

Wednesday, July 6, 2016

## Wednesday Rides

---

### EG's Ride

We had thirteen riders at Low Bridge, or to the superstitious a "Bakers Dozen".

When choosing a ride destination a lotta factors often have to be taken in to consideration.

eg Quite a few riders from Wheel-Easy Wednesdayers heading in a similar direction, info via John R who had brought his low geared bike to ride to Bolton Abbey on to find he was heading for Easingwold.

Also info from Dave Watson on closed roads and some roads still gritty and sticky (ugh) from resurfacing and of course "cafe shock".

Dave S ( and we had a full set of five today) suggested the Village Hall Helperby as it was the first Wednesday in the Month (good idea son), only we cannot arrive before noon.

As Dave Watson had the most info he was "elected" ride leader and away we went to Marton cum Grafton and the ridge route down to Boroughbridge, in order not to be early birds at Helperby extra mileage was added by going up to Norton Le Clay and Cundall (just for Bob) and Helperby,

Only to find the soup kitchen not open, however for us older ones, are they any younger ones ? the excellent Village Hall toilets were, aaah !.

Dave Watson ,again showing his leadership qualities, rang ahead to the Purple Partridge (he had the number) who had just despatched a group of cyclists, so away we went.

After loads of caffeine, calories and cholesterol the group Dave Watson, Dave Peatfield, Dave Siswick, Dave Wilson, Nick, Ian and Rob headed for Easingwold and Crayke.

Await Daves report.

Dave Preston, Bill, Norman, Terry and Theo headed for Tholthorpe some closed roads and Aldwark Bridge and home.

A nice little ride around 50 miles for us thanks to Dave Watson. DP

Heading in a roundabout route to miss the recently resurfaced loose gravelled roads, thirteen E.Gs headed off with the intention of enjoying a hot soup etc at the village hall in Helperby, this being the first Wed. in the month.

Alas on arrival there was no sign of activity so quick phone call to the "Purple Partridge" confirmed that they were open and would welcome us for lunch.

On arrival reserved tables were set aside for the E.Gs and after a brief pause service progressed well and everyone well fed with their choice of fare.

At this five riders decided to take the more direct route home via Tholthorpe & Aldwark bridge whilst the remaining seven continued to stretch their legs eastward through Easingwold and Crayke.

Turning southwest through Hubby towards Tollerton our paths crossed with the WheelEasy Wednesday riders, calling out our greetings to James and Colin as we passed them by.

Turning left at Tollerton we circulated clockwise through Benningborough, despite the road closed signage thereafter pushing into the wind for Linton and Aldwark.

After a brief halt at Branston Green for refreshments it was decided to return via Lower Dunsforth, Grafton and Arkendale.

Seven riders completed around 60 miles of fairly flat terrain in, for a change, dry and reasonably warm conditions concluding their ride through Knaresborough at approx. 3.30. Dave Watson.



### **Wednesday Ride**

Although the start of the day for the Wednesday Group was infinitely better weather wise than last week there was little change in the organisational qualities and as usual it took some time to agree a plan, which was ultimately to head for Easingwold as we had not been out that way recently. So we set off for Knaresborough but instead of the usual route via Aldwark headed to Boroughbridge, Milby, Thornton Bridge, Baldersby and Raskelf. Eschewing the delights of The Purple Partridge we moved on to Easingwold and into the Curious Kitchen who were their usual very pleasant and efficient selves even when 11 cyclist descended on an already fairly full cafe. Occupying the whole of the outside seating we partook of the usual goodies and enjoyed the usual diverse and interesting discussions common to such gatherings of Wheelers. Having paid and been photographed Gia, Paul and Sue headed straight home via Aldwark - I think there is some sort of event on at the moment in a minor suburb of London, called Wimbeldon which is causing some excitement and there may even be some sort of football match later! The remainder took a loop out through Sutton on Forest and Tollerton before returning over Alwark Bridge and back through Knaresborough to drop me off. A lovely ride of about 57 miles at an

average of between 13 and 14mph. As usual great company and thanks to all who came and particularly John R who it was nice to see out again and who helped with some of the navigation. James G



### **Wednesday Wanderers Ride**

17 Wanderers this morning so I set off with a group of 9 and Mike Smith kindly followed on with the rest. The route was Low Bridge, Farnham, Bishop Monkton, Littlethorpe and round the edge of Ripon. The weather was dry and we occasionally saw the sun, it was just a lovely day to cycle, chat and enjoy the countryside. We all managed the pull up from Ripon and through the deer park but there were no deer to be seen. The plan had been to have a comfort stop at Fountains and continue to Ripley Church for drinks and cakes. However Maris announced that if you bought a cake or a scone you could get a free hot drink, either tea or filter coffee at the National Trust tea rooms as they were trying to encourage cyclists. Needless to say comparing about £1.50 with the £3.50 at Ripley Church was no contest and led to 14 happy Wanderers patronising Fountains Tea rooms! Mike, Steve and Keith however went straight back due to other commitments.

The return route via Watergate Lane to Ripley was done as one group with the exception of Monica who had other plans. Alison kindly took on the shepherd role when she was not egg hunting! At Ripley some headed off to Hampsthwaite on an additional loop while the Greenway was the preferred route for the rest. About 32 miles without the extra loop. Welcome back to Maggie and Charlie. Liz Pugh



### **Wednesday Long Ride**

White Horse Bank was a very late bid from yours truly, principally because I hadn't done it this year. To my surprise it got the nod. Off went seven of us, after some improvised chain lube for John H, aka Factor 50 sun cream, which seemed to work. En route for Boroughbridge, the Occaney freewheel contest was yet another triumph for well engineered wheels and a bit of body mass. Tasty Snacks was the siren-call for John and David Rang who took coffee while the rest of us had a comfort stop and pressed on at pace to Thornton Bridge. Here, progress on fixing the cast-iron parapet seems to have stalled, presumably while detailed designs for the replacement section are sought, verified and re-cast. Temporary traffic lights continue to operate, generating queues. The glider club was reached before 12.00, with the climb of White Horse Bank still as tough as ever. The cafe's hospitality and good value are unwavering and the exertions of the climb provide an excellent excuse for piling into a scone. With such a fine day, weather-wise, there were lots of gliders going up, all of which led to a leisurely lunchtime, where conversation skirted round the Referendum's surprises and majored on the efficiency of chains and the importance of chain line, all supported by vector analysis by Martin! Mention

of Sturmev Archer elicited some nostalgic responses from other diners – happy to help. Homeward bound, we found Wass Bank to be closed and rather than investigate directly, we detoured via the west end of Ampleforth village for a photo call at Byland Abbey. Another throwaway suggestion, this time for a tea stop at Purple Partridge, again got the nod. As the photo shows, Friday morning would be a good day to drop by and exchange best wishes with the Archbishop of York. I wonder if purple had anything to do with his choice of venue! Fear of ominous looking clouds led to some pacy line-riding which, coupled with turns on the front, got us back to Sandy Gate quicker than the outward leg despite a head, or at least unhelpful, wind. Just over 70 miles for most of us today on what is basically a flat ride, apart from the last killer mile up to the gliding club. As enjoyable as ever!

Spotted on the way back to Leeds: Harewood Bridge is closed on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> July.

Terry Smith



THIS FRIDAY

ARCHBISHOP  
SENTAMU

IS IN RASKELF - IF YOU'D  
LIKE TO SAY 'HELLO' HE'S  
AT THE FOLLOWING:

9 a.m. PILGRIMAGE PRAYERS  
AT ST MARY'S

9.45 WALK THROUGH VILLAGE UP  
TO . . . COMPS

10 a.m. PURPLE PARTRIDGE  
FOR A BREW & HELLO!