



Short Ride Report

Just Geraldine, Joe and me for the short ride today. We followed Route 2, which it transpired none of us had ridden before. We started out cold and bright, but by Hampsthwaite we had the cold, rain and a nasty side wind to contend with. Time to stop at Sophie's. Tales of rides in warmer climes, and some excellent advice about rack bags for the ride leader. On leaving the weather was back to cold and bright-ish, and with wind behind it was a pleasant ride to Knox. Two's company, and three's excellent company. 3x11 miles. Justin

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Medium Ride Report

10 of us set off in a breezy nithering 2 degrees C, only to be joined by rain. Once we were underway however, the rain almost stopped, the sun almost came out and the temperature climbed to 3 degrees C. We were joined by Paul at the top of Cutthroat Lane and everything warmed up (the hill helped somewhat). Heading for Bishop Thornton we had decided not to risk muddy footpaths. Decision time came for all at the Drovers Crossroads (which had taken a severe turn for the worst after a full-on bar b q) 5 opted for Bishop Monkton and Markington, 6 more headed for Ripley, (comfortable, warm, scones and tea, that kind of thing) then home via Killinghall and Knox. A slightly challenging, very satisfying and most sociable ride. 5 x 20, 6 x 25 miles. Alec

Medium Plus Touring Pace Ride Report

Leader overslept!
Rain and wind noted!
Early morning phone call received to alert to above conditions
Bolt breakfast
Don wet weather gear
Arrive at Hornbeam, weather faring up but doomsters still doubtful
Darren flies past with signature wheelie
Medium plus touring group last to leave the blocks
14 of us head off
Weather improves
Stop at Ripon Cathedral for relief and debate
Four head to Café Nero and then home
Ten carry straight on to the Deer Park.
We are shouted out by testosterone fuelled youth
The hundreds of baby deer look very peaceful
Are caught up by the fast boys who as good boys rode the advertised route
Arrive at Sophie's, sun still shining and time for plenty of R and R before cycling back to Harrogate. No rain and wind much better than forecast. Good company, good ride. 35 miles x 10 Prob about 30 x 4.
Gia

Medium Plus Ride Report

Just the five faster riders today and after studying the planned anti-clockwise route Ripon looked to be the first and possibly last café opportunity. So a quick dash later and we're sat in Café Nero enjoying coffee at the unusually early time of 10.45. It was however to be a game of two halves - not that Ripon was even close to approaching half way. The ride then took us on quiet but lumpy roads through Galphay, Winksley, Grantley & Sawley and as William pointed out whilst we seemed to cover some distance every road sign we came across kept advising us that we were still 4-5 miles from Ripon. Three weeks out of the saddle and I found myself gravitationally challenged today in spite of the 'keep breathing' encouragement from a couple of horse riders as we climbed a particularly steep bank out of Sawley. Approaching Bishop Thornton we met up with Gia and her touring pace group who had decided not to stop in Ripon and following a quick chat we made our way back to Harrogate including a detour along traffic free tarmac cycleways. 5 x 41 miles. Martyn B

Long Ride Report

Five hardy souls set forth on the Long Ride with the prospect of blustery showers, particularly in the west where we were heading. In the event there was plenty of bluster but only one short shower as we approached Pateley from Brimham Rocks, having gone through Boroughbridge, Bishop Monkton, and Markington. We dined on stodgy puddings, forest gateau etc at the auction mart café in Pateley before tackling Yorke's Folly. An initial tail wind up the steep hill helped us, but as we approached the top we were hit by a strong head wind, but by then we had cracked it. This was followed by a lovely descent to Dacre before the final hard climb up Darley Head and over the A59 to the Sun Inn at Norwood, and then a speedy return through Beckwithshaw to Harrogate. This ride took in some great views in enjoyable company. 50 to 56 miles depending where you started from. Geoff M

2011 Wheel Easy Miles (approx) Today 1233 YTD 167050



