



Poddlers Ride Report

Having become a pneumatic neurotic (aka puncture paranoid) following Sunday's thorny experience, I am delighted to record an incident - free and very pleasant ride for 12 Poddlers. Lynda caused me a slight concern when she discovered that her front tyre was soft - and it was but, grabbing their pumps, the Poddler cavalry rushed in and Poddler Pugh quickly had Lynda re-inflated and ready for action. This all took place outside the Spofforth Millennium Garden - a photo opportunity first drawn attention to by Eric. This time, rather than pose and pout beside the enormous Pampas grass, Poddlers, like EG's elected to adopt a more artistic line-up with chins on the wall! Lynda and Alison left us at Knaresborough - greetings were sent to Pete. The remaining ten sped on to the delights of Nidd overcoming a spray of slurry from a passing, friendly tractor before riding through mud dropped on the road by an enthusiastic builder digging foundations. Such is the lot of the Poddler but we were pleased by the lack of traffic, the lifting of the early mist and, believe it or not, the glimmer of wintry sunshine filtering through the trees in Ripley. Refreshments were declined and I, having lost all of them to various parts of the town to enjoy shower/lunch/bed, returned to Hornbeam and home. Thank you, Poddlers, for your camaraderie and puncture-free tyres! Sue D

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Wheel Easy Ride Report

Grey dark skies were with us all day but brightly dressed cyclists with flashing red lights cut through the gloom and we set off for Easingwold. David Richard succumbed to an early puncture but he and

two others stopped to fix it and chased the rest of us down in real style catching us before we got to Easingwold. Tee-Hees served hot food and drinks while on our table we chatted to two Spanish ladies. When we got to politics it turned out that the older lady was a true Spanish Republican in the spirit of Lorca and Picasso. She said that if we wanted to introduce Madame Guillotine for the Royal Family she would be there with her knitting. I think some of us have found a kindred spirit! Heading north from Easingwold we paused at Carlton Husthwaite to admire the unusual roadside sculpture, and then we turned west to bring us back to Boroughbridge. Here the majority headed homeward, and three managed another cup of tea before going back to Harrogate along different routes. Eight riders covered an average of 48 miles. Martin

EG's Ride Report

Tuesday had been miserable and Wednesday's forecast was also miserable, however Wednesday morning forecast looked much better as the EG`s began to assemble at Low Bridge. Soon we began to be joined by some WEW`s in dribs and drabs, soon there were a goodly number of WEW`s plus fourteen EG`s, a take over of Knaresborough by Wheel Easy. Easingwold shouted Martin and off they went, a few minutes later Paul T arrived, Easingwold shouted the EG`s and off he too went. Eric and Roy had sent notes from their mums and John R unfortunately only had a partial pass out. In view of last week's hills and the promise of early darkness it was decided to head directly to Ripon via Farnham and Bishop Monkton for the first cafe stop. The free wheel challenge to Occaney was won by Colin despite the extra wind resistance he had by fitting mudguards for today. After sustenance in Spa Gardens Cafe John R left us to return home with his partial pass out, for the remaining thirteen it was north to Wath, east to Melmerby and Baldersby St James, south west to Thornton Bridge and then the pace picked up for the sprint to Tasty Snacks Café. It was here that Dave W and Dave P became concerned about Bill, any minute now he'll pass us said DW, but it didn't happen BW being with the lanterne rouge. Whilst we sat in the café enjoying our hot drinks and toasted cheese, Paul T and Yvonne went past the window. They must have been short staffed in the cafe as Sonia commandeered a customer to help wait on the EG`s " I`ve only come in here for a late lunch" said the lady. After our final refreshment and a slight delay unlocking our bikes we were soon on the climb to Farnham and the climb, here Bill reverted to his old form and tied with Dave S for the hill climb points. Here we met Malcolm and Gia who continued with us into Harrogate (Gia keeping the EG`s in order - quite a task). A nice winter ride, coldish and dull but no rain, again a lucky Wednesday. Mileage say 13x 47miles average between group = 611 miles. One x 36 = 36 miles. Dave P

2011 Wheel Easy Miles (approx) Today 1271 YTD 156188



