



## Yorkshire Branch



# Branch Meeting Minutes – 8<sup>th</sup> May 2019

Venue – The Marsh, Pudsey.

### 1. Chairman (Russ Ward)

Russ opened the meeting at 8.30pm and welcomed all 13 attendees on the evening.

### 2. Secretary (Andy Lodge)

Apologies for absence – Martin Holdsworth, John Oldridge, Lawrence Wright,

The 2019 Sowerby Bridge Classic Bike and Scooter show takes place over the next Bank Holiday weekend (Sunday May 26<sup>th</sup>). The VMCC and the Norton Owners Club Gazebo's will be erected at the event. The show opens to the public between 11.00am and 4.00pm but the gazebo should be erected the day before so those attending and displaying a Norton could turn up at 10.00am. Pre booking with Dave Roberts is recommended (Tel 01422 836044 or Mobile 07710 126145), entries are accepted on the day but numbers are restricted so if not pre booked best attend early. If you can please support this charity fund raising event. The event is held at the Shire Cruises Wharf, Sowerby Bridge. HX3 2AG.

Barrie Blayney notified Andy about the new law relating to acid packs supplied with batteries, this is a section from the MCN web-site:

*A new law has come into being stating that anyone who wishes to purchase a dry motorcycle battery with a separate acid pack will now require a valid Explosives, Precursors and Poisons (EPP) licence. The ruling, which came into force from July 1 2018, means that anyone purchasing a battery of this kind without the correct licence could be charged with a criminal offence and comes as part of a larger counter terrorism initiative, known as CONTEST. Acid packs contain sulfuric acid, which could be used as a precursor to the production of explosives. Anyone who has already purchased a dry battery prior to July 1 must also fill their batteries by November 1 2018, or could also be penalised, should they not have the correct licence.*

*The law change will apply to the purchasing of any sulfuric acid with a concentration of more than 15%, as per the Poisons Act 1972. Applications for the qualification are available online at [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) at a cost of £39.50 to either purchase or renew a licence. Replacing an existing one will cost £25. Amending your licence is free. The change in the law is expected to have huge implications for the motorcycle battery market, with motoring retail chain Halfords already deciding to end the sale of dry batteries in their stores and online.*

*A spokesperson for the firm, Ella Colley, spoke to MCN and said: "Halfords has removed dry batteries from sale across its estate. We anticipate that customers will be unwilling to pay for a licence, which in some cases will cost more than the product itself. "The licence costs £39.50 and batteries start from £22. Whilst we have removed all dry batteries from sale, customers will now be able to purchase the same part numbers (the equivalent product) in a wet (pre-filled and charged) format."*

*MCN also spoke to James Douglas, who is a Marketing Executive at Yuasa - the UK market leader in motorcycle batteries and the OE supplier to many large manufacturers. "The legislation was announced on April 9 and we were aware of the change within a week. We are now going to monitor the market and see how it reacts to the rule change and how customer behavior changes and then react upon that," James said. "We think most people aren't going to buy that type of battery. Most people are just going to have theirs filled by a dealer. This is where the dealers come into it because they have the skills to fill these batteries and people are going to rely on that." The firm also claim that over 75% of their current products sold in either their Yuasa or GS battery ranges are currently sold with a separate acid pack.*

Five branch members attended the NOC AGM at the National Waterways Museum in Ellesmere Port, a brief review of the event was given at the meeting, full minutes will be published on the NOC website in due course.

A branch 'WhatsApp' group has been set up for Norton / motorcycle related communication between group members, members already on WhatsApp have been added to the group, if members want to join the group they will need to download the App onto their smart phone and inform Andy so he can add them to the group. This App is useful for sharing photo's, letting people know what you're doing biking wise or maybe even letting people know you are going out for a ride and they can join you if they want. The App is a very quick way of getting information out to people instantly.

The NOC is looking for volunteer(s) to fill the post of Merchandise Officer. The person(s) elected will be responsible for fulfilling merchandise orders (usually received via web site), negotiating with suppliers, stock keeping and submitting computer generated monthly sales sheet to the clubs Treasurer. You will need to have some basic computer skills and be prepared to commit several hours a week to this interesting position. Sadly, our calendar team have decided to move on after many years; this means there is an opening for Calendar Manager. This role entails design of the calendars, sourcing suitable photographs, liaising with printers, advertising the calendar and fulfilling the orders. If you think you might be interested in either of these important roles please contact the club secretary, contact telephone: 0118 9831 351 or email: [secretary@nortonownersclub.com](mailto:secretary@nortonownersclub.com)

### **3. Ride Outs 2019 (Andy Lodge)**

The first branch ride out of the year took place on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April, a record 21 bikes (25 people) turned up on a gloriously sunny start to the branch ride out season. The group made it's way towards Colne but then proceeded to ride over to Gargrave, Malham, and Arncliffe before stopping for a lunch break at Kilnsey fish farm, 2 members of the group who got lost along the way met up at the fish farm. After the break most of the

group then made their way to the Fewston reservoir for an ice cream stop before riding home. 112 miles were covered on the day.

The next branch ride out will be to the east coast and will be a joint ride out with the East Yorkshire branch. The date for this ride out is Saturday 18th May and the meeting place will be at the old Little Chef car park (now Gregg's and Burger King I believe) on the eastbound A64 by Tadcaster. Meeting time will be 10.00am for a 10:30am start. From the meeting point the group will ride over to Fridaythorpe (Seaways Café) where we will meet with members of the East Yorkshire branch at 11.30am to 12 noon. Peter Shand (East Yorkshire branch Chairman) will then lead the group on a ride to the coast.

#### **4. Treasurers report (Peter Holland)**

In Peter's absence no sub's were collected on the evening so the branch account balance should still be £696.

#### **5. Any Other Business (Russ Ward)**

Barry Crosby advised members that the Thornes Park, Wakefield Classic Vehicle Rally organized by the Fleur-De-Lys Classic Vehicle Society is taking place on the evening of Friday 5th July.

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 12<sup>th</sup> June 2019