



# Newsletter

June 2016

## Everything good has an end (but a sausage has two)

After weeks of superb summery days, the weather broke just in time for the Fort Augustus camping weekend. Surprising how quickly you can get used to nice weather, and I find it colours my plans - because its been sunny for a few days, thats how the next trip is in my imaginings. Despite experience and good sense telling me otherwise.

Fort Augustus is not a long trek for us, but in the usual excited anticipation, Ann and I had most of our packing done on the Thursday night, ready to tie bags across seats and clip on panniers on Friday morning. Getting up to cloudy and threatening skies didn't dampen the enthusiasm too much, and when we were caught in the first shower just 50 miles from home I thought I would just ride through it. Big mistake! By the time I stopped to put on my waterproofs the rain was bouncing and the traffic had slowed to under 40 mph because of the lack of visibility. The rain slackened as we went North and by the time we arrived at the campsite we could put the tent up without getting drenched.

Through the afternoon others started arriving, each one wetter than the last, with Phil and Simon opting not to put up tents in the downpour and sleep in the 'bike shed. Saturday was grey and damp - the rain never got heavy but it didn't dry up either. I abandoned the plan for a ride up to the Falls of Foyers and settled for a walk along the canal bank instead.

By evening we had a total of 16 for dinner at the Lock Inn (very accommodating and a nice meal). A glass was raised to mark Bills 80th birthday this summer and the 50th anniversary of his union with the mighty Atlas.

Someone said that we don't stop riding because we have grown old, but we grow old because we have stopped riding. I think the gents on Saturday prove that with Bill, Tom, Sandy and George all having ridden their old 'bikes across a chunk of country. Thats what I want to be doing when I grow up.



We had a good variety of 'bikes in attendance with, unusually, the Featherbeds equalling the Commandos in number.

Thanks for your company to all who managed along.

## Events

NOC Norfolk Branch Anniversary Rally  
Jun 17 2016 to Jun 19, 2016  
Hingham Leisure Centre, Hingham, Norwich

Jimmie Guthrie Memorial Run Jun 19, 2016  
The Green, Denholm, Hawick

Bob McIntyre Classic Races Jun 18, 2016 to Jun 19, 2016  
East Fortune Race Circuit

Arran Bike Show  
Jun 26, 2016  
Arran Museum, Brodick

SCMCC Summer Run  
Jun 26, 2016 10:00 for 11:00 departure The Dalmore,  
Blairgowrie