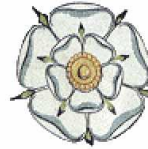




**Yorkshire
Branch**



Branch Meeting Minutes – 14th May 2014

Venue – The Marsh, Pudsey.

1. Chairman (Barrie Blayney)

Barrie opened the meeting at 8pm and welcomed all 16 branch members that attended the meeting. A good selection of bikes were present at the meeting, these included John Oldridge's Model 50, Geoff Drury's Model 99 and Peter Holland's Electra.

2. Secretary (Andy Lodge)

Apologies for absence – Dave Bell, Barry Lodge, Dave Roberts, Nigel Birdsall, Barry Crosby, Owen Walker and Ian Jayne.

Bruce Senior, Dave Bell, Bill Easton and Andy Lodge attended the NOC AGM at Donington Hall to represent the Yorkshire Branch on Sunday 13th April. The agenda items included:

- The club's financial situation – which is healthy.
- The potential purchase of Norvil Motorcycles, discussions were authorised to continue but any further action would need to be approved by members.
- A presentation by Lembit Opik from the Motorcycle Action Group (MAG).
- Formal election of EC officers (unfortunately Peter Holland was unsuccessful in his bid to become Web and Data Manager – Peter lost by 7 votes on the members vote).
- Event rebranding – the EC said that they would look again at the recent changes following comments by members.
- A 2015 rally will take place in Snowdonia, Wales – details to be confirmed.
- It was acknowledged that the calendar team had done a good job over the past 3-years, volunteers for the 2015 calendar production were requested, members of the Norfolk Branch and Peter Cocks volunteered to produce the next calendar.
- A club room at the new Norton Motorcycles works is kindly being provided by Stuart Garner for use by the club. Stuart Garner also stated that he is planning to have a Norton event at the factory in September of this year.

Five members of the Yorkshire branch made the journey across to Howden to take part in the East Yorkshire branch quiz night, 5 or 6 teams were formed with Yorkshire branch members (Bruce, John, Peter, Barrie and Andy) making up one team. Surprisingly our team answered the most questions correctly and were awarded a gallon of beer as their prize. Thanks go to our hosts for an entertaining evening and also to John Preston for making the longest trek and for answering a number of tough general biking questions.

Rolling 40 year exemption for classic vehicles implemented – As of 1st April 2014 vehicles made before 1st January 1974 are tax exempt, vehicles made before 1st January 1975 will be tax exempt from 1st April 2015 and this now increments on a yearly basis every 1st April 😊 , however it appears that individuals will have to apply for the tax exemption, it won't be automatically applied.

A number of members have previously contacted Andy via his home land line telephone, Andy has now got rid of this land line so contact can now only be made via his mobile (07810 658994) or E-mail.

3. Treasurers report (Peter Driver)

Peter reported that the branch has a balance of £816.89 in the bank account at the present time.

4. Ride Outs 2014 (Andy Lodge)

Saturday 19th April (Andy) – Dales run. 13 bikes joined the run (8 Norton's), the morning was dry and cool but the sunshine came out and a good run was enjoyed by all. Planned stops occurred at Ripon and Hawes, with the only casualty being Owen's Atlas that broke a main stand spring and lost a mirror, the stand was tied in place and Owen was able to continue with the run. Peter Austin (from Yarm) was a welcome visitor and joined the run from the start, Peter made his own way home from Hawes. 173 miles were covered in the day. Geoff Drury brought his wife along (Margaret), it was nice to see another lady joining in on one of the branch ride outs.

The next ride out occurs on Sunday 18th May (this Sunday) Martin Holdsworth has kindly volunteered to lead the run to the Masham / Tan Hill area. Meeting place is the Sun Inn near Fewston at 09.30am for a 10.00am prompt start.

Future ride out dates are as follows:

- Saturday 14th June (Sunday is Father's Day) - Peter Holland has kindly volunteered to organise another Trough of Bowland run, hopefully it will be a bit drier this year!
- 19th / 20th July (Volunteer required to organise)
- 9th / 10th August (Volunteer required to organise)
- 20th / 21st September (Volunteer required to organise)

(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).

5. Branch 10th Anniversary (2015) (Bruce Senior)

Bruce requested that members consider suitable venues for a camping / B&B event later this year, again the camp site at Dent and a location close to Hardraw (near Hawes) was mentioned on the evening, further discussions on this will take place at future meetings.

6. Any Other Business (Barrie Blayney)

Reminder - The Sowerby Bridge classic bike show takes place on Sunday 25th May, the branch has been allocated a prime location by Dave Roberts where we can erect our tent and put on a display of Norton motorcycles, six members have registered their machines for this event. Note this event has been listed in both the Classic Motorcycle and Classic Bike Guide magazines.

Bill Easton raised the issue of the potential purchase of Norvil by the NOC, at the AGM 2 or 3 people who had business experience raised their concerns about the potential purchase, one member had reviewed the unaudited accounts of Norvil and expressed his concern about the health of the business, again this topic created a very lively and healthy discussion amongst members.

Peter Driver has been in touch with Ian Jayne who is presently experiencing terrible family upset as his daughter Rachael and his granddaughter Flora are both very poorly, the branch members expressed their support for Ian who was the founding member of the branch in its current form, hopefully both Rachael and Flora will make swift recoveries.

An additional piece of equipment has been added to the branch stock of loan items, a cylindrical honing kit with a range of 18mm to 89mm has been purchased from Sealey Products and is now available to members.

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

Andy Lodge – Yorkshire Branch Secretary

Date of next meeting 11th June 2014