

## YOUR COMMITTEE

### Chairman

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## NEXT BRANCH MEETING

19<sup>th</sup> September 2006



<http://www.thamesvalley.nortonownersclub.org/>

## Castrol visit

Thanks to Tony Ripley's efforts sixteen of the Branch including one partner (mine!) contrived to arrive, some later than others, at the BP Research Centre near Pangbourne on 15<sup>th</sup> August. Most arrived on 2 wheels, not all Nortons, which enabled us to set up the bikes for the Castrol people to see. Your scribe, I'm sorry to report, let the side down by arriving in his partner's Ford Fiesta after collection from Pangbourne Station – there just wasn't time to get back from London and pick up the Commando.

After review of the bikes and numerous photos we were led into the presentation room and treated to an excellent buffet while our hosts ran through some promotional videos. This was followed up by a presentation on oil technology and a question and answer session to half the group while the other half were taken on a tour of the facilities including the engine test house. The test house team returned and the roles reversed. It was quite surprising to learn that the biggest cost item running the test is not the engines they are testing but the fuel to run them. The tests are all accelerated high stress tests to keep test times short – of the order of 200 hours. One diesel lorry engine on test was programmed to simulate full load running uphill at 60mph. No wonder the tests are so short!

Our thanks to the Castrol team for a splendid and informative evening and to Tony for organising it.



## 2006 Events

### Thames Valley Branch NOC - Events Calendar

Date	Event	Contact	Status
<b>September</b>			
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Branch summer run	Tony Ripley	
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Club Night at The Cricketers, Hayley Green	Tony Ripley	Confirmed
23 <sup>rd</sup> /24 <sup>th</sup>	Norton Day and camping weekend	Shropshire Branch	
<b>October</b>			
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Club Night at The Cricketers, Hayley Green	Tony Ripley	Confirmed
<b>November</b>			
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Club Night at The Cricketers, Hayley Green	Tony Ripley	Confirmed