

**THE NEWSLETTER OF  
THE NOTTINGHAM  
BRANCH  
NORTON OWNERS CLUB**

FIND US AT :- THE FOX AT KELHAM, Nr NEWARK.  
FIRST WEDNESDAY EVERY MONTH  
ALSO AT :- THE ROSE & CROWN, CRESSWELL  
SECOND TUESDAY EVERY MONTH



PHILS' NEWLY FINISHED 650SS. THE SUBJECT OF HIS ATTENTIONS FOR THE LAST FEW WEEKS. THE WINTER MAY HAVE BEEN LONG AND COLD BUT IT DID NOT PUT HIM OFF ,FROM HIS GARAGE !!

**MAY 2010**

## COMMITTEE INFORMATION 2009-2010.

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Hello there folks welcome to May's edition of the newsletter and by the time you read this we will have just returned from our branch camp at Bishop Monkton but as I am on Holiday there was no time to get a report in to this mag before the club-night ,sorry.

Some members will have heard by now but in case you have not then at the end of July the branch will need a new Chairman as I will not be renewing my membership of the NOC.and with the present rules of the club it is not possible to be Chair or be a signatory of a branch bank account whilst being a social member only.

I will not be leaving the committee as I will stay on as a non voting position of newsletter editor as will Christine who unless she joins in her own right again will also become a non member as her number is joint with my membership ,so remaining on the branch committee as a regalia officer with no voting rights,too. My decision is nothing to do with the branch but with the way the club is being run on our behalf and the last few months has brought it to an intolerable level for me. I think that Twenty-nine years is enough experience for to know what is right and wrong , so for the time being I'll keep my money in my pocket and not pay for something that I do not agree with.

There are Three months for everyone to think about taking the job over and it is not that big a task. With only Three people holding the job since the branch started in 1993 it speaks for itself that if it was a hard job there would have been a lot more resignations over the years. Remember your BRANCH needs you.

Thanks for the fun over the years. Bryan the Chairman.



WALTER HANDLEY ENJOYING A CUP OF CADBURYS  
DRINKING CHOCOLATE SOMETIME IN THE 1930'S  
WHEN HE WAS A WORKS NORTON RIDER ,OF NOTE!



JOHN MARTIN AND PHIL AFTER THE RUN TO BAKEWELL TO THE BIKE MUSEUM THERE ,SEE RICKS WRITE UP. AND BELOW IS A CLOSE UP OF ONE OF THE MOTORCYCLES ON SHOW , A 500T NORTON AND VERY NICE IT WAS TOO.,IN OILY RAG CONDITION AND USED .



## STAFFORD CLASSIC MOTORCYCLE SHOW ,APRIL 24th25th 2010.

This year I chose to go alone to the show as I had another engagement to attend after and did not want to hold others up ,and so I went very early and ended up on the first row of cars in the car park ,but still about 200 behind the first man into the show??

After about a half hour wait they let us in and so I did all the outside stalls first and found nothing that I wanted ! Then I thought about a breakfast butty and a cuppa but decided against a cost of £1:60 for a coffee! So drank my water with a very nice bacon and sauce cob in the warm sunshine next to the Grand prix paddock listening to the sounds of Rotary sidecar outfits and look-alike works Hondas before the masses of Triumph triples which were celebrating their 40th anniversary this year , very nice as well they sounded.

Off into the halls and by this time it had filled up and it was getting rather warm but as you can go out at every exit nowadays ,I kept having a breath of fresh air as I passed between each and every hall . Still I found nothing that I wanted to buy! So spent the next couple of hours gazing at the nice shiny bikes and meeting old friends as I bumped into them on my travels .With Garry, Barry and Pete and Phil from the branch and others from Bristol to Belgium I had lots of folks to chat to.

After a couple of hours I went and had lunch outside again and the sounds coming from the paddock area became exotic as the multi cylinder bikes struck up with a warning for to keep small children's ears covered as it may cause them damage !! They never told us that when we used to go and watch them in the sixties?

I had another lap of the halls and outside again and after not finding anything at all that I needed or wanted I took off for my next event and it took me over half an hour to get out the car park ! I did feel sorry for the bikes though as the dust that had been stirred up from the cars leaving had coated them in the thickest layer of sandy dust I have seen in a long while, poor boys and girls ,all that work to do again.

Report by Bryan Harwood,

## NOTTS BRANCH WEBSITE OFFER

The main club has offered us the branch a new website using a template that they have set up on the new NOC website. They have used the Northumbria branch as a guinea pig to try it out and it seems adequate for our needs.

Chris Grimmatt has been in touch with Richard Appleyard who has offered to be the webmaster for Nets . So we will need your inputs to keep the site alive and not to let it stagnate also so as not to let Richard get disheartened as he may feel lonely if no one sends him anything to put into the new pages .

Have a look on the Northumbria site and let us know if it is O.K. for you or if there is anything else you would like to see included in the pages.

Thanks for looking , The Committee.

## EVENTS LIST

### May

- 5<sup>th</sup> Monthly meet at the Fox Kelham.
- 11<sup>th</sup> Social get together at the Rose and Crown.
- 14<sup>th</sup> 16<sup>th</sup> Norfolk camping at Kelling Health Holiday Park near Sheringham.
- 28<sup>th</sup> 30<sup>th</sup> Solent camping at The flower Pots pub in Cheriton.

### June

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Monthly meet at the Fox Kelham.
- 6<sup>th</sup> Autokana Wollaton Hall.
- 8<sup>th</sup> Social get together at the Rose and Crown.
- 11<sup>th</sup> 13<sup>th</sup> National rally in Devon

### July

- 2<sup>nd</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> Waddington Air Show. Meet at 6.30pm Friday in the village next to the shops/chippy, turn left at the traffic lights.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Motorcycle show Uttoxeter race course
- 7<sup>th</sup> Monthly meet at the Fox Kelham.
- 8<sup>th</sup> 11<sup>th</sup> International rally Colombres Spain.
- 13<sup>th</sup> Social get together at the Rose and Crown.
- 14<sup>th</sup> Notts concours night at The Fox in Kelham

### August

- 4<sup>th</sup> Monthly meet at the Fox Kelham.
- 10<sup>th</sup> Social get together at the Rose and Crown.
- 14<sup>th</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> Norton Day.
- 20<sup>th</sup> 22<sup>nd</sup> camping weekend at Don and Mavis
- 29<sup>th</sup> 30<sup>th</sup> August Begonia Rally.

### September

- 1<sup>st</sup> Monthly meet at the Fox Kelham.
- 14<sup>th</sup> Social get together

## EVENTS LIST

Dates for your calendar this year.

INOA rally held in Lumby near the Okanangan Valley and Kootenays in BC Canada. We have been to both places while visiting Garnet over there and the Countryside is wonderful!

There will be a camping weekend in September at the site outside Ashbourne where we were going to go last year. If people want to know there will be Darley Moor classic bike racing on 16<sup>th</sup> May.

I have talked to Stewart G about a visit to the Norton factory, he is still happy for us to go so keep your eyes on this space. I am looking at getting Norton factory to come over to our concours night to show off their new bikes and if all goes well to had out the winning prizes for the bikes.

The run we had to Bakewell museum was attended by myself, Bryan, Martin, John and Phil. We met up with Steve in Matlock Bath where we had to wait for a while but then we all set off. There were about 42 bikes in all, from Norton's, Triumphs, (old and new) Vincent's to Jap bikes and Harley's.

I think that everybody had a good time, the weather was just fine and we were greeted with a cup of tea and a warm welcome.

I don't think that the museum has got any more bikes than the last time I was there but since it is so packed it is difficult to tell.

A VERY POOR MAN'S 650 SS  
PART 2.

AFTER FILLING THE OIL TANK AND GEARBOX I FITTED THE TANK AND PUT SOME PETROL IN. AFTER A FEW KICKS IT FIRED BUT THAT WAS IT, I DRIED THE PLUGS AND SHUT OFF THE CHOKE, A FEW MORE KICKS AND IT RAN BUT STOPPED WHEN I ROLLED THE THROTTLE BACK, AFTER ADJUSTING THE TICKOVER SCREWS, ONE KICK AND IT FIRED AND RAN. I CHECKED THAT THE OIL WAS RETURNING INTO THE TANK, RAN IT FOR A FEW MINUTES THEN STOPPED IT.

I HAD A FEW BITS TO FINISH OFF, THE REAR FOOTRESTS, BRAKE LIGHT BRACKET, SEAT, ETC. WHICH ONLY LEFT A PRIMARY CASE LEAK WHICH I FINALLY TRACED TO OIL LEAKING THROUGH THE RIVETS ON THE BOTTOM MOUNTING BRACKET. NOW IT'S READY FOR A TEST RIDE.

PHIL GEEVIE.





PHIL'S OLD AND NEW REBUILT NORTONS ? REMEMBER THE LAST ONE IS A PHOENIX RISEN FROM THE ASHES ? THE NEW ONE IS RESPLENDANT AND READY FOR THE SUMMER COMING ALONG SOON , WE HOPE! FOR A SUNNY AND DRY ONE.



## NORTON OWNERS CLUB A.G.M. AT THE N.M.M.

Last month saw the club's A.G.M. at the National Motorcycle museum at Birmingham and with the promise of fireworks on the agenda and a talk by Stuart Garner on the state of play at the Norton factory we thought it would be worth the trip down. Also the club usually gets a discount on entry to the museum and a free lunch? Paid for by you the members so even better to get something back for a change.

Christine Lynne and Garry joined me for the drive down and with Rick Graham and Kath there we totalled Seven members of the branch in attendance. Not bad out of a total of just over a Hundred in total from around the country.

The venue had the AGM of the VMCC, a scooter meeting and a Sikh wedding in addition to our event so they were well busy. The members gathered and the coffee was joined by cordial conversation as old and new members greeted each other for another year ahead!!

The meeting was called to order on time as is usual and the agenda worked through until the thorny question about the election of vice-presidents came up? And there is where the wheels fell off, as Chris Grimmett had to contend with several questions from the floor with each side being put forward and then veiled threats as to which members of the exec committee would not stand if Mr Peter Scatchard was re-elected to the club in his position as a VP of the NOC.

This took several hours to be resolved and in the end a vote of the members present found him not re-elected by a big majority 12 for and 59 against with some 24 abstentions.

We had a talk by Mr Stuart Garner the MD of Norton and he gave us an hour of his time to tell the members where they are in the scale of all things Norton. And although they are some Three months behind in the output of bikes they are hoping to get on track soon and with an order book of 600 on order they are looking rosy at this time. They plan on getting in on the military side of things with the rotary type of engine, more for a power pack type and not a driving type of motor. Along the lines of a charger pack for to charge battery cars!!

They are building a hand only control bike for a disabled soldier as they do support the help for heroes campaign and if that works then there may be more of them to come. The rotary project for the road bikes may be some 5 years off at this time but a racing one may be next year, although they will be at the Ulster GP and Bonneville in America later this year. A single cylinder road bike may also be made in the £10,000 region in the next five years, too but no firm plans as yet. A question and answers session followed and Mr Garner fielded all questions with fairly good answers, including the request for a cheaper bike for us poor folks and he says, no! he will not cheapen the product as to do so would mean sourcing parts from overseas and not using British parts wherever possible or the best quality parts that are in keeping with the brand as he sees it. Another person said that he could get a top quality Ducati for a lesser sum than a new Norton and was told to go and get it! By Garner? Obviously he does not care if he loses a sale as they were probably not the type of folks he wants to buy his Nortons!!

By this time it was Dinner break and we all thanked him for coming along to see us and get off as we wanted to get to the food??

After the lunch break ,which seemed to have a rather foreign flavour to it (I thought we had the Sikh wedding breakfast instead of them?) we returned to the meeting and we had a long session with the treasurer giving us a breakdown as to why we spent rather a lot of money last year to which the answers were Fuel and accommodation costs to exec meetings , Golden Jubilee spends ,which were mooted last year but were not envisaged to be as high as they were and no Calendar income for last year. And at this point Stuart Garner offered the use of the Norton Factory for the meetings as the place is central in the country and would not cost the club at all. Nice one as it will save a pretty penny. Other than that the financial side was accepted by the members.

The club Committee then resigned and bumbling Mile Jackson took control for to guide the elections of the new committee! and here we had a choice of two for a Chairman as Peter Cox and Norman Lorton both wanted the job and in the end it went to Norman . This was because Chris Grimmett had vacated the role to be the new Webmaster and he will also look after memberships as the new mag dis comes under the same job. We also gained a new Secretary as Norman moves up to the Chair and we now have a Peter White in the role? Never met him before so a new brush to the committee?

Other positions were filled en block as all the rest were up for another year on the committee.

The editor asked if we could go to 12 editions of the roadholder and the answer was yes for a year to see how it works and at no cost to the members for that year but after this it will cost about £4:50 per member rise in subs for to pay for it . Also there is to be no rise in subs this year.

Three paragraphs of the club rules were voted upon to be changed and accepted as they affect branches and the rest of the rule changes are to be put on the back burner and worked on during the year and put to the AGM next year.This was carried in favour of the changed rules.

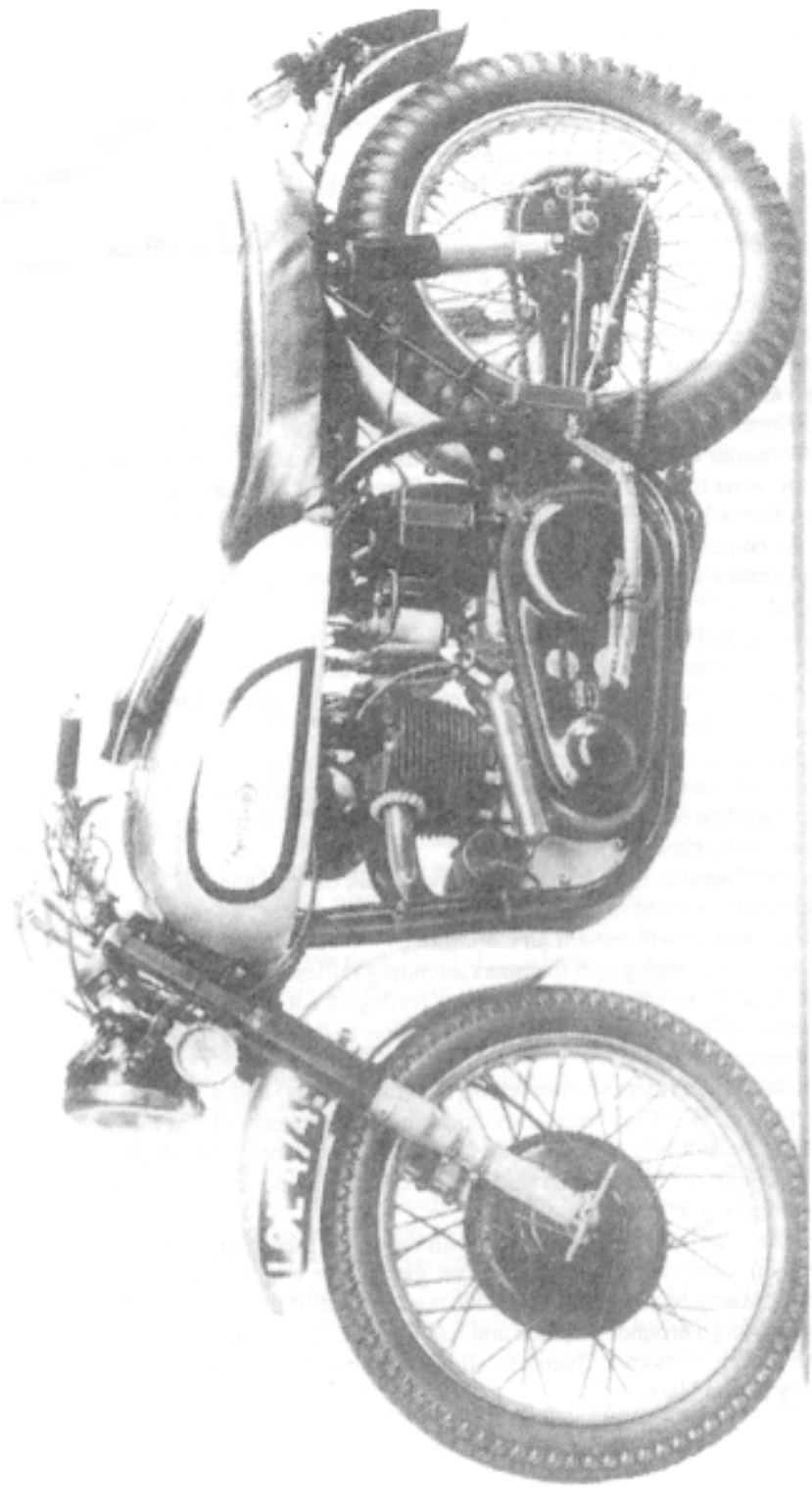
After a lot of rumour the club is not to have a paid officer and this was because Neil Shoesmith wanted to stand down as the spares officer , noew he has Two other helpers and he will remain on Committee .

The subject of charging non members attending rallies was discussed and thought a good idea?? Anyway with such strong feelings for it not to go ahead the decision was made to leave it to the branches discretion to how much they charge and to whom they charge .

Some folks want a riders section within the club (elitists) and it was thought a good thing!! Let em` ride I say and Andy Sochianic was concerned that members were down as he as a branch sec cannot take money any more ? To which Chris Norton (our joint members hero) said that he could take money from members! The two tongued Ba\*\*\*\*d ,he

Shortly after , the meeting ended and with the committee happy to have got away lightly on some subjects the stage is set for another year ahead in the NOC. Long may it carry on ,for you. We made our way out of the bowels of the NMM but too late to go around the place and had to settle for a quick run around the shop before setting off home. Thanks to all who came for your support.

Report by Bryan Harwood.



THE WORKS NORTON DOMINATOR THAT WAS PREPARED FOR THE 1952 INTERNATIONAL SIX DAY TRIALS