

YOUR COMMITTEE

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NEXT BRANCH MEETING

19th May 2009



www.thamesvalley.nortonownersclub.org

Southern Classic Bike Show

Held on 9th May at Kempton Park Racecourse the event followed the pattern of previous years with a notable exception. A Norton Owners Club stand was prominent in the club stand display area. This was organised by the recently formed NOC Surrey Branch some of whose members can be seen in the photo.



The bikes displayed were quite mixed ranging from a well restored lightweight twin (Electra) through a Dominator, a Mk II Commando, a P11 and this Inter Model 40 racer.



The rest of the show comprised the usual mix of trade stands and jumble (mostly 'junk' to my eyes but perhaps with items of value to someone). Unfortunately a regular attendee in previous years, Norvil, decided not to come this year. Mick Hunter was found enjoying sun by his stand. His line up of machines for sale included a very tidy Lambretta Li 150 on offer for the princely sum of £3400. It was still there when I left the show. A few bebies were enjoyed with some of the Surrey Branch members before a final trawl round the show and return home.

NOC Solent Branch Camping Weekend

Don't forget that the weekend of the 22 / 24 May is the Solent branch camping weekend down at the flower pots pub in Cheriton. Come down and camp or just drop in for a chat and maybe a rideout. It is close enough that everyone from Thames Valley with a working motorcycle could come to but far enough away to make it a worthwhile day or two out. Also, if we turn up at their do then they may come to ours at the end of August. Unfortunately Tony will be in Munich on Tuesday so will not be at the meeting, but he would hope to see a good number of you down at Cheriton if the weather is good. Please remember to bring along your NOC 'Passport' to this and all other Golden Jubilee events, even if this is the only event you attend there is an award for club mileage and every mile will help.

Chairman's Invite to the Forest of Dean

The Thames Valley Chairman would like to invite you all to visit him at his humble abode in Ruspidge on the edge of the Forest of Dean on the weekend of the 6th and / or 7th June. This is a distance of roughly 85 miles from Junction 12 of the M4 (Reading West). This is close enough that if you wish to return the same day it is not too far. What I would suggest is we aim to leave Berkshire early afternoon, say 2:00, rendezvous to be decided. Head over to the Chairman's house by a suitable route, and then maybe Chris will give us a guided tour of the area. Aim to leave sometime on Sunday depending on who and weather.

Please contact Tony to let him know if you are interested and also if you will be staying the night. Chris has a number of spare beds and loads of floor space.

NOC Golden Jubilee

I hope for a good Thames Valley turnout at Donnington Park for the NOC Golden Jubilee day; this is a once in a lifetime opportunity and is not to be missed. Again it is close enough for those that 'do not do rallies' to turn up just for the day. *Tony*

Commando news

The demands of house and garden makeovers have receded in the last few weeks and I have been able to turn my attention to the Commando which I have had to reluctantly ignore for the past year. First item to be looked at was why the kick start and the silencer were in conflict. This was found to be the exhaust locking put back by the garage when installing new downpipes in preparation for the MOT being cross-threaded making the downpipe push out at an angle. I feared the worst for the head but once the locking was removed and the threads carefully cleaned all appeared to be resolved when refitted. I then successfully transferred the tyre from the original rusty rim to the new alloy rim which matches the front. The hydraulic lift proved invaluable for removing and replacing the wheel. At this point I couldn't resist filling with oil and fresh petrol and was delighted to find it

started second kick. Next came the bad news. The bellows in the rear master cylinder had broken up so it was on to Norvil to order the replacement. While about it I ordered a new side stand and spring to replace those broken by the garage.

Forthcoming events

The fine spring weather continues and should be enough to get you thinking about where to go here are some more of the up and coming local spring events.

May 25th

- The Ringwood Autojumble opens 9.30am on the A31, Near Ashley Heath Country Park, St Leonards at Ringwood, Hants. Details from 01202 433258.

June 6th

- The Cheltenham Autojumble opens 10am at Cheltenham Racecourse. Free parking and refreshments. Admission £3.50. Details from 01543 572583.
- Autojumble and Grand Vintage Show at Queen Elizabeth Country Park, south of Petersfield on the A3; free parking on site. Opens 10am to 4pm. Display of over 250 cars, commercials, motorcycles and military vehicles all over 25 years old, approx 200 stalls, refreshments, fairground organ, children's entertainment, etc. Admission £3, children under 16 free. Details from 02380 435176.
- Historic Racing at Mallory Park with the British Historic Racing section of the VMCC. Phone 0115 875 2292 or email bhrsecretary@ntlworld.com for details.

June 13th

- The Oily Rag Reunion takes place at Chelsea Bridge to fill the air with rock 'n' roll and rasping high-revs and reminiscences. Starts 2pm with live music, real ale and more (and no admission fee). Contact Lenny for more info on 01428 685883.

June 14th

- Bikers' Day at the Sammy Miller Motorcycle Museum at Bashley, New Milton, Hampshire, BH25 5SZ. Phone 01425 620777 or see www.sammymiller.co.uk.

June 17th

- Shiny Bike Night is at The Plough at Cadsden, Princes Risborough from 7.30pm. A classic bike show with prizes, barbeque and raffle at a lovely village pub in great country setting. Phone 01494 562962 or see www.bbcmcc.freeuk.com.

June 19th to 21st

- You are all aware of course of the Club's 50th anniversary celebrations at Donington Park with The Unapproachable Norton event featuring the largest-ever collection of Norton motorcycles in one place, from the 1907 TT winning V-twin to the new 2009

rotary racer. Everyone is welcome. All NOC members who pre-register a Norton for the event will have the opportunity to ride it on the circuit over the weekend. Details in The Roadholder or at www.nortonownersclub.co.uk.

June 20th and 21st

- The 2009 Royal Enfield Open Weekend takes place on both days from 10am. Admission is free to tour the factory and see the RE range. This event has turned into a highlight of the summer season; an old-fashioned ride in with refreshments (curry served by the local Sea Scouts), an informal concours competition, treasure hunts for the kids, bargain spares for sale, advanced training rides, technical advice from the RE team. See www.royal-enfield.com for details.

June 21st

- The Banbury Run returns to the Motor Heritage Centre, Gaydon. Open to veteran and vintage machines manufactured before 1931, 600 machines normally take part. The organisers would like to encourage more clubs to put on static displays so visitors can enjoy all aspects of vintage motorcycling. Details at <http://www.banbury-run.co.uk>.

Editor's Note: if you attend any of these or similar events how about sending in a few words and/ or photos for the newsletter? I still need your inputs.

STOP PRESS

NOC Surrey Branch Golden Jubilee 'Brooklands Day

Saturday, 16th May marks an important return to the strong links between Norton and Brooklands when the newly formed Surrey Branch of the Norton Owners Club holds their first Golden Jubilee 'Brooklands Day' at the site. The event is Surrey Branch's contribution to the NOC Golden Jubilee and GJEC Passports will be stamped in the Club Marquee. We will have a coned off the area in front of the bike sheds where we will be operating an anti clockwise oval parade circuit during the morning. Riders will go with their machines from the club house into the closed off area where we can circulate as we want. After lunch we will open test hill, weather permitting, we should be able to offer everyone at least two ascents during the session. Please check out the link below for more information from Brooklands regarding the event <http://www.brooklandsmuseum.com/index.php?events/details/2009/05/16/>.

2009 Events

Thames Valley Branch NOC - Events Calendar

Date	Event	Contact	Status
May			
16 th	NOC Surrey Branch Golden Jubilee 'Brooklands Day' <u>NOC Jubilee Event</u>	07768 734200	Confirmed
19 th	Thames Valley Club Night at The Cricketers Hayley Green	Tony Ripley	Confirmed
22 nd - 24 th	NOC Solent Branch Camping Weekend Cheriton, Winchester	023 9279 8292	Confirmed
June			
6 th /7 th	Forest of Dean - Chairman's Invitation	Chris Norton	Confirmed
16 th	Thames Valley Club Night at The Cricketers Hayley Green	Tony Ripley	Confirmed
19 th	The Unapproachable Norton - Golden Jubilee Day (Donington Park) <u>NOC Jubilee Event</u>	NOC	Confirmed
20 th	Norton Day (Donington Park) <u>NOC Jubilee Event</u>	NOC	Confirmed
21 st	NOC Classic Racing (Donington Park) <u>NOC Jubilee Event</u>	NOC	Confirmed
July			
3 rd - 5 th	National Rally (Keynsham)	NOC	Confirmed
21 st	Thames Valley Club Night at The Cricketers Hayley Green	Tony Ripley	Confirmed