

Wednesday, May 24, 2006

Wednesday Evening Ride

On a distinctly chilly but dry evening it was good to see 8 riders turn out for a brisk 25 mile run. Bill Whale and Mike Bissell appeared looking distinctly sprightly after the Ripon Loiterers 100mile soaking last Saturday. We were also joined by Phil Hall, Dave Rowson and 2 new riders - Sarah and John.

I started by asking if everyone was OK with a hilly route and I took the silence to indicate enthusiasm - there is a moral in there somewhere!. So we set off on a ride to Knaresborough, Farnham, Bishop Monkton, Markington, Shaw Mills, Hampsthwaite and then back to Harrogate. For anyone who knows the road you will recall that there are 4 serious hills on it and it is probably the toughest of our evening rides.

Everyone made really good progress and it was a super ride in the setting sun with a sharp headwind for much of the way. Only one rider dropped out and that was Yvonne suffering a serious and alarming "shimmy" on her bike on fast downhills. (Some intensive fault solving in store for me I think!).

Sarah and John kept up with the pace of the group and that was really impressive as they certainly had not got the miles in that the rest of us had covered. More sunny evenings please so that we can enjoy our Summer rides.

Martin Weeks

Wednesday evening rides start from St Winifreds Avenue Co-op at 6.30pm prompt. The pace is Medium/Fast typically averaging at least 12 mph. It is an ad-hoc arrangement so rides and leaders are sorted at the meeting rendezvous. Lights are a good idea in case of a gloomy evening or delays. We also recommend taking a water bottle.