



# Newsletter

January 2014

## Collection correction

Just before the holidays, we had the usual office night out. It's billed as a "gentleman's" night and it probably says a lot about the company that there has never been a press of females citing equality legislation and demanding an invite.

Over dinner, particularly amongst the senior staff, it was revealed there was an interest in "collecting" – one collected stamps another model cars and a third model railway engines. Although these things don't actually interest me, I often find that when people are enthusiastic about something, I can quite enjoy hearing their tales. After bit of discussion comparing the best way to display and light their various objects to best effect, one of the party enquired "You have a collection of motorbikes don't you?"

I have to say I was a bit taken aback. I have never thought of myself as a collector or of my bikes as collectors items (other than when they are collected by the AA, but that doesn't count). In fact, I think the noun for what I have in the shed would be a "pile" rather than a collection.

Yes, I do have more than one 'bike, but I also have more than one pair of trousers and that doesn't make me a trouser collector. I have several pairs of trousers so that I can wear different ones on appropriate occasions and it's the same with the 'bikes. The Tiger for clattering about back roads, the Commando for riding just about anywhere and the Monster for riding just about anywhere at a slightly quicker pace.

What about you – multiple 'bike owner or collector?

## Resurrection Man

Sandy Bloy has been hard at work bringing another Norton back from the grave. He sent me these before and after pictures of the 1961 99 he has had on the bench. Might be for sale, and if you are interested, contact Sandy.



*Before...*



*..and after.*

## Spares

I have been boring you recently with tales of Commando mechanical mayhem. The good news is that the machining to the base of the barrel seems to have done the trick.

Gradually increasing the cruising speed hasn't brought back the flood of oil collecting around the timing side, and the weep showing below the exhaust post I expect to have disappeared after re-tightening the head.

Doing some work on the Tiger recently, reminded me how well served we are with spares suppliers for the Commando. There's no getting away from the fact that the quality of the spares can be a bit hit-or-miss, but we do have several retailers who can supply almost every part you could want from stock and from easy to use web-shops or parts list. Admittedly the Triumph is sixty years old, but even armed with factory part numbers I was going round and round trying to make up a sensible list, even ordering parts from the USA! One dealer has the bushes but no circlips, another can supply part of the order but only takes cash or cheques, another charges double postage to send to Argyll and so on.

Compared to going onto Andover Nortons on-line parts books and building up your list by point and click, it all very frustrating and time consuming. Some would say character building

## Events

Time again to be thinking about the coming years events. I'm thinking a combination of some tried and tested runs and camping weekends but also might be good to try some new places. If you have found somewhere on your travels that you think would be a good venue or a route for a run, let me know. I've made up a sample calendar with the events I know about and have thrown in some dates as suggestions and for discussion. Any events that are "organised" by the Branch are some open to change, obviously other clubs & branches are beyond our control and should be seen as fixed! As the other local Classic events are published they can be added in. For more details on NOC events, check the Roadholder or NOC website.

## Draft Events 2014

TVNOC Huntygowks meeting  
April 6, 2014  
Powmill tea shack

NOC Annual General Meeting  
Apr 13, 2014 from 11:00 AM to 04:00 PM  
Norton Motorcycles Ltd. (UK), Donington Hall, Castle  
Donington, DE74 2SG

Norfolk Branch Camping Weekend  
May 09, 2014 to May 11, 2014  
Mill Farm, Wells-next-the-Sea, NR23 1RE

TVNOC Camping Weekend  
May 24, 2014 to May 25 2014  
Rogart or suggestions?

Ayr Classic Motorcycle Show  
7 Jun, 2014  
Ayr Racecourse

NOC National Rally  
Jun 20 to Jun 22, 2014  
Hingham Sports and Social Club, Watton Road,  
Hingham, NR9 4HB

TVNOC Applecross Weekend  
Jun 28, 2014 to Jun 29, 2014  
Applecross camp site

Norton Club Nederland Rally  
Jun 20, 2014 to Jun 22, 2014  
K.W.C. Hoeve, Haatlanderdijk 29a, 8263 AP Kampen,  
Holland

NOC Summer Party and Norton Day  
Aug 01, 2014 to Aug 03, 2014  
Steam Rally Field, Churston, Brixham, TQ5 0LH

NOC International Rally  
Aug 14, 2014 to Aug 18, 2014  
An Stadtwaldsee, Bremen, Germany

Belgium-Flanders Branch Begonia Rally 2014  
Aug 22, 2014 to Aug 24, 2014  
Open Huis, Ieperstraat 157, Staden-Vijfwegen, Belgium

TVNOC Borders weekend  
Sept 13, 2014 to Sept 14, 2014  
Moffat camp site

Farming Yesteryear  
14 Sept, 2014  
Scone palace

TVNOC Autumn meeting  
Oct 26, 2014  
Tullybanocher café, Comrie