

Sunday, April 17, 2016

Wheel Easy Ride Report 519

Short Ride

Ride report to follow.

Medium Ride (1)

A brilliant start to the day at Hornbeam Car Park and a good forecast.

There were quite a few takers for the Medium Ride, so it was split into two groups with Justin taking one group and Dave P the other.

Dave P`s group consisted of A N Other (so sorry about this I had the name right up to putting my bike away, then it went) Corrinne, Chris, Dave P, Darcey, Jill J, Peter, Steve and the route was to Ripon via Bishop Monkton and Littlethorpe, the scheduled cafe was the Fountains Abbey Information Centre, however a diversion was made to Spa Gardens Cafe to meet up with a Birthday Boy, Terry Wadkin one of the founder members of the E.G`s.

At first this looked rather difficult as it was full of Ilkley Cycle Club Members (one of the biggest clubs in Yorkshire).

Fortunately Peter B had saved us a table outside that we all could get on.

Ilkley members began to leave, then Terry`s group of EG`s arrived, then Eric`s group of Wheel Easyeers, then a little presentation to Terry of a cake, which we all had a piece of (very nice indeed).

Then away to Studley Park, and then the ups and downs to Watergate before eventually catching Justin`s group, where there was some exchange of riders as Justin did the full route and Dave P a somewhat shorter one straight to Ripley and home via the Greenway and the riders made their choices.

Beautiful weather perhaps not summer but maybe the end of winter???? Dave P





Medium Ride (2)

A perfect Spring day, and just the right route to enjoy it - Abbey Road, Bishop Monkton, Ripon, Fountains, How Hill, Shaw Mills, Greenway. Just 3 things to report. First, the ride leader almost lost members of his flock, first on Hookstone Road and then in Ripon. In spite of this, the six that started out were 10 by the time we got to Fountains, and 12 after How Hill. Indeed, several riders from other clubs rolled up behind us at one point, pleading to join us, but we had to turn them away. We were Top Ride on TripAdvisor and trending on Twitter at 1pm. (OK, I might be exaggerating a bit.) Second, in a brilliant piece of ride leader co-ordination, Dave took a group home via Ripley, while I led 8 Who Were Not Afraid Of Hills through Shaw Mills. This group included Sally, who had lost the use of her lower gears earlier, but still made climbing look easy. Impressive. Third, Jenny's husband's homemade Scotch egg was outstanding - and I'm not ex-egg - erating. 36 miles. Justin



Medium Plus Ride (1)

The destination for today's ride is not my preferred choice but it's good to go in that direction occasionally. Although I have cycled the route a few times it wasn't too familiar but thankfully Debby had local knowledge and James had a map. The route took us to Aberford and Lotherton Hall where we had refreshments sitting out in the sunshine. We then joined the motor bikes on route to Sherburn in Elmet and then we went on to Church Fenton, Ulleskelf, Kirkby Wharfe, Tadcaster, Wighill and Spofforth. We enjoyed cycling through Grimston Park and it was interesting to see the temporary footbridge at Tadcaster. As always the company was excellent and we were home around 3pm after a pleasant 50 mile ride. Paul T





Medium Plus Ride (2)

The 'faster' medium plus ride took off with nine riders, striking southwards in near perfect weather. I had plotted out the route on Garmin Connect the night before and was a little apprehensive about my and Mr Garmin's ability to guide us around the course.

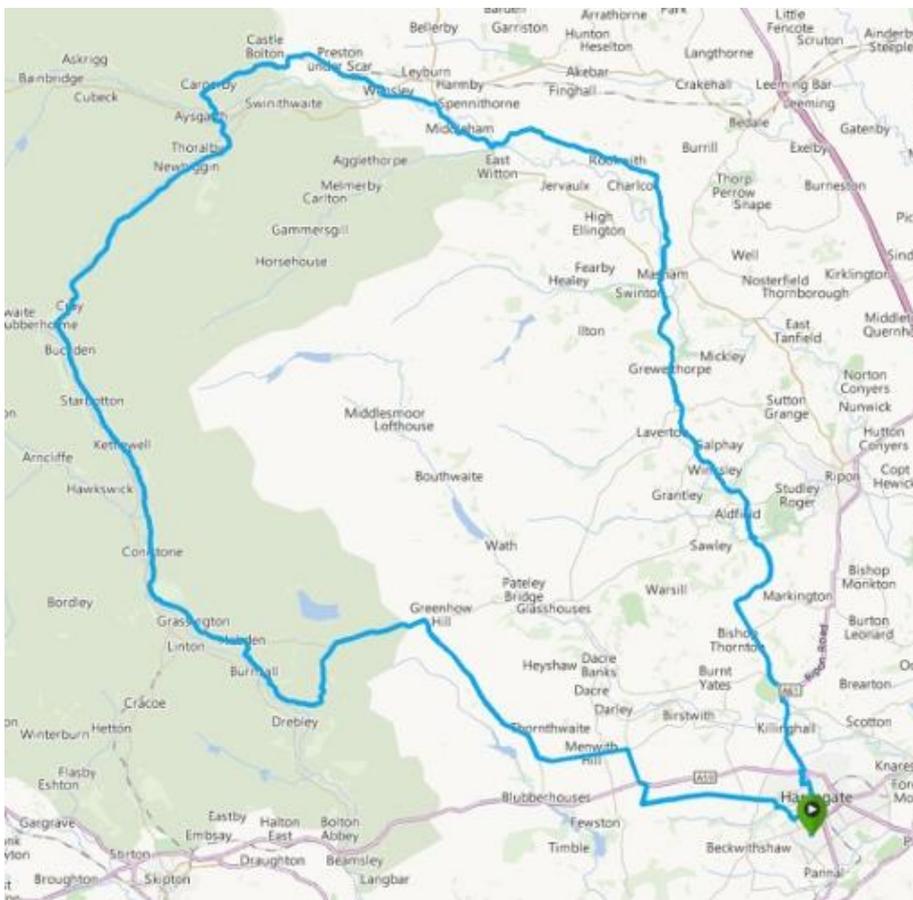
First off, Mr G informed me that there was no way that we were crossing the Linton bridge, information that turned out to be correct.

After a leisurely coffee stop we turned homewards towards the second bridge in Tadcaster. Mr Garmin informed me that we could cross the Tadcaster bridge which also turned out to be correct. It seems that Hitler's rant about the bridge has had the desired effect (you can watch his rant on YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1hoOw9yaV5M> but be warned that it contains adult content) and we were pleasantly surprised that there was a footbridge in place.

Obeying the signs enjoining us to dismount, we crossed the bridge and continued back to Harrogate. In all, a very pleasant journey in good company. Thanks to everyone and to you, Mr Garmin! Ian N

Long Ride

Sunday's Long Ride was simply stunning. Five of us left Ripley in sunshine at 9.00am and went to Masham via Fountains for a coffee and a breakfast butty. Here we picked up Dave Rowson who we persuaded to join us a decision he did not regret. Onward to Middleham, Redmire and Aysgarth. We now picked up a tailwind which helped us up Bishopdale. Fast ride down to Grassington for an excellent late lunch at the Cobblestones café. Onward once more to Appletreewick with great views over Burnsall before climbing to Duck Street for another wind assisted run arriving back in Harrogate at circa 5.15pm. 5 Stars ***** Andy C



Mayor's Charity Ride

On a beautiful Spring day, 8 Wheel Easy riders joined around 18 others including Harrogate's Mayor Nigel Simms for a 76 mile ride to Pateley Bridge, Lofthouse, Masham, Boroughbridge and back to Harrogate. Highlights: that rare thing called sunshine for 95% of the ride; quiet roads, unlike last weekend; Yorkshire looking great; the slow climb out of Lofthouse; the very fast descent towards Masham; tea, coffee and snacks in Nigel's front garden; sat in the sunshine for a 30 minute Boroughbridge cafe stop with 2 curd tarts; crossing paths with the Audax guys as we entered Harrogate; supporting Yorkshire's Air Ambulance. John

