

Bird's eye view



Spring 2012
edition

The Bash Oscars - Its that time of the year when the we pay homage to all those amazing people that have been successful and made a differ-



ence to the world either by relieving hardship, healing the sick or providing entertainment. Well the bash too has its Oscar's (aka the Gong's) but it is slightly different to that previously described. To win a "Gong" at the bash Oscars, although recognised to be a great honour generally means that you have probably screwed up and caused yourself great embarrassment or damage



at some time during the previous year. As you look around at the bashers gathering for this prestigious event , its not a room full of happy smiling faces looking back at you but faces full of worry and dread thinking what could they have possibly done this year to have won an award!



Flossie toughens up for blaster: We all know that the years are slowly creeping up on Blaster and as he gets older Flossie was recently heard to say that “he is becoming more clumsy and is always breaking/squashing or denting things around the house with his “heavy handedness” . As we all know Flossie is the proud owner of a pair of perfectly formed surgically enhanced delicate breasts, which she feels are now at great risk of accidental damage whilst in the hands of Blaster. However all is not lost for Flossie. In recent months Flossie heard about the PIP breast implant scandal. The Silicone used in these breasts was not the medically tested soft type but the strong durable type intended for mattresses. With excitement Flossie and Blaster contacted her plastic surgeon requesting her non pip breast implants be changed as soon as possible to these implants. During the consultation the surgeon asked her if she had gone completely mad? But her response as she looked lovingly into Blasters eyes was “these implants sound like the perfect breasts for my blaster to hold”. At the next bash ride Blaster was heard to say he couldn't believe the price of Flossie's new breasts - apparently they were on a “BOGOF” rate!!! As can be seen by the recent picture of Flossie, the new breasts seem to have enhanced her figure perfectly!!! (Is his eye sight failing too?!!!)



Bobbiball Deserts his own platoon on Totnes Mission: Corporal Ball is again in trouble with the Platoon Commander. He was recently given the privilege of leading the off road battalion of bashers on a mission around the Totnes area - his mandate was to “seek out new routes that no bashers had been down before”. Now corporal Ball has been trying for years to become an officer in the bash and it was with great pride that he took on this challenge with the hope that if it was a success he would in deed fulfil his ambition of becoming one of the elite Bash officers. He organised his small platoon of body armoured off-roaders with great precision into formation and lead them into battle with the unknown enemy. However little did he know the force of this element that he was about to face in battle. The enemy he was was about to meet was the slipperiest, slimiest force to known man. Sadly halfway round the battle field Ball lost his battle with the enemy. He stopped, turned round shaking his head and said to his men “its all over, I cant take any more of this I surrender”. With that he turned round and deserted the group leaving them to face the enemy alone. Corporal Ball was later found drinking alone in the pub. On further questioning by the Platoon Commander on the exact nature of the enemy, Ball was heard to say “It was just too muddy out there today”!

Morris dancing is dangerous! On Boxing Day whilst vigorous jingling her bells and waving her stick whilst dancing at Stokeinteignhead, our Morris dancing cyclist Tonto twisted her right foot quite badly, but with gritted teeth she continued dancing till the end of the show - "The show had to go on" she said afterwards as she sat with beer in hand and peas on foot. Tonto carried on hobbling around for a few more days but finally succumbed to the pain and limped to the hospital where x-rays showed she had actually broken her 5th metatarsal in a spectacular "zig zag" configuration. She spent 6 weeks in a pretty pink plaster boot (which as can be seen she added "bling" to!) unable to dance or cycle. Fortunately she is now well on the road to recovery, out of plaster and cycling, although she has not quite found her dancing feet again! We hope she's back jingling those bells soon.



Bothways embarrassing noise : Over the past few months Bothways has been plagued with a strange unexplained noise. This unexplained groaning noise only happened when Bothways often accompanied by Allways was leaning to the left. It was never heard when going up or down, or leaning towards the right and remained constant when others joined them. Eventually Bothways decide to seek help in identifying this strange unexplained noise convinced it was getting louder and must be potentially a serious problem. Fortunately she new just the man to help her in her hour of need - She contacted Stonewall who said "pop round and I'll get the boys to have a quick look for you gal" so with great care Bothways drove her beloved van to the garage perfecting its unexplained noise so she could reproduce the exact noise for Stonewall and his "boys" to assist in their investigations. Having handed over the keys she took one last look at the van and left in the knowledge that it was in safe hands. After a long stressful day she returned to pick the van up with so many questions - had they found the cause of this unexplained noise? was it going to cost a fortune?. Stonewall (looking very pleased with himself) said that he had his best team diagnosing the complaint and after hours of test driving they had finally found the fault with the van - with baited breath Bothways waited for the answer - was it a mechanical fault or a structural fault - well not quite - it turned out to be a coat hanger vibrating as it was sliding from the right side to the left on a left hand turn then quietly sliding back !!!!!!! Ooohs -



The Bobbiball's Arctic expedition 2012: This weekend just keeps getting better. The 2012 venue was at Welsh Bicknor in the Forest of Dean. 60 cyclist/non-cyclist booked onto the weekend with 57 turning up to experience a weekend packed full of fun, food, booze and cycling in sub zero conditions, snow and ice. A weekend described by Spiderman as "magical" (never expected to hear bobbiball's weekend described as that!) as he battled the blizzard conditions cycling in the forest. The Welsh Bicknor Youth Hostel was situated in stunning surroundings with its own private church (ideal had we needed to remember any fallen or lost bashers in snow drifts). With the strategic planning left to Bothways and Allways the weekend ran smoothly!



Having spent Thursday night in their van in sub zero conditions (minus quilt and any form of heating) the vital supplies for the weekend (2 barrels of Tribute) were ready to go as soon as the platoon arrived on Friday. Bothways said, once she had thawed out, "that they only survived their arctic experience by sharing their body heat" (and the woolie hat and marino wool socks helped too!!!) It was so cold that the inside of their van froze, icicles hung from the tap and the gas cylinder froze- in fact it was warmer outside the van! Buctu provided (as usual) out stand-

ing food for the whole group throughout the weekend with support from his sou chef Hank - a big thank-you to both of them as without their help the catering for this weekend would have been rubbish!

The Off-road cycling was lead by Ken-the Rave with support from Spoons and Lucy - they had a massive job keeping track of 40 cyclists but credit to them they managed to get all of them to the lunch time pub for the provisions provided. Unfortunately the road riders did not fair as well with only 3 out of 12 managing to follow the route through the forest to the pub - with various excuses from "we had a puncture to we couldn't find the right track" - However well done to Ingle who managed to get to the pub on his own!



We had one short attempt at Ice cycling - yes it had to be an Arckle that gave it a go! Both evenings were spent with disco lights flashing and much dancing and merriment which is what makes the Bobbiball weekend what it is - a great drunken weekend.

The tally for the copious alcohol consumed was: 2 barrels of Tribute (144 pints) 35 litres Wine, 152 cans cider, 20 bottles lager, 30 cans bitter, 2 bottles whisky plus beer in the pub - so well done to everyone that managed to cycle as well!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Despite the poor weather conditions/ice and snow we only had one serious injury that required medical intervention - Hank (a non cyclist) managed to slip down the stairs (due to the wet floor he claimed vigorously and not alcohol induced) cutting his elbow . Fortunately Ruth was on hand to give an additional free master class in suturing which was enjoyed by many drunken bashers!. The ice and sub-zero conditions claimed a few casualties- the Tweedle's on arriving did an about turn for warmer climates!



Saturday morning saw bashers struck down with frozen parts, V2 suffering the most, unable to defrost his rear hub despite asking for assistance from an AA man he spotted on the road side! He was offered hot tea to pour over it -horrified at the thought of wasting tea he accepted but drunk it instead - "I couldn't waste tea like that" he was heard to say after. He managed to meet up with the walking contingency who ensured he got to the pub ok. Sunday morning an impromptu fire drill took place organised allegedly by Noddy's overactive sausage which burst whilst being vigorously tossed, spraying the flames with combustible liquid setting it on fire! . The bashers dealt with the fire alarm well - they did not panic they just carried on eating their breakfast and drinking tea in a civilised manner ignoring the fire alarms!! Sunday's freezing conditions split the group into a walking section who hiked to Symmonds Yat and the rest headed off road for some down-hilling. Mustang succumbed to the ice falling heavily, Buctu deserted the group and was spotted by local photographers leading his very own single handed campaign in the woods. Which ever discipline was chosen all comrades made it back to base in time to finish off the left overs! A big thank-you to everyone who made the weekend a great success. We hope to see you at Minehead in 2013.

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Medical Research Break though: DEBARCLE FINDS CURE FOR SHYNESS AND INADEQUACY after years of tireless research. Debarcle gives Birdseye an exclusive insight into his latest medical cure. This solo research project has spanned many years starting on joining the bash when he realised how many people suffered from this debilitating illness. By using himself as a “guinea pig” subjecting himself to multiple foreign trips alone and accompanied by bashers, he secretly observed behaviours, placed himself in situations of extreme peril and consumed every alcoholic drink known to man in varying quantities. He finally found the cure to this illness in the form of a bottle of Cabernet Sauvignon! After many glasses he found it a safe natural way to feel better thus increasing personal confidence in your own abilities. He found it’s effect immediate, easing shyness and awkwardness, making them a thing of the past, letting himself do just about anything. But for continuous effect it needs to be taken in regular daily doses . It main benefits are:

- Thinking you are whispering when you are not
- Causing you to tell your friends over and over again that you love them
- Causing you to think you can sing in perfect tune
- Making you think you can converse enthusiastically with members of the opposite sex without spitting
- Creating the illusion that you are tougher, smarter, faster and better looking than most people.

Unfortunately like all great remedies has side effects: Pregnant women

should not use it, but women who wouldn't mind becoming pregnant are encouraged to try it. It may cause dizziness, nausea, vomiting, incarceration, loss of motor control, loss of clothing, loss of money, loss of virginity, delusions of grandeur, table dancing, headache, dehydration, dry mouth, and a desire to sing Karaoke and play all-night rounds of Strip Poker, Truth Or Dare, and Naked Twister!

Prescriptions for this wonder drug can be arranged from Debarcle after consultation and can be found in most

shops in the red, white and rose variety!



Bashers that are Crashers: Slush has had a nasty tumble while down hilling in Wales with the head bangers. Despite wearing all body armour from head to toe he still managed to sustain a significant injury to his arm (possibly the best injury for the head bangers in quite a while!) Eye witnesses said he was riding fast down hill and lost control of the bike, but we all know a cyclist of Slush's calibre must have been doing a massive gap jump between two mountain ranges getting caught in unexpected thermals, resulting in him missing his planned landing by millimetres! He has unfortunately broken the bone in his upper arm (the humerus - so he's not very happy about that!!!) and also dislocated his shoulder. He was taken to hospital and had to have surgery to relocate the shoulder and realign the arm.



Blaster also came a cropper whilst going round a roundabout whilst overtaking a fellow cyclist at speed but didn't quite make it! He ended up landing on the roundabout (quite near Newton Abbot hospital!) fortunately Blaster's head took the main force of the crash and apart from some bruising he is fine now!

Is this really what retired bashers do for fun? As one of the few full time workers within the bash I was intrigued to know what retired bashers do for fun in their spare time. I had a few hours spare so decided to go "under cover" observing one of our bash officers Unda going about his daily business. What a shock I had when I observed him go up to an officer writing a parking ticket. I heard him shout 'Come on, man, how about giving a senior citizen a break?' He was ignored and the officer continued writing the ticket. Unda then called him an "a--hole"- the officer wrote another ticket for having worn-out tires. Unda then called him a "s--t head". The more abuse Unda gave him the more tickets he wrote. After 20 minutes a bus arrived, Unda turned round and hopped on it laughing and went home! On questioning about his behaviour his reply was "Its important at my age to have a little bit of fun each day especially now that I'm retired"



Who shot Ken-The-Rave? The police have asked for any witnesses to this terrible crime that occurred on the Christmas bash. When most of us were enjoying the atmosphere of the bash ride there was an evil presence within our midst. They have narrowed the suspects down to the following six and would very much like help in identifying the culprit so they can bring him to justice.



They have asked us to print the following mug shots of the top 6 suspects in the hope that it will jog someone's memory - then we can lay this sad incident to rest!



Any person providing evidence that results in an arrest and prosecution will be rewarded with a years supply of beer, cider or wine. All responses will be treated in strictest confidence.

V2 Returns: V2 has finally returned to biking/motor-x after recovering from the terrible shoulder injury he sustained nearly 18 months ago. He has assured Shinpads that from now on he will definitely be more careful and make sure his equipment is fully functioning before attempting any extreme biking. However judging by this picture I'm not quite sure if he forgot to tighten the front wheel up before he set off!!!



Dooty's 50th (never!) and Pane's 21st: A happy birthday to both Dooty and Pane who have both had milestone birthdays recently. They celebrated together (Licker said it was cheaper that way!!) with a party at Ullacombe farm with all donations going to the Dartmoor rescue Group - a very worthy cause which is close to every headbangers heart! As the pictures show Dooty looked great but were not sure who the bearded, suited stranger is with her!!!!



Dodgy Fashion: Is Dodgy using The late great Richard Whitely as his fashion inspiration? Dodgy was snapped wearing this suit at Dooty's 50th, which certainly resembles the type of suits worn by Richard on Countdown. Dodgy later admitted (after a few pints) that he was doing it for Sally - he said that he had recently found out, (after a sneaky look at her diary), that she had a secret crush on Richard. He said of the insert he had read, Sally had written "everything about Richard - his style, clothes, hair, smile and body just makes me shiver all over, I go weak at the knees and I want him more and more each day. I just want to make love to him over and over again all night long". Dodgy said its the least I can do, I have to think of Sally and make sure I make all her dreams come true - its the least I can do for her so I am "turning" myself into Richard for Sally to live that night of passion " - What a great guy Dodgy really is to think just of Sally!!!!



Bike For Sale - Aunt Sally is selling this hybrid bike- He said it's great to ride and really smooth on most terrain. Its front forks make it very stable going down hill on or of-road. He has had it from new and all the maintenance has been done by himself using top quality shimano and waitrose equipment. He is selling it for £3500. Give him a ring if interested.



What does a man who has everything (like R.J) buy his beloved wife Mary for her birthday? Is it jewels - Diamonds, Emeralds Or Gold, Is it a cruise to foreign lands or a shiny new car? No non of that. Its a bag of manure that he got cheap from Blaster!!!! HOW MUCH