

Sunday, December 7, 2014

Wheel Easy Ride Report 449

Short Ride

Because of time constraints, three riders set off for the short ride to Hampsthwaite via Knox and Lund Lanes. The wind was against us for the outward leg so we were glad to take shelter in Sophie's for tea and sustenance. We returned via Ripley, which was very busy and the Greenway. Lovely cold day, approximately 14 miles. Al D

Medium Ride

Given it was the WE Christmas Lunch, cold and windy, there was never a chance that the scheduled ride would take place. Twelve riders opted for the alternative ride to Arkendale via Knaresborough and Farnham. With wind behind this was achieved at a brisk pace. A couple of riders, having WE C L duties, snook off early. Nearing Arkendale Peter's velocipede suffered a broken rear gear cable but the ever resourceful Joe managed to secure the cable to ensure that a middle gear was selected. Peter returned home using the front mech. to give a wide selection of three gears. The rest of us returned via Stavely and Lingerfield to Knaresbrough and home in time for those who were WE Christmas Lunching to arrive early. Amazingly on the return we seemed to be sheltered from the headwind. Thanks for your company. Max G (22 brisk miles)

Medium-Plus Ride

There were nine takers this morning for the ride; one very enthusiastic girl, and eight fairly non-committal blokes. The route was very quickly changed to avoid ascending above the snow line, and the intrepid group departed under the guide of one leader.

We were all looking forward to getting to the top of the hill where we had correctly predicted the wind would change from persisting to assisting. Rob W was off colour and turned back; Dan had an appointment in Beckwithshaw for singing, and the rest of us hurtled to Cockpit Farm for elevenses as if on auto pilot, having been easily passed on the descent of Askwith Bank by a rather professional looking group of three girls.

Sustenance having been taken, we enjoyed downwind cycling more or less the whole way back to Hornbeam via Kirby Overblow, the various members peeling off as is usual.

Thanks team for great company and another (curtailed) but most pleasant day out. Dave S.

Long Ride Report

Seven riders left Hornbeam with the prospect of making a speedy ride to Dallowgill via Brimham Rocks and return in time for the Wheeleasy Christmas Do. The plan came unstuck due to the exceptional windy conditions. After battling into a head wind all the way to Brimham we still had to cycle down the hill at Fellbeck. The only relief was with the wind behind us across Dallowgill Moor. Time was now against us, no cafe stop, no photo; a modification to route was called for to eliminate some of the hills. Eventually all the riders managed to arrive at the Hockey Club in time for the meal, and the fun and frolics of the quiz. Peter J

Christmas Lunch

Huge thank you to James, Monica, Sarah and Sue for organising yet another excellent Christmas lunch.

Over 70 enjoyed a delicious lunch of chilli, baked potatoes, salads and scrumptious crumbles (with custard of course). Many thanks to all those who cooked, shopped, set out, served, washed up and cleared away and to the many cooks.

Max has produced another innovative Wheel Easy 2015 calendar which of course has a Tour theme. 32 were snapped up at the lunch so about 18 left to sell. Contact Max if you would like to reserve one. He will have them on sale at the Spa Wed lunch price £6. Thanks Max you have done a great job.

Finally to our fiendish quizmaster who had most of us stumped but all good fun. Thank you Martin and Yvonne. Gia M

