



Newsletter written for the TVPB by the bash birds including write-ups on bash antics, useful tips, gossip and much, much more....
If you have any comments or information please email: annareffell@yahoo.co.uk all information will be treated in the strictest confidence!!!

TVPB newsletter: September 2008

BREAKING NEWS



TVPB CYCLIST POTTSIE WINS THE TOUR DE FRANCE

The proud Grandfather: Bedpig finally after weeks of tuition left Pottsie in charge of his new grand daughter! Eagerly the proud grandfather invited Mudsie over to show her off Mudsie arrived all excited to see her, sitting down she asked "may I see the new baby Pottsie?" Not yet, after coffee and a chat' Pottsie replied Thirty minutes passed, Mudsie again asked 'May I see the new baby now?' No, not yet..more tea?" he replied Another few minutes elapsed; Mudsie firmly said again, 'May I see the baby now?' No, not yet,' replied Pottsie Growing very impatient, Mudsie replied 'Well, when can I see the baby?' 'When she cries!' was Pottsie's reply "When she cries?' Mudsie demanded. 'Why do I have to wait until she cries?' "Because I've forgot where I put her " replied Pottsie!!!!

Charlie's angel weds: congratulations to Charlie's angel who tied the knot in June to Mark- a non-basher who cycles so there's hope for him yet!. They were married in a quiet ceremony at Powderham castle church, then in true farmer style Wiffy had cleaned & polished his best tractor to take the newly weds up the field to a lavish reception at the top of his field. The following day the wedding celebrations continued in true bash style with a short cycle, BBQ & plenty of alcohol



TRUCKERS FIELD: a disappointing turnout: due to the weather or the washing facilities? – Trucker had 2 porter loos this time and the stream at the end of the field was perfect for a stimulating cold dip!. Despite a rather damp BBQ Saturday night, the weather was dry & bright for the rest of the weekend. The Sunday ride saw the roadies maxing it through country lanes, Patrick decided to try to go through a gate rather than past it....he survived & the gate was dented!!!!..Is this the same as gate-crashing?

A further BBQ Sunday allowed the barrel of beer to be polished off during the afternoon, followed by a few more bottles of wine as the night passed by! The weekend came to a halt Monday after blaster had finally managed to get his van out of trucker's field!!! (with a little help from his friends). So another great bash bank holiday weekend...hopefully trucker will open his field again same time next year!

Mustang's Dodgy BBQ: A bash ride in summer with the invite to sit in the sun chilling with a cooling beer whilst the food gently sizzles on the BBQ after a long hot gruelling ride....what more could any bashers wish for? The reality-a wet, muddy off road ride, 3 broken chains (2 on Bobbi balls bike!), a leader that "lost his bearings". Did the roadies fair any better? NO – with Heidi leading the ride he lost 2 virgins on his first up hill and lost the third basher (not a virgin but Ingle) on the way home, he went to Dunsford via Moretonhampstead!! ☺ culminating in monsoon weather for the BBQ...



it must be mustang's annual BBQ!!!!

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STUNNA!



Dodgy attributes his awesome physique to hard work (!!), clean living, exercise and alcohol of the purest variety (grape & hop)

This hairy jack the lad will turn his hand to most things (if the price is right) and enjoys nothing more than blowing his horn at regular intervals whilst playing with his engine.

However it is official (Daily Mail Sept 08) that dodgy does indeed free wheel downhill to save money!

So come on Girls for a once in a lifetime opportunity of joining dodgy ringing his bells whilst playing with his engine at high speed contact TVPB NOW!!!

The Great Fire of Powerham:

This historical event happened in June and will go down in the history books along side the great fire of London...the exact cause of the fire is still sketchy however its occurrence is linked to a rogue rocket that appears to have been launched from one of Wiffy's piles lit on his farm. Allegedly these piles had been extremely damp when first developed, Wiffy said "they needed drying out so I left them in the sun to dry out" of his piles he said "I had no idea how combustible my piles would turn out to be especially when lit by Ben" Mrs De-harrow was heard to say (whilst washing up in rubber marigolds) "Oh Charles I wonder where the fire is" as 3 red fire engines rushed past their home to put out his burning barn!.

Mash's ride @Spray Cottage, Hope Cove.

A disappointing turnout for a ride at a beautiful venue. Only 3 bashers turned up to join Mash, however the 4 of us enjoyed the country lanes, Pub Stop and the coastal ride back. The sun shone all day and 3 of us enjoyed a swim while the BBQ was getting up to temperature. An injured basher (pre-arranged) joined us on our return boosting our numbers by 25% to help us consume the food. A great pity that this ride clashed with a Cheddar weekend, but sad to say that Mash will not be offering this facility again: What a great shame.

Agony Aunt Axel is

back, she is now a Great Aunt – hooray. So she will now be known as Great Agony Aunt Axel (GAAA)! She is still more sympathetic than our Ed so it's worth writing in with your problems – sexual ones a speciality.

Dear GAAA,
The bash logo is Mud, sweat and beers right, but each time I go out off roading all I seem to manage is Thud, swear and tears! What am I doing wrong?
Wheelying Wimp.

Dear Wimp, GAAA suggests getting a road bike and biking straight to the pub, that way you get the sweat and beers in full. For the mud part all you need to do is smear a bit on your cheeks and they will all think you've gone commando – rock ard!



Is this Wiffy Runt as we have never seen him before?

Or is it his good looking twin **brother?**

Aunt Sally's extreme riding school

Do you like riding?
Are you bored with smooth flat terrain?
Do you dream of extreme wet muddy riding?

Then sign up to Aunt Sally's 10-week exclusive "off road" riding experience at a fantastic offer of £1.99

Cost includes:

- full service & moving parts lubrication
- one to one EXPERT tuition
- Coaching on new & extreme riding positions
- Full protection available after first injury or second session

With years of experience of rough riding Aunt Sally's knowledge, enthusiasm for the sport and energetic participation is guaranteed to excite and stimulate you into awesome drop-offs and rocky descents

Participants in this course do so at their own risk, and Aunt Sally will not accept any responsibility for broken bones, life threatening injuries or death.



Bashers that are Crashers: Aunt Sally's new venture as an "off road" cycling instructor is going well. Unfortunately, his first (and only pupil) Alison, a complete novice to off road cycling, has had to cancel her course due to a nasty accident on her first lesson. Whilst attempting to "get air" during an extremely technical downhill section, she lost control of her bike whilst landing sustaining a broken elbow and extensive bruising. We hope she is back in the saddle with Aunt Sally soon, but suggest next time she wears full body armour and possibly a bubble wrap suit!

Cheesy Cheddar: again another great well-supported weekend of off-road cycling around cheddar organised by Timotei. Saturday ride had sunshine, thrills and spills with Bobbi-ball being “blue lighted” to hospital with dislocated fingers, 2 bash birds was with him all the way attending to his needs!!!...all this after just 1 hour of cycling/walking uphill and 1 semi-technical down hill--well done Bobbi Ball!!! The evening was spent around campfires BBQ'ing, Drinking and chatting. Special mention to Manky who did a great job looking after the invalided drunken Bobbi ball in the caravan they were sharing!!! Sunday sadly turned into yet another wet & cold cycle—good old British weather!! But did it dampen the bashers spirits---NO!!!. All in all a good all round entertaining weekend. Its good to see the up and coming new generation of bashers attending these weekends with their hard core off road wooden bikes too!

The Dartmoor way: Snippets from Sunday:

A Priapic basher complained about the many hills we traversed up, feeling that his permanent morning erection was severely impairing his ability to negotiate up effectively. During conversation in the alcove of the entrance to the pub in Holne, it was suggested, that perhaps he had mistakenly taken the viagra pills instead of his blood pressure pills. At that time whilst he was suffering from this serious medical condition we all thought he should take it easy due to fears of his blood pressure dropping - this we thought was mainly due to the huge displacement of blood from essential organs to the one member impairing his cycling performance. He was also particularly pissed off with the small film of the one time over the whole week end (he claims) that he actually pushed his bike up a hill. It was the Bag Tor hill; particularly steep and at the end of the week end - it was a bastard. Check it out on video link at youtube from the basher site. Written by an anonymous roving reporter

Bash birds wet weekend – the bash birds don't just enjoy rough riding - getting wet in rubber suits is fun too! 3 bash birds (Bothways, Shinpads & Dusty) left their men folk behind and ventured (in campervans) to North Devon for a weekend of sun, sand & surfing!

Day 1 - they were in bikinis frolicking in the sea, the sun beating down on their wet salty bodies.....

Day 2: they were body boarding in wet suits in the cold rain & wind...what a difference a day makes!!!!. The intrepid threesome then spent the evening mentally stimulating each other with their wide vocabulary, the rest of the night was spent wide-awake with vans wildly rocking.

Day 3: Tired due to the nights exertions, the bash birds examined the effects of the previous nights storm!!then they donned damp wetsuits to hit the surf yet again





Evolution of the TVPB Bash:

Evidence shows that bash evolution is evolving in a strikingly similar way to the evolution of mankind. God created primitive males & females, Pottsie too, in 1990 created two complementary rudimentary groups: road & off road cyclists. Both of these groups have evolved and grown developing individual qualities, characteristics & abilities. Like men & women (pre marriage that is), for years the two bash groups have lived harmoniously together, cycling twice weekly from pre-arranged pubs enjoying each other's company discussing differing riding abilities & kit. But like the human race, as its evolved differences have occurred between these two groups- it's how we handle these variations now that will determine the evolutionary bash pathway: Do we want a united group of wide ranging abilities, interests & personalities or do we want more insular smaller groups with rigid views? If so what happens to the characters that like all round cycling?

To follow the pre-marked human evolutionary chain of events risks war, famine, upset, anger and "breakaways" **OR** by riding new marked and unmarked routes could these pitfalls be avoided?

To achieve this vision of unity, the fundamental bash rules of beer drinking, cycling and having FUN must be followed...to do this:

- find pubs that meet both road & off road cycling needs
- if pre lay routes cannot be set, don't stand their moaning about it offer your services to the scout basher if you know the area and lead a great ride
- Remember that each bash ride will have different qualities so go along anyway
- Talk and mix with bashers of the opposite "groups"

And most of all **HAVE FUN &** socialise with other bashers chilling out with a bevy!



Bashers Birthdays: GUESS WHO'S 40!!!!

A big thank-you to Diddy for inviting bashers to her Hawaiian 40th birthday party: a brilliant time was had by all



The POUND SHOP

For one day only

Selling £100.00 bifocal glasses

FOR an amazing

£1.00

YES THAT'S ONLY £1.00

Hurry whilst stocks (1 pair) last!!

Thought for the day.

“If something is sagging, bagging or dragging, make sure you nip it, tuck it or suck it”

OUR ED'S A BIG 'ED!

Congratulations is in order for our Editor, Anna Bothway's, she graduated on Friday 18th July with a Master of Science Advanced Healthcare Practice Award.

43 people commenced the three-year course but only 3 completed – yes just three, so its official - she's a right old clever clogs.

I was honoured to attend the graduation with Anna and her Mum, Jeanne; we gave her a hearty cheer as she went up on stage for the presentation. So

A very well done to you, Anna, from all in the Bash.



Nash Bash 2008 aka the Dragon bash / firey mountain bikers:

Talybont on Usk was the venue —a weekend in Wales in July GREAT... Thoughts of a small contingency of brave bashers on packing was “waterproofs & woolly jumpers”! How wrong were we...it was SUN SUN SUN the whole time (no lie it actually didn't rain at all in Wales AMAZING). The TVPB's grand array of differing sized campers from the enormous (Unda's) to the delicately formed (Bothways) was strategically placed to protect the campsite entrance from unwanted interlopers (also it was the flattest part of the site!). Bobbi Ball & Malcolm came in tents (but not together), Diddy & Jono were living it up in style in the bunkhouse with Debarcle smuggling Pauline in his caravan onto the campsite in the dead of the night!! The weekend was great fun, the cycling – Hilly cross-country with loads of false trails to confuse, annoy or just lose unsuspecting bashers. We cycled to the tune of “ON ON” (do hashers never get sore throats?), it was hot & dry, especially for Bothways, who having gratefully accepted Lee's generous offer to “carry the heavy camelback” (which did have his sandwiches in it too), watched it go flying up the hill at the speed of sound not to be seen again for a few hours!. Jono suffered in silence throughout the cycle nursing a broken bike (yet again!). The roadies had a very interesting ride along the A40 at one point! With some clocking up an impressive 50 miles (we think they got lost!). At the end of the ride was the TVPB group found in the pub? No they were found sat by the campers eating cake & drinking Tea....what's happening to us? - I think were turning CTC!! Bobbi Ball singing Queen (Bohemian Rhapsody) on the Karaoke opened the evening entertainment - Pottsie was heard to say after - “Ball that's probably the worst thing I have ever heard” However it did encourage others to sing!!!...Well-done Bobbi ball!!! Dancing & drinking outside to the tuneful bashers was an experience finished off with a Drunken game of table tennis. Sunday's ride consisted of a steep long uphill followed by a short descent leaving plenty of time for a gentle ride along the canal towpath to the next pub for the final pint of real ale & sandwich eating. A brilliant weekend was had by all!

Well Done Juicy Lucy: we would like to commend Juicy Lucy on her alertness, quick thinking and bravery when seeing her beloved fathers stolen bike being paraded in Exeter high street....She stole the bike back and was able to give a very detailed description to the police allowing them to produce this photo fit of the pathetic individual:



JUICY - HOW MUCH CIDER HAD YOU HAD BEFORE?!!!

THE MEGA AVALANCHE

July, Alp D'huez, some of the 'headiest' head bangers headed out to the Alps to tackle head on what's been described as the head bangiest mountain bike race there is. The MEGA AVALANCHE starts at 3300m on top of Pic Blanc and believe me it's hard enough walking around at that altitude, never mind racing a bicycle. Add to the mix the fact that the race starts on a black ski run and then heads over a glacier and involves over 1500 riders setting off in waves of 400 or so and you get an idea of scale of nuttyness involved.

Your average downhill race takes 4 minutes, this takes over an hour and is splattered with some niggling climbs to really drive the pain home. Our intrepid head bangers flying the 'Green Badger Racing' banner were Timotei (aka Timmy Tank), Whinge (aka Mange - she rides like a man!), Faggots (aka The Beast - yeah right!), Gary Litter (aka The Russian) and Froggy (aka The Homeless).

Friday was qualifying to see which of the 3 waves you compete in on Saturday's race day. Wave 1 is the 'Mega Propa' for the fast boys and elite riders. Wave 2 is the 'Mega Promo', aka the poor mans Mega. Wave 3 is the 'Mega Affinity', the homeless, smack heads Mega.....oh yeah, and the girls raced too.

Qualifying results:

- Mega Propa Faggots
- Elite Ladies Mange
- Poor Mans Mega Froggy Homeless
- Smack Heads Mega Timmy Tank (punctured) & The Russian (not Rushin!)

Race day was drenched with rain, more rain, electric storms, more rain and some pretty heavy precipitation.....followed by some more rain. This certainly helped make the muddy, rooty, wooded sections more interesting. The ridiculously early start got confused further by the electrical storms, which stopped chair lifts and left everyone stranded for a few hours waiting to see if the race would go ahead. Everyone was knackered, pissed off and smelt bad - it was like pension day at the post office. Still, it was race on and the thrill of the pack being at the top of the mountain amongst 400 others waiting for the tapes to go up was enough to make the wiliest of Badgers long to be snuggled up back in their sett. The mad techno banged out through the massive speakers, the helicopter took off and the adrenaline was so thick in the air you could have drunk it (if the rain wasn't washing it away - did I mention it was raining?!).

Up go the tapes and carnage ensues - 400 people in full battle dress pining it for the first bend. Explosions and casualties everywhere, it felt like some sort of 'war on bikes'. The good news - all Badgers got down safe, some limping home with broken bikes, others giving it everything to the finish, but all arriving with a stupidly big grin gleaning through their mud spattered faces and all with their own personal stories of the war they had endured! News came in that Mange had used 'special tactics' to put off her main rival Tracy Moseley from even entering which meant she was 9th overall lady(man) and the first British girl down the hill. The boys all done good too and although there were no top 10 finishes just getting down the course was achievement enough.

Mange was heard to stammer "It's the biggest thing I've ever ridden, it took me over an hour to get down it". Timmy Tank quipped "I knew Mange would love it cos it was so wet and she always rides better when it's moist!".

When asked if they'd ever do it again Faggots enthused "You better believe it, the scenery, the trails, the thrill, it's the most exciting thing I've ever done and next year's gonna be MEGA!!!" Tickets go on sale early January 2009 and the race does get full quickly, so if you're interested in doing some mega head banging (no denim jacket required) let Timotei know soon as!



THE MEGA
AVALANCHE



Basher's 'Horror' scopes for this month – Yes they are a bit cheesy – quite realistic then!

Virgo August 24 – September 22.

Bashers celebrating birthdays;
If you're single get a tandem and tout for twos up.
A secret shared by an older basher will shock even you.

Libra September 23 – October 23

Bashers celebrating birthdays;
Jono
Your attraction power is red hot as Uranus moves into your chart of love, don't waste any time buy that helmet you've had your eye on – it will certainly head start in romance.

Scorpio Oct 24 – November 22

Bashers celebrating birthdays
Snakebite
Ruled by your genitals as the sun vibrates into your love chart you are irritable to other bashers. This is just one of the 12 mysteries of love!
A friend with a hand pump will prove lucky for you.

Sagittarius Nov 23 Dec 21

Bashers celebrating birthdays:
Lee, Taff, Binbag Bob
Your soul feels compelled to explore your own mind and attempt to unravel the secrets of human behaviour – be warned bashers do not display 'normal' behaviours. You may need to reconsider your study group.
A set of new break pads will bring great luck.

Capricorn Dec. 22 – Jan 20.

Bashers celebrating birthdays;
Mustang Sally & Both ways, mash, Dodgy
As the sign of the goat you need to embrace your sign - grow that beard get up those mountains and be a bit cheeky on route, but be careful who you butt.

Aquarius Jan 21 - Feb. 18

Bashers Birthdays – Pottsie, Mavis

Action needs to replace Hesitation on those drop offs you lie awake thinking about.
A full face helmet and body armour will be lucky for you.

Pisces Feb 19 - March 20

Bashers birthdays;
As Pluto moves into your chart you start to believe you have all the ingredients you need for success - a sports ambition will now feel within easy reach - Olympics 2012 perhaps?

Aries March 21 April 20

Bashers celebrating birthdays;
Dandy ,Charlies angel
You like to lead so stay ahead of the roadies and get some slicks to help you go faster.
A puncture will bring you closer to a fellow rider.

Taurus April 21 – may 21

Bashers celebrating birthdays;
V2, Dusty, Aunt Sally & Timotei. Bobbi ball, Unda
Worrying about the credit crunch will bring you no favours, stop fretting and get out there and buy all the bashers a beer.
Lucky gear = Top.

Gemini May 22 – June 21

Bashers celebrating birthdays;
Trail building will boost your confidence about your riding ability so get that shovel out of the shed and start digging.
Lycra will prove lucky for you as mars moves into you chart of love.

Cancer June 22 – July 22

Bashers celebrating birthdays;
Juicy
You are ruled by the moon, and as the evenings draw in you will feel compelling night forces. Go with it – its all in the stars.
A flashing red light fixed to your back pack will prove lucky for a passing car driver.

Leo July 23 – August 23

Bashers celebrating birthdays;
Diddy, Shin pads & Not rubber, Wiffy
A hot blooded fire sign is what you are, and as the gladiator planet mars is moving into you chart, now is the time to max it on those down hills.
A new saddle could lift you out of a recent experience that left you feeling numb!