

Sunday, September 1, 2013

## Wheel Easy Ride Report 383

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### Short Ride Report

Max addressed the small throng gathered at Hornbeam – depleted due to the tenacious efforts of fellow WE-ers who were pedalling up hill and down dale in various parts of the kingdom. Some of us had safari-ed the night/morning before – and a wonderful time we had too. Thanks for brilliant organisation not to mention vast quantities of washing-up all performed by Caroline, Geraldine, Monica (who also set off at dawn to cycle to Bridlington), David, Joe and Max. Jean continued her series of longer rides at “Short Ride” pace so I was very grateful to Julie, Sarah, Chris and John for joining me on a very short (10 to 15) circuit which took us to Killinghall via Knox Lane and then back via the Greenway, where John kindly dressed the bronzed figure of Malcom in his WE top ready for today’s pose and pout. A brief discussion between John and Sarah re the merits of a Subway sarnie for lunch was resolved and the group remained intact as far as Stray Rein. Some of the route was new to Chris and Julie which was good. None of the route was new to me but having led us astray twice, the group could have been forgiven for thinking my leadership pretty unrehearsed! More confirmation for Geographer Graham that would-be Historians are pretty useless with maps. Being able to point out the site of the former race course outside Wedderburn House pales into insignificance when one is heading up a blind alley somewhere near ASDA. Hey ho! Thank you for tolerance and understanding. Sue D

When I thanked all involved with the Safari Supper, I forgot to thank the wonderful Pugh coffee makers with their glistening mugs (fairy Richard methinks), delightful coffee, and dazzling chocolates. As well as all this they joined in the marathon intercostal washing up. Please accept my grovelling apologies from Downs to Pughs.



Select group of 3 ladies set off for Ripon today, looking forward to a different cafe stop and we weren't disappointed. Tea coffee and scones at Spa Gardens for a very reasonable price. The ride was good too via Knaresborough, Farnham, Copgrove, Bishop Monkton. The same route back until Burton Leonard where we took Dennis' s route through the Mountgarret estate, past Stanley House, then the outskirts of Nidd to the A61 to join the Greenway where we separated on Bilton Lane. Myself and Sarah for Bilton, a ride of about 35 miles and Heather back to Goldsborough via Starbeck and Forest Lane. Must be a ride of over 40 miles. A very enjoyable ride and well worth repeating. Thanks to Malcolm for showing me the route home. Jean B



### Slow Medium Ride Report

The medium ride today seemed to present itself as a GCSE mental arithmetic problem, or perhaps I was practising adding and subtracting, as well as ignoring instructions and to doing a ride in exactly the way I wanted to do it, not following any of the instructions given on the ride calendar.  $0 + 0 + (3 - 2 + 1 - 1 + 2) + 1$  = the number of ride leaders that eventually appeared for all groups this morning.  $9 + 7$  number of people wanting to do a medium ride.  $9 + 5 - 3 =$  riders at Low Bridge, Jeremy and Sue joined Caroline, Geraldine, Joe, Monica, Andy, Angie, Sue T, Matthew H and Anne.  $11 - 3 =$  Sue T and Matthew helping Angie mend her puncture just as they left Knaresborough on the ring road roundabout.  $3 + 5$  people mending tyre after Norman and Roy and Terry and 2 more passes the group on the way to somewhere else. 8 number of people in group arriving in Wetherby, although I thought it was 9 I seem to have lost some more.  $8 + 1$  Sue W joins us at the band stand structure on the Harland Way. 9 number at the toilet stop at Boston Spa.  $3 - 1 =$  puncture lady Angie leaves Sue and Matthew for home in Boston Spa.  $9 - 5 =$  number heading the wrong way out of Boston Spa = number of cyclists in Morrisons due to North Street Deli being closed.  $7 + 1 + 2 =$  Wheel easy medium people not coffeeing in Morrison's...Max s group and Nicky who missed the groups as we all chose to go the opposite way round to advertised ride and Sue T and Matthew who had mended Angie's puncture.  $2 + 1 + 7 + 9 - 1 =$  people heading back towards Spofforth via the Harland Way after Sue W left us, Angie went home, Sue and Matthew got lost, Max's group found Nicky, and before Sue, Jeremy and Anne left us for Knaresborough and home.  $8 - 3 =$  cyclists left passing Ridding Park for Harrogate  $5 - 1 =$  those tackling the show ground hill and the 1 risking Wetherby road.  $26 + 32 + 39 + 45 + 55 + 60 + 62 + 62 + 62 + 65 + 49 =$  a lot..... divided by itself = about 45..the average age of the slower group of medium riders. 29 miles. Thank you Sue for such lovely backmarking and everyone else for such a gentle demur strolling ride. CG



### **Medium Ride Report**

Despite the autumnal feel to the morning and that the Bridlington rides had left at 7.00am and 7.30am there was still a good turnout for the rides available. In the ranks of the medium ride there was some confusion. Gordon and Alison had swapped leadership roles with Dennis who, in turn had swapped with Caroline (she thought, and was indeed, on this occasion, correct!) Sue T and Caroline decided that they would lead a slower, demure group, which would loosely follow the planned route. This left a vacancy for a slightly faster leader so as everyone else took a step backwards I found that I had volunteered. However, following the excesses of the WE Safari Supper the previous evening I felt that I was only capable of proceeding along the route in the reverse direction. As the riders split into two groups there was a rush to join the "demure" group which just left 7 of us in the slightly faster paced group. Welcome to new rider Steve. The eventual route taken was Pannal, Kirkby Overblow, Wetherby, bike path to Thorpe Arch, Boston Spa, A1 cycle path to Wetherby (café stop), Harland Way to Spofforth, Follifoot, Rudding Park, Showground and home. Well done to all and thanks for your company. About 30 miles, Max.

A tale from the tail end! With the away ride to Bridlington, the two other joint leaders, Alison and Gordon had first morphed into Dennis, who had subsequently morphed into Caroline and Max! With fewer numbers to organise, Caroline came up with cunning plan which made the route flatter. Max offered to lead the actual route as advertised, backwards, whilst Caroline and myself headed off, at a very leisurely pace, having first made arrangements with Sue W to collect on route. That was the plan anyway ..... However, a puncture happened! Being at the back, Matthew and I stopped to assist Angela with said puncture whilst the front of the ride carried on unaware of the problem from behind! And then from further behind, arrived four of the EGs – Norman, Dave W, Roy and Terry W. Angela and Matthew continued to mend the puncture with the guidance and practical help from Norman. Puncture mended when Caroline rang to confirm their location having realised we were not with her. The three of us thanked the EGs as they headed off and we carried onwards to Wetherby and Boston Spa. Toilets visited and banana eaten, Angela left us for a prior engagement, Matthew and I continued to find Caroline in Wetherby. The North Street Deli was closed for the day so we walked back to the other little café where we found Nicky! Nicky had been hoping to join in the "advertised" ride at Follifoot but as above, Max would be passing through Follifoot on his return journey, sorry Nicky but nice to see you anyway. I particularly liked the "design" on our hot chocolate and latte (see pic) however, I was disappointed with the hot-ness of my hot chocolate ..... it wasn't!! The new three formation (Nicky not Angela) headed home along the Harland Way back to Spofforth and Follifoot, where Nicky returned home and Matthew back to Hornbeam. Thanks for keeping me company – you just never what's around the corner on a Wheel Easy outing! About 30 miles in all and thanks to Caroline and Max for standing in for the away day riders, Sue T



### **Brid Ride Report**

Bridlington Ride Steady Group: It was chilly at 7am as the group gathered at Hornbeam, but fourteen hardy riders set off on a cloudy morning with a strong westerly wind helping us on our way. We were at York before 9am, and took our break on the Millennium Bridge, where the quick group caught us up. From that point we took a quick route to Pocklington, while the other group religiously followed the Roses route. From Pocklington the ride through the Wolds was a delight and the long fast descent to Tibthorpe was fantastic. John Russell said it was worth the bus fare home just for that bit. A stop for super tea and cake at Burton Agnes was followed by the ride along Woldgate, the scene of many Hockney paintings and drawings, before arriving at Brid for fish and chips. Dave and Dennis showed the youngsters the way by keeping up a cracking pace for the 80 miles. Great ride and thanks to Terry for organising everything. Martin W.



