



#### Short Ride Report

After an earnest discussion as to how much we ought to do, three of us set off through the mist for a grey, damp ride. Having been tempted by the medium ride we wanted to do 'just that bit more'. We'd decided to head for Kirkby Overblow, Wetherby and back to Spofforth. We soon got into a comfortable pace and found ourselves enjoying the outing. Near Wetherby we all felt a cafe stop was necessary so made our way to Morrisons just in time to join in the two minutes silence with customers and staff. A squelchy ride along the Harland Way brought us to Spofforth, thence Follifoot and Harrogate. We went our separate ways at Sainsbury's, all avoiding the dreaded showground hill . A pleasant ride- 3 X 20 miles. Alison

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#### Medium Ride Report

What a foul morning, what a cosy bed, what a good book, what a difficult, unsolved, crossword in need of completion and what on earth am I doing on my bike riding down to Hornbeam at this ridiculously early time on a cold damp Sunday. I had been allowed to be Crawford for the morning.....El Butler checked that I had the sporran, kilt, shorts and little goatee beard and pronounced that I was allowed to help him lead the medium ride. Today we were off to Timble but without the lure of cakes at the village hall. Three ladies volunteered to accompany me slowly to Timble. So El Butler attacked the ramp out of Hornbeam with what seemed like several hundred followers, and two Sues and two Carolines set off through the gloom and mist towards the Rossett footpath. As we pedalled onwards at

a sensible pace, we saw a splash of yellow approaching Beckwithshaw at speed. Paul Blackham had just topped the hill from Oak Beck without collapsing and due to his steamed up glasses was disorientated. Two x C and two x S swept him up and we continued easily (due to the mist our brains tricked into thinking there was no slope) up Norwood Lane to Little Alms Cliff. Looking more like characters from Cluedo than cyclists, we surged into Fewston, where the two Carolines struck a deal regarding coffee and cakes. We would climb the mile slope to Timble. The glorious crossing of the reservoirs completed we started the climb...only to see El Butler and his followers swooping down the Timble climb. El B reminded us that it was nearly time for the two minutes silence. Paul, and the Sues obviously thought we could get to the top of the hill before 11 o'clock. We turned the corner at the top of the hill and the silence was set....It is quite amazing how long two minutes is when you are quiet and looking out into a silent November countryside. Despite the climb we had cooled down and the Washburn visitors centre offered welcome warmth. The El Butler drop outs were just finishing a bucket load of cake and liquid refreshment and happily posed for a modelling session, before they left. Warmed and refreshed, route maps checked, we set off to a closed Penny Pot Lane, which thankfully was not that closed and we cruised through the murk passed the strangely wailing wind farm, to the new Beckwithshaw/Killinghall tip. Whilst making an external inspection of the new facility, a gentleman dressed as an orange offered us a tour of the tip, but feeling we had seen enough already we declined and escorted Paul to his turn off home. Anything to avoid a hill led us through the new Ethelburger's housing area to the playing fields at the top of Jennyfield. A quick tour of the back streets of Northern Harrogate led us back to the Odeon where 2C+2S split up to go our separate ways home.... Thank you all for such a pleasant gentle ride. 23 hilly miles by 4 ladies and about the same by Paul from Killinghall. Caroline G

Dennis's group of 12 riders also completed 23 miles each plus 1 rode 12 miles.

#### Medium Plus Touring Pace Ride Report

The weather was to say just a little autumnal this morning but there were still 16 hardy souls raring to get set off, we sat off in two groups but by the time we stopped at Hamphwiate we decided to be one group but even at this early stage we had lost one rider Dan who had church duties so he turned off just before Hamphwaite. Everyone was eager to face the first challenge up Clint bank which as per usual was negotiated safely and then down to the junction and left to Burnt Yates where we had a short break. At this point I stood at the front of the group looked at the weather then listened to the group every one laughing and talking just as if it were a summers day. We pushed on up towards Brimham Rocks where we stopped at the crossroads to observe the two minute silence for Remembrance Day Dave Watson took charge of those proceedings in a masterful way, one interesting thing was that a young lady in a car stopped at the junction opposite and observed it with us. As we rode past Brimham rocks the fog seemed to be getting thicker and most people had there lights on but there are lights and there are lights Paul Tindle had a headlight that was so bright I kept thinking it was a car some one asked if it was mains powered. The ride down towards Risplith was difficult due to the conditions but we were soon off that road thankfully, going up the hill towards High Grantley I found myself in a completely wrong gear for the hill and unfortunately collided with Debbie fortunately apart from Debbie getting her shoes muddy we were both fine. When we arrived at the Spa gardens it was unusually full so despite Gia's protests we went to Cafe Nero where we were all about to be arrested by a police officer who seemed to think we were going to ride through Ripon town centre against the Remembrance Day parade from where I was stood we didn,t look like a bunch of renegades but you never know. The ride from Ripon back to Harrogate went fairly incident free apart from Steve Price and I getting rear wheel spin on the wet leaves on the cycle track into Harrogate, despite the weather and some very dirty bikes it was still a very enjoyable ride with the usual good company. Many thanks, Terry 15x40 miles= 600

#### Long Ride Report

It's quite amazing that so many people turn out on a miserable Sunday morning to partake in the wonderful offerings of Wheel-Easy. The long ride was supposed to be heading to Castle Howard but the rumblings among the regulars suggested that if I stuck to the plans I might be cycling alone. The suggestion that we should head out on the advertised route to Easingwold and then decide where to

go next proved so popular that I got 9 riders to join me. We reached the outskirts of Easingwold for 11:00 and after a minutes silence discussed where to go next. Peter B was the only rider who wanted to stick to the original route and he stoically went off in the mizzle on his own. The rest of us headed towards Hovingham and then to onto Ampleforth for lunch at 12:30 with the only issue being some minor mechanical problems for Dennis. The return to Harrogate was super quick thanks to excellent pace making from Mike, Roger and Dennis ( bike now fixed) who dragged the rest of us along at a challenging but achievable speed. The elastic finally snapped at Boroughbridge and we returned home in 2 groups completing 70 miles. Totals 9 riders 70 miles + 1 rider 82miles Total 712 miles. Phil

Colomba Chemo Classic.

Two Wheel Easy members took part in this charity bike ride on Saturday starting at Richmond. Some Sky riders including Ben Swift were riding too. Darren Warner and Mark Townend represented Wheel Easy and wearing their Wheel Easy shirts (and shorts!) had a great day and did well over a very challenging course. Worth noting that they both joined Wheel Easy about two years ago joining very modest short and medium rides. They have both got the bug, like so many Wheel Easy members, they love riding and the new challenges and friendships that they have formed. This is true for so many of our members and each one of us takes our enthusiasms in different directions! Alison Sarmiento who rides with the fast boys (and girls) also took part representing Nova. Well done to them all. Gia

Two Wheel Easy members took on the challenge of the Columba Chemo Classic in Richmond, Darren and myself. The day didn't start too well as Darren (aka, the Terrington Express) fell off his bike in the car park! Once I had stopped laughing (I am the caring sort) off we went!

So many hills were in front of us, and at times they seemed to merge one into another, Middleham, Grinton, the climb over Coverdale to the fast descent down Park Rash (where there was an ambulance waiting to catch any unsuspecting riders!) and our favourite, if that is the right phrase, Redmire, where the views were just fantastic, as to be fair they were all over the route. What goes up must come down though, and just to keep Darren interested, there were some fantastic descents plus a good food stop after 37 miles and plenty of food (all included) at the end. We could not have picked a better day to do the ride as the sun was out and only a light breeze at times as we cruised round chatting with many of the riders from various clubs along the route. 65 miles in total and while there is no doubt it is a tough ride, in Darren and my view, it's not as hard as the long riders who took us on to Silsden a few weeks ago, so we hope to see a few more from the club next year. Hopefully we did Wheel Easy proud! Mark

2011 Wheel Easy Miles (approx) Today 1775 YTD 157963



