

Sunday, August 29, 2010

## Wheel Easy Ride Report 227

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Short

Ride

Report

A select group of four ( 2 Ladies and 2 Gents ) set off from Hornbeam in light rain, we went to Ripley via the Asda cycle path and Spruisty bridge up Grainbeck Lane and the Killinghall bye pass then braved the A61 into Ripley. By now the skies had cleared and the sun had decided to favour our exploits. After a short drink stop we soldiered on along the A61 towards Ripon and took the first right turn to Nidd then on past the Brearton turn to meet the Knaresborough to Ripley Rd (B6165 ). Left towards Knaresborough up the hill and Left to Scotton, Lingerfield and Scriven then down to the Boroughbridge Road to use the Bar Lane/ Chain Lane route to the wonderfully resurfaced Wetherby Road ( wonders never cease!! ). Next we followed Abbey Road, Blands Hill and Forest Moor Road to finish back at Hornbeam in time for lunch. The select group were:- Lynda, Sarah, Dennis and John W. Distance Just over 20 miles. John

Click on slide show for all today's photos

Medium

Ride

Report

The number of riders today all leading out in the same direction held proceedings up a bit but finally we got underway, headed up Leadhall Lane where the rain started which was something of a surprise. Happily the wind blew it away quickly and as we sailed down Whinney Lane the sun was shining and our journey up to Stainburn Woods was fabulous with clear views to the golf balls (are we allowed to refer to them like that after our privileged visit to see them close up?) and the wind turbines.

The wind was at the side of us rather than full on which made the ride up to Little Alms Cliff quite manageable and our team made it in good time. There we were joined by Paul B and Peter L who chaperoned us the rest of the way to Menwith. At Menwith it was rather like a school trip with much buzzing and chattering while waiting to be processed. The only difference was the uniform with nearly everyone in lycra and helmets. After the usual photo call, Debs, Darren, Paul, David and Gia returned to Harrogate by the

wonderful route of High Birstwith, (where Darren performed his first wheely of the day) Clapham Green, and Hampsthwaite. This was a short medium ride of 24 miles but huge in quality with some good long climbs and spectacular views. Gia

Long Ride Report

Long Ride Report: Eleven of us set out in the first autumn storm of the year with very high winds and rain showers. "But this is still August" I hear you say, but don't forgot a few of us were brought up in more southerly latitudes. At Forest Moor Road the heavens opened and we were obliged to take cover under trees for five minutes. Fortunately this was the low point of the day weather-wise and soon we were in bright sunshine but we couldn't get away from the high winds. Near Burton Leonard it was good to see and chat to the Ripon Cycle Club out on their short ride with a good turnout. Pausing at Ripon the leader had to opt out pleading injury so a smaller group continued on the full ride to Galphay, Kirkby Malzeard and Masham. Those taking the shorter option were soon joined by a number of good cycling friends in the Sun Parlour Café so it was a full hour before we left after catching up on the news. Then it was straight home again but this time with the wind behind us making it a lot easier. If this is Summer it could be an interesting winter! Stats for the day - 2 x 30 plus 9 x 55 (the latter very much a guess). Martin W

Extra Long Ride Report from Bill Whale "Deputy Leader": Eleven riders set out, but only two riders accompanied the deputy ride leader back to Harrogate; the deputy ride leader confirms that he had applied deodorant that morning. The official ride leader was dropped on route to Ripon, but actually had only one defector. Martin's knee succumbed to the boisterous wind and he headed off, with Yvonne, for refreshment in Ripon. The newly appointed ride leader decided to head directly to Masham via Wath and West Tanfield; allowing for a more varied return route with the wind on our backs via Kirkby Malzeard, Studely Royal and Ripley. But on reaching Masham the call of Lofthouse Moor proved too much for our fourth defector.

When leaving Masham we were accompanied by two renowned Audax riders and with testosterone flying most, of the now few, decided to pit their strength in the name of WE Hgt against Audax UK, the result of this encounter is still awaited. The remaining four riders obviously had more worthy causes for their testosterone, but unfortunately one returned by a more direct route to have his wounds dressed after colliding with some idiots back wheel. Bill Whale

2010	Wheel	Easy	Miles	(approx)	Today	1451	YTD	103290
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