

Revving, Rolling, and BBQ-ing: A Summer Ride to Remember

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On Saturday, 6th July, a merry band of motorcyclists gathered bright and early at Alton Station for what turned out to be a day full of scenic roads, sizzling sausages, and classic British weather.

With 11 bikes in the lineup and Mike and Lesley taking the lead, we set off at 10:30 AM sharp. The route was a winding beauty through the Hampshire countryside—first heading toward Basingstoke, then weaving through the picturesque Candovers to the charming town of Alresford. Spirits were high, engines were humming, and the overcast skies didn't dare do more than drop a few stray raindrops on us.



From Alresford, we rode southward through Clanfield, then looped back via Hambledon before arriving at Chris and Alison's place in West End. The roads were smooth, the views were lush, and despite the clouds overhead, the ride was thoroughly enjoyable—just enough breeze to keep the waterproofs comfy.



As soon as the engines cooled, Chris fired up the barbeque with military-grade focus. Burgers and sausages began sizzling, and before long the air was filled with that glorious smell of summer. Anne and John jumped in to help with the cooking and refreshments—true pit-stop heroes!

Just as plates started to fill, the heavens decided to make a dramatic entrance. Rain! Quick-thinking hands scrambled to cover the food while the rest of us huddled under parasols and made jokes about the "authentic British summer experience." Thankfully, the shower was brief, and we were soon back to grilling and chilling.

Of course, in true dramatic fashion, the rain returned for round two. But once again, it passed quickly, and before long the sun broke through, casting a warm glow over the garden and putting smiles on every face. Rain or shine, nothing could dampen our spirits.

It was a fantastic day out—great riding, great company, and great food. Huge thanks to Chris and Alison for hosting, Mike and Lesley for leading, Anne & John for refreshments and to everyone who pitched in. Let's do it again next year (but maybe next time we'll ask the weather gods for a proper summer day)!

