

## YOUR COMMITTEE

**Chairman** Chris Norton  
**Secretary** Tony Ripley  
Tel: 07831 266236  
t.j.ripley@gmail.com  
**Treasurer** Peter Renouf  
Tel: TBA  
**Newsletter** Rob Latham  
Tel: 01628 623579  
robert.latham@talktalk.net

## NEXT BRANCH MEETING 18<sup>th</sup> December 2012



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

### Events

It's that time of year again when there not many events but here are a few that take us up to the season opener at Bristol.

#### December 26th

The VMCC's Oxford section start their Ron Amey Trial at 2pm, for pre-65 and pre-84 twin-shock machines. Action takes place at Rockley Copse, Besselsleigh, Oxford, signposted off the A420. Phone Celia, 01865 372324 for details.

#### December 29th and 30th

The London Motorcycle Museum is open extra days over the festive season, with an extensive array of motorcycling memorabilia available from the gift shop, as well as all the usual displays of unusual British bikes including unique factory prototypes. Opens 10am to 4.30pm at Oldfield Lane South in Greenford. [www.london-motorcycle-museum.org](http://www.london-motorcycle-museum.org)

Here's an interesting run if you are so minded with a local (ish) starting point. Wrap up warm if you indulge though!

#### January 4th and 5th

The Exeter Long Distance Reliability Trial, organised by the Motor Cycling Club starts at 19:31 on Friday and finishes on Saturday. Classes for British bikes, solos less than 450cc, solos over 450cc, sidecars and three wheelers. There are three starting points for these classes: Sourton Cross (near Okehampton), Cirencester and **Popham Airfield** in Hampshire. Competitors converge on the Haynes Museum in Somerset and collect the easier Class O riders, and then follow a common route, tackling 13 observed sections and 2 observed tests, to the finish at Babbcombe; overall the route is 270 miles long. Spectators and marshalls very welcome: info from [www.themotorcyclingclub.org.uk](http://www.themotorcyclingclub.org.uk)

#### February 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>

The Bristol Classic Motorcycle Show returns to the Bath and West Showground at Shepton Mallet. Giant indoor show. Guest of honour Sammy Miller. Hundreds of bikes on display on club stands; private entries also welcome to compete for a range of trophies and highly commended awards (entry form from the web site). Tickets from £10 in advance (more on the gate) from 01507 529529 or see [www.classicbikeshows.co.uk](http://www.classicbikeshows.co.uk).

#### Norton at the TT

Norton has announced an all-British two-man line up for their 2013 Isle of Man TT Races fuelled by Monster Energy campaign. The factory has signed Nottingham's Dan Hegarty, to partner Runcorn based Ian Mackman who will return to the TT on Norton's distinctive black livery for his second year. Dan, 25, made his Isle of Man TT debut in 2010 and has a fastest lap of 121.731mph (18m35.80s), which he clocked in last year's Superbike Race. He also achieved his best place, 20th, in last year's Monster Energy Supersport 1 Race. Mackman, the

2011 TT Privateer champion, clocked a fastest practice lap of over 124mph on the Norton in last year's meeting, becoming the first rider for 20 years to qualify a factory built Norton machine for a race. However, he was unable to race as the Senior TT was cancelled due to bad weather.

Paul Phillips, TT and Motorsport Development Manager commented: "We are delighted that Norton is again competing at the TT in 2013. They've shown their commitment to the event with a strong two-man team as they continue their commitment to return to campaign on the Mountain Course. The team's energy, excitement and sheer determination to be successful at the TT epitomises the spirit of racing."

Norton CEO, Stuart Garner said, "We wholly support the organisers and all those involved in making the TT the special event that it is. Norton's continued investment in developing bikes and its team shows their total confidence in the most prestigious and inspirational motorcycle racing in the world." "We have followed Dan's progress at the TT and have been very impressed with his ability and commitment to the sport. Along with these qualities he also brings a very competitive edge to the team, which makes him a great rider to work with. This gives the Norton team a very exciting future for our road racing plans."

Dan said, "It's great to get a factory ride and have the opportunity to be in at the beginning of the development programme for Norton. I also look forward to working alongside Mackers who I have raced alongside before and have a great relationship with."

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#### and still at the TT..

Have a look at the video posted by Paul Williams at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=a-SOXVVdIZ4](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a-SOXVVdIZ4). "This is a documentary film originally made for the BBC by award winning film maker, Paul Watson, following two motorcycle racers competing at the 1973 Isle of Man TT. One rider is the professional works rider, Peter Williams, and the other is amateur, Graham Bentman. Paul Watson is one of the great observational documentarians who has been attributed with being the 'father of reality TV'. This is one of earliest films. I am sorry the quality is not that great but it the only copy in existence... as far as I know. Peter Williams is my father. This copy is made from a video believed to have been from Dave Croxford, Peter's team mate, who I think is wonderful in this film. I had a very pleasant lunch with Paul Watson a few years back and he hadn't seen this since it was broadcast. I was glad to be able to get him a copy. I hope you enjoy it. It's the best documentary about motorcycle racing that I have seen."

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Seasons greetings and best wishes for the coming year from your Committee – ride safe.

### Thames Valley Branch NOC - Events Calendar

Date	Event	Contact	Status
<b>December</b>			
18 <sup>th</sup>	Thames Valley Branch Club Night – Location The Swan, Three Mile Cross	Tony Ripley	Confirmed
<b>January 2013</b>			
15 <sup>th</sup>	Thames Valley Branch Special Club Night – Location The Swan, Three Mile Cross. Talk by Andy the Chain Man to be confirmed.	Tony Ripley	Confirmed