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Saturday – Day 35 and it was always going to be a hot one so the sun smart riders showed up with sunglasses large enough to provide welcome shade for the entire peloton. Following his high profile sprints this week JDS decided to go incognito and hide behind his own shades in Bar Stelvio, but it didn't work as the paparazzi snapped his picture anyway (see official photo's).

A number of A grade regulars were noticeably absent after a night of plotting Bumble Hill (anti Green P) tactics with Stubbsy. The planning apparently went well into the wee small hours so it will be of interest to watch just how well the team of Chardonnay and Terminator follow TBG's race orders on Tuesday up Bumble Hill. The planning must have been exhaustive and fine in all its' detail given that TBG (and most likely Stubbsy and Terminator) looked like he'd just finished the stage on Alp D'Huez and been told it was only the first of several hill repeats.

35 days in a row for some and Green P announced 106 bikes have been donated to NepCam. There is still time to donate and time to register for Bumble Hill – just send the team at TC an email to let them know you want to come out for the last MOM ride. #38.

The destination today was the regular Saturday turn around of West Head, although as things played out there were a number of twists before the first coffee back at TC. Whether due to the heat, lack of water or positioning for line honours on Tuesday. Fester bid the A group a fond farewell from the St Ives car park then marshaled the remainder of us to make up a composite group of B and C grade. From the start there was a split with Tiger Woman and Steve E rolling through the green light and taking a small group including Green P and Green Pip (now sporting an aerodynamic hair style and also now a brand new helmet) through with them..

The red light then saw the B group split early with Sandy and OHA leading the second pack and finally getting on to the back of the peloton at St Ives show ground. That hill never stops to be difficult – a local Triathlete prepped for a days outing with five water bottles joined us and upon finding out where we were headed



decided to leave us for his 140 km ride (yeah right!!) at Forest Way and was last seen heading for a swim at DY instead.

Nearing the point where it is not unusual for the lead to roll off, Steve E decided to do just that and Tiger Woman was joined by Simon whose back must be decidedly fixed or he's still on pain killers so it just doesn't matter if there's no truck to grab onto.

The run down McCarrs was not too fast and the climb up to West Head turn off was even slower than normal. Many water bottles had already been drained at that point and several of us agreed we'd turn half way and ride Akuna on the way back.

Unbeknown to all but the inner sanctum, Fester had bought a single ticket for the ride around Akuna and had already left the rest of us behind. At Towlers bay Hill, Green Pip, OHA and several others including Sappa Rob and Warwick hung a U-ey and headed for Akuna. A good ride up and although we hesitated at the Cottage Point turn off, we decided to leave it until next week. We reminisced at that point of how on Thursday, Drastic had forgotten to zip his saddle bag and having hit a bump on the downward leg managed to fire gas bottles into the peloton in a way that would have made McHale's navy proud. .

At the top of McCarrs, Tiger Woman, Doctor Tim, Daniel (see Phil Liggett commentary below) and Simon joined us having flown up the KOM course.

(Phil – “ So Paul what is it about Basil in Switzerland?. It seems that to be married you need to be named Rolf and Veronika and if you have a son, you must name him Daniel)Paul said” well Phil how come they all end up being members of Peloton Sports” . Phil “ perhaps we'll never know the answer , let's get back to the ride report”

OHA managed to avoid damage to his bike by putting his body on the roadway instead as he headed into the Terrey Hills tunnel.

Rolf came past to see the carnage at that point only to be past a few minutes later by “the train” . Simon McCarroll was seen chasing down Mona Vale road and only one other rider appeared before turning off to TC. Green P left the B group thinking he'd also beat the A's back for coffee and to claim more sprinter's points, only to find that they too had taken the shorter route today and avoided the golf course and were on to latte number 2.

Thanks to the team at TC for inspecting the bike and making sure there are no excuses for Calga tomorrow.. Three days to go to end the MoM.