

## The Buck, Bangor-on-Dee - 8th August 2018

After **Harry** had taken numbers for butties we split into three groups - I went with **Richard's** faster group with just seven of us so aside from coffee and lunch stops, we didn't see any of the other riders all day (can't report on any mishaps/adventures!).

We'd just got down **Woodbank** when I noticed a couple of people missing; it turned out that **Ken** was riding a bike unused for a while - his **Garmin** mount had disintegrated as soon as he hit some bumps - we all know about the bumps on **Woodbank**! After that we went to **Hawarden Bridge** and up river to **Saltney Ferry**, and via **Dodleston** to **Holt** for a pleasant coffee (and sneaky banana). Some rain in the air got us thinking that the weather forecast was correct, but we held off putting on coats.



The other groups arrived as we were leaving - more space for them, so we went on through **Bowling Banks** to **Bangor-on-Dee**.

The landlord was most welcoming and I took the time to have a stroll (if you can call it that in cleats!) on to the bridge

to look at the view knowing that the chips and sandwiches wouldn't be served until **Harry** arrived (didn't want to get in to second pint again!). **Bob** and **Jill** arrived in the meantime and eventually the others showed up for a nice lunch before setting off back.

We were now nine since **Peter** and **Mari** joined us having met the group at **Hawarden Bridge**. We had a fairly uneventful ride back via **Crewe-by-Farndon**, **Saighton** and **Chester** where we stopped by the **Groves** for an ice cream break (**Sue** also provided jelly babies!) before riding back along the river where we all split up for our different destinations.

The promised rain never did arrive despite one or two threatening clouds, but judging by the pools of water at **Chester** and at **Two Mills** we'd been fortunate. Fifty-eight miles for me (some variations on that for others) - excellent ride and a good course - thanks **Harry**.

**Text by Chris L**