

Wednesday, June 20, 2012

## Wednesday Rides



### Poddlers Ride Report

Mid Summer's Day or Summer Solstice (yes and one second more daylight today than tomorrow...it was a leap year so it is the 20th not the 21st.) and yes it was sunny, probably because it was Liz's birthday not due to the solstice.. Billy Whizz set off with characteristic speed saying we would regroup at Low Bridge. There we greeted some E.G.s and the speedy poddlers set off for Boroughbridge, Bishop Monkton, Markikngton, the vegetable patch which was the Drovers, Ripley and Home. As the ladies cycled gleefully revelling in the sun we were overtaken several times by the speedy Ps who we had overtaken obviously due to our superior speed, without them seeing us. El Butler kindly waited for us to ensure we took the right turn to Boroughbridge and seemed to loose the other group. Onwards chatting and basking in the sun we had a quick comfort stop at Boroughbridge and another stop for the Mass Wheel Easy Ladies choir to sing a colourful rendition of Happy Birthday to you (much to new James confusion). We then lost Sue and Alison, who El Butler thankfully rescued from some marauding Manchester Cyclists... they (Sue and Alison that is) had

waylaid. We soaked up more rays as we finally came to a halt in Ripley. Here we decided to have a birthday coffee, but the cafe staff were so dismissive and disinterested of our custom that we went next door to a deli and had a delicious non Ripley Ice Cream and composed a card for Paul B. who had opted out of the last stages of the Great Yorkshire Bike Ride preferring a stint in casualty in Malton Hospital.. Hopefully everyone of Billy Whizz's final 6 returned home as safely as the more stately group under the care and protection of El Butler. About 32 very lovely sunny chatty miles. Caroline G

### EG's Ride Report

The day started well, warmish with sunshine, except for Bill who had the first verbal abuse of the day as he cycled up Church Hill from a car driver coming down on the opposite side of the road who shouted "get off the road", weird ? At Low Bridge we soon had fifteen riders heading for Wetherby and Morrisons, splitting in to smaller groups as it is a busy road. It was a good pace, a bit like a time trial. At Morrisons we discovered we were a man light. David ?, we knew someone was missing because we were a Van Nicholas bike short. (hope everthing OK). After caffeine Norman and Terry headed back to Boroughbridge and the ducks. Normans wife has been in hospital for two days, so best wishes to Rosemary from the EG`s and hoping she has made a full recovery. The dozen (not dirty after all the rain) headed for Collingham , Thorner and Shadwell, avoiding the dangerous road up to Slaid Hill. Then on to Bramhope to take sandwiches at the cricket pavilion. After a pleasant interlude in the sun, the group split 50: 50. Colin, Dave S Dave W, John E, John R, and Howard headed for home, the remainder for Menston and Ilkley with a short stop at the Cow and Calf where we were entertained by a high wire walker (see photo), Bill`s suggestion that the EG`s might like to do this on their bikes was ignored. (we had no time to take the tyres off our rims). Then the swoop down to Ilkley over the river and on to Askwith, here the group again split 50:50, Bill, Bob and Peter J heading up the dreaded hill to Weston Moor, Dave P, Marvin and Roy heading for Cockpit Cafe and afternoon tea, and as Marvin remarked it would be difficult to do another 50% split. Tea and cakes as usual delicious for (then they were three), but the hills were calling and it was on to Leathley, Braythorn and Beckwithshaw. Excellent riding weather , it almost felt like summer (longest day?). Max mileage around 47/48 miles. Dave P



