

Sunday, October 7, 2012
Wheel Easy Ride Report 336



Short Ride Report

What a lovely day to lead my first ride back with the club after 4 weeks off and to my amazement 22 joined me! Yes 22 cyclists, some new and some old, not by age that is. Two groups were formed with Sarah Everson leading a faster group. We set off through the showground and on to Low Bridge where we all met up. Continuing down Abbey Road to Farnham, Lingerfield and stopping in Knaresborough for coffee and conversation. We all enjoyed plenty of cake, scones and a slab of millionaires' shortcake which was massive! Returning home from Knaresborough we went via Bogs lane. A great ride with good company and chat. A very big thank you to Sarah for leading and John for back marking. Darren

Medium Ride Report

A glorious morning saw 15 of us set off for Wetherby and Boston Spa via Kirkby Overblow and Sicklinghall. It was especially pleasing to see so many graduates from the short rides encouraged by the perfect conditions. There was soon a divide in the group as we reached Thorp Arch with the "hardcore"

pushing on home via Boston Spa and Spofforth whilst the coffee group stopping at the Thorp Arch cafe for "the best date and walnut scones in the area." Such was their fame that there was a Cavendish like sprint finish by some to ensure they didn't miss out. The photo is of the "hardcore" group before they departed but one of the number (who shall remain nameless) then snuck into the coffee group after the photo was taken. Unfortunately one of our group had a tumble but bravely carried on. It just reinforces that we must all look out for each other and ride with care including thinking about those who are riding behind us if we are pulling out or stopping. Back home via Wetherby and Spofforth. 30 miles Rachael and Dennis

Medium Plus Ride Report

Spectacular, Spectacular

No words in the vernacular

Can describe this great route

You'll be dumb with wonderment

You must agree, it's excellent

Taken from one of the songs from Moulin Rouge with some poetic licence!

Today just happened to be one of the clearest, sunniest, calmest days of the year, just perfect for the glorious ride to Brimham Rocks and Dallowgill Moor. This was a great opportunity to introduce this ride to Wheel Easy members who had never ventured beyond the Rocks in this direction. The ride takes you through well ordered stonewalled fields out to swathes of moorland with heather as far as you can see. We tried to identify all five power stations in the distance but failed on number five. After Dallowgill Moor we sped down to Galphay via Winksley where our resident guide left us and on to Spa Gardens to meet up briefly with the two other groups. Here we sat out in the sunshine and were fed and watered before a group of 25 riders from Chester arrived for their lunch stop on their Way Of The Roses trip.

All in all a great ride, well done to everyone who had the courage to tackle the outward climbs and I think we can all say today was a day to feel privileged to be fit and well and to be out on our bikes in Yorkshire with Wheel Easy. Gia

There were 10 takers for the medium plus faster ride on this beautiful autumn morning, we rode out to Knox bridge we saw Sue but could not persuade to come with us, I lost my drinks bottle when I a particularly big pot hole going down the hill towards Hampsthwaite and as Geoff stopped to gather it up for me he didn't get unclipped in time and ended up laid in the middle of the road. We stopped in Hampsthwaite just to check all was well which it was and every one climbed Clint bank as if it were just a bump in the road, I think the weather had brought out the cyclists this morning because

we saw lots of different groups out and about. Simon's time out pass was limited to 3 hours so he said his good byes and turned right at Brimham rocks, at the next junction the choice between a bit of rough or the road was given 5 of us took the rough road and 4 went via the more orthodox correct road route then we met up again and the end of the track. then round the hairpin bend towards Gallowgill and up the steep hill at the other side but new riders were pre warned about the steep hill. Where the route turned right Bill suggested that we carry straight on and rode over Gallowgill moor which was the best suggestion of the day because the views and the scenery were breath taking on what could have been a summer Sunday. From here we rode through Kirkby Malzeard and then down to Ripon for a very welcome coffee break the only issue at Spa gardens was the fact that all seats in the sun were taken. Someone asked what the return route was and I suggested a reverse of the first half but I think the overall verdict was a no so we came back via Bishop Monkton, Copgrove but at Farnham the previously discussed subject of whether long legs or short legs are better for cycling was raised again but there was no firm conclusion reached but all I can say is that all the legs on the ride long short and medium length had all worked very well on what was a fantastic ride for an October Sunday, well done everyone and many thanks for making a very nice ride, Terry

Long Ride Report

Three cheers for our ride leader, Peter Bradley for arranging such wonderful weather - no cheers for being in Surrey! Just a joke Peter - I hope you are having a good holiday. Without a ride leader for the day the consensus of opinion was to use Gia's ride as a template with a few adjustment along the way. Six riders set off, with James at the back for most of the early part of the ride, when a sudden rush of blood saw him speed to the front at Kirby Malzeard, never to be seen again! Jill did try to find him, sadly without success. I hope you made it home safely James as we all know what your sense of direction is like. Then on to Masham for lunch at Suncatcher cafe (a regular haunt and a good one at that). After lunch we made our way through various villages that I cannot for the life of me remember their names, ending up at the Sun Parlour Cafe in Ripon for afternoon tea (too good an opportunity to pass up given the weather). Then it was back to Harrogate where everyone went their separate ways home. My thanks to everybody for a most enjoyable ride of 67 miles - Glyn.



