



● **ACE CLASSICS' OFF-ROAD TRIUMPH**

# Chasing the McQueen dream

Barbour and Ace Classics have joined forces to build a replica of Steve's '64 ISDT Triumph

**A**ce Classics, for the past 21 years the south-east London mecca for lovers of Meriden Triumph twins, recently bought the shop next door and doubled in size. The opening night was memorable, with Triumph Fifties' off-road legend Johnny Giles roaring in through the front doors on a genuine ISDT Trophy 650. The extra space, complete with turntable and (very expensive) US-sourced Triumph wallpaper, means Ace's own collection and the bikes for sale can now be properly displayed.

So when clothing specialist Barbour wanted something to celebrate the introduction of a new version of their traditional waxed-cotton jackets – now incorporating body armour – the Ace Classics team were the go-to guys. A lot of famous riders have worn Barbour, but

Steve McQueen has probably done more for their image than anyone else. The movie star and handy rider/driver wore one when competing for the USA in the 1964 International Six Days Trial.

Chris Cotton of Barbour has commissioned Ace to produce a replica 1964 ISDT TR6 Trophy for him – just like the one McQueen rode. Father and son team Cliff and Kevin Rushworth and mechanic Allan Cakebread are well into the wheels-up build, and should have the job done soon after you read this.

With their expertise, plus access to original bikes like the one Johnny Giles brought to the opening of the new showroom, the Trophy will be not just a rocket-like ride, but also a faithful replica of McQueen's ISDT mount with all the correct ISDT detailing, like a period air

inflater bottle, quick-release wheels front and rear, and special sump covers extending further up the side of the engine than on a standard TR6. The bike should be on display at the Stafford show in April.

Accessibly located about 10 miles off the M25 down the M20/South Circular, Ace Classics offer an ever-changing line-up of over 20 machines to eye-up, most of them nicely original, as well as a wealth of spares, especially for pre-unit bikes. Many of the parts they sell are manufactured by themselves and, with a glowing reputation among Triumph cognoscenti to maintain, are both accurate reproductions of the originals and of excellent quality.

Ace Classics are at 101-103 St Mildred's Road, Lee, London, SE12 0RL. Call them on 020 8698 4273 or go online to [www.aceclassics.co.uk](http://www.aceclassics.co.uk)