

## Wessex Region Ride Report March 2014

Thirty Wessex members met up at the Alice Lisle pub in the New Forest for their annual lunch on 1st March. It was a great chance to catch up on everyone's news and we were particularly delighted to welcome Alan and Audrey Joy, who were prevented by poor health from attending any rides in 2013, and also Doug and Shirley Savage who joined up on the day.

Before the lunch, nineteen of us went out for a short morning ride. The planned route up the west side of the Avon Valley and back down the east side had to be amended due to persistent flooding on the west side. But the east side is pretty and we enjoyed the ride to Fordingbridge and out up the valley side to Wolvercroft Garden Centre, where the Sticky Bun Tea Rooms lived up to their name. The return journey being mainly downhill or flat along the valley did little to work up the necessary appetite for lunch, but we still did justice to it. A quiz to attach names to pairs of cartoon and comic book characters filled in spare moments between eating and drinking, and we felt that the winners revealed a rather misspent youth glued to the television and reading comics.

The annual clock award for the tandem pair who attend the most events on the regional programme, which includes rallies and some events run by other groups, was won for 2013 by Sue and John Sutton. Half of last year's winner, Clare Muir, presented the clock to Sue.

