

## CTC Two Mills Tattenhall Ride November 15<sup>th</sup> 2009



Around 16 stalwarts, of mixed ability, and one tandem, set off on time from the Eureka to follow Capt. Andy, who after the previous week's experience on the tandem, rode a single.

The ride along The Dee to Chester, The Roodee and to The Groves for 11s, tea and toilet, had already seen several 'breakaways' by the stronger riders. This unfortunate pattern(to me), was repeated during the day.

Lunch at The Sportsman's Arms, where we were made very welcome, was excellent.

An amusing item on the menu was "A pint of chips (or indeed fish & chips)". Now, as a senior citizen, I can remember buying shrimps and cockles by the pint or half pint, but chips were a new one to me. One member, no names, had to avail himself of such 'a pint', and paraded around the pub to show everyone! Oh dear.



Soon after leaving lunch, it was realised that young Alan was missing. "Last seen looking for the toilet", was suggested. Then along came, what we first thought was an enraged, gesticulating, motorist, but who stopped and advised us that "One of your group is wandering round the village looking for you!" We thanked him, sent out a scout, and waited for Alan to join the group.



The return ride to The Eureka was via the new Greenway Extension, where, for the second time in a week along this route, I picked up a rear wheel puncture. Two in fact.

Subsequent conversations at The Eureka confirmed that several other riders had also had punctures there, caused by minute chips of sharp stone, apparently emanating from the ballast and gravel which border the tarmac surface.

No, I never did catch up with the breakaway group, even though Andy did come back to see what the problem was.

A beautiful, bright, sunny, Autumnal day and an excellent ride, thanks Andy.



Bob Witton