



Poddlers Ride Report

Once again the word had leaked out. El Butler was leading the poddlers' ride today. Even Mark Cavendish had abandoned the Spanish Vuelta to get some hill climbing and heat training with El B. There were thousands of cyclists at Hornbeam, unfortunately only 18 people were able to follow our leader and sadly Mark C. had to be turned the way, he would never be able to discuss his problems on hills at the back of the peleton with fellow sufferer Caroline (frankly I would have suggested a dose of Pateley Bridge with Liz, to speed him up those peaks). WE were all raring to go Dennis' calves were quivering and 14 Poddlers set off for the first stop at Low Bridge. The Batz were talking of shopping in York. Pete had not arrived so 3 of us went to search for him..and soon herded him up to the rest of the group meeting an Low Bridge, where Dave P. was illuminating the whole area with his extremely glorious technicoloured dream shirt of many many colours. His magnificant attire put everyone else to shame. Dispite wanting to stand and admire the cut of Dave's shirt, the poddlers had business to do, places to see, songs to sing. We took the scenic route to the Boroughbridge Road and continued to the top of Farnham Bank where we were dazzled once more by a flash of glowing colour as hundreds of EGs sped past..led by the technicoloured dream boat..sorry bcat. The next part of the ride was a blur due to our fabulous speed 12.9 mph average and a bit of sound barrier breaking. Talking of which, as we entered Boroughbridge on the roadside outside Morrison's instead of a toilet stop, the Wheel Easy singers spontganously broke into song and like nightingales sang a moving and heart rending version of happy birthday to Glyn to Glen, he's 29 again. It was at this point Richard was last seen, was he going shopping, or did he remember he had a date with his ballet pumps and sequins. As we continued to Newby Hall John stopped and did a little grocery shopping and Lynda excitedly joined in...thus allowing world class cyclist Kevin to have a quick snooze in order to recover from his recent tour of the

USA. Liz suddenly realised she too had a date with Richard's tutu and surged off with Sur John and his Victoria plums the quickest way back to Harrogate via Littlethorpe and Ripon. At the Canal Bridge banana stop, Howard Paley's dad felt he had told Sue enough about his distant past with Skipton Girls High School, and he too dashed off home or perhaps he thought another rendition of Happy Birthday would be too much and we still had to wish Grandpa Wood congratulations on the arrival of Mia Grace. Glen seemed agitated as we passed by a caravan site, and Jen was unconcerned when he went in and seemed to be setting up camp. Cleverly avoiding the hill out of Knaresborough El Butler led us right at Bishop Monkton to Markington and gently up and down and up again to the Drovers. Descending the super swoop into Killinghall with its pig scarecrows, left us light headed and giddy and within 10 minutes had reached Knox ford having lost 10 of the original group....Lynda and Pete attacking the A 61, Steve flying or gliding off to Knaresborough, Allison escaping up Knox Lane, Kevin riding up his own drive and home, Jen and Gle/yn getting to the hair dressers, Caroline and Sue having an incident on a roundabout, etc. etc., could El B. only trust Mary, Gordon, Dave and Max. A classic wheel easy ride, excellent weather, superb route, and gentlemanly leadership. 18 cycled 34.89 miles at an average speed of 12.45 mph..Mark Cav you missed a treat. Caroline

Click on slide show for all today's photos

Wheel Easy Ride Report

About 40 people gathered for the Wednesday morning ride today on a lovely warm sunny morning. Our group headed towards York via Beningborough Farm Shop where we sat outside sitting in a cosy group around one of the tables. We learned about the stresses and strains of dentistry. Later on we moved on to higher matters when after lunch at the convent we were shown round the hidden chapel which had eight exit doors for the congregants to make a quick escape. We also saw a priest's hole and a rather gruesome relic of a hand. Too gory to relate the tale. Anyway unscathed we sped away along the river, across the racecourse and on to Long Marston where robin was stung by a wasp. After cream and potions were administered and sound advice we carried on home, espying the missing ride leader from Sunday as we passed through Spofforth. As Dave P would say his excuses were watertight. Lovely ride, great pace, two fine stops and all the other usual Wheel Easy benefits of being out on such a beautiful day. 58 miles x 8. Gia

EG's Ride Report

A large number of Wheel Easy members gathered at Low Bridge around 10-00am.(see photo) This illustrates another success story. Note! this is a Wednesday morning not a Sat/Sunday. Before Wheel Easy was born we would have only had 3 or 4 EG`s at Low Bridge. Another success story as discussed between Malcolm M and Dave P was the estimated £3.5 billion that cycling puts in to the economy. This is due in no small part to number of cafe stops taken by the EG`s. Another talking point was Yvonne`s new Litespeed bike, Dave W availing himself of a tootle round Abbey Road (Norman you missed out here). With the Leeds Music Festival in mind the EG`s headed north to Ripon along with most of Wheel Easy WEW`s and Poddlers, bearing left to Bishop Monkton and Spa Gardens Cafe. After refreshment the two Johns (E & R) headed back to Harrogate, John E recovering from a bug and carrying a months supply of Fishermans Friends and John R having a date with some builders ?. Paul (Rohlhoff Rules) Tindle and Dave R headed for Brimham Rocks accompanied by Bill W looking for some sprints and King of the Mountains points (plus getting home before dark) an EG in joke. Bob, Dave P, Dave W, Marvin, Peter J, Roy and Theo (on fixed) took the road to Wath and Thornborough here Bob left us to take the B6267 to Masham and home, being on baby sitting duty. Then it was on to Well, although Well was visible, Marvin informed us that Mr Garmin said that the road did not exist, so it was turn around and hang a left. For this Dave P was deducted 5 points for being a rubbish leader and Dave W was deducted 3 points for forgetting his local knowledge. The climb to High Burtons was next followed by the swoop down in to Masham and the Bordar Cafe for 1-00pm. The route back was discussed regarding hills and Theo`s fixed gear, however Roy wanted high tea at the Spa Gardens Cafe and that decided the route. The climb up to Grewelthorpe was made interesting by the headwind, here Peter J and Marvin left us for a quick blast back, however they were not the only blasters, Roy fuelled by a bacon sarny hit the overdrive button and left the three of us standing in his dust, he was

eventually found taking delivery of tea and a scone in Spa Gardens Cafe, however a fresh baked plate of scones meant the order was raised to two scones. Three pm and the sun was still shining as we took refreshment. Off again though some black clouds could be seen on the road to Bishop Monkton and Knaresborough still with a headwind. Arrived Harrogate 4-15pm. Three cafe stops and 6 x 58 miles = 348 miles. Guessing here 3 x 50 = 150 miles. 1 x 52 = 52 miles. 2 x 35 = 70 miles. A good dry ride. Dave P

Leaving Dave and the EG's at Ripon Bill, Dave and Paul headed for the hills around Sawley, Brimham Rocks and Birstwith. Passing through Hampsthwaite Paul stopped at Sophie's for lunch while Dave and Bill continued home. We cycled 42 miles. Paul

Evening Ride Report

Another Wednesday night with the sky looking rather good, so Mark Cav and Alison Time Trial and myself Darren R. W set off from Hornbeam to Wetherby via Pannal, Kirkby Overblow and back via spot off (Spofforth). About an hour and a half later and 25 miles at good steady pace we arrived home. We had loads of laughs so thanks boys and girls. Darren Renshaw W

2011 Wheel Easy Miles (approx) Today 1789 YTD 116524



