

Thursday, October 9, 2008

## Wheel Easy Ride Report No. 128

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Here is a quick ride report for the poddlers for Wednesday 8th October. After John had specially ridden to Hornbeam meeting point to tell us he was not available for poddling in the afternoon, six ladies set off for Little Almscliffe the easy way. Cunningly replacing a chain and other minor bike break downs, we reached Almscliffe with little effort other than that which Lynn and Sue put into conversation and chat. We decided to ride through Stainburn Wood (where the path/road was perfect) and zoom down towards Weeton. Having posed for a photo opportunity and speculated on a man wearing two large plastic sacks on his legs, we continued our decent. This was interrupted when a sheep was noticed lying on its back in a field. Sue announced it was a Rigwelter and rushed off to find the man sporting the plastic sacks. Bridget and I were too worried about the sheep to wait for a man wearing plastic sacks, so we hopped over the fence, (well I clambered and crawled) and easily righted the nearly dead sheep. Perhaps nearly dead is an exaggeration because as soon as we pushed it over it eyed us suspiciously, shook itself and walked off in a rather dignified manner, which implied it always spent the afternoons on its back unable to move.....don't we all.

Bridget sped back up the hill to find Sue who had been unable to locate the plastic sack man and was bemused by the ghost farm he had disappeared into. Once regrouped we continued towards Weeton, or so the leader thought, but taking no notice of Sue and Lynn, who obviously knew the way, ended up at Pool. Having seen that the road to Castley was nearly flooded on Sunday she decided to take the Main Road from Pool to Harrogate. This was speedily negotiated and we were soon back on track through Weeton towards Dunkeswick and Kirkby Overblow. The gentle hill into K.O. suddenly becoming a near precipice for the now tiring poddlers (Bridget and Alisha excluded). At K.Overblow we went our separate ways, Sue to Burnbridge and home, Lynn and Lynda to Pannel and Alford Bank, Caroline and Alisha to Ridding and Sainsbury's and Bridget to Aberdeen via the by pass. Hopefully everyone arrived home safely and not too exhausted, and I apologise for thinking for one minute that I knew the right way but you know how I like to avoid hills. 24 miles and a rescued sheep in a pleasantly poddly 3 hours. CG