

Flavours Café, Beeston, 21st November 2010

Let's do the apologies first. Today's lunch venue was not the Sportsman's in Tattenhall. We agreed the change a while back but I forgot to tell everyone. So what was a 'C' ride became more like a 'B' with the extra loop and climb past Beeston castle to reach the Lock Gate cafe.



Outside the Eureka



Still chatting

Never mind, it was a dry enough day for the 22 riders who finally sorted themselves from the chatter at the Eureka ready to follow our leader. Andy split the group and appointed a second-in-command. The best laid plans went wrong when Graham declared 'puncture!' early on in Capenhurst. Some riders were already ahead, others carried on past, one or two did stop including our leader. The decision was to leave Graham and Brian to get on with it. We were soon back on the road but now as one large load moving in the direction of Cheshire Oaks. Follow this link to a new feature - our route for the day courtesy of Sonia and her Garmin gadget.

http://connect.garmin.com/activity/57477059?sms_ss=email&at_xt=4ce96aca21e2a048,0



Layby 11ses

Frank was out with us today trying his newer model.

On the simplest level, which is about where I am at with these things, you will see a nice symmetrical figure of eight. A closer look shows that we rode on the A41 from Waverton. An unusual choice but the road closure meant we enjoyed a traffic-free blast to the turning for Tattenhall. We stopped at a lay-by for elevenses.

Then we climbed up under the shadow of Beeston castle.



Beeston Castle



The sandwich section by the canal



Canal boat



Locks on the canal



Lunch was phased. 'Own sandwich' people used the tables at the canal side enjoying the usual points of interest – boats and locks.

Tricia is amongst the helmet wearers. She had arrived at Eureka this morning without her own bash hat. Ann loaned her one that fits and matches her bike. What service!

Talking of which, inside Flavours the staff catered brilliantly for our lot, followed by the lads from Merseyside and then Chester Road Club.

It really did get to **standing room only**, though, for **John and Barbara.**



Finally, time to leave but not everyone is ready for the customary group shot.

Group photo outside Flavours

Then we set off up the hill without Tricia leaving her to slip big style up on the café decking. A woman of great resource, she managed to save her bike, her clothing and the borrowed helmet and she wasn't caught on camera. The group did wait for her and we all returned home safely. Thanks Andy for a well researched route and keeping us in good order.

Words and photos - Janet