



Poddlers Ride Report

Thirteen Poddlers left Hornbeam Park bound for Wetherby. After a brief catch up with some of the EGs at Low Bridge we continued via Abbey Rd and Wetherby Rd to Little Ribston, we then turned along Ox Close Lane towards the A168 where we took the pathway down to Sandbeck Lane. This led us into Wetherby where we stopped for a conflag to discuss the route homewards. The Harland Way was chosen as it gave the opportunity for Five of the group to head home via Spofforth, the remainder took the left hand branch of the old Railway track towards Linton Road and continued home via Sicklinghall, Kirkby Overblow and Rudding Lane. The weather was mostly fair with two or three spells of light rain, not sufficient to cause the donning of rainwear. Splendid views over Wharfedale from Barrowby Lane. For the log 13 poddlers at 25 miles. John W.

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Wheel Easy Ride Report

After two very windy days today it was quiet enough to get out on the bike and enjoy the sunshine. Paul who is now master trialler for Woodrup Cycles had a splendid green steed to try out today and of course it was much admired. John W led off the Poddlers, they are jolly well organised even in the absence of their leader! We rambled around then set off towards Fewston. Malcolm didn't make it beyond the ramp up from Hornbeam before having technical problems which meant a visit home to clean up the oil. The rest of us made it to Timble, some quicker than others. Stewart (welcome back), Julie, Robin (who hung on to the fast boys on Sunday, well done) Richard and Dave W took advantage

of the Timble coffee morning then were heading for more hills and we think ended up at Pateley. Sue, Angela, Paul and Gia, followed by Malcolm, found their way to Sophie's for lunch via Blubberhouses, Thruscross, Menwith and High Birstwith. We lingered so long over lunch that any thoughts of more miles were beaten back and we all went home from there. Lovely lunch, great company, good climbs and a sunny day with the wind picking up as we got home, Gia 5 x 35 miles.

This was to be a ride of at least 2 halves and with 3 leaders. You felt that there was a special purpose in mind (besides cycling!) and soon all was revealed - the blackberrys were out! We were led into the Village Hall at Timble for an all you can eat coffee-stop; malt loaf and flapjack proving popular as ever. After this, and a clear winner on the tables, Richard sadly had to return for other excitements, and we set off having stored our wet-weather gear for part 2 under rapidly clearing skies. We crossed the A59 at Blubberhouses and added a surprise guest (Malcolm!) before the sheep caused an orderly dismount. 'False peak' Dave was guiding us through Nidderdale, passing York's folley, and on into deepest Pately. The descent was spectacular with clear views over distant horizons. The luncheon was to be served al fresco, to the delight of the local wasp population, and following an impromptu sock inspection (clearly failed by one of the party) we headed via Glasshouses for Brimham rocks, via a few testing climbs and on towards Hampsthwaite, whilst dreaming of Sophie's cafe. The distance was by now proving far too short for Dave who peeled off before we reached our destination, and a further change of plan found us lined up for flapjack-testing in Birstwith. Returning to Harrogate, and now with a new leader (who, for most of the day had been unsuccessfully engaged in industrial espionage for flapjack recipes), Julie, Robin and Stewart headed back to towards H Park with 50+ miles completed on the ride. Stewart

EG's Ride Report

As the EG`s waited for numbers to build up at Low Bridge a goodly number of WWWers and Poddlers hove into view, a brief stop, a few words with Kevin and away they went. Absentees were Eric who had a family bereavement, our sympathies. Dave W away for a check up, our best wishes and Bill getting ready to take the bike bus to the south of France, bon chance. Also a big welcome back to Peter B first time out with the EG`s after his Himalayan adventures and to listen to his version of what the two of them got up to. Finally the ten in total headed for Wetherby and guess where ,of course Morrisons, a slight panic as we approached Wetherby, the WWW`s were seen, were they heading for Morrisons? No they were not panic over. So it was a clear run to the coffee and cake counter. Roy enquired about Sundays run, 57 miles and only one cafe stop, his gasp of horror soon passed as he informed us about androids, blackberries and apps. At this time Roy was wearing a headscarf and a man came to talk to us about the CTC and female riders (looking closely at Roy), perhaps Roy`s feminine side was strong this morning, on realising his mistake the poor man, forgetting the advice about when in a hole stop digging, left somewhat embarrassed. The intention was to head for Otley and Dunnies (for Rob), however Colin pointed out that over Otley was an accluded front (looked like rain clouds to us) and advised us to head east to the flat lands where the cloud would break up which was unlikely on the hills. Best advice for a long while. Soon we were heading towards blue sky and sun. Norman and Terry (with bad knee) left us at the Little Ribston turn off, the remaining eight headed for Hunsingore and Cattal, at Great Ouseburn, Rob punctured, a front wheel puncture is normally a nothing job, however 4 EG`s struggled to get this tight so and so tyre on. Then on in sun and a kind wind to Boroughbridge and Tasty Snacks Cafe, here substantial repasts were taken consisting of bacon, eggs, sausages and chips. Roy severely shaken after the tale of a 57 miles ride with only one coffee stop attacked a plate of sausage, egg and chips. However Peter B after his Himalayan curried breakfasts, curried lunches and curried teas finished off with chocolate sponge and custard. At this time it would be unwise to invite Eric and Peter B to a Wheel Easy Curry Night. While eating, the cafe menu`s went missing they were found on an EG table, I`ll have to put you across my knee said Sonia! (the EG`s formed an orderly queue).The remaining eight Colin, Dave P, Peter B, Peter J, John E, John R, Rob and Roy headed south (still in the sun) to Marton cum Grafton, Farnham, Knaresborough and Harrogate. A good ride without rain (missed the accluded front) and sun. Say 46 miles x 8=368 miles. 30 miles x 2=60 miles. Dave P

2011 Wheel Easy Miles (approx) Today 1128 YTD 129198



