

Wednesday, June 9, 2010

Wednesday Rides



Ride report for the extended Poddlers and Guests (those whose longer distance friends had deserted them) Ride. It was commented that the uniqueness of some ride leader's reports was leading to a dearth of ride leaders due to fear of having to write an amusing! report. (medical term deflataphobia) So in future all ride reports will be written in Queen's, easily understandable, English.

Pathé (tic) News is proud to report on the 6th ride to the Timble Tea Rooms. Whilst many of the retired town's folk of Harrogate were still seeking warmth under their duvets, several of their brave boys and gals slipped away unnoticed in the mist, which covered the Stray, clutching the valuable coupons, secretly saved in their ration books. They were setting out on a jolly little caper to visit the ladies of the WI at Timble, a plea...asant little hamlet, hidden high in the Dales of Yorkshire, where rumour said that their coupons would be exchanged for cakes, buns and tea, as rationing was less strict in the countryside. Great attention had been paid to the radio when the announcer had said that the wind would be from the east, increasing from 1 to 4 on the Beaufort scale bringing increasing dampness with it. Bletchley Park was contacted and a cunning plot hatched to use the weather to its best advantage and to preserve knowledge of the black market of Timble to this single cell of intrepid adventurers. On a need to know basis, instructions were whispered that this was to be a reverse route to Timble, and where the local barracks would be passed with our gallant riders camouflaged by forthcoming squalls. The plan succeeded and the nameless nine avoided detection even as they passed the early warning centre at White Balls. Then disaster struck. Two of their chaps, riders 3 and 8, fearing repercussions for illicit black market dealing, announced with stiff upper lips that they had lost their collective bottle and would be returning home forthwith. The remaining secret seven, with not a dry eye between them, bid their farewells, and with a hearty heave arrived to be greeted and tended to by the largess of the ladies of the Timble WI. The sadness of the news that the black market exchange rate for tiffin had increased and that their carefully saved ration coupons were worth less, was soon forgotten when eyes feasted on cakes, buns and scones with lashings of real butter and pots of tea and coffee.

In order to preserve the black market secret it was decided that the riders would split into two groups for the return journey to reduce the risk of detection. Riders 1, 4 and 7 would take the direct route back to Harrogate whilst riders 2, 5, 6 and 9 plus a single black market knowledge holder, who joined them for safety, would go by a more "addaloupious" route to draw the scent. The terrific trio had nearly returned home when they met a road block manned by Eric von Secretary and Frauline von Secretary and their little tank. Eric von S accused the trio of black marketeering in Timble, citing wet, warm, arm watermarks bearing WE logos on the table cloths. They in turn accused Eric von S of evasion of cycling mileage and dereliction of cadence for the Fatherland. A punishment of recounting recent mileages and feats was administered by E von S before the triumphant trio were let free to face the freezing ride to freedom. Meanwhile..... The famous five, full of vim and vitality, set off on their decoy run to Darley or Darlington via reservoirs, hills and floral features on a mystery tour (well at least to their leader) of lefts, rights and no not that ways, stopping only once to free lambs with heads stuck in fences, before sneaking back into town with their secret intact. Discrete signals were passed as rider broke off for solo runs home. Clearly rider 9 hadn't used all his ration coupons as he left to search for the best black market green grocer. It is heartening to know, readers, that we live in a community where cyclists of such passion and integrity live and who do so quietly and without clarion call. Tune into next Sunday's Pathé (tic) broadcast for more news of your own local heroes. Distance cannot be revealed. Max

EG's Ride Report
 After the wet Sunday (no pun intended) with Sue C, eight riders met at Low Bridge and considered the unfavourable weather forecast. West Harrogate had just had a few heavy downpours but the roads in Knaresborough were completely dry. It was therefore decided to stick to a route East of Harrogate that had a few cut offs just in case the weather came really bad. The route taken was south to Thorpe Arch cafe where morning coffee was taken along with pensioners discount, alas for Bridget she could only claim carers allowance (well she does look after us). Then it was North up Rudgate to Thorpe Underwood and Boroughbridge where a late lunch was taken. Its usually at least two caffiene stops on an EG`s ride. After lunch and a long chat it was on to Bishop Monkton via Roecliffe. The weather had been very kind to us, no rain , dry roads and only a light North West headwind which aided us on the run into Knaresborough. For those living on the West side of Harrogate drizzle started after crossing the Leeds Road, but being so near to home, who cares. Total mileage bridge to bridge around 41 miles, but most Harrogate riders would have done around 50 to 52 miles. Dave P

2010	Wheel	Easy	Miles	(approx)	Today	670	YTD	60243
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