

Wednesday, October 27, 2010

Wednesday Rides



Poddlers

Ride

Report

Eleven riders set out on this glorious ride via the usual route to Knox and Hampsthwaite and then up Clint Bank to Shaw Mills. The ascent of Cut Throat Lane led on to the derelict Drovers' Inn. A left and right turn brought us to the road leading to the Fountains Abbey. Half way along, at the "iconic" tree a right turn took most of us swooping down to Markington where we received news that our glorious leader had yet again managed to snap her chain (at the top of the hill). A rescue party was soon formed and armed with spare links, extractor tool and cloths made the ascent of the swoop to render assistance. A speedy well co-ordinated team soon had the job sorted and so it was back down the swoop to Markington followed by right turn and the drag back to the Drovers' from a different direction. A left turn took us to Ripley where it started to drizzle. All declined a cafe stop so it was along the main road to the Knox turn off and back home.....and the chain repair held out!
For the tallyman 11 x 22 hilly miles=242 hilly cyclist miles + extra 6 miles for 1 from Knaresborough and return.
And so its off to the cycle shop for her and off to the cycle shop for me! Max

Click on slide show for all today's photos

Wheel

Easy

Ride

Report

Ten riders determined to clock up over 50 miles set off from Hornbeam in bright sunshine. Phil was new to the group but was soon initiated into Wheel Easy rituals of coffee and cake at the Laden Table in Boroughbridge, before we made our way assisted by a strong tailwind across the Vale of York. The White Horse was very bright and sharp prompting discussions of how it was dug and recent restorations. The story goes that in 1857 the Schoolmaster decided there should be a local landmark for travellers on the London to Edinburgh Railway line to mark halfway. So he and children of Kilburn School set about making it. Wikipedia has also an alternative version but it is far less romantic!

At Coxwold we decided that discretion was required on ambitious distances as the tailwind was set to be a strong headwind on the way home. So we turned for Easingwold and enjoyed some chilly sandwiches on the green before returning via the village of Aldwark with its unusual church, and Great Ouseburn. Well done to Phil who kept on the pace despite a heavy bike and chunky tyres, we look forward to seeing him again. 10 x 54 miles. Martin Weeks

EG's Ride Report

Another sunny day with the promise of some good cycling (why are we so lucky?), and a goodly selection of Wheel Easy gathered at Low Bridge. Martin was taking a group to Coxwold with a flexible return route. After the usual chat and banter Martin and the W E W's left. The EG's waiting till 10-0am when ten riders eagerly awaited the off. Where are we going was the question, no answer, we used to be indecisive, now we are not so sure. Bedale said Bill, as the wind was from the west this seemed a good idea, ie having the wind on our flanks on the way out and on the way back. Taking the Waterside route out of Knaresborough, instead of the usual Abbey Rd, the tail end of Martins group was seen as we turned off at Occaney and they continued towards Boroughbridge. Then it was on to Ripon via Bishop Monkton and the tea rooms opposite the Cathedral, for tea or excellent coffee and an excellent toasted teacake all for £;1.99, which appeals to us Yorkshire folk, and them from the Midlands, who we have trained well, plus one from North of the Border who needed less training. Here Norman and Terry left us to return to Harrogate, but not before Norman had photographed a rogues gallery/suspects line up. With the sun on our backs it was north to Wath, Kirklington, Excelby and finally Bedale. Here it was decided to have a "light" lunch, as time was not on our side, and some EG's have been known to being having to be dragged out of cafes by their cleats. But moderation was the order of the day and a fork lift truck was not needed to get the sandwiches and cakes to where we were sitting.

Then we retraced our route to Kirklington (at times with some wind assist), where we turned to Skipton on Swale, here we crossed the road bridge (which is open to pedestrians only) and on to Topcliffe.

Just before Cundall, Roy punctured, here state of the art technology was applied, ie filling the tyre with foam. Now perhaps this foam was ideal for putting out fires or indeed shaving with but with regard to mending punctures it was NBG, and a mile or two later the tried and trusted inner tube change was applied.

Here the group split with some riders heading for Boroughbridge for more tea/coffee to await Roy and his team of mechanics. The pace into Harrogate was quite swift, particularly for one. But it had been another great days cycling sunny, dry and not too bad a wind. Aprox mileages 8 x 64 = 512 miles. 2 x 36 + 72 miles. Dave P

2010 Wheel Easy Miles (approx) Today 1372 YTD 128304

