

Cafe Fresh, Dunham - 15th November 2017

Another huge turnout last week with, we think, 42 riders taking part. The huge number meant that once again we needed to break down the group into smaller more manageable groups. The division was even more "flexible" than last week and I will not try to describe the groups and regroupings. The attached animation gives an idea of what unfolded.

It was clear there were far more people than could be accommodated at **Café Fresh**, so many of us pushed on to **Mickle Trafford** for lunch at **Meadow Lea Farm Café**. Some of those who lunched early at **Café Fresh** had time for a coffee stop there while we were still having lunch. **Chris and Sue** with **Tony** pressed on into the hills to do the longer circuit including the rather muddy track over the **packhorse bridges**, whilst others took a direct route home. **Sue** said they had all really enjoyed it, but **Chris** said it resembled a scene from **WW1**! I've not seen Tony yet.

Everyone seemed to enjoy the day and I extend my thanks to those who stepped in to help by leading or back marking one of the groups at short notice on the day. I would also remind people that the ride leader's phone number is on the rides list and they should let him or her know if they intend to leave the ride at any point. This avoids people spending time looking for others who are not actually lost or missing, but have decided to go a different way or return home.

Chris Smith

The Alternatives

After initial chats about which route to take to **Café Fresh**, **Peter**, wearing his **Rights Officer's hat** suggested that we three alternatives (**Peter, Brian and Glennys**) follow his lead to examine a part of the route where a section of track could be developed to go underneath a busy road rather than across it. (No - I don't know exactly where, just somewhere in **Ellesmere Port**.)



Wherever we went we eventually came to the **Boat Museum**, onto the **canal towpath** for some distance and emerged on **Oil Sites Road**. A right turn into **Thornton le Moors** was a relief after the busy traffic. We arrived before everyone else and were served quickly. (if you order poached eggs you get three!).



The Boat Museum

As we often do we returned to the Eureka via Piper's Ash, The Greenway and Saughall. Thank you Peter - we enjoyed the route.

Glennys

