

## Bellis Garden Centre, Holt - 6<sup>th</sup> December 2009

“Would it never get light?” It was yet another wet, very dark morning. So dark at 8.00am, that the street lights were still visible over in Flint. Should we not ‘give it a miss’ and continue decorating the Xmas Tree?

But by 9.00am, the sky was blue and the sun was shining, so off to The Eureka we went.

It was a ‘make your own way’ ride, so Jill led 16 of us, including a tandem, down the R 5 and the Greenway.

Here we once again had altercations with various male and female dog owners who made it very obvious that they did not intend to control their pets.



Jill is thoroughly absorbed with the Christmas tree!

I continue to find it upsetting when women of any age, swear at me!



At the end of the Greenway at Mickle Trafford

Crossing the Dee at Farndon, provided us with wonderful views of the continuing high flood levels in the area.



Farndon and Holt Bridge and the flooded River Dee

Whilst most of the party ate an excellent lunch at Bellis's cafeteria, the 'with chips' theme had really lost its vegetarian connection, but lunch was served with seasonal mince pies!



This is Alan's go-faster steak baguette and mince pies



Others preferred to picnic in the local bus shelter

On the ride home, we encountered about a mile of thorny hedge cuttings and were lucky to sustain only one slow puncture before arriving back at the Eureka.



An angry sunset over the Dee Estuary completed another satisfying day's ride.

Bob Witton