

WBCCC Ride Report

Date: 18 December 2016

Day: Sunday

Start time: 10.00am

Finish time: Approx 3:00pm

Ride Name: Charismatic Cheshire

Distance: 34 miles

Numbers attending: 12

Weather conditions: Crisp and clear morning with very little wind. Clouds cover came in slowly during the afternoon.

General comments:

A beautifully uneventful ride with all completing the full distance without any incidents.

A couple of late bookings took our ride number up to 12 in total – think they got up, looked out at the weather and decided it was going to be good so they would join us! The ride started at Lymm Ranger Station and travelled in an easterly direction out along the Trans-Pennine trail. By the end of this section most bikes were ready for a good bath, but that would have to wait as we progressed through the outskirts of Altrincham and Hale on our way to Ashley. At Ashley there were a few reminiscence about the public house we passed but no one ventured to suggest we stopped.

As we reached the Tatton long wall, riders were given their head to see who could be first up the incline to the entrance. Denis took up the challenge with gusto and was closely followed by a few of the others.

After a few minutes comfort stop in Tatton Park we continued out via the Knutsford entrance, out towards Tabley and the only really major road junction on the route. Once this junction was safely negotiated a steady pace was set through Pickmere and on towards Arley Hall and our lunch stop.

As we turned in to the beginnings of the Arley Hall drive a plaintive cry was heard from the rear of the party - “how much further?” Those of us at the front did wonder if we had picked up some Kids, but it turned out to be a genuine question as to the proximity of Arley Hall – they were told it was probably on the sign they were stood next to, but the reply came back “No Entry”!!

At Arley we sat in the sun and ate our various selections of lunch, be that home made or purchased.

Once refreshed we continued on the last leg back to Lymm.

Everything was going wonderfully until we got to Deansgreen near Lymm, where we took to a short stretch of Bridleway. It had been rather badly “chewed up” by a farm vehicle in the last few days. To some riders this was an enjoyable challenge, to others it was an opportunity be more vocal about the muddy state of the ride.

We entered Lymm via Pepper street, where the riders had been warned about the cobbled section. To their credit everyone choose to ride the section, much to the amusement and, no doubt, admiration of those walking in the area.

At the Brewery Tap most riders chose to have a recovery stop before the last 400 yards back to the start point.

Thank you to all those who rode toady. I hope you enjoyed it and we look forward to seeing you soon.

I personally enjoyed my return to club cycling after the eventful Heading East ride in June.