

## Abakhan, Mostyn - 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2012

Ten of us left the **Eureka Café** knowing that the strength and direction of the wind would dictate our route to and from **Mostyn**.

My first change meant that we chose **Route 5** to get to **Connah's Quay** rather than use the new bridge which would have left us dangerously exposed to the westerly wind.



Passing **Shotton steel mill**, the power station, and the remains of **Courtauld's old factory** we made **Flint Leisure Centre** for a quick 11ses.



A democratic vote surprisingly decided that, instead of returning home, we should continue against the wind to lunch at **Abakhan café**.



**Old liner**



**Greenfield Valley  
Heritage Park**





## Keep out! This building is guarded by security bees

**Flintshire** The bosses of a heritage park are hoping to use swarms of “security bees” to deter attacks on historic properties. They think that putting a hive in each building will make vandals “think twice” before trying to get inside. Chris Wright, manager of Greenfield Valley Heritage Park, in Flintshire, North Wales, said: “Vandal attacks have led to the deterioration of many historic buildings and it is difficult to deter people who seemed determined.” Barbara Chick, from the Welsh Beekeepers’ Association, said: “I haven’t heard of them being used as security bees.” The heritage park has yet to seek health and safety approval.

### Trouble at the ‘kissing gate’

Another vote allowed me to guide the group past the old liner to the **Green Field Heritage Park**. Here the first physical obstacle of the day was a new locked gate and a subsequent struggle through a ‘kissing gate’. By co-incidence, an article in the next day’s newspaper explained the reason. A belated attempt to make criminal access more difficult!



Onward and upward through the interesting industrial remains of the valley led us to the car park of **Holywell’s Tesco**, where, after a short rest, we continued upwards (no vote this time) to Lygan-y-wern before descending once again to **Flint**.



The continuing strong wind forced us to retrace our route back to **England via Route 5**. However, all in all, not a bad day’s ride, better than I expected!

**Bob Witton**

Click here to see the route:

<http://goo.gl/QXNns>