

Wednesday, November 18, 2009

Wednesday Rides

The Poddlers and Wheel Easy rides were cancelled due to rain.

EG's Ride Report

It was not a good weather forecast, but despite that four riders met at Low Bridge. Bill W, Dave P, Dave W and Paul T.

The light rain had eased off to a sort of damp atmosphere and the Nidd was in spate. In view of the forecast it was decided to ride to Otley with the option of a sprint home if the weather turned bad. So a coffee stop in Wetherby (get the caffeine and calories in when you can) then on to the Wharfe ridge and Sicklinghall and Kirkby Overblow. Dave W and Paul left the party at Kirkby Overblow, Dave had ridden with the medium distance "fast" group to Easingwold on Sunday and was feeling it a bit in his legs, Paul had a few jobs to do.

Bill and Dave P pressed on to Otley, however the road was flooded at Castley (deeper than bottom bracket depth) probably thigh deep, so it was down the main road to Pool Bridge. Here the Wharfe had burst its banks and was in full spate. Another coffee stop at the garden centre. We are real caffeine addicts, its what cycling is all about, that and your mates.

At Otley Bridge the Wharfe was level with the top of its banks and was forming brown rapids. Bill suggested a return via Timble, in a moment of weakness DP agreed, he knew it was steep but had forgotten how steep and how long, at least two miles on granny ring. Both Fewston and Swinsty reservoirs were high with fast and furious run offs from the dams. Although somewhat damp the wind (which is always the worst problem) held off. Total mileage approx 46 miles. Dave P