

Chester & North Wales CTC/CTC Caer a Gogledd Cymru  
Bob Clift Memorial 50/100 Mile Rides  
Sunday June 11<sup>th</sup> 2017



At the end of a long day and a busy few weeks, a quick pause to reflect on the 31<sup>st</sup> Bob Clift Cheshire Cycleway Rides.

Some sunshine but many black clouds greeted the riders. First in were the hopeful hundred milers, forming a growing queue as Charlie and I checked them in. New fob system this year replaced the cards and I think this worked well. 84 riders set off (from original 92 booked on) leaving a brief lull before the feisty fifty mile riders formed a similar but slightly longer queue, and 104 of them set off.

First time doing this. What a great event!

**Meanwhile, across Cheshire...**

Thanks great ride although the wind made it hard!

**Great Budworth:** Welna had offered her Cycling UK Trustee duties to check in the 100's at their first check point. Armed with a flag, riders were duly welcomed, and cakes distributed by Rachel and June. Welna then succumbed to purchasing three tubs of flavoured ice cream before returning to HQ.

**Hatchmere:** Carriers Arms - 50 milers at their first stop managed not to see Stuart waving his flag, and went straight for the Danish Pastries!

**Bollington Institute:** 100 mile second stop for bacon or egg baps. Mike presided over the arrivals, then stopped for tea on his way back, arriving unfortunately after our youngest 100 mile riders had gone.

**Hassell Green:** a checkpoint in doubt when my original volunteers suddenly had their date to move house this weekend. John and Nicky left HQ after early duties there, and headed to the Salt Lines car park also with a flag, which was invaluable to the riders to find this hidden but well earned and needed refreshment stop. Definitely a two person job!

Thanks for the chat and great company!

**Eaton:** By now I had run out of Cycling UK flags, at a venue where all riders pass through – first the 50 milers for beans on toast, then the 100 milers for cake. Except for our fastest 100 who romped through so early he ended up having beans on toast instead!

187 riders made it back against increasing headwinds, all finished by 5:30 pm. Only one lady got lost after 30 miles so called for a lift home from her husband.

Alright, the thighs do ache a bit, but a highly enjoyable event

**Youngest rider** (100 miles) was Mike Green, at 25, from Chester and sporting a 69 Cycles jersey. Maybe they can sponsor us next year!

Charlie my right

Many thanks to my volunteers at the venues around the course, my helpers at those controls; John for checking out the courses and planning the route, hand man (literally) booking people in and chief certificate writer, Nicky for shopping and rescuing the certificate situation, all my tea makers and helpers at base, and to my

long suffering family who, despite losing me to admin, emails and excel worksheets, still create useful gadgets and help out on the day. Finally thanks to the riders who enter, turn up and ride, all returning with smiles on their faces!

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we are  
**cycling**  
The cyclists' champion **UK**



just wanted to say a quick thanks to you and your team for such a well organised ride on Sunday. It was very enjoyable, and the "Treasure Hunt" aspect of the navigation added a new dimension to the day!

More photos from the event are on Flickr at <https://www.flickr.com/groups/3441445@N24/>