes down under







# WHAT'S HAPPENING?



town - subject to approval from local

the public to share some of the Triumph

rally site, camp site and town each and enjoy yourself and there will be mernight on site security for packed

bikes. Breakfast will be served in the rally marguer on Sprorday and Sunday Members wishing to book hotel or enesthouse accommodation should contact the local tourist office at the Kurserwaltung Bad Penerstal.

Schwarzwaldstrasse 11, 77740 Bad Percryal-Griesbach. Gremany. Edechone +49 (0)7806 7933, fax +49 UF 806 1040. They will offer you a choice

Tickets for the rally are available to 180 \$33 DM 55.3 in advance Please Associational Triumph to RAT-INO Box Hackley Telestershire, England Datate registration cost 25 (Bird25.

Black **Forest** Bash

ERMANY'S scanning Plack Forces Jegion is the location of this year's

secular feigned freesocktall and tre ditional local amount followed by district to live and appealed apply with plenting supplies of Final and Mink Ride Time'. You can ose between discovering the highgles of the area while tracking down the class fee our Treasure Hunt, san they a spectacular personal toute for the raily guide or explosing on your o

rise the trail action starts in ming with the Summer Pectical

or withteher members Three will be time to notify that thir stacch recess, or you can simple relax on site with the range of activities desplays and competitions we have planted. All resembers will be able to

add fride

and guesthouse acco

collect your rally guide,

rally marquee

LEIDEZP.

### Swedish action WEDEN'S programme of RAT events is expanding. with a schedule of Summer runs and track days

The season started with a circuit day at Karlskoga Raceway on May 17 and continues with another track day, this time at Anderstorp Raceway, on June 5.

The club will be at Västervik between July 25-27 and on August 16 there will be a club run starting at the Stockholm headquarters of Swedish Triumph importers English Mosorcycle.

For more details or to book a place fax Hans Blomgvist at English Motorcycle on +46 8 883 860.



WITH Triumph defending their 1996 special welcome at the 1997 at the French circuit

### French meet at Magny Cours

All RAT members will

manager Neil Webster for

Autumn Gold

ten per cent discount on 03 86 71 95 00) and the Louise Michel 58640 Why not form a group

and join in the French

able to take advantage of a

### Greek sun

ATE summer sun is on offer for any club men come along to the first Greek RAT Rally at Galaxidi between September 6 and 7

The event is being organised by Trumph Greece who promise lots of music, Triumph wine, cheese and breed as we'll as stunning riding country.

If enough members from northern Europe are interested it is planned to organise a joint ferry crossing from Italy to Greece, while it is also possible to here a Triumph while you are in Greece Contact dub HO if you are interested. More details In the Autumn edition of Torque, out September 1st.

MR. By which will take place at the Whithread Hop Farm in Kent, southern England on October 4 and 5.

In addition to a Saunday night party in the event stanquee, with food, music and bar, the weekend will! include kart, buggy and quad riding, lazer clay shooting, a 4x4 course and other attractions and activities. There will also be the chance to explore this beautiful part of England

with mumbers of the thriving local RAT group. There is on one compling and plenty of local hotel and greath as a fear modation. Full details will be included in the next cultion of Toron

\$42981 on fax =44.034455.848389, for more info

are still available at Mallogy Birk, Leigestershire, on June,

### Speed at Mallory

suspension set-up and high Call Mallory on we

### The ostrof C6 includes meals, tuitoral Seaside Special

WE'RE heading to the north of England for a weekend of Summer

Our 'Seaside Special' event will be based at Myerscough College, Hutton Centre, Lindle Lane, Hutton, between Preston and Southport in Lancashire on July 26 and

Open from late

Saturday morning, the event will include arrivities on Saturday afternoon, a party with live music, food and a har in the college hall during the evening and a Sunday morning run for

up to 150 tents on site at £4 per tent, plus 50 rooms affering single bed only accommodation at £10 for the night. Local hotel and guesthouse accommodation

information is available office on 01772 253731. Breakfast, snacks and a Saturday evening meal will be available in the college

hall and the bar will be open on Saturday lunchtime and evening Numbers are strictly limited to 200 people, so advance booking is recommended. Please send a cheque for £10 per

person, made payable to the Riders Association of Triumph, to RAT, PO Box 83, Hinckley, Leicestershire, England,

camping or

accommodation, please specify what you require and add the correct amount to your cheque.

Places will be allocated on a Yest come first served basis. We will not be able to provide refunds for cancelled places.



# Steamboat Sprin



Therally will ret stongside the prestigious

Sceamboat Springs winter motorcycle racing event 1 which is held on a street circuit in the heart of the cown The programmer

includes trials riding, dire prack more casts and wintage and modern road sid resort during the

Steamboat offers air ballooning, rafting, golf,

hiking and mountain biking as well as superb motorcycling country. RAT has

erganised

phree full

fun including a pig rosst.

blues fond forbetter a

displays and other prizes.

track for members before

the racing begins on th

discounts, seating and parking throushout the

> The rally will be based she Steamboat Resorts

hunderhead Lodge whith

verionis the racingion

conducted And Smith A.

ner cent discount has been arranged for

Sunfax p\/s spools

ride through the

mountains Triumph

The club has also

organised a lap of the

rooms are limited and demand high, so it is best to book early Call 1-800-525-5502 Your RAT membership

card will be required to arrend all eyears Nonmembers can join on site. Membership is not required for minors under the age of 18.

Enter the RATowners

contest uring the event we of the best overall motorcy-

cles owned by our members. and Meriden Triumphs Entrages/should send a photograph of their bike to

R.17, 403 Dividend Drive.

The contest is open to the personal bikes of Triumph dealership staff, travel and other food or

Triumph America ar the Riders Association of Triumph are excited to

announce our first Annual USA National RAT Ralls which will be held at Stramboat Springs Colorado (about three hours west of Denver)

between September 11 and 14.







### Event schedule

Thursday Sentember 11 -12 noon to 6pm Registration sign-up.

Friday September 12 -

RAT Ride. Meeting place to be advised in rally I pm to 4pm

RAT Race - Vierzee Triumph Moto Cross race sponsored by RAT. Saturday September 13 -

9am to 12 noon

2pm to 5pm

Sunday September 14 -10am to 11.30am Virtage Road Rally Parade. Meet at Fig.

Lap of the track, Meet in article insield area

RAT barbecus lunch. Track infield area.

Racing schedule: Wednesday September 10 -Vintage dirt track racing 10am to 5pm. Engrance \$5. ch Thursday September 11 -Wasage Trial Trans so 4pm. Erorance free. Friday September 12 where moso cross vacing 8,32mm to South Entry

Saturday September 13 -Virtage road racing flam to Spm. Entr Sunday September 14 -Modern road racing Entrance fee included in paging

### What to do:

 Complete the registration form (pre-registration ends August 2) (Triumph) to: Notices Associa Arretica \$15,403 Dissens Drive, Reacheres Gry GG \$1265

on 800-525-5505 to reserve your room. If you are bringing a

Discounts have been arranged at the Thunderhead Lodge. Hotel rooms are available at \$90.10 per night, Lodge rooms are \$62.10 per niets. Mension that you are a RAT member to receive your

### Daytona and Speed Twin search

F you own a vintage Daytona or pre-US Hinckley Daytona 750 or 1000 we want to hear from you! We would like to display the 'Evolution of the Daytona' at

 Check in at the RAT registration booth during the designated times to collect your registration pack. Rennal yars - Auls Renz-A-Car have a standing ten per cent discourse for BET members They are invested at Haylen Airport off

Useful numbers -

Steamboat Resorts Thunderhead Lodge: 800 525 5502. Savambour Sorines Chamber of Commerce: 970 879 9880.

AHRMA: 715 842 9699. Modern Roadrace Association: 303 530 5678. Asis Rero-A-Car: 800 879 2847.

What to bring:

September can be unpredictable so bring a range of riding gear. Be sure on he're your RAT membership card. If you haven't received it, fax (770) 621,6401 with your name, address, vehicle identification number and odephase number. Please allow 5-6 weeks after the purchase of your monopole or registration with the club for the delivery of your card.

RAT STEAMBOAT SPRINGS RALLY PRE-REGISTRATION FORM ZyCo

places for rider (0) \$50.00 phises for passenger (2) \$45.00 Payment should be by cheque made payable to Riders

Pré-registro de musi c'ose en August 22, 1997. Os-site registration/lafter August 22, 1997: \$605 ider or passenger Children STS.

and the last reference for the last Registration includes one pass for RAT barbecue, pig peddock pesses) for vintage and modern road racing. official rally suide: official rally 6-shirt (XL size only); efficial ruly baries.

machine to RAT, 403 Dividend Drive, Peachtree City, GA 30269. The owners of the selected machines will not include hotel, travel and other food or accommodation. Enclose a stamped addressed envelope



# Top gear

available from all Triumph dealers.

To order, please quote the following part numbers: Tshirt (M9990097); Sweat shirt, large (M9990197); Sweat shirt,

A limited number of white Stanford Hall Sering Rally T-shirts are also available in XL size only. Send a cheque for £6 to the club headquarters and we'll send one by return.

### Torque back issues and binders

Back issues cost £3 UK; £3.87 Europe; £4.25 USA; £4.41 Binders hold 12 issues and cost £2.45 UR: £9.45 Farnes £11.17 USA; or £11.83 Australia and Japan, Please allow 28

days for delivery. Prices include gost and packing Pay by cheque, credit card or harocheque, by post, fas telephone or e-mail to; Torque, Bob Berry Marketing Services, Saine C. Denne House, New Post Office Square,

Corbs, Northants, NN17 IPB, England, Make ch payable to Bob Berry Marketing Services'. 

(0)1536 400147 • Telephone +44 (Q)1536 206286.

#### DIARY DATES: lune I

July 5

July 13/14

RATTT Party, Creg Malin Hotel, Feel, Isle of Man. Post TT Classic, Mallory Park, England. June 10-11 Penguin Riding School, Loudon Raceway, New Hampshire, USA. June 22

Goodwood Festival of Speed, England. Performance Riding Day, Mallory Park, England. Motorcycle World at Beaulieu, England. Circuit dax Anderstorp Raceway Sweden. Vermont RAT SuperRide, New York

to Essex, Vermont, USA. 600 Miles race meeting, Magny Cours, France,

'Seaside Special' Rally, Hutton, Lancashire, Mälaren Runt Run, Stockholm, Sweden.

Aug 22-25 International Summer Festival, Bad Peterstal, RATICIASS training school Sears

August 22 Roint, Sonoma, California. Sept 11-14 USA National Rally, Steamboat Springs, Colorado. Sept 13-14 Ace Cafe Reunion, Brighton, England.

Segt 6-7 Greek Rally: Galaxidi: A. cumn Gold Rally, Whitbread Hop Farm, Kerr, England

RAT Beaulolais Run Nov 18-20 to be confirmed Tulio Rally 198, Holland. Spring 8,31y '98, Starford Hall, England

## INSURANCE



TRIUMPH

(USA ONLY)

**Insurance Brokers** 

# High plains. *drifter*

New frontiersman Marc K Stengel hit the trail to follow an ancient route deep into the heart of America. His adventure turned into a personal voyage of discovery. Pictures by Marc K Stengel and Reed Brown.

Notice that the season of the control of the contro

inois where the glast Ohiomergas sinto the even larger and insatiable Missaspip - I piled typerream' along the interstates 57 and 64 as far as 5. c. Louis. There, Big Muddy, the mighty Missouri - ends its tertulous journey typer the farthest Rocky Mountain

colentialitiesfreef



recesses to make its turbulent tribute to the Mississinni. Bisecting the state of Missouri

along Interstate 70 means sprinting due west to the river Missouri meanders overand-back along the

sun to the west along South Dakota highways" way. As distant thunder-

heads rolled off the Ozarks to the south, threatening to coagulate darkly and directly in my path, the Trophy 1200 settled into a loping stride. At just over 5,000 mm, where engine torque reaches maximum thrust the motorcycle was gliding at a mere 85 miles an hour in sixth gear.

The voluptuous folds of the full fairing insulated both bike and rider into and through the gathering stocm winds, until at the crest of a long slow rise above the plain the skies seemed to part, and the Triumph leaps headlong onto an expansive strills placeau where, on the far side and still a hundred miles awax awaited Kantas

Marc Stengel and Trophy 1200 in loping

Having only skirted and glanced upon the river's course up to this point, the Interstate now entwines

fully with the Missouri as I-29 wends through "I raced the

Nebraska. on its way to Sioux City, Iowa Vermillion.

Dakota, however -1000 miles from home my patience with the restrictions of motorway travel had

worn thin. The river to segmed to tire of its bustling concrete Sidewalk, chaosing as this point sp. strike out on its own

for the West, for the heart of the Dakotas. From now on, Iriding the rive aboard Triumph's sport-tourier my playing hide-and-seek with th

Missouri along scraps and fragment of South Oblinta's highways. At Tabor, South Dakous, when tech and Moravian farmers decided a century ago to sow their Centra ropean traditions onto the high

plains of frontier America, what started as a week-long motorcycle journey out-and-back suddenly became an open-ended adventure





to the second se

along South Dakota highways 50,46, 18 and 183, the Trophy 1200 merged into the landscape, and I merged into the Triumph. Gradually, the road

the Inumph. Gradually, the road transformed itself into a narrow strip parting the sea of grasses, billowing wheat fields and sunflowers as I skimmed along feeling like a bird of prey among treetops.

Nothins was trailed than my

shoulders, size those far off random clusters of trees that Dakotas call prairie islands. The sky spread overhead in a gleaming porcelain blue, studded with scudding clumps of

The Trophy and I wased a 100 plas mile-an-hour rejectory that was arrow-straight from one point to the next. The unchanging lines of the road can be traced on a map, but no map can hint at the vertical sweeps, drops and risses that surge forward through Missouri River country, urging bike and rider northward towards ports-of-call at Pierre, South Dalsoca. The Bismarck, North Dalsoca. The

oceanic sense of isolation in this wide-open space is not to be feared. It is to savoured.

> With its hard-case, built-in laggage the Trophy 1200 glossed in its self-sufficiency. Triumph's tour-bike flagship welcomes the long, solitary voyage of personal discovery that my cross-country trek

had become.

With the growing appreciation for the frontier adventures which first extended 50 coes? 176 and 18th

consult daines over this region of the oral New World, I arrived at the confidence of the Kinfe and Majoria Reversi porth of Senarata proceed into the Indiana Reversi ports of Senarata proceed in for a long-sorty white with Madoria Indiana in their wind Majoria Indiana in their Reversion from Senarata Proceedings of the Indiana Indi

From Evars' meticulous imags of the Upper Missouri, Meriwother Lewis and William Clark evenusity

discerned their way across the Rockies to the Pacific, allowing a fledgling United States to wrest control of North America's heartland away from competing Spanish, French and British claims.

In the aftermath of this accidental anniversary, it was tantalizing to consider Britain's return to the once concested high plains in the guise of the Triumph Trophy 1200 I had ridden

For the balance of my seven-day, 3,025-mile foray to-and-from the Dakotas, I couldn't help thinking, in fact, in terms of conquest and exploration. But it wasn't history's border disputes. entanglements and competing fur traders I considered, Instead, I pondered how Britain's once-andfuture king of motorcycles was staking out renewed and welcome claims upon the affections of North America's riders - and how solitary, long-distance travel by motorcycle remains the last best means for extending personal frontiers in a

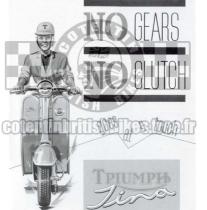
world of diminishing boundaries.



Riding the rivers. Sweeping curves of water mirroring the sweeping curves of the Trophy 1200, 2025 miles in seven days in complete constant.

looking BACK

# Tina te



TRIUMPH'S attempt to share in the scooter boom of the early sixties led to the production of the Ting. It wasn't a success. Paul White witnessed a chaotic launch party

that set the stage for what was to come

WAS in my loft the other day and Knitteng Werkle, marowly avoided came across a press pack for the death by my last second intervention as amazing Triumph Tina scooter. It her pilion passenger when I reached brought back vivid memories of the out at the last second to apply the hand world press launch on March 27:1962. brake, trapping her kweckles in the at which Edward Turner processy I expect she still bears the introduced the model on the The prepared used

Riverside Terrace of the

the presentry the

leading trade

event of my action failing to being us to a halt, allowing her to make a spectacular but damaging dive into the

I doubt if the Ting would ever have started again after being completely

immersed in water. It was difficult grough starting them in the day! I am sure similar tales could be told about other important press burons

to 'stand up

attending the event, which included Nursing Monthly, the Daily dent Angling Times and a rether

litaly hdy from the Niture Lover and Notice Assessment journalists remained in the bar

throughout the introduction and

is history.



# Letters

#### Super saver



I WAS most in

Triangle Will special in the Auto I have read a little ab its designer elsewhere and an intriguous

a one off unwidoe a Serient run a cisely is issudent in their connersi-

Departure Fifty surching many resident of the or of the last with Triangle Preparation

do Chages. The project is not a fire out a field or Parch Deposite on \$100.74

Long riders THESE four Triumph fass colebrated a 1969 16700 mile transcontinental trip by calling in

as the factory. Are any of these guss of I



# Polished PERFORMERS

WHEN it comes to finish, Triumph refuse to compromise. Proof of this is the factory's in-house chronning facility. When no suitable supplier for various high quality chrome plated items could be located. Triumph refused to settle for second

supplier for various logic quality chrome plated inner could be located. Through refused to sorth for second better. They could be modeled the sort the second better than better the sort the sort the second better than better the sort the second better than better than the second between the second betwee

controlled series of vars and hazhinelude exhaust downspies, handlebars, aftermarker silencers, headlamp bowle, rachator and airbow covers, horn covers and claim, covers for a range of Triumph machines.

Overseen by team leader late Scott and production cogineer John News

and production engineer John New, the process covers 11 carefully monitored stages designed to provide a

procedur

monitored stages designed to provide a consistently high quality finish. To see how it operates, let's follow a set of components through the plating efects are evident as these would inplified by the application of chron mall marks can sometimes olished out on bench polishi

machines. Any components with morks that can't be polished out will be rejected and refurned to the upplier manufacturer. Stage prior for silences is a year wash

process to sewage any suffice of or polishing management that may be present of the suffice of the raw component of messary the stem is then sealed before being mounted on a or present of the processory of the pro-

then scaled before being mounted on a jig carried by an overhead compute controlled gentry.

The gentry will carry the component over the plating tables no

Oper conthe required solutions for the required source of of time. Different o capacitats jet different dips, with the Sock distance process being different to metal active and surface grease and

The jigs are then dipped into two 'rinse' baths to prevent cross contamination between the different

contamination between the d stages.

Stainless steel will go into Anodic Pickling Acid at this stage to take approximately 10 microns off the surface to give a shiny clean finish. Mild steel items pass into a hydrochloric acid bath for cleaning purposes and then into another rinse bath before all components are air

They are then dipped into a Nickel Strike solution. Four coats of nickel are applied to the

as surface of the component as chrome adheres extremely well to make d. After another trace of component in the component in

base cost is applied, again providing a binding base for the next cost

Bright nickel is then applied to produce an almost chrome like finish before micro-porous nickel is added to fill in any minute surface pinholes that may affect the final product. Three procedures per

Olly now is the component real for subaccing an dream, schine This will coat the item in 51 micrors o chrome before it is dipped in a series o chrome neutralising solutions. It is then dried off and removed from it

Weekly checks are carried out for nickel and chrome contents in the relevant solutions, to ensure even strengths and coverings from component to component. These tests are verified by an outside consultancy

The result is a consistently high quality product, providing the best possible cosmetic finish and protection



# Editor's

# Dream ride to Tusca





tour through the heart of Tuscany in the Spring time. Being part of RAT is

from west to cost through Toxon then day's up the west coast to Milan in a weekend outerpared by storely Italian food and drink. I was on the Pictory Spiral Thighty \$200 from

the most from your Tribungly couldn't turn it down could I? Led by Music Lucuso of I

schedule was to leave Milan on the evening of Friday April 11 for a

Numero Tre's Milan shopt I joined a name of D. Transpire to set out or 935 motorway dash to Imola and a late early eighties 500cc Grand Prix world champion Marco Lucchinelli. I couldn't believe it when we were

My partners for a breathtaking ride on the

road again at 8.30 on Saturday morning, joined by Marco and his Triumph Tiger. Just about every Triumph model was represented in the line-up as we headed for the hills and me of the most memorable days in my 22 years of motorcycling At first we started line astern, but with everyone free to ride at their own page we soon broke into groups for the

first blast up and down a twisty trountain mass created by rain filled The Italians have an interesting

is freedom' they insist. So, no rules about speed or riding in groups and no fixed route. Only the start and finish points are fixed. If you want to ride together fine if not also fine. This was

OK bed I got lost.

At the back of my train as w bottleneck of traffic. When I emerged. the rest of the group had disappeared, later I still hadn't caught them and by

I decided to check the map provided by Mario. It turned out to be locate the town I was heading for, It was on the other side of the country. No matter, the weather was sunny, I had a Trophy 12 underneath me and



faced ranks of Triumphs ready for a trip. that's where it headed for.

There followed the best day's riding I have ever had. Words can't de justice to it, but try to imarier warm sun, stunning scenery and the perfect bike for the job as you cruise through

Stopping for petrol, I was passed by a Speed Triple I recognised as one B

rider down. He turned out to be RAT comber Paolo Bessal da Nico I-I followed exactly the same route as med

ast 15 minutes behind north of Rome, with a stop for a drink in a beach cafe. The hotel Torre di

Set on cliffs high above the Mediterranean, the views from room and the poolside terrace were

arrive as the evening progressed including new parenters of the party joining unifform Rosss and Phorence By the time we left for the ride to a nearby restaurant for massive eigh course district we were Amost 50 people on around 40 Triumple. What a sight! And what a danner! You could

vineyards studded by medieval hilloop urdly bear an speech forthe group of war-fed motorcycli-es (at leave & think that's what the grouns were evered but Reading the number place in the Notel car park showed our party was made up of owners from Milan, Turin, Robert of Phonese, indispensability

from [Adventisers to Trackies and T8% Improving but equally enjoyable. I joined a narry Dixtona 900 of Yamo Mansheimer

Rossetti,

Calling at Pisa di Mare for a long

afternoon lunch stop by the sea we then hit the favourite local raceway - a brilliant coastal motorway that clings to the cliffs and dives through tunnels

I must admit the more I ride Trophies, the more I like them - and Triumph. I think people are decrived apright riding position to think it's a bir, unwieldy machine, but there is little weight in the plastic fitments and

the riding position just makes it comfortable to keep up the pace for long perior That's just as well, because after arriving back in central Milan, a

speedo check showed I had covered around 1400 kilometres over the stops for making the most of Italian food and early season sun. Maybe not 'Iron Butt' mileage, but still a good

You have probably got the idea that L enjoyed levery spinuse of the weekend. For me it summed up exceptions that being a EAT member is

Either way, don't miss out. If appeals to you, then let us know and still, why not get together with some fellow members and set up your own trip?

have the time of your life.

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Summer PAST Trances (D)

# **Deals on** wheels

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Portugues to Have and Possessort Cherter's terrors as yet as the eviding Dover Class offer. The standard pain to eche England or France.

Musbert by king from evenily should more the new book by wanter 44.15(4.8-100), UK membeh air me the BOY SEES . . mber.

riding or even a day at Kenny Roberts'

Europe the easy way

Direct motorcycle was appearing Util Motorcakanties are offering discourse of up to sen per cent on their

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### Happy snaps

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### French insurance

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### Reading German WANT to keep up on the German biking scene? Then who not subscribe to top mug 'Motornad Reisen und Sport and choose between a sen per con-

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### Rural retreat

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