

Bob Cliff Memorial Cheshire Cycleway Rides - 29th June 2014

Alan Oldfield and Brian Lowe report that their first attempt at Tourist Trial organisation can only be described as a resounding success. Normally reticent to blow our own trumpet, there are always exceptions to the rule and this is one of them. As with most successful enterprises, the outcome is largely influenced by the quality and commitment of the management team and this was second to none. To Mike Cross, David Ackerley, Stephen Cliff (Bob Cliff's son), John Mawson, Ted Bradley, Charlie Evans we extend our thanks for unselfishly giving up their time for the benefit of other cyclists. Particular thanks to our wives Ann Oldfield and Avril Lowe for their unstinting support during preparations and also on the day. Our task was also made a lot easier by the organisation, selection of venues, route sheets and a host of other useful stuff that Dorothy Cliff and Hazel McDougall, organisers of the previous nine events, had carefully kept and unselfishly passed on to us, with much useful advice. We feel sure that Dorothy would have been very pleased with the outcome.

Ann and Avril



There were a total of 197 entrants for the three events. We advertised the event widely not only to local clubs but also to clubs in the Macclesfield and South Lancashire/South Manchester areas. The 100 event was particularly well supported by Wrexham Reivers who provided the biggest Ch&NW informal group presence. Thanks for your support, Wrexham Reivers and for perhaps setting a good example for other Chester and North Wales CTC group participation at future events.

20% of riders were asked to assess a number of aspects of the event, such as route, refreshments, etc. on a basis of 5 for excellent, 4 for good, decreasing to 0 for poor. The overall average assessment was 4.9 and we were satisfied with that. The very decent weather probably created a feel good factor and contributed to this almost excellent rating.

There was a lot more competition for the Jim Skelding Trophy this year and it is encouraging that it was one by a junior rider (under 18) for the first time. Mike Cross in Presidential Chain, presented the trophy to the winner, Luke Johnson from Huntington, Chester aged 17 yrs and 12 days. Well done to Luke.

Brian Lowe and Alan Oldfield (Organisers)

Luke Johnson

