

**YOUR COMMITTEE**

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**NEXT BRANCH MEETING**  
**20<sup>th</sup> Decembaer 2011**



**AGM and Annual Dinner**

The AGM is now confirmed as 17<sup>th</sup> January 2012. Location is the Swan as our new 'normal' meeting place. We will also be having our 'Christmas' meal on this day. As the AGM usually only takes a few minutes we might as well combine it with the meal and I see no problem if other halves or guests are present.

PLEASE can you let Tony know via email, text, phone call, snail mail, personal chat if you will be coming or not.

This is your chance to have your say about how the branch should be run, you also have the chance to stand for Chairman, Secretary or any of the other interesting posts within the Branch.

The Landlady of the Swan has been very welcoming to the TVNOC and set aside a room specifically for us for the normal meeting (through the front door and round to the right). For the AGM / Meal we are taking over the 'snug' (Through the door and to the left), please come along so she feels it is worthwhile.

The Swan is situated at Three Mile Cross just south of Reading (M4 Junction 11). Address is The Swan at Three Mile Cross, Basingstoke Road, Three Mile Cross, Reading, Berks, RG7 1AT, telephone 0118 988 3674.

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**MOT exemption for historic vehicles**

The Federation of British Historic Vehicle Clubs (FBHVC), of which the NOC is a member, is asking for views on the UK government's consultation papers on MoT exemption for historic vehicles. The government has summarised the situation as follows:-

- Both the age and the categories of vehicles requiring the MoT test in Great Britain (GB) go further than the EU Directive on roadworthiness test 2009/40/EC, which only requires statutory roadworthiness test for post-1960 registered vehicles and does not subject motorcycles to a compulsory test
- Pre-1960 registered vehicles have a MoT failure rate significantly below post-1960 registered vehicles
- Two-thirds of these vehicles are driven less than 500 miles each year
- The Goods Vehicles (Plating and Testing) Regulations 1988 already exempts unladen pre-1960 manufactured Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGVs) from the roadworthiness test
- We consider pre-1960 manufactured vehicles to be of historic interest
- A Government intervention is required to reduce the regulatory burden on owners of these vehicles

The full details can be seen on the Department for Transport website (<http://www.dft.gov.uk/consultations/dft-2011-27>)

The FBHVC would like members firstly to read the consultation documents and then to take part in their own survey. The FBHVC will then make its own formal response to the consultation based on the views expressed.

To take part in the survey you must respond in good time for the

[www.thamesvalley.nortonownersclub.org](http://www.thamesvalley.nortonownersclub.org)

closing date for consultation which is **26<sup>th</sup> January 2012**. The site is at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FBHVCMoT>,

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**Events**

Being the winter season while we are all frantically overhauling our machines (we are, aren't we?) there are not many local events to list. Here are the few I have found.

**December 18th**

The Ace Café's Paws N' Claws Run meets at the cafe from 7am to depart at 10.30am, to attend the Mayhew Animal Home in Kensal Rise, NW10, which this year celebrates its 125th anniversary. Entirely funded by and dependent upon public support, the Mayhew welcomes all to bring gifts, to include towels, blankets (used as bedding) as well as pet food and treats for cats and dogs. Phone 0208 961 1000 or see [www.acecafeevents.com](http://www.acecafeevents.com).

**December 26th**

The Oxford Section Vintage Motor Cycle Club hosts their Ron Amey Trial from 29m, for pre-65 and pre-84 twin-shock machines. Day membership is available. Takes place at Rockley Copse, Besselsleigh, Oxford (Signposted off A420). Contact Celia, on 01865 372324.

**February 18th and 19th**

The Bristol Classic Motorcycle Show returns to the Bath and West Showground at Shepton Mallet. Tickets from £9.50 in advance (£11 on the gate): see [www.classicbikeshows.com](http://www.classicbikeshows.com) or from 01507 529430. There is free parking.

**March 11th**

The South of England RealClassic Motorcycle Show and Bikejumble opens at 10am at the South of England Showground near Ardingly RH17 6TL, close to Gatwick. Big displays of British, European, Japanese and American classics: extra indoor space for the club displays, plus three further halls of trade stands and autojumble stalls. There is free parking on firm ground, bring your bike to sell, garage clear-outs welcome. All pre-booked display bikes go home with a souvenir plus have the chance to win one of the handsome awards across a range of categories. Real Classic magazine subscribers can claim a discount on the admission price (show your membership card on the gate). Private entries welcome (apply early as it fills up), and more clubs welcome to join this rapidly-growing event. See [www.elk-promotions.co.uk](http://www.elk-promotions.co.uk) or call 01797 344277.

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**Calendars**

Tony has next year's calendars for those that ordered them. There should be a few spare but these will be on a first come first served basis. (£6.50 each).

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**Editorial Musings**

Not much to muse on this month due to daily trips to Mount Vernon Hospital for partner's treatment. The broadband in the house has been playing up and I've had to replace the cable to the extension socket for the router having established it wasn't Talktalk's problem.

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**Thames Valley Branch NOC - Events Calendar**

Date	Event	Contact	Status
<b>December</b>			
20 <sup>th</sup>	Thames Valley Branch Club Night – at The Swan, Three Mile Cross	Tony Ripley	Confirmed
<b>January 2012</b>			
17 <sup>th</sup>	Thames Valley Branch Club Night AGM and Annual Dinner – at The Swan, Three Mile Cross	Tony Ripley	Confirmed
<b>February</b>			
21 <sup>st</sup>	Thames Valley Branch Club Night – Location tba	Tony Ripley	Confirmed