

The "Day of Champions 2004"

The "Day of Champions" was part of the MotoGP (Motorcycle Grand Prix) programme held at Donnington Park on Thursday 22nd July.

John Hughes and his son-in-law, another John, set off in the pouring rain to man the Rotary stand for Riders 4 Health. No mean feat for one who rarely gets astride the Italian bike unless the sun's out, JH that is.

Joined by two friends from the International Fellowship of Motorcycling Rotarians, Neville Riley (Meriden Rotary Club) and Robin Wraight (Ipswich Rotary Club) (who made the trip from Ipswich, a huge journey in the appalling weather) they put on a display of 3 Ducati Motorcycles, Nev's 851 tri-colour, John's ST2, John's (son-in-law) 996 Hodgson replica and Robin's awesome Rocket 111, the latest machinery from Triumph with a 2.3 litre engine.

The interest shown in this display of high-powered machinery on the stand was amazing and dispelled any notion that Rotarians only ride Vintage bikes and BMW's.

Nev had put together a super display promoting the International Fellowship of Motorcycling Rotarians with lots of photographs of the Baltic trip and the Megaride. Showing Rotary working together with the Charity "Riders for Health"

The Rotary Club of Hitchin gave a big cheque to Riders 4 Health, as did the Rotary Club of Blaby amounting to over £10,000 adding to the total raised on the day of £165,000. Many Rotary Clubs helped with other parts of the event and we even got a new member for the IFMR.

The day ended with over two hours of tremendous thunder storms flooding Donnington Park, so why can't the Italians realise it rains in the UK and build their bikes without the "Splutter, Splutter, Cough, Cough, Syndrome". BMW's don't do that!! "Relieve" from earlier comment.

Poor Robin, the last we saw of him was riding his lovely new Triumph Rocket through a flood with his legs in the air to stop his boots filling with water. John's 996 kept stalling on the way home and my ST2 lights failed because of water in the wiring.

Not that our Immediate Past Chairman could give a damn. Can you believe this?????

HE TOOK HIS DUCATI IN HIS VAN

He'll never-ever be able to take the p*** out of John Hughes only riding his Ducati in dry weather again. Yet another huge success for the I.F.M.R. for kids in Africa