

Wings & Wheels 2009

An account of the weekend's activities by Bob Shore

Thanks to Witley MCC once again for inviting Surrey Schoolboy Trials Club to be a part of the very professional looking motorcycle display stand at Wings & Wheels in Dunsfold on the 30th August

Our weekend started as a guest of the Reigate and Redhill North Downs Motorcycle Club at their camping weekend at Sethern, arriving midday on the Saturday to find a mini village of tents, caravans and motor-homes already established. After exchanging a few pleasantries Harriet and I got the bikes out and whilst Harriet got down to a bit of practicing, I just rode around a bit and fell off – nothing unusual there then.

A few familiar faces joined us for a spot of practicing; Tom McCabe, Toby Smith and Josh Brimecombe, shortly followed by Nigel (retired gracefully) Brimecombe. A section was quickly put together by Paul McCabe and myself and all had a go at the various twists and turns we plotted along the bank.

Before we knew it the time was late enough for us all to make ready for the BBQ and entertainment laid on for the evening and a very enjoyable evening it was with plenty of food, good company and horse racing for those off us who like a flutter.

With the last of the races behind us, we made a last check on the mornings wake up time and we all turned in ready for an early start on the Sunday morning to travel all of a half mile up the road to Dunsfold Aerodrome, home of the Wings & Wheels event.

An overcast morning greeted us and after a hasty mug of tea we left site quietly, leaving those who were not going to the show to their sleep. The queue was already forming even at 8:30 as we followed a long line of visitors into the venue. Classic cars, custom cars, army vehicles, vans (us) and people streamed into the event and we soon found the Witley MCC stand, parked up and set about helping to arrange the various obstacles and objects our riders would attempt that day, the highlight of which being the now mandatory car.

All was soon prepared and the noise of trial bikes soon joined with the rest of the shows rising sound level. The riders were off, checking out the obstacles one by one, some riders avoiding the bigger hazards till later in the day.

There was a good turnout of riders including Tom McCabe, Jack Frearson, Toby Smith, Ed Wheeler, Millie Ray, and Harriet and they kept the crowd captivated all day with their amazing riding especially Richard Tickner and James Ray whose endless variations on how to ride over a car had to be seen to be believed.

Also keeping busy were Clive and Arthur who had a constant stream of children wanting to sit on the bikes on static display and Helen for a constant supply of tea, many thanks from us all for that. I apologise now for forgetting anyone but writing this now on the Tuesday my memory is slightly fogged by the weekends other activities.

And so the show is over and the long queue is now the order of the day. After over an hour sat in the same place, the runway is opened up and the alternative exit is in use; Back to Setheron to rest after a day on my feet. Did I say rest? After a meal generously offered by Clive, Nigel and families, it was over to the marquee to catch up on the motor racing and then over to the bonfire, all accompanied by a bottle or 4 of red wine. I don't remember Clive and I consuming that many but then again, I can't remember much normally.

Monday morning (well mid morning) we are up and about again for the last day of playing about on the bikes. A small 6 section 2 lap fun trial was set out and when all had finished that, a short obstacle course was attempted much to the amusement of all gathered.

Now the afternoon was getting on Harriet and I decided to call it a day as we were both worn out! We both had a great time and would like to thank everyone for a great weekend. I have added some photos of the weekend but they don't do it justice. Thanks to all once again.