

Sunday, May 10, 2009

Wheel Easy Ride Report No. 159



Third Anniversary Ride

Short Ride

Dry and overcast but what else !Ten set off for this modest 20 miler but we had not got further than the dreaded Asda path when, guess what, one of our number suffered a puncture. Gallantly as he was close to home he said he would opt out and let us progress. Thankyou. (Dennis fetch your brush as the local bottle smashers are back).Seven lanes from Miers to Pennypot via Killinghall and Hampsthwaite took us up to the wind turbines and our first real stop at Fewston Parochial Hall so that the majority were able to satisfy their need of caffeine ! Our EU colleague and the leader settled for more fresh air and a banana and a chat with a farmer who had come along to give his ewes and lambs some extra nutriments. After this break the majority decided to make a slight retracing of our route back to the Otley Road thence on to Norwood and the uphill trek to the edge of the forest and a great near free-wheel down to Beckwithshaw through Moor Park. All seemed to enjoy a pleasant mornings outing which turned out to be nearer 26 miles than originally anticipated.PS A thought for the committee : - Are the club members now becoming so fit that we ought to consider improving/lengthening the rides and even introducing a fourth as well as perhaps suggesting an estimated return time ? C.M.

Medium Ride

Twelve riders, on the spur of the moment, opted for "Route 36" Beckwithshaw, Stainburn, Almscliffe Crag Distance: 32 km / 20 miles. Unfortunately one rider was lost, and at one point so were the two riders which set out to find him. That would have been a loss of 25% of riders, a record I believe !! However, by the time we reached North Rigton we were back to only being one rider down. Apologies to Matt, I'll try and do better next time. P.H.

Long Ride

10 people set off on the long ride on Wheel-Easy's third anniversary. Heading out through Burn Bridge & North Rigton & Leathley we made swift progress to Otley. From here the plan was to head over the moor via Middleton and Langbar to Beamsley, but after a brief stop at Askwith, it became the first missed turning of the day. Due to the lack of concentration by

the ride leader & no road sign on the junction everyone sped past the turning and continued along the river to Ilkley. Several people who were short of time for the full ride opted to stop in Ilkley for coffee before heading home. Of the remaining 5 cyclists, Phil decided to head back to the missed turning & complete the original planned route. The other 4 continued to Beamsley along the "low" road meeting up with Phil again at the café stop at Bolton Abbey Tearooms.

After refreshments we continued past Bolton Abbey, crossing over the river at the Cavendish Pavilions, taking the back road up towards Appletreewick & then the long climb up to Stump Cross. From here, Phil opted to head straight down Greenhow Hill into Pateley Bridge in order to go home via Yorke's Folly. Nobody else decided to join him, although Sue & Alec almost did, shooting past the turning for Duck Street, but realised their mistake before too long - but not before Jill & Eric chased after them ...Retracing our tracks for a short way, it was then a largely downhill run back to Harrogate via Menwith Hill, Birstwith & Hampsthwaite arriving back mid afternoon after approx 55 miles.

Jill

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Northumberland and Scotland Section Report



Ride Report from Northumberland and Scotland May 2009.

Last week four of us enjoyed the scenic delights and wild weather of Northumberland. Rides included going over the empty moors and along the coast via Bamburgh where Martin repaired a puncture at probably the most famous view in the North of England (see photo). After more rides and walks, in extraordinarily high winds and bright sunshine, and after nearly being decimated by a wild bull at Chillingham we moved on to Killin in Scotland.

Today, Sunday 10th May, we enjoyed a chilly day of sunshine and showers, otherwise

known by Dave Preston as a "coco" day - coat on coat off. Most of the ride was on Sustrans route 7 alongside Loch Tay, from Killin to Kenmore. Fabulous views with snow covered mountain tops.

At last the weather looks really promising for Monday and we plan an expedition - Killin, by bike to Crianlarich, train to Rannoch and bike back over the hills to Killin. Should be an interesting 70-mile ride.

Hope Wheel Easy had a good turn-out for their 3rd year anniversary rides.

Martin, Yvonne, Malcolm, and Gia.

