



UPDATE



Tales from Cooksley's charabanc

Well, after all the planning we are up and running and have finished week one – and what a week it has been!

The 352 miles travelled have seen the relay move from Kent to Somerset via Central London and stops at the Farmers Club, the GAFTA dinner, the Tate Modern and a send off from Farming Minister George Eustice. Not sure I want to drive a van in the London rush hour again!

The GAFTA dinner was a great event and we managed to raise a significant amount towards our total and the justgiving total is growing all the time.

Two things have really struck me this week. The first is the enthusiasm of all the companies taking part. They have all really entered into the spirit of the event, giving freely of their time and supporting what we are trying to do. Friendships have been forged between people from different companies and once again I am struck by what a great industry we all work in. Everyone is determined to have fun.

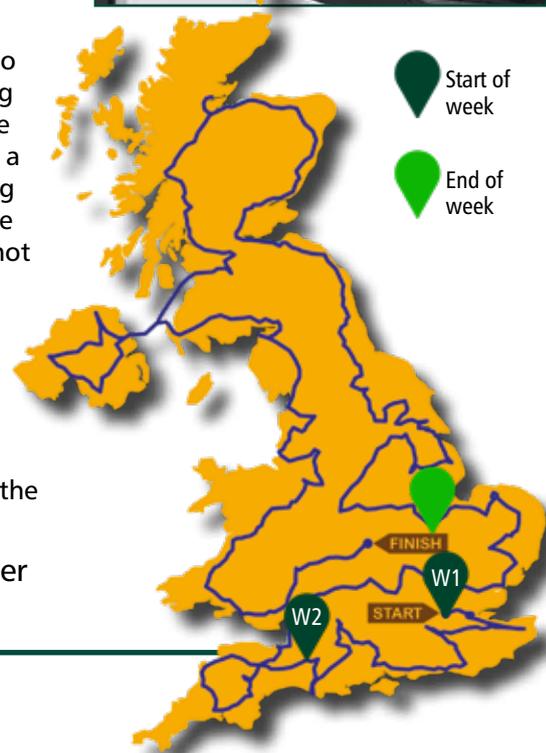
The second thing is the range of cyclists taking part. On the one hand we had David Mcbrearty from Cargill who cycled the full 80 miles on day one including negotiating the City of London. But to him this is just a training run – this weekend he is cycling 350 miles from Brighton to Ullswater. He also had time during the relay to stop and do a phone interview with the BBC!

On the other hand one group (who will remain nameless) was enjoying their cycle through the countryside so much that they stopped off for a sneaky coffee and cake. And taking friendship to a whole new level the team from Robin Appel included not one but two tandems!

On a personal note, a big thank you to Duffields, BCFTA, Bartholomews, Humphries and ForFarmers who arranged my accommodation this week.

Now its onwards and upwards to the south west!

Follow our progress on twitter @GAFTBikeRide



Where we are, how far we've come.

Week 2 - Yeovil > Peterborough (566 miles)

week 1	week 2	week 3	week 4	week 5	week 6	week 7
352 miles	566 miles	561 miles	689 miles	548 miles	614 miles	84 miles
 Total miles	918 miles	1479 miles	2168 miles	2716 miles	3330 miles	3414 miles

Participants - week 2

Duffields, NB Pitts, Three Counties Feeds, Crediton Milling, ForFarmers, Mole Valley Farmers, Harpers Feeds, NWF Agriculture, Micron Bio-Systems, Brackenburn, Prime Molasses, BCFTA, Bristol Port Company, UM Group, ED&F Man, Sharpness, A Nichols, Verriere & Co, Willett & Son, Alvis Bros, United Oilseeds, Whitney Grain, Openfield, ABN, Glencore, Spillers, AB Agri.



The relay sets off from Duffields in Wingham



A quick call at the Farmers Club



A bicycle made for two - Tom Wood and Anna Gambling from Robin Appel setting the pace



George Eustice gives an official send off



Jennifer Leonard welcomes the relay to Clarksons



Formation riding from Team Humphreys



So far...

352 miles

Just giving

Please continue to encourage donations at justgiving.com/fundraising/GAFT

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