

Wednesday, October 28, 2009

Wednesday Rides



Poddlers Ride Report

Another glorious Wednesday morning, lots of people in yellow milling about at Hornbeam, so many and so new that I could not say hello to everyone. There was a lot of milling in a very un poddler like manner and a lot of talk of filming, lights and camera angles. I think stardom had gone to some riders heads, calling for contracts, get out and get up fees and other luvvyish stuff. However I managed to make people understand that the poddlers were departing, and without the need for a trip to hair and makeup, 13 riders set off to Rudding Park, Follifoot, Spofforth, Wetherby and back to Kirkby Overblow via Sicklinghall. New riders Kevin, Richard and Jenny were far faster than the ride leader but tactfully kept at her pace, as did all the other poddlers, thank you. Apart from Jenny loosing her computer mile measurer thing which 5 poddlers helped to find, there were no dramatic incidents. There were several bottling moments (no not drinking but keeping in a bottle for later), swooping along the road to Spofforth from Follifoot, sitting by the pond at Sicklinghall in warm golden sunshine on the chairs Dennis (or some other kind person) had put out for us, watching the red kites hunting over Kirby Overblow - I thought they were going to pick up a poddler, and joy of joys going up Almsford Bank without collapsing - well done Sue D, when the super fit men had taken the Rudding Park option. A good ride of about 22 miles and back in time for lunch at 12 .15. Caroline G

Wheel Easy Ride Report

There were a total of nineteen riders at Hornbeam, all keen to enjoy the unseasonably mild late October day - a great turnout. The longish ride attracted ten of these and after an emergency phone-call we decided that the start of the route was to be determined by circumstances i.e. Sue was stranded with a flat tyre at her home, and so after a puncture repair we re-gathered and headed West. Paul also wanted to go to the goody cavern known

as Chevin Cycles at Otley and as usual we couldn't resist the temptation of including that in the ride.

Out past Beckwithshaw we were soon passing the reservoirs, making our way up to Timble, then over the moors, and charging down to Askwith for a stop at the new café at Weston. We experienced first class food, reasonable prices and a cheerful owner. We will be back. As usual the writer spent more than intended at Chevin Cycles and also picked up some brilliant ideas. (Hint - Yvonne - you know my Xmas present is something beginning with T, it has carbon in the description, and is available at Chevin Cycles). We then followed the Wharf valley to Pool, Castley, and Dunkeswick.

At this point we lost 2 riders (sorry William and Glyn - hope you got back safely), and we gained one. Steve Wilson was caught playing hooky on his Bob Jackson bike and joined the ride back home. Then gradually we all split up and Yvonne and I finished the day with an extra long loop to celebrate the smashing weather. We made the magic 100k after refueling in Costa at Wetherby. Martin W

EG's Ride Report

Seven riders met at Low Bridge, on a warmish day. The major talking point and object of interest was Dave W's new Titanium framed Van Nicholas "Euros" or was it "Euro`s" cos bikes of this quality don't come cheap. As expected Norman took it for a trial run, but he did give it back, some of us might have been sorely tempted not to. The destination chosen was Easingwold, this decision was endorsed by Barry, who will be riding with Harrogate's Open Country cycling group to Easingwold on this coming Sunday, and thought it wise to check out the area.

So it was out to Arkendale and Aldwark Bridge (which is of course free to cyclists), where it was noted that the bridge attendant "toll master" counted the number of cyclists. This was also noticed on the medium run to Beningbrough last Sunday. Does any body know if such a survey of cycle usage is being operated?

The route continued to Tolerton and Huby and finally in to Easingwold where Barry was introduced to Restaurant 21. Initially somewhat taken aback he described it as "different" but was convinced enough to take one of their cards to persuade Open Country to eat there on Sunday.

Dave W's new bike was never far from the conversation. Because of the non rust/corrosion properties of Titanium, it was suggested by some of the older EG's that instead of scattering their ashes to the winds they should put them in Dave's bike frame, then he could take them for a ride. Bill was not so sure, he thought he would like to be scattered on a Beach Volley Ball Court and be surrounded by Beach Babes, Ah well dream on. So it was back to Boroughbridge via Raskelf, Roecliffe and Farnham to Harrogate. Good Autumn cycling weather, wind not too much of a problem, Harrogate riders would have done 54 to 56 miles. Dave P

