

## LIVERPOOL SIDE RIDE - MAY 16<sup>th</sup> 2010

A quickly and very efficiently arranged ride by Adele and Adrian left Blundellsands and Crosby train station at 10.00am.



**Adele and Adrian**



**Twelve riders plus the leader** (we don't do 13s) had arrived by car, train and even one on a bike (a local man who we befriended at The Semaine Federale last year).

John and Barbara's Sat Nav had directed them to 'the wrong side of the tracks', but fortunately there was a tunnel for them to negotiate.

George had already sustained injuries, a puncture and a bent rear wheel as the result of a lost battle with an escalator at Moorfields station. Why is there not a notice? NO BIKES!!!

**Poor George!**



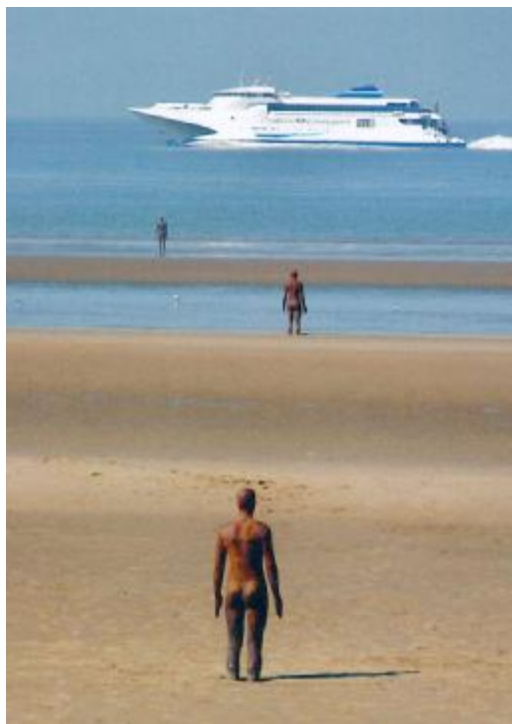
With these problems partially resolved, we set off in fine but cold weather to visit the loos at Crosby beach near those naughty iron men.



### Crosby Beach

The going rate was £0.20 per visit, but, I am sure by totally unlawful methods, we managed about 12 pees for only 20p, so to speak!

Adele had promised us “a 50-mile ride that would be OK unless it was windy.”



### Naughty Iron Men!

Well, it was windy, but not to worry, I was not at the front for a change!

### The North Wind Doth Blow....



Plentiful 11ses were taken at The Scarisbrick Inn, where childish fun was enjoyed with the very high water pressure and the Dyson Airblade hand drier. Oh dear, oh dear.



Graham finally surrendered to “a full English” in a large bun and George completed his first-aid and repair work to his injuries at the table, during our meal. Wonderful!

Criss crossing the river Alt, the Leeds and Liverpool Canal and various busy main roads, we arrived at Martin Mere Wildfowl Centre and sampled it's excellent café for lunch.

We were asked, by staff, to let them know when we were ready to leave the café. It had something to do with not having to pay an entrance fee, they said. I suspect they wanted to count the cutlery.

They would have done well to count the pencils and crayons after Graham had busied himself in Kiddies Corner closely watched by a lady working on a lap top near by.



**Graham in the Kiddies Corner**



The ride back was enlivened by several “tooting” motorists. Is it something they do in the area?

Much meticulous ploughing was noted during our ride through this very agricultural area. There were huge acreages of rape seed, wheat, lettuce and cabbage plants, so different from our usual Cheshire and North Wales rides.

### **Spot on for mileage!**

The weather was beautiful, the route and area, full of interest, the promised 50 miles was right on target as we arrived back at Blundellsands.

**Thank you Adele & Adrian - same again soon please?**

**Bob Witton.**

