



# Norton Notice



The Newsletter of the Norton Owners Club

No. 129

Jan, 1989



1989 MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY



# The Newsletter of the Norton Owners Club



## Norton Notice

is published by the Northern California Branch of the Norton Owners Club. Its purpose is to inform and entertain members regarding all aspects of the Norton motorcycle, including history, technical advice, and preservation of the marque.

NORTON NOTICE is a reflection of its readership, who are encouraged to submit any article, technical tip, photograph (original or otherwise) as long as it is in good taste, so that other Norton enthusiasts may enjoy it. For branch members who cannot attend club meetings or club rides, the NORTON NOTICE affords an opportunity to share experiences and information with the membership of the Branch, and to bring the Branch members closer together.

The deadline for items to be submitted for publication is the 15th of each month.

Membership in the Northern California Branch of the Norton Owners Club is available for

**£10.50 (pounds sterling) + \$18.00**

Membership dues are payable to the Branch Secretary/Treasurer.

Renewal dues are payable at the end of the individual's membership year, that month being designated by the last number of the individual's membership number as located on the mailing label of the NORTON NOTICE or the membership card. For example, 745/2 denotes member 745 with dues expiring on the 1st of February.

All changes of address should go to the Branch Secretary/Treasurer, not the NOTICE Editor.

Subscription to the NORTON NOTICE only is available for \$18.00 per year. This does not include membership in the Northern California Branch of the Norton Owners Club, nor does it afford any of the rights or privileges of membership in the NOC.

Membership in the Northern California Branch of the Norton Owners Club entitles a member to monthly issues of the NORTON NOTICE and bi-monthly issues of ROADHOLDER magazine, which is sent directly from England, keeping members informed of Norton owners' activities worldwide. Membership provides voting privileges at all NOC and Branch meetings, and allows one to purchase Norton spares directly from England, at significant savings, through the NOC Spares Program.

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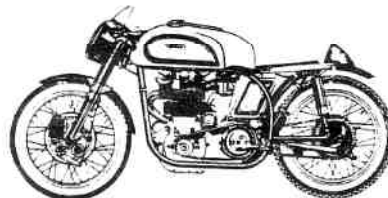
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## NORTON OWNERS CLUB

#### Important!

(Please take note of the following fine print.)

The object of the Northern California Branch of the Norton Owners Club is to promote, encourage and develop all motorcycling activities. The Club's members are owners of Norton motorcycles, and they often submit for publication in the Norton Notice technical tips pertaining to motorcycles of the Norton marque. Technical tips so published have been reviewed for technical content and are believed to be both acceptable and workable, but no guarantee is made or implied that they will work correctly, nor is any liability assumed by either the Norton Owners Club or the authors for any problems resulting from use of these technical tips. The Club also assumes no responsibility for the acts or omissions of its members in connection with Club activities. Norton Notice articles or other material express the authors' views only and not necessarily the official policy of the Norton Owners Club or its Northern California Branch. The editor reserves the right to accept, reject or alter all editorial and advertising material submitted for publication. Advertising published does not imply endorsement of products, goods or services. Now you know.



1963 catalog drawing of Manx 30M and 40M



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Club Rides

Coordinated by Margie Siegal

Jan 15 Mt. Hamilton Freeze Run, led by Louis Mendelowitz. Meet at 9:30 am at Howard Johnson's restaurant on North First St. in San Jose, about 1/2 mile north of the First St. exit off 880. We leave promptly at 10, eat and gas up early (ha ha). Call Louis at 415-857-1835 for details.

Feb 19 Ride to Tres Pinos for lunch at the Feedlot restaurant. Meet at the Summit Inn on Hwy 17 at 9:30 or at the Summit Rd exit at 10 am. Call Alan at 408 475-7505 for details.

March 11-19 International Norton Rally, in both Sydney & Melbourne Australia. Leave Golden Gate at 10 am on March 1st, ride due west. Seriously folks, if you are interested contact:  
NOC Sydney Branch  
P.O. Box 365, Leichhardt 2040  
Australia

We need a ride leader for the March club ride. Call Margie Siegal if you are interested.

April 2 Clubman's All-British Motorcycle Show and Swap Meet, Santa Clara County Fairgrounds.

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### Club Meetings

The club meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month, at 7:30 PM. The location rotates between Peninsula, East Bay, City, and San Jose. If you have a good meeting location in the East Bay, let me know.

Jan 12 East Bay  
We are meeting at Margie Siegal's, 625 Fairmount Ave, Oakland CA. Call her for directions, 415-654-1933

Feb 9 San Francisco  
Once more we meet at the Harbor Light pub located at 780 Embarcadero at Berry Street. This is south of the Bay Bridge, across from the Sailing Ship restaurant. They close at 10, so we'll start promptly at 7:30.

March 9 Peninsula  
Prince of Wales Pub  
106 E. 25th Avenue  
San Mateo, Ca

#### NORTHERN CALIFORNIA BRANCH TOOL LOAN-OUT PROGRAM

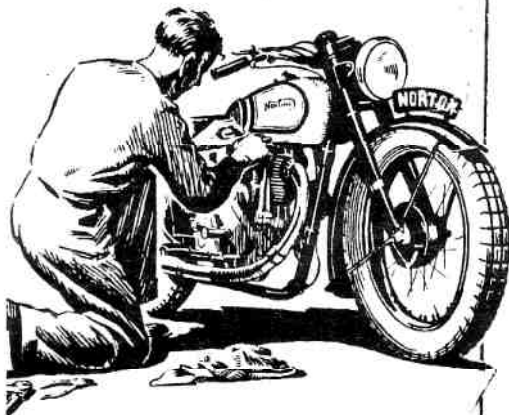
Get in touch with Harry Bunting if you need one or more of the following tools for working on your Commando. A refundable deposit equal to the replacement cost of the tool is required at the time you pick it up.

TOOL	DEPOSIT
exhaust lock ring tool.....	\$10
timing cover oil seal guide.....	5
clutch spring compressor.....	12
clutch locking tool.....	18
valve spring compressor.....	22
rocker spindle puller.....	25
crankshaft sprocket puller.....	12
timing pinion puller.....	20
gearbox layshaft bearing extractor..	15



## Alan's Wrench

Tech tips and gossip from The Editor



For those of you who missed the Christmas party, the members attending voted NOT to change the name of the club, so we are the Norton Owners Club, plain and simple. Those of us who are members of the UK organization constitute the Branch, and those affiliated with the USNOA constitute the Chapter. At past meetings steps were taken to ensure that the Club officers are both Branch and Chapter members, as required by the respective parent organizations. At this point there doesn't seem to be any problem with this arrangement.

In the 'election' of officers at the meeting, I offered to serve as president this year, provided someone else would take over the Notice, but there were no offers. Chris Nichol stood up at the wrong moment, getting a cheer from me, but he got off the

hook somehow. Finally Marick Payton offered to help with the Notice as 'publisher' if someone else would serve as recording sec. Art Sirota spoke up and the deal was done. The other officers will continue as before, with Harry Bunting as sec./treasurer, Margie Siegal as vp/rides and Robert Briscoe as master of the shirts and badges.

Harry sent me a brief annual report which shows the club with 173 members, of which around 90 are members of the Branch. (no Chapter records yet). The club treasury stands at about \$1550, although there are some outstanding bills. In short, the Club is in good health and ready to roll. The annual directory in this issue is based on the December mailing. Please review your address and telephone listing and notify Harry Bunting if there is any error.

The So. Cal BSA Owners Club has started their own spares scheme. They are offering high-volume parts like footrest and kickstart rubbers, cables, lenses and bulbs, and gasket sets, at what seems to be about half the store price. Seems like a good idea, but it takes some time to run it, so speak up if you'd like to give it a go in our club.

On our cover this month is Eric Swortsfinger winning the Vintage 750 GP at Sears Point in October. Eric beat Pete Johnson (#2 finisher in the series) and also won the 750

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sportsman class. Despite his 2nd-place finish in this race, Rob Tuluie finished first overall in the Historic Cup Series. Rob has left the area for graduate school. Eric is now our Club Racer and deserves our support. He 'used up' his race bike last year and is starting from scratch. If you're interested in helping or have parts to contribute, drop him a line, he's in the club directory (no phone listing).

The events schedule is a bit thin this year, just the traditional freeze ride on Jan 15th. I'd like to try the Los Pinos ride again in February, on the 19th. As of the last meeting, we still have no ride for March, but I think East Bay would be appropriate - any ideas? Looking ahead, the second annual Clubman's Show and Swap will be April 2nd, at the Santa Clara Fairgrounds. We need volunteers to man a club booth and also someone to represent the club on the Concours judging. Please contact Margie if you would like to get involved. Volunteers will get a work pass which gives you first shot at the parts (sellers unload before the doors open to the public).

We received a letter from Jim Noll of the USNOA. It seems that Norton wants to race at Daytona, and the AMA won't let them. According to their rules, the Rotary is rated like a 2-stroke, which makes it 1300 cc. By the current international formula (150%?) it is considered 999cc, just qualifying for the Pro Twins unlimited class. Jim contacted Bill Boyce of the AMA Competition Committee, who recommended that Norton request a rule change in writing. Boyce also admitted that the

AMA "was afraid that the Norton would blow away all the competition with its power-to-weight ratio". After hearing from the ACU in England that the bike was doing very well in competition, Mr Boyce said that "there was no way to change the rule quickly".

Those of you who are USNOA members may have already seen this letter. If you are an AMA member, please write to them to say you want to see Norton allowed to race (probably too late for Daytona, but there's always Laguna Seca...). Write to Bill Boyce, AMA, P.O.Box 6114, Westerville, OH 43081 614-891-2425

I spent a few hours this afternoon taking an engine apart. This unit had the crankcase halves glued together with sealer and wouldn't budge even with my biggest soft hammer. After I realised what was going on, I squirted some chemtool carb cleaner along the case joint and stopped for a hot cuppa. After 15 minutes, I applied another squirt and started tapping at the flange with a wooden drift. I saw daylight almost immediately and could hear the sealer crackling as it released from the metal. One more squirt and the cases separated with a minimum of force. One case stud was jammed from previous abuse, so I used some wooden wedges to spread the joint evenly around the stuck part. What a nice feeling, to complete a difficult job without putting a mark on the parts. Unfortunately, the bearings were shot, so my work's just starting.



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San Jose CA  
95125  
408-998-4495

John Gallivan  
2800 Adeline Street  
Berkeley CA  
94703  
415-428-2234

Bert Hopwood  
White Wings, Wellswood Gar  
Torquay, Devon UK  
TQ1 2QQ

Phillipe Le Roux  
8 Buckingham Place  
London UK  
SW1E 6HX

Mean Marshall's  
2705 San Pablo Avenue  
Berkeley Ca  
94702  
415-548-2532

Carl Mazel  
10606 Jordan Avenue  
Chatsworth CA  
91311

Munroe Motors  
412 Valencia Street  
San Francisco CA  
94103

San Diego Norton Club  
1642 Debann Road  
Cardiff CA  
92007  
unknown

S. Calif Norton Club  
1421 Lark Ellen  
Valinda CA  
91744  
818-917-1675

Gold Star Owners Club  
55 Montgomery St.  
Bridgeport CT  
06605  
unknown

Velocette Owners Club  
6630 Gilley Avenue  
Burnaby, B.C. CAN  
V5H 3W9  
unknown

BSA Owners Club  
P.O. Box 594  
Novato CA  
94948  
415-461-1186

SC Norton News  
3072 N. Morengo Avenue  
Altadena CA  
91801  
818-791-7953

Eric Swortfigure  
1525 Melba Ct.  
Mtn. View CA  
94048

Alistair Tritten  
51 Coach Road, Hamble  
Southampton UK  
SO3 5LA

## CLASSIFIEDS



The following list of parts is for sale or trade. Prices do not include shipping but most items can be shipped within 2 days for \$5-10. All parts are in working condition:

Primary case in & out (1970)	\$100
Transmission (1970)	\$100
Roadster exhaust	\$80
Tach & speedo (both)	\$75
Speedo drive	\$20
Carbs 930 (pair)	\$30
Alternator Rotor & stator (ea)	\$30
Fork brace	\$15
Swing arm & trans cradle, g.c.	\$40
MKIII headlight w/harness, has some dents	\$25
Fenders (ea)	\$25
Rear wheel with hub, needs new chrome	\$30
750 oil tank w battery tray	\$25
Front fork complete, drum brk	\$80
Foot peg & brake pedal, fair	\$15
Clutch basket, good	\$20
above with chain	\$30
Early style light/horn switch	\$20

1974 850 Interstate, only 3000 mi on engine, needs sidecovers, front tire & exhaust, garaged 10 yrs. \$900

Bill Bernard, 122 Wessels Way,  
Templeton, CA 93465 or call  
805) 434-2797 after 5 pm

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Wanted: Commando frame/rolling chassis or basket case with engine number lower than 134600 (1968-69). Must have pink slip and good title. Also wanted, 920cc engine (dunstall?) and Commando advertising brochures. John Paliwoda, P.O. Box 4303, N. Hollywood, CA 91607. 818 708-3345  
eves /1

Wanted: cheap bike, running or not  
Call Louis 541-5088 /1

For Sale: Offer or Trade:

MK3 Bottom End  
MK3 Gearbox Covers  
MK3 Primary Case and internals  
MK2 & MK3 Footrest, brakepedal  
MK2 & MK3 Gearbox Cradles  
Hepolite 850 +.020 Pistons, new

Wanted:

Disk brake fork sliders  
Speedo drive, any condition  
Straight Con.Rod #23258-R10R  
850 PreMK3 Crank & Cases  
Cerriani Roadrace Fork Bushes  
complete 72-74 Ducati 750s  
Contact Chris Nichols (415)965-4611

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For Sale: 1974 850 Roadster. dual Mikunis, 2-1 exhaust. Needs master cylinder. Not run for 2 years. \$600  
1982 BMW R65 21k miles. Crash-damage but fixable. New tires \$1100.  
Call Tom Pettit 415 367-6599 /1

