

# ENERGETTE

Newsletter of the  
Norton Motorcycle Club of South Australia Inc.



**Norton Motorcycle Club of South Australia Inc.**

**Established June 1999.**

## Club Details

**Meetings:** Velocette Clubrooms, 74 Drayton Street, Bowden 5007 SA  
Arrive from 7:30pm for 8:00pm meeting on the first Monday of every month.  
No meeting in January. Meetings that fall on a public holiday are deferred a week.

**Mail:** The Secretary, NMCSA,  
c/o Velocette Clubrooms,  
74 Drayton Street, Bowden 5007 SA

**Website:** <https://www.nmcsa.org>

*ALL NORTON OWNERS, ENTHUSIASTS AND THEIR FAMILIES ARE WELCOME!*

## 2023 Committee

<b>President</b>	Ian DeLaine	0407 617 256	<a href="mailto:president@nmcsa.org">president@nmcsa.org</a>
<b>Vice-president</b>	Donald Hosier	0433 318 503	<a href="mailto:vice-president@nmcsa.org">vice-president@nmcsa.org</a>
<b>Secretary</b>	Richard Lynch	0447 545 339	<a href="mailto:secretary@nmcsa.org">secretary@nmcsa.org</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Neil Gloyn	0414 608 723	<a href="mailto:treasurer@nmcsa.org">treasurer@nmcsa.org</a>
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<b>Club Captain</b>	Peter Sinfield	0417 842 527	<a href="mailto:club-captain@nmcsa.org">club-captain@nmcsa.org</a>
<b>Public Officer</b>	Barry Miller	0407 590 004	<a href="mailto:public-officer@nmcsa.org">public-officer@nmcsa.org</a>
<b>Regalia</b>	Lyndi Tietz	0417 084 438	<a href="mailto:regalia@nmcsa.org">regalia@nmcsa.org</a>
<b>Librarian</b>	Dave Meldrum	0423 191 620	<a href="mailto:librarian@nmcsa.org">librarian@nmcsa.org</a>
<b>Federation</b>	Eddy Spear	0410 434 083	<a href="mailto:federation@nmcsa.org">federation@nmcsa.org</a>
<b>Registrars</b>	Ian DeLaine	0407 617 256	<a href="mailto:registrars@nmcsa.org">registrars@nmcsa.org</a>
	Dave Rocklyn	0423 498 781	
	Eddy Spear	0410 434 083	
	Adrian Fechner	0409 199 112	

## Newsletter Contributions

Members wanting any articles, events, services, classifieds, rides, etc. published in the Energette please contact the editor with details.

Mobile: 0417 818 001

Email: [editor@nmcsa.org](mailto:editor@nmcsa.org)



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# Collingrove Hill Climb

Reporter: Dave 'Molly' Meldrum

Perfect weather for the Collingrove hill climb this year, a lot better than the last couple of years of extreme heat then cold and rain. The numbers of old bikes were down which was a bit disappointing, but I guess as the old guys get too tired and sore to race its going to be the future!. It was great to see the Victorian hand change boys come over and put a couple of Indians and a Harley up the hill, these old v twin American bikes sound fantastic picking their way around the track. A very fast wheel standing triumph had to be admired. Club member Dan had his Dunstall out, always easy to pick that bike as it has its own sound and is stunning to look at. A large number of young Motard riders had me in awe as the guys slide the bikes around the corners, brilliant to watch and looks to be the future of the hill climbs as their numbers seem to increase each meeting.





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# Dirty Devils

Reporter: Dave 'Molly' Meldrum

I recently attended the "Dirty Devils" car club show. This club is based on hot rods and customs from the 50's/60's era, but this event included a bike show sponsored by the Adelaide Hills '59 Club.

A variety of bikes turned up, and in the mix was past club member Darren with his Norvil replica, a modern Triumph with a 60's style full fairing looked the old school café racer, with a period BSA race bike brought along. Local bike restorer Jess had a Trumpy Bobber on show (pity he didn't bring his ES2 outfit) and the usual flock of Harleys made up the numbers.

A big feather in the Norton cap was Darren's Norvil winning the 59 Club choice award.





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# September Club Ride

**Sunday 24th September 2023**

**Reporter: Peter Sinfield**

We met at the X convenience petrol station Golden Grove on a beautiful spring day. Eddy Spear was the ride leader. Pulling up to the service station just past 9:30am and I could hardly believe my eyes – already there were 13 bikes raring to go - 8 Nortons (7 Commandos and Con's 650 SS), 3 BMWs and 2 Triumphs.

Plenty of chat and then off we go. We made our way through to Kersbrook via One Tree Hill, then on to the outskirts of Williamstown where from there we veered off on to the road to Springton and then finally on to Mount Pleasant for a coffee and a bite to eat. We stayed here for quite a while chatting and meeting a potential new club member, and then off we go on to Mount Torrens via the Tungkillo Road. From here we made our way through to Kenton Valley where we lost a couple of bikes, then on to Lobethal then Lenswood, Cudlee Creek where we lost a few more bikes and finally on to Gumeracha for Lunch.

We lost a few more at Gum so it ended up only 4 of us for lunch! Anyway, we had a very nice pub lunch and a nice cold beer and plenty of chat about all manner of stuff and then we made our own ways home.

All in all, a great day. A big thanks to Eddy for being the ride leader and everyone else who came on the ride.

Cheers Peter.





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# Swingers Club

**Commando Swing Arm Repair**

**Reporter: Greg Wren**

We've all had that feeling, when riding, that there is something not quite right in the back end (of the bike that is).

When I go that feeling on my 850 Commando, it was immediately onto the centre stand with it! I was getting side-to-side movement by wiggling the back tyre, so I diagnosed worn swing arm bushes. No biggie, done them before, or so I thought.

However, after purchasing new bushes and a new spindle, I trial fitted said spindle and found the movement was instead a result of wear in the pivot tube of the gearbox cradle! Not good I thought, but also not an altogether uncommon problem with the Commando.

After a bit of research via Mr Google, I found I could, a) purchase a new gearbox cradle for the measly sum of \$450 approx. (out of my budget), b) purchase a set of very trick looking Kegler Clamps from USA for about \$100, or c) talk to the NMCSA's resident mechanical engineering guru Mr Rocklyn.

Dave explained what he had done to his Commando and convinced me that this type of fix was the way to go. Not only was it cost effective (read cheap!) but you get the satisfaction of doing it yourself. Note: Any deviations/errors in my fix should be attributed to me, not Dave!





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## **Swingers Club (Cont.)**

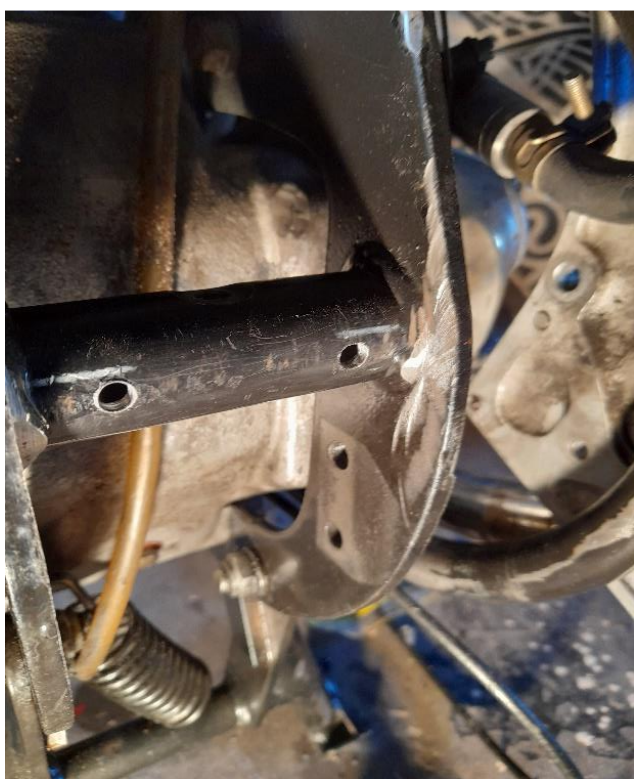
Basically, it involves welding a square piece of rod, suitably drilled and threaded, between the end plates of the cradle, through which two bolts hold the pivot spindle firm. A bit like the cotter pins on the later models.

I didn't want to have to remove the cradle if I could get away with it. And in the end, I didn't have to. You still must strip the back end of the bike i.e., wheel, exhausts, shocks, mudguard, taillight, footrests, and Z plates (I left the gearbox isolastic bolt in and rotated them forward). Before removing the swing arm, I measured the gap between the spindle pivot tube of the cradle and the cross piece of the s.a. to determine how much space I had to play with.

I used a piece of 10mm square rod because I had some lying around, cut it to length and notched out the ends where it would allow the original welds on the spindle pivot tube to be undisturbed, drilled and tapped the holes to line up with the flats on the spindle. At this point I primed and painted the rod, for rust protection when fitted. I loosely fitted the rod with hose clamps and used this as a template to drill the holes in the spindle pivot tube.

A good friend of mine Tony, who is a far better welder than I will ever be, then Mig welded the ends of the rod to the end plates only of the cradle. My reason for this was that I didn't want the heat from the welding process to possibly distort the pivot tube. Once cooled I sealed the top and bottom length of the rod to pivot tube gap with Silicone to keep water and rust out. I used 6mm stainless steel bolts cut to length and because I'd measured the gap, knew I could leave the heads on to make future adjustments easy.

All things considered, it wasn't too difficult a job, and while I haven't put a lot of miles on her since then, the handling has improved out of sight. Thanks goes to Dave Rocklyn for taking the time to walk me through the process. Photos of the finished job somehow disappeared into the ether never to be seen again, but you can get the general idea of how it looks when finished. Hint: get yourself a good vernier calliper and use it often!!





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# Meeting Minutes

**NMCSA General Meeting No 270  
Monday 4th September 2023**

**OPENED:** Meeting opened at 8:00pm by president, Ian DeLaine.

**PRESENT:** Present: 21 (including barman, Greg)  
Visitors: Stephen Mulhern (Old member, returned)  
Apologies: Dicky, John McNaughton.

**TREASURER:** Incoming: \$204.06 (of that, the raffle bought in \$46).  
Outgoing: \$40.00 (Room hire).  
Bank: \$9,088.26  
Float: \$75.00  
Total: \$9,1063.26  
Chequebooks to disappear in 2030!

**SECRETARY:** Jerome recording the minutes, as Dicky is an apology.

**WEB ADMIN:** Nothing to report.

**CLUB CAPTAIN:** Great August ride in September! Weather was perfect with about a dozen bikes. Lunch at the Robin Hood, Strath, led by Ian De Laine. ... Eddie to captain next ride, 17th September, details to come.

**EDITOR:** Magazine due next month - articles please!

**REGALIA:** Norton Xmas Club Ride & Lunch, Sunday 19th November, Birkenhead Hotel.

**REGISTRAR:** No activity to report!

**LIBRARIAN:** Mag from the Victorian Club. Don't forget to look at the book collection - lots of workshop manuals, etc. Molly is keen to get approval to buy Norton Commando Restoration Manual by Norman White and Peter Williams - Designed to Race. APPROVED!

**FEDERATION:** Eddie went to his first meeting. Sarah Clark from the Dept Transport reports a new round of grants coming out in November. ... A lot of car related content.

**GENERAL:** Molly recommends a wheel guy, works from home, makes spokes, laces wheels and will true them. Speak'n of Spokes, Merv Edwards, 0417 828 123, 45 Jetty Rd, Brighton. ... Welcome back, Con, from his trip to Greece.

**RAFFLE:** E21 - Phil Allen - Bottle of port!

**CLOSED:** 8:40pm





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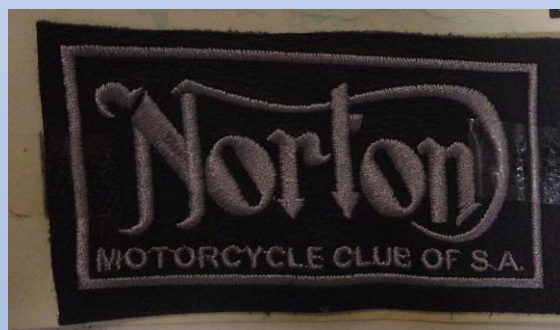
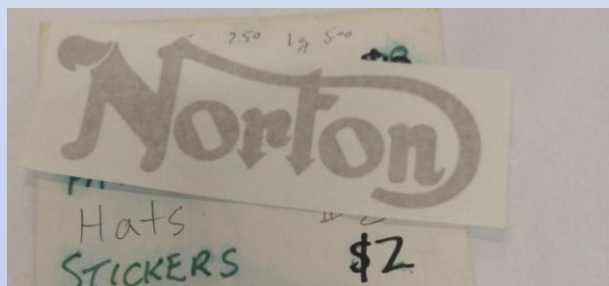
# Regalia

The Club has a variety of Regalia available to members.  
Family don't know what to get you for Xmas? Here's some ideas!

Stock changes from time to time and the best way to order is to contact  
our club regalia officer, Lyndi, via email - [regalia@nmcsa.org](mailto:regalia@nmcsa.org)

Some items like t-shirts, hoodies, etc are ordered in batches so you can pre-  
order the size or colour combination you want if we don't already have one hanging on the rack.

Come along to a meeting to have a look or catch up with us at one of the shows!





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## Club Events

- 9<sup>th</sup> October 2023      General Meeting.
- 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2023      Club Ride. Details to be confirmed.
- 6<sup>th</sup> November 2023      General Meeting.
- 19<sup>th</sup> November 2023      Club Ride. Details to be confirmed, but ending at the Birkenhead Hotel for Christmas Lunch.
- 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023      General Meeting with Christmas BBQ.
- 17<sup>th</sup> December 2023      Club Ride. Details to be confirmed.
- No meeting in January!

## Advertisers

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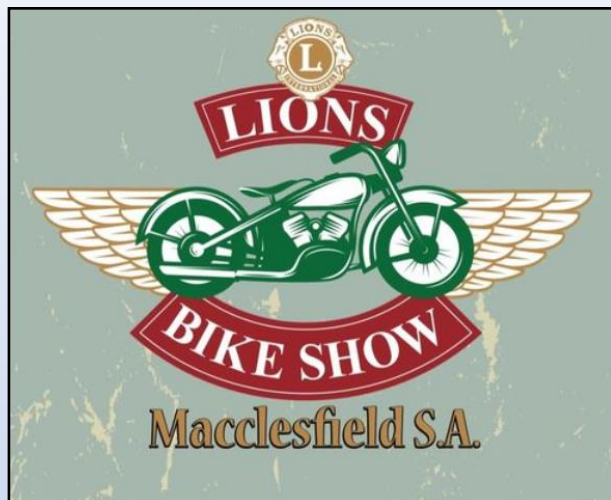
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## Upcoming Events

**BAY to  
BIRDWOOD**

**22 October 2023**



**Sunday 5th November 2023**  
Macclesfield Sports Oval

### Eudunda Show Old Bike - Show 'n' Shine 12<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Owners of Vintage, Veteran and Classic Motorcycles are invited to enter the

#### **Eudunda Show - Show 'n' Shine competition.**

Eligible entries are motorcycles that qualify for Historic Registration in SA (Pre 1998 manufacture)

Categories to be judged are:-

- Best British
- Best American
- Best European
- Best Japanese
- Oldest Bike on Display
- Best Outfit (Sidecar)
- Best Represented Club

Entrants will judge exhibits.



**Entries accepted on the Day.**  
**Entry Fee \$5.00**

All motorcycles to be presented for judging at **11.30am**,  
Entrants will judge exhibits.  
Earliest departure at 4pm.

However you are invited to stay for the After Show BBQ and Entertainment

**For further information, contact Steve Richter on 0410 690 658,  
or email [secretary@eudundashow.org.au](mailto:secretary@eudundashow.org.au)**