

Eureka Audax/C&NW CTC Rides Report - 22nd April 2017

Good weather at last after the drenching most of us received during the last event in September 2016 from Old Ma's.

Eureka Excursion 215km - 33 riders (4 from C& N.W CTC) started out at 08:00hrs to enjoy the early morning sunshine and windless conditions. All was set fair until the riders arrived at the level crossing near Pulford after 17km which had been closed just for the day - and the belligerent roadmen refused



to let many of the cyclists through. This led to delays as riders got lost variously around the lanes and arrived later than scheduled at the first control at Ellesmere. Consequently, a number of riders skipped the café stop at Tilly's in Bunbury and just grabbed a receipt from the Coop to save time.

At the Eureka

The next road issue was at 155km around Tatton Park where the new Manchester to M6 by-pass has caused significant road alterations, further complicated by disruption due to laying a new water main through Rostherne. This problem was anticipated however and thanks are due to Seamons CC who checked out the route a couple of days before the event.

In spite of the road issues, all the riders except one DNF arrived safely back at the Eureka café in times varying from a very rapid 8h 28m to 13h 03m.

Special mention should be made of Alaina Beacall who rode this event as her first 200k, prior to taking 6 months off work to ride from Northern Norway to Croatia. We wish her a safe and successful journey.

Tea in Prospect 135km This ride proved very popular this year with 50 riders (4 from C&N.W CTC) braving the long hill to the Prospect Tea Rooms above Llangollen. There were similar problems to the 200km ride at Pulford level crossing and 2 riders DNF due to getting lost in the lanes and ending up in Wrexham.

We had glorious weather up at the Tea Rooms and many riders stayed a



while to enjoy the excellent fare and magnificent views over Cheshire.

The route is designed so cyclists arrive at Tilly's in time for lunch, before a gentle ride back through the lanes to the Eureka Café.

Times varied from 6h-24m to 10h-20m. Everyone seemed to thoroughly enjoy themselves on this excellent day out.



Prospect Tea Rooms

Two Mills Twirl 68km 11 riders (2 from C&N.W CTC and 1 from Chester Fab. Ladies) embarked on this short ride to Cleopatra's in Holt. The same problems were encountered at the Pulford level crossing but in spite of this everyone arrived safely at Holt and then back to the Eureka Café. Let's hope that some of these riders enter one of the longer routes next - as the purpose of these short rides is to give confidence in moving on to greater things.

Many thanks to the people who helped to make this event such a success - Margaret Matthews for issuing Brevet Cards at Eureka Café and operating the Control at Prospect Tea Rooms; Graham and Vicky Payne who marshalled the car parks before riding "Tea in Prospect" on their tandem and especially to Anne Peek and her staff at Eureka café for remaining ever cheerful and helpful through a 13hour day.

David Matthews April 2017