



Northumbria Branch Newsletter

April 2009 (being the "Tappity John newsletter", by Tappity John, Northumbria)

(This is a SMALLER newsletter, you will be pleased to hear -

Small

Small

Small

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Small)

So maybe I just don't have to write any more - ---)

BUT

It is my duty to tell you:

What happened at the ANNUAL GENERAL meeting!!!!!!!!!!!!

(If you could not be there: actually half our members made it ---- a good turn out!)

The first act of the new committee was to weaken. Which means even if you have not sent the secretary your £5.00 **BRANCH** membership fee for this year, you will **still** get this newsletter, but this will definitely be the last. We even discussed a "name and shame" programme (like on the Metro).

If you have not paid, and this is absolutely separate and in addition to your main club subscription, PLEASE send a cheque for £5.00 made out to "Norton Owners Club". Send it to:

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Well, our AGM was a bit more like a REAL AGM, though we could have done a bit better – I mean no obscure points of order, nobody walked out in a huff, it actually was all quite quick, (a REAL AGM should drag on for ever - -) but we did manage to get two resignations, and a third threatened! - - - Firstly there are these changes to the committee -

Clive Taylor Mark one has RESIGNED as treasurer. He says he has been doing the job since he was a wee lad. Simon Murray put his head above the parapet, and duly got elected.

Jim Fraser does not want to be “events” coordinator any more. Dave Wardle is in a hyperactive events frenzy, but is still stuck being secretary, because he cannot resign. We concluded:

- coordination is needed and someone needs to fit our programme as best we can to the events going on around us (i.e no clashes with Main Club events , and with other events members like to attend) - as well as letting members know what is on generally in the region. Actual BRANCH EVENTS like our camping weekends will continue as before on an “ad hoc” basis. Jim will do Wooler, and Dave will do the other camping weekends. Last year your scribe put up the stand at Stamfordham (more on that later) and so on- so - - - -

The general plan for the “events coordinator” and “secretary” jobs is:

This year – Dave will continue as secretary and combine it with the coordinator job

Next year – Clive 2 is happy to stand as secretary, and if he, or anyone else gets elected to take over the Secretary job, Dave can resign if he wishes, properly, and will offer himself to be 100% events.

To help with the organisation of events, the branch will subscribe to Morgan’s Diary, kept by Dave, available for your reference.

Bob Tym continues to be chair-bloke

Your tappity scribe continues to tappit.

Branch Events are :

Wooler Camp. We have had to jump the gun and set a date, because “Roadholder” needed to know in time. So its 5-7 June, campsite, **North** side of the town. **THE BRANCH WILL COVER CAMPING FEES FOR PAID-UP MEMBERS, MAX 2 NIGHTS.** Also, see attached list of accommodation in the area. We may barbecue if the weather is suitable.

Ugthorpe Hall camp, near Whitby (on left side of A171 as you head towards Whitby approx 2 ½ miles beyond end of Scaling Dam reservoir) : 26-28 June. Described as being “like a continental site”. B&B also available on site. Dave is your contact. 01670 820424.

Coniston: the old Torver site is now changed to the Coniston Hall Campsite. Approx 1 miles S. of Coniston town, opposite a church is a turning down to the hall. Dates will be Thurs. 23rd to 26th July to correspond with the Great Cumbria Steam Rally. Contact Dave Wardle.

August, Sunday 2nd Aug : Tyne Valley Classic Bike club’s show – see below.

Late Aug at the IOM, and by popular request, Northumbria NOC will be official “greeters” at the Manx Reunion, at the Shore Hotel, Laxey. **IMPORTANT:** The date is Tuesday after

bank holiday Monday (which I make 1st Sept), **not as announced in “Roadholder”**. A group from Northumbria will be riding over. Talk to Dave Wardle. (Dave says racing days are Aug 31, and 2nd and 4th of Sept).

The Middleton-in-Teesdale camp: campsite on southern edge of the town, just across the river. 18th-20th Sept. If you hear reports that the village is running low on pubs, don't panic, because there is a bar at the campsite, usually with bar meals. Your contact is, again, Dave Wardle.

Kamtrek Treasure Hunt – end of September. This date worked really well last year, with no clashes with other events, and good weather. The choice of weekend to be announced later. Organiser is Clive Taylor mark 2, who retires in July and will have more time for really important things.

(Dave says there is a classic car and bike show at Kielder Castle on 10th May – anyone interested?)

Do you like the idea of Midweek evening rides? What's this got to do with data protection?:

The idea has been put forward with enthusiasm (by Alan Miller, whose Commando now functions again) that mid-week evening runs would be a **good idea**. (we did some once). The best time to decide to go out on an evening run is when we know the weather is good. So it's short notice. We want to try texting interested parties on their mobiles. Dave has mobile numbers for a lot of us, and if you are interested, and he does not have your number, tell him. **TELL HIM TOO IF YOU WANT YOUR MOBILE NUMBER KEPT CONFIDENTIAL – I.E. NOT DIVULGED FOR THIS PURPOSE.** His phone number is 01670 820424. His e-mail is davidwardle@hotmail.co.uk (no secret here - - -) - Dave, you can put my mobile number down for possible evening rides: 07802 257800.

Who will be doing what (so far - - -)

Norton Jubilee weekend – looks like being Jim Fraser, Clive 2, Alan Miller, Simon Murray and myself. Clive2 is happy to be contact bloke. Tel 0191 266 6088. E-mail cetaylor@hotmail.co.uk. Jim thinks he may take down the Norton Northumbria Banner so we can make an exhibition of ourselves!

National Rally – nobody so far. It's a LONG way off.

International, Austria – Bob Tym, Clive Taylor mark 2, and your scribe (= me). Its even further.

Manx GP – a brace of Clives, Dave Wardle, John Turnbull, maybe others.

Alan Miller is going to a “pre 65” rally at Kinlochleven – May-day holiday – travelling up Fri night.

CONGRATULATIONS:

A vote of congratulations to Don Richards for his win as Best in Show at Mallory Park last year with his model 77 Dommi (Only Don was not at the AGM to hear it - - -)
High praises too to Brian Hutchinson for his win at the Sterling NOC rally (he was not at the AGM either).

Anyhow you both know you are highly praised.

(Note re. Tyne Valley Classic Bike Club Show.)

Since the end of the Corbridge shows , the Tyne Valley Club shows have had a lot of bad luck with sites. Last year's show which was held for the first time on the village green at Stamfordham (a superb site) , showed great promise for the future - but it was not to be.

The pub (Tyne Valley's Club Pub) closed. And with it went the catering. They have moved their club house to the Robin Hood, a bit West of Harlow-on-the-Hill on the military road. They will hold the usual "show" on a small field/lawn/paddock behind the pub. While the grassed area is about as big as the area occupied by bikes last year, there is no extra space for future expansion. I imagine plenty of bikes will turn up, but this site may become more of a "meet" than a show with stands.

However the latest from Robin Watson, of the Tyne Valley Club, is that the pub in Stamfordham has re-opened. There is just a possibility the show may return. It was left at our AGM that if the venue returned to Stamfordham, we would put up a stand (I am happy to do this – jobs change: I did the first Wooler camp, and now Jim does that -). If it stays at the Robin Hood, due to the limitations (especially space) we will not. But you should know that we are definitely invited to attend, and if we really WANT to, we even can actually put up a stand at either site.

There is a general question: do we as a club want to put up a stand at any show? I'm happy to do one, if the date fits. Or maybe someone else would like to. The idea of Otterburn came up but I'm away.

Ian Crooks:

A **letter** came (old fashioned device involving licking of envelopes, most insanitary). It was from Ian Crooks. He told me:

- he really IS a member in spite of allegations from the main club.
- my last newsletter was **WRONG** (Note this!), because the Jimmie Guthrie Run is on 21st June, not 13th, which clashes with a NOC event.
- His Model 7 is BORN AGAIN! He writes "Old reg. Recovered!. Now tweaking on roads in these parts. Some oil,, no brakes, but goes like a train – hope to see you at Wooler – will camp- all the best"

(Bikes with "7" in the name seem all the rage just now.)

See you on the road – hope not literally

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