

Sunday, August 19, 2007

Wheel Easy! Ride Report No. 68



The weather looked awful but six riders turned up for the long ride to Coxwold. Some of us were less motivated than others but we set off in light drizzle, with the intention of reviewing the wisdom of continuing the full ride later on.

We made leisurely progress through Knaresborough, up to Copgrove and onto Boroughbridge. By then the rain had ceased leaving just gloomy threatening skies and everyone resolved to do the ride in full.

From then on we flew on at a cracking pace which would have been truly heroic had it not been for all the toilet breaks! Our flat route through Helperby and Easingwold gave way to a few hills nearer to Coxwold which provided variety but no scenic view thanks to the overcast perma-gloom of the day.

There was a welcome break at the cycle friendly tea rooms in Coxwold, before a similarly fast pace got us back home via Oulston, Easingwold, Aldwark Bridge, Arkendale and Knaresborough. Despite the weather it turned out to be a surprisingly enjoyable and fast 55 mile ride by a strong group of cyclists. NK

Being the first to arrive at a wet cold deserted car park it is quite easy to doubt your sanity, but then Jill could be seen arriving through the rain, and pretty soon we had 10 riders. It's good to realise you are not alone in the sanity stakes!

This (not joking) was an excellent turnout for such a day. Six took Nick's ride to Coxwold. The remaining four went on Dennis's ride, the route being to Knaresborough, then Waterside.

Dennis had planned to take the bridle path to Goldsborough but due to the weather he decided to take the road instead (a wise move) first to Goldsborough, then Flaxby, Coneythorpe and Arkendale. Then crossing the A1 skirting Marton on to Lower Dunsforth and into Boroughbridge.

Just before this I thought I saw some blue sky. My three companions thought I was hallucinating because I took my rain cape off, but it soon went back on. We had a short banana break in Boroughbridge then on to Staveley, a quick look at the Pinfold then home.

A nice interesting ride with the weather being kinder than expected. Thank you Dennis, Crawford and Stuart. DP

