

Sunday, July 21, 2013

## Wheel Easy Ride Report 377

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### Short+ Ride Report

First short plus today brought around 22 takers. Must admit to a lot of panic at the thought of leading and trying to keep up with so many people. Thanks to Sue Threadgold and Dennis for taking 2 groups. I took a group of 7 as per the advertised route. New member Joy rode with us. I hope she enjoyed the ride as much as I did. Lynda had chain trouble again but we managed not to lose her! We had a cafe stop in Wetherby and found ourselves a very upmarket café. I am told the cappuccino was really good. Our return journey was via little Ribston where we had a photo call. Sadly I forgot to give Ursula my email address so no group photo. I do have pictures of St Roberts Cave in Knaresborough which we visited. We also admired the carvings on Abbey Road. Mileage was around 25 miles at a nice easy pace. Jean







### **Medium Ride Report**

The cooler weather was much appreciated as 11 riders set off on what promised to be a hilly ride to Otley via Fewston, Asquith and Weston. The hills at Timble and Asquith Moor Road proved no problem to the group, although everyone agreed they were looking forward to their coffee break at Cockpit Farm. Peter left us after Timble as he had been too energetic with Morris dancing the day before. Alison and Gordon also said goodbye at Cockpit Farm, while the rest of us enjoyed the usual high standard of refreshments. It's always hard to leave, but we managed to stir ourselves into action and Paul offered to lead into Otley as he knew the shortcut to Farnley Lane. We all enjoyed the descent towards Pool and then Jen said farewell as we cycled onto Castley. Helen was very proud of her new Spa Audax titanium bike and coping very well with cleats until she took the corner too slowly at the turn to Weeton. When Paul and I arrived, she was being helped up by the gallant knights at the front. However only her pride was hurt and we were soon on our way again. Rob left us at Weeton to continue on his home journey to Leeds, so that left 6 of us to ride on home via Kirkby Overblow and Rudding Park. The showground hill is always hard, but we were almost home and as we said good bye at the top, we all agreed that it had been a very good and enjoyable ride. 35 miles Monica Webber



### **Another Medium Ride Report**

A tale of two valleys. The website said 'hilly' and so it was, but it was not the hilliest of the medium rides, and most of the hills were before the café stop. Twenty opted for the medium ride, and Monica took a group of eight, and another nine came with Geraldine and me, including two relatively recent but very competent members, Kate and Andrew. The weather was benign, not too hot, little wind and a very light brief drizzle. We headed out west, through Beckwithshaw, made good progress up Norwood Lane, helped by a rare following wind to Little Alms Cliff. We decided against a group photo at the car park by Stainburn Woods, choosing instead to delay it until we had done most of the climbing. We descended to Fewston and Swinsty, climbed again and conquered the rather daunting (because you can see what's coming for about half a mile before you get there) climb heading south on the B6451, where we took the photo. We turned right and went down and down to Askwith, left to Weston and coffee at Cock Pit Farm (is that the right name?). Monica's group were still there, but set off shortly after we arrived. Back via Leathley,

Weeton, Dunkeswick and Kirkby Overblow. For most of the ride, Geraldine – the back marker – actually managed to stay behind the leader. About 35 miles.

### **Medium+ Ride Report**

While was Froome was freewheeling to Paris,necking champagne we were out there doing Martin's mountainous moorland marathon to Masham.We took tea at Fountains Abbey where Martin managed to negotiate a refund for all of us for our drinks.Join him on his next ride to Betty's. Martin accompanied us to somewhere between Kirkby Malzeard and Masham where he felt we were good enough to manage without him. After a stop in Masham we meandered to Well,Wath and the outskirts of Ripon where the EG instincts took over and 3 of us were drawn to Spa cafe but the resolute remainder carried on as per the tin.A good starter for the gruelling viewing of the last hours of the TDF. Peter Bradley

### **Long Ride Report**

Today's long ride featured a new Wheel-Easy destination of Hutton-le-Hole a charming village in Farndale; part of the Yorkshire Moors National Park. Most of the route was familiar to all the riders so auto-pilot was engaged and quick progress saw us arrive at Hutton-le-Hole by 12:15 for lunch. What! I hear you cry, 45 miles before a café stop. Some of the riders found this hard to take but worse was to come. The plan was to stop at Sutton Park near Easingwold on the return journey but when we arrived, there was a long slow moving queue of people waiting to be served. Tragically we eventually gave up and carried on without having sampled the tea and cakes. So two firsts in one ride, Hutton le Hole (good) and riding 100 miles with one café stop (not so good). Thanks to all the riders (8) for a great day out. I'm sure we'll make this one an annual ride. Phil





