



Yorkshire Branch



AGM & Branch Meeting Minutes – 14th September 2016

Venue – The Marsh, Pudsey.

1. Chairman (Barrie Blayney)

Barrie opened the meeting at 8.00pm and welcomed all 21 attendees.

2. Secretary (Andy Lodge)

Apologies for absence – Dave Bell, Ian Jayne, Nigel Johnson, Bruce Senior, Tony Ward and Barrie Crosby

The Rotary Club of Elland are holding a Vintage Weekend on Sunday 18th September, the event takes place at Elland Cricket, Athletic & Bowling Club, Hullen Edge Road, Elland. HX5 0QY between 10.00am and 5.00pm. All manner of vehicles are invited and there is simply one class for 'Motorcycles'. Admission charges are £2.00 for motorcycles (for the display) or £5.00 per adult, £2.00 OAP and £1.00 per child. Gates open at 08.00am for exhibitors.

Six branch members attended the Kendal Rally held over the weekend 12th to 14th August. During one of the ride outs over Hardnott Pass (coming back from RGM) in the Lake District quite a few people managed to fall off their Norton's. Tony Ward was air lifted to Lancaster hospital following him hitting a pothole that caused him to fall off his bike, he was discharged in the evening after having his dislocated shoulder put back in under anaesthetic, his wife picked him up and took him home on Saturday night. He later attended the Leeds fracture clinic who found he had also fractured his arm / shoulder. Tony's Commando was recovered by the AA and taken to his home, the damage wasn't too bad and included handlebars, mirrors, indicators with the worst thing being a scratched petrol tank and a buckled front wheel.

Tony's son (Russ) arranged for his wife to go up to Kendal on Sunday morning to pick up all of Tony's camping gear as Russ couldn't transport everything home on his Commando, this went fine but on the way home Russ broke down on his Commando approximately 10 miles away from his house and had to be recovered himself, his problem was a stripped exhaust thread in the cylinder head - just rounding off an eventful weekend for the family!!!

3. Ride Outs 2015 (Andy Lodge)

Saturday 27th August – Peak District ride out, Five bikes (7 people) attended the ride out which the weather forecast predicted would be dry (it was wrong!!!), The first stop was at 'The Carding Shed' at Hepworth near Holmfirth which is well worth a visit for classic vehicle fans and has the wonderful 'Oil Can Cafe' available for refreshments. Heading into the High Peak area of Derbyshire the rain started to fall leaving Glossop and never stopped after that for the duration of the ride out. 90 miles were covered on the run on great roads (even if a lot of them were wet!), the original planned route to Castleton was changed to bring the group the quickest way back to West Yorkshire due to the rain fall getting heavier, coming back across Strines Moor is normally a kidney jarring experience, but this proved to be pleasurable as the road surface has now been completely resurfaced for the entire length of the route making it once again a great biking road. Alan Sessions was a welcome visitor joining the run from the East Yorkshire branch on his 961 Norton.

Last 2016 ride out date – Saturday 24th September, meet at the Sun Inn by the Fewston reservoir at 10.00am for a 10.30am prompt start. Martin Holdsworth will lead the ride which will pass through Masham with the destination being Hawes. The route Martin is planning will be over 100 miles and will take in quite a few of the minor roads in the area.

4. Treasurers report (Peter Driver)

Peter reported that the branch has a balance of £764.58 in the bank account at the present time.

5. AGM Meeting

Andy had sent out an e-mail for alternate nominations for branch EC positions (Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer), no alternate nominations were forthcoming and as all the existing position holders were willing to continue in their roles, a proposal was made and seconded that the existing EC members should be reelected to their respective positions.

6. Any Other Business (Barrie Blayney)

A question was raised about the Kendal Rallies visit to the RGM works, with more information being sought about RGM's electric start system which is currently being developed. People who were at the visit commented that the conversion was still being developed for the Commando and that it would have a bendix type starter motor that would engage on a new clutch drum gear (similar to the new Norton 961 arrangement), unlike the Alton kit the RGM kit would reuse the existing alternator and hence should be cheaper than Alton's conversion. RGM were hoping to develop this kit to fit other Norton's in addition to the Commando. No prices were available at the present time.

The meeting was formally closed and sandwiches were provided by the staff at the Marsh.

Andy Lodge – NOC Yorkshire Branch Secretary

Don't forget all details of the branch activities can be found on our web-site -
<http://yorkshire.branches.nortonownersclub.org>

Date of next meeting 12th October 2016