



Newsletter

August 2022

Time flies like an arrow...

...but fruit flies like a banana.

Well, its been a while since you had this drivel plaguing your inbox, almost two years I think. That's partly down to my poor motivation and a lack of anything resembling news. Actually, that's not true, I've just felt ill inclined to pretend things were right or normal, but it's time to get back on the horse as they say.

It's mid August, the sun has been shining and today was the first time I've been soaked while riding in almost a week.

So what's been happening in the TVNOC? Well, back in April we had the normal season opening Huntigowks meeting at Tullybannocher. A great turnout of Nortons and, somewhat mysteriously, Moto Guzzis.



June featured the Ardnamurchan Camping weekend at Sunart Camping, Strontian. An enjoyable weekend but a quieter affair than previous years, partly because the howf we usually have access to was out of use. The hotel was very busy and the after-hours tea tasting session had to convene under a partly erected gazebo.

This might sound like the Commando has been idle, and although not getting the exercise it often enjoys (I've bought a new 'bike that needs 'testing'), it has been out and about and getting some much needed work done.

The first was a late Christmas treat in the form of a Colorado Norton Works Brembo front brake. Very expensive, but a beautifully put together kit containing every nut, bolt, washer and shim required. Fitting was straightforward as everything fitted right on without any fettling, adjusting or filing. The performance is excellent as you would expect from a 4-pot calliper on a floating disk. Over the years I've tried almost every combination of brake components known to man and this is easily the best front brake I've had on a Commando. I wouldn't hesitate to recommend the kit and CNW were great to deal with.

Check out <https://coloradonortonworks.net/part-categories/cnw-brake-systems-parts.html>



Last year, on the way home from the Borders Camping Weekend in Yetholm, the Commando clutch started slipping at wide throttle openings. I could ease it up to 70mph, but overtaking was a bit restricted. I had been noticing an odd wear pattern on the friction plates where the teeth were wearing to a point. Despite that, I wasn't expecting what I found when I stripped the clutch - two of the plates had no teeth left!



Swapping plates was easily done to keep it on the road, but I suspected the cause was wear between the mainshaft and the clutch hub allowing them to chatter. I ordered both from Andover and when the time came, pulled the gearbox out. Its a filthy job, but other than a loose and worn bearing and a broken selector it went together well. The clutch is back to working as it should, neither slipping or dragging - I'm calling that a success.



EVENTS

September 9th & 10th

Borders camping Weekend
Town Yetholm, near Kelso

Our "three branches" camping weekend, a chance to meet up with Edinburgh and Northumbria branch members.

Book camping through the site website at <https://www.kirkfieldcaravanpark.co.uk>

We have a block reservation for dinner at The Plough on Saturday 10th at 19:00. Places will be limited, so if you would like to join us, please let me know. Menus will be sent out nearer the time for pre-ordering (it helps out the kitchen).

October Sunday 30th

11:00 to 15:00

TVNOC Tattie Howkers lunch meeting
Tullybanocher café, Easter Tullybannocher, Crieff
PH6 2JY

Just a coffee, cake and tyre kicking session to round off the season.