

The Plough, Christleton - 26th February

Today's venue was to be **Stamford Bridge**, but late on the Tuesday evening we were informed that they could accommodate only about ten riders as they had two other large parties arriving. The weather forecast for the Wednesday looked good so we knew we could expect a good turnout. This problem was then passed on to our dependable **Mr Lowe**. **Brian (L)** suggested **The Plough in Christleton** as an alternative and once we contacted them, they welcomed us. **Brian** then made the phone calls and e-mails regarding the change, well done **Brian**.

Before we set off from the **Eureka**, **Jane Marshall** arrived to say she would not be riding with us - the reason being that after last Wednesday ride she was on her way home going along the **Wirral Way** when an unseen dog caused her to fall off the bike and left her unconscious with her helmet in pieces. When she regained consciousness the dog owner had disappeared but fortunately local walkers took her to their house and contacted **Charlie**, her husband to get back home.

Twenty riders set off to **The Plough** in spring like conditions, with a smaller group led by big **Peter**, the main group split into two for safety reasons and **Mike Knox** headed the rear group, until he unfortunately hit a pothole and punctured in the farm road near **Saughall**. he said not to wait and he would catch us up, which he did outside the **Stamford Bridge Inn**.



To The Plough



Lunch at The Plough - (Mike worried about the time?)

There were two surprises when we arrived at the **Plough**. **Brian Lowe**, who we thought was coming in his car, had brought his bike with him (in the car) and parked six miles away. He had ignored medical advice and ridden to the pub. The other surprise was when **Jane**, of broken helmet fame, had decided to take her handlebars by the hand and ridden here - well done you two!!

Alan Oldfield's name was mentioned and it was reported that he had been in touch with one of our crew from abroad where he met and shook hands with the famous **Eddy Merckx**. **Eddy** said cycling is great here but you must keep to your side of the road (sorry Al).

The Plough was one of **Charles Allan's** (founder member) favourite venues and we will be returning to it next week - although by a different route. It remains a battle to book a table at **Stamford Bridge**, but as a constellation **The Plough** came up seven stars. A big thank you to Glennys and **John** for giving you the opportunity to read about our exploits.

Chris Byrne

