

## THE 1st "NOT THE HANGOVER" RUN 28th DECEMBER, 2008.

Fourteen brave but cold souls ventured deep into Norfolk countryside for the East Coast Pedalers 1st "Not the Hangover" run allegedly organised by the inevitable Frank Brzeski; but it appeared by the level of organisation which was apparent as soon as we entered the Swan car park at Ringland that the event had received a woman's touch, and this soon became evident as we learned that it was in fact Sharon Wikner that had been largely responsible for the event being run at all !

Frank already had his hands full anyway as the Cucciolo was playing up and didn't want to come out to play, FB's eyes lit up however once he peered into our van and saw three machines and learnt that Debbie was in fact going to ride pillion on my Puch, but what he didn't know was that the Pedalers "Track spare " Honda Novio had already been 'booked' by day member Sam Smith who was with Neil Ridgeon in a following vehicle ! so with his tail between his legs Frank loaded up the Ducati onto the back of his car and headed back home to swap it for another machine.

The assembled party in the car park unloaded their machines and Frank soon returned with a Mini Motor and flat rear tyre !! We left Frank to fit a new inner tube and made our way into the Swan for a warming cup of coffee. As the 11.00am start time fast approached we were becoming more and more reluctant to leave the warm confines of the Swan to venture out into the cold Norfolk air, but Frank soon bounded into the pub wearing a huge Northern grin announcing that all was well and that we could venture on our way. After a team photograph we set out on the route as one, but soon broke up into smaller groups as the different paces of the machines permitted; we soon got used to the -excellent- Norfolk route marking method and were well on our way through the scenic lanes that Sharon had planned; but it wasn't long though before the normally reliable 'End to End' Raleigh of Terry Keable gave up the ghost (of Christmas past perhaps ?) and had to be returned to the starting point - Terry later reckoned that the machine had lost compression, but after seeing it on his trailer it appeared to have lost the engine !

Another Raleigh - Neil's - also suffered problems, slowing mysteriously about a third of the way round, with much pedalling Neil gamely got it to the finish, although it did cure itself just before the end, and the jockey steadfastly refused to shut off resulting in a very spectacular Speedway style full broadside on one sharp mud covered left-hander, Carl & Debbie together with Mark Adams (all the way from Derby ) on a very impressive Saracen Mountain bike fitted with a Champion cycle attachment motor (look out for a Road test in Buzzing as Martin Wikner was seen riding it after the event) kept Neil company and made sure he got back to the Swan intact. Frank too had further problems suffering another puncture on the Mini Motor, he returned on the back of Steve Cobb's Yamaha Trail bike; having left his bike in a hedge somewhere. It was good to Steve at an event and we hope to see him at some Pedalers events in 2009, he had the ideal bike on the day as some of the roads were very muddy what with it being the middle of the sugarbeat season - that was what FB led us to believe anyway !

Everyone else had arrived back safe and sound, so we loaded up the bikes and made our way into the Swan where they had thoughtfully lit an open fire for us which was a very welcome sight indeed. After partaking in a superb lunch washed down by a nice pint we eventually managed to move ourselves away from the fire to make our way home; although we had to virtually drag Neil and Sam away as they were enthralled by the End to End exploits of Terry, FB, Martin and Sharon.

Our sincere thanks to Frank, Sharon and Martin for organising such a great final event for 2008; we hope it will become an annual event. Also thanks to our hosts at the Swan, Ringland for making us so welcome and for serving such great food.

Runners & Riders: Frank - Mini Motor, Terry - Raleigh RM6, Sharon - Honda PC50, Martin - Mobylette, Mark - Saracen/Campion ATB, Dave Watson - Mobyatic, Dave Arnott - Motobecane, Roly Scarce - PC50, Steve - Yamaha Trail, Carl/Debbie - Puch Grand Prix, Neil - RM6, Mick Sudds - Honda Novio. Sam - Novio (Day Member)

Sorry for the lack of photographs but our fingers were too cold to press the camera button !!

*Carl Squirrell*

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