

Full English Weekend

Blackcock Inn, South Molton, North Devon, 21st-23rd June 2019

James Henderson & Jason Mead, Tiverton, Devon



Around 20 Imps and variants were at the Black Cock Inn in North Devon for this year's Full English weekend. Most of the owners were at last year's event but there were a few newbies as well. This event is very laid back with no quiz, raffle or awards. Just a couple of scenic runs and gather round the

camp fire in the Saturday evening. This seems to be popular and it gives everyone a good chance to mingle.

Saturday's run was done in a Going Dutch weekend style. No organised convoy, everyone was given their own route instructions and were free to leave the site when they wanted to. Some left on their own and others formed small

Simon Barker one of several campers

Photo: Jason Mead



membered it's cream on first in these parts!

On the Saturday evening we gathered round the fire pit and chatted until late into the night. My Series 3 Land Rover was given the task of delivering the fire pit and wood to the site. It was then used to drive Tim and

A camp fire shared with friends is hard to beat

Photo: Jason Mead



convoys. The route was a scenic tour of beautiful Exmoor. It was quite a challenging route with some large hills but it did take in some great scenery and some lovely tea rooms where plenty of Impers had cream teas – I hope everyone re-

Line-up at Sheppy's Cider
Photo: Roy Blunt



Vickie Morgan's son, Ben, around the site. He has a bit of an obsession with Land Rovers.

Sunday was a chilled morning followed by a drive out to Sheppy's Cider near Wellington. Afterwards a few Impers went to a nearby garden centre for lunch.

Thank you to everyone who attended. The pub again looked after us very well; the owners do enjoy hosting us. We booked up all of their static caravans and holiday cottages as well as numerous camping pitches. They ran out of food on the Sunday but did allow us to bring takeaway food into the pub. They laid breakfast on for us too. It's a great venue for a car club weekend, spread the word around any other clubs you are members of.

Next year's event will be at the same venue, we will try to choose easier roads for the scenic runs. Date to be confirmed.

Roy & Dawn Blunt, Cwmbran, Gwent

After being caught in traffic going down to last year's Full English on the Friday we decided to go a day early and arrived in *Suzy* on a slightly drizzly Thursday afternoon to find the campsite and pub deserted! No point in trying to phone anyone – there's virtually no mobile signal at the Blackcock Inn. However, Baz Blackmore turned up a few minutes later with his motorhome and Imp and then Lou & Glor from the pub arrived and opened up. By this time the drizzle had stopped so we unloaded the tent, pitched up, and settled down for a convivial evening in the pub as more Impers arrived.

The Full English itself doesn't start until Friday evening so on Friday we headed off on our own to Quince Honey Farm – after all Devon isn't just about cream teas – there's honey as well! Unfortunately they had moved since our guide book had been published (last year!) but we took a photo of *Suzy* in front of the mural on the old building before travelling a couple of miles to the new location. A great day out – we expected to be there for a hour or so but actually spent five hours there – we recommend it highly. *Suzy* also attracted a fair bit of attention in the car park which is always welcome. More Impers had arrived by the time we got back to the Blackcock Inn and we spent an excellent evening there.

Saturday dawned bright and sunny – just right for a very enjoyable 'up hill and down dale' (or

whatever is the Devon equivalent term!) run around scenic North Devon heading towards Porlock and Lynmouth. We stopped in Porlock village itself for a walk and saw a string of about six Imps and variants go through the High Street. 'The Oily – Stephen's Sanctuary' in the High Street



Suzy buzzing around Devon
Photo: Roy Blunt



Andy Smith's Husky
Photo: Jason Mead

in terms of road quality and views. Most people seem to have taken the second toll road which, by the sound of it, was a poorer (but slightly cheaper) choice. A few people did Porlock Hill itself and all survived. By the time we had finished the hilly bits we'd got hot (but fortunately not over-hot) engine and brakes and there was a definite general smell of 'hot Imp' in the air! The route back took us through a ford which was a little deeper and steeper than I expected and *Suzy* caused us a bit of a panic when her engine died completely on the way out of the water. Fortunately she restarted on the second try (Phewwww...) and carried on quite happily. We all gathered back in the pub in the evening and, after it closed its doors, many of us collected around a blazing fire-pit on the campsite and continued the evening there.

Sunday morning was a bit overcast for the start of the run out to Sheppy's Cider in Bradford-on-Tone near Taunton but, despite the showers, it proved another great run. After having a look around the Sheppy's shop and site many people moved onto a nearby garden centre for lunch and enjoyed the dog show in progress there. The Blackcock Inn doesn't do full meals on the Sunday evening so those of us left on site bought takeaways from nearby South Molton and ate them in the pub (with the kind approval of Lou & Glor who run the Blackcock Inn).

Another excellent weekend – thanks to everyone for their company and conversation, special thanks to James & Jason for the excellent organisation and to the Blackcock Inn and campsite for looking after us so well.



Oily museum sadly closed and no Opening Times sign
Photo: Roy Blunt