

The Pet Cemetery ride that wasn't - 27th May 2015

The cancellation of the ride to the **Pet Cemetery** was received without any disappointment as the effort to get to the top of the **Halkyns** leaves some of us half dead. At first glance It looked like there were nine of us, but **Alan O** was not joining us as he was going to recce a route for the **Bob Clift Memorial Cheshire Cycleway 50-mile ride** taking place on the 28th June; also **Steve** had to be home early and was only looking to do a short ride - so that just left the 'magnificent seven', and magnificently, **Mike M** stepped up to the plate. The forecast was mostly dry with a strong breeze.

Mike suggested a ride to the **locks** and **Flavours Café** at **Beeston** so we headed off to **Woodbank**. The pace was steady as we made our way to **Saughall** and the **Greenway**.

The main conversation was about the breaking news re: the arrest of fourteen members of the **FIFA** committee for corruption - not everyone's subject - and most people are appalled by the terrible loss of life suffered by immigrant workers on the stadiums in **Qatar**.

We rode to the end of the **Greenway** then as we neared **Guilden Sutton**, **Mike** turned right and took us down rarely used lanes to **Christleton**. After **Waverton** I was not sure of the route, **Roy** reckoned we were going through **Greenlooms**; he was correct - it's just before **Hargrave**. As we passed the **Ice Cream Farm**, the full car park reminded us that It was half term - then on through **Huxley** and **Tiverton** to our destination clocking nearly thirty miles.

You could tell the boating season had started. Boats were queuing up to get through the locks. Enjoying the activity were myself and **Tony** eating our sandwiches. I was reminded of previous occasions shared with good friends **Barbara and John**.

We joined our crew for a cuppa in the smart new café, but the service wasn't very smart.

Dave told me our mate, **Mold Pete** (must learn his name), was absent because of a **Royal** appointment (0000000H). Our return took us past **Beeston Castle** seen at its best from this side, the **ICF** and **Old Ma's** led us to **Gatesheath** and **Bruera**. In case the wind could be against us along the river we chose to go through the race course. As we got to the **Greenway** via the canal It started to rain - not bad - as we were not far from the **Eureka**.

Thanks Mike for the ride and for not knowing the way to the **Pet Cemetery**!!

Chris Byrne