

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

## Wednesday Rides

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### Poddlers Ride

Four people with places to go and people to see, headed towards Low Bridge Knaresborough, where a delightful group of young cyclists greeted us enthusiastically...this is an unusual event. Two members of the group had to be at Pannal by 11 to eat coffee and cake for a friends charity do. Kindly Jen and Geraldine came too. And pace made by Geraldine ensured we covered the necessary gossiping and rode the rat run route (Knaresborough, possibly North Rigton, Spofforth, Follifoot, Pannal in the prescribed hour and a half). Geraldine confidently left to return home along the right road to a memorial do and having been filled in on births deaths and marriages in the community the rest of us followed in her footsteps and returned to our various homes. A November day, but a quick jolly ride which made us all think of lights and being seen. CG

### Wednesday Ride

Although fog was forecast for most of the day the visibility was not too bad as the three drowned rats from last week, Sue, Paul and myself were joined by Charlie at Hornbeam along with several Wednesday Wanderers. Unlike the Wanderers we had no plan as usual, but after some discussion decided against going any where with any height and so headed off through the Showground to Follifoot, Spoffoth, Little Ribston and up the side of the old A 1 to Walshford. Having kindly taken a photo, Paul left us to return home via Wetherby, but whether he called at Costa is not known! We three pressed on over the railway crossing to Whixley and having encountered the farmer cutting the hedges came upon Max repairing the damage to his tyre from the clippings and subsequently the rest of his group who were wondering where he was. Having enlightened them and passed the time of day we continued through to Thorp Underwood, the Ouseburns and the Dunsforths into Boroughbridge and the delights of the Bean cafe. After airing the problems of arranging a family Christmas, the return through Staveley and Minskip was uneventful and we parted company in Knaresborough to go our several ways home. A enjoyable morning out and 30 odd wind free miles in good company. James G



### EG's Ride

Yet again more challenging conditions for the EGs to contend with. Last week was "Wet,Wet,Wet". This week "Where the heck are we?". Mist & thick fog were the order of the day but despite this ten EGs were waiting to "sally forth" on our weekly ride.

Our leader, Dave P. arrived early, as usual, but quickly handed over the batten to anyone close by!!! He needed to return home to supervise an errant joiner who refused to accommodate Dave's weekly passion. Not well pleased our Dave, but hey ho, that's the way of things these days. Off we went north to the Sun Parlour for our first break and to assess the conditions. Didn't seem too bad so after the usual beans on toast, notwithstanding Norman leading off five members to "take an early bath" we, (Peter B, Peter J., Dave S. & Dave W.), set off for the hills (or was it this that put some off?).

Led by deputy leader Dave W. a circuitous route was mentally devised meaning that in the end we four remaining riders seem to configure a double figure of eight around Galphay, Laverton, both Grantleys, taking in Skelding Moor, and then Kirkby Malzard.

Eventually the fog beat us as it was noted that our lights were totally inadequate. From a distance the outlines of riders could be picked out before lights were spotted!! So at this point, in the interest of safety, we decided to "beat a retreat" and head back down the quickest route towards Ripon and home.

We should not have been surprised to find the visibility at the lower levels of Ripon somewhat improved. However by the time we reached base the hour was still fairly late and our decision to return vindicated.

Despite the extreme conditions it was said by those partaking "a good ride" and on reaching home we completed around 50 miles. :- Dave W.

### **Wednesday WE Wanderers**

The weather report wasn't too encouraging, but it didn't deter a group of ten WE Wanderers, nine knights of the road and only one fair maiden. We followed the usual route out to Spofforth, North Deighton, Walshford and along the muddy track over the level crossing towards Whixley. Unfortunately the track was strewn with recently trimmed hedge cuttings and unsurprisingly Max suffered a puncture. Hopefully you made it home safely. Our band of nine continued on to Thorpe Underwood, Great Ouseburn and Arkendale where we arrived fifteen minutes too late for coffee and cake. So it was onwards into the increasingly dense fog and home via Farnham, K'boro and A59. A big thank you to Liz for back marking. Total distance about 30 miles. Keith M.