



Further comments on the recent C2C ride

Congratulations to everyone who went on the C2C Tour. It was not an easy ride, given the weather conditions. If we had medals to hand out, all riders certainly deserved to get one.

From day one on the C2C, the eagerness of the 14 riders to complete, what for many was a new challenge, was outstanding. On the first day the tackling of the cyclo-cross route down through Wythrop Woods, above Bassenthwaite Lake, was impressive. Everyone was committed in part riding, part slipping, down the steep off-road descent, in wet conditions! The numerous hills on day two were tackled by all riders with grit and determination and the incessant rain in the afternoon only seemed to spur riders on to finish and to be first to get to the b&b's in Stanhope. Day three saw the Group reach impressive speeds down the Waskerley Way towards Sunderland. Pretty good- there were no accidents and only two punctures.

The ride I felt was a success because of the two leader/organiser approach, so I would like to express my thanks to Paul as joint leader/organiser. We will be running another long weekend tour again next year, using a Sustrans route. We hope to have an outline of a possible tour route ready for the AGM Meeting.' John Russell

Wheel Easy supported the Harrogate Station Dr. Bike Day
Click on slide show for all photos

Poddlers Ride Report

Only eight poddlers today. We started off via Pannal and Follifoot, stopping off to inspect the tunnel

under the by-pass, recently cleared by Wheel-easy and Sustrans volunteers. The paths have been repaired with hardcore but under the tunnel it was still stood in water, not to be recommended in any other than dry weather. Continuing on to Spofforth and North Rigton where Sir John surged on back home. The remaining seven continued on to Cowthorpe to Thorpe Underwood returning home via Arkendale and Knaresborough.

A nice compact group. 7x 35 miles 1x 17 miles = 262.

All back by 1 p.m. Dennis B.

Click on slide show for all today's photos

Wheel Easy Ride Report

Weather forecasts, triathlon training, afternoon naps, new tyre purchase, and work recovery meant that six of us were too feeble to follow the trail to Angram led by Richard. Instead we had a lovely run stopping briefly to chat with the EG's then on to Markington via Dennis' route remembered by Sue) through Burton Leonard and Wormald Green. The destination was of course Sophie's at Hampsthwaite where as always we were warmly welcomed. 27 miles for six of us, and no sight of any rain! Gia

A Wheel Easy group set off from HP, after the usual introductory social, via Beckwithshaw and Little Almscliffe towards Darley (this apparently is code for - 'extreme hills ahead!') All 5 (Julie, Dave, Richard, David and Stewart) were easily persuaded to take a late (11.20am) coffee at Teacups on the outskirts of Pately before heading for How Stean gorge. By this stage we were adjusting our route in a somewhat impromptu fashion, and took a right turn before arriving at the destination, up the route of the old train track to Angram reservoir. By this time, and due mostly to the heat of exertion, rainware had been removed and stored, so it came as something of a surprise when the heavens opened en route to Pately. The hurried application of waterproofs did little to insulate, and so we arrived dripping at the Riverside cafe wondering whether we would be allowed in amongst the daytrippers. The whole business of moving around in one's bare feet with discretion was kept from the other diners with a distracting mix of animated conversation, and peeling off sodden outer-layers...however, after some nourishment, we emerged into a further cloudburst and once more amended the plans, with a decision to head straight back. The miles were estimated for last returnee (Pannal) as over 60.

Stuart

EG's Ride Report

The weather forecast said heavy rain, what rain ! surely not, a bit over cast but no, not rain. The EG`s waiting at Low Bridge were soon joined by some Wheel Easy Wednesdayers. A quote from Sue C, we are going on a short ride because of the weather forecast (very wise) and off they went. There are no fools like old fools and the EG`s headed for Tadcaster via the Wetherby cycle path and Thorpe Arch and Boston Spa. Then it was in to Tyke Tearooms for morning coffee, tea and toasted things. Still dry the EG`s headed for Bolton Percy and Appleton Roebuck, DP as usual led them to Acaster Selby just in case the River Ouse was flowing north. This time it was, rather slowly but definitely north towards York all the way from the Humber (was it a bore?). The EG`s looked on in amazement (see photo). DP had his arm twisted and promised not to be a bore again and Acaster Selby would in future be bypassed. Still dry the EG`s headed north to Acaster Malbis and the planetary cycle path to York. At the sun (yes there is one, but not seen for many a day) John R, Norman, Terry and Theo (the fixed) left us to return to Harrogate, the remainder, Bill, Dave P, Dave W, Eric and Roy headed for York and food (still dry). At Eric`s suggestion lunch was taken at Skeldergate Bridge where they do a nice deal on soup plus toasted sandwiches. On emerging from the little tower there were slight drops of rain (nothing to worry about). But considering the weather forecast and a feeling that we may have gone a bridge to far the quick route back via Acomb, Rufforth and Long Marston was taken. At the Obelisk whilst taking a banana break the rain was slight, however in the distance over Tockwith great black clouds that seemed to be leaking badly, but they seemed to be moving away from us (wishful thinking ?) if we cycled slower perhaps we might not catch them up, ha ha. Heading for Cowthorpe the roads were flooded and the bow waves from cars were a problem but they could not make us more wet than we were. At the B6164 Dave W headed for Knaresborough the remainder headed up stream to Pannal and

home.

Mileage say $5 \times 60 = 300$ miles. average speed 8 knots with the current 4 knots against the current.
Also say $4 \times 55 = 220$ miles.

But it was a challenging ride, we laugh at adversity or was it hysteria,
anyway Peter B will regret missing a free bike wash. Dave P

2011 Wheel Easy Miles (approx) Today 1244 YTD 98770



