

We were thankful that the overnight rain had passed as we gathered on the car park at Three Sisters for our Tuesday morning ride. After a brief discussion we decided to head out to Carr Mill Dam and on to Sankey Valley. Three of us teamed up to share the leadership for sections of the route that we were each familiar with. We were pleased to welcome our guest for the day Ian, clearly out to impress as he had psychedelic lights on his front wheel which certainly got him noticed. Not shy then Ian!

Phil 1 guided the group across Ashton and out to Garswood before Jim T took the lead as we made our way out to Carr Mill. The off road sections throughout the route contained plenty of puddles of varying depths with one fairly deep water splash beneath a bridge close to Carr Mill. When we reached the dam Pete took over the leadership and took us across Haydock and into Sankey Valley Park. Pete assisted the group through one of the metal kissing gates and Denis briefly took the lead.

Unfortunately, Denis took the leading group over the Sankey Brook which Pete had not planned to cross so the riders had to do a quick about turn. Denis came in for his usual stick for leading us astray but rightly pointed out that we could have found our way along the valley from the opposite side of the brook.

We emerged from the valley into Wargrave before climbing up to cross the East Lancs Road and Haydock Park racecourse into Golborne. The final stretch of the ride took us through Stubshaw Cross before making our way up the paths to Three Sisters. The ride covered just over 16 miles and we had another great turnout of 19 cyclists. A bit mucky in places but no punctures and the rain stayed away. What more could you ask for! Hope to see you all next week.