

Biker's Nite, 16 August

Graham Bailey

Duration: 19:00-22:00, mileage: 70 approx, weather: sunny/dry with car washes!

Pilots & pillions

Graham Bailey

GS1200 (ideal for floods)

Bob Clapham

PAN

Dave/Lorraine

CBR600

Janet Attwood

CBR600

'Well', 4 bikes and 5 riders is enough for a party, right!

Sure enough the crowds were high, the rain had stopped, and the pig roast beckoned.

The evening started really well with a gentle warm sun gracing our backs as we escaped from BEW in the general direction of Shab Hill and Andoversford. (I know, I know, but we all get there eventually... honest!)

The atmosphere was great, and the mood was sensible, with a vast

variety of machinery present with everyone just chilling and talking bikes.

Whittington saw the first of an isolated shower as

... we came back down the hill slaloming with the flow of water and loose gravel in its wake...

With the night air pretty much set in, it was time to return home with an element of satisfaction

we came back down the hill slaloming with the flow of water and loose gravel in its wake... (white water riding anyone?) honest ...ask Janet!!

that the effort was well worth the forthcoming bike clean, and indeed the damp corners that had inevitably made their presence felt during the evening.

After a little deviation via Cheltenham just in case it got worse, we continued on our journey with a little rush through seven bends, before enjoying the delights of a very picturesque, if not shadowy, Eckington and Defford before our final destination, the Plough and Kings Head Inn at Upton on Severn nicely sat beside the river.

My sincere thanks to all of the above that had gallantly made the effort given the changing winds, particularly Dave/Lorraine all the way from the Tetbury area, and also Janet 'Baptism of Fire' Attwood, eh, Janet! Well done for riding in trying conditions that all add up to rider

enhancement skills. (Always a part of my ride out routes eh, Budge!!!)

Finally, continual thanks to 'good old Bob' always providing a level of entertainment, and never phased by the conditions.

Thank you all for giving me something to write about. ♦

Severn Freewheelers

Brian Whittles, a SAMmer from Severn Freewheelers, did a whip-round at the last club night. He wants to say thanks to everyone who contributed to the amazing total of £145 raised on the night! And a very special thanks to Paul Wilkinson for his especially generous donation.

See www.freewheelers.org.uk for more info, or contact Rob Davies on 07866 654 193 (evenings) if you'd like to get involved. ♦



SAM teams up with safety equipment specialists

Gastronomic feedback

Martyn Hillier

For those that know the Little Chef at Hope Under Dinmore, where the A417 joins the Hereford - Shrewsbury Rd (A49), there is an alternative you might like to try. Head north around the Leominster bypass, as if heading to Shrewsbury, pass the infamous Cadbury's salmonella plant, & on the last roundabout on the by-pass is an "American style Diner".

I have ridden past it for a number of years, wondering "I wonder what that's like?", so as I was out this morning, I tried it.

The initial impression was that it was very clean. There were the usual breakfast type of menu items, including that motorcyclists staple diet, dead pig in various forms, the the bacon or sausage bap, plus a few American style of dishes - I am reliably informed that the milkshakes are excellent - but we stuck to the Douwe Egberts coffee & refill. They didn't stint on the bacon, & the coffee was fresh.

Very fair prices, & I shall certainly go there again, so if you find yourself in that neck of the woods, give it try. ♦