

Christmas Lunch, Holiday Inn - 12th December 2018

From Chris S...

I set off with a small group as planned at 9:30am. As we passed the **Tudor Rose** we collected **Chris and Sue**, then near **Willaston**, **Chris L** joined us, and at **Eastham**, **John W!** **Chris L** has given an account below but I am sure it wasn't as hard as he makes it sound.

One memorable incident for me was as we passed under the railway near **Port Sunlight** station. I rang my bell to warn an elderly lady with a dog that we were approaching from behind. Without hesitation she span around and shouted "*Don't you ting your bell at Me!*" I wished her a Happy Christmas as I passed and she remonstrated with the riders coming after me. She was right that we should have dismounted, but we were going very slowly and there was no one about except for her.

Here is Chris L's version;

Wednesday's ride this week was for our annual **Christmas Lunch** at a new venue -**The Holiday Inn** by the **Boat Museum in Ellesmere Port** - about thirty riders attended this event and used various methods of transport to get there! There were two rides from the Eureka; **Chris Smith** took seven of us at 9.30am via a circuitous route which included going twice down and up the **Dibbin** valley as well as **Rivacre Valley**, with a walking section up some very slippery steps at **Riverside Park**.

John Ferguson led a shorter ride at 10am stipulating that each rider must have some semblance of seasonal decoration, this produced some interesting results! There were also attendees who'd made their own way there by bike and car - **Mike C** was insistent that we all be there ready to sit down by 12pm (including bar service); he did have a moment of panic with fifteen minutes to go, very few people having arrived and the chef on standby. In a mad rush everyone arrived at once - panic over!

The food was excellent, service great and the crackers - well.....! Speeches were made, **Grace** said, raffle tickets bought (and discarded in some cases),



more speeches, thanks given to various organisers. I think everyone was satisfied with their day. Home time came and people went their own way home.

Thanks you **Mike** for organising this with such precision - And a **Merry Christmas to all**.