

Shrewsbury Arms, Mickle Trafford - 19th November 2014

Brian L was our volunteer for today's MYOW ride to the Shrewsbury Arms in Mickle Trafford and we are still maintaining large turn outs. There were twenty of us assembled outside the Eureka on an overcast day.



The route took us down Woodbank to Saughall

then through Mollington and Backford; when we reached Guilden Sutton our destination was only around the corner.

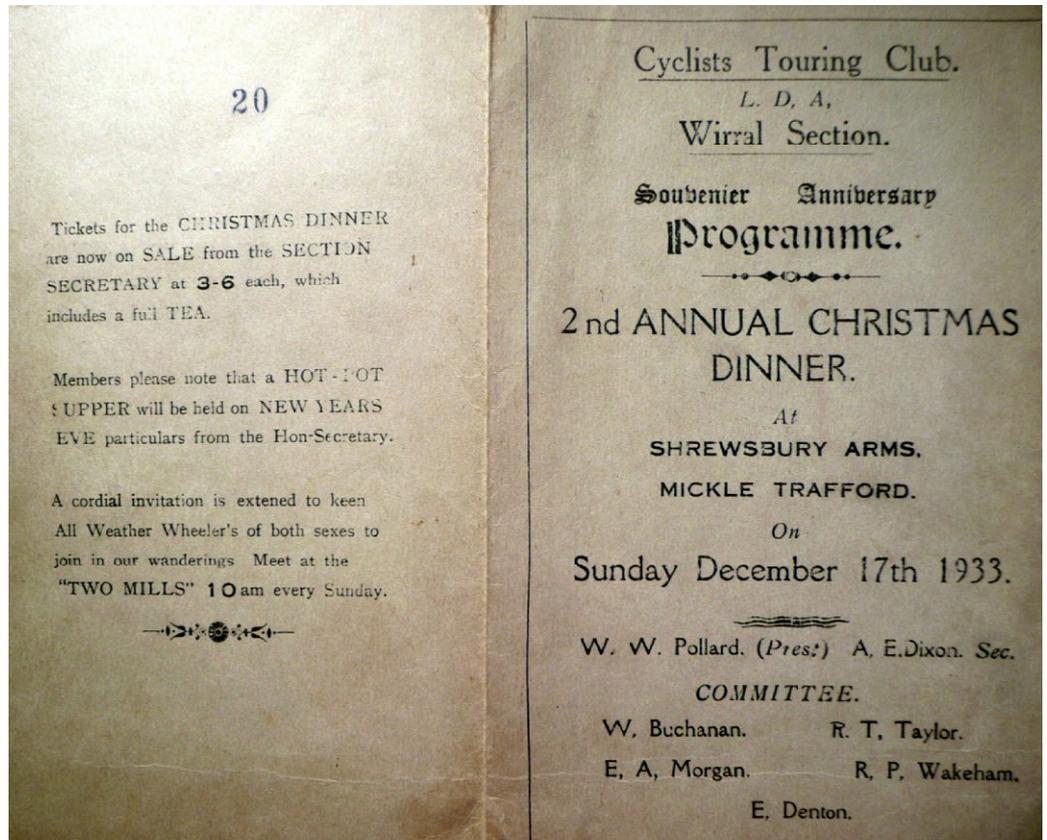


Some riders could not resist the smell of coffee coming from the Farm cafe and called in - they were going to make their own way to the pub. We also parted company with Andy and Joan; I heard Joan had some discomfort with her back.

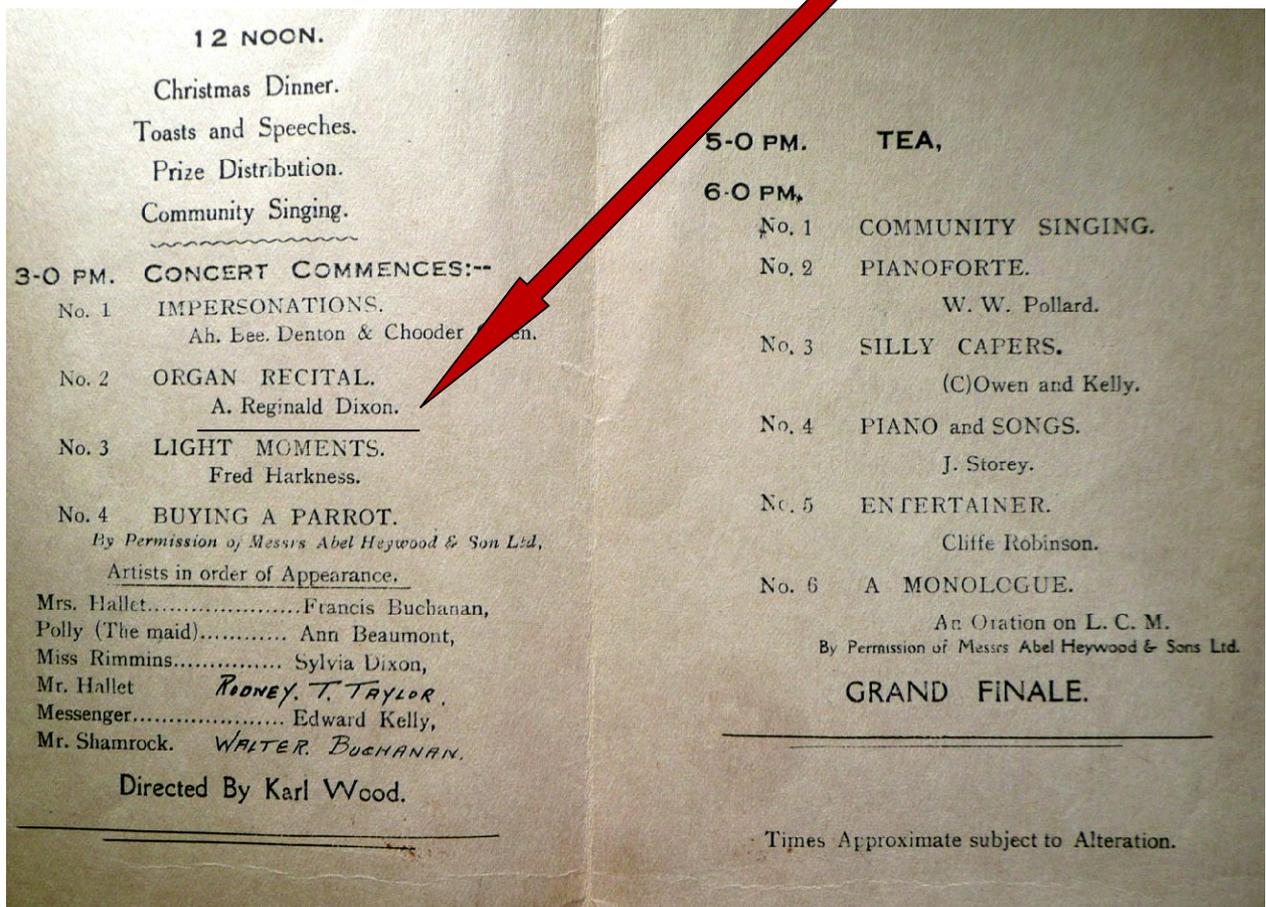


As usual, **Brian** came up with an interesting route that went through **Christleton**, which would probably add on another eight miles. We passed a previous venue, the **Trafford Bridge** pub, through some great quiet country lanes.

Our numbers came back up on arrival at the pub where **Bob**, **Jill**, **George**, **Ada**, **Mike C** and **Chris R** were ordering their lunch. For anyone who wasn't there **George** unveiled a remarkable piece of memorabilia - a **CTC** card commemorating the Christmas lunch in the **Shrewsbury Arms** in 1933 and amazingly they were



entertained by none other than the famous **Blackpool** organist **Reginald Dixon** (see photo).



It was good to welcome **Brian S** back after a long absence wearing his polka dot jersey - it's a first step on the road to getting fit again. Outside this pub there used to be the **Roman road** from **Chester to Wilderspool** (near **Warrington**) and in 1991 a **Roman** bronze brooch was found behind the **Bird in Hand** pub. The original **Trafford Bridge** over the **Gowy** was built in 1410 probably of wood; the stone replacement had to be repaired after the **Civil War** in 1648. If you have a metal detector, rumour has it **Royalists** fleeing **Cromwell** buried their silver under an oak tree in this area.

Thinking about our fellow cyclists in 1933, I would love to be able to talk to them about those times, If one of them was 16 they would be in their 90s now.

One thing that has changed at the pub beyond belief since then. The pub offered a brilliant Xmas dinner and pud for 17p with 'Reggie' thrown in - I paid £2.15 for a cup of tea!



Brian suggested using the **Greenway** on our return and anyone who wanted to get some extra miles in could go along the **Marshes** to **Burton** and the **Eureka**. As we split up we could hear those going to the marshes singing "Oh we do like to be beside the Deeside" fading into the distance. Another very enjoyable ride and no sign of rain.

Thanks **Brian** - keep up the good work.

PS. These are a few items our brothers and sisters would have been mindful of in 1933.

- § *Everton won the F.A. Cup. Dixie Dean scored. Watched the original film King Kong.*
- § *F.D. Roosevelt during the depression said "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself"*
- § *Construction started on the Golden Gate Bridge, San Francisco Bay*
- § *The end of Prohibition in U.S.A.*
- § *Mount Rushmore Dedicated. March 14th*
- § *Michael Caine born (not many.....)*
- § *April 30th Willie Nelson born. Oct 24th The Krays born (unfortunately)*



Chris Byrne

Photos by John Ferguson