

Grosvenor Garden Centre Café - 15th February 2017

Today's ride was to be led by first time leader **Liz** and we are off to the **Grosvenor Garden Centre** on the **Duke of Westminster's** estate in **Belgrave**.



Grosvenor Garden Centre

The **Grosvenor** family date back to the 12th century and it was **Queen Victoria** who bestowed a Dukedom upon them. A final resting place for some of them is in the church graveyard in **Eccleston**.



Liz split us up into two groups of ten and set off for **Woodbank**, our route was to take us to the **River Dee** - this was when we realised there was a strong headwind. After we crossed the bridge at **Saltney** we turned right and rode about half a mile along the **A5104**. A left turn took us through **Bretton** and a right led us to **Broughton**.

Liz (this woman who rode coast to coast in U.S.A.) was about to give us a fitness test as the **Old Warren** came into sight. It certainly got us all spread out, maybe it wasn't **Snowden** but there was **Welsh mist** on the top.



The fun of descending was interrupted though, when the rim on **Andy's** front wheel peeled off puncturing the tyre - so sadly, the ride was over for him and a taxi was to be sent for. We heard later that a **Night Errant** told him a taxi would be about two hours so he gave him a ride home. We left him on **Lower Mountain Road**.



At the end of this very long road we turned left then right where we passed **Jimmy Hendrick's tree**. **Liz** then took us down some great lanes all the way to **Rossett** leaving just a few miles to the venue.

Once inside it was good to see **George and Ada** and **big Peter** too. **Alan O** had made his own way also.



The return took us into **Chester** and around the **racecourse** then back along the **Dee**, so it was **Dee out, Dee in**, sounds like a **Frank Sinatra** song!

On we went through **Saughall** past **Castle Farm** over the **A5117** bridge and finishing in **Woodbank**, so it just remains to say well done **Liz** a great addition to the leaders section.

Other events on this date

1942 Fall of Singapore

1944 Assault on Monte Cassino

1945 3rd Day of the bombing of Dresden

All this following **Valentine's Day** - does it mean nothing? Oh! What a world we live in.

Maybe a shred of hope was also on this day in **2003** when in **600 cities** and up to **30 million people** protested against the **war in Iraq**.

Born

1874 Ernest Shackleton

1929 Graham Hill

Died

Sadly, Nat King Cole

Chris Byrne

Photos by John Ferguson