

We had a great turnout of 21 cyclists for the final ride of 2015, including Geoff and Steve our newest members. Jim T who was down to lead the ride, had pulled out as he hadn't recovered from a bad cold so Phil led the early part of the ride. We lost another member of the group as Christine had irreparable bike problems as soon as we left Trencherfield car park.

The ride took us up to Haigh Hall where we spent a few minutes enjoying the view and the sunshine before continuing the climb up to Blackrod and on to Rivington. The narrow roads around Rivington were busy with cyclists and vehicles with the situation made worse because of road closures due to flooding and flood damage. We had intended to cross the Upper Rivington Reservoir to grab a drink at the café but decided against crossing the bridge as it was under a couple of feet of water. Other cyclists decided to cross and we had sympathy for one guy who lost his balance and ended up in the drink.

Tony, with assistance from Geoff, guided us out of Rivington and back to Fredericks Ice Cream shop on the A6 near Chorley where we planned to have a drink. We were foiled again as the place was packed out so we hit the canal and headed back via Beech Hill into Wigan. The majority of the group popped in to Wigan Central for a couple of well earned drinks. There to meet us were Paul and Jim T who had made a miraculous recovery from his debilitating illness.

The last ride of 2015 is over. Happy New Year to all our members. Hope to see you on further rides in 2016.