

Jemoleys Café, Penyffordd - 9th October 2019

From Alan O...

Twenty-six stalwarts presented themselves on the starting pad opposite the **Eureka**, for final instructions and launch. Once we had sent the '**Marbury missiles**' on their way, that left seventeen 'others' to start. I sent off the first group saying that if they get lost '*we will catch you up and show you the way*', when in fact we never saw them again till Jermoleys.

I had a few bewildered looks when I said we would be having a banana stop at **Saltney Ferry bridge**, although few probably realised we would have cycled twelve miles by then - the wonders of circuitous routes! It did indeed seem to take a long time to arrive at **Saltney Ferry Bridge** where we were joined by **Tony S**, but that's where the riding started as we hit a headwind on the road to **Bretton**, or should I say it hit me. By the time we hit the hills, and I hit the wall, part of the e-brigade were doing an imitation of a T o F breakaway, sparking off the front.



Eventually we arrived at **Jermoleys in Penyffordd**, where the front group were well ensconced, so seven of us decided to eat outside in the sunshine. Lovely food, superbly served in rapid time.





The return journey seemed to be a more conservative affair, with new rider **Phil** telling me of his life story, and replacement parts he has, (not bike-related either)!, and me telling Sylvia J. *"you don't need an e-bike!"*

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Some of the e-breakaways nearly went wrong on the romp up **Mill Lane** towards **Buckley**, but were reined in, then through the '**back jiggers**' as **Richard** called them, through to **Ewloe**, **Mancot**, and **Queensferry**.

As soon as we hit the river path towards the DIP (yes that conundrum again) **John F.** went off like a demented paparazzi rushing off the front, stopping, taking a photograph, then catching us up, taking off again, and repeating. for the results see '**Facebook**', what a star!

Eventually we made it back to the **Eureka** for last orders, and the last 'millionaires shortbread' in my case. Forty-four miles a great day. Many thanks to all.

Text by Alan O

Photos by John F

The Swan, Marbury - 9th October 2019

From Paul M...

Another big turnout at the **Eureka** for the **Wednesday Riders**, the majority opting for the ride to **Jemoleys** but nine riders did opt for the last 'A' ride this year with a seventy mile round trip to **The Swan at Marbury**.

After an uneventful ride down the **Greenway** and out to **Waverton**, passing **Huxley Lane**, the competitive spirit overtook some of the group prompting questions about electric assistance as we paused at the **Ice Cream Farm**. With two riders taking their leave shortly after this we had seven for the full ride.



We passed **Michael Owens' stables** and came across a car travelling slowly with hazard flashers on and arm out of the window advising us to stop, the car being followed by two horses. Whilst not immediately understanding, one of the horses started to back up and the jockey had difficulty getting it under control. We then understood what the signals were for and completely stopped until the horses had passed - some race horses are certainly highly strung.

Shortly after this we were confronted by an oncoming vehicle taking up most of the road - it seemed to us to be travelling faster than conditions allowed. As it was heading towards the racehorses it seemed certain the driver would have to treat them differently than we were treated.

We arrived at the **Swan** where we found **Tony Sw** had ridden there on his own wanting to get back sooner than we had planned. The food, whilst a tad more expensive than our normal fare, the quality did shine through.

We stopped at **Tilly's** for the return trip where **Chris S** temporarily left us but we joined back together in **Christleton** and departing again along the **Greenway**. Thanks to all who came on the ride and thanks to **Brian L** for devising the route last year.

Text by Paul Mills

From John F...

Wednesday Rider's C ride to **Jemoleys** in **Penyffordd** was made even more interesting by **Alan's** extensive reccy. We lost count of the number of roads and lanes that we hadn't been down before. Particularly around **Buckley** where we went the wrong way along a one way street (special bike lane) that had a set of cycle only traffic lights at the end of it. It's good to see **Flintshire** putting cycling infrastructure in.