



Brilliant turnout yet again and on such a fine and sunny (albeit chilly) morning for our annual run to the Acorns Children's Hospices' in Selly Oak and Worcester, good to see some new faces as well, hope you enjoyed it folks. Rolling out of Birds Eye Walls with another 9 bikes in tow gave me the feeling that this was going to be a good day, and when we arrived in the Lower High Street in Cheltenham to eventually have another 10 bikes join the merry throng I new I was right. It was also magic to see 'young' Mr Graham Bailey who turned up for a chat and to wish us all well – get yourself a decent bike mate, one that will be able to make the trip without needing oil and join us next year!!

So with one and all heavily laden with Easter Eggs we set off at 9:30 to begin our trip, nothing spectacular about the route it is the same one as every year, but at least by following one that is tried and tested I know I can get everyone to the Selly Oak on time. And so it was, at exactly 11 we arrived to be greeted by Pauline and Sue (who I have a feeling would come back off holiday just to meet up with us all). Loads of chocolate was handed over on the understanding that the staff would leave well alone – I know what that lot are like, I also gave Pauline an envelope which contained half the money raised at the auction and seeing as the majority was in cash this will be used for days out for the kids. Lots of Tea, Coffee and biscuits soon disappeared (and yes, TOM did eat all the custard creams – sorry mate but it had to be said) before everyone took the advantage of having a look around the new gardens which are absolutely brilliant, and to have a chat with everyone who was there on the day, oh and for Messers Mason and Morgan to take a chip full of photo's each, that's another thing that can be said about the members of SAM – they ain't shy!

An hour soon passes when you're enjoying yourself (well the tea and coffee just kept flowing) and so at 12 we said our farewell's and started the second leg of the trip back down to Worcester. At this point I have to add, Birmingham did not let us down and we

were treated to a couple of dozen drops of rain just as we were kitting up, never failed us yet. It was at this point that Carl and Nina made their way back home, nice to see you guys and we all hope that you can make it again next year. The trouble with having the run on Easter Sunday is that there is nowhere which has enough room come midday to seat us all for something to eat, so we had to forego the usual SAMmers 'fuel' stop and head straight for Worcester.

We arrived at around 1ish to be met by Sue, (its ok Sue, I'm not going to put in what Luke told me to call you), who promptly organised more tea, coffee and shed loads of beautiful home made muffins of every flavour, and by God were they big – Steve? The remainder of the eggs were stacked on the settee just inside the main door and this was followed by yet more photo's. All good things must come to an end, and at around 2ish everyone started to make their own way home. At this point I must thank Clint and Lin for doing an excellent job as "tail end Charlie" – many thanks to you both. Janette and I hung around for a little while after everyone had gone so that we could meet up with Sue Currie and hand over their share of the auctions proceeds which again was very gratefully received.

Many thanks, yet again, to all who came along and remember it will be on again next year, April 24th 2011 – get in your diary now.

Rigar