

Prospect Tea Rooms, Llangollen - Sunday 30th September 2018

Six trusty souls turned up at **Eureka** to follow **Chris S** following **Richard S's** route to the **Prospect Tea Rooms** - five of us had downloaded this route (eventually - Richard having deleted it from his GPS) which should have made following quite simple - more on that later!



The earlier section was quite straightforward, down the riverbank, **Dodleston**, etc. We'd done eighteen miles to the banana stop near **Marford** without much elevation - **Richard** had told us to expect 700 metres - oh how I needed that banana! The route started to rise through **Borras** and then levelled out again through

Wrexham - this is where the different interpretation of the route caused a bit of havoc, too many leaders! "*This way, no it should be left here, where's he gone now*". How do you lose anyone when there are six experienced riders, all with the route!

This was the first time I'd gone through the centre of **Wrexham** and I don't recommend anyone to try it again! After a couple of phone calls, a regroup took us on through **Erdigg Park** - to a gravelly bit where you're not supposed to ride - past some hair-raising drivers (why the hurry!) to **Ruabon** - this is where the last 500 metres came (all in about five miles)!





Not much to say as it was all a bit of a blur, roads with 'hill' & 'bank' In their name gives you a clue. On this stretch we came across **Jane Marshall** who'd set out earlier and followed the route (so it did work). The final run up to tea rooms was the worst.

We'd planned to have lunch outside but the drizzle started. Fortunately there was still a table inside where we just managed to squeeze in! Food, drink and service were excellent, with loads of space outside so this is definitely one for a fine day. View was amazing too.

The return ride was all downhill, good brakes required! **John** opted to escort **Jane** back. We skirted **Wrexham** again although not so bad this way, past **Bersham Ironworks**, **Alyn Waters**, **Hope** and **Bilberry Wood** but we stayed on the road to **Hawarden** where we had a delightful coffee in the **Gladstone Library** (once we found the entrance).



There was a small detour after **Mancot** (no you can't get through that little trailer park on **Colliery Lane**), and then back to **Two Mills** - 62miles, 850 metres climbed.

Thanks Chris and Richard



Text and Photos Chris L