

## Weymouth Run, 28 May 2006

### Name, Ride Leader

Duration: 8.00am – 8.00pm!, Miles: 255 (for most!), Weather: just perfect

Pilot	Bike
Graham Bailey (leader)	GS1200
Budge/Di	Bird
Brian Charlton	KTM
Sally Charlton	GS650
Dave Preest	Guzzi 850T3
Andy/Sue Woodward	Bird
Bob Clapham	PAN
Dave/Lorraine Butcher	CBR600
Geoff Pollard	CBF1000
Paul Coburn	Adventure (limited Edition!)
Steve/Zoe Mason	GSX750F
Tom/Leslie Ann Stevens	Bird
Nick/Jaz	FJR1300
Ian Stavert	FJR1300
Mike Barratt	FJR1300 (all huddled together for spares!)
Godfrey Mills	VFR800
Simon/Carol	FJR1200 (no spares available)
John Deal	Varadero
Ashley Saunders	GS1150
Andy Downs (wow) (sweep)	VFR800

'What? How many?!' 24, 25. 'How many?!' 26 individuals, 19 bikes all eager and waiting for wagons to roll on the long journey south. (Can you imagine the logistics at the Little Chef, no neither can I!)

The phone call was made, with the Little Chef at Shaftesbury now preparing for 27 instead of 10!, the entourage could now set off to make its impact upon the quiet and sleepy villages of the Cotswolds.

Just as we were coursing a path from Cirencester along the A429/A350 through to our now planned (!) breakfast stop. The unexpected happened, just as things were going so smoothly, a local unmarked police car decided to pull young Brian Charlton over with blue lights flashing.

Happily, it was just to endorse that he had also been spotted by them, for riding too slowly and that his progress

was obviously hindering the whole group and adding to the already busy bank holiday nightmare! And on their advice he upped the ante rather than remove his sacred IAM badge as previously suggested!!



*Brian shows off new protective suit. Doubles as liferaft.*

With breakfast all done, fed and watered within the hour, lovely, and still bang on schedule! Marvellous! Well it was until we reached the outskirts of Weymouth where we were to fall foul to hold ups, road closures, and general holiday mayhem. Still it really wasn't that bad, we just seemed to filter for ages (never filter close to a FJ, it's a bit like sitting next to a boiling kettle...).

With the intended view of Weymouth from Portland Heights viewpoint abandoned due to traffic, (even the bridge was up and down like a fiddlers elbow due to a trawlers' fayre) we all settled for dumping the gear (with some stripping to embarrassing levels eh...Nick!) in a

secured beach hut prior to the obligatory parade along the Esplanade. With some of us stripped of Kevlar and the like, we headed off towards the Seagull Café in the harbour with an intention of dangling our legs over the quay side whilst eating our much awaited freshly cooked fish 'n' chips.

Time always being the enemy, and today was no exception, with 3.30pm showing on the face of my Rolex (it's a joke ok...) we all reluctantly set about kitting back up for the return journey before being reunited with our loved ones. (That is, if they weren't with you to start with eh.... Simon!)



*We love the beach!*

As Gloucester started to show on the signs, came the realization that another adventure was slowly coming to an end. Still, we had an almost faultless day with a wonderful turn out of different faces that made a massive contribution towards the club success that it became.

With this write up almost done, I would like to finish by thanking you all for your valued participation, with



*We all love fish 'n' chips. Manners Simon!*

particular thanks to Andy D. for being Mum to you all, and ensuring we all came back the same way (eventually!). And to the bright new faces amongst us such as Paul, Geoff, Ashley, and last but not least both Dave and Lorraine Butcher who are really making the effort to join in and are unwittingly creating an even more vibrant club.... thank you all.

Ride safely...but ride with spirit. ♦

## Dept of Transport initiative

Due to poor driving standards the Department of Transport has devised a scheme to identify poor drivers and warn good drivers of their presence whilst driving.



From 15 May 2006 drivers will be singled out for:

- overtaking in dangerous places
- tailgating
- stopping sharply
- speeding in residential areas
- pulling out without indication
- performing U turns inappropriately
- under-taking on motorways
- taking up more than one lane in multi lane roads

They will be issued with flags - white with a red cross - signifying their inability to drive properly. These flags must be clipped to a car door and be visible to drivers and pedestrians.

Drivers who show particularly poor driving skills will have to display a flag on each side of the car to warn others of their dire lack of skill.

Please circulate this to as many other motorists as you can so that drivers and pedestrians will be aware of the meaning of these flags. ♦