

YOUR COMMITTEE

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NEXT BRANCH MEETING

16th August 2011



www.thamesvalley.nortonownersclub.org

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Oxford Branch Café Racer Day

This is a reminder that Oxford Branch are holding a Café Racer Day from 1200 –1700 on Saturday 10th September at Sturdy's Castle, Tackley, on the A4260 between Banbury and Oxford, a few miles north of Kidlington. It's only about 10-15 minutes off the J9-J10 section of the M40, or the A34.

The event is free-of-charge and open to all café racers – any make, age, nationality, condition of bike, ridden or trailered by male or female. Our definition of café racer is a modified road bike (could be from a racer, of course!!) with the handlebars ending up below the top yoke, though' even on that we're not going to be rigid if the rest of the bike is clearly 'café racer'. We're expecting Ken Sprayson, ex-Reynolds tubing, midwife to more featherbed frames than anyone else on the planet, to there to present the prizes.

There will be a trophy for the Best Café Racer shown, provided registered with me by midnight Sunday 4th September – and we'll be handing out a number of Highly Commended rosettes too. In addition to the assembled ranks of attendees' café racers, we're putting on two Norton displays:

A. Featherbed chassis variants – one each of the major variants,

- 1) Manx (531 tubing),
- 2) early bolt-up Wideline,
- 3) mid-period all-welded 'lazy loop' Wideline,
- 4) final all-welded 'tight loop' Wideline and
- 5) Slimline.

If you or any of your members has one of these, especially, 1), 2) or 3) we'd love to hear from them!!

B. Factory-produced café racers through the decades

- 1) what I see as the very first café racer, the grandfather of everything since, the O'Donovan BRS, the Brooklands Road Special,
- 2) Inter,
- 3) Commando Prodie racer (Yellow Peril),
- 4) Commando JPN Special,
- 5) F1 Rotary,
- 6) F1S Rotary and finally

7) the new Commando 961 Café Racer that I'll have on loan from the factory for the event. If any of your members have any of these, again, please have them contact me soonest!!

And even if they can't help with display bikes, all NOC members on any bike, indeed any biker will be made very welcome by Oxford Branch and Sturdy's Castle – there's free unsupervised camping at the pub on Friday 9, Saturday 10 and Sunday 11 September. The pub will be serving pub-grub, real ales etc., tea and coffee all day each day, and there's even accommodation at £45 a night plus £5 for breakfast – if interested in this contact: enquiries@sturdyscastleinn.co.uk.

I'd be very grateful if you could circulate this to all your branch members, please, even if you're miles away – they may just have friends down our area who's be able to help with display bikes, or would just like to pop along and join in, so it may not be wasted!!

Regards to all fellow NOC members

Other events

August 13th

Bill Little's Open Day at Oak Farm, Braydon near Swindon, SN5 0AG. This free mini-festival has been going for many years but following Bill's unfortunate skiing accident last winter, this might be the final time that he throws open the Big Barn for all-comers. Classic bikes get to form a display in the yard, with parking for cars and modern machines in the field. Refreshments all day, BBQ from 12.30, ride-out at 2pm, dozens of autojumble and garage-clearance stalls. There is an evening of entertainment with pork and beef roast from 5.30pm, bar, live music and entertainment. Camping for those who'd like to stay over (call 01666 860577 to arrange this in advance). See www.classicbikesuk.com

August 14th

The White Dove Collectors Transport Show attracts 500 classic vehicles to Kingsley Sports Ground, Sickles Lane, Kingsley, near Bordon, Hampshire. Numerous classes for any unique, modified or interesting bikes and vehicles, with trophies awarded to the winners. Motorcycle ride out. Live musical entertainment. Barbecue. Club house facilities. Trade stands and autojumble. See whitedoveevents@hotmail.co.uk.

It's VMCC Day at the Ace Café in North London, with the added attraction of author Stephen Holmes, signing copies of his book 'To Infinity And Beyond'. See www.ace-cafe-london.com.

August 21st

The Motorcycle Mega-Meet returns to Popham Airfield near Basingstoke from 10am. Free entry for prebooked display bikes over 30 years old (send SAE for a pass). Clubs welcome to display in the marquee. Great facilities with beer tent and full catering, plus light aircraft, trade stalls, autojumble, etc. Admission £6 adults, £4 seniors. Phone 01256 397733 or see www.popham-airfield.co.uk. Pray for good weather so Frank Westworth can ride his Interstate 2 along for the day!

August 28th

The London Motorcycle Museum plays host to an All Day Breakfast and ride-in which includes the TR3OC's Hurricane Day. Opens 11am to 4pm at Ravenor Farm, Oldfield Lane, Greenford, with displays of over 150 classic machines including many rare or unique prototypes from the old industry. Admission includes food plus local history centre, free parking, tea-room, etc. Just five minutes from the A40. 0208 575 6644 or www.london-motorcycle-museum.org.

September 9th and 10th

The Eurojumble opens 9am at Netley Marsh near Southampton. Admission £7 single day or £13 two-day. Cheaper advance tickets from www.classicbikeshows.com or 01507 529529. More info at www.realclassic.co.uk.

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Thames Valley Branch NOC - Events Calendar

Date	Event	Contact	Status
August			
16 th	Thames Valley Branch Club Night – at The Cricketers Hayley Green	Tony Ripley	Confirmed
September			
10 th	Oxford Branch Café Racer Day	Peter Scatchard	Confirmed
20 th	Thames Valley Branch Club Night – at The Cricketers Hayley Green	Tony Ripley	Confirmed