

WBCCC Ride Report

Date: 12 July 2016

Day: Tuesday

Start time: 9.35am

Finish time: 12 noon

Ride Name: Trencherfield to Ashurst Beacon

Distance: 20 miles

Numbers attending: 17

Weather conditions: Cloudy, dry and fairly warm.

General comments: This was our first ride commencing from the revised 9.30am start time so we delayed the start for a few minutes just in case we had any latecomers. Phil 1 led the ride and took us out past Wigan Pier and the DW Stadium up to the front of the Heinz factory. We passed through Kitt Green then down the hill into Gathurst then up into Shevington. By now the group was getting the feel of the ride – uphill followed by downhills then more uphill. The next downhill took us into Appley Bridge where we managed to navigate around road works on Mill Lane that had closed the road to traffic.

We left Appley Bridge via Lees Lane and enjoyed a relaxing ride along the lane before commencing the tough climb up Hillock Lane. This was the first time up Hillock Lane for many of the group and some were hoping it will be their last! The steep climb along the narrow lane was made more difficult by three vehicles descending as we were climbing.

We proceeded on to the Prince William pub close to Ashurst Beacon. Everyone made the winding climb and we enjoyed a short drinks stop before commencing the descent down into Wigan. The walkie talkies came in handy as the group became split passing through Tontine. When the group regathered we made our way down Sandy Lane and on to Hall Lane. Some sizeable puddles had gathered along the old track just to add a different flavour to the ride.

We arrived at the Community Café at noon to enjoy a welcome cuppa and a snack. Despite a few moans, about the climbs and the puddles, the majority had enjoyed a good workout. Thelma, Queen of the Mountains, loved the ride!