

Informal Rides – 4th July 2010

Holt Informal Ride

It being the day of a 'DA' event, The Vet's 100, there were no official 2 Mills rides, but other 'informal rides' were on offer.



Outside the Eureka

Sue chose to lead a group of York Section members and arrived at the Eureka -



Visitors from York



Janet, Liz & Martin, left the Eureka at 9.30am, to join the Mold group for 11ses at the Pet Cemetery.



Janet, Liz and Martin



Waiting for the off!

- just as we, another group of six were leaving for a proposed ride to Holt.

The weather forecast was mixed. Windy, possible showers after lunch, but by the time we stopped for 11ses at Bretton, the dark storm clouds were gathering in the West.



11ses at Bretton

We battled on into a strong southerly wind and eventually took an alfresco lunch in the bus shelter in Holt before continuing to Bellis Garden Centre café for a cup of tea.



Alfresco lunch in Holt



Storm clouds gather

Who should we meet there but Mike, Pam and Bob Clough who were taking 'time out' from their marshalling duties with the Vet's 100, before returning to the finish at Kinnerton.

Our ride home with a following wind and fortunately no rain completed an enjoyable day.

Bob Witton

Ride to the Pet Cemetery

Three of us left the Eureka at a little after 9.30am – Liz, Martin and I. It is always a challenging ride to the Halkyns but would we get to the café at the Pets' Cemetery,

Brynford for 11 am to meet the Mold group? Martin led out, along the cycle path to Hawarden Bridge, Shotton, Papermill Hill up to Northop, and then the steep climb to Windmill. We made it to the café for 11.10am and Dave Hill's bike was still outside. Relief!

The force of the wind on the tops was rather scary by now. A lower level route seemed more sensible. We dropped gradually down to Prestatyn, eventually joining the old mineral line from Dyserth. We had lunch at the round café on the sea front, where we witnessed a dog walker who had strayed into the restricted zone being swiftly dispatched by the local beach patrol. It was a good excuse to rev up that 4 wheel buggy!

The return leg began with a gentle meander along the prom to Gronant - then through the enormous caravan park at Talacre. We popped out briefly onto the A548 coast road before taking a left to climb steeply up to Llanasa and on to Whitford. We were rewarded with fine, clear views across the Dee and well beyond. On the left hand side between Brynford and Pentre Halkyn, there is a Catholic monastery with a café. It wasn't open but Dave knew we should try the hall where we were made very welcome with a large pot of tea and plate of biscuits - all for a donation! That set us up for the easy drop back to Northop and home. Thank you Dave for letting us join you on the ride. I went straight to a bit of a do at Burton Manor, riding the final bit home at midnight. We had stayed warm and dry all day – just as you want it in July.

Janet Gregory