

A Message to Chester Easy Riders Members from Bryan Wade



"A very big thank-you for the **CER 10th Anniversary Ride celebrations**. I must say I was somewhat taken by surprise a couple of months ago when Clive suggested that we hold a CER 10th Anniversary Ride and he asked me to lead it following the original ride route. It only took a few moments to realise what a great idea this was, and further how much the Club must mean to members. So this was an invitation I could hardly refuse, however I should have twigged that something else was afoot when on the next sunny day I set off to do a recce of the route and

having arrived unannounced at the Old Rathbone pub for lunch was joined by four other members of the Club apparently out for a pint. The recce, incidentally, went well and I was pleased to note that I could still remember the full details of the original route even though it was getting harder to remember what happened last week!

Now I have always worked on the basis that it is the ride leader who organises the tea and lunch stops but on this occasion the venues seemed to already know about the forthcoming ride. Oh yes, 15 cyclists; are you the Easy Riders? Yes; we have you in already; right.



By this time I should have realised that someone else was organising the backdrop to this ride, but no I didn't give it a second thought!

Imagine my surprise then when on Thursday at Ness Gardens Jim gets up with a pile of notes to deliver an historical canter through the last ten years culminating in an elaborate thank-you. Thanks Jim, it was much appreciated and, to be completely honest, quite touching.

Then, just as I was starting to relax, up pops Brian and Clive with



a heavy looking box which on opening revealed an incredible cycle sculpture crafted from bicycle chain and rear wheel sprockets (see photo attached). Well I was lost for words, I'm afraid, hence this email.



CER is a great cycling club and as I said on Thursday, although I have been a member of many cycling clubs/groups there is none I would rather ride with than CER. What a great group of members. It's been a real pleasure and privilege to ride with you all and what a surprise to be presented with the sculpture celebrating the first ten years of CER. I had no idea that this had all been planned for last Thursday. No one breathed a word that anything was planned and with 30 plus members that's an incredible achievement.

So let me thank you all not only for a great day on Thursday but also for a great ten years with CER. For the future I'll still be around, as too will CER with Dave Heath as your new Secretary. Things will change but I have every confidence that the changes will be for the better and CER will continue to go from strength to strength.



Best wishes to you all

Bryan