

Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Wednesday Rides

Poddlers Ride

The usual 'authority figures' were absent from Hornbeam Park, so it was not exactly clear who was going where and with whom. Geraldine was absent too, but I made some vague suggestions about where we might poddle, and set off towards the Show Ground along the nice path through the woods. When we re-grouped at the ring road by Ridding Park, we were 18 in total (including 2 new members); a little too big a group for comfort, but we stuck together, probably because I had not explained the route carefully to anyone else. Follifoot, Spofforth, along the Harland Way to Wetherby, with a brief hesitation at the entrance to café on the Harland Way which is only open in July, but we thought it a little too early for coffee. James led the way round the back of Wetherby to the cycle path alongside the A1 and then on to Bramham, where we crossed over the A1 towards Collingham. A bit of a headwind slowed us down as we headed westwards, but it was a pleasure to go down the hill into Collingham. We crossed the A58 towards Linton, where the group split into those who wanted a café stop and those who didn't. Dennis led the dissenters back to Harrogate whilst the remainder carried on into Wetherby where we took refreshment sitting outside the North Street Deli. James had to round up a splinter group who had somehow headed towards Morrisons. The clouds loomed, but it never actually rained, and we returned to Harrogate the way we came – Harland Way, Spofforth, Follifoot etc. About 30 miles. CPS.



EGs Ride

For the last ride of July we had sixteen riders at low bridge, including Phil S (school holidays) on his classic Faggin (pronounced Far Jean ?) plus matching Mapei Jersey. (see photo).

Destination York, but first coffee a stop at Morrisons Wetherby via Thistle Hill, Follifoot, Spofforth and Kirk Deighton.

Morrisons food up to its usual good standard, unfortunately Dan had lost his appetite and could only manage one cooked breakfast.

Then it was on the cycle path to Thorpe Arch Trading Estate then road to Wighill and Taddy, here Nick, Peter R and Phil left us for a sprint back home.

On to Appleton Roebuck and of course Acaster Selby to see if the Ouse had turned, it had not, but it was high and brown, so we had just missed it.

So it was on to Acaster Malbis and lunch in Tesco`s (the EG`s know how to live it up).

More sad news, Tesco`s cafe is going to close, but not for good, thank goodness, and will be relocated on the ground floor, much better for those who suffer from altitude sickness and vertigo. This time it was in to York centre on the A 1036 (cycle friendly) and the cycle path to Benningborough, here Eric and Roy succumbed to the siren call of afternoon tea.

For the remaining eleven it was on to Aldwark Bridge with a banana break at Branton Green. It seems here during Le Tour instead of displaying flags or miniature jerseys items of ladies underwear were displayed. Very tastefully modelled by two of the Daves (see photo).

Note ! we had a full set of five Dave`s today.

Then home to Knaresborough and Harrogate all together at a steady pace. We had been lucky with the weather, as forecast no rain, though the odd spot had us wondering.

A good long steady ride, well over 60 miles. Dave P









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