

From: don muther
Subject: Greetings from Germany
Date: September 6, 2014 1:03:52 PM CDT
To: Andy Goldfine
Reply-To: don muther

Hi Andy,

Thought I'd drop you a line as it's been a while. I just got back from Nepal a couple weeks back. I went on another of Rob Callanders (Himalayan Roadrunners) tours. We were supposed to ride from Kathmandu to Everest base camp and on to Lhasa Tibet. The night we flew into KTM there was a terrible avalanche that wiped out a couple of villages and completely blocked the friendship highway (the only way into Tibet) leaving us pretty much stranded in Nepal. We made the best of it by just doing a tour around Nepal.

Unfortunately none of us were really prepared for Lower altitude, hot, humid and monsoon season riding. That went for Rob and his son Jack as well. I was probably the best off and this is where I have to give kudos where kudos are due. I won't bore you with more great feedback on the Falstaff. I think I did that enough in our last conversations. I have to really let you know how pleased I was with the competition Elk skin gloves.

I'd been riding with them pretty regularly at home here in Germany for a while and threw them in the bag last minute as back up gloves. I had other warmer gloves for the higher altitudes that I was expecting. As it turned out these were the only gloves I rode with. They were brilliant at calming the vibrations of the old Royal Enfield bullets that Rob uses. And temperature wise they seemed to hit the mark with both the lows and the highs. Where it really gets good is when we hit torrential downpours and had to press through. Every guy in the group was dealing with black hand syndrome. All the fancy high priced gloves, including our group leader Rob's Olympias were soaking through and leaking dye into the gloves. The Elkskins left my hands baby soft and as clean as the moment I put them in. Granted they too soaked through, but wringing them out and letting them dry over night was all that was needed. No freeze hand either.

The other item that I bought last minute for this ride was the banana pack. I have an old one (similar) made here in Europe from around the 1980s that had pretty much seen better days. This was the closest thing I could find to it and as it turns out was much nicer. I wore this every day to carry all my important stuff. Wallet, glasses, passport, butt-wipes, camera, cellphone, and respro bandit. Being able to expand it was a huge plus when we stopped and ended up purchasing trinkets. I don't have a picture without it over my shoulder. Just a really handy piece.

Don

