

Baileys' BBQ

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Alison and Chris Bailey are relatively new members and bravely offered to host a BBQ in their garden. It was a roaring success.



13 bikes, 16 people left Alton Station at 10:30am in overcast conditions for a bimble through the Hampshire countryside. The direct journey would have been 27 miles and taken about 45 mins. Our route was 70+ miles and lasted 2 hours.

We headed north towards Odiham on the route led by Mike & Lesley, through the Candovers to New Alresford; backroads through Froxfield and Sheet to Petersfield, then East and West Meon, Warnford, Beauworth, Owlesbury and Bishops Waltham to their home in West End on the outskirts of Southampton, where we were joined by a couple more people who had been unable to join in with the ride. Despite damp roads and dark clouds, the rain held off and we all had fun on the lanes (with some fast bits too).



Their gravel drive caused some consternation, but everyone negotiated it safely and we were ready for food!



Alison and Chris had worked hard to ensure that seating was available for all, Chris fired up the BBQ and the smell of burgers and bangers filled the air. Anne Martin did a wonderful job with the tea and coffee and very soon we were all scoffing heartily.

The sun broke through and we spent the afternoon chatting and laughing. The high spot for some was when Chris showed us his military vehicles – an armoured Land Rover from the Balkan War and a Land Rover-based troop carrier built in the 1970's.

Big thanks to Alison & Chris and to everyone who came along and made it such an enjoyable day.