

Sunday, June 9, 2013

Wheel Easy Ride Report 371

Poddlers Ride Report

Ten riders set off from Hornbeam, down Leadhall Lane, through Pannal to the Black Swan pub and then up Brackenthwaite Lane with a welcome rest at the top. Did I hear a few mutterings that the flatter medium ride might have been a better option? We then turned left- again up a hill and then left again to Honey Farm where we were looking forward to enjoying a coffee and a bun. Disaster Honey Farm cafe was closed - a note on the gate informing us that it is now only open on the last Sunday of each month. After a discussion it was decided to carry on to the Square and Compass at North Rigton and hope that it was open. It was and so everyone settled down for a hot drink which was served with a small glass of smarties for each person - lovely. After our break we then cycled down Brackenthwaite Lane (a much better direction) back to the Black Swan and then had a steady climb out of Burnbridge to return to Hornbeam. Several of us then decided to go to Indulge cafe to have our bun (or bacon butty). Quite a hilly ride which everyone said they enjoyed, hope they meant it. 17 miles in all Lynda

Medium Ride Report

A rather cold and misty start to the day, but that's nothing to Wheel Easiers who always come prepared, however considering the years weather, the factor 30 sun cream stored in their saddle bags, is now past its sell by date (a bit like the EG`s). The days success story was Eric out on his bike (see photo) "brilliant" the only way this could have been bettered was for him to have ridden home from the Hospital after his op. There was a fair number of riders for the Medium ride, so as usual get to Low Bridge safely (note road works on Hookstone Rd) and take it from there. We managed to raise a "fast" group of over a dozen ? The majority opting for a sedate group of of twentytwo riders plus Steve and Neeta on tandem who took the Occaney mens downhill route. The rest heading for the Dunsforth`s and Boroughbridge where it was decided caffeine was needed. Tasty Snacks was bulging at the seams, and the only place that can cope with 20 plus snackers quickly is Morrisons Cafe. Then back on route to Roecliffe, the patches of blue getting bigger, then Burton Leonard, Lingerfield and home. Congratulations to the nameless who still had the bed race in their legs and cycled, as a previous competitor I know that it often difficult to walk/cycle next day, but I was never quite sure wether this was from the strenuousness of the course or the celebrations afterwards. Congratulations also to all the riders, twentytwo is a large number for a group, but they made it easy for the leader with their group ridingskills. Dave P.







Medium + Ride Report

Having announced today's rides. I was leading today's medium plus touring pace ride, Peter volunteered to lead the faster group but despite having a copy of the route the faster group set off in the wrong direction. Off we went in the right direction all 13 of us we rode out of Harrogate and up to Beckwithshaw where we turned right and up towards the barracks as we waited near the junction for a re group. A few of us were very impressed by the pace of a runner who came round the corner on the opposite side of the road; it was mentioned that his was only for our benefit and it would not last long. He disappeared round the next corner and as we rode past he was stood still. On to Hamphwaite and our first climb of the day towards Clapham green then Birstwith and Darley along that road Bill told me about, when the last train on a Saturday evening used to run from Harrogate back to Pateley bridge, and that the men from Pateley used to like a drink. So the train driver would sound his whistle half a hour before the train left to give them time for one for the road as it were. Another short hill from Darley to the top of Yorkes folly then down to Pateley for a welcome coffee stop; somehow we managed to get there before the fast

group which gave my guys a bit of a boost, Peter Bradley left us at this point to get in a few more miles he said but having been chatted up in the cafe we don,t really know where he headed. From Pateley it was back along the same bit of road but then turning left towards Glasshouses then along the main road then left and through Smelthoues and up that cheeky hill near Brimham crossroads where the faster group kidnapped Allister. They knew that I wouldn't pay the ransom so they abandoned him at the next junction. All that remained was the down hill to Ripley then back along the surprisingly quiet greenway. As per usual a good ride in good company, many thanks to everyone, Terry.



Long Ride Report

Eight of us started out, soon reducing to seven. It all seemed a bit of dash to the glider station on top of the White Horse, so even those with time to spare didn't fancy doing the full route via Helmsley & Hovingham. So a fairly meandering route back brought the mileage up to 70 or so. Nice-ish weather, no incidents and Richard's back held up well.

