

Toilet Seat 2007

And finally.....after an extremely quiet year Toilet Seat wise, here are the final scores on the doors. Until this point there's been no clear favourite to win but I think you'll see from the following frolics that we do indeed have a clear winner of this prestigious trophy. Only just a winner though, with 2 points separating the top four.

*Yours,
Uncle Barry*

Pickpocket Kath Brierley cycled home after her Pilates class, took her keys out of her pocket, then phoned Mandy to see who they belonged to. The keys turned out to be Damian's (instructor) and he'd spent quite some time, along with Trevor Smith, scrabbling about in the Autumn leaves in a vain search for them. A red-faced Kath hared it back to the car park, held the keys out of the window, enquiring whether Damian preferred red or white (wine).

Watch it! Day 1 of the Karrimor saw Mandy Goth and Sue Roberts finish the score class in 6 hours. They were enjoying their evening meal and wondering why other pairs in their class hadn't turned up. It was only when Dave and Helen Wilson arrived at camp an hour later that Mandy realised that they should have been out for 7 and not 6 hours. On questioning Sue why she hadn't noticed, it turned out that she had forgotten her watch in any case and was oblivious to the time folly. Collect 5 points each.

Barking mad: Sue Roberts earns 5 points for being unable to prevent mad dog Sammy from barking at every drop of running water (and there was lots of it) during the entire Calder Valley mountain marathon event.

Be prepared! John Preston and Stuart Boulton should have been boy scouts: things went awry at the Karrimor when they set up camp at the end of Day 1. Turned out they had no gas. The intrepid pair managed to borrow a little, but not enough, from friends. This resulted in their food not being fully rehydrated or heated up properly. During the night it rained. Incessantly. Stuart threw up throughout the evening and John ended up with the runs. Stuart, his first foray into the pleasures of the Karrimor, further upset John by trailing in and out of the tent most for of evening and wetting everything through with his wet cag. The final straw was when the tent collapsed at some point in the night. Any plans for next year's event boys? Here's 10 points each towards 2008.

Navigation skills course needed: Mel Blackhurst took her family on their 1st ever camping holiday for the Duddon Fell Race. Having ended up at Seathwaite in Borrowdale instead of Seathwaite in Duddon, it took Mel quite some time to understand why no one else had turned up for the race! 5 points towards the course Mel.

Eye advice (1): get your sight checked regularly. If Simon Anderton had followed that advice, would he have still driven over over his glasses? 5 points Simon

Eye advice (2): get your sight checked..... Uncle Barry spent some time searching for his specs after a Club training run. It was only when Auntie Hazel, on scanning the floor, instructed him to step to the right that a pair of now oddly shaped glasses appeared from underneath his size 11s. 5 points towards repairs Barry

Eye advice (3)..... Maybe Mark Harris needs an eye test? He reversed into a wall. He'd forgot he still had his bike rack on. 5 points towards new specs Mark

A senior moment was enjoyed by Uncle Barry while painting the hallway. On arriving home from work, Auntie Hazel, knowing that totally blind dog Raggy would come downstairs to greet her, and asked if the stairs were clear. "Yes, fine" was the response. Raggy managed the first 6 stairs quite well but found the burden of wearing a paint pot on his front legs too much to bear and he fell down the remainder, closely followed by the paint pot. There'll be no problem finding the Chapman's house during the dark evenings as a full set of white paw prints will lead you along the pavement and right inside the hall! 5 points awarded (should be 10 – Hazel)

Toilet Seat 2007 cont.

Colin Duffield picks up 5 points for leaving his filthy running shoes to fester underneath his car outside the Shoulder in Mytholmroyd whilst he enjoyed a pint – they were still there long after he'd gone home and then spent a further 5 days festering in Auntie Hazel's hallway awaiting collection.

Out of body experience: Richard Blakely collapsed during the Good Shepherd race and caused much ado and the call out of the emergency services. Unfortunately I don't know the full tale and so you'll need to contact either Richard or wife Margaret for the full story. He still earns 5 points plus a further 5 for nuisance caused to the ambulance staff!

Overheard: On dropping his car keys down the front of his car radiator a few weeks back, Uncle Barry was heard to say, "It's alright, I can always get Hazel to come out with the spare set". Oh really? Thanks Rhys for grassing him up (Hazel). 5 points awarded for taking me for granted!

Put brain in gear before engaging mouth. Should be Jim Smith's motto – Jim, while watching a group of walkers setting off at Ennerdale remarked, "Just look at those overdressed p***ocks!" He then looked down at himself and muttered, "Oh, I suppose I'm dressed like that aren't I?". 5 points for observation Jim.

Another senior moment was enjoyed by Ray Poulter when marshalling at the mid point of the descent off Stoodley Pike during the Shepherd's Skyline race. He had set up his camcorder and made a fantastic record of all the runners charging past. Fantastic, he thought. What a record: I'll put this on a CD for the Club. On arriving home he was dismayed to find he'd filmed the entire race with the camcorder switched off! In Ray's defence, he had enjoyed an all night boozing session at Richard and Jane's the previous night (in bed by 6.45am) and so I will only award 5 points for this cock-up.

Experience counts. Jane Smith displayed a total lack of experience when she slapped her horse's behind and received a nasty kick by way of thanks! This was immediately after losing her dog, Henry, during a neighbour's firework display and immediately before her engagement to Richard. I'm awarding a total of 10 points for your carelessness but taking 5 of those points back for your bravery in accepting Richard's proposal!

Final League Table

Jane Smith	17
Stuart Boulton	15
John Preston	15
Uncle Barry	15
Mark Harris	10
Mandy Goth	10
Sue Roberts	10
Richard Blakeley	10
Derek Donohue	5
Dave Makin	5
Richard O'Sullivan	5
Richard Leonard	5
Ray Poulter	5
Jim Smith	5
Colin Duffield	5
Kath Brierley	5
Simon Anderton	5
Mel Blackhurst	5
Chris Preston	3

Congratulations go to Jane Smith, the 2007 Toilet Seat Champion!

You've managed to hold on to your slender lead right from the start even though Stuart, John and Uncle Barry's antics made them strong contenders near the end, that final kick (pardon the pun) managed to push you back into the lead.

I'm hoping that next year we'll have even more contenders for this fabulous trophy – I think you're out there, it's just that no one has grassed you up yet!

I'll close the lid for this year now,
Yours,
Uncle Barry