

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

## Wednesday Rides

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Poddlers

Ride

Report

There were many brave faces this morning at Hornbeam all wearing smiles that said "What the h\*\*l am I doing here?". Nine souls (eight poddlers and one long distancer guest) set off "a searching" for a ride that would hopefully be just hilly enough to keep them warm to stave off exposure, just long enough to give credibility to bragging rights of having been out, getting Dennis home in time for lunch, be sheltered from the vagaries of the chilly wind, avoiding that "nasty little hill" from Knaresborough and not getting wet. We took the usual route to Farnham, wind apparently behind, then to Copgrove and Burton Leonard, wind apparently behind, and onto Wormald Green again with wind apparently behind. A banana stop and brief safety lecture re. crossing A61 preceded the section to Markington, again wind apparently behind. The sign at the Drover's Inn advertising "a full menu" only confused the delirious. Here the decision was made to head straight to Ripley and leave the reverse Cut Throat Lane option for a warmer day. We swooped down the hill to the Pateley Bridge road, wind apparently behind. The left turn towards Ripley found the cold biting wind in our faces, but only for the short stretch to Ripley. 'Twas here that surge John surged on leaving the remaining eight to ruminate "to coffee or not to coffee". All wanted to be home as soon as possible next to a warm fire so onwards for "warmth, sustenance and a bath" was the cry. Two gents made a detour for a gents convenience stop only to be dismayed by a community officer emerging backwards from the convenience with his bike! Sorry he said but I have to take my bike everywhere I go! Two minds boggled, but just like Tom the cabin boy we said nothing. We all regrouped along the road to Knox with wind apparently behind again and then made our separate ways home. Thanks to all for your cheerfulness and company. We hope that the driver of the car that turned straight in front of Linda realises that their careless inconsiderate driving could have caused a serious accident and has "big guilts" all day. For the captains log 9 times 23 (perhaps a bit more) cold miles. To John Wood. The Poddlers are missing you. Hope you are ok. Max

Click on slide show for all today's photos

Wheel Easy Ride Report  
 It was decided it would only be a morning ride as the weather forecast was predicting an unpleasant afternoon. Six riders set off to Wetherby via Burnbridge and Kirkby Overblow. We were soon joined by Sarah who had arrived late at Hornbeam but was pointed in the right direction by an observant member of the public who had seen a group of cyclists heading west. On arriving in Wetherby Gia left us to return home for a lunch appointment to celebrate a very special birthday from a few weeks ago. She kept that quiet! A belated 'Happy Birthday Gia'. The remaining six continued to Boston Spa for refreshments. The return journey home took us through North Deighton, Little Ribston and Knaresborough. Tony, Sarah and Richard made their own way home while Angela, Dave and myself visited 'Fodders' before returning home. Overall we cycled 32 miles. Paul

EG's Ride Report  
 On a cold dark dank (fortunately not raining) day a lone EG headed for the warmth of Morrisons Cafe then emerged into a profusion of Poddlers all heading for Low Bridge. Morning EG`s cried Caroline as she swung in to Abbey Road to round up the Poddlers, and then they were on their way, leaving the EG`s to shiver waiting for the stroke of 10. We should be meeting in a cafe said Colin, fatally flawed idea, who would get us out on to the road on a day like this? Initially it had been suggested that we should ride to Tadcaster and then Bramham, but on approaching Wetherby, a wimp, who shall be nameless (but he`s got a white beard) suggested in view of the cold it was a cafe to far and we should head for Morrisons in Wetherby. This was not met with scorn as expected, as said wimp was almost run over in rush for said cafe. After toasted teacakes and warmed extremities it was on to the A1 cyclepath to head south for Boston Spa , Clifford and Bramham, the wind having been in our faces all the way from Knaresborough. At Bramham we had a short banana break in the "Old Folks Shelter", yes this is the correct title, PC has not yet arrived in Bramham, where we listened to old music on a valve wireless. Then it was eastwards to East Rigton and along the ridge and the swoop down to Collingham and Linton and back up again on to the other ridge to Sicklinghall and Kirkby Overblow and home. All riders should have been back just before 2-00pm and before the rain. The wind had been consistant, which meant it being on our backs for the return journey, and it had been dry. Not a long ride, but it is winter and the nights are drawing in, so it was seven riders at approx 36 miles each. Dave P

2010	Wheel	Easy	Miles	(approx)	Today	683	YTD	137085
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