

Rideout to Upton Warren July 2017

Sunday mornings is a popular time for CWAM rideouts and Geoff Brown's trip to Upton Warren was no exception. A quick coffee at McDs on Holyhead Road and we were off in a rather different direction along a lot of roads and lanes that were new to me.



The Real Estate Ride Out was not inappropriately named by Geoff as we shattered the morning peace of those living in some of the more desirable areas of Knowle, Bentley Heath and Dorridge, Then it was cross country through Alvechurch, and Bromsgrove to Upton Warren. What better way to spend a sunny half hour than scoffing a scone with strawberry jam and clotted cream, in the company of friends, overlooking the antics of the kids playing in the water park?



The return journey was a bit like following a ravelled ball of wool as we twisted and turned on a route that took in Hanbury, Astwood Bank, around Redditch, and Hockley Heath. We were nicely grouped together as we passed through the grounds of Packwood House then it was by Chadwick End and a rural route to the A45. Hats off to Geoff, or maybe it was Mrs Brown on pillion, who assisted with the navigating, but on a very complex route he appeared to know exactly where he was at all times although it could be that he's such a

quick thinker and master of smooth delivery that I didn't notice any wrong turnings.

The thing that surprised me most was the enormous length of what appeared to be fairly rural roads limited to 40 mph. Admittedly Sunday mornings aren't the busiest of times, but one has to speculate why? Will all the evangelists looking forward to the day of the driverless car be quite so happy by the time the Big Brother health and safety police have had their input and a current 3½ hour trip to the Lake District takes all day?

Thanks to Geoff for a very different route on an enjoyable morning and to Nigel at the rear.