

Okells Garden Centre Café - 21st November 2018

Chris L Says...

Andy took us on a great route to Okells on Wednesday - this was meant to be **John W's** ride but he wasn't available so sent routes for people to share, not many hills either! - I counted twenty-five as we grouped outside **Eureka** whilst **Andy** gave his instructions; **John F** was going to lead a faster group, **Brian L** had four with him on a gentler route leaving **Andy** leading fourteen of us - split in two for the busier roads (although not many of them!



It was a bitterly cold day for cycling (another degree or two and the turnout might have been much lower)



but **Andy** kept us moving until we got the usual stop at **Mickle Trafford** where bananas were eaten by those who'd remembered to bring them!

Then on to the **A56** which was its usual quiet self and to **Ashton Hayes** via

Morley Lane. It was just on the approach here that we stopped with **Roy** and a few others getting the whiff of diesel - a van had not long passed leaving a trail in front of us which was lying on top of the damp tarmac - a lethal mixture! I expected to find it lying dead in the road somewhere but it eventually turned off our route with no casualties to report. The

remainder of the ride was uneventful through **Kelsall**, **Oscroft** and into the Okells. twenty-one miles.

I think we're all familiar with **Okells** now and they're obviously keeping their standards up; they opened a secret gate to let the bikes in, plenty of space for us (although it got busier just after us). They kept the queue moving with fast service once you'd got to the counter with a big choice and cakes to die for! The faster group had already arrived and the shorter group arrived at a similar time. **Bob and Jill** were there having taken an even shorter ride; good to catch up.



As has happened before, the rain had visited during lunch but had stopped by the time we set off and once we got the gate open (fun there) we were off. An easy ride back via **Christleton** and the **Greenway**, most people came all the way back with us to the **Eureka**, hot tea for some - although I plumped for the hot bath at home. Never got above 4

deg. 36 miles & 870 ft.



Thanks Andy for a great ride.