

YOUR COMMITTEE

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NEXT BRANCH MEETING

15th June 2010



www.thamesvalley.nortonownersclub.org

Event Report

The Surrey Branch of the NOC organised a meeting at Brooklands on 22nd May. The weather permitted use of the famous test hill during the afternoon. The gradient starts at 1 in 8 and rises to 1 in 4. From the top of the test hill you make your way down to the original race track and ride along the banking for about 150 yards before returning to try the test hill again. Over forty bikes turned up, including the editor on the Commando (nearest machine on the right hand row). I took the bike up the test hill several times and was delighted with the performance and the fact that I was able to ride home afterwards without incident!



The Motorcycle Test

Although this doesn't directly affect most (any?) members it might if you have to take a new test. The Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Transport (Mike Penning) has announced a review of motorcycle tests in Great Britain. The new two-part motorcycle test that was introduced in April 2009 has clearly led to some concern amongst motorcycle groups, particularly about the safety of the off-road module 1 part of the test and about the difficulty of accessing the limited number of off-road test centres. The new test was introduced in order to meet the requirements of the second EU Directive on driving licences. While most elements in the module 1 test are required by the Directive, there may be scope for us to make some changes to the way in which the test is carried out. We will be working with the motorcycle community and road safety groups to look again at the current form of the motorcycle test. This review will look at the manoeuvres carried out in both modules 1 (off-road) and 2 (on-road) and whether these manoeuvres could safely be conducted in the on-road test. The review will also look at other related motorcycle testing and training issues, including the options for training and testing for progressive access under the third driving licence directive and how any changes relate to wider proposals to improve motorcycle training and testing. We are inviting views from members of the public, motorcycle riders, trainers, road safety groups and others on what aspects of the motorcycle

test they want us to look at, including how and where they think motorcycle testing might best and most safely be carried out. Views should be submitted to the Department for Transport (RUSD4consultation@dft.gsi.gov.uk) by 31 July. It is aimed to conclude the review by the autumn.

Forthcoming events

Jun 11th – June 13th

The NOC National Rally will be held at the Coast View Holiday Park, Shaldon, Torquay in Devon.

Programme

Friday: Site opens midday. Evening meal and entertainment available.

Saturday: Poker run with cash prize taking in local attractions followed by Devon cream tea back at the site. Evening meal, entertainment and prize giving.

Sunday: Run across Dartmoor with lunch stop on route. In the early evening there will be a little competition at the pitch and putt course. Entertainment includes cabarets and disco or relaxing bar area. Chalets and caravans are fully equipped and are of a reasonable rate if a group booking is made to share accommodation. i.e. couples or Branch groups.

For bookings and site enquiries:- Coast View Holiday Park, Torquay Road, Shaldon, TQ14 0BG. Tel 01626 872392.

June 20th

The 62nd Banbury Run returns to the Motor Heritage Centre at Gaydon, with 600 entrants on machines manufactured before 1931 following three different routes to converge at the site. Spectators pay £6 admission which includes the Heritage Motor Museum plus autojumble, club displays etc. See www.banbury-run.co.uk

June 23rd

There's a Classic Bike Concours, the Shiny Bike Night at The Plough at Cadsden near Princes Risborough, HP27 0NB. Starts 8pm. Contact Dermot 01494 562962 or see www.bbcmcc.freeuk.com

July 4th

The London Motorcycle Museum hosts its Thunderbird Day, with access to all museum halls with some extremely unusual old bikes, including one-off prototypes from the BSA-Triumph years, plus local heritage displays, gift shop. All at Ravenor Farm on Oldfield Lane in Greenford, near the A40. Admission £8 adults includes food and hot drinks. Opens 10am; hot food available from around midday. Call 020 8575 6644 or see www.london-motorcycle-museum.org

On the same day there's a Fun Ride around Berkshire in aid of Age Concern. Leaves the Age Concern warehouse at Banbury Ave, Slough at 11am. Entry fee £10. BBQ and prizes at finish. 01753 843628

July 9th, 10th and 11th

The VMCC's Festival of 1000 Bikes returns to Mallory Park, giving the opportunity to ride older machines in multiple track sessions over the weekend. Saturday caters for all classes of road machines from the earliest veterans (discounted entry fee available for pre 1925 machines) through to machines of the super bike era. On Sunday the racing machines take part in special track sessions running throughout the day. Huge array of Past Masters, star riders and famous motorcycles, plus trade stands and autojumble, live music, real ale and more. Book early via www.vmcc.net.

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Thames Valley Branch NOC - Events Calendar

Date	Event	Contact	Status
June			
11 th – 13 th	NOC National Rally at Coast View Holiday Park, Shaldon, Torquay in Devon	Brian Harriss 01376 512549	Confirmed
15 th	Thames Valley Club Night – at The Cricketers Hayley Green	Tony Ripley	Confirmed
July			
20 th	Thames Valley Club Night – at The Cricketers Hayley Green	Tony Ripley	Confirmed