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Dateline - Sunday and it was to be Calga but given it was sooooo WET, gritty and only "committed" people were out riding this morning it was decided to lower the mileage and head to Brooklyn. One had to either be mad or returning home from a big night out to be riding today. The MOM is taking on truly biblical proportions, 36 days straight today with only two to go to Bumble Hill and yet it seems that it's not enough for some. Once back to the relative safety of Pierre's, Green P and Fester began considering next year's MOM, Green P wants to ride around the 'wurruld' but Fester has ideas of replacing lent with MOM and it may well be forty days and nights of riding. With weather like today I hope the next model to replace the Dogma is the Pinarello Ark. In keeping with the theme, Fester and his twelve disciples attended this morning thus maintaining the unbroken string of rides and each with a minimum of 55 kms.

Having assembled the troops for the Day 36 photo's, TBG and Chardonnay opted for the warmth of Bar Stelvio. The former out of common sense and the latter due to apparently forgetting his bike??? This left Fester plus Green P, Tiger Woman, Drastic, Geoff W, Ben, Nick, OHA, Cathy, Matty H and Matt A to be later joined at Hornsby by Slimey Simon and one other rider (sorry about no name). Tiger Woman and OHA had donned bunny ears and rain jackets in a bid to stay dry. Neither really helped though with the peloton split before Pearce's corner when TW concerned about lack of stopping power got the red light that takes forever to change. However, Sir Walter Raleigh had nothing on the TC group today which waited in the rain for the lights to change, allowing TW to get back on.

Having regrouped and putting to one side the temptation to return to Stelvio for coffee, the group headed out towards PITS. The weather didn't improve and thankfully there was virtually no one on the roads other than us and several other Peloton members who were passed on the way. The A graders took it easy, setting a pace of around 32km/h with the rest of us tucking in behind. Geoff was first up the Brooklyn Hill and turned around for a repeat as did Nick and Ben who were close behind.



We missed the warmth and welcome that V provides at Bar Stelvio but being a resilient lot and just as with any good dinner party, it was the people rather than the venue that made the after ride festivities enjoyable. Drinking café alfresco, under umbrellas that didn't shelter and eating a pie that must have been cooking since Fester's second birthday, après velo was never the less as enjoyable and welcome as always. Catching up with the group to discuss the next MOM adventure and being thankful that tomorrow is a recovery day. All the legs are tired but it would be great to have a good turn out for the penultimate day tomorrow. Most likely Bobbo with a few loops at the top before another coffee or two and no doubt tall stories about who will be first up Bumble Hill on Tuesday.