

Thursday, July 9, 2015

Wednesday Rides

Poddlers Ride

The Poddlers arrived at Hornbeam in various states of attire from shorts and t-shirts to full rain wear as the weather was so unpredictable that it seems no one knew whether to go back to winter wear or summer. Ten Poddlers gathered led by Paul and back co pilot Liz F (Note: only two ladies Liz P and Liz F we are getting less in the female Poddlers representative section). Off we went to Leadhall Lane, turning into Church Lane and then down to Pannal via Drury Lane to Kirby Overblow, overcast but no rain. Onwards the ten cycled towards Sicklinghall, turning right into Paddock House Lane, past the nunnery where we had to restrain Mike from joining the nuns. Swooping down past the Woodhall Hotel on to Linton the rain started but not heavy, Mike donned his red cape and became Bicycle Batman. This is the 'Arblaster Loop' which soon became 'Max's Pedal fell off' loop as we cycled into Wetherby and took a detour to All Terrain Cycles, for Max to buy a new pedal where he left us and we became nine. Liz F forgot she was back marker and took off at the front and had to be reined in on her new fast bike to do her duty at the back. On to Little Ribston the weather now taking a turn for the worst as darker clouds appeared but we reached Knaresborough still dry, The other Mike had gone off and now we were eight. Paul took two for coffee into Barker and Stonehouse and Liz F followed four back along the riverside dodging the dogs, people and various other obstacles. Two went up the hill homewards, Keith, Mike and Liz took the Beryl Burton track homewards. 25 miles approx. Due to bad weather no photos this week. Paul B and Liz F



Short Ride

Only four starters for the short ride with Di. meeting up with us on Granby Stray

A leisurely paced ride via Bogs Lane and the Beryl Burton Way to Knaresborough. Onward through the villages to Ripley with a short diversion to Brearton to admire the magnificent copper beeches on the village green.

Home before the rain started. Dennis B.

Wednesday Ride

The ride today was determined by the forecast and the Andy Murray quarter final at Wimbledon. Somehow the Timble contingent rearranged themselves so together after one brief rain shower we assembled at Darley Mill. The size of the tea loaf and carrot cake and whatever other cakes were on offer were real cyclist size portions and we appreciated the helpful staff.

Richard, Terry and Lesley were considering riding over Hartwith Bridge and beyond, the rest of us had a speedy run along to Birstwith and in to Hollybank Woods where we captured the forecast rain.

Congrats to Colin who has joined the ranks of grandparenthood, although he mentioned that he had to be home to feed the ponies! 28 miles. Gia



EGs Ride

It was a grey day and a poor weather forecast, which was probably why we only had eight riders at Low Bridge.

The rain was forecast to start at 12 noon and the wind was (supposed) to be from the Northeast.

So after some consultation with one of our sailors it was decided to head for Ripon and Spa Gardens Cafe, returning with the wind and rain on our backs.

At the Occaney downhill championships, the favourite seemed to be Bob (well my money was on him), due to the absence of Dave (wonderwheels) Sisiwick, Marvin and the lack of wonderwheels on Dave Watson`s bike.

However Bob was just piped at the post by Roy, this was put down to the effect of his enormous "full English" on Sunday.

There is obviously scope for some research here on calories versus wonderwheels and their relative effect on a bikes velocity.

The soft refreshing rain started at Skelton on Ure (early) at 11-15 am and persisted all the way to Spa Gardens Cafe.

The cafe was warm and the food and drink very good.

The main topic of conversation was about our first cars, that could be maintained with string and glue and MOT`s that were a joke, and starting was often a major problem, but then so was stopping.

There was a reluctance to leave the cafe, due to the rain still persisting it down and as they did not "do" B & B away we went.

The Post Meridiem Persistent Precipitations Persisted all the way to Harrogate, and it was also a bit chilly as most of us had light gloves and naked knees, except Norman who was well kitted out with his north sea trawler deckhand gear (very sensible).

Mileage somewhere between 35 and 38 miles, and that was long enough.

Dave P.

