

CTC Cymru Treasure Hunt and Map Reading Competition April 30th 2016

After the wet weather endured in this event in 2015 it was hoped that competitors would not be reduced to handing in answer sheets made of papier-mâché in 2016. There was bright sunshine in the Vale of Clwyd at 8.45 but shortly after 9am the skies were grey, the rain was pouring down in Trefnant, and the competitors who had arrived where wishing they hadn't! However Crossroads cafe was able to provide tea & coffee to try to lift the spirits and by 9.30 when the first riders were allowed to start it had stopped raining.

Wintery showers delayed the arrival of some competitors; Andy Polakowski was riding out from Mold to the event when the road turned white, he sensibly sheltered by the road for a while then carefully made his way to the nearest Cafe to wait for conditions to improve. Even though he was then short of time for the event he still took part.

Eventually 15 people set off on a figure of 8 course; as the route passed through Trefnant after about 7 miles several people stopped off for coffee or lunch on the way round (this paid off well as there was a heavy shower later in the day). This year there were two juniors riding as part of 'Team Thomas'. There were three generations of riders; David Thomas, his son Stuart grandson Ieuan together with Brygida & Titania Gorecka.

As the riders came back there was the usual speculation over tricky answers – everyone scored well, and between the riders the correct answers were found to all the questions.

Result of the Treasure Hunt:

Individuals

Position	Surname	First name	Group	Category	Score
1	Larwood	Steven	Chester & N Wales CTC	V	28.5
2	Gilbert	Michael	Chester & N Wales CTC	V	23.5
3	Davies	Terry	Chester & N Wales CTC	V	23.0
4	Ferguson	John	Chester & N Wales CTC	V	22.0
5	Mills	Paul	Chester & N Wales CTC	V	19.5
6	Jones	Ifor	Chester & N Wales CTC	V	19.0
7	Booth	Sue	Chester & N Wales CTC	L	18.5
8	Polakowski	Andy	Chester & N Wales CTC	V	16.00

Steve Larwood gained the highest score & was one of the first to return. Michael Gilbert moved up a place from last year to be second, and Terry Davies built on his experience of the Two Mills Treasure Hunt earlier in the year to come third. It was good to see John Ferguson riding after his recent fall, and Ifor Jones returning after illness.

Teams

Position	Team	Score
1	Team Thomas	29.5
2	Sylvia & Robin More	26.5

The riders in the team competition all scored well in the event. 'Team Thomas' had the advantage of a larger number of team members, and some youthful enthusiasm. It was good to see that Ieuan & Titania had enjoyed the whole event. Sylvia & Robin were riding their first treasure hunt and quickly got into the swing of things

Results of the map reading competition:

Position	Surname	First name	Category
1	Gilbert	Michael	V
2	Larwood	Steven	V
3	Mills	Paul	V
4	Booth	Sue	L

Mike Gilbert, the 2015 winner of the map reading retained his title for 2016 with a clear win; Steve Larwood rode hard to come in second place. Paul Mills was 3rd having selected a similar route to the east whilst Sue Booth was 4th having headed west.

Thanks to the Crossroads Cafe Trefnant for acting as the venue for the event, Glennys Hammond for her help with the scores and for the event photography, and Mike Cross (C&NW CTC President) for presenting the prizes. Thanks are also due to all of the riders who supported the event!