

The **ENERGETTE**

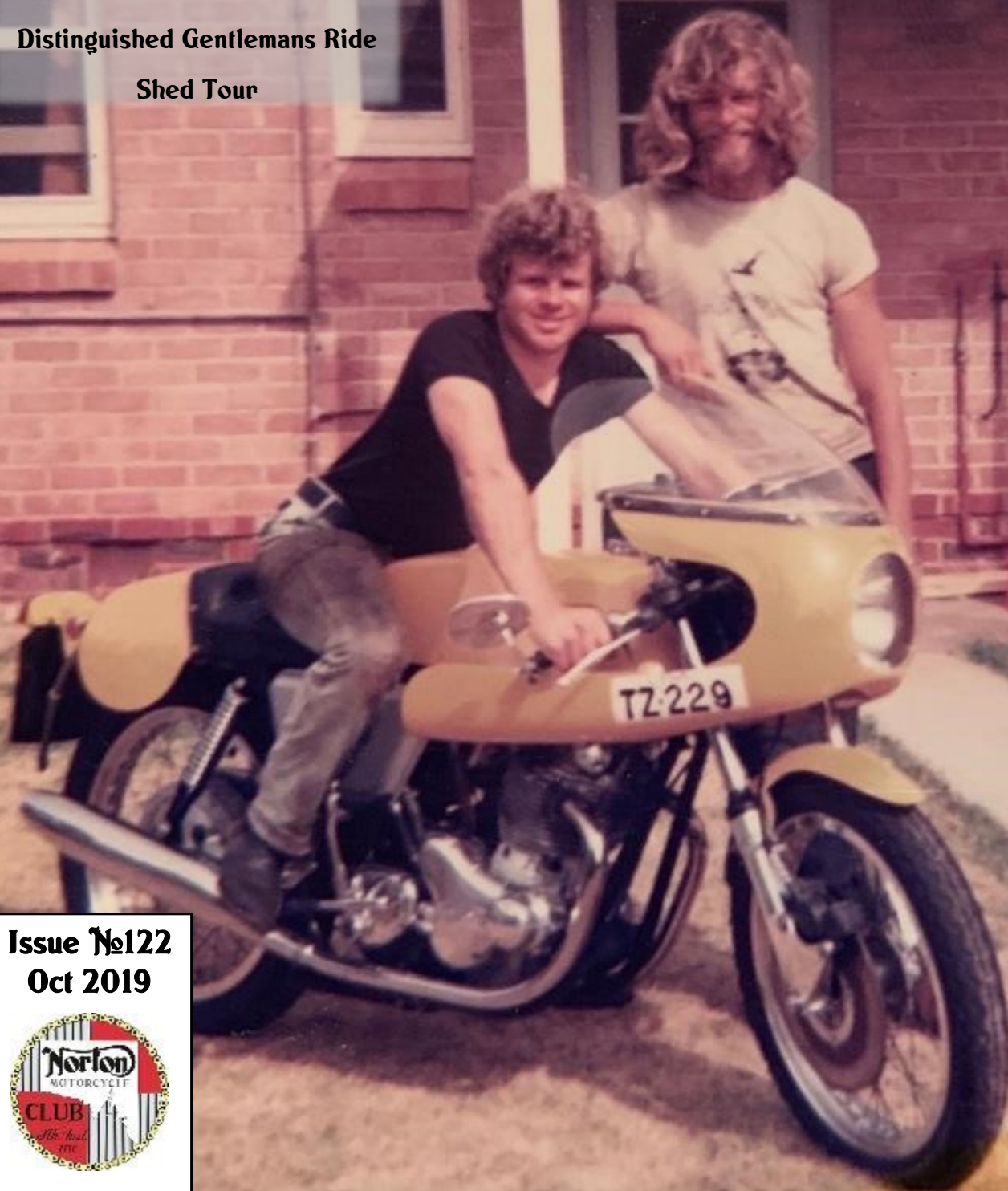
newsletter for the
NORTON MOTORCYCLE CLUB of SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC.
Est. JUNE 1999

In this issue:

**New Model Test
'Fastback Adventurer'**

Distinguished Gentlemans Ride

Shed Tour



**Issue No122
Oct 2019**





WEBSITE: www.nmcsa.org



MEETINGS held on the 1st Monday of the month, 8.00pm start
NO MEETING IN JANUARY and on Public Holidays
when the meeting will be held on the following Monday

We meet at the: VELOCETTE CLUBROOMS
74 DRAYTON STREET, BOWDEN

ENQUIRIES TO SECRETARY: NMCC of SA, 74 DRAYTON ST, BOWDEN SA 5007
Or EMAIL: secretary@nmcsa.org

ALL NORTON OWNERS, ENTHUSIASTS AND THEIR FAMILIES ARE WELCOME

NORTON MOTORCYCLE CLUB of South Australia Inc. Committee 2018—2019

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For Contributions, please contact editor;

Mobile *0433 318 503*
By email *editor@nmcsa.org*

Members wanting any events, services, classifieds, rides, etc. in the ENERGETTE please contact the editor with details for inclusion in future issues.

But don't stop there, this newsletter is about
The Norton Motorcycle Club of SA,
THAT'S YOU.

If you just want to have a picture of your bike in print, or a shot of the latest mod or repair, send it in! Supply as much info as you can and I'll do the rest. Look at Dave Meldrum's comparison of the different Commando tanks in issue #93. A passing observation in the shed filled a whole page and gives great perspective on different options for someone's bike.

Cover photo:
The cool dude on the bike is Jerome's
uncle. Can you guess which Club
member is standing next to him?



President's Blurb

Dear Members,

Welcome to Spring! Here in South Australia, our brief period of perfect riding weather is upon us, not too cold & wet, not too bloody hot and unbearable. Enjoy it, folks!

I've been for a few short bursts around the block trying to get my belt drive aligned with the correct amount of tension. A bit fiddly but I'll get there.

Our August ride was set to be rained out so I loaded up the bike and headed over to Rocky's shed to get help from the master. We found my clutch plates to be worn past their specs so Dave had a rummage through his shed and found a new set. Other than that we just went over the machine, checked the valves, nuts and bolts, etc. All while Dicky and Molly sat there, cups of tea in hand, and shouted unsolicited advice and took the piss. We enjoyed a delectable lunch of smoked salmon, tomato and egg sandwiches on bagels, lovingly prepared for us by Dave's wife, Leslie! Molly took off in the rain to go see a band, while Dicky, Rocky and myself made the trip up to Summertown to Jerome's place. We had a good look at both his JPN Commandos, and threw ideas around about what he should do with the one that needs reassembly. We also went searching for all the bits for his E-Type Jaguar, which wasn't easy! After sampling some of his excellent cider and wine, we headed over to the Uraidla Hotel for a drink and heaps of laughs. Later, we got a call from Molly saying it had rained so much during his ride, the blinkers on his Commando started working! I've been dropping hints about doing 'Shed Days' with the Club for a while now, and this was heaps of fun, so hopefully we can do it again soon. If you want to host one, please let us know.

There's still a few bikes for sale in South Australia. Con has an ES2 he's restored, going for a reasonable price. He's also got a 16H that's a bit rough around the edges, but could easily be ridden as is with a couple new cables. I had a look at it a couple weeks ago to show a mate of mine, it was hard not to consider selling the Land Rover! I had the honour of using a War Department 16H for my daily commute during the last few months I lived in Canada. It quickly became like an old friend and was a real pleasure to ride, I even went 'adventure' biking with it for a weekend and it handled forest trails and dirt roads magnificently.

The 'silly season' is well and truly upon us, and I'm not talking about Christmas. This time of year in Adelaide sees a motorcycle even of some sort every weekend, sometimes more than one at a time. Last month, I met up with Jerome, Dicky, Lyndi & Trevor at the Published Art House for the Moto Expo. This was a showcase of classic and custom bikes in a warehouse behind a pub. They were showing motorcycle movies in a small theatre out back and there was an eclectic mix of bikes. It was a good time and I met up with a couple old friends and met a few new cool people as well.

Since then we've already had the Bay To Birdwood, the Distinguished Gentlemans Ride, the Balhannah Swapmeet, and the Rotary Clubs Motorcycle Expo & Swapmeet at Lockleys.

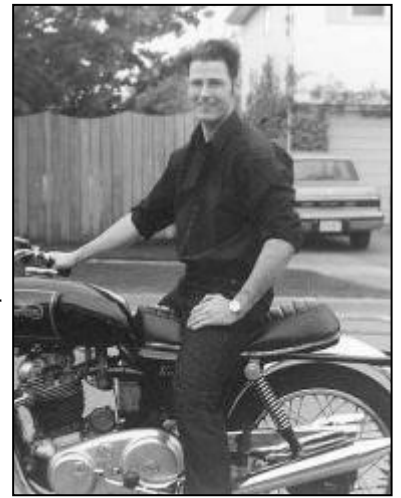
Don't forget, on November 3rd we will have a stand at the Lions Bike Show in Macclesfield. This is a 'come and go as you please' type event so you won't be locked in all day. It would be great to get as many of you parked up next to our tent as possible.

Our 20th Anniversary ride and lunch is on December 1st. We will be recreating our inaugural ride, starting in Port Adelaide, eventually meeting at the Cudlee Creek Tavern on Gorge Rd for lunch. If you know of any past members still kicking about the area, please invite them along, it would be great to see as many old faces as possible.

What else? I can't keep up with what's happening from now until the new year! Get your entries in for the All British Day in February! I want a full brace of Nortons this year, NO EXCUSES! (says this guy)

Your Pres, The Editor,

Donald



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Norton Adventure

NORTON COMMANDO ADVENTURE BIKE "ALL THE GORGES RIDE"

by Dave Fastback

Recently I had the opportunity to take Norton's 'Commando Adventure Bike' for a one week test from Adelaide up to the Flinders Ranges. The route would incorporate good mix of highway, twisty country roads, and as much dirt as we could fit, including at least 5 river gorges.

My bike was essentially a 1972 Commando Fastback. The Adventure version is fitted with a sump guard, handlebar guards and a headlight guard. These are all practical additions for a mid winter tour into the boon-docks. A Craven pannier rack completes the Adventure touring package. As with most factory takes on the Adventure theme, front suspension remained standard apart from MK111 style fork boots and the obligatory Koni/Ikon rear shock upgrade. The 12.5 litre fibreglass fuel tank has a modern lining courtesy of Red White 'n' Blue. It didn't leak, it also gave a range of 220kms without needing reserve. How good is that!



Accompanying me on this trip were three other test riders, representing the best the world currently has on offer.

"Daring Dan" on a KTM 1200 Adventure, "Klever Keith" on a Ducati 1200 Multistrada, and never left behind, "Doin it Dan" on a Suzuki 650 V-Strom. Stiff competition indeed. The Ducati was the fuel guzzler, the Kato

and V-strom were frugal like the Norton.

I had a route planned and Dan had it on his GPS. I can't use maps on my tank bag anymore 'cos I need glasses to read but not for long vision.

So off we went, first twisty Snake Gully out of Adelaide, and on to Gawler via One Tree Hill. A transit stage to Eudunda, then more nice bitumen and scenery via Marrabel to Sevenhill. First bakery stop, fantastic with an open fire and Daring Dan gets his wallet out to buy a bottle of Clare Valley red from the incorporated



cellar door. For Ron, of course! It's Chilly btw, clear skies but maybe 14C without the wind chill.

We then headed for Crystal Brook via Spalding. Excellent twists and scenery.

Not much high quality fuel in CB on a Sunday so we continue on to meet up HWY 1 (towards Pt Pirie). There a 3 servos on the highway within a few hundred meters of each other so we all took our pick depending on the bike's favourite diet. I stopped at the first one, fuelled up and felt my pocket vibrating. Disappointingly, I realised it was my mobile phone, so reluctantly answered it, as it was Daring Dan. He was up the road at the BP, after filling up he went for his wallet and it wasn't there..."musta left it at the bakery at Sevenhill" he says. Not what I wanted to hear, to be honest. So I ride up to where he is to at least pay for the petrol. By the time I get there he'd found his wallet in the INTERNAL pocket of his Jacket and all was good again.

From there we literally turn right off the highway down a dirt road and into Telowie Gorge. There was still evidence of past bushfires through there, but very scenic now there is some regrowth. The dirtied rocks came back to bitumen and WOW, what a blast of a road this was! Brief enjoyment then back onto quite good dirt into the back of Melrose. No time to stop as the day was getting along. We still had Horrocks Pass and Pichi Richi Pass to do before our first stop at Quorn. Job done, we pulled in to Quorn about 5pm. Accommodation at the Austral Inn was great, although apparently, they need a snoring room?

Next morning after a cultural walk around town, we headed up the road to Warren Gorge, bitumen now and damn good bit of bitumen it is too! Sweepers, bends, dips and views to not die for. After Warren Gorge the dirt starts again as we wind our way thru Buckaringa Gorge. Man, this part of the world is so dry and desolate, and you just wonder why and how did the early settlers do it? We stop at the historic site of Proby's grave. An ex Admiral under Nelson in the battle of Trafalgar, he decided to "retire" here and run some cattle... until a storm one night in 1852, when he got swept away in a flooded creek and drowned! Hard to find a trickle nowadays, just red earth and scrub.

The road soon turns to little red pebbles and we drop the speed to suit, mindful of how our early settlers easily perished and this is the road less travelled, except by idiot bikers in search of adventure. A few not well de-

scribed turn offs and after about 80kms we are back on the bitumen and soon in Hawker. Not much to say there, the pub does a decent burger, you get fuel, you pay your National Parks admission fee. Yes, users pays everything now.

Apparently I took a wrong turn out of Hawker, (well I had two choices!!), so we ended up on the Hawker - Parachilna road instead of the expected Hawker-Wilpena Rd. As it turned out we still ended up on the Moralana Scenic Drive, through Moralana Gorge, 28kms dirt and river bed ,but went in the opposite direction. At least we had the sun behind us which worked out well. Back on the bitumen we pushed on past Wilpena and it's now all bitumen to Blinman. WOW, what a road! You shoulda been there!



Dave's home made sump guard, courtesy of Hoover

I had fitted a Roo whistle to my bike and there was certainly lots of wallabies around, plus sheep and emus. It was interesting to see their reaction, some scattered, some ignored us, some just looked. The guys all agreed, the Norton should lead the pack as the exhaust note (TOGA) alerted most roos to our presence and they



took off in the opposite direction.

There's still a pub at Blinman, and a bakery. There's a Telstra phone box in the main street, there's no Telstra mobile signal but Optus works (for me). Outside of town there's no signal anywhere.

We refresh and head to Angorichina Tourist Village "no yuppies allowed", our digs for the next 3 nights. 15kms or so of roughish dirt road, but by now we are becoming accustomed to it.

Can i say here, the standard Commando front suspension is unbelievable on corrugated dirt roads, couldn't ask for better, seriously. There you go, I said it. The rear Ikons were ok, but even loaded up with luggage was probably a little too harsh and got skittish at times.

Dave and Caroline run both the Blinman pub and Angorichina, and are very hospitable. The store has food, grog and fuel. We had a cabin with bbq and fire pit, and the sky was filled with a million stars.

From there we did day trips taking in Brachina Gorge, Bunyeroo Gorge, and Glass Gorge. They were all adventurous, mostly rough creek beds, the scenery was just like an Albert Namatjira painting. You shoulda been there.

Glass Gorge offered a detour which both "Daring" and "Klever" thought they would try. "Fastback Dave" and "Doin it Dan" took the Glass Gorge road more travelled and reached Blinman in 1/2 an hour, time for a beer, a mine tour and a snooze in the sun.

2 and 1/2 hours later our detour detractors arrived in Blinman. The KTM had a whopper of a ding in the alloy rim, the Duc survived but had been challenged. Obviously Keith is Klever. Late lunch was really good, I heard the battered fish was exceptional, no doubt as it is always fresh in Blinman.

Soon it was time to head South, but not in a hurry. Back via Craddock and Orroroo (great pub lunch), Peterborough and into Burra for a very comfortable night at Paxton Square Cottages. Next morning and still taking the long way round, we head off to the Worlds End Highway. It's about 70kms to Eudunda, we did 60 of it in thick fog Who'd a thought? It was slow, it was a bit tough actually. Followed the white line, had to have the visor up, couldn't see otherwise.

As we came in to Eudunda the sun broke thru and we enjoyed a great ride back in to the Barossa and down through "The Gorge" to finish off our fantastic adventure ride.

How many gorges was that all up? First correct answer wins a brand new Norton Commando Adventure bike **

**all entries must be submitted on the back of a valid bank cheque made out to Dave Fastback to the value of AU \$100000



Norton Marketplace

For Sale - 320mm single disc and 6 piston brake kit. Fitted to bike but never used. From Triton Motorcycles retail for \$750USD (\$1,117AUD). See them at www.tritonmotorcycleparts.com
Only \$600 Contact Ian at ian.robertson@outlook.com.au



For Sale - 1973 850 Roadster - In great condition. Recently been sleeved and rebored to original CC. Totally reconditioned throughout, incl. wheel bearings, fork seals and bushes. Original seat plus 'King/Queen' seat. As an engineer, I've designed and built a mechanical head mount, as well as a removable rear carrier. **\$15,000**
Contact Mick 0412 345 387 or 0422 606 734

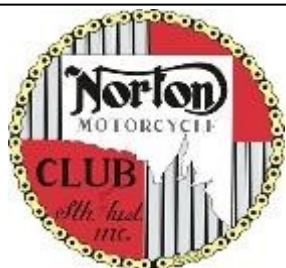


For Sale - 1958 Model 19S engine in a '53 Dommie Featherbed chassis. Older restoration, tidy and presents well. Very well looked after and starts readily. **\$13,000 ONO**
Contact Greg Summerton gregss@bigpond.com



For Sale - Con has a restored ES2 and a rough but running 16H for sale. If interested, please contact him through the Club

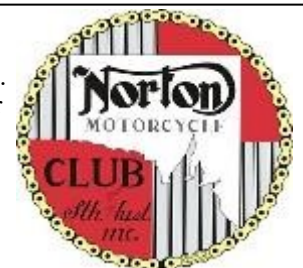
Wanted - JOE SEIFERT CS650 After any magazine articles and pictures
Dave Meldrum Ph: 0423 191 620



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Contact us with the story, and pics if available.

Send your info to the Editor at editor@nmcsa.org





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Norton Rides

Hills Ride Washed Out - Shed Time 17/08/19

The weather report said heavy rain, hail, wind and this time they were correct.

Sitting on my bike at the start point in a fine drizzle, it reminded me of a ride a few years back when the conditions were the same. I was waiting at the exact same spot when an old Commodore station wagon pulled up and a familiar face pokes his head out and said "If there ever was a silly bugga to ride in this weather, it would be you Molly. Get in the car, you clown." Past member and good mate Paul Knapp, he never was short of a good word or two! "I bet you would be here so thought I'd come down and have a chat, everyone else has brains to stay out of this so I knew you'd be by yourself!" So I climbed in the old Commodore in all my wet weather gear, water dripping everywhere, and Paul just said don't worry its only water. So I sat in the dry while the poor old Atlas sat out in the pouring rain. Paul and I yelled at each other over the top of the rain pounding the roof of the car when we heard a

siren going off, we thought gee some poor bugga is in trouble and the CFS boys have to go help out. We yelled on for 30 minutes or so with the siren blaring away when we decided we had better places to be and bid our farewells.

As I got out of the car, 'The Siren' was the horn on my Atlas going off, the rain had filled the handle bar button with water making a contact. We both nearly wet ourselves with laughter. As I pulled the battery cover off to pull the fuse I turned back to look at Paul who was giving me hell over what clown takes a bike out in this when I pointed out that we had been two old men sitting in a fogged up car at a public park!! It was a wonder we did not get arrested!!! I miss my old mate Paul, top bloke!! Back to present day and the rain was that heavy I could not see the information board about 10 feet away, I was glad no one turned up. I had a hint a heap of blokes were playing with Norton's in Rocky's shed so put my order in for a hot coffee and headed that way !! **Dave M**



Dicky & Molly lent plenty of "useful advice" from their comfy seats while sipping tea



Dicky, Rocky, J-Dog, and Donald at Jerome's place, checking out one of his JPN's (the assembled one)



"Got it, she'll be right, now" snap, clink "Aw f&*k!" Shed time with Nortons, dizzying highs and wallowing lows



Sampling some of Jerome's fine home brews. Ciders, wines, champagnes, the man is talented

guided, in the form of good natured piss-taking, Rocky and myself through a new clutch, valve adjustments and general going over of my Roadster. After a beautiful lunch prepared by Leslie, we headed up to Jerome's place to have a look at his JPN project, as well as his jigsaw puzzle of a Jag E-Type. Finally, we made the short trip to the pub in Uraidla, where discussions of Whitworth vs Imperial spanners were traded for arguments over British vs Aussie beer pints. Good times had by all, we should do this more often with the Club! **Donald**

Norton Rides

Distinguished Gentlemans Ride

29/09/19

I included us in with the Distinguished Gentlemans Ride this year as our club usually has a big following for this event, but this year our numbers were down. This was a pity but as the DGR day falls on the same date as the Bay to Birdwood run, and the 2019 being the 'classic' which suits a lot of the members bikes guess it was to be expected. I have attended all but the first DGR and it's great to see the numbers swell each year from my first ride of about 20 to this years 547 with \$80,799 raised, I believe Adelaide was the second highest earner in Australia. Great effort for little old Adelaide, and our club member Dave 'Rocky' Rocklyn raising \$1,950 on his own!! A big well done Rocky. It is great to see the mix of makes and styles that turn up on the day and it's even better when the riders make the effort to dress 'Dapper'. A route that leads from the city, down along the sea to a short break at Port Adelaide for numbers to re-group and have a chat, then back on the bikes up Port Road to skirt the city to the Maid & Magpie Hotel. To me this was the only downfall of the day as the pub had promised staff numbers to cope with the large group but fell way short of the mark with



a lot of riders heading off, frustrated with the wait for a drink, to different nearby watering holes. It was great to catch up with some past members and hopefully make a few new ones and all for a good cause, just a pity that you get the parasites turn up at the start to big note themselves brag about being in the event don't participate

and don't donate to the cause. Would like to see a system introduced to weed out the show ponies . Perfect weather, great bikes, terrific atmosphere, takes a lot to beat it. **Dave M**

Above: Rocky looking dapper. Below L to R: A shiny yellow Roadster; Club member Matt on his homebuilt XS650 café racer, and looking schmicko in his bag-o-fruit. Both photos courtesy of Simon Trnovsky



Above: Rocky raised \$2k of the \$80,000 total in Adelaide! Below: Andre was all smiles on his new Commando



Meeting 225

05/08/19

OPENING: Don opened the meeting at 8.15pm.

PRESENT: Committee: Don Hosier, Jerome Munchenberg, Neil Gloyn, Steve Richter, Dave Meldrum, Ian Delaine, Murray Norton, Lyndi Tietz, Dave Rocklyn. Members: (Refer attendance book). Apologies: Phil Allen, Dave Meldrum

TREASURER: Neil Incoming: \$455 membership, \$50 log book, \$83.85 raffle + bits'n'pieces = \$784.69... Outgoing: \$40 room hire, \$50 log books= \$90. Balance: \$4,440.66 Bank balance + \$75 Float

SECRETARY: Jerome Minutes from the Federation; World on Wheel 25 Anniversary Brochure; Authur Clisby Memorial Picnic 15th September; An evening with Gentleman Jim 20th Aug Arkaba Hotel; Any email correspondence is immediately forwarded to mailing list members

CLUB CAPTAIN: Dave M n/a (See reports in the magazine)

EDITOR: Don had problem printing this month's magazine. Apologies. Printing copies tomorrow for mailing. Digital copy to go to Dave R for upload to the website as well... Re-printed Issue No 1! Pre-digital - Found the master with pieces of paper glue to a sheet. Will continue to digitise back issues, which have cool articles

REGALIA: Lyndi Has 4 of 6 beanies; Don would like a leather patch for his jacket if possible

REGISTRAR: Ian/Dave Let Ian know around May if you need a new logbook to avoid disappointment if we get caught out

FEDERATION: Ian/Murray Ian has new procedures for logbooks from the Federation... Federation bank balance \$56k!

LIBRARIAN: Murray Have 2 new DVDs - Engine Rebuild by Mick Hemmings & a gearbox rebuild DVD/VCR.

GENERAL BUSINESS: Ian - Fired off email to Macclesfield Lions Bike Show, 3rd November, stating we will have 10 or so bikes; Don - Megan found a Norton t-shirt with Commando painted on; Dave M wants us to lock in date for Xmas lunch - Sun Dec 1st - which will also be our 20th at Cudlee Creek, and we will recreate our first ride, starting off in Port Adelaide; Ian - how about that suggestion of a patch celebrating the 20th? Let's look into it; Richard is looking for Mk III Commando crankcases; Check Yamaha Pitmans for \$35 mirrors, or K&N for Harley mirrors which work well on a Norton; Bill's bike was sold to a family member, but the Tilbrook sidecar is still available, chassis seems homemade though; All British Day is coming up, registrations not open yet but due by November; Three different events next month - Bay to Birdwood, Distinguished Gentleman's Ride, Balhannah Swap Meet; Oct long weekend will host another Collingrove Hillclimb Event... Next ride 17th, not 20th as on website; Eudunda Show informal day out, \$10 entry, \$5 to enter bike, contestants judge each others—weekend after Maccy; New club advertiser, Lewis Instruments, refurbishes chromometric instruments - see magazine; Richard talks about the 1961 Model 99, his grandad's which was used to pick his dad up from school, and in turn, Richard was picked up from school - The bike is so in his blood, he could never part with it! Front single leading shoe has been replaced with Norvil twin leading shoe which is excellent. Guards may be Commando. Richard has added tungsten bar ends which is 19gms per cc, so 2 pounds on either side to reduce vibration

RAFFLE: Tickets: \$2 for 1, \$5 for 3. Prizes are Young Henrys Motorcycle Oil 4-pack beer & copy of the Norton Big Twin Rebuild. Winners: K100 Richard. DVD. 2nd K70 Barry.

CLOSED: Meeting closed at 8.57

Meeting 226

02/09/19

OPENING: Don opened the meeting at 8:05

PRESENT: Committee: Donald Hosier, Dave Meldrum, Barry Miller, Neil Gloyn, Dave Rocklyn. New Member: Tom 1956 Model 50. Members: refer attendance book. Apologies: Jerome Munchenberg, Ian Delaine, Dan Gleeson, Thelma Arehns

TREASURER: In: 287.58 Raffle: \$72 Donation \$10 Out: \$40 Current \$4691.24

SECRETARY: N/A

WEB ADMIN: N/A

CLUB CAPTAIN: July Barossa good, cold but fun. August ride rained out. Shed time at Dave R's and then Jerome's with Dicky, Don and Jerome. Sept 29th DGR run. Oct 20th, Nov 13th, Dec 1st (Anniversary Run) from Port Adelaide. Please RSVP for lunch at Gorge Pub

EDITOR: Last month's mag printed

REGALIA: New beanies

REGISTRAR: Busy due to Ian not here for a couple months

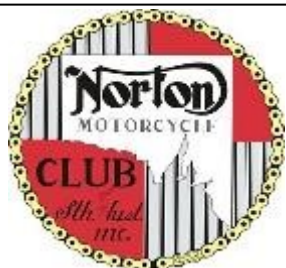
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LIBRARIAN: N/A

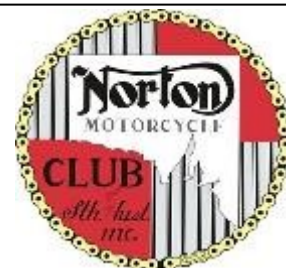
GENERAL BUSINESS: Moto Expo Adelaide at Published Art House, Balhannah Swap; Macclesfield Nov 3rd, Con will bring 1955 19R next meeting for show & tell. Club agreed to donate \$200 to Mac Park race

RAFFLE: John McNaughton bottle of sauv blanc

CLOSED: Meeting closed at 8:40



Have you got an interesting Norton, be it a race bike, custom, or early model? Or do you just want to show off your pride & joy? Why not bring it along to a Club meeting and tell us a bit about it? Wheel it into the club room for all to see and drool over





Extra photos from features in this issue

Top Right and below: Rocky's Adventure Commando in the Flinders Ranges

Top Left and below: From the DGR, thanks to Simon of 'On The Red Line Photography'. That's his restored CZ



Last two of the Prez & Editor during our Shed Day. Fixing a wobbly table at the pub, and enjoying a 'butcher'



Ride Calendar 2019/20



Date	Ride	Start Point
17th August	Hills Ride	Howard Tce & Greenhill Rd Hazelwood Park
20th October	Barossa Valley BVCMCC Annual Rally	Gepps Cross Kartmania Carpark
17th November	Hills Ride	Howard Tce & Greenhill Rd Hazelwood Park
1st December	20th Anniversary Ride Lunch @ Cudlee Creek	Port Adelaide
19th January	Hills Ride Hahndorf Swap Meet	Howard Tce & Greenhill Rd Hazelwood ark
9th February	All British Day	Howard Tce & Greenhill Rd Hazelwood Park

For 'Catch Up' points & further details, check at Club meetings, the NMCSA.org website, or with the Ride Captain

Events

- Nov 3rd **Lions Bike Show - Macclesfield** The NMCSA will have a stand again at this casual, eclectic bike show. Last years event was fun with an excellent mix of machines. Ride in, ride out as you please More info at www.lionsbike.show
- Dec 1st **NMCSA 20th Anniversary Ride** A re-run of our first Club ride back in 1999, starting from Port Adelaide, winding our way through the Hills and meeting up at the **Cudlee Creek Tavern** (Gorge Rd) for lunch and good times with old and new friends
- Feb 9th **All British Day - Echunga** Get your entries in! The Norton Motorcycle Club of SA will again have a display on the oval for this massive show of British machinery. Always a great time www.allbritishday.com/



All rides start at 10am unless otherwise noted.

Calendar is prepared in advance & is subject to change.

For further information, ring the Club Captain @ **0423 191 620** or check our website **NMCSA.ORG**

