

The Black Dog, Waverton - 29th October 2014

Today is the first of our **MYOW** rides. But a slight change means you can do the **RORT** ride meaning 'ride our route

today' and the first volunteer was **Brian L** and we were off to the **Black Dog** in **Waverton**.



Looks like a comfort stop



The Black Dog

Another good forecast produced a big turn out with about twenty-two riders on the blocks. We welcomed **Richard's** wife **Marie** for the first ride with us - I believe she has just retired so we could see a lot more of her. There was also another new face who's name I don't know. He rides with a group known as the **Palefish** - they ride from the library in **Greasby** but are not an official club. A nice bloke, but I don't think we will see a great deal of him until he retires.



*Is cameraman John safe?
Is this the tip of the iceberg?*



The Bluebell Cafe Barrowmore was mentioned on the ride. These pictures from their website look very inviting; what about an early start and get there for breakfast?



We set off down **Capenhurst Lane**, and then followed the cycle path to the **Sainsbury** crossroads, after negotiating the nightmare traffic lights we emerged on the refinery road heading to **Thornton-le-Moors** and the more peaceful lanes of **Dunham** and the 14th Century church of **St Mary's**.

Dunham during **WW2** was a massive explosives storage depot and you can still see the buildings they were kept in. It looks like **Waverton's** only well known person was a **Joe Wright** who was a top greyhound trainer, winning the **Waterloo Cup**. He was also a farmer and one time manager of the village pub **The White Horse**, I wonder if the dog that won the cup was black?



Sunset from our house last week

If I had known that **John F** was not on the ride I would have brought my camera as there is no shortage of stunning pics at this time of year.

With about a mile to the pub **Brian** suggested doing an extra loop of five miles; most agreed, but a few needed to be home early so they declined and went straight to the pub. This is always a good move for us to get served easier and better for the pub. **George, Ada** and **Chris** were separate arrivals. **Chris** left very early and I never got to ask him how his TOF and his holiday to the D-Day beaches had gone. What we did talk about was the TV programme with Guy Martin (TT ace) attempting to break the world record for the most miles in 24 hours on a tandem. We agreed a two-seater recumbent sitting alongside each other is not a tandem although it was a great effort and they did a record mileage.

As we were chatting away I became aware that **Alan O** was looking a bit agitated, then realised he was the only one not eating and the sight of **John's** chips had him salivating. It was only when we came to leave all was revealed - **Marie** the last one to order had taken **Al's** tuna mayo by mistake. I was able to wrench his hands of her throat.



Can you spot what is hidden in this pic?

Many had already left, but the rest of us headed towards **Christleton** and on to pass the **Zoo**. As we reached the bottom of pretty bridge most joined the canal. I went up the hill towards the **Rake pub**, which was one of **Lord Bunbury's** homes, and as we go to press I have no reports of any mishaps regarding bikes on water. I just hope everyone got home safely after a very good start to our winter rides.

Thanks **Brian** let's try to keep it up.

Chris Byrne

Photos - Chris's own!