

Another almost perfect Sunday morning, ideal cycling conditions yet again. How many of you could I tempt out, bearing in mind the France trip was looming.

Got to Plank Lane just before 10:00am (honestly) to find a couple of cyclists sat on the bench, got some company at least I thought, how mistaken was I. Here for the bike ride I enquired, sadly not came the reply, got problems with the bike just getting it repaired. Chatted with them as they affected repairs, before bidding farewell as they left to continue with their journey towards Dover Lock. No one else seemed to be bothering, holiday's had accounted for some and the rest were probably saving their energy for France. That's what we'll say anyway!

Sitting on the bench whilst enjoying a coffee, several cyclists passed me by but none for the planned ride, were you all ready for a cycle club or even club rides I thought to myself.

Coffee consumed and not to be outdone by lack of companionship off I set, over Plank Lane Rucks one again. The wet weather had turned the route into a lottery; several small lakes had formed, made the Gin Pit look like a playground. Up to the hubs in water it was a case of swim for it if things went awry. Conditions picked up as I followed the Cinder Trail to Howe Bridge; zig zagging my way through Gin Pit, Astley, Mosley Common, and Boothstown before heading back via Astley to Butts Bridge and home.

A thoroughly enjoyable couple of hours spent cycling in glorious weather, who cares if I happened to be on my own. There are an abundance of routes around the Leigh area to keep me occupied. Future rides with leave the Bridge at 09:00am (perhaps 5 past in case I'm late) would appreciate you booking on the ride via the website, or letting me know directly, at least that way I'll know if anyone's planning to come along. If no one is I will at least have the option of a lie-in.

See you soon?

Harold