

Wednesday, June 25, 2014

Wednesday Rides

Poddlers' Ride

Another beautiful day and nineteen poddlers headed off for Asda, the Greenway to Ripley, Nidd, Lingerfield and then past Steve's house in Knaresborough - he could have had an extra hour in bed! Jane, Kevin, Keith and Peter left us in Knaresborough to rush home for other duties or to put their feet up!

We continued to Little Ribston then Spofforth where we diverted to the castle (we had been told we had to go and inspect) where we posed for a WE calendar photo though could do nothing about the cars in the way. Home was via Follifoot and Rudding.

Thank you to Gordon for devising and leading yet another interesting route and to Alison for backmarking most of the way. About 27 miles.

A few of today's discussions:- a young family heading for Ibiza stuck on the tarmac at LBA for at least two and a half hours and told they may have to go home.

Someone present cycled 120 miles of TDF stage one on Monday.

How do you cycle up or down Buttertubs.

Whose husband has gone paragliding instead of going to collect her new bike.

If you go home via the Showground you have to cycle up a ski run.

Who let his wife pack a rucksack for him with waterproofs and warm clothes for a folk festival and then left it in the hotel.

How did Palma airport allow, two extra people catching a different flight, on to the LBA plane.

There is much more to Poddlers rides than cycling and that was without a coffee break!! Liz



Wednesday Buttertubs Ride

Today Wheel Easy was enticed by an invitation from Radio 4 programme Open Country to climb Buttertubs and on the way be interviewed.

As some of us had recently ridden up Buttertubs in the pouring rain the opportunity to cycle up on a good day was very welcome. To lessen the task we decided to drive to Aysgarth and ride from there. James, on taxi duty drove to Hawes and met us in Askrigg along with Malcolm who was saving valuable battery life.

Eight of us arrived in Askrigg where we met Dave R out for a spin from Kettlewell and we had a record breaking early stop for coffee. i.e. we had cycled 5 miles!

At Simonstone we met Helen (presenter) and Emily (researcher, sound lady) with their hire bikes and began our adventure in to cycling while talking. We extolled the virtues of the glorious landscape, the excitement of the tour, the pride in being Wheel Easy members and Kevin came out with the quote of the day at the top of Buttertubs, Yorkshire in Yellow! We think the broadcast will go out on Thursday July 3rd on Radio 4 called Open Country.

The excellent ladies left us there to discuss with a local about the history of Buttertubs and we found a spot to have our picnic. James left us here to do his taxi role and Malcolm encouraged us to carry on down to Thwaite and return to Askrigg on a nasty 25% climb just beyond Muker. (Buttertubs is only 17%!) However it was a fantastic circular route, someone will have a record of how many thousand feet we climbed and we returned to Aysgarth for the best tea loaf with cheese in Yorkshire (and plenty of it) at the Mill café.

We had a great day, and many thanks to Wheel Easy for making it such a memorable day, Gia M





Wednesday Long Ride

A fine day for a flat ride to some newer parts, with Lesley, Terry, Richard L, Chris and John USA. Nothing new on the way to Ribston just speculation as to who has a BMW and X MBE who dislikes or can't see cyclists.

A banana break at the women's prison pond and resorted to using the pelican to access the stray from the Millenium Bridge.

A Uni tour through new Heslington East campus and to the cycle photo exhibition. But seemingly no coffees only alcohol available.

A quick burst round the Sports Village cycle track, but only JCBs currently allowed on the velodrome.

York Maze and still no food, Stamford Bridge was dropped, as not renowned for refreshments and Dunnington only had a supermarket, but it sufficed, and acquired a new identity. Holtby, Stockton, Haxby then Beningbrough NT gardens for tea, then a familiar route home. 72m and the second in a row with less climbing than the shorter spouse ride. Richard P

EGs' Ride

The weather forecast was good, but anything is good other than roads under six foot of water or snow. We started out with thirteen riders. A special welcome back to John R, looking suave behind his sunglasses, also to Michael who has had problems with his bendy bits. And a welcome to Dave Peatfield, this now means we have a full set of five Daves, two P's, two W's and a Siswick.

Just for a change we headed for Angela's for the first caffeine of the day, unfortunately toasted teacakes were in short supply, consequently only the early birds (fast guys) got the worm. On the way to Angela's we mislaid a Dave Peatfield. It was noted that they sat there eating said TT's looking smug. The snappy repartee and some good one-liners showed the EG's were on form, causing Dave S to remark that there should be two Wednesday's in the week.

After our light repast, Jeff H and JR headed for home, the remainder to Aldwark Bridge and Benningborough, here we found our missing Dave Peatfield but to keep the staus quo Colin P left us to return home

The route into York via the cycle path alongside the river is always a favourite with the EG's, and afternoon tea was taken on the terrace of the cafe in Rowntree's Park. After which roll call was

taken before setting off, this is now a common practice, as in the past the odd (yes I know) EG has been left in the toilets.

So Bill, Bob, Dave P, Dave P, Dave W, Dave W, Dave S, Michael, Peter J and Peter B (a bit short on Peters at the moment) headed for home with a banana break at Marston Moor, with all its phallic symbolism.

The ride was good, the mood was daft, and the subjects of conversation are not to be repeated, and if anybody noted the mileage would have been around 60 miles max. Dave P



