

Chester and North Wales CTC Caer a Gogledd Cymru

Report of The 2011 Bert Bailey Memorial Veterans' 100

This, the Flagship event of the DA, was graced with glorious weather throughout the day and enabled the 70 riders to enjoy an excellent social day out. Many riders commented very favourably on the food, saying that it had contributed greatly to their enjoyment.



The route was considerably different from that used for the past few years, starting and finishing at Duddon War Memorial Hall and with less of the return legs being run as a return of the outward legs. It was also the first time in the history of the ride that the distance was exactly 100 miles.

As the route seems to have met with general approval it will be used in next year's event.



Getting ready to start



and signing in at the finish

The original entry of 82 riders was reduced by 9 cancellations, mostly by ill health, an occupational hazard of folks who are "getting on a bit", or cycling related accidents. For reasons that I can only guess at, 2 riders failed to show up, whilst 1

rider, Brian Crook, had a nasty accident, caused by a pothole in an appalling section of road near Waverton, that eventually resulted in his retirement from the ride and being taken to hospital in Shrewsbury by ambulance. He was kept overnight and returned home on the day after the ride. He has two hairline cracks in his pelvis and, not surprisingly, has been banned from cycling for some months. He has said how grateful he is for the help he was given by other riders in the event and for the good wishes from Chester and North Wales CTC.



Certificates ahoy!

Unfortunately, there was no Senior Lady Rider from Chester and North Wales so the Trophy was not presented. The winner of the Trophy for the **Senior Gentleman Rider** from Chester and North Wales was **Harry Watson**. The Trophy for the **Senior Gentleman Rider** from Outside Chester and North Wales was presented to **David Lee** from Wilmslow.

The **Senior Lady Rider** from outside Chester and North Wales was **Pat Craven** from Wolverhampton.

My thanks are due to all who helped in any way at all; without the assistance of these stalwart volunteers and the group leaders, this event could not take place, and our programme of rides would be all the poorer for it. There will be an expanded report in the next issue of The Link.

David Ackerley - Organiser

Accolades for the Event

David received several emails and cards of appreciation which reflect the high standing of Chester and North Wales in the CTC.

This is an example:

“Dear Editor,

Vets’ Ride-Sunday 3rd July.

I write to record my thanks to you and everyone who worked to make my day on Sunday so pleasant. It is the only time I meet people from the Chester DA and I am always made to feel so welcome. From a cycling point of view it is a pity that I live (at Aberdovey) so far away from your territory. The recent editions of The Link are also a great credit, and members should be pleased that the events are being so well recorded and presented.

I found it a bit of a struggle after lunchtime on Sunday, but was given great support and encouragement by the group. I do hope that I will be with you again next year.

When you get the chance I should be gratified if you could kindly pass on my thanks and appreciation to everyone who in any way contributed to my pleasure on Sunday last.”

David Rooley.

05.07.11.