

Wednesday, December 24, 2014

Wednesday Rides

Poddlers Ride

11 poddlers poddling

10 cyclists cycling

9 munchers munching (at Morrisons)

8 pedallers pedalling

7 riders riding

6 travellers travelling

5 battlers battling (against the wind)

4 chatters chatting

3 racers racing

2 people puffing (up the hills)

And Glyn and Jen in the lead (and at the back)

We had a very enjoyable ride in lovely sunshine out to Morrisons at Wetherby via Spofforth, and back via Kirby Overblow. We knew it was Christmas as there was no room at the inn i.e. North Street Deli. Or rather there was no food left!!!!!! Who ate it all, that's what we want to know? 21 miles anyway Jen and Glyn

Wednesday Ride

Charlie and Martin's Ride: Somehow we got separated from everyone else right at the start. So just the two of us headed off through the Showground and on to Follifoot and Spofforth. From there Martin's suggestion to use the cycleway to Wetherby as it "probably won't be too muddy" was not entirely accurate as the state of Charlie's bike demonstrated. North Street Deli was open to us but then they put up the closed sign as they said they were running out of food. Poddlers were seen staring in but then they headed away looking sad and thirsty. After coffee we set off for Sicklinghall and Kirkby Overblow and the views both to the North York Moors and along the Wharfe Valley were superb. Back home after about 20 miles on fairly quiet roads all the way. A good pre-Christmas morning in the sunshine. Martin W.



EGs' Ride

A rather larger gathering than expected at Low Bridge for the E.G's ride, comprising twelve members, including Jill (soon to be renamed "Jona" for the bad luck we seem to suffer on this ride; or was this someone else, in pantomime drag?), and John ? who'd joined us from Hornbeam plus 1 or two other honorary EG's

After some initial confusion (our leader Dave P still missing) we set off for Tadcaster by a circular route through Cattal, Tockwith & Long Marston. It was here that our first mishap occurred when Terry S. discovered his Freehub had failed. Arrangements were made, on his mobile, for his wife to collect both himself and the bike. Three other riders also turned back, following the enforced delay, as they needed to return early but the remaining seven (Norman already having taken his own route to Taddy) continued on towards our destination, missing out a significant loop of the intended route.

When we eventually arrived at "The Lemon Tree" cafe through the inordinate heavy traffic over the flooded river Wharfe, despite our unintentional late arrival, Norman was discovered to be still tucking into his second or was it his third course, notwithstanding he himself suffering his own problems by reason of a snapped front mech cable. Of course Norman is always prepared and was carrying a spare.

By now time was catching us up on what is one of the shortest days so, late eleven's/lunch complete, we headed for home via the Wetherby cycleway sheltering from the very cold wind as best we could. Peter B. opted for the Spofforth cycleway" abandoning the remaining seven to continue in their way. Reaching North Deighton, just after Marvin deserted us, we noted Jill & Peter J were missing off the back and retracing our steps discovered Jill's bike had suffered a rear wheel puncture.

Whilst the best cycle mechanics sorted this out, Norman & Dave S., (thanks lads), Eric was able to help us deal with the cold wind by plying us with a wee dram of rum from his handy hip flask. This really hit the spot and, fired up, we headed back towards Knaresborough reaching Abbey Road just before our self imposed deadline of 3.00pm. Despite our unforeseen dramatics we achieved a reasonable distance of 40+ miles and enjoyed some good Xmas time banter, albeit with, according to Eric, an all time attrition rate of 50% losing some six out of twelve riders on the way!!!!

HAPPY CHRISTMAS everybody! Dave W.

