

YOUR COMMITTEE

Chairman	Chris Norton
Secretary	Tony Ripley Tel: 07831 266236 t.j.ripley@gmail.com
Treasurer	Beryl Skinner Tel: 0118 9730589
Newsletter	Rob Latham Tel: 01628 623579 robert.latham@talktalk.net

NEXT BRANCH MEETING

16th March 2010



www.thamesvalley.nortonownersclub.org

Branch Meetings

The **Branch evening Social Event on March 16th** is at our usual venue, The Cricketers at Hayley Green. Please get your names into Tony by 13th March so he can advise numbers to the pub. The menu is quite extensive including several meat, fish, vegetarian and traditional pub dishes together with various starters and desserts.

Forthcoming events

Spring must have arrived judging by the number of 'local' events over the next month. Here are a few to whet the appetite.

Mothers Day Bikers Event 2010.

Bikers will gather at the Leigh Delamere services on the M4 (Junction 17 - eastbound) before the mass ride through Wootton Bassett to RAF Lyneham at 12 noon. To take part riders will pay £5 (on the day) and receive a special commemorative Afghan Heroes wristband, which will be their entry pass to the RAF base. All proceeds raised from the ride will go to the Afghan Heroes charity. Please go to the web site below, you **MUST** register or you will not be allowed into RAF Lyneham.

<http://www.afghanheroes.org.uk/bikersevent.asp>

March 12th to 14th

RACE RETRO 2010, the international historic motorsport show, returns to Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire. Mainly four-wheelers but also a celebration of 60 Years of **Norton Historic Racing** and Motorsport.

Back in April 1950, Geoff Duke debuted the Featherbed Manx frame and it went on to become one of the most famous competition motorcycles of all time.

Race Retro's tribute sees the Norton Owners' Club running the main stand, which will feature a selection of Manx models, from period racers to the latest incarnations running in the Lansdowne series. A selection of John Player Commando Twins and later rotary models are also being shown.

Norton racers will be on hand to talk about the bikes' finest hour: expect to be rubbing shoulders with Peter Williams, Phil Read MBE, John 'Mooneyes' Cooper, Trevor Nation and Keith Heckles, who will be talking with Race Retro motorcycle MC Steve Parrish.

And making its first public outing since its racing days is the Jim Lee Racing Collection. Jim built competition frames and helped kick-start Mick Grant's career – Mick went on to win seven TTs and the Macau Grand Prix. On display will be the JL Velocette – which is still being raced - the JL Yamaha (which notched up 16 consecutive victories ridden by Mick) and the JL Ossa. There's also a large supporting display of memorabilia and photographs.

Talking of the TT, Senior TT 2009 winner Steve Plater will also be making an appearance. Steve also won the 2009 British Supersport Championship with a 36 point advantage over his nearest rival.

Adult ticket prices start from just £20 for Friday and £15 for Saturday and Sunday when booking in advance or upgrade to a VIP ticket with fantastic hospitality and a chance to meet are special guests. Children's

tickets are £5 on Friday or Saturday and free on Sunday. Parking is also free throughout. The show is open from 9.30am each day and closes at 5.30pm on Friday and Saturday and 4.30pm on Sun. Details from RaceRetro on www.raceretro.com or phone 0121 224 7455.

March 14th

The Pioneer Run for veteran motorcycles features the world's largest gathering of pre-1915 machines. The riders leave Epsom Downs and arrive at Brighton Seafrost. Phone 01293 771446 or see the website <http://sunbeam-mcc.co.uk/pioneer>.

March 19th

It's Classic Bike Night at the Ace Café in north London, with a rock 'n' roll theme too. From 6pm. 0208 961 1000.

March 20th

The EGP Autojumble opens 10am at Kempton Park racecourse near Sunbury. Usual format, five mins from J1 off the M3. Admission £5. www.egp-enterprises.co.uk / 01344 883961

April 2nd

The Berkshire Egg Run in aid of the Variety Clubs Children's Charity, starts 12 noon at the Norcot Industrial Estate, Norcot Hill, Tilehurst, Reading. 07841 115380. www.tvvultures.co.uk

April 5th

The 19th Vehicle Meet & Autojumble is at Wyke Down, north of Andover. This get-together boasts 2500 exhibits (traction engines to bubble cars) and 150 stalls last year, but classic bikes are getting outnumbered by Harleys and Gold Wings! So the organisers would love to see more old bikes. Details via 01264 363295 or www.springvehiclemeetandautojumble.co.uk

April 18th

The London Motorcycle Museum hosts its annual St George's Dragon Roast. Some extremely unusual old bikes will be present, including prototypes from the BSA-Triumph years, plus local heritage displays, gift shop and such. At Ravenor Farm on Oldfield Lane in Greenford, a few minutes from the A40. Admission is £8 adults includes a meal and hot drinks. Opens 10am; hot food available from around midday. Call 020 8575 6644 or see www.london-motorcycle-museum.org

The Brooklands Spring Motorcycle Gathering marks the anniversary of the official start of motorcycle racing in the UK, at Brooklands on 20th April 1908. Genuine Brooklands racers and historic record-breakers will be on display and demonstrated on the famous Test Hill and steep Members' Banking plus club displays, trials demos, trade stands, café, discounts for visiting club groups, etc. Open 10am to 5pm. 01932 857381 or www.brooklandsmuseum.com

Tony's Run

Our Secretary will not be attending Mothers Day Bikers Event on March 14th as he is running in the Reading half marathon that day.

Thames Valley Branch NOC - Events Calendar

Date	Event	Contact	Status
March			
16 th	Thames Valley Club Night and Social evening –at The Cricketers Hayley Green	Tony Ripley	Confirmed
April			
11 th	Norton Owners Club AGM at the National Motorcycle Museum		Confirmed
16 th	Thames Valley Club Night at The Cricketers Hayley Green	Tony Ripley	Confirmed