

Sunday, June 13, 2010

Wheel Easy Ride Report 216



Short

Ride

Report

Six riders opted for the short ride to Knaresborough. We were joined by Jill who was new to Wheel Easy. All the riders just wanted a short ride this morning in order to be back home late morning. We were the last group to set off from Hornbeam making our way through the showground and the cycle path to the Travellers Rest. Everyone managed the hills up to Ridding and from Follifoot to Wetherby Road. We then continued to Calcutt and the Waterside Café in Knaresborough where we all agreed to stop for coffee and refreshments. Fully refreshed we were all ready to tackle the Beryl Burton cycleway. However, Linda decided to return via the main road as she was on the road bike. Progress up the Beryl Burton was delayed as three horses were blocking the route. Fortunately a brave soul came to our rescue and physically moved them out of our way and we were able to continue. As we approached Hornbeam riders left the group and went in different directions home. It was a relatively short ride at 14 mile ride and if they have time they will all opt for the medium ride next week. Thank you everyone! Paul

Click on slide show for all today's photos

Medium

Ride

Report

Thank you for tuning into today's Pathé (tic) broadcast for more news of your own local cycling heroes, people of passion and integrity who follow the Margolis mantra quietly and without clarion call.

Thirteen plucky souls decided that it would be a frightful wheeze not to follow the published ride because the ride leader, having done his homework and consulted Gypsy Rose Lee's transparent orb, predicted severe rain at a time when bodies would be at their lowest ebb climbing out of Huby. Not wishing to see the spectacle of otherwise stiff upper lips trembling he had planned an alternative route to and from the instructed destination. The thoughtful thirteen set off for Little Alms Cliff Crag and adhering to the Highway Code allowed cars, lorries and caravans to pass them at will. Resident mechanic Surgejohn's keen ears soon

detected a telltale chunter from Monica's bottom bracket which required investigation. After a brief period of concerned discussion the plucky gal decided to continue with the ride. Well done! A roll call was taken at the interim destination and the magnesium flares kept everyone frozen for long enough for the box brownie to capture images. Lindley moor was speedily navigated with frightfully good manners being displayed by those who tended the gates to allow all to pass unhindered. Just before Lindley bridge El Butler once again left for the culinary charms of Mrs Butler to return home via Leathley. Two others left with him secretly hoping for leftovers. Alas the climb out from Lindley bridge and his surge past the ride leader was too much for Trevor. Oxygen deficiency and a bout of caffeinephobia caused a severe bout of cartology failure. The courageous chap decided to head for home via Pool attended by Simon. The remaining group fearlessly flew down Farnley Lane, zig-zagged through Otley to arrive at the garden centre where refreshment was taken. The ride leader, having noted that he was at times getting too far ahead of his sheep, selflessly visited the adjacent camping store to purchase equipment for future missions, the portage of which would slow him down on the return journey. Suitably watered and dewatered, the return journey via Pool, Castley, Weeton, Kirby Overblow and Rudding Park was successfully covered by your local heroes despite the ever increasing calorie deficiency that they, singularly, would deal with without complaint. Upon reaching the town boundary each went their own way, disappearing into the mist of suburbia as ephemeral as gossamer so that none would know of their private achievements. A gentle whisper could be heard as the last rider disappeared thanking the British Broadcorping Castration for again getting the weather forecast wrong. We hope that you enjoyed today's Pathé (tic) broadcast giving news of your own local cycling heroes and trust that wheel all meet again, don't know where, don't know whenif there is ever another sunny day!!!! Plaudits to back markers Dennis and Alec. For the record 13 x 30 aboutish. Max

Medium Plus Ride Report
 The rain is bucketing down outside as I write this report, but on the whole 49 mile ride we only had a one minute shower - just long enough for the donning of rain jackets before it finished again. Nineteen opted for this ride; for some a chance for a speedy trip to the SouthEast, for others a chance to break their distance records. Hopefully everyone got what they wanted - we aim to please!
 Having reflected how few punctures we seem to incur, I clearly brought the bad luck which resulted in a puncture before Knaresborough. Dave Preston, an exemplary back-marker, assisted in the repair and the whole group reformed in Kirk Deighton and Wetherby. We then joined the Wetherby Charity Bike Ride along the cycle path to Walton Jail and without losing or gaining any inattentive riders we headed through Boston Spa to pick up the Rudgate (a Saxon road) through the villages of Stutton and then Towton. The 'speedies' then stretched their legs straight to Lotherton Hall coffee shop, while the 'history group' paused at the site of the Battle Of Towton and then the village of Saxton (where a battle participant is apparently buried still mounted on his horse), before cafe-time. After excellent cakes, the 'speedies' departed - I assume they got home. The remaining ten continued the history tour passing the only C of E church dedicated to St Ricarius (Aberford), an Iron Age Hill Fort (beneath Barwick in Elmet) and showing no fear of the present while dicing with death crossing the A64, then through Thorner, Collingham, Linton, Spofforth and Follifoot. Dave claimed the sting in the tail was using the slightly soiled underpass to reach Rudding Lane but actually the real sting was using the cycle path behind the Showground which was inconsiderately built with a HUGE hill for cyclists to climb when most tired . At 49 miles this was long even for Medium Plus, but everyone continued chatting and smiling right up to the end, so I count that a success. Peter L

Long Ride Report
 9 riders set off from Hornbeam on a better weather day than forecast but all with rain capes at the ready. Down to Knaresborough and we chose the challenge of the climb up Briggate rather than the soft option along Abbey Road.this was a foretaste of things to come as after Bishop Monkton and

Markington we had to get up Sawley Bank, a seriously steep hill. on to Kirby Malzeard and Grewelthorpe where we donned capes before the lovely descent into Masham. For a change we went to the Suncatcher cafe at Masham and enjoyed its hippy decor and good food whilst avoiding the rain. After a photoshoot we went back via West Tanfield, Sharow, Newby Hall, Boroughbridge and Knaresborough, pausing before Boroughbridge for a banana break. 55 to 60 miles covered. Geoff

2010	Wheel	Easy	Miles	(approx)	Today	1945	YTD	62188
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