

The Hare and Hounds, Crowton - 26th June 2019

From Chris L...



There were around ten people at Eureka for the start of Dave W's ride to Crowton.



After taking numbers for the sandwich and chips deal, Richard (as per usual) led a faster group of eight (soon to become nine) on the same route - a coffee stop at Okells was suggested and eagerly anticipated by some of us (me!). We had only just turned into Lodge Lane when a car came up behind us tooting and revving; as we were

riding up the bridge over the motorway there wasn't any room to move over until the road widens before the descent, he couldn't pass all of us but stopped at the bottom where Richard and Harry got into deep conversation with the driver (Duncan filming!) - it turns out that he claimed he was not trying to pass but had trouble slowing and the revving was to keep the engine going - it was a '19 plate and had a large trailer - maybe his first time out! He pulled into the farm further down the lane - Bloody Cyclists!

It had been a bit chilly (I thought) so apart from a couple of stops to remove layers the remainder of the ride to Okells was uneventful - coffee and cake followed - very nice it was

too since you ask! **Dave's** peleton arrived not long before we left so a quick hello/goodbye from us and on we went, up some quite serious hills around **Utkinton** and **Tarporley**, passing a very noisy **Oulton Park** - practise day - and a close pass from a shiny black SUV near **Sandiway** with a bit of a swipe at **Richard!** (**Chris** had camera but I don't know if he got that). We'd got our drinks in before the others turned up, beer was good and food of a good standard. **George and Ada** were there (they were at **Okells** too - must've taken a different route!



Again we set out before the main group - never saw them again - there was one road quite early on called the **Wob!** which was very muddy and some of us (me again) had to dismount - had to give the bike a good wash on return! The remainder was again pretty uneventful until we got towards **Mickle Trafford** when I realised I was unable to change gear, the cable having parted company with the lever - only double chain ring to play with! The route would have taken us through **Picton** and **Stoak** but I decided the **Greenway** would be a better bet - **Richard** and **Chris** had already gone up here on their way home so **Harry, Mari** and **Ian** came with me following the route out. Incidentally my **Strava** recorded a few PB's here since I couldn't comfortably go too slowly - ping that bell!.The bike is now at the shop as the nipple on the cable has dropped into the lever - no idea how to get that out.....

Thanks for a good route **David**, a warm day with a bit of a breeze.



Text and photos, Chris L