



Beware!!!

The Annual General Meeting is at hand!!!!

Where: Melton Constable, Seaton Sluice:

When: Monday 17th March, 8 p.m. (Dare we say “prompt”?)

With free sandwiches!

Compared to last year’s meeting this should be relaxingly simple.

Why: No Rally!!!!!!!!!! Hooray!!!!!

Which means we can think about OURSELVES!!

Ok we have got to get through the routine stuff first. Like election of officers. It would appear Bob, myself, and Simon are mad enough to continue as chairman, secretary and treasurer as before (I think). If anyone else wants to stand for the job, send your proposed victim’s name to the Sec. (That’s me – John).

And there is various other boring stuff (I’m listing it at the end of the newsletter so as not to put you off reading the rest - - -)

The real question is: Without a rally, what are we going to do in 2014????

Here’s a loose programme, not as a “fait accompli” but as a framework for discussion.

It looks like this:

April 13th : Main Club AGM at the new palace of the Norton factory at Donnington Hall

Holiday weekend 3, 4, and 5 May – In the past, I’ve tried joining with the Enfield club camp at the Demesne Farm camp site at Bellingham. But nobody else seemed that interested. Do we want to do this in 2014? Or something else?

Clive Taylor memorial Run? - if in May, Sunday 11 is the only May date that is OK by me, if leading the run as re-elected Branch Sec. It could be moved to a later month if members prefer. Same route? New route?

June – camping weekend at Wooler 6-8 seems the obvious choice. Camp site is available. BBQ as before. Is everyone happy to continue with “Wooler”? Would you come - - - - ??

NB there is a “Do” at the Aln Valley railway that weekend and Tony says that we are enthusiastically invited. . Maybe we could visit on the way back on the Sunday? At the moment no info on the Aln Valley Railway web site. (Tony: you also mentioned a “vintage rally” – is this the same thing?)

June 20-22. National Rally in Norfolk. Bob’s going, and so am I. Neil talked about it - - - .anyone else? Info for branch members who are not members of the main club: you are welcome but there is a £5 surcharge. Maybe same situation for the International/Euro rally but I have not been able to get an answer to that one. Booking information on Nortonownersclub website, or “Roadholder” mag shortly

July: (And Shows). July is blank. **BUT:** We have something of a moral obligation to put on a show **somewhere** – but bear in mind that for a show, you need motorcycles to SHOW – here are 3 choices:

- Otterburn as before. Dates not published but most likely 20th July.
- Corbridge steam etc rally. Also does old vehicles. Bob has made enquiries and we could go and probably put up a gazebo. Date: Sunday 6th July
- Druridge bay. Bikes from the National rally last year went on to Druridge bay. As a result we are now INVITED BACK! They’d LOVE TO HAVE US. But this is in August – Sunday 3rd (Correct, Tony?). NB I may well be off boating so someone else might have to handle this one if we go for it. (Or we could go anyhow, as well as to one of the others, with or without gazebo etc.)

Also August 1st-3rd: Main club Norton festival, Devon. A long way for us, but it looks like the Devonians are really putting in an effort to make this gathering a winner. Re. booking in – I have been sent full info and can forward it by e-mail. A nice route South includes the Fosse way – runs from Lincoln down as far as Yeoville (with breaks). Nicest bit is Leicester-Cirencester.

August 14-18 is the International/Euro. rally at Bremen. This one is easy – Boat from N Shields to Ijmuiden, and then a day’s run via the “Afsluitdijk” (across the top of the Ijsselmeer/Zuider Zee). Bob and Ginetta are going and will spend more time, touring. I MAY go – but just a quickie: no touring. Anyone else? – sharing cabins saves money.

September: David Templeton from Tay Valley tried Moffatt a while back and the BMW lot had **already** beaten us to it. It looks like we will be going to Yetholm. Campbell Adie from Aberdeen, who some of you know, knows the site well and recommends it. It is right in the village. 12-14 Sept.

Kamtrek? 28 Sept looks good with the amazingly advanced motorcyclists, so this looks the most likely date to get a goodly number of supporters. The more come the less chance you have of winning – and the winner gets to organise next year’s.

Bob has also suggested a group ride sometime to the maritime museum at Hartlepool. For anyone who has not been, it is superb.

The BSA club – are they now with us for some activities? - most welcome!

Anything other ideas.

Other things to talk about at the AGM (some boring).

Finances, Chairman, Branch sec and treasurer reports.

Minutes of last AGM: I can e-mail these, with answers added for some of the “matters arising” if you like.

Usual question about subs, and where we meet. However “Where we meet” may be more relevant this time: numbers sometimes quite big for the “Shoes” – and if the very welcome BSA men come often – then numbers even bigger.

Evening rides?????????

By the way – this is what the Devon lot have in store for their Norton Festival:

Norton Motorcycles TT Bike

Norton WORLD RECORD Rotary Motorbike

Largest gathering of Norton's Commando 961's

Once in a lifetime chance to hear MULTIPLE Manx Norton's starting up and running on open megaphones

The Oldest Norton Left in the world

Steve Sprays actual road going Norton F1

1 of only 4 Norton Dirt track bikes left in the world

The 1926 Maude's trophy winning Norton Combination

Tour of worlds largest private collection of Norton's

Wall of Death

2 Poker runs for all riders 40 miles and 80 miles

Beer Festival

Evening entertainment every night in Beer tent

Multiple food, drink, beer, cider caterers available all day and evenings

Round robin train, boat, classic bus ride

Raffle prize!!!! THIS IS THE BIG ONE!!! 1st prize is a SIGNED tyre from NORTON'S actual TT BIKE on display podium, other prizes including £100 voucher from Norvil and more to come!

AND NOW FOR SOMETHING COMPLETELY DIFFERENT!!



Resoration/Rebuild/ Construction near completion. John Parks’ “Approximately ES2” with engine restored/bodged by Richard.

Which includes making up a crankshaft using one of the flywheels and another borrowed from elsewhere.

Plus:

Frame and engine early post-war

Oil tank off a pre-war International. A gift. (John has a picture of the International in question going round the IOM, with HIS OIL TANK on it.)

Tank painted to match the oil tank.

“Inter” Exhaust pipe and numerous other bits via NOC spares scheme

More bits off EBay

Cam profiles similar to 650SS

Increased compression ratio

Majestic carburettor – as displayed here, Amal Mark 2, made in Spain

Still a couple of small jobs – and it needs registering.

BUT IT STARTS: 1st kick: “Chuff”.

2nd Kick: “Put-Put-Put-Put” - - -

- in fact, **PUT-PUT-PUT-PUT!!!**

It Goes! (Whether or not it stops is still to be established)



Here's the mighty carburettor!

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