

Wednesday, August 12, 2015

Wednesday Rides

Poddlers' Ride

A warm sunny day saw 18 poddlers heading out on the Greenway to Ripley and continuing to Clint. Via Burnt Yates to Brimham where first Joe and Geraldine and then Gordon and Alison left us. Flying down the Ripon- Pateley Road we turned off on Sawley Moor Lane towards Fountains Hall but turned right before the bridge. One more climb then it was easy going all the way back to Ripley and for many, the attraction of coffee and cake at the Church. 31 miles. Dave G



Wednesday Ride

Magical Mystery Tour.

The Wednesday ride this week was something of a mystery tour for the first half and never took us more than a few miles from Hornbeam! It was a lovely warm sunny morning as we gathered at Hornbeam and although Sue C was not expected she arrived somewhat breathless having had to be released from one of her bedrooms at home after the door jammed. So off we went and it was almost a pleasure, but not quite, to swoop down the new billiard ball surface on Hookstone Chase to gather at Low Bridge and be honoured with a joint photograph (courtesy of Gia) with the EGs. Then along Abbey Road - so far so good - but instead of Chain Lane we took Manse Lane and the road up through Goldsborough and across the A 59 to Flaxby and Arkendale. We started with 12, but just beyond Arkendale we gathered in Steven from York who was out for the day, having left his car for servicing in Boroughbridge. With shouts of "when do we stop for coffee" we pressed on through Staveley, Coprove Burton Leonard and after negotiating the busy A 61 at Wormald Green into Markington and back onto more familiar territory up to Fountains and into the lakeside Cafe. After rearranging the furniture outside and participating in various teas, coffees and cakes Gia, Sue and Monica returned home with an occasional cyclist who had joined us at Hornbeam and whose name your reporter regrettably does not know. The remaining group swooped down through the rest of the Deer Park and the road into Ripon and through the back alleys into the Market Place for Angela to conduct a short business session at her opticians. Then out past the Race Course and along the usual road to Boroughbridge, but with one last twist – actually a left turn - up towards and through Kirby Hill. Having dropped Steven right outside the garage to collect his car and following a democratic vote we headed straight home through Staveley again but from a different direction and Knaresborough where your reporter dropped off the back where he had been hanging on with what seemed a pretty lively pace for the end stage of a warm ride! 40 odd miles, depending on whose milometer you chose and in great company with warm sunshine and little or no wind for a change. Thanks to all for your company. James G



Long Ride

Seven riders elected for the longish ride on the "Glorious 12th". This was indeed a good description of the weather. The chosen route via Beckwithshaw and the Fewston valley already giving lovely views up to the heather clad moors. At Ikley Richard L peeled off, still in recovery mode. The Six remaining riders made good progress to Bolton Abbey and given the stunning sunshine chose an early stop at the Abbey Tearooms.

The familiar route via Braden Tower and Appletreewick took us to Stump Cross for a second stop. We then descended via Peat Lane and climbed out of Nidderdale to Brimham where again the clear long distance views were breathtaking. We quickly dropped down to Ripley and home via the Greenway.

A nice gentle ride of moderate distance and 1500 metres of climbing. Martin D



EGs' Ride

A goodly turn out at Low Bridge, comprising EG`s and Wheel Easy Wednesday`s and a group photo.

This time Martin W joined the EG`s for something a little easier, as both him and Dave P were recovering from a nasty bug, the sort that acquaints you well with the smallest room in the house, often described as the runs, often thought of as, will my running get there in time?.

Too much detail. (I know)

First stop Spa Garden`s Cafe.

At the Occaney Downhill Championship, Dave (Wonder wheels) Siswick lost his crown to Marvin, closely followed by Ian.

The group then split for safety and to reduce cafe queues, the "A" team then sped ahead, leaving the more sedate "B" team to make its way.

After caffeine and calories in the sun in the beautiful gardens (see photos).

The "A" team headed for Bedale, the "B" team, comprising Bill, Dave P, Martin W, Roy and Terry W headed for Wath, Melmerby and Rainton, where a break was taken, laughs being included, then on to Cundall, Kirkby Hill and Langthorpe and the Farm Shop, for tea ,coffee and goodies. After which Martin led us to Rocliffe, Bishop Monkton, Markington and Ripley where we indulged ourselves with a welcome ice cream, it was here we met Eric and Dan. Eric was amazed at how long it took us to get to Ripley (well we had a lot to discuss and you cannot rush laughs.)

Then into Harrogate via the Greenway in glorious weather, John R who had been to Scarborough was met on the Stray.

It had been a delightful social ride in perfect cycling weather, at a steady but not too slow pace, none of us were capable of an "eyeballs out, then sprint" pace.

Mileage from mid to high 50`s. Thanks for your company. Dave P

