



Poddlers Ride Report

Ten keen Poddlers wearing anything from shorts and tops to waterproof jackets and jerseys assembled at Hornbeam for the start of today's assault on the roads to Little Almscliffe, Menwith Hill, Clapham Gate, Kettlesing and Penny Pot Lane. Word had reached Dave G that his friend Stephen was repairing a puncture in his Knaresborough garage. Dave decided to pedal to meet him and anticipated joining us en route. In accordance with the rules of punctuality set by Caroline (who at that moment was towing her caravan together with Max somewhere on the M1), we left at 9 30am having waved farewell to Darren and carefully negotiated our way round Crawford, who was going elsewhere, before engaging in the hairpin bends of the station path. Sue C nobly volunteered to backmark and counted nine through. Surjohn and I tried to sort out Libya, the economy and the state of the world in general as we headed towards Beckwithshaw having been joined by Dave and Stephen.

The sun shone, the lambs gambolled and the birds sang as we headed towards Little Almscliffe - delightful! However, the clouds began to gather and the skies darkened and cries of "But it said that the rain would be in the west..." were to be heard from amongst our plucky Poddlers. We stopped at Stainburn Forest to adjust clothing and rub our hands as the temperature dropped and the rain fell. Undeterred by discomfort and wrong weather information, we poddled onward and stopped at the turning to Penny Pot Lane. Here Sue C declared her inability to keep up with the overwhelming pace of the group!!! She was actually very cold and her legs were certainly nearly as blue as her shorts. By this time, however, the rain had stopped and a glimmer of sunshine began to appear. Sue decided to continue with us. Information was received to say that Glenn and Jenny had stopped for a comfort break (could it have anything to do with the Wine Tasting of the previous night??) and they were seen hurtling past the Sun Inn towards us. Our next stop across the A59 brought news that Dennis had a

puncture before the crossroads. He had asked that we carry on as he had a quick repair spray. Jenny and Glen had not appeared but as they would pass Denis, it was assumed they would come with him. By the time, we reached Clapham Gate, Dennis returned to us fully inflated. We coasted to Stock Stiles Lane and were joined by John and Jenny Dening. The ride then split with Dennis and his temporary repair, Sue and her cold legs, Surjohn and the Denings going via Hampsthwaite for speed or was it coffee! The remaining six carried on into Kettleasing and subsequently along Penny Pot Lane where the digger drivers waved us through. Pete and Linda turned right towards their central heating in Pannal. By Otley Road, there were four of us, each taking his or own route to home, hearth and dry clothes. Welcome to Stuart and please come again; thank you all Poddlers - good fun despite the cold and rain! 25 miles. Sue D

Click on slide show for all today's photos

Wheel Easy Ride Report

I was told I was leading today's ride and having ascertained who had what time I said it has to be East and back for 2 because of the forecast. 'NO it has to be Masham', was the cry and off everyone shot. 'Meet at Knox', was the shout. At Knox it was decided for everyone to meet at Fountains and to go there at their own pace and then to decide where to go from there.

Near Fountains a text was sent to the rear about the change in plan to continue to Spa Gardens. The rear riders almost (somehow) beat us to it. Due to a change in the weather only David wanted to continue to Masham, so we all rode home via Bishop Monkton. 9 x 35 (average speed 13.7 for me) and hardly wet after all.

Darren's falling for Julie at an impact speed of 0 (3 feet) was hopefully not too serious to the gear mech. Richard

EG's Ride Report

Once again Wheel-Easy E.G.s met at Low Bridge, Knaresborough and were this time joined by a rapidly recovering Dave Preston. Having venture thus far he followed the nine riders gathered intent on another action packed adventure once again courtesy of Rob W. First port of call was "Watson Towers" to repair, you guess it Rob's bike, or more to the point his cleats. A pair of substitute pedals were fitted, to overcome the damaged cleat and avoid Rob retiring early.

Off we set, east to miss the forecasted poor weather. Dave P. peeled off to return home on public transport, taking advantage of riding his folding "Brompton" and relieving the stress from his new knee on the long climb to Harlow Hill.

Splitting into two groups and trying hard to keep warm, we arrived at the farm shop, Beningborough, to find the slow service causing a little chaos amongst the early arrivals. After toasted teacakes etc., Terry & Norman left the group to return home back to Bilton, whilst the remaining riders carried on to York along the riverside cycle path.

Lunch was spent in York at the new cafe in one of the towers on the bridge immediately in front of the Court buildings but accessed from the cycle path below. From here we continued along the riverside cycle path, across Millennium Bridge towards the race course. Rob was intent on grabbing the headlines yet again by crashing in to Peter B who'd misplaced his front wheel when traversing the racecourse. Recovering our composure, we continued to the "Sun" and, gathering apace, swept towards home.

After a quick drinks stop on Marston Moor we left for Tockwith & Little Ribston. It was here that the group split up into various direction to head for their homes and Colin & myself returned to Knaresborough.

Total Mileage:- (1 x 6);(2 x 35);(2 x 52);(5 x 62) = 490 - Dave W

2011 Wheel Easy Miles (approx) Today 1055 YTD 47545



