

Sunday, September 15, 2013

## Wheel Easy Ride Report 385

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### Short Ride Report

Report to follow

### Medium Ride Report

Despite the gleeful hysteria generated by last night and this morning's weather forecasters, it was neither raining or gale force winding as a hardy contingent of cyclists gathered for their Sunday morning ride. Gia sorted us all out sent us to our starting blocks and three ladies chose to follow me slowly somewhere east and towards Cowthorpe, continuing where the weather dictated. So with Peter B and his group steaming off at a vast pace and Gia and her group being sucked along in their slip stream, we ambled along in roughly the same direction, with only a minor hiccup at Tockwith Village, to come to a halt whilst the weather was still not on National Weather Alert status, at a café. A pleasant wind had pushed us along and even some glimmers of light had forced their way through an array of different greys to light our route. Not only was Jen back marking with cutting edge efficiency, she was directional guru, nursemaid and chain restorer and having directed us through the maize that is Thorpe Arch Trading Estate found us the café...much to Fiona's joy. After a coffee, a finger of kitkat, or a scone for some, and for one member of the group an enormous piece of the most gooey cake I have ever seen, we headed for home in the jaws of a gathering storm. However, a brief burst of rain, a few gusts of force fifteen wind as we headed down the Harland Way and climbed the heights of Follifoot and on towards home. A much more enjoyable experience than expected and certainly worth getting out of a warm bed for. Well done to Michelle a brilliant ride after only 4 other outings on your bike and a phenomenal performance, Fiona, after 4 months rest and recuperation due to illness...just shows what a particularly soggy cake and a scone can do for you. Thank you Jen for your help. 34 miles. Caroline G



The dramatic weather forecast clearly put lots of people off riding today but the usual contingent turned up and in the main were rewarded for venturing out. We bypassed the showground because of the Flower Show and set off for Little Ribston via Knaresborough which made a good change. With the wind behind us, we were flying and after agreeing that the weather was looking ok carried on to show off the Marston Moor memorial, a first for Julie and Chris. On to Askham Richard where we met Peter's group and thinking that we would steal a march on their speed, James advised us of a sneaky route by the pond which cut off a lovely corner. They must have found another short cut as they arrived at The White Swan at Wighill before us where we met for our break. Decent

café stop but for future ref a good idea to warn them we are coming! In Wetherby we had some rain but protected by the bike path and somehow with the wind in our favour we made it back to Harrogate in good time and dry. Well done to Julie and Chris who stepped up from the short fifteen mile ride to a forty miler at quite a pace! Many thanks to all my helpers on the ride today. Gia M



### **Medium-Plus Ride Report**

I arrived at Hornbeam just before 9.30 and Gia said we were short of leaders. I offered to help out and lead the Medium Plus Ride. I only knew the ride went south into Leeds and returned via Eccup, but I was not sure of the details of the route. Unfortunately I guessed wrong and led the group to Wigton Lane via Burnbridge, Kirkby Overblow, Sicklinghall, Collingham, Jewett Lane, Bardsey and Wike. We should have gone via the Showground, Ridding Park, Follifoot, Spofforth, cycle track to Wetherby, Bramham and Thorner. Not to worry as the eleven riders all enjoyed the ride and more important we managed to get home just before the rain started. Fortunately I guessed the return route correctly which was along Wigton Lane, Manor House Lane, Eccup

Reservoir, Eccup Village, Sun Inn, Weardley, Harewood and Kirkby Overblow. An enjoyable 34 mile ride. Paul T

