

Cotebrook Shirehorse Centre - 23rd May 2018

From Chris L



After last week's tootle in [Snowdon](#) the assumption was that this week would provide the perfect antidote. A sunny morning assured a big turnout at the [Eureka](#) in excess of twenty! (Anyone with exact numbers please let me know). [John Walker](#) split the group in two - I think there were twelve in our group with a faster group going with [Richard](#).



At Christleton Pond



We had an uneventful but pleasant ride out to **Christleton Pond** to meet up with Brian, **Sylvia, David** and **Sue** - lovely to see you again and have some bananas! Another split as this was deemed too big as we rode past **Beeston Castle** (**Richard's** group had stopped here I believe) and then on through **Eaton** to **Cotebrook**. **Bob** and **Jill** were there and our 2nd group arrived shortly after but I suspect the faster group had taken a longer detour (or long coffee stop). Well - the service was excellent with sausage butties to die for!



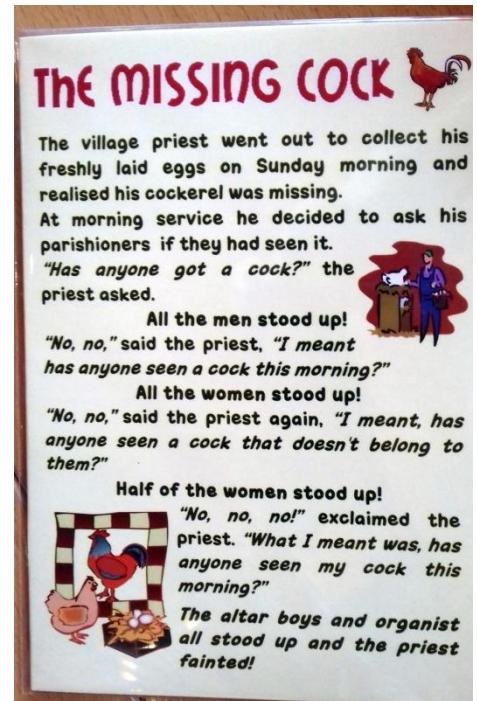
On the return ride we set off down the **A49** (not nice) but only for a couple of hundred yards before turning left and left again into quite a climb towards **Utkinton** and **Willington**. We met a very angry motorist crossing the **A54** who shouted his greetings at us as we crossed in front of him! People gradually left the group as we neared their respective homes.

Thank you **John** for an excellent route - 50 miles with around 1600 ft climbing (not all in one go!).

Don't forget the Alternatives!

Brian, Glennys and **Carl** set off at the same time and also stopped at **Christleton Pond** for a drink and a couple of photos and met up with a few of the main group.

We also met up with **Bob and Jill** and were pleased to see **George and Ada**, and **Mike** our esteemed **Club**



President. We seem to have done a similar route as the main group (in reverse) with the exception of a loop round **Beeston** (I think).



chucked into the nick
for unpaid debts!

45.7miles, 20 out and
25.7 back.

I found out the next day from **John F** (from **Oban**, long story) that **Mike** was forced off the road by a passing vehicle into gravel and fell of his bike when returning to

Walk Mill from the **Shire Horse Centre**. Passing motorists and a local resident helped him to a **Waverton** surgery and returned him to **Walk Mill** to collect his car. Following a further examination at **Arrove Park Hospital walk-in Centre** after he drove home. Apart from cuts and grazes he assured me that he was ok. This incident is one of the many gripes we have about cars not allowing enough space when overtaking cyclists. The recommended distance when overtaking is 1.5 metres. Best wishes from all of us **Mike!**

Our ride out was shorter so we did a bit more on the way back. The service and food was very good and the staff, although harassed coped well. They were so harassed that they didn't realise that **Brian and I** hadn't settled our bills (unintentionally I might add). I went back the next day to avoid us being



Photos and text from Chris L and Glennys