

Surf Centre and Tattenhall Marina - 16th May 2018

From Chris S...

Another week with a good turnout - fifteen for the longer ride to the **Surf Centre** and another fifteen for the ride to the **Tattenhall Marina**. I understand there is new management at the

Marina and food was slow coming and several people got something different to their order.



and turns. 2) excessively lengthy and complex. I will leave it to you to decide which he meant...

From Chris L...

"This week **Chris Smith** led the **Wednesday Riders** on a long, sometimes tortuous route to the **Snowdonia Surf Centre** - quite a misty start on the run to **Rhyl** and past the caravans at **Towyn** and the swans on the **River Clwyd**. It had been raining on arrival at **Pensarn** and this was not quite spent out! By **St. Asaph** things started to brighten up (up being the operative word) While generally rising but sticking to the valleys where possible we went to **Llanwrst** and up to the **Surf Centre** for lunch. Most riders were wearing the new **C&NW tops** so there was a photo opportunity after lunch; the coffee I'm told was excellent but we'd arrived too late for much choice where the lunch menu was concerned!"



At the Surf Centre

We followed the **Conwy Valley** for a while but diverted off the main drag through some very pleasant countryside and rolled in to Conwy somewhat split due to junctions, traffic lights and general tiredness! This led to

a fracturing of the group with various elements wondering where everyone else was - Lost in Conwy (movie title anyone?).

By this time the sun was in the ascendancy and the coat on/off argument finally settled. A lovely ride through **Deganwy**, crossing to **Llandudno** - missing the sand-dunes along the **coastal path** and some confusion around a bus stop (just as a bus arrived!). A deep breath by the **Grand Hotel** before the long very slow climb up the **Great Orme** to the café (closed); they did offer us coffee/tea but takeaway only so **Sue distributed jelly babies** to the needy & breathless!



The run down tested the brakes for most people but came as a welcome relief to all. We rode the coastal route all the way back where half the group stopped for ice cream etc at **Rhos-on-Sea** whilst the rest of us carried on back to **Pensarn**.

Fifteen riders started and finished (is this the first ride everyone started/finished the whole route!). 66miles, 3600 ft climbing; thanks **Chris** for an excellent route."

From Glennys...

"I was very surprised that so many had opted to come with me to the **Marina**, fifteen starters and most of them wearing their new **Chester and North Wales tops**. Maybe they were up for something a little less strenuous than the **Surf Centre** ride. The route is a well known one

through Barrow, Tarvin Sands, Willington Lane, Corkscrew Lane and over the two bridges to the Marina, opposite the Ice Cream Farm.

Bob and Jill arrived shortly after us at the Marina, Jill also wearing her new top. I was very pleased to see Mike C who had parked up at Aldford and arrived in time to be served. I don't know about people getting the wrong food but I do know that the service was desperately slow. We were thirsty and very hungry by the time the food was served. It seems the café had limited staff and found it difficult to cater for such a large number. It says a lot for having a sandwiches and chips deal when anticipating a large turnout.



The route home was standard and well-ridden, but everyone seemed to enjoy it - and we still managed to be in time for refreshments at the Eureka."



At the Marina

There were a lot of photos taken of these two rides. Look in the [Photo Gallery](#) for a further selection (they may not be up yet - but they will be coming).

Text Chris Smith, Chris Lamb and Glennys

Photos by Chris L, John F and Glennys