

The Alyn, Rossett - 30th March 2016

A reasonable forecast was responsible for about twenty riders departing from the **Eureka cafe**, with **Julian** and **Ruth** as our guides - but my heart sank when I realised **Jelly Babe Sue** and **Chris** were not with us.

Spirits rose though, as we neared the marshes. What a brilliant way to start a bike ride with magnificent views over the **Dee** to **Wales**. We went along the river to the **Blue Bridge** taking on oxygen ready for our first climb up to **Hawarden**.

After a brief stop, we were warmed up for the steeper climb up the **Dingly Dell** for a well-earned banana stop before crossing the footbridge. I thought I knew the way from here but half way down **Lower Mountain Road** **Julian** took a right turn towards **Penyfordd** - they were nice lanes and they made the ride more interesting. **Julian** said I HOPE you don't mind this route, everyone said "GOLLY no It's great".

There followed an amazing couple of miles downhill reaching 31mph - nearly all the way to **Rossett**. I shared a bench beside the **River Alyn** with **Brian**, **Sylvia** and **Jane** to eat our sandwiches.

I had to leave early as I had to do a school run. I bypassed the straight mile and headed for **Eccleston** where I stopped to put my waterproof on because of a hailstones downpour. I learned later that **Chris and Sue** had trouble with their car and arrived late but did get to the pub, so that's a jelly babe in the bank for next time!

In this week's Re-cycling of this date, it's an odd mixture - some have gone but some remain.

Vincent Van Gogh 1853, **Frankie Laine** 1913 **Sonny Boy Williamson** 1914 (*Harmonica player*) gets a mention because my son **Peter** is such a big fan - he called his first born **Sonny**. **Rolf Harris** 1930, **Eric Clapton** 1945. **James Cagney** died in 1989.

Chris Byrne

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