



Branch Meeting Minutes 11th February 2025

Venue – The Marsh, Pudsey.

1. Chairman (Russ Ward)

Russ welcomed all 15 attendees then opened the meeting at 8.30 pm.

2. Secretary (Andy Lodge)

Apologies for absence – Ian Bannister, Ian Barnes, John Oldridge, Bruce Senior, Nigel Birdsall and Barry Crosby.

Thursday 16th January was the the third Thursday of the month day time meeting at Squires cafe, 6 branch members turned up (3 on their bikes), the temperature was just above freezing and the roads were icy in some places so care had to be taken whilst riding. Thursday the 20th February at 11.00am will be the next time we meet.

Events planned by the NOC this year:-

*** AGM and Branch Secretaries Meeting 5th/6th April 2025**

*** International Rally 2025**

The International Rally will be held in Guerande, France on 12th/16th June, the first and last days being arrival and departure days. The Yorkshire branch has 12 members who've booked for the event so far, so we will be very well represented.

*** Norton Day 2025**

Norton Day will be held at the Prescott Bike festival on June 22nd. There will be the opportunity to try your hand on the hill climb or just watch others and admire the bikes. Camping overnight on the 21st will be available. Full details will be shortly available on the website.

*** National Rally 2025**

The NOC National Rally will take place on 4th, 5th and 6th July 2025. The venue will be Keynsham Rugby Football Club, Bristol Road. BS31 2BE.

Our hosts this year will be the Bristol Branch who will be arranging a choice of rides out including at least one through the Cheddar Gorge. The Branch is also making plans for on site activities, a little reminiscent of rallies in the past!

This is a camping rally with space for tents, camper vans and caravans. For those wishing for greater creature comforts, there are a number of B&B's and hotels within the vicinity. We will be entertained by live music on Saturday evening. Food will be available on site. We have arranged for people to stay over on Sunday night and travel back home on Monday if required.

Booking will be online via the NOC website. We are looking to commence booking by the 10th of February. 8 branch members have booked accommodation locally in advance of the rally booking opening.

To celebrate 75 years since the Featherbed frame was first used on a Norton, the club is issuing branch secretaries with a number of commemorative badges for issue to those who regularly get involved with branch activities, Andy has requested that the branch gets 20 badges provided.

The club has again been invited to attend the Hebden Bridge Vintage weekend over the weekend of August 2nd and 3rd. A double pitch for the Sunday only would cost £70.74 which the branch could claim back from the NOC. Last year after some negotiation we were able to get 10 free admissions for those displaying their Norton's, members at the meeting agreed that we'd like to support this event again if we can get the same arrangement this year. Andy will discuss this with the event organisers.

A request has been received by both our branch and the East Yorkshire branch, to see if anybody with a Model 7 Norton can escort a funeral procession on the 21st February at 10.15am for a distance of a mile in the Snaith area (to the east of Doncaster), the granddaughter of the deceased guy says that he owned a Model 7 and in his younger days and used to go up and down the country repairing Norton's. Unfortunately our branch is unable to help with this request.

3. Ride Outs 2024 (Andy Lodge)

The series of scheduled ride outs for 2024 has been completed, the next planned ride out will be in April 2025.

4. Treasurers report (Peter Holland)

Peter reported that the branch funds stand at £616.

5. Any Other Business (Andy Lodge)

Peter Holland informed the group that following the recent floods in Valencia, one of the NOC members (Martin Bernert) who lives in the area had his workshop flooded, this caused extensive damage to bikes in the workshop. Peter has volunteered to travel to Valencia to help Martin restore/repair the damaged machines.

Brian advised members that a motorcycle clothing auction advertised in East Yorkshire was to occur due to a business shutting down, he noted that extra charges would apply to the cost of the goods, due to VAT and admin costs that would add 27% to the purchase price.

The increased insurance premiums for motorcycle insurance was again discussed, this time a 66% increase was the subject of the discussion, even though no conditions regarding the rider had changed.

The meeting was formally closed.

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 is Tuesday 11th March 2025.