

Irish Section News — for August 2009

By the time you are reading this, we will have had our first Boreen in Northern Ireland and hopefully the weather will have been kind to us, we will let you know in next month's news.

News from Steve Somers - Escape to Belgium (the short version)

The group of five riders met in Rosslare and rode to Oudenburg in Belgium. Kilo Three joins the formation on the M25 for a little while. We get to the hotel safely .

We visit a WW1 trench, have a nice lunch, replace a broken clutch cable on Kilo Two, visit the Irish peace tower, watch a rally car get it wrong, observe the last post ceremony at the Mennen gate in Leper, visit a nice BMW workshop to stock up on clutch cables and reset the ABS on Kilo One, return to the hotel and enjoy some Belgium beer.

We follow a route to France given to us by the A/M mechanic .We are unimpressed by the route and stop for an interesting lunch! We abandon the route and slab it back to a chocolate shop in Belgium spotted earlier. We think fondly of our loved ones back home and purchase chocolates. We return to the hotel and join the other guests in a communal BBQ. We observe that some of the guests are very hungry. Some of the guests may have observed that we are very thirsty. We enjoy some Belgium beer.

We follow a road book supplied by the hotel toward Bruges. We decide that the road book is wrong and make our own way into the centre of the city. We park and spend the day explore Bruges on foot. Bruges is a pretty place and thanks to Colin Farrell the waiters had no problems understanding the Dubs in the group.

We visit the Half Moon Brewery and the guide observed that one of the group went down the steps the wrong way. We switch off the radio on Kilo four by disconnecting the battery and then enjoy some Belgian beer.

We get up early and ride to Rosslare except Romeo one who is heading to London for a few days. We roll off the ferry at Rosslare and go our separate ways. The Zumo tells me we covered 2276 kilometres. The long version of this trip report can be had by buying Stephen, Declan, John, Tom or David a beer. The very long version can be had by making that beer a Trappist no 10. Seems they had a great time!. Congratulations to Tim & Niamh Miller on, not only are the **only Irish entrants** in the BMW Club mileage competition in 2008, but also for coming fourth overall. Well done Tim & Niamh hope you enjoyed all those miles!

As you probably know Jim Sweeney & Brendan Lang are organising a run to Mount Stewart again on 9th August. The last time we had a run up there, a few years ago now, everyone had a great day out and thoroughly enjoyed it, so hopefully we will see a good turn-out. Jim has organised lunch in their

Restaurant, we cannot guarantee that you will have Sunday lunch accompanied by a Pianist again, but who knows! Contact Jim directly if you would like to go (full details on the website). We still have some places left for the main Thatch which will be held in September, so if you are thinking of going, please get in touch with me and if you have booked in already and haven't sent off your payment yet, please send your cheque/draft made payable to: **BMW Club Irish Section**, to Mrs Mary Connolly, as soon as possible.

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