

## Abakhan Ride - 28th November 2010



It snowed heavily in **Heswall** Friday afternoon and it was still on the ground on Sunday morning, so, with the **visible snow at Mostyn** (our destination), a **temperature of -3°**, and cyclists still walking along **The Wirral Way**, I reluctantly decided it was



unsafe to lead my ride to Abakhan.



I did however, drive to **The Eureka café**, where a few hardy stalwarts had assembled, to explain my decision and offer a printed route to anyone who wanted it. Only four Two Mills members had arrived by 10.15am, none were planning to ride far, so, after a delicious bacon sandwich, I drove home and spent my day creating this report!

So, here it is then: a **virtual rather than real account** of what would have been seen, had the ride taken place.

Down to the A 548, passing the



**Shotton Paper Mill**, over the **Flint Bridge**, with views of the **Shotton Steel Mill** and **Connahs Quay power station**.



**Flint Leisure Centre** for a quick 11ses before continuing along the coast road passed what had once been the **Courtaulds huge factory complex** (1913-1986), producing artificial silk from wood pulp, finally demolished in 1986.



Weather permitting, leaving the main road and climbing up to **Holywell** through the **Greenfield Heritage Site**, marvelling at this long since disappeared extensive and important early industrial area.



**Holywell**



A ride through the town and then a fast plunge down to the coast road passing **St Winifred's Well** on the right.



**The View from Holywell**

**St Winifred's Well**





The **beached liner** also on our right will be there until it rusts away. It was to have been a night club then a market but they forgot to allow for the restricted access under the railway line.

### Mostyn Docks

**Abakhan Mill** is always a welcome lunch stop and is not far from **Mostyn Docks** Where the Airbus wings, manufactured in Broughton, are trans- shipped to another much larger ferry bound for France.



The homeward journey was a fast ride back along the coast road and a quick look at **Flint castle**.



### Abakhan Mill



Taking the C5 cycleway across **Shotton Bridge** again we pass John Summers old head office buildings and so back to the Eureka café for tea and cakes.

### Flint Castle

### Shotton Bridge

I hope you enjoyed the ride, thanks for your company!

**Bob**

