

East Coast Pedalers Annual Camping Weekend May 2011

This was our first time at the Norfolk Rally and it proved to be an ideal venue for our Annual Camping Weekend. Barrie and Janet Brasted had done a superb job in liaising with the organisers and had negotiated a prime area for the East Coast Pedalers to set up our display area.

Long distance visitors; Luke Booth - Sussex, Harvey & Gill Spencer, John & Cherry Truluck - Lincolnshire, John Redding & Brenda - Peterborough, Richard Layton - Essex, John Dainty, Ryan Lancaster - Durham, Clive & Ann Fletcher - Kent had grabbed the best spots to set up their accommodation, whilst us later local arrivals had to settle for the less luxurious end of the rugby pitch.

Our machines were neatly lined up and at the last count on Saturday evening we had 34 machines on display plus a Cyclaid attachment, we were asked to do a parade lap around the arena; Carl (Squirrell) was press ganged into doing a commentary so hopefully the small crowd that gathered learnt something of the activities of the NACC Ltd...

We then left for our first run of the evening to the nearby North Walsham Motorcycle Museum, Dave Watson had planned a lovely ride through the lanes, unfortunately due to the large number of riders on the run we did get separated so the smaller second group had to find their own way as they were unable to catch up with the main group as Roly headed off on a more direct route and it was 2 miles before we could grab his attention and inform him that he had missed the first - and most important turning ! - by the time we rejoined the route the others had long gone and we ended up doing a much longer than intended route to the Museum; nevertheless everyone arrived safe and sound and we enjoyed a long and interesting look around the many exhibits on display; the vast majority of which are NACC type machines.

After this we headed off to North Walsham Market place to find something to eat, there was plenty to choose from and we all returned to the campsite well fed and watered. There was a bar and entertainment provided on site which some members enjoyed, a group of eight of us elected to walk a few hundred yards to the nearest pub where we were made very welcome by the staff and locals, we were provided with free food and our day member from Durham - Ryan took over the laptop which was playing the music so we ended up having a pretty wild night !! The landlord invited us back to attend one of the regular bike nights - I don't think he really knew what sort of bikes we ride but a few of plan to make a return visit on our bigger bikes in the near future.

We staggered back to our tents where everything was deadly quiet (until we arrived!) and eventually tumbled into our tents/vans to get some sleep in readiness for the next day.

Sunday dawned with a well needed shower of rain, Dave was soon cooking up one of his renowned breakfasts for us all and those members that valued their bikes more than some (the pub-goers obviously don't !!) unlocked their machines from their cosy night time residences and added them to the bikes that had stayed out all night where they were left Saturday. It wasn't long before the Sunday day-trippers' arrived to join in the fun, and our final number of machines on display reached a record-breaking 38 machines plus the Cyclaid which hadn't been stolen during the night.

After another ride around the ring; again with a running commentary, we were asked to line up our machines; much to our surprise the organisers presented two awards - the first was to 12 year old Alex who was riding Mark Gibb's Honda C100, this was for his skilful control of the machine and to say Alex was pleased was an understatement !! The second award was presented to Dave who had persuaded Brenda to accompany him on his Sparta Tandem - we are not really sure why they received this reward personally I think it was for the best looking passenger in the parade !!

We then headed back to get geared up for the second run of the weekend, Luke had gamely ridden his Bernadi Buzz on the previous day, but didn't fancy doing it on the longer run so elected to ride the Track Spare Honda Novio, there were even more riders this time but somehow we managed to keep it together and all enjoyed a sedate run to the Lunch stop, Richard Layton had the foresight to phone ahead so that when we arrived we had tables reserved and were able to get served very quickly , a very nice meal was enjoyed and it wasn't long before everyone was eager to return to base to enjoy the rest of the activities that the Norfolk Rally had to offer.

The only breakdown of the weekend occurred two miles from the finish when Ryan's Batavus Go-Go decided it wanted to be a No-Go and stopped and despite a carb clean and new plug steadfastly refused to run again, resulting in a push from Carl on the PC50 Sidecar for the remainder of the run.

Everyone eventually made it back safely and the remainder of the day was spent chatting to the public about the club and our machines, until eventually at 4.00 o'clock the show finished and we started to pack away our machines, tents etc in readiness for what for some was a long drive home.

Our many, many thanks to Barrie and Janet Brasted for suggesting this venue for the Camping Weekend, their hard work certainly paid off and this reflected in the fantastic turnout of members and machines over the weekend, we really are grateful for their input into the East Coast Pedalers section, also thanks to Dave Watson for taking the time to plan the road runs for us, thanks to Richard Layton for taking the trouble to book the tables at the lunch stop, and finally thanks to all the members that travelled from near and far to make the weekend a resounding success.

Members attending the event were:

Guy Bolton - Mosquito, Luke Booth - Bernadi Buzz & Clark Scamp, Harvey & Gill Spencer - Honda PC50s, Richard Layton - Yamaha T80, Mick Sudds - Honda Novio, John & Cherry Truluck (New members signed on the day) Raleigh RM5 & Honda PC50, John Redding & Brenda - Raleigh Wisp & Puch MS50, John Dainty - Batavus, Janet Brasted - Puch Maxi, Barrie Brasted - Honda Stream, Raleigh RM12, Colin Brasted - Ariel 3, Terry Keable - GYS Motamite, Raleigh RM1, Honda PC50, Dave Watson - New Hudson, Rod Fryatt - Mobylette 50V, Clive & Ann Fletcher - NSU Quickly, Mark Gibb - Ariel/Honda 3, Honda C100 & C50L, Keith Ashby - New Hudson, Carl Harper (New member) Motobi, Philips Panda, Barry Lewis - Honda Camino, Val Dearsley - Yamaha QT50, Roly Scarce - Honda PC50, Honda Melody, Carl Squirrell - Cyclaid, Puch Grand Prix, Honda PC50 Sidecar.



The line up from the left



and from the right



Harvey's home from home



Getting ready for the first run of the weekend



Museum Pictures



Inside the Museum



Inside the Museum



Inside the Museum



Inside the Museum



Inside the Museum



Inside the Museum



North Walsham Market place food stop



North Walsham Market place food stop



North Walsham Market place food stop



Action shots from the return ride on Saturday evening



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the East Coast Pedalers Quiz for the weekend : What is this machine ? Luke tries to guess ... answers by e mail to eastcoastpedalers@hotmail.com



The Cyclaid takes pride of place



The view from the top of Dave's van



The public work their way along the machines



Alex on Mark's C100



Dave and Brenda on the Sparta Tandem



Dave's New Hudson as is becoming usual oils up a spark plug.



Dave's New Hudson oils up a spark plug - run still paused



Dave's New Hudson oiled up a spark plug close up



At the Butchers Arms



At the Butchers Arms



At the Butchers Arms



Note: Following the issue of a Super injunction this caption withdrawn.



Ann and Clive relax before the ride back



Ready for the off



Even Carl couldn't get Ryan's Batavus to Go - Go !



Batavus Go Go declared Gone



New member John finds the East Coast Pedaler experience somewhat tiring !!



Proof that Dave does sometimes work on his bikes ! !

[Back to 2011 Index](#)