



# Newsletter

Spring 2024 issue 79

Our website :- [www.bristol.nortonownersclub.org](http://www.bristol.nortonownersclub.org)

Facebook:- Norton Owners's Club Bristol Branch



## A doorstep to end all doorsteps

### Event reports and articles:

Christmas Meal, Some runs and meet ups, Bristol Classic Bike Show, Spanish Caper Part 2 and more.

Tips of the day

For Sale and Wants.

Forthcoming events.

Services for members.



This **Newsletter** is produced approximately every four months and sent to Bristol Branch members of the Norton Owners Club. Everyone is encouraged to send in an article, be it topical, technical, a photograph or some other snippet gleaned from another publication! You can pass articles to any Branch Officer or send to Tony Lockwood at the address below.

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### Editors bit

Well what can I say, for fear of repeating myself, more apologies for the lateness of the Newsletter. Just been very busy which is no real excuse I guess. We have done quite a bit since the last newsletter and this should all be apparent in this editions effort. We will be publishing the next tranche of runs to take us up to September hopefully finishing with the Mendip Ploughing match, remembering NOT to get a tractor ride is a must 😊

Time is flying by, Tempus fugit, at time of writing it is not far from the longest day.

We had our AGM on the 8<sup>th</sup> May, think we had around 20 members in all, nothing much happened with exception Mike Wills has stood down from being regalia man with Paul Thomas being the man to pick up the mantle. Paul has gotten right into it already as you can see in the newsletter with lots of bargains on offer.

For the sake of filling up text I have included yet again the blurb below.

Contacting members by electronic means is the best way for us. I will just repeat the last issue newsletter text here to cover our bottoms regarding data protection;- Regarding communication, texting members seems to work quite well although is limited by the size of notification allowed by the service provider, 'WhatsApp' has no limit to notification size or pictures/videos and is free 😊 and also seems to be used by an increasing number of members. In actual fact this has been why the newsletter is being a bit spazmodic, a lot of news can be distributed very quickly and easily so members know what is going on.

Email is OK but not used regularly by most I feel and has limitations to file sizes

so WhatsApp and Facebook coming out firm favourites so far for communication..

Regarding WhatsApp there are two groups, **Events**, this is where your get notification of organaised rides, you cannot post on events so you don't get 'I have an ingrowing toenail what do I do' saga. Note any event posted will always be emailed to members as well.

**Communication**, this is where your get notification of add hoc rides plus who has an ingrowing toenail etc and you can add posts yourself if you wish. With all these types of comunication & because of GDPR (General Date Protection Regulation) as a club we have to have your permission to use your data i.e phone /name etc agreed every 6

months, this I am sure you will agree willbe a nightmare and a pain, so to keep things

simple **if you don't want to be kept on our database please let us know, if you do nothing it will be taken as given you want to be contacted by the club. Here endeth**

**the lesson** ☐.

Please let me know if you would like to be added to either of the WhatsApp groups.

PS:- any 'smelling mistakes' in this issue are intentional, packet of winegumsto anybody finding any'misstooks'.

Tony L

#### *Notice*

From time to time a number of the articles used in this Newsletter may have been taken from the internet and other Norton Club's magazines. Where possible (time and facilities permitting) I have sought to obtain permission (where required) to re-publish here. I have always tried to quote the author and source of the article.

If you are the author of an article and your permission was not sought or given, please accept my humble apology.

Please also recognise that this minor, insignificant Newsletter is a non-profit enterprise by Norton enthusiasts for other Norton enthusiasts, with a very limited distribution. At least take this into consideration before consulting your lawyer!





## General announcements

Re the AGM, Mike Wills has stood down from being Regalia man, he has done some sterling work in his time and am sure Paul Thomas who is now the man for Regalia will have a hard act to follow, look for some bargains of old stock further in the newsletter.

We are going to try to make the Willaims Automobiles, Chipping Sodbury, breakfast run an occasional event, more dates TBA but in the meantime we can drop in for a coffee if we are out on a run that way.

The Cream tea run, at Spaxton village hall, has been fixed for the 19<sup>th</sup> August this will also include a lunch at Sweets Tea rooms, I can recommend a visit to the little museum at Sweets, most interesting collection of artefacts from the Levels not least parts of a crashed Junkers JU88 WW11 bomber, if your into that sort of thing your love it.

Our BNOC camping weekend is all set up with so far 19 members booked in, if you have not done so it is not too late to book just make sure you mention you are BNOC members. Dates are Friday 14<sup>th</sup> to Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June so three nights, this will allow two whole days of ride outs organised by Russ Marchant. BBQ on the Saturday night by chef Chris and chefess Dianne Tait so promises to be sumptuous and interesting.

We have changed the Zoom meetings now to twice a month, 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays, and now only have the free access so 40 mins max, however if the chat is riveting, we can resend and go for another 40 mins if need be.

## NOTICE BOARD

There is an events list at the rear of this newsletter but have repeated the main events that we will be doing as a branch below;

**Tuesday June 4<sup>th</sup>** - Weymouth Trinity Road Church DT4 8TJ

Note Trinity Road may be closed due to roadwork's so an alternative bike park will be sort if necessary.

**Wednesday June 12<sup>th</sup>** - Cranmore Railway, Shepton Mallet BA4 4QP

**June 14-17<sup>th</sup>** BNOC Camping weekend St Audries Bay

**Tuesday June 18<sup>th</sup>** - Bradford on Avon, Tithe Barn BA15 1LF

**Wednesday June 26<sup>th</sup>** - Baffle Haus, The Cedars, Goytre, Pontypool NP4 0AD

**Also in the evening of the 26<sup>th</sup>** is Presentation at the Night Bridge Inn 8pm

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2024**, Calne Bike Meet Sainsbury's car park

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> August** Camerton classic car and bike show, Village Hall 10.00 to 4.00pm, NO booking required come and go as you please it is FREE.

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> August** Cream Tea run, Spaxton Village Hall 2.30pm but lunch at Sweets Tea rooms for 12.00 midday.





## Club membership subscriptions

£5 for single + £1 for joint membership from January 1<sup>st</sup> -December 31<sup>st</sup>

£2.50 single + 50p for joint membership from 1<sup>st</sup> June to December 31<sup>st</sup>

There are 2 preferred ways of paying,

If you want a membership card you can send me a cheque made out to Norton Owners Club to Paul Wolf 98 Shellards Rd, Longwell Green, Bristol.BS30 9DT with a SAE

Or if you don't want a membership card you can pay direct into our Lloyds bank account,

Details below:

**Bank:** Lloyds

**A/c Name:** Norton Owners Club

**Sort Code:** 30-94-80

**A/c Number:** 00133593

**Ref:** (what this payment is for) ie. Subs, bribes etc.

“.. so you have to join the parachute regiment or lose all your pension benefits”



Sorry could not resist this one







## The Drop off system

I ran this in the last few newsletters (yawn!) and thought it would be good to repeat it again now as it seems to be working but really need to hammer it home to all. So good is it I have decided to make it a permanent page in the newsletter so that any new members and old forgetful ones can read up and brush up before a ride out.

This system has been used to good effect with nearly all members arriving at the same time when on a ride out! The golden rule is that if you are dropped off, in a safe position, to indicate where the group has gone **‘DO NOT LEAVE YOUR POST UNTIL THE TAIL END RIDER IN PINK OR SOME OTHER GARISH COLOUR’** has gone past you – or motioned you out.

The Drop Off system is very effective at keeping the group on the chosen route as it allows everyone to ride at their own pace, and the ride can spread out over a fair distance without becoming separated. There are just a few simple instructions to follow:

- Each run will have a ‘Leader’ who always heads the group, and a ‘Tail-ender’ who will always be last, both wearing high-viz so they can be easily identified. The rest of the group members take turns as ‘Markers’ and their position in the group will change throughout the ride.
- At each junction, roundabout or other situation which might cause confusion over the route to be taken, the Leader will signal to the rider immediately behind him/her (the Marker) to pull in and stop at the point of route deviation. The Marker should choose a safe, visible position to park, and use **arm signals** to show the correct route to take, to the following riders.
- **The Marker who was ‘dropped off’ must wait until the Tail-ender arrives before re-joining the group. They must not leave their position until the Tail-ender comes along, however long it takes, otherwise the group will become separated.**
- As the Tail-ender approaches he/she will slow down to enable the Marker to pull out. Traffic conditions may make this impossible, particularly on busy roundabouts, in which case he/she will ride past the Marker and allow them to overtake where it is safe to do so.
- If you are the third bike behind the Leader and you realise that the bike in front has not marked a change in direction when signalled to do so by the Leader, **then mark it yourself.**
- **TWO GOLDEN RULES, DON’T OVERTAKE THE LEADER AND ALWAYS WAIT FOR TAIL END CHARLIE,**





One fine day - a long time ago, I used to work at Fowlers.  
And I got interested in buying a new Triumph...

Next morning, I found this cartoon on my desk!  
It was drawn by NOCCER, (Andrew Williams for those that knew him) - he too worked there.  
Alas, he is now riding his Dommi 600 in the sky, along with its broken crankshaft (hence his nickname).  
The crank broke across the big-end, and the conrod held the crank together.  
Magic.  
He was happy like that, but I insisted we examine it.

The rest is history....

Andy S





## **BNOC Xmas meal 6<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

Once again we had the meal at Limpley Stoke Hotel and once again a good time was had by all. A great selection of raffle prizes skilfully extracted from generous suppliers by Andy Sochanik, I came away with a another very nice Andover Norton jacket that is really very nice, matches the one I won last year. We had about 36 attendees, some just for the meal and some staying overnininight. Andy S forgot the raffle tickets so a joint effort by club members managed to knock up some makeshift tickets that done the buisiness. This year we had no shady goings on in the carpark as last year with car tailgates open and transfer of goods between vehicles etc. We have booked again for next year 4<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

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## Bristol Classic Bike Show 24-25<sup>th</sup> February

A great show had by all this weekend, no prizes for the club or any of the bikes on show and that was very surprising considering the quality of Andy Savages Manx. Very busy on the Saturday not so busy today largely due to the weather. Not many stand visitors got away without a NOC calendar, think Paul extorted money from some 20 or so visitors over the weekend. Pat Elliott made truly wonderful cakes and sausage rolls devoured by all.

A big thanks to all the regular members that helped with the stand breakdown at the end of the show, particularly as the weather was really very very wet and very cold, you know who you especially Bill Amberg who stayed behind to give us a hand.

I very nearly lost a pair of tin snips from my apprenticeship days, I had left them in a bag with a mug on the stand at the end of the show whilst packing up. Somehow they were put in the bin, fortunately Pat Elliott noticed the mug in the bin and thought why on earth would anyone throw away a good mug luckily for me picking up my tin snips as well, phew!

Here's to next year's show 👍



Chris Davis's Mk 111 Commando fully rebuilt by Keith Boulton





Club stand



Dave 'Nipper' Harris's perfect Navigator







A superb Model 18 1/2 restored by Alan Elstob finished by Terry Scotmer not on our stand but a big credit to both parties and a worthy winner of a prize.





### **Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January Williams Automobiles 961 open evening**

A very very nice Norton 961/V4 evening at Williams Automobiles, Chipping Sodbury.

Attended by Alan Elstob, Garry Tyler, Chris Davis myself and Carole. Lovely presentation of Limited Edition bikes, Williams Auto's and Norton Motors very professional with presentation and hospitality.

Upshot of the evening is that we as a club are invited to breakfast runs to Williams either weekdays or weekends, bacon butty and coffee. Dates when weather a bit more sorted.



Lovely LE V4 in 588 colours , a mear snip at £49k



LE 961 in 588 colours







## Answers to last editions 'what did they grow up into



and the young lad in this picture was me the editor



and the young lad in this picture was Mike Wills







## News flash

This is a sneek peek at a new proposed Solihull 961 replacement, the Indian designer Ransid Chapatti stated the 48 sets of points have been replaced for a more efficient glow plug ign with cartidge start.



## Williams Automobiles breakfast run 20<sup>th</sup> April

A very nice breakfast run today, our first one to Williams Automobiles. Some 17 bikes from the club with 2 in a car. Some other bikers turned up, invited by members which was great so I think there was around 25 or so bikes.

James Williams, the owner, was the chef with bacon and or veggie sausages on the menu. NO charge for the food and drink just a collection box for the Air ambulance for any donations.

The weather helped enormously for the day which was just as well, the route my sat nav took us was on roads that should have big signs saying ROAD CLOSED. Loose gravel, potholes, very uneven road surface plus a bit of horse s..t are not the best even for an off road bike!

Once we arrived, all in one piece I might add, we were greeted by a very well laid out showroom and courtyard.

Parking for the bikes was on good and solid ground. Lindon the sales manager greeted us and was pleased with the numbers turning up.

All the showrooms were open as well as the workshop with a guided tour offered that some took up.





Lots of photos taken by a man with a drone. Jonathan Furminger videoed our visit, to be put on YouTube, which will be shared with Williams and their drone man.

We are on their mailing list for forthcoming events which will include some top bike racers and as a celebrity Charlie Borman, these will be charged for events but we will get advanced notice of when they happen.

We all left together, led by Alan Byrom, down much more acceptable roads, to the A46 where we split up for home although, Matt & Naomi Knott, Chris Tait, Jonathan Furminger, Alan Byrom, Carole and I went to the AV8 at Kemble airport that was very busy indeed undoubtedly due to the weather. The day went very well indeed and one that will be repeated again for sure.

Thanks to all that came 👍🏍️



Meet up point for the breakfast run







New member James Fothergill astride his new 961



About 25 members from the club plus others





A nice tidy showroom





## 961 Register



### Norton 961 Register

If you would like to register your 961 or a V4 then please send the following information on an email to,

[961register@nortonownersclub.org](mailto:961register@nortonownersclub.org)

Please include the following

General photo of your bike

Model; (SE, Californian, Sport etc)

Edition number; if applicable ie 961SE 8/200

Engine number; below oil pump behind lower frame tube (photo if possible)

Frame; (VIN number) on the r/h side of the headstock (photo of the riveted on plate as well as the number stamped into the frame.

Colour

Below info is optional,

Reg number

Current owners name

Current owners address

First owner if different from above (if known)

Original supplier

Interesting mods/info history

Tony Lockwood



07905 99888521/04/2022







## Spanish Caper 2023 - Part 2

21st May 2023, after parting with Bob and Mandy in Caceres with hugs and best wishes all around, our group of six began the 4 night return journey (5 including the ferry) by turning north-east toward Segovia, with a detour to the walled city of Avila.

Avila is surrounded by an 11th century 1.5 mile medieval wall that encircles the entire city and includes over 80 stone towers it was a breath-taking sight as we approached. We explored the 11th Century Cathedral, which is built into the city walls and is Spain's oldest Gothic Cathedral.

After a light lunch at a small cafe in Avila, we rode on to Segovia, dominated by a 95 foot Roman Aqueduct that towers over the city centre. Our hotel (a former monastery) was next to a lower section of the aqueduct and during our two nights in Segovia we regularly walked alongside the structure on our way to and from the main square.

The Roman aqueduct was built with un-mortared granite stones around the 1st century AD, and brought water from springs 11 miles away. We continued to marvel at it's beauty throughout our visit, often while sitting in the square with refreshments or admiring it lit by spotlights at night.

Segovia's Alcazar is a medieval palace/fortress with panoramic views of the city and nearby countryside. Some of us spent a couple of hours here and especially enjoyed the views from the 152 step tower. This picturesque castle is rumoured to be the inspiration for Walt Disney's fairy tale castle.

Mandy and Bob had encouraged us (several times!) to sample Segovia's traditional meal of suckling pig. We thought a small pig might arrive on a platter, so only one of



us was brave enough to place that order at dinner and everyone else ordered skewers. The waiter seemed to understand the order but must have transposed it, because what arrived was 1 plate of skewers and 5 suckling pigs. Luckily the suckling pig was not the entire animal, only pieces of pork, however some got a leg and some an ear!





There was initially some talk of returning the whole order since it was so spectacularly wrong, but quiet reigned after the unfortunate soul who had the skewers shared samples of them. They were just small dried pieces of over cooked skin that were inedible, while the suckling pig pieces were quite nice, though probably not the authentic experience. We'll try again the next time we're in northern Spain, as the spectacular scenery certainly makes it a place worth visiting again.

Then on to Soria for the night, where we had a steep and winding approach to the hotel high upon a hilltop, but the difficult ascent was rewarded by panoramic views of the Douro River below. We wandered around the ruins of Soria Castle, which was only yards from the hotel, and then ate at the hotel.

On the way to our final night in Spain in Burgos, we stopped at a pleasant small restaurant in Barbadillo del Mercado smelling strongly of garlic. The owner was very friendly and seemed to enjoy our group's visit, but had hoped we would consume more than coffee and ice cream.

Burgos has an impressive city gate near the Cathedral where El Cid is buried under a stone slab. Some of the group rested in the hotel and/or cafes before dinner, while others explored the Cathedral and hiked up the steep hill to the castle ruins overlooking the city. Some sidewalks had the imprint of a shell, marking the pilgrimage route to Santiago de Compostela. While not as interesting as Caceres or Segovia, Burgos has a pleasant main square and preserves the 15th century building where Christopher Columbus met with the monarchs Ferdinand and Isabella after one of his trips to the Americas.

On the route to Santander the next day, we relaxed at a cafe when a meat van arrived. We watched as large, raw, unwrapped carcasses were carried inside while slung over the delivery men's shoulders.

We expected the run from Burgos into Santander to be mundane, but the N623 we took had miles of stunning mountainous views with fast sweeping bends that were a fantastic ride to end a memorable 10 day, mostly dry, ride in Spain.



Once at the Santander ferry port, we had a long wait in the hot sun before finally boarding with scores of other bikes. The guys worried about the (over) tightness of the securing straps over the seats, and discussed the use of side stand versus main





stands. Finally we brought a subset of our already light luggage to our cabin, which was tiny but well designed and certainly adequate for one's night's rest.

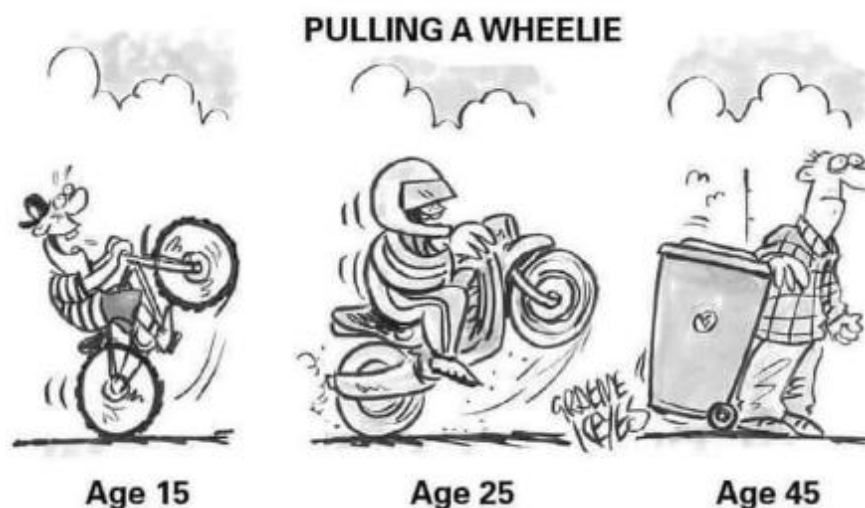
We all wandered around the ferry on our final evening together, as well as during the next morning. Everyone ended up in the bar or restaurant at some point, where we would share a drink and a chat before going outside to view the sea, etc.

While the outward bound ferry journey had been completely smooth, the overnight return to Plymouth had a steady up and down pitch, which had a pleasant lulling effect throughout the night.

One of the only negative points from the trip was the unloading of motorbikes from the Brittany ferry. There must have been around a hundred bikes crammed in on the lower deck and were made to wait until all the other vehicles had disembarked. It was a very long, very hot wait and once finally out into daylight a very long queue to get through passport control in Plymouth.

This ride through northern Spain was not only full of stunning scenery, it was also a pleasure to spend time with this group of people. The variety of characters led to lots of laughter and to many hours of shared enjoyment. It was a special trip. Many thanks to Mandy & Bob for organising the route and hotels and to Jeff Pope (Ex Devon NOC) for finding so many scenic roads.

**Paul & Julia Davies**







## **BNOC run to the REME museum 25<sup>th</sup> April 2023**

This was a second visit for us as a club and one we will repeat again I am sure. A really nice museum full of interest, Joe Elliot was in his element, with tear filled eyes again he relived memories of his REME (Rough Engineering Made Easy) days. With memories flooding back he entertained us with, I drove that, I fixed that, I got drunk in that, methan minor dropped one in that and we were all evacuated (this last bit made up by me). But it was a trip down memory lane for Joe, with a well laid out museum all very interesting and make a great day out for us all particularly with Joe's first hand knowledge of all things on show. The café is very good as well and worth going just for a coffee. Yes a nice ride out, with an eclectic mix of bikes, RE x1, Harley x 1, Triumph x 3, BMW x 1, Norton x 1 and staggeringly a Honda Scooter x 1 😊.



Same attendees as last year although Pete Goodman joined us this year, By the Left, Cpl Dyer, Gen Elliot, Cpl Lord, Dvr Goodman, Cpt Thomas, Pte 'Ive got a scooter now' Slaymaker and RSM Bawdon CDM & barr.





Joe Elliott showing us how to mount a tank



Rick Slaymaker finding comfort in a VW sofa 'reminds me of my new scooter he say's.







Notice similarity between the VW Beetle back end and Ricks Scooter

### **Toddington Run 8<sup>th</sup> May**

Went the day well yesterday to Toddington Station.

Pete G, Chris, Joe, Paul T, Paul Dyer, Rick and myself rode up and we met Rob Boulton at the station.

Weather perfect riding up but with rain forecast for later we just had some lunch and all headed home. Joe, Pete, Paul T and Paul Dyer stopped at Hawksbury Upton for a pint and only just got home before the rain.

Highlight of the day was I got lost, my Sat Nav stopped talking to me so I took a too early turning. Paul T saved the day and took us on a little cross country run through some nice villages. We got to the station some 15 mins after Pete and Chris who, wisely did not follow me 😊

A good day never the less.

### **Forest of Dean Bluebell run 7<sup>th</sup> May**

Well that was quite an eventful ride. 11 hardy souls congregated at the Aust services, Malcombe Green Commando 750, Paul Dyer Triumph 765, Pete Dyer Yamaha? Phil Lord HD tractor, Bob Vaughn Triumph Speed Twin, Pete Goodman Triumph Speed Triple, John Baker ES2, Joe Elliott ES2, Paul Thomas BMW And myself 961. Rick Slaymaker Honda Scooter 😊 turned up informing us the Chepstow was gridlocked due to an accident on the link road so he suggested an alternative route other than the official highways one. So



off we went, just after Joe got his reluctant ES2 going by a bump ☹️ good as gold thereafter. Magor and Caldicote rings a bell of places we went through together with 20mph speed limits, that we all obeyed 😊. This meant our eta with the Gloucester branch was shot to pieces, fortunately a communication to Jill Streather got through and Chris, Jill and one other waited on for us at the Forest of Dean Station. The others from the Gloucester group went on to the Silver Fox. As soon as we arrived, about 12.20, Chris lead us off for our Bluebell meander. Not so many Bluebells but lots of sheep greeted us on what was a nice little ride. All arrived at the Silver Fox ok, meeting with the others including our very own Andy Bawdon Mk111 Commando, who had braved the Highways Agency detour.

Food and drink bought, lots of chat then we all headed home, some going via Gloucester, some like me chancing the link road would be open. Sadly no luck with the link road, a check on the sat nav showed the housing estate road that runs parallel to the link road took you down to the M48 junction. So following lots of drivers I got to the motorway then home, getting in about 4pm.

A very big thanks to Rick for saving the day re the diversion and a big thanks to Chris and Jill Streather and the Gloucester branch for showing us lots of sheep, too many to count by far 🐑.

Also a very big thanks to the weather gods, perfect all day 🙏  
Next years run will be called the Sheep Run.







Gloucester and Bristol branches at the Silver Fox Cafe



Silver Fox carpark





Meetup at Aust services

### **Sammy Miller Norton day 15<sup>th</sup> May**

Great day today, big thanks to Alan Byrom for leading us on a 'Byrom meander', well we all got there together 😊

Highlight for me was a comfort stop at Steeple Langford truck stop on the A36, egg and sausage doorstep 'par excellence' £5 + £1 for tea, see front cover for the photo. We WILL be visiting again 😊.

A very nice meeting some 57 Norton's of all shapes and sizes. On the way home I had a puncture, shock horror! Luckily Alan had a tubeless tyre repair and Carole had her electric pump for inflation.

Modus operandi as follows,

Remove nail, then using a reaming tool with a bit of lubrication clean out the hole, To help insertion the tyre has to be inflated, to aid insertion of the plug further lubrication is applied. A good hard thrust of the plug insertion tool positioned the plug followed by careful withdrawal of the tool setting said plug into position.

Carole's inflator was key to the operation, without it the tyre would have been too soft and plug insertion more difficult, with plug inserted and the repair finished with the slash of a blade the excess bung is circumcised. All done within 15 minutes. Don't you just love tubeless tyres 😊, if it was a tubed tyre I would still be in the layby awaiting recovery 😞 😞. Post script tyre is still fully inflated 2 weeks later.







Andy Sochaniks plucky Navie and George Molyneux's Rotory 'Trixie'



Andy Lyton lovely P15



Nice speckle paint finish







2<sup>nd</sup> meetup at Whiterows café, Beckington



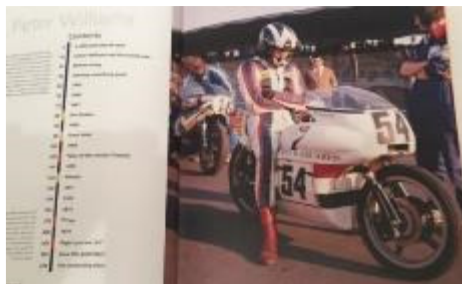
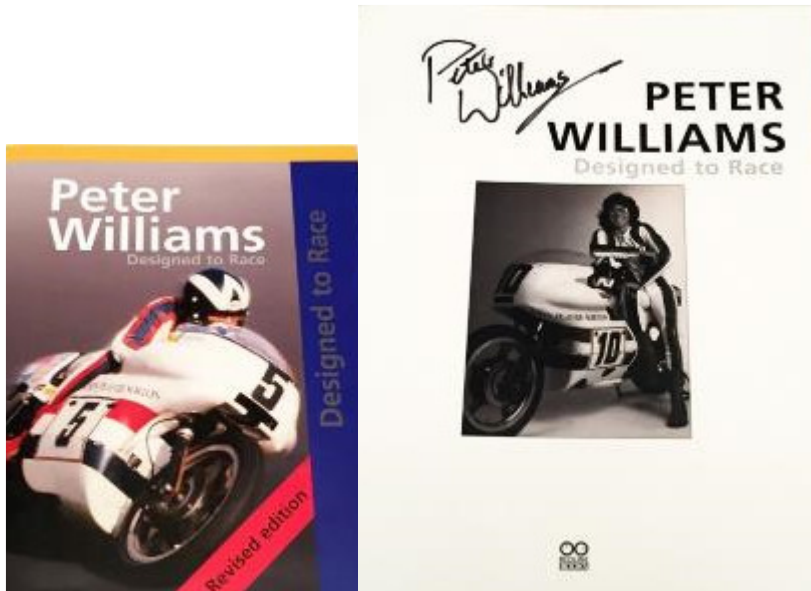
Lots of money spent on this, superbly done but looks very impractical, just finished only 4 mles since the build, for sale on Fleabay £30K, gulp!





## Peter Williams book

Andover Norton I believe still have Peter's book for sale



Ed's note, I can thoroughly recommend Peter's book as a very good interesting read the pictures, text and paper are all of very nice quality. There is also a good review of Peter's book in an issue of 'The Classic Motorcycle'





## **NORTON COMMANDO MK3 STARTER MOTOR**



**ALL UNITS BUILT USING RECONDITIONED MOTORS**

- **FOUR BRUSH HIGH TORQUE MOTOR**
- **HD 32mm FRONT BALL BEARING**
- **O-RING SEALED MOTOR**
- **9 TOOTH PINION PROVIDING GEARING REDUCTION**
- **LOW CURRENT DRAIN**
- **OVER 2lbs LIGHTER**
- **BOLT ON – NO MODIFICATIONS NEEDED**
- **WILL TURN YOUR ENGINE OVER JUST LIKE A MODERN BIKE**
- **THE UNIT IS DESIGNED TO WORK ON STANDARD POSITIVE EARTHED MACHINES**

**ALL UNITS COME WITH 12 MONTHS WARRANTY FROM THE DATE OF PURCHASE \***

**Price £275 (or if you want a brand new one - £295)**

**\*CONDITIONS APPLY**

**Please contact Gordon on 07971213632 or email  
[gordon.nichols@sky.com](mailto:gordon.nichols@sky.com)**

**(Ed's note, a number of club members have Gordons starter motor fitted and they are very happy with it, a great improvement over the original item).**







## **Paul Thomas is now our ‘Regalia Man’ and has some nice regalia for sale:-**

For my sins ☺ I’ve been appointed your Regalia Officer and have inherited the following stock, some of which is pretty ancient.

Decisions have been made and it’s all got to go so grab a bargain.

Items include:

Black xl t shirts £8

White xl t shirts £8

Grey xl t shirt £8

Grey xl t shirt not packaged £6

50th anniversary rally t shirt xl ...Offers

Grey sweatshirt xl £18

Black sweatshirt xl has been out of pack £16

7 old Rally t shirts/ National, Mendip etc, some L, some XL

Not packaged £2 each !!

For the collectors there are numerous Mendip Rally badges including 1978, 1987, 1990, 1991, 1993 and some others plain blue, yellow, yellow with red figure and dark blue..... All at £1.

Plastic stick on Norton badges black white and red 50p each

As above but red and yellow 50p each

White, square NOC Bristol branch enamel badges £1 each

Round red NOC badges £1 each

NOC cloth patch £1 each

We also have a quantity of stickers as follows:

NOC 3 1/2 x 2 1/2 white/black

NOC 5x4 1/2 red background

NOC Bristol 5 1/4x 4 white background

NOC 2 3/4x 2 1/2 red background screen stickers

750 and 850 side panel stickers some black some gold

Small and very small plain Norton stickers some gold some black

3” approx oil level stickers

Atlas 750 3 3/4x2 1/2 black lettering

Made in England , gold letters approx 5” long

650cc gold N

Oil Bath stickers

NOC 2 1/4x2 1/4 stickers, red background ( tatty condition)

Please be aware all these stickers are old so their condition cannot be guaranteed. Reasonable offers.





I will bring all the items listed to the club meetings on 5/6/24 for viewing/purchase or you can contact me direct via club WhatsApp.

Also - now for the ladies, there will be some regalia in sizes befitting their slightly built frames.

Contact Paul Thomas 07901 821656 or email on [pthomas1200@talktalk.net](mailto:pthomas1200@talktalk.net)info.

**Paul Thomas**



**'T' shirt**

**Fleece**

**Polo shirt**

## **WANTED**

Articles for the news letter, anything you print I will stick it in.

**I would love,**

**Technical items, anything about you, bike trips you have been on or going to, anything about your bike, its history etc. Is this newsletter any good, could it be better, is it too big, could we do with just a few sheets of club info, do you enjoy it etc. Please contact the editor,**

**07905 998885, 01179492097 email [tonylockwood@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:tonylockwood@blueyonder.co.uk)**

## **Keith Boulton's Tips Of The Day**

### **May 2024**

1. Using old inner tubes. You can make a useful tool bag from an old inner tube. Make two cuts of your chosen size, first cut straight across and the second cut shape to form a flap. Stick and or sew as necessary to make a pouch, then pop in tools and tuck in the flap..





2. Magneto-auto advance units. The auto advance unit fits on to a taper. I have found that it can wear when the unit presses onto the seal on the magneto, consequently making it loosen and slip and upsettg the timing. You can solve this problem by taking a small amount from the back of the auto advance unit with a file to reset the taper.
3. Carburettors. When fitting carburettor hoses a light dusting of talcum powder enables a much easier fit.

### **Newsletter Deadline dates**

**If you would like to send anything for inclusion in the next newsletter, please get it to me by end of September for the 2024 Summer issue out on line earlyish October.**

### **BRISTOL BRANCH TOOLS LIST**

- |                                    |                                       |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. 2x2 piston ring clamps          | 16. chain link extractor              |
| 2. commando clutch puller          | 17. set of combination spanners whit  |
| 3. sump bung spanner               | 18. 3/8" to 1/2" adaptor              |
| 4. commando engine sprocket puller | 19. 3/16" whit socket                 |
| 5. commando clutch plate lock ring | 20. 1/4" whit socket                  |
| 6. crank oil pump gear puller      | 21. 5/16" whit socket                 |
| 7. valve spring compressor         | 22. 2 x 2" long 3/8" drive extensions |
| 8. timing light                    | 23. 1 x long extension 3/8" drive     |
| 9. torque wrench                   | 24. oil filter strap                  |
| 10. sump / gearbox socket          | 25. 3/8" wobbly drive                 |
| 11. hydraulic bearings puller      | 26. timing gear puller                |
| 12. valve seat cutter              | 27. clutch centre puller              |
| 13. valve rocker spindle puller    | 28. clutch lock ring socket           |
| 14. exhaust c spanner              | 29. clutch c spanner                  |
| 15. TDC gauge                      | 30. engine strip video                |
| 31. gearbox strip video            | 32. Rear shock spring compressor      |
| 33. Wheel building jig             |                                       |

We also have DVD's of Commando Engine and Gearbox rebuilds.

Keith Boulton is our man looking after the tools if you need to loan any of the above please contact Keith either via,

Email: - [kebnorton@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:kebnorton@hotmail.co.uk)

or

Phone 01454 778864 (daytime please and leave a message)









**Martyn Reeves**  
137 Church Road  
Redfield Bristol  
BS5 9LA  
telephone 0117 955 2813  
facsimile 0117 9414161

10% discount on production of current club magazine and branch membership card. Please speak to Martyn first for discountable items.

Top quality motor cycle repairs Engine rebuilds servicing etc.



## FOR SALE AND WANTS

### Sales -

1. 1 Pair long R/Holder forks (Single down tubes) £295.
2. 2 Lay down gearboxes (1 single/1 twin) £175 each.
3. Commando Mk 3 Inner and outer gearbox cases £25 pair.

### Wanted -

1. AMC Norton clutch for 1961/2 650 Dominator.
2. Wideline tool-tray for 1957 "99" model.
3. Wheel Centres for 1930's Model 16 Single (Cotton reel type for 1936 - 46)

Contact Phil Cox on 07468 410914.

**Electra. £3000.** According to the Lightweight God Andy Sochanik this is the oldest known matching numbers Electra in existence. Phone Mike Willson 0117 9831698 for details. East Bristol area.

**18" Alloy wheel** rim 32 spoke, no idea what it is from £5  
**AMC Matchless gearbox**, missing end cover but otherwise complete £120ono  
Contact Tony 07905 998885

**ES2 engine. 500cc** dismantled but complete

**ES2 oil tank.** Various to chose from

**Domie seat** ok condition £50.00

Please call Bill on 07973501106 or [bill@billamberg.com](mailto:bill@billamberg.com) Somerset





**March 2023 Tiger 12 GT Pro**, just 559 miles, immaculate. Double helmet top box, two side panniers, dealership fitted Tom Tom sat nav mount (Tom Tom not included) dealership battery charger fitted. Priced to sell due to I'll health £12,500 note this is the new Tiger which is about 55 lbs lighter than my he old and about 150 bhp contact **Ian Loram 01884 860600** or WhatsApp me back for more photos.



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items bought by  
club members,  
please ask

Norton bikes only



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Unity Road  
Keynsham  
Bristol  
BS31 1NH





## SERVICES FOR BRANCH MEMBERS

Ultrasonic carb cleaning, Bead, Soda and Alumina grit blasting, Gas welding, MIG & TIG welding, NDT, Wheel building, Lath/Milling work, Spark plug Heli Coil inserts (+ other sizes available) and polishing.

Please contact me for further details: - Tony Lockwood 0117 9492097 or mobile 07905 998885.

Branch members! are you having a problem with your old Norton's?

Give me a call: - Keith Boulton 01454 778864 or 07875243520

Engine rebuilds, gearbox rebuild, forks rebuilt etc.

Paul Wolf Magneto and Dynamo repairs. Clutch and Throttle Cables made to order, Welding and Brazing. Tel; 0117 9836702.

Cables Just as a reminder we, the Bristol branch, have a small stock of popular cables for various models. The stock is currently held by Paul Wolf, the idea is that if you are out on a club run in the evening or on a Sunday when all the normal shops are closed we may get you out of the poo!

Contact Paul on 07831446958 for further details.

**VERY IMPORTANT ALL THE EVENTS BELOW MAY OR MAY NOT GO AHEAD DUE TO ACTS OF GOD OR WORSE.**

SO PLEASE CHECK BEFORE SETTING OUT.

## Bristol Branch Events Calendar for 2024

### Home organised events-

.

**Tuesday June 4th** - Weymouth Trinity Road Church DT4 8TJ

Note Trinity Road may be closed due to roadworks so an alternative bike park will be sort if necessary)

**Wednesday June 12th** - Cranmore Railway, Shepton Mallet BA4 4QP

**June 14-17<sup>th</sup>** BNOC Camping weekend Sy Audries Bay

**Tuesday June 18th** - Bradford on Avon, Tithe Barn BA15 1LF

**Wednesday June 26th** - Baffle Haus, The Cedars, Goytre, Pontypool NP4 0AD

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2024**, Calne Bike Meet Sainsbury's car park

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> August** Camerton classic car and bike show, Village Hall 10.00 to 4.00pm, NO booking required come and go as you please it is FREE.

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> August** Cream Tea run, Spaxton Village Hall 2.30pm but lunch at Sweets Tea rooms for 12.00 midday.







Frank Parkhouse has a new ex GPO tractor



Or did until he replaced it with the above, not an ex GPO but previous owner liked comfy seats, Franks riding attire is now a Tweed Smoking Jacket with leather slippers🤩





Garry Tyler has gone all traditional with his very nice 500T

