

YOUR COMMITTEE

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NEXT BRANCH MEETING

18th December 2007



www.thamesvalley.nortonownersclub.org

Thames Valley Branch AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the Thames Valley Branch of the NOC was held at The Cricketers in Hayley Green on 20th November 2007. An initial attendance of 14 was supplemented by two latecomers to yield a final total of 16. An apology for absence was received from Chris Fry (Treasurer).

2006 AGM record; this was in the form of notes include in the Branch Newsletter. These were accepted by the meeting without dissent.

Secretary's report – Tony Ripley

Branch membership remains stable at 59 although many are not present at meetings or runs. Tony apologised for the lack of runs in 2007 but there were only two responses to last year's suggestion of members recording an expression of interest in being informed of a run taking place. This coupled with the bad weather this summer probably resulted in the low level of interest. Tony will try again in 2008 and requested expressions of interest in individuals being informed of potential runs being organised.

Chairman's Report – Chris Norton

Chris expressed disappointment at the apathy in the Branch noting that the hard core of attendance at meetings and events was at best only four or five. He wondered what caused the lack of motivation and questioned the members as to whether they thought a different venue would improve matters. The general feeling expressed was that whatever the location it would always be more convenient for some to attend than others. The London to Brighton Run and Norton Day Party at Margate received little support the latter being very wet but the National Rally was quite successful as despite appalling weather the Branch was the second largest present, the first being Norfolk, the host Branch. The International Rally attendance from Thames Valley was poor and only 2 people attended the Oxford film show. The Solent Branch meeting was also weather affected but Tony did manage to attend.

A question was raised about publicising within the Branch details of outside events of potential interest to members. Further discussion was referred to Any Other Business.

Treasurer's report – Chris Fry delivered by Tony Ripley

Tony reported that the bank account stands at £959-26. The accounts are quite simple as all subscriptions are now paid to the National Club so all payments to the Branch are consolidated. Some income is deposited as payments by those who receive the Branch newsletter by post. This means the overall Branch account movements are now very small. The accounts were accepted by the meeting.

Editor's Report

Rob Latham apologised for the lack of an October newsletter brought about by his late return from a trip to China and Tibet but has managed otherwise to maintain publication on a monthly basis. Two suggestions have been made for a title for the newsletter – "The Navigator" and "The At Las" but more suggestions would be welcome. More contributions would also be welcome as much of the current content comes from web sites and it would be useful to get some occasional input with a local flavour.

Election of officers

All the officers resigned and apart from the Treasurer were re-elected. Tony Ripley was elected as Treasurer in a temporary capacity until the next Branch meeting when it is hoped Chris Fry's position on continuing as Treasurer will be clarified.

Chris will continue to print and post the newsletters.

Events

The proportion of Branch membership without email access is quite high which makes circulating event details at short notice difficult. Tony agreed that he would continue with the short notice phone ups in 2008. A good proportion of members present expressed interest in being informed of ride outs next year. It was noted earlier in the meeting that the AJS/ Matchless club have produced a pocket calendar in recent years which has resulted in a good turnout. No calendar was produced in 2007 and this seems to have resulted in a reduced attendance at events. If members post, email, telephone or bring to the December meeting details of any events in 2008 they know of Tony will produce a similar calendar.

A camping weekend is programmed in North Hampshire, date to be announced. The site is attached to a pub and other accommodation is available. Barry suggested that a day visit would be in order.

An appeal is being made for the loan of a large gazebo or similar for holding a large barbeque. Contact Tony Ripley or Barry Strickland with any details. The event will probably be held in late June or early July.

Other Business

It was announced with considerable sadness of the recent death of Brian Seward who had been a member of the Branch for many years. Several members attended the funeral.

The Branch Winter dinner was discussed and it was agreed that some subsidy would be made available from Branch funds probably in the form of payment of the first drink on the night. The Dinner will probably be held on the January Club Night (22nd

2007/8 Events

Prompted by the discussions at the AGM I have added dates for some external events I have been able to find for the next few months. These will be added as a reminder each month and as a supplement to the events calendar being looked into by Tony. If you know of any other events of interest please let me know as soon as possible so that they can be included in future issues.

Thames Valley Branch NOC - Events Calendar			
Date	Event	Contact	Status
December			
Tues 18 th	Thames Valley NOC clubnight – Cricketers, Hayley Green	Tony Ripley	Confirmed
Sun 23 rd	<u>Southern Experts Trial</u> Sunbeam MCC. West Wiltshire. Chris Mawer 01525 384962		
2008			
January			
6 th	Enfield Bike Jumble 10am at Whitewebbs Centre, Whitewebbs Lane, Enfield.		
15 th	Thames Valley NOC clubnight – Cricketers, Hayley Green	Tony Ripley	Confirmed
19 th	EGP Autojumble at Kempton Park racecourse		
27 th	<u>Talmag Trophy Trial</u> , Hungry Hill, Aldershot		Unconfirmed
February			
3 rd	Chelmsford Bike-Only Autojumble, Marconi Sports and Social Club, Beehive Lane (B1009), Chelmsford.		
19 th	Thames Valley NOC clubnight – Cricketers, Hayley Green	Tony Ripley	Confirmed
	Bristol Classic Bike Show, Shepton Mallet		
March			
18 th	Thames Valley NOC clubnight – Cricketers, Hayley Green	Tony Ripley	Confirmed
23 rd / 24 th	<u>The Red Marley</u> A pre-65 trial on Easter Sunday and a classic Hill Climb on Easter Monday Great Witley in Worcestershire WR6 6JJ.		
April			
15 th	Thames Valley NOC clubnight – Cricketers, Hayley Green	Tony Ripley	Confirmed
28 th -29 th	International Classic Motorcycle Show, Stafford		
May			
20 th	Thames Valley NOC clubnight – Cricketers, Hayley Green	Tony Ripley	Confirmed
June			
17 th	Thames Valley NOC clubnight – Cricketers, Hayley Green	Tony Ripley	Confirmed
28 th - 29 th	NOC Summer Party And Norton Day , South Milford, Leeds		
July			
15 th	Thames Valley NOC clubnight – Cricketers, Hayley Green	Tony Ripley	Confirmed
25 th - 27 th	NOC National Rally , Stirling County Rugby Club		Provisional

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1970 Norton Commando Fastback. Nathan Weedon, Herts -



1954 Norton. Ivan Howell - Both photos from Classic Bike

The Committee would like to wish you all a very pleasant Christmas, a Happy New Year and lots of safe riding in 2008.

