

Great Budworth - 3rd June 2015



The **Eureka** car park was a mass of discarded clouts as cyclists celebrated the end of May and welcomed summertime - loads of white knees bore witness. **Roy** who claimed last week he was not fit for purpose, was to lead twenty riders to the **Ice Cream Farm (ICF)** in **Great Budworth**. After splitting the group into two he shot off like **Bradley W.** **Andy** who was heading up the second group finally caught up near the **Zoo** said "didn't realise It was a time trial" but **Roy** usually settles down when It gets a bit lumpy. As we went through **Mickle Trafford** three more riders joined us from a car-assist.



After passing the **Windsurfing Centre**, we braced ourselves for the first climb. It was around one of the very few hairpin bends we do, followed by a series of gradual climbs going to **Kingsley**, worth the effort for the views. The pay back is loads of free-wheeling down to join the road to **Crowton**. **Roy's route** then took a left turn down some of the best cycling lanes



in **Cheshire** all the way to the **River Weaver**. It's here that a spectacular railway viaduct crosses the river (touch of the Portillos there) and we crossed over the lock gates.



There's just one more short bump over the canal at **Acton Bridge** followed by more picturesque lanes with a glimpse of **Pickmere** off to our right. Through **Little Leigh** no relation to **Bigly** and up a short hill into one of the most charming villages anywhere - **Great**

Budworth. Its name is taken from the **Saxon** for **Bode** (dwelling) and **Worth** (a place by water).



On arrival at the ICF. George was sat alone, the reason being that Ada had an appointment with Liz at Buck house to celebrate a lifetime's contribution to the W.I. so congrats Ada we hope it went well. Our lunch was enjoyed outside the cafe in splendid sunshine - the start of our knee colour change. **Alan O** was absent

probably due to his involvement with the **Bob Cliff rides**.

Someone asked who **Bob Cliff** was and in explaining about him we were reminded that it is close to his late wife **Dorothy's**

birthday, fond memories of a good cyclist and a wonderful woman much missed.

Refreshed we set off for the **Anderton Boat Lift** and a different route to **Acton Bridge**, with one

last hill to climb it was up to the **Tigers Head** pub at **Norley**. I heard somebody say "never mind the boat lift where's the bike lift?".

Familiar ground now through **Delamere**, **Morley Bridge**, **Mickle Trafford** dropping off the short coursers near their cars. Past the **Bunbury Arms** and through **Stoak** to the cycleway along the **A5117** to **Capenhurst** lane.

Thanks **Roy** for our first enjoyable ride of this summer.

Chris Byrne

Photos by John Ferguson

