

Wednesday, November 6, 2013

Wednesday Rides

Poddlers' Ride Report

Some sixteen poddlers left Hornbeam and headed for Wetherby via Low Bridge and Little Ribston then followed the cycle track alongside the A168. A meeting was held when we arrived near Wetherby, half the group decided to go to Boston Spa the remainder opted for a coffee stop at North St Deli. After refreshment the group, suitably refreshed, took the Harland Way towards home. Stopping for a photo shoot at Follifoot we were joined by the group from Boston Spa. We stopped at Crimple Lane where the groups split up to their various destinations. A pleasant ride with no startling items to report. John W.



Wednesday Ride Report

Gia led a group of seven including her errant husband (who is writing this report) on the Stray paths to Claro Road, along the cycle path to Bilton Lane heading for our first goal, the Beryl Burton cycleway, curious to see whether the long awaited resurfacing was complete. We somehow failed to notice the various signs across the entrance saying that the path was closed, even though we had to move some temporarily to one side in order to get through. It turned out that the work was not quite finished, but the men working on the path couldn't have been more agreeable about encouraging us to carry on, and the foreman, a jolly Scot, made sure he was included in our group photo. The new surface is brilliant, smooth tarmac all the way down to High Bridge. Now we just need the Bilton Lane potholes repaired to complete our dream link from Knaresborough to the Greenway and Ripley. Straight up the main road to join Boroughbridge Road, then left to Staveley for the clockwise run to Lingerfield and along to Farnham, where our 'foreign' friends (i.e. from Leeds) suddenly realised where we were. Usual route to Copgrove and left towards Burton Leonard. Here we split. Gia, Bridget and I continued straight on through the village, up to Wormald Green and then to Markington, Shaw Mills and Hampsthwaite, while Sue, Angela, Sarah and Kevin did an extra couple of miles via Bishop Monkton. Even so, they still caught me on the climb to Clint and we all sailed down to Sophie's together. Gia, who had a 2pm meeting, left first, the rest of us following a while later up Hollins Lane to Grainbeck Lane and Knox. An excellent 30 or so miles, just beating the rain into Harrogate. Malcolm M



I mentioned Ampleforth and not everyone had excuses so we were off. Hard part was getting out of Harrogate, and Beryl Burton has not yet reopened. A diversion for a comfort stop at Easingwold, with date scones, the curry portion size was noted for another time. Then I thought a fastish climb up Yearsley Bank, but strava says not. Lunch at West End Ampleforth, the Abbey was too far, or for a change? Beautiful autumn colours still. Leaving for a fast return home re promised deadlines, but so much mud on roads, but quicker than by car on Knaresborough hill by look of things and home dry, having noted how wet Clara road was. Terry had taught us his weekend camping dry (!) stone wall techniques, and Lesley learnt she seemed faster today on hills than round last week's Selby. 66m 2300 ft. Richard P

EGs' Ride Report

It was a grey day, but what do you expect for November, as the gathering began at Low Bridge. The time of day was passed with a fair number of Wheel-Easy Wednesdayers who paused at Low Bridge also. On the stroke of 10am we had fourteen riders including a new rider David Wilson (see photo, front row flanked by three other Davids) welcome to Wheel Easy and the EGs David. The forecast said better in the East and previous rides had been of a North/South direction so Easingwold it was, the only other decision was first cafe stop, Angela's or Morrisons BB and Angela's had the vote. The cyclists £ was in evidence as the cafe was full with EGs and York CTC and only two non cyclists. At Boroughbridge David Wilson left to return accompanied by Bob, Norman and we think Michael. The remaining ten heading for Easingwold via Brafferton and Raskelf and into Restaurant 21. They used to have excellent food here with a good menu, however the catering seems to have changed. They seemed hard press to give warm food, have you got beans said Dave S finally we all went for beans on toast and tea. The beans were sparse and only just warm. Such a shame as they used to have good food, now off our list. Returning via Alne, Aldwark Bridge and Arkendale, a mention in dispatches goes to Eric and Phil who led the group at a fast but manageable pace, making Harrogate for around 3.15pm. The rain held off with a maximum mileage for some of around 56 miles. Dave P

