Today’s ride was supposed to be a ‘quick ride round the block’ to shake-down the Bafang powered Orange Gyro before hitting the Wiltshire/Somerset trails in earnest next week.

However, things quickly got out of hand and I headed off to a Bridleway I had not used since the 1970’s on my small wheeled, back pedal braked push bike!

The surface of the steep old road was still quite muddy from last week’s rains, and I struggled to find grip. I had put 45psi of air in the tyres because I thought I would be on tarmac only when I set out!

I then did a number of Byways and ex RUPP Bridleways that were on the ‘Must Ride Sometime’ list. Most of the lanes were quite overgrown in places with stinging nettles, cow parsley and brambles and my legs are still ‘glowing’ as I write this!

Only 15 miles, but some memorable views and confirmation that the bike is a fantastic bit of British engineering........... Except the derailleur. I must give some thought to alternatives as it is all going to end in in tears, probably soon. The system is not fit for purpose for my style of riding.

I have not captioned the photos, but if you are interested there are more photos with captions here: