

DYSART'END AT PUB

When we gathered outside the **Eureka** to start our ride there was an unfortunate accident, at the point where we cross the road towards the bus stop. A cyclist was knocked off his bike. The motorist stopped and rang for an ambulance so we took the bike and left it in the cafe to be collected later. The unfortunate cyclist was able to walk but was holding his side in some discomfort. Hopefully he will be o.k. but this wasn't the start to a ride that he or we wanted.



Today's ride is taking us to **Bunbury**.

On the 23rd December in 1642, this is the **Cheshire** village that prominent gentlemen met to try to keep **Cheshire** out of the **Civil War**. It proved forlorn. After reporting **Cromwell's** exploits last week we can't get away from 'Civil and War' - two words that don't belong together.

The Dysart Arms, Bunbury

At the **Eureka**, twenty riders split into two groups. **Jane** went off first, followed by **Brian**, both following the same route down **Woodbank Lane**, Saughall and the **Greenway** taking a break as we reached the end. We expected to see **Brian** here but found out at lunch that someone's chain had snapped and that's why we didn't manage to link up. **Jane** was setting a steady pace and you could hear riders chatting away - it was a really nice relaxed ride..

Opposite the **Dysart Arms** is the 1000-year-old church of **St Boniface**. Its church yard contains the remains of four soldiers from **WW1** and four from **WW2** plus a naval officer. The church suffered bomb damage after a raid on **Liverpool** in 1940 when returning bombers jettisoned their surplus bombs. Another observation made about **Bunbury** is a disbelief in 'early retirement'. Inside **St Boniface's** there is a tomb of **Sir George Beeston**, born in 1499. He accompanied **Henry the V11** on his invasion of **France** and at the age of 89, yes 89, he captained the **Dreadnought** in the battle against the **Spanish Armada**.

The weather was turning into a summer's day as forecast, so I had decided to take sandwiches along like some of the others. In **Bunbury**, **Tony** couldn't resist the smell coming from the chippy so he decided to join us for lunch on the bench. We went into the pub for a pint, but after waiting an age we decided to nip up the road to the **Nag's Head** and were served right away. When we returned we heard that **Mike Knox** had waited almost an hour for his sandwich so he got a refund and left for home. Others also complained of poor service. On ordering an apple crumble **Jane** was told it would be 40 minutes! Poor **Jane** was feeling

bad on the pub's behalf but everyone agreed it had nothing to do with her. The rides committee will have to give some further thought re this venue.

Even more shocking than all this was when I was told that **Brian** had deserted his group and made off on his own. This seemed totally out of character for this stalwart of the **CTC** and on going to press we're awaiting an explanation for his dereliction of duty. **Jane** was great; she calmed everyone down and reassured us she would get us all home safe.

We were rounding **Beeston castle** when our leader had a puncture on the very day the government announced that inflation was down, so we had to get it up to carry on. Then it was through **Saighton**, the **Greenway**, and **Saughall**, arriving at the **Eureka** at 4:00pm - so thanks again **Jane** for a very enjoyable ride. Who will be our next lady leader?

Chris Byrne



St Boniface Church, Bunbury