

# Woodside Ferry Cafe, Birkenhead

## Armistice Sunday - 12th November 2017



Eleven brave girls and boys gathered in a hail storm and a not too good forecast, to enjoy **Sylvia's** ride, and off we went a little after 10.00am along the **A540** taking the first left to **Puddington** where **Sylvia** phoned the Woodside café to advise them of our time of arrival and to give them our order.

The first **Memorial Parade** we met was in **Willaston** which went down the **Hooton Road** and then turned back up again so causing a further delay. On we went through **Willaston** and left into **Damhead Lane** to stop for our two minutes silence at the entrance to **Folly Field Nursery**.

### Two Minutes Silence

Having lost two uncles in **WW1** it means a great deal to me to observe

this special moment and I am grateful to the Club for doing so. The photo on the right is Brian checking the time.



**Sylvia** decided to shorten the route so as not to be late at the café, and as a result we encountered our next parade in **Eastham**. It was good to see a variety of people of all ages taking part in the parade. The next part of the route went via **Eastham Park** and along the river Mersey - it was '*Wind over Tide*' so the water was quite rough. **Sylvia** took us along the **old railway track** from the **Industrial Estate** to **Port Sunlight station**. It's a long time since I have cycled that track which has been made very bumpy by the tree roots. Still, it looked very lovely and I wished I had been able to take a photograph.

We then worked our way mainly along the **Wirral Coastal path** to **Woodside** where we arrived in good time for our meal at 12.30pm. They had reserved three tables upstairs for us which gave us a grand view over the **Mersey to Liverpool**.

Then we sat for an hour before being served with our order - we may have been a little early, but I have never waited so long for a bacon butty which was served exactly one hour after we arrived at 1.30pm. I won't be voting this as '*Café of the Year*'!

Here we are getting ready to leave **Woodside** and ride back to the **Eureka** - mainly along **Route 56**, through **Birkenhead Park** - a pleasant change. As I expected, many of the group diverted to their homes on the way back, so only a few finished the ride at the **Eureka**.



**Getting ready to leave outside the Café**



**'Lest We Forget'**

Our thanks to **Sylvia** for a pleasant, dry and interesting ride, but regrets that she had to cut it short because of the café timing when in the event, we could have done the whole route.

**David Collinson**