

YOUR COMMITTEE

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NEXT BRANCH MEETING

21st December 2004



www.noc-tv.co.uk

Thames Valley Branch 2004 AGM – The Informal version

The A.G.M. of the Thames Valley Branch of the Norton Owners Club was held at the Cricketers, Hayley Green on the 16th November. Fifteen members attended but only 2 Nortons (3 if you include Chris)!! Apologies for absence were received from Chris Fry who is learning to cope with an increase in the size of his family. Congratulations Chris.

The minutes from last year's AGM were accepted without dissent, attendees probably having forgotten what was said anyway. The Chairman (MH) offered his report starting with the immortal words "Not much has happened this year." Several attempts were made to organise ride outs but the take up has been low. The newsletter has been issued regularly every month but requires more input. The Membership has remained steady at about 53. Summer club nights have not been well attended but this may be connected with the lack of major events after the loss of the track day.

The Branch attended the Manx GP and at the Norton Day held in Portsmouth in August four out of trophies were won by Branch members! Well done, guys.

In Chris Fry's absence, his wife having just delivered their baby, the Treasurer's report was presented by Ian Verrinder. The Branch generated a small surplus for the year and the bank balance stands at over £1,100.

Ian Verrinder had decided to stand down from the post of Secretary and Chris Norton had agreed to stand and was duly nominated. Election of the Committee was then facilitated by Phil Hill.

Chairman	Mick Hunter
Treasurer	Chris Fry
Secretary	Chris Norton
Editor	Rob Latham

After the formal business, discussion centred on possible events for the 2005 season. In 2004, the extra club nights proved disappointing as lack of formal departure times led to some potential attendees arriving to find no one else at the pub and consequently leaving.

The Newbury Branch of the AJS/ Matchless Club

A summer Sunday

It was reported that Dave Fenner is trying to resurrect the Oxford Branch. If this is successful meetings could be arranged with them. The meeting with the Solent Branch was not successful in 2004.

It was suggested that on some club nights (regular or the summer extras) the Branch could get a speaker on a topic of mutual interest or arrange to show videos of topical interest.

A skittles evening at Alton is being considered for January or February. (Now confirmed as 12th February – see below)

A return to organising a Track Day is being considered providing we can find a suitable location.

So let us have some more ideas and see if we can turn some of them into reality.

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Skittles evening

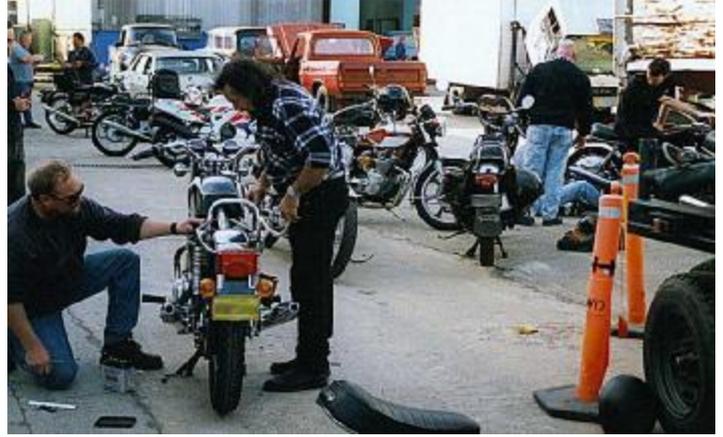
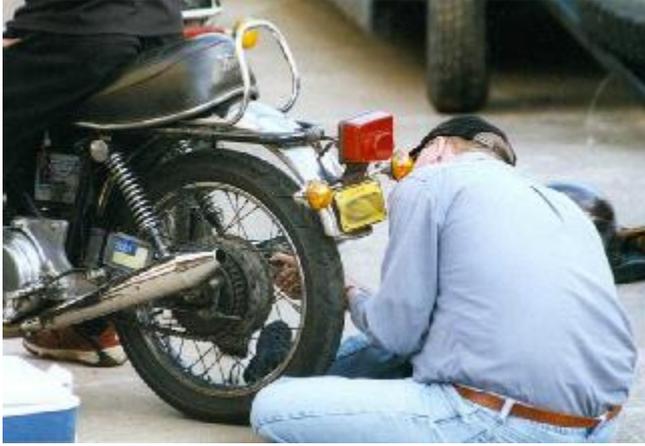
It's that time of year again (time flies when you are having fun)The Annual Skittle Bash with Solent Branch will take place on **Saturday 12th February 2005 at 7pm at "The French Horn" The Butts, Alton, Hants GU34 1RT**. A booking form is attached as a separate file with e-mail transmission. Please return form direct to Barry Stickland with cheque (or with cash on January Club night) at the latest. Please note that places are limited to 16 so book early.

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Ideas for Branch events

At the A.G.M. the committee appealed for ideas for Branch events. While trawling the net I came across the web site for the New

year is a Maintenance Day. This creates an opportunity for uninformed such as myself to learn from the masters of Norton ownership some of the finer points of keeping our steeds fully fit for the road.



These three photos taken from the NOC NSW web site show their Maintenance Day from 2001 in action. The Branch would need to identify and negotiate for a suitable location to hold such an event. 'The Cricketers' car park is large and not often full so perhaps we could obtain use of one corner of it. Consideration could be given to making it a joint event with another Branch (Oxford if it materialises or Solent). Does this strike a chord with anyone?

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2004/ 2005 Events

Thames Valley Branch NOC - Events Calendar			
Date	Event	Contact	Status
December			
Tues 21 st	Thames Valley NOC clubnight – Cricketers*	Ian Verrinder	Confirmed
January 2005			
Tues 18 th	Thames Valley NOC clubnight – Cricketers	Ian Verrinder	
February			
Sat 12 th	Skittles Evening with Solent Branch	Barry Stickland	Confirmed
Tues 15 th	Thames Valley NOC clubnight – Cricketers	Ian Verrinder	
March			
Tues 15 th	Thames Valley NOC clubnight – Cricketers	Ian Verrinder	

Best Wishes

On behalf of the Branch Committee may I take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy Christmas and a safe and prosperous New Year with many trouble free miles of 'Nortoning'.



Just to wet your appetite for a new season approaching this photo of a superb Dunstall Norton Commando was retrieved from the Nation's Capital Norton Owners Club (Washington D.C.)



Happy Christmas from the Editor's Desk