

YOUR COMMITTEE

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NEXT BRANCH MEETING
20th September 2011



Jubilee for Sale

Tony has received details of a Norton Jubilee for sale. Please contact Tony for more details or to express an interest to save his sanity/wallet/ marriage!



Events

September 17th

The EGP Autojumble opens 10am at Kempton Park racecourse near Sunbury. Admission £5 to around 250 outdoor and indoor stalls, five minutes from J1 of the M3. See www.egp-enterprises.co.uk or phone 01344 883961.

September 23rd to 25th

The Isle of Wight group of the BSAOC invite classic British motorcycle enthusiasts to the Wight Lightning Rally. Indoor venue, on site food and bar and live entertainment Friday and Saturday plus run, raffle, quiz, bike show, awards, etc.

Wightlink discounted ferry fares from Portsmouth and Lymington (advance bookings recommended on 0871 376 1000; quote 'BSA motorcycle rally'. Or pay on the day of travel, you will still get the discount on production of you rally ticket, space on the ferry will be subject to availability. See www.wightlink.co.uk. This is a pre-book rally for classic British bikes only tickets cost £10 per person (includes camping). Under 18s are free but must be accompanied by an adult. Contact Rally Sec, 48 New Street, Newport, Isle of Wight PO30 1PX, email charlierackett@btinternet.com or phone 01983 529607.

September 24th and 25th

The Kop Hill Climb features 350 vintage and classic vehicles testing themselves against this traditional challenge near Princes Risborough. Gates open 9am, admission costs £10. Details at www.kophillclimb.org.uk

October 8th

The VMCC Bikejumble opens at the Bath and West Showground at Shepton Mallet. Opens 9.30 to 4pm, with an associated auction of old bikes. Free parking, good refreshments and licensed bar. Admission is £2. Contact Dave on 01934 820657.

October 15th and 16th

The Classic Mechanics Show is at Stafford County Showground and spotlights motorcycles from the 1960s, 70s, and 80s. With half a

www.thamesvalley.nortonownersclub.org

dozen halls, heated marquees, outdoor displays club stands, trade and jumble stalls, and Wall of Death displays. Special guest GP racer Wayne Rainey. Opens 9am both days. Prebook tickets to save on admission price and avoid queues: single day ticket costs £11 on the gate. see www.classicbikeshows.com or phone 01507 529430.

October 15th

EGP Autojumble opens 10am at Kempton Park racecourse near Sunbury. Admission £5 to around 250 outdoor and indoor stalls, five minutes from J1 of the M3. See www.egp-enterprises.co.uk or phone 01344 883961

October 23rd

The South of England Motorcycle Show And Bikejumble opens at 10am at the South of England Showground near Ardingly RH17 6TL, close to Gatwick. Big displays of British, European, Japanese and American classics: extra indoor space for the club displays, trade stands and autojumble stalls. Plus Guest of Honour, free parking on firm ground, bring your bike to sell, garage clear-outs welcome. Sponsored by ourselves, so RC subscribers can claim a discount on the gate admission price, and the RC Roadshow will bring the full range of back issues and regalia. All pre-booked display bikes go home with a souvenir plus have the chance to win one of the handsome awards across a range of categories. See www.elk-promotions.co.uk or call 01797 344277.

Editorial Musings

It has been a disastrous period for the Commando. A couple of weeks ago while out for a run I came down to the A4 at Knowl Hill. As I stopped the engine cut out and I was surrounded by a cloud of acrid fumes as the insulation on the return wires to the battery melted and vapourised. Strangely, as I thought at the time, the fuse was intact. After a bit of judicious taping the bike restarted and I was able to ride home. I replaced the damaged wiring and checked for likely causes. I test rode up the road and back without incident, reconnected the charging circuits, which I had left disconnected and rode up the road. As soon as I stopped the smoke generating performance was repeated. This time I made enquiries through the NOC message board and of Al Osborne. Al hit the nail on the head suggesting it was connected with the lead from the battery to the starter solenoid as this is not fused – I should have known! Sure enough I found the battery lead connection to the solenoid is very close to the solenoid mounting plate. The insulating boot had shifted so that the uncovered metal of the lead can touch the plate if any pressure is applied to the top of the solenoid – which of course is where the seat now plays a part. The underside of the seat pan has a small area rubbed clear of paint in a location which lines up with the top of the solenoid housing. It would seem that as my weight moved forward as I stopped this exerted enough downward pressure to force the solenoid tab to earth from a very low impedance source – the battery! I managed to obtain a new boot for the terminal from the local MG specialists as Halfords and other car part suppliers couldn't provide one. I have replaced the return wiring – again, cutting in new sections as necessary. The bike starts and runs so now I need to take it on a check run. So be warned Mk III owners – check the boots on the solenoid terminals or you may have a lot of rewiring to do!

Thames Valley Branch NOC - Events Calendar

Date	Event	Contact	Status
September			
10 th	Oxford Branch Café Racer Day	Peter Scatchard	Confirmed
20 th	Thames Valley Branch Club Night – at The Cricketers Hayley Green	Tony Ripley	Confirmed
October			
18 th	Thames Valley Branch Club Night – at The Cricketers Hayley Green	Tony Ripley	Confirmed