

Manchester Cross Country Ski Club

Chester Roller Ski Tour

Sunday 10th August 2014

This is an opportunity to recall happy hours spent roller skiing with our old friend Alan Shepard. The plaque recently erected on a bench to commemorate Alan can be viewed en route. It is hoped that Enid and Ruth, Alan's wife and daughter, will join us there and for a meal later.

A big thank you to Alison for organising the plaque with the local Council.

Route and distance:

Start at Telford's Warehouse car park, Chester. The route is relatively flat and is great for practising technique, especially skating. The total route is about 24 km but skiers are free to do as little or as much as they want.

Further details of route are available at www.therollerskidirectory.org.uk at **Chester Deeside Track** and **Chester Railway Path** (under Northern England region)

Beginners are welcome. Cyclists and roller bladers are also welcome.

Duration c. 3 hours for total route.

Meet at

09.45 am ready for a 10.00 am start at Telford's Warehouse -Tower Street, Chester CH1 4EZ

GR 400667, OS Sheet 117.

Description

The route goes out along the River Dee cycleway on the north bank of the River Dee to Hawarden railway station and then returns by way of the old railway line [that has been converted into a cycle track] with a short distance beside the canal. The quality of the track on the outward leg is a skier's dream. However it deteriorates on the converted railway line at the English/ Welsh border and for about 1 mile the going is a little rough.

Facilities

Telford's is a popular bar-cum-restaurant in the canal basin at Chester. It probably won't be open at the meeting time so it may be convenient for those travelling by car who need a comfort stop to call at the M56 services at the junction before the Junction 15 exit to Chester.

Lunch is planned at Telford's after the tour, but you are advised to take nibbles and drinks on the tour. Appropriate clothing in case the weather is less than kind is recommended.

Directions

Heading on M56 West, take J15 to M53 then head S to 1st junction signed Chester, A56. [Telford's is about 4km from here].

Turn R and head SW into town over 1 roundabout then over railway line to traffic lights [Chester railway station on right]. Straight on to roundabout and turn R to roundabout [with fountains].

Turn L and in few yards turn L again past small Tesco on L. Turn 1st R and 1st R again to cross traffic lights. Down road for 200m to cross under road bridge. Turn L at mini roundabout then 1st R into Telford's.

Hire Gear

If you wish to hire any gear for the tour, please contact Ros (**Contact**) by Wednesday 6 August 2014, 7pm at the latest, supplying details of shoe size, approx. pole length and type of roller ski wanted (classic/ skate).

Please book in for the tour with the Contact so that a lunch table can be reserved to accommodate everyone.

Contact

Contact Ros Brown-Grant, email r.brown-grant@talktalk.net