

Carden Arms, Tilston - 24th April 2019

From Chris L...

This Week saw a somewhat smaller contingent of **Wednesday Riders** set out from the **Eureka**, the forecast wasn't boding too well with the probability of rain in the afternoon! So sixteen of us took the roll call with **John F** leading but not getting sufficient numbers to make a sandwich deal (I think we're all a bit suspicious now of £7.50 deals anyway!). **Richard** agreed to take a quicker group although we'd all voted for the shorter twenty-seven mile route - six of us went with him with **John** taking up the slack.

I was with **Richard** and hardly had time to take any photos since anyone who's cycled with him knows there's no hanging about!

We went straight down **Woodbank** to **Shotton** and up to **Hawarden** before the breath taking run down and up through **Bilberry Wood** - we had a drink/banana stop here before the run down to **Rossett**

with a brief nod to **Jimi Hendrix** as we passed (he's getting a tad overgrown now!).



As we approached **Holt** we realised that we had quite a bit of time so stopped for a very welcome coffee as **Cleopatra's** (I don't think anyone had a cake since lunch was only a



further seven miles down the road). As we were preparing to leave, **John's group** was just coming up the road and we all reassembled at the lights over **Farndon Bridge** before leaving them up the following hill.

A pleasant fairly flat ride on to the pub who were very pleased to see us. **Bob and Jill** were there already; the beer and food was good and no more expensive than if we'd been able to take the 'buttie deal'! People who'd brought their own food soon joined us before we set off back heading towards **Duckington** and **Bickerton** -



this gets a mention in the **Doomsday Book** described as "waste" however it does contain one of the few **Cheshire Cheese** makers still based in **Cheshire**! This meant a sharp climb with a brief respite before the rise to **Harthill** which we agreed wasn't as bad as expected - try it the other way!!!

A lovely long descent into **Tattenhall** where we were cut up by a silly van who proceeded to block the road causing us to lose sight of **Richard** for a few miles. It started to rain arriving at the Greenway just as Richard was departing, and the last six or seven miles were very much taken (by

me) as heads down to get home.

I rode fifty-four miles with just light of 2000 ft climbing, an excellent ride:

Thank you John.

I was pretty mucky when I got to **Two Mills** - the bike still needs cleaning!



Peter Leach adds - Just to complete the story: Mari took a tumble on the long stretch from **Saughall** near **Shotwick Hall Farm** (after **Chris** had set off on the home stretch). How she came to fall is unclear and can only be put down to the road surface becoming greasy following rain after a long dry spell, smear of mud and slightly rutted road. She came out of it bruised, with a few cuts and scrapes and very grateful for the services of her helmet.

John F replied Sorry to hear that **Peter** I hope that **Mari** isn't too sore and will be back on her bike for your ride next week. I was carrying the **Two Mills** first Aid kit (C&NW don't provide one!). As you were so fast compared with our group you had moved on before we came past the farm.

Main Text - Chris L

Photos Chris L

