



WE'RE ALL HERE BECAUSE WE'RE NOT ALL THERE



Norton Colorado

www.nortoncolorado.org

Newsletter

January 2025



Tony Harris' custom built Norton ES4. See more on Page 2.

Upcoming Events *Calendar See Page 8*

January 1, 2025 (Wednesday), Clancy's Irish Pub.

January 12, 2025 (Sunday), Piper Inn.

February 1, 2025 (Saturday) Winter Banquet.

Look for club emails or check the website for more details about these gatherings.

I see you have a picture of my 1000cc V twin Norton in the December newsletter. My name is Tony Harris and I live here in England. I very much enjoy your newsletters and like to see how things are done over the pond in Norton land. I am a member of the NOC and was Chairman of the local section for many years until I stepped down last year.

The picture you have is an early version of the bike and it evolved a bit later with different wheels, exhaust etc.

I made the motor and the only Norton bits were the heads. I also made the Egli type frame for it and fitted it with a Starter motor off the 888 / 1200 Harleys. The electronic self charging ignition system I also made as The engines are 55 deg.

I have enclosed a picture of the bike as it looks now and before. I have since sold the bike along with my Ariel Vtwin the VNH. This is a 700cc doubled up Ariel motor using two 350 NH top halves on a common crankcase in a slightly stretched std Ariel frame (the first incarnation was in a Norton Slimline frame as seen in the pictures). This has now done quite a few miles and runs very well like the ES4.

A guy has bought both bikes and also a spare motor and a number of parts to make another engine. The bikes are now in very good hands and used.

There is a picture that was taken some years ago with myself on the VNH, My good friend Eddy with his Vincent and Peter with his Vincent. A younger and slimmer Peter no less. .

Tony Harris





Malcolm Smith (1941 – 2024), who many consider to be America’s most-renowned and best-loved motorcyclist, has died from complications of Parkinson’s disease, which he battled for more than two decades. He was 83.

During his 83 years, Smith did it all: Rider. Racer. ISDT gold medalist. Shop tech. Service manager. Repair shop owner. Aftermarket distributor. Retail store owner. Actor. Sponsor. Philanthropist. Pro-motorcycling advocate. Father. Grandfather. Friend. And much more.

But over and above all that, Malcolm Smith was everyman’s motorcyclist, an enthusiastic, fun-loving, driven and talented example of what motorcycling could do and be for the everyday enthusiast, and how the sport could affect our lives in unimaginable ways.

More than decade ago, Malcolm Smith wrote these words for the final chapter of his acclaimed 2015 autobiography: “It all started for me on March 9, 1941, in a small rural hospital in the village of Ganges, on Salt Spring Island, British Columbia, Canada... “Where it will end, no one knows. But you can be sure I’m going to enjoy every minute I have left, with a smile on my face, and my family nearby. Can’t ask for more than that.”

You can’t, and he didn’t...and the world’s motorcycling fans are better for it.

Took my BSA to Orange County in the truck. Rode it around a bit to see friends. Then rode it about 80 miles or so up to the Hansen dam rally and show to see more old friends. I was not going to enter it in show, but since they asked when I arrived I did. Super stoked. Won best bike in show and best 1960s bike, 2 trophies. Not sure what they thought of a Colorado BSA winning a Norton show in Los Angeles lol.

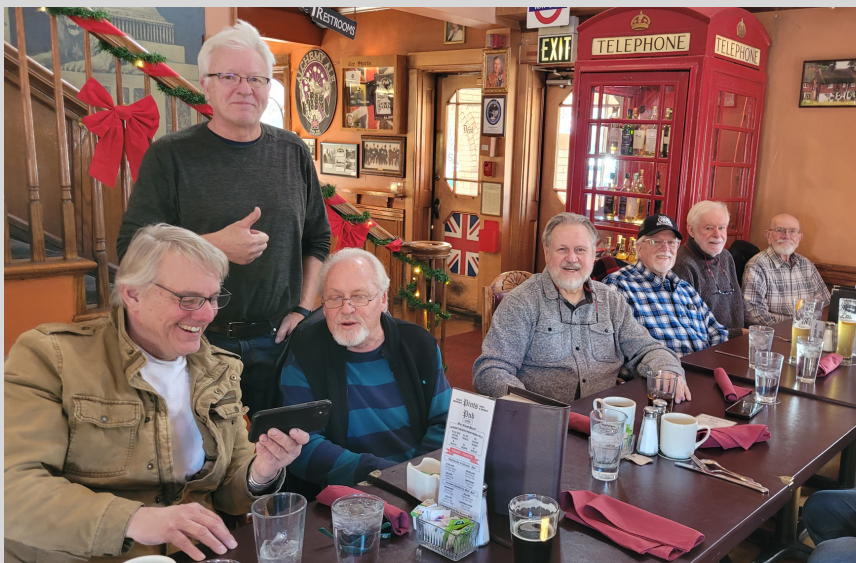
Jerry Doe



Pints Pub



This old English phone booth makes for a great background for bike photos. Might have to explain what a phone booth is to the younger generation.



Great weather, nice turnout, good food and interesting conversations. Another fun club event.



The INOA Norton club welcomes
all British motorcycles to the
INOA 2025 *Feather River Rally III*



June 16th through 21st, 2025
Plumas Sierra County Fairgrounds, Quincy, CA
nortonrally.com



The [Northern California Norton Owners Club \(NCNOC\)](#), a chapter of the [International Norton Owners Association \(INOA\)](#), is hosting the INOA 2025 *Feather River Rally III* June 16th-21st 2025, in Quincy, CA.

It will be a lively gathering of over 300 participants and their motorcycles. Enthusiasts of Norton, British, and other motorcycle brands are invited to explore the best roads and destinations the northern Sierra mountains have to offer.

We invite you to join us for the company of fellow motorcyclists and *Feather River Rally III* activities:

- 🍃 **Tech Sessions** – Talks, presentations, demos on mechanics, modifications, repairs, restoration, upgrades, after-market kits, etc.
- 🍃 **Group Rides** – Guided rides. Corner guides to show directions.
- 🍃 **Self-guided Rides** – Rides with maps and directions that can be undertaken by anyone anytime.
- 🍃 **Dinners** – A buffet and a banquet.
- 🍃 **Concours** – Categories covering Norton, British, non-British, and custom motorcycles.
- 🍃 **Awards** – For concours, feats of riding, service to the INOA and its chapters.
- 🍃 **And more:** Trivia, social hours, evening entertainment, spontaneous events.

We will see you in Quincy, CA, at the *Feather River Rally III*! Registration opens early January 2025.

<https://nortonrally.com>

The organizers can be reached at:

2025-rally-committee@nortonrally.com

I am available online to present the rally to your club!

Ian Reddy, Rally Chair

408-218-1087

Please print out these postcards, email them, post them, and include them in your next club newsletter:

Motorcycle Stuff on the web:

Check out the club websites new photo galleries:

<https://nortoncolorado.org/galleries/>

Here's the link to the discussions page on the website:

<https://nortoncolorado.org/discussions/>

Raceing through history: Motorcycle Mary Mcgee

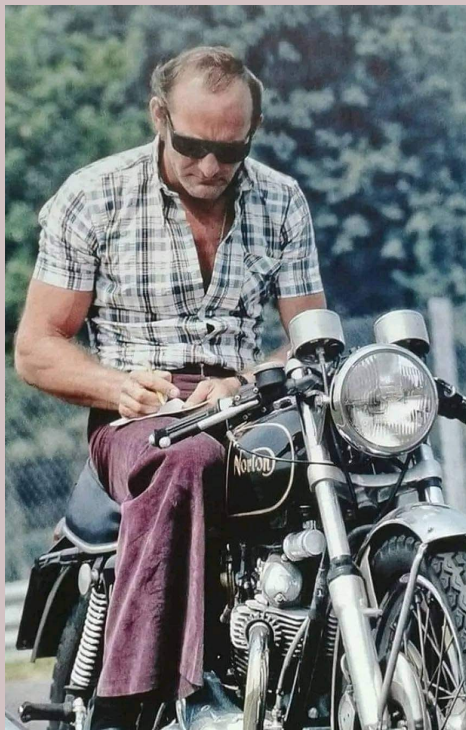
<https://youtu.be/ZKavgIMM08?si=CjWdYdil4tZBwuQB>

What Does It Mean When A Biker Points Two Fingers Down?

<https://www.slashgear.com/1722192/biker-points-two-fingers-down-meaning/>

Abandoned Building 1000 Vintage British Bikes Boneyard...Wahoo?

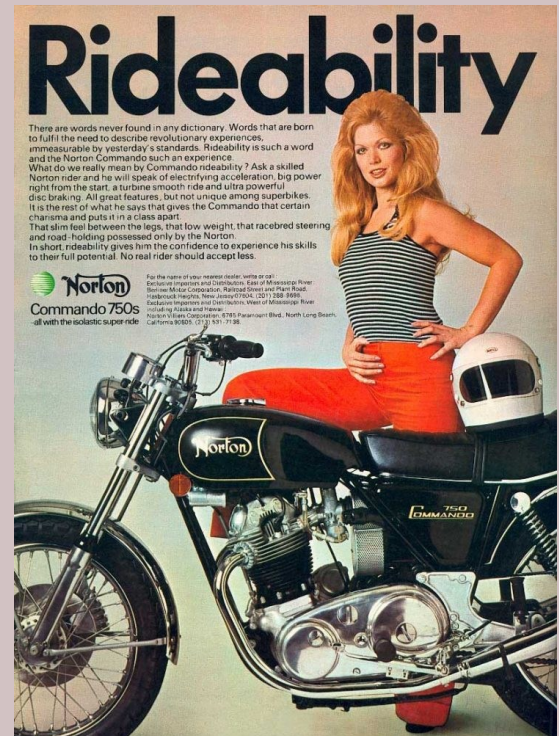
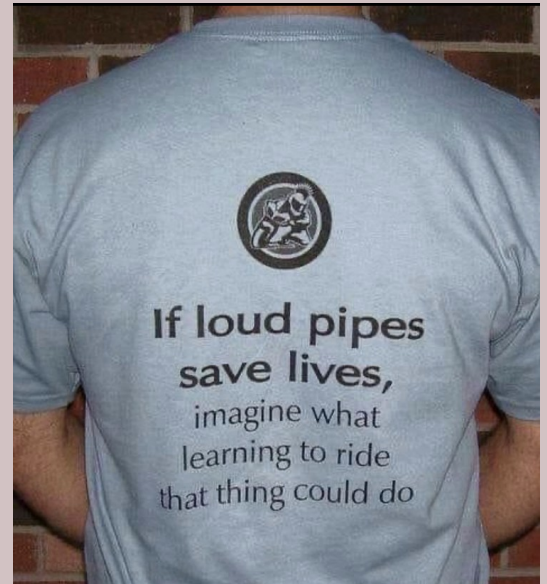
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HKwo14AhWFI>



Mike Hailwood

[Remembering Mike Hailwood 40 Years After His Death](#)

[Mike Hailwood's Isle of Man TT comeback in 1978 - YouTube](#)



Jesse Carraway mentioned that he recently acquired most of the used parts, and possibly a number of new ones, from Matt Rambow at Colorado Norton Works. Matt is no longer building complete bikes so he doesn't need that inventory. Jesse had previously purchased the inventory of the club's Parts Depot when we lost our storage site and he already had a large inventory of his own parts, so at this point I think it is safe to say Jesse has the largest inventory of Norton parts in Colorado. He is glad to help out fellow club members who are in need:

Jesse Carraway
(303) 980-6641
jesse@fastmail.fm

Bob Herman has some Norton parts to sell:

I have several Commando seats and a tailpiece that I don't need, and I'd like to offer them to club members before going to eBay or Craigslist with them I don't know what to charge but will take less from a Norton Colorado member than from an "outsider."

1 nice Mk3 seat with hinge

1 nice 750 seat

1 Fastback tailpiece - good shape except for a small crack (damaged in shipping, easily repaired)

I'm going to bring them up to Golden, they will be at Eric's house so a club member won't need to drive down here or pay a big shipping charge.

Bob Herman 719 256-4527; romomoto@gmail.com

Eric Bergman [<bergman@csd.net>](mailto:bergman@csd.net)



Fastback tailpiece

MK3 seat



Bob Herman's Royal Enfield Bullet
(Not sure if this is for sale?)



Highrider seat base



Norton Colorado **2024** Event Schedule

February 4, 2024 (Sunday), 5pm, Winter Banquet, African Grill and Bar.

March 23, 2024 (Saturday), Rocky Mountain Motorcycle Museum, Colorado Springs.

May 19, 2024 (Sunday, 10-1), Open Garage hosted by Ric and Joy Landeira.

June 2, 2024 (Sunday), Big Tent BBQ

June 8, 2024 (Saturday), 8am to 2pm, Colorado Vintage Motorcycle Show,

June 13-16, 2024 (Thursday-Sunday), Four Corners Rendezvous hosted by Steve Harris and Charley Gremmels.

June 17-21, 2024 (Monday-Friday), INOA Rally, Woodstock, New Hampshire.

July 7, 2024 (Sunday), Mt. Evans Ride and Brunch hosted by David Sheesley.

July 21, 2024 (Sunday), BMAC Picnic hosted by Frank & Joanne Puckett.

August 3-4, 2024 (Saturday-Sunday), Wimpy Sleepover hosted by Jamie & Michelle Jones.

August 18, 2024 (Sunday), Open Garage.

September 8, 2024, Sunday, Old Bike Ride.

September 15, 2024 (Sunday), English Motor-ing Conclave.

October 6, 2024 (Sunday), Plains Ride, hosted by Scott and Julie Robinson.

October 27, 2024 (Sunday), Open Garage, hosted by Jonathan Chaikin and Tamara Hale.

November 10, 2024 (Sunday), Fall Tech Day.

December 8, 2024 (Sunday), Pints Pub.

January 1, 2025 (Wednesday), Clancy's Irish Pub.

January 12, 2025 (Sunday), Piper Inn.

February 1, 2025 (Saturday) Winter Banquet.



Membership

Membership in Norton Colorado is open to anyone, regardless of whether they own a Norton, or any motorcycle whatsoever.

Dues are \$25 per family unit, payable to "Norton Colorado" and sent to the Treasurer, whose contact information is listed on the last page of this newsletter.

The official club membership list is posted on the club website. Please let Eric know if there is an error.

The membership year begins with the Winter Banquet in February. New members who join after August 1 are credited with membership for the following year.



1969 Norton Mercury

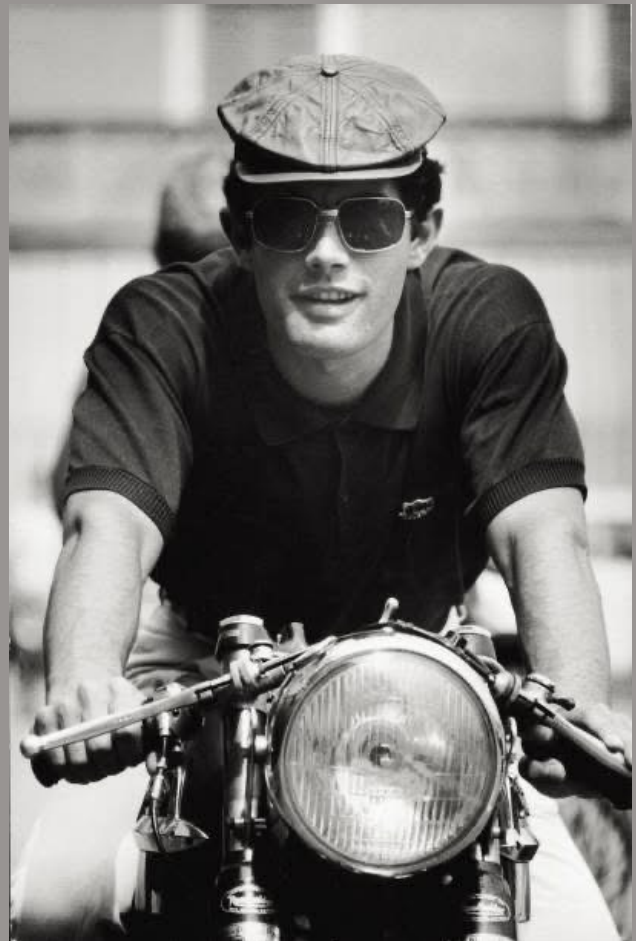
The Mercury was a bike Norton built in order to get rid of all the Atlas and Dominator parts rotting in their factory. It had a 650cc engine. 750 units were made, most of them going to America. It was the last Norton sporting

[Norton Mercury - Wikipedia](#)

Club Events

Many events have been scheduled for the 2024 season, usually about 2 per month. Participation in these events will be counted for the President's Award. Events may be added, dropped, or re-scheduled through the year. The schedule can be found in this newsletter or check the schedule on the club website:

<https://nortoncolorado.org/events/>



Current Occupants

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President

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Credits: Thanks to Peter Allen, Jim Colt, Jerry Doe, Tony Harris, Julian Kowalewski, Bob Martin, Al Slarks and Tom Tallick for their contributions to this newsletter. I also want to say thanks to others who sent me things I will use in future editions.

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