

Sunday, August 10, 2014

Wheel Easy Ride Report 432

Short Ride

Only three takers for the short ride today (one new rider) but with a wet forecast we were not going to take on too much. We set out towards the hospice and took the left cycleway to the showground and the rain set in. We crossed Wetherby Road to Stonefall Park emerging on Hookstone Chase, continued on Forest Moor Road to Calcutt and hence to Low Bridge Knaresborough. Continuing along Abbey Road we turned left at the end and made our way into the town, then down again to Waterside where we took refuge from the rain for a while in one of the cafes. Emerging refreshed, we were more able to tackle the steep part of the Beryl Burton cycleway, then onward to Skipton Road and Kings Road where we separated for our own homes and a chance to dry out. Well done and welcome to new rider Jane. 14-15miles. Peter B

Medium Ride

Despite the weather forecast warning of the tail-end of hurricane Bertha, several optimistic/foolhardy people turned up at Hornbeam and nine of them (plus Geraldine and me) opted for the medium ride, including Sally's daughter, Holly, and boyfriend, George. It wasn't actually raining at Hornbeam at 9.30am, but we had already decided to cut short the official route, which was out to Ripon on the east of the A61 and back on the west side, taking in Shaw Mills, Hampsthwaite and Clint Bank to add a few hills...

We set off through the woods towards the Show Ground, and it started raining. Waterproofs were donned, and we crossed Wetherby Road, along Forest Moor Road to Low Bridge, where it was still raining, but not rain of Biblical proportions. Along Waterside and towards Farnham, Occaney and Bishop Monkton (still raining), at which point a group decision was taken to miss out Ripon and instead go left to Markington and the Drovers. Nobody was tempted to carry straight on to the delights of Shaw Mills and the haul up to Clint, so we all turned left and zoomed down the hill to Ripley, where the rain was not doing much for attendance at the Show.

No takers for a café stop, so the Greenway beckoned as a route home. The intensity of the rain increased, resulting in an increased pace along the Greenway. No photograph, as it was too wet. About 24 rather damp miles. Joe S

Medium-plus Ride

Report to follow

Heavy rain was forecast from 10am so I wasn't expecting too many takers for the planned long ride of 80 hilly miles to Lothersdale. Three people did come forward, but all were happy with something shorter & more local so we joined the medium plus group led by Terry who were also making route adjustments due to the weather. The rain was just starting as ten people set off towards Ripon with a view to seeing how things developed. Everyone regrouped at Ripon following Phil's puncture near Farnham and it was decided to carry on to Boroughbridge while the rain was still relatively light, at which point it seemed to become much heavier! It was a soggy café stop at Boroughbridge before a decision was made to take the most direct route home. Jill F