Unknown

From:

Sent: To: Subject: group-bounces@carronvalley.org.uk on behalf of

[tbwatsor 08 August 2006 00:00 group@carronvalley.org.uk [Group] Kona demo sale weekend



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Good fun with a good bunch of people. Colin

MacDonald's guys were Joe the brewer, Jay the nutter and J's mate Brad the one man circus. Paligap seemed to have Andy the rep with his fiancee and sister, and there was Pete the Bianchi boy and his laydee, Lianne. They stuffed me with food, laughed as I led them crawling under fallen trees in a swamp out by Meikle Bin, and offered me enough beer to flavour the reservoir. And I got to try the funpark on a carbon Bianchi Oetzi - the saddle was already half way up my chuff before I short landed the second double. It took 5 minutes of straining and a bottle of skin-so-soft to get their bike back out. I have since given up cycling and have been referred to the Betty Ford clinic for my Avon addiction.

Andy G let us use his office complete with sink and toilet, which I think we should probably keep quiet about in front of his colleagues as I reckon that was above and beyond the call of duty, but very much appreciated by our visitors. I've thanked him for his help in the draft web piece but kept the exact nature of his help out in case it would get him in trouble. Having him on side for things like this is essential.

Numbers of public attending were disappointing, although there was a steady stream on Saturday but we were never swamped. Every time I went out for a ride I met groups all over the trails and chatted to loads. Many didn't know about the event and were just pottering about on their own bikes. Should publicise earlier with leafleting of other centres for future events should be down to bike shop. Also put laminated sign up on carpark noticeboard a few weeks in advance. Sunday started with crap weather across the central belt which cleared after lunch so it was not as busy as the counter readings suggested it might be.

Attached is my attempt at a piece for the website (do we do pieces on our website?) and I've pinged a few photies to Niall so hopefully there will be enough there to put a page together. I've also sent a couple of pics to the Kona guys on the off chance they will put something on their site. Will do same for Colin when I find his e-mail address (hopefully on machie in office).

For info two moto trials dudes rode past us on Sunday about 4.00pm heading from the direction of the bottom of the funpark towards the carpark. I didn't get a chance to get a vehicle reg, but they were proper trials motorbikes - the ones with a scooped out bit where the saddle ought to be and big squishy back tires. Andy was away on Sunday pm so I haven't told him.

Colin MacDonald seemed keen to do it again next year. There was also talk of perhaps getting a few of the bigger players (MacDonalds, Evans etc) and Kona / Paligap together to fund part of the trails. Kona have done the Dark Side at Mabie and are quite big on advocacy (spreading the word to grow the market) so could be good for a few bob. Most likely to be into a skills loop or freeride area I'd guess, from the sort of image they project.

Trevor