

Wednesday, May 31, 2006

## Wednesday Evening Ride

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An encouragingly large group of nine riders met at St Winifreds Avenue Co-op for a brisk evening ride on a beautiful if chilly evening (Summer arrived the next day!). We took a ride through Knox Village, Hampsthwaite and then we climbed up to Menwith Hill, with a return past the Sun Inn and Beckwithshaw. I think some disparaging comments were made about me turning out on my lightweight bike but most were lost in my slipstream!

The photo shows us all crossing the Pack Horse bridge in Knox village having used the back streets to dodge the busy traffic in Harrogate.

Despite my lightweight machine I have to say that Bill Whale, with the handicap of a few years on me, Bike Missile (alias Mike Bissell) and Dave Rowson put me to shame when it comes to long hills and that was certainly the case out of Hampsthwaite on the way to Menwith Hill. I am also worried that a certain Mr Margolis is getting distinctly quick when he sees a hill ahead and Yvonne in front of him - competitive or what? The sun shone at times and at the top, up on the ridge, the views up Nidderdale on this late Spring evening were spectacular.

It was good to see Sue Threadgold out on her first Summer evening ride this year, and I was also delighted that Yvonne's bike stayed running in a straight line - it should do after spending £5;40 on bits and a day's fiddling work!

The distance was 27 miles, no breakdowns and back home for a good meal and glass of something red and interesting. The best way to spend Spring and Summer evenings!

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 full water bottle.