

# CREATURE'S 3 ANY SPARE CHANGE RALLY

*What a great year it's been so far - loads of lovely sunshine and great biking days, a really welcome respite from the crappy weather of the last two years.*



**I** blame all this sunshine for a renewed enthusiasm for further modifying my VS1400 which would account for my compulsion to chop the stock exhaust into lots of little pieces before arranging them in a more pleasing way and welding them back together again. Small problem, I can't weld or at least I couldn't. So it should come as no surprise to those who can that it took me a while to learn the hard way and a good many late nights of grinding bits back and doing them again to get it right. It's not perfect, but it's pretty dammed good and the lines are just right, and I'm well pleased with the result.

And that's my excuse for not getting to The Any Spare Change Rally until rather late on the Friday night. I missed the first band completely, Skelington Crew (though I have been told they were very good), but following them were Termoil and, headlining Friday's show, the Almaboobies (as recently featured in this mag).

This was Creature's second year at The Plough at Farcet Fen near Peterborough and Collin the landlord has been working hard on improving the facilities and services on offer to rally goers and organisers

alike. Saturday was a windy day with a few showers but, on the whole, the weather held off and there was a good turnout for the bike show. Prizes went to Peter Fraser from Glasgow (Furthest Travelled Male), Helen Hobbs from Wales (Furthest Travelled Female), Wobbly and his Norton (Best Chop), Phil and his Honda (Best Rat and Best Streetfighter), a guy with a rotary Norton (Best Brit), Little John from the Highway Hunters (Best Paint), and Chris Evans of the Raptors MCC and his heavily engraved '74 Shovel (Best in Show).

The afternoon also saw a return of Rick Hulse's Frog & Bucket Comedy Show. I didn't see all the acts as I was taking advantage of some brighter skies to photograph bikes and got chatting to lots of people on my way around the field, as you do, but I made sure I didn't miss Roger Monkhouse. I saw him years ago at a club in North London and I've been a fan ever since. He didn't disappoint as he stood in front of a room ... well, marquee, full of gnarly old bikers and proceeded to ruthlessly and fearlessly take the piss out of us - a dangerous undertaking that most sane people would have shied away from, but Roger had everyone clutching their sides and rolling about with laughter as he relentlessly taunted the

amassed bikers about mid life crisis, baldness and piles. A stonkin' good act!

The evening brought more great bands - rally favourite Stevie started, followed by a bunch of lads called Hedra Helix ([www.hedrahelix.co.uk](http://www.hedrahelix.co.uk)) who deserve a special mention for stepping in at the last moment after a let-down due to illness. Despite the lead singer having just come off night shift, he not only didn't mind being woken up by Creature 'phoning him just as he got to sleep but rallied the band together to fill in that evening. Next up was the always fantastic Exhibit A who kept the dance floor packed with their energetic performances of some classic rock tunes. The evening (or should that be early hours of the morning?) ended with the Mick Rutherford Band playing the blues with real passion.

Creature presented a cheque or two to the NABD for his last year's fundraising efforts to the tune of £3104.90 and, of course, the proceeds of this year's rally will also be going to the NABD so it's well worth supporting. The latest news is that it's all on for next year so you can come and see how good it is for yerself.

The only complaint I heard all weekend was about the pub's food, apparently the potions are too big! 🍷

