



Yorkshire Branch



Branch Meeting Minutes – 11th October 2017

Venue – The Marsh, Pudsey.

1. Chairman (Russ Ward)

Russ opened the meeting at 8.00pm and welcomed all 20 attendees on the evening.

2. Secretary (Andy Lodge)

Apologies for absence – Ian Jayne, Don Tovey, Bob Nabozny and Barry Crosby.

NOC 2018 calendars – orders and payments were taken for the 2018 calendars at the meeting, 20 wall and 3 desk calendars have been ordered and hopefully will arrive in time for collection at the November branch meeting.

8 branch members attended the InCider Rally in Somerset held over the weekend 15th to 18th September. The rally was held at the Pontin's site in Sands Bay just north of Weston-Super-Mare, the site was basic but adequate for the rally and the food provided was generally very good, for the price the weekend was a bargain. Local places to visit included Wells, Cheddar Gorge, Clifton Suspension Bridge, SS Great Britain and a local helicopter museum amongst many others. The weather was generally good with many only catching rain going to and coming back from the rally. The Yorkshire branch won the general knowledge quiz on the Sunday evening and Nigel Birdsall won an award for the 'Best Rotary' at the event.

According to MCN, 'From the May 2018, vehicles over 40 years old will be exempt from MoT tests with the theory being that vehicles of such age are used rarely and well cared for. It remains the owner's responsibility to ensure the roadworthiness of their vehicles.' This means that all the original Commando models will no longer need an MoT test.

The NOC EC are planning a 'Pass the Baton' event where a trophy is to be passed between branches, this is scheduled to commence in April 2018 from the Tamar Valley branch, the trophy is scheduled to arrive at our branch in June 2021, we are then asked to pass it onto the East Yorkshire branch in July of the same year.

Teasdale Motorcycles in Thirsk are appointed Norton, KTM, Aprilia and Moto Guzzi dealers now and have a good range of new and used Norton's in their showroom, talking to their salesman at the weekend revealed that have already taken at least 6 orders for the new Norton 1200cc V4.

Don Tovey has been in touch and sent the following message:

I was wondering if anybody was going to the National Motorcycle Museum open day on Saturday November 4th. Entry to museum is free and there is an auto jumble that day. Also talks from a couple of Racers and Peter Williams will be there. I can go in my old Renault banger if anyone wants to share petrol or I will share petrol if anyone else has space in a more comfortable car.

If anybody is interested contact Don directly (Mob 07903 869577).

3. Ride Outs 2017 (Andy Lodge)

Saturday 23rd September – Forest of Bowland and Arnside

The ride started from the Trawlerman car park near the Kildwick roundabout near to Skipton, from there we headed to Slaidburn where we had a first refreshment stop. The group then headed off towards Arnside over Great How, however close to the summit Mark's Commando cut out due to what was believed to have been a Mikuni carb problem which couldn't be resolved at the road side (and the middle of nowhere!), Mark eventually had to be recovered by breakdown recovery, a special mention needs to be made for John Oldridge who stopped with Mark for many hours whilst he waited to be recovered, at the same stop Martin's T160 Trident had also started to intermittently cut out so he headed home. Just before Arnside a third problem arose when Russ had a puncture in his rear tyre! Fortunately after recently touring France / Belgium on his Commando he was able to replace the inner tube at the side of the road as he still was loaded up with lots of 'just in case' spares on the bike. After lunch at Arnside the group split up due to it being quite late in the day to make their return journeys home.

The ride out was blessed with good dry weather for the entire route, a wide variety of Norton's were present (2 Electra's, a Model 7, 2 Model 50's and 4 Commando's), 12 bikes attended the route (some actually made it all the way around!) and we had a guy on a modern T100 Triumph Scrambler who hadn't been riding long tag along for the last part of the ride, he was a Lancastrian but we overlooked that on this occasion. 163 miles were covered in the day.

This ride out completed the scheduled runs for 2017, the ride out programme will recommence in April 2018.

4. Treasurers report (Peter Holland)

Peter reported that the branch has a balance of £715.06 in the bank account at the present time.

5. Any Other Business (Russ Ward)

Peter Holland works at a school that has recently disposed of a number of hand tools that were deemed to be no longer required, Peter brought the tools along to the meeting for members to take away and asked for a small donation for any tools taken, all proceeds will be forwarded to the Yorkshire Air Ambulance.

The Chairman asked if people were interested in arranging a Christmas social event where partners could attend, one suggestion was a Curry House close to the Marsh Inn, Russ asked members to get in touch with him if they had any suggestions for a venue.

Barrie Blayney had recently been approached by a neighbor who was wanting a hobby and to get back into motorcycling, he specifically wants a Norton Featherbed framed twin, if anybody has or knows of one for sale please contact Barrie Blayney (Mob 07771 367920).

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 8th November 2017