

Woodside Ferry Cafe, Birkenhead

Armistice Sunday - 12th November 2017



Eleven brave girls and boys gathered in a hail storm and a not too good forecast, to enjoy **Sylvia's** ride, and off we went a little after 10.00am along the **A540** taking the first left to **Puddington** where **Sylvia** phoned the Woodside café to advise them of our time of arrival and to give them our order.

The first **Memorial Parade** we met was in **Willaston** which went down the **Hooton Road** and then turned back up again so causing a further delay. On we went through **Willaston** and left into **Damhead Lane** to stop for our two minutes silence at the entrance to **Folly Field Nursery**.

Two Minutes Silence

Having lost two uncles in **WW1** it means a great deal to me to observe

this special moment and I am grateful to the Club for doing so. The photo on the right is Brian checking the time.



Sylvia decided to shorten the route so as not to be late at the café, and as a result we encountered our next parade in **Eastham**. It was good to see a variety of people of all ages taking part in the parade. The next part of the route went via **Eastham Park** and along the river Mersey - it was '*Wind over Tide*' so the water was quite rough. **Sylvia** took us along the **old railway track** from the **Industrial Estate** to **Port Sunlight station**. It's a long time since I have cycled that track which has been made very bumpy by the tree roots. Still, it looked very lovely and I wished I had been able to take a photograph.

We then worked our way mainly along the **Wirral Coastal path** to **Woodside** where we arrived in good time for our meal at 12.30pm. They had reserved three tables upstairs for us which gave us a grand view over the **Mersey to Liverpool**.

Then we sat for an hour before being served with our order - we may have been a little early, but I have never waited so long for a bacon butty which was served exactly one hour after we arrived at 1.30pm. I won't be voting this as '*Café of the Year*'!

Here we are getting ready to leave **Woodside** and ride back to the **Eureka** - mainly along **Route 56**, through **Birkenhead Park** - a pleasant change. As I expected, many of the group diverted to their homes on the way back, so only a few finished the ride at the **Eureka**.



'Lest We Forget'

Getting ready to leave outside the Café

Our thanks to **Sylvia** for a pleasant, dry and interesting ride, but regrets that she had to cut it short because of the café timing when in the event, we could have done the whole route.

David Collinson