

The Moor Tour

Day 1. On 12 May 2023 a Penguin Peloton Breakaway of Trevor Kelly and Charlie Beardmore set off, rather inauspiciously, from the Weary Traveller pub in Cullompton, Devon to cycle to see Pete Davis in Tavistock, via Dartmoor. We made surprisingly rapid progress to the brunch stop at Exeter's excellent Café on the Heale where a poltergeist affected Trevor's camera.



Start Point



Mirror image of Café on the Heale

An excellent full English was followed by a discussion with a local man regarding Tavistock, which he declared was notable for its Charity shops. When he realised that Pete was a Cornishman, residing in Devon, he suggested that Pete be given to a charity shop, *"if they'll have him."* Pondering those comments, we left and shortly began a long ascent onto Dartmoor. Beautiful weather, very little traffic, fantastic views, varied wildlife and lots of hills followed. We eventually gained the welcome stopping point of the Warren House Inn, near Postbridge, in the middle of Dartmoor, which serves a wide selection of fine food and drinks.



Dartmoor



The Warren House Inn

Shortly thereafter we met Pete and proceeded as a Triumverate to his very well appointed house in Tavistock. Day 1 completed:

Cullompton to Tavistock: 2 bikes, 175 kg, 128 km, 1420m of ascent, av. speed 22 km/h.

That evening we were joined by Pete's partner Becky and spent a very enjoyable evening experiencing one of the best currys ever, accompanied by some local ale, and overnighted at the very hospitable Chateau Davis.

Day 2, as always, dawned too early. Trevor cycled off to catch a train from Exeter, leaving Pete and Charlie to continue to Perranporth.



Chateau Davis – 0740 start



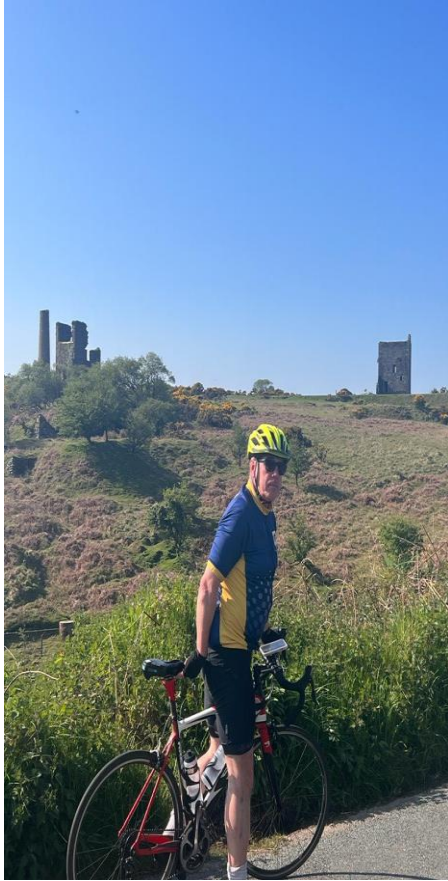
Crossing into [Pete's] Holy Land

We cycled largely downhill for about 30 minutes before crossing the Tamar at Horsebridge, to reach Cornwall. Thereafter it seemed to be largely uphill for the rest of the day. We transited past: Stoke Climsland, Bray Shop, Rilla Mill (big hill) before gaining Bodmin Moor. We then stopped at Minions which had numerous stickers of yellow creatures everywhere. We met two female cyclists there, undertaking the Land's End to John O'Groats ride, who were kind enough to observe that their combined weight was less than 40% of ours.

We skirted King Doniert's stone, paying our respects to Dungarth, 9th century King of Cornwall (*why is it not called King Dungarth's stone? – I don't know*), then St Neot. We passed by Castle An Dinas, one of the most important Iron Age hillforts in SW Britain, dating from 2-3 BC(E), before eventually reaching Lappa Valley Steam train experience. The meander continued through Goonhavern, before journey's end at Perranporth, the Cove of St Piran, patron saint of Cornwall.

Tavistock to Perranporth: 2 bikes, 215 kg, 88 km, 1400 m ascent, av. speed 18 km/h

A great experience in superb weather throughout.



Bodmin Moor Tin Mines



Pete partaking at Perranporth