

Red Lion, Penyffordd - 2nd October 2019

From Chris S...

I have to apologise to **Richard** who did most of the planning for last week's ride. My earlier and hillier version attracted all the people who might have gone on his faster one, leaving him all alone - not nice when you have done the work, I am sure he would have enjoyed getting to the top of **Hope Mountain** first!

Paul has kindly provided us with the following report, however I feel I must correct one point - the group he has called the "**self-styled Hillbillies**" were not self-styled at all - the name was proposed by **Dave W**, as retaliation for the "**Flat Earther**" name being applied to those who prefer the way less hilly - and I have the evidence to prove it!

He did solve one mystery for me though - **Margaret** mentioned a very steep climb she had encountered and I couldn't think which one she meant, but it turned out to be **Padeswood Lake Road**, which we didn't do, having gone up **Hope Mountain**.

Paul has had a busy week and even seems to have been reading his Latin text books again, I had to look up some of his report!

From Paul M...

With **Atticus** '*in absentium*' this report comes from your '*alumni nuntium notario*'

There were 25+ riders assembled at **Eureka Café** for the ride out to the **Red Lion at Penyffordd** for our **AGM**. This ride had the latest recruit to e-bikes who was concerned his new bike had a bit of a wobble, which brought out the neo-mechanics in our ranks who could not find anything amiss - perhaps it just needed getting used to! - then our **Alternatives** pro rep with prior experience of this kind of issue found several loose spokes in the rear wheel to be the problem, one new e-bike was then heading back to the shop for problem resolving.

There were three different routes planned; the first for the self styled '**Hillbillies**' setting off at 9:30am which unfortunately left **Richard B** alone for the faster group - so he volunteered to slow down and lead one of the '**Flat Earth groups**' with **John F** taking the second group of '**Flat Earther's**'.

Seven of us headed off led by **Richard B** down to **Burton Marshes** - the path was clean today but the marshes themselves were flooded from all the recent rainfall. We headed towards **Connah's Quay** passing the **Pensarn Pootlers** on **Dock Road** getting ready for a ride to **Chester** then onwards down and then up **Golftyn Lane** which could not be described as "flat" then **Northop**, **Bryn-y-Baal**, **Padeswood** where a few were surprised by the short ramp on **Padeswood Lakes Road** and finally our destination in **Penyffordd** for the **AGM**.

After the **AGM** we set off on the return leg through **Kinnerton**, **Bretton** and **Saltney Ferry** where the group split up along the **Dee path** or through **Blacon** with **Colin B** and **Tony S** where again I misread the **Garmin** and headed off down **Saughall Road** rather than taking the **Greenway** but decided to carry on returning by the often used **Lodge Lane** - **Colin** and **Tony** departing after crossing the **A494**.

I headed back to a virtually empty **Eureka** avoiding the entrance gymnastics that occurred on my return last Wednesday where I misjudged the kerb and, about to fall off, I put an extra pedal stroke in and ended up with my front wheel between the railings thus saving an accident.

Thanks to **John F** and everyone else involved for a perfectly organised day.

Text by Paul M