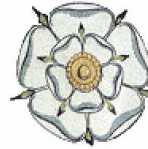




**Yorkshire  
Branch**



## **Branch Meeting Minutes – 12<sup>th</sup> February 2014**

Venue – The Marsh, Pudsey.

### **1. Chairman (Barrie Blayney)**

Barrie opened the meeting at 8pm and welcomed all 14 brave souls that attended the meeting on a stormy / cold night.

### **2. Secretary (Andy Lodge)**

Apologies for absence – Dave Bell, Don Tovey, Peter Holland, and Dave Roberts.

Reminder - The NOC East Yorkshire Branch have invited members of the Yorkshire Branch to attend a quiz night on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> April at their meeting place in Howden.

NOC heavyweight twins engine and gearbox DVD's have now been donated to the branches stock of loan items to replace the 'missing' items, these are held by Russ and like all other items require a £10 deposit if borrowed by Branch Members. The branch website has been updated to show these additional items on the 'Loan items' page.

Andy received an invitation to visit the new Norton works at Donington Hall / Hastings House on 21<sup>st</sup> January, Bruce joined Andy on the visit. A full tour of the production area was given with lots of opportunity to chat to the guys and take photo's inside the works. At the time of the visit a number of Domiracers builds were ongoing as well as 961 Commando's, the forward order book appears to be very healthy. The IOM race bikes were also seen with ongoing preparation work evident. The whole team at Norton were friendly and made us very welcome.

The NOC AGM is being held at Donington Hall on 13th April, anyone wanting to visit the factory can do so on the day of the AGM.

One additional point that came out was that Norton are thinking about training some regional dealers to sell and service their machines, one local dealer under consideration in our area is Cobb and Jagger (Ducati / Triumph dealer) in Shipley. They have already set something up with Revolutions in Perth (Scotland), 'Krazy Horse' in Bury St Edmunds and are in the process of setting something up with a M & S Motorcycles in Newcastle upon Tyne, each of these dealers will get a bike so that test rides can be booked.

### **3. Treasurers report (Peter Driver)**

Peter reported that the branch has a balance of £774.89 in the bank account at the present time.

### **4. Ride Outs 2014 (Andy Lodge)**

A list of ride outs dates for 2014 has been put together, these have been compiled so as not to clash with motorcycle / other events that may be of interest to branch members. Six weekend dates have been proposed with one ride out being scheduled each month from April through to September inclusive, these are as follows:

- Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> April (Andy) – Route, etc to be arranged.
- 17<sup>th</sup> / 18<sup>th</sup> May (?)
- Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June (Sunday is Father's Day) (?)
- 19<sup>th</sup> / 20<sup>th</sup> July (?)
- 9<sup>th</sup> / 10<sup>th</sup> August (?)
- 20<sup>th</sup> / 21<sup>st</sup> September (?)

(the dates are all Saturdays or Sundays, a ride out will occur on either the Saturday or Sunday, this choice being left to the organiser of the ride out)

Volunteers were again requested to come forward to organise at least one of the ride outs, the organiser will have to select a route, meeting place and decide which date they want to organise the ride out on. Volunteers need to contact Andy ASAP so the programme can be set up. Russ Ward volunteered to organise at least one run, Martin Holdsworth did likewise but was waiting for shift rota's to be set at his place of work before he could commit to a date.

### **5. NOC events 2014 (Andy Lodge)**

Information was circulated to all branch members in January about the International Rally in Bremen and the Norton Festival in Devon. One member had requested copies of the Devon application form, a number were available at the meeting for interested parties.

A discussion took place at the January meeting amongst members about potential show venues in Yorkshire where the branch could put on an NOC display and erect our branch tent, the Otley Vintage Transport Extravaganza (Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2014) was mentioned, as per the Hebden Bridge event this event donates all proceeds to charity.

Dave Roberts had been in touch and stated that a bike show was being arranged in May by the Sowerby Bridge Rotary Club (not a rotary motorcycle club!), he thought we would be able to take our tent and put on a display, this will be discussed further at future meetings.

## **6. Branch 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (2015)**

Barrie asked that members consider what the branch should do in 2015 to commemorate the branch's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary in its present form, the first meeting of the current branch occurred in September 2005. Again this will be discussed further at a future meeting (the NOC are requesting branch's volunteer to hold one of their official events in 2015, maybe we consider this?).

## **7. Proposal for Branch Pastoral Officer (Peter Driver)**

Peter explained to the group how he'd been unofficially keeping in touch with a number of regular branch meeting members who were unable to attend meetings due to problematic personal or health issues. Our Chairman had asked if Peter would be willing to make this a bit more formal if members agreed, so Peter would get in touch and offer his professional help should individuals want it or find it a comfort. Peter had explained that he had got a lot of experience in this field and was a trained bereavement counselor, a carer support officer for Kirklees and was training to be a Methodist lay preacher. No objections were raised to this proposal and the group generally felt that Peter's efforts in this field were praise worthy. So in addition to being the branch treasurer Peter is now our Pastoral Officer.

Peter stated that he will not be trying to be intrusive, but will be available should regular branch members feel they want some support.

## **8. Any Other Business (Barrie Blayney)**

No other business was raised, the meeting was formally closed and sandwiches were provided by the staff at the Marsh.

Andy Lodge – Yorkshire Branch Secretary

Date of next meeting 12<sup>th</sup> March 2014