

Basingstoke MGOC Annual Fish & Trip Run 2019

The weather forecast was “iffy” to say the least and the weather forecast versus what actually occurred had wildly varied for the last week or so, but a goodly number of members assembled at the Partridge’s Paddock at the start of the event. Everybody had chickened out and put their hoods up to insure against the impending rain. The members who had GT versions of the marque clearly glorified in the fact that they had not had to lower themselves to make such decisions. The Wooldridges, however, were late in arriving as



Mark had difficulty in finding the instructions as to how to put together and erect the hood on his early “B” that was a throwback to Jurassic MG hood design. Those who had seen this actual hood in action know that it leaks like a sieve. Perhaps if Mark & Marina forgot about the hood and invested in a couple of pac-a-macs then they may have arrived on time? For those who are younger please do not hesitate to enquire about the horrors of pac-a-macs.

We all covered in the Partridges kitchen partaking of coffee and homemade Ros cake. If she ever enters “The Great British Bake Off” I would suggest a punt on “Betfred” to win. Whilst we devoured cake and coffee it decided to tip it down with rain. It then stopped and brightened proving once more that the sun shines on the righteous.

The 30 something miles run down to the fish & chip venue took us through picturesque villages and areas as yet undiscovered by BMGOC. It was always going to be difficult as we approached Portsmouth as we had to circumnavigate main roads, complex junctions and nasty fast moving traffic. We all eventually arrived safely at Mother Kelly’s Fish & Chips at Portchester. I say eventually because Mark & Marina Wooldridge, who normally start last and arrive first, were missing. They had been spotted going round a local roundabout and taking the wrong exit and then speeding past the café as we sat in there sipping our teas, coffees and soft drinks. I suggested that perhaps I should go outside and wave them down should they speed past in the opposite direction – I was outvoted and felt at that time how Boris Johnson must feel at time of writing.

Once more Graham and Justine arrived safe and sound and beat the Wooldridges. Good to see Justine walking with only a slight limp.



The food was traditional and good whilst perhaps the location was lacking sea views but you cannot have everything on a Sunday lunchtime at least it had adequate parking

Everybody appeared to have a good time – if not - from the pictures above OSCARS need to be awarded.



The thirty something mile trip back took us through the Meon Valley visiting highlights of the South Downs that included the incredible climb up Winchester Hill and the even more incredible panoramic views that this opened up to us

We eventually arrived at our end destination Alresford. A picturesque village on what was the main road to Southampton. Most of us had booked into Tiffins a pretty and traditional tea shop. As ever the food was perfect.

Having overdosed on everything food wise that is not good for us we all eventually split up and headed home and went to bed having skipped tea!

Thank you to our Area Secretary Neil and his wife Ros for organising yet ano MG magical day of fun and friendship and for managing the fact that no one broke down?