



Yorkshire Branch



Branch Meeting Minutes – 12th April 2017

Venue – The Marsh, Pudsey.

1. Chairman (Barrie Blayney)

Barrie opened the meeting at 8.00pm and welcomed all 20 attendees..

2. Secretary (Andy Lodge)

Apologies for absence – Ian Jayne, Martin Holdsworth, Lawrence Wright, Dave Bell, and Peter Holland.

The first show the branch will attend is the Sowerby Bridge Classic Bike & Scooter Show being held on Sunday 28th May, the NOC marque will be erected and we will put on a display of Norton's, please support this event if you can and display your motorcycle. The event is now listed on the NOC website and in Roadholder.

The NOC Branch Secretaries meeting took place on Saturday 1st April, followed by the NOC AGM on Sunday 2nd April at the Coventry Transport Museum, 19 out of the 28 branches were represented at the secretaries meeting (including the Yorkshire Branch). The main points coming out of the meetings were:

- Total club membership is up to 6209, this includes joint members
- Action has been taken to remove some individuals from the web site forums who have posted what are deemed to be inappropriate comments
- The website technical forum postings should only be for technical matters, an 'Off-Topic' forum has been created for non-technical postings
- The NOC branch of the year award winner was Surrey
- Marcia Ripley stepped down as NOC Treasurer, her successor is Nicole Hill who is a member of the Shenstone branch and has extensive financial experience
- The NOC are going to restore 'Pa' Norton's grave in April, this has attracted a lot of media attention and some form of ceremony is scheduled for the 15th April
- The intention for future AGM's is to try to have them at the Norton Motorcycles factory at Donington every other year with the event moving around the country to encourage wider attendance levels (an estimated 70 to 80 people attended this year's event)

- The Norton Rally in 2018 is being planned by the Norfolk branch, they are planning to link it to the Weeting Steam Rally (similar to what the Devon branch did a few years ago). The dates will be the 3rd weekend in July.
- A list of NOC branch formation / closure dates was produced by Dougie Muir (Edinburgh branch), this shows the longest a Yorkshire branch has existed is 11.5 years (our branch), the previous best was 7 years!

The National Rally (Under cover rally) at Sand Bay (Pontins) 15th to 18th September 2017 has been advertised in Roadholder, bookings will be via the NOC website only (you cannot book directly with Pontins), at the time of writing the web page to book places at the event on the website should be open by 16th April. The Pontins camp is an adults only venue (no kids) which has hosted large Harley Davidson owners clubs rallies in the past (600 attendee's) so will have no problem hosting our expected numbers. Costs are expected to be approximately £83 per person based on them sharing a twin room and will include breakfast and evening meals from Friday night to Monday morning (lunch not included), a single occupancy surcharge is expected. A camp site is available locally and day admission to Pontin's is an option (£8 was mentioned). One of the attractions of the event is the opportunity to book a helicopter ride at one of the ride out visits (£40 to £45 per person).

3. Ride Outs 2017 (Andy Lodge)

Saturday 15th April – Dales Ride Out (Andy).

The meeting place will be just off the Kildwick roundabout (the last roundabout on the dual carriageway between Keighley and Skipton at the Skipton end), this roundabout is where the A629 joins the A6068. The meeting place will be the Kingfisher fish and chip shop car park, this is next to the Co Op garage just off the roundabout. The meeting time will be 9.30am for a 10.00am prompt start. Note should the weather be bad on the day the ride out will be cancelled, if in doubt call Andy on Sunday morning between 08:00am and 8:30am to confirm the ride out is going ahead.

13th / 14th May – Route and date to be decided by organiser.

Saturday 17th June - Route and date to be decided by organiser.

15th / 16th July - Route and date to be decided by organiser.

12th /13th August - Route and date to be decided by organiser.

2nd / 3rd September - Route and date to be decided by organiser.

4. Treasurers report (Peter Driver)

Peter reported that the branch has a balance of £821.58 in the bank account at the present time.

5. Any Other Business (Barrie Blayney)

A Yorkshire Branch Facebook page to share motorcycle related items has been created by. Russell Ward, members can find the entries by searching for 'Norton Owners Club Yorkshire Branch'.

New loan items have been purchased in the month, the NOC Rotary engine DVD and the Singles DVD are now available so that a full set of NOC DVD's are kept by Russ Ward for loan to members. Loan items are available only to branch members and a £10 deposit must be left with Russ for the period of the loan – please advise Russ in advance if you want to loan an item so suitable transport arrangements can be made if he needs to take items to a monthly meeting.

John Oldridge reported that he had experienced excellent service from Boyer, his Powerbox on his Model 50 failed, they quickly replaced the unit without fuss (he had kept his receipt).

Tony Ward again raised the issue about support for riders on Norton's at Norton rallies, especially the International Rallies where riders with machine problems often struggled to obtain spares whilst being far from home. Tony suggested that he thought that the club should put some round the clock emergency arrangements in place with UK Norton parts suppliers to have desperately needed parts shipped out quickly to the rally site. Also it was pointed out that the club has a van and that maybe this should be loaded up with spares and then be taken to the rally site to provide support for riders in trouble.

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 10th May 2017