



Saturday Ride Report

Saturday's 'Slow Bike to Brimham' attracted a motley group of 10 cyclists, including first timer Sue H, second timer Richie and his wife, third timer (to WE, not to Richie) Dina from Texas, Robin, one of this year's fastest improvers on his new Dawes, Simon recovering at speed (in every sense) from dislocations and bugs, Jean, Alison, Justin, quick Mark and not quick Malcolm. All went very well, despite the latter having a puncture (thank you Simon for halving the repair time). We had one walker (nameless) on some steep sections -definitely within the rules of the ride - and were ready for refreshments at the Brimham Rocks café (personal opinion - rocks describes Brimham better than the café). The endless views and the long downhills coming back made all the effort more than worthwhile. Mark and Simon accelerated home alone after Brimham, while Jean and Alison, with time limits, turned round for the shorter route back. The remaining 6 completed the route at the intended slow pace, a little over 8mph. A lovely day, and a great suggestion by Jean which resulted in I think 7 people cycling to Brimham for the first time. Approx 2 x 25, 8 x 27 miles. Malcolm

Sunday Ride Reports

Short Ride Report

Seven of us started out on our short ride, a couple for the first time as Wheel-easy members, one riding Lands End to John O'groats for charity later on, and some yet to join, just testing the water, and some old hands, it was all here today. On top of that we had some summer weather for a change, because of the weather, most of the group decided to go the extra miles, on the extended run. It was commented that we were going through some pretty little villages, and could I let them know the route

that we took. So here it is, I wonder if it should be added to the short ride plus list! Into Knaresborough, Old Scriven, Lingerfield, Farnham, Staveley, Arkendale, Ferrensby, back to Farnham, into Knaresborough for our Cafe stop at the Riverside. From here on up the hill towards Harrogate via Stonefall cycle path and the Showground. Considering the mixed capabilities of our group, to ride approx 23 miles, some for the first time at this distance, in 2hrs 20mins riding time was pretty good going. As Sue our new member commented 'a good balance of support and challenge' which gave her a feeling of achievement. A good time was had by all. For the record 6 x 23miles 1x10miles 148miles total. John E

Click on slide show for all the weekend photos

Medium Ride Report

Five riders set off on the faster pace medium ride. By the time we reached Rossett School William, Richard, Bill and John had left Paul way behind. The route to Feston and Timble is particularly good on a sunny day as the views are stunning. At Timble Richard and John continued to follow the designated route while William, Bill and Paul headed to Weston and Cockpit Farm for coffee. After refreshments William and Bill returned to Timble to follow the medium route home while Paul headed towards Otley, Farnley and Brackenwaite Lane. The average mileage for the group would be 30 miles. Paul

It was billed as a ride to Timble and back but with Roy, David and David along it was an almost EGs Sunday Ride. So I tasked them with looking after Sally, our new member. As usual the banter goes up a notch with the EGs crowd and Sally probably now thinks we are all a bit loopy! To liven things up a bit we had a freewheel competition on Beckwith Moor and despite all rumours that excessive breakfasts would now bring rewards Robin showed a clean pair of unpowered tyres to us all on his Trek. Technical discussions then ensued and if another similar event is planned we can look forward to 200psi tyres and lead ingots in saddlebags. Returning from the top of Timble we had a delightful stop at Fewston Visitor Centre with lovely food and in a super setting. Then it was a steady jaunt home in the sunshine. In all 9 riders did 25 miles. Martin W

The 8 riders started by going up Hornbeam Park and along Fulwith and Daleside to give the faster group a chance to get ahead and despite being given a chance to go home we were delighted when Trevor decided to stay with us! It was then the usual route past the Squinting Cat through Beckwithshaw and the slight pull up to Little Almscliffe! Here we had a short stop and photocall. The weather had warmed up and there were wonderful views in every direction. We then swooped down to Swinsty and Fewston reservoirs and as we approached the faster group could be seen rushing out of the toilets and on to their bikes as we could not be seen to be catching them up! The steep climb into Timble followed and was conquered magnificently by all but the leader who decided a short walk was in order! The group then returned to Fewston where Dennis lead 3 straight back to Pennypot Lane and was going to return via Kettlesing and Hampsthwaite. Trevor was to continue up Oak Bank as he was enjoying the hills so much!

The 4 remaining joined the faster group in indulging in excellent and very reasonable coffee, sandwiches and cake at the Washburn Heritage centre sitting outside enjoying the sunshine. They returned via Wydra Lane and Watson's Lane to Little Almscliffe and then swooped back into Harrogate enjoying spectacular views before going their separate ways home. About 24 miles from Hornbeam. Liz

Medium Plus Touring Pace Ride Report

Is leading the third string of the medium plus ride the booby prize or the chance to have a jolly good ride in great company at a decent pace. Eight of us set off, Chris was our saviour as he had a map and kept us on track despite his wobbling wheel as a result of a broken spoke. Malcolm did a couple of extra miles, returning to Ripon to collect his water bottle. Sarah, Helen and Sue were in light training for the triathlon next week. Debbie, Keith and I were just enjoying the ride. Keith also reporting on having completed the Way of The Roses ride and how popular a route it is. Local b&b's and cafes are thrilled with the extra business. We had two café stops, excellent coffee, cake and delicious ice cream at G&T's at Risplith. A café to be recommended for anyone out that way and we understand that they

will be open in the winter offering soup and rolls. Our next stop was at Spa Gardens where we met a big group from Ferryhill who were on their annual 106 mile ride to Ripon.

Home via Littlethorpe where we were flagged down by the Rotary Club who were keen for us to stop for more coffee and cake and enjoy the beautiful garden at Greencroft. We declined and made it home in good time to watch the last stages of the Tour! Lovely day, 43 miles x 8 so not quite the 45 which it said on the tin. Gia

After Ripon Spa cafe and having declined a 50 mile ride back with the friendly Ferryhill Club, we went through the traffic jams at Ripon Racecourse (vintage cars) to Boroughbridge and Arkendale to make up to the 45 miles. Richard

Long Ride Report

Unusually for a long ride we had 9 riders at the start. Leaving Hornbeam Park and on the way to Beckwithshaw we picked up Eric. The ride continued onward to Fewston, but one of the Peters decided to miss the climbs at West End and proceeded to Duck Street with a view to meeting us before Greenhow. We eventually met Peter and another rider, Mike. We continued on our way to Grassington and this time Roger decided to leave us at the Appletreewick turn off. Having successfully refuelled at Grassington we then proceeded to Burnsall, Appletreewick and Barden, where Jim and Dave left our company to return home. Crossing over Barden Bridge we headed for the climb up to Embassy moor with spectacular views on such a bright and sunny day. On the back road to Bolton Abbey the group split into 2, namely Eric's group decided to return home via Cockpit Café and PCJ's group decided to complete the ride via Silsden and Menston. The route from Draughton via Silsden to Menston does have some strenuous climbs but also has great views and some amazing descents. But all this took its toll as the group was in need of rehydration and sustenance. With a circular tour of Otley we managed to get supplies from Sainsbury's with only minutes to spare before they closed. Geoff and Mike took the main road to Pool as they were going to Knaresborough, Phil and myself left Otley via the back road to Leathley when we were caught by Eric, madly chasing us, and the remainder of his group following on. We all then cycled on to Stainburn, where again we split into 2 groups, the Peters going back via Beckwithshaw and the rest going via Alms Cliff crag. Wheeleasy rides are noted for their flexibility of ride routes as shown by the above ride report

Editor's Note: Correction to the original ride description. The number of hill climbs should have read 33 and not 3! Mileage 1 Rider 40miles, 2 Riders @ 55miles, Eric's peloton (4) @ 75 miles, PCJ's peloton (4) 85 miles Total = 790 miles

2011 Wheel Easy Miles (approx) Weekend 2482 YTD 101252



