

White Horse, Churton 31st January 2018

There was a good turnout for the **Police security bike marking**, but I am aware of quite a few who missed it, so I will ask if they can repeat it later in the year. Most joined in the ride but some went straight home afterwards.



In the absence of our planned leader I had offered to lead a longer ride, and **Brian J** a shorter one. I was surprised to have a group of eleven to start. Leaving **Brian** with, I think, eight riders. It's interesting that so many wanted a longer C ride and I wonder if we should reconsider the policy of only doing C rides in the Winter months. Perhaps a regular alternative would be welcome.

By the time we reached **Woodbank**, **Charlie E** had decided to drop back to the slower group, although oddly they didn't find him. Since I didn't realise this till I saw **Brian** in **Churton** we didn't send out a search party. If you are leaving a ride please make sure someone knows.

I had not planned my route carefully enough and so after **Saughall** (where **Mike M** punctured and retired) we were approaching the **River Dee** where I saw the slower group ahead. We threaded our way through them, but three of our group decided to stay with them. With the wind behind us we did 25mph along the river path with little effort. I can't pretend we had help from the wind all morning but it wasn't too bad and before long we arrived at **Churton** to find only **George and Ada** there. **Brian's** group soon arrived though and lunch was served. I didn't feel the selection was too great,

or that the meals justified what seemed like premium prices. Maybe we should reconsider including this pub in our calendar.

Meadow Lea Café

My planned afternoon route, if I can call it that, was seen by **Chris L** to include the pack horse bridges, which are not much fun on a wet winter



day, so we abandoned that and rode down through **Aldford** and **Saighton** to **Chester**. Some turned left along the **Greenway** and headed home while the rest of us went the other way for a coffee at **Meadow Lea**, and then home via **Stoak** and **Capenhurst**.



The Bridge at Aldford

As I reached **Neston** a heavy wintery shower lashed down. I think **Wirral** had been like that much of the day, while we enjoyed a reasonably gentle time in the **Cheshire lanes**.

Thanks to **Brian J** for leading the 'Alternatives'

Chris Smith