

## **Borders camping Weekend**

Last weekend was the Borders camping weekend at Yetholm near Kelso. This was a change of venue compared to the last couple of years and the campsite came highly recommended.

Leaving quite late on Friday morning we hoped to avoid the rush hour traffic through Glasgow. We were rewarded with a mostly enjoyable run along the lochside and a remarkably uninterrupted ride until stopping for fuel and coffee at Abington services. And what a shocker that was - I try and avoid service stations as I find them unpleasant and overcrowded, but I wasn't expecting the complete petrol-price rip off! Unleaded was 3p a litre more expensive than Inveraray - the services probably sell more fuel in an hour than our local garage does all day and yet the greedy profiteering owners still clearly aren't content.

Note to self: Don't darken their doorstep again.

We stopped again briefly in Kelso which was very busy as it was hosting a sale of Tups (considered to be the largest single day Ram Sale in the World with almost 5000 being entered), before heading out to the site and getting the tent pitched. More campers arrived throughout the afternoon and into the evening, most finding their way to the local hotel for a meal and to help fill up the bar.

On Saturday a group joined John Powell for a run which followed mostly minor roads and took in some glorious countryside on both sides of the border, a couple of castles, a museum and railway carriages converted into a tea room. An excellent way to spend a day! Saturday evening followed a similar pattern to Friday with the addition of an ABBA themed disco, complete with staff and locals dressing the part. Like many Norton owners, I'm told I dress habitually in 70's period costume, so little extra effort was required to fit in.



Over all a great weekend - the weather held, bikes were ridden, friends met and stories told. Thanks for your company and to all those who helped in making it possible.

## Events

SCMC Classic Autumn Gathering Sept 21st. from 11:00 The Four Seasons Hotel, St Fillans.

TVNOC Autumn meeting Oct 26, 2014 around noon Tullybanocher café, Comrie