

Chester and North Wales CTC Audax Rides Eureka Café - 27th April 2019

Unluckily we managed to coincide with **Storm Hannah** which brought torrential rain and cool weather for the entire day. As a result we had a very high “DNS” count for all rides.

Eureka Excursion 215km: (PBP 200km qualifier this year which stiffened the resolve of a couple of late qualifiers) -12 riders (3 from C&N.W CTC) started out at 08:00am to face the horrendous conditions. The ride passed without incident but 3 riders DNF in the bad conditions. Times varied from 10h 20m to 13h 09m. Well done to those who persevered throughout a very hardy experience - the true spirit of Audax!.

Tea in Prospect 135km: This ride proved very popular again this year with 40 riders entering - but only 3 hardy souls turned up to ride on the day.

We had awful weather up at the semi-deserted Prospect Tea Rooms which blotted out the magnificent views over Cheshire. No loitering outside in the sun this year! Many thanks to Linda and the staff for cheering up and feeding our 3 bedraggled riders.

The route is designed so the cyclists could enjoy another break from the weather at Tilly's in Bunbury, before riding back through the lanes to the Eureka Café.

Times varied from 07h 30m to 09h 35m.

Two Mills Twirl 68km: 2 riders, father and adult son, embarked on this short ride to Cleopatra's in Holt. As with the other riders, they stoically accepted their soaking.

Many thanks to the people who helped to make this soggy event which was such a success in spite of the conditions - Andy Whitgreave issuing Brevet Cards at Eureka Café; Graham and Vicky Payne who marshalled the car parks: Linda and her staff at Prospect Tea Rooms; Kevin and staff at Tilly's, Bunbury and especially to Anne Peek and her staff at Eureka café for remaining ever cheerful and helpful through a 13 hour day.

Eureka Café is currently up for sale. The hope is that it will remain a going cycling concern and we have agreed a provisional date for the rides next year of Saturday April 25 - 2 weeks after Easter. Let's hope we get better weather next time!

David Matthews Apr 2019

Ps unsurprisingly, there are no photos of the event this year.