

Sunday, July 31, 2016

Wheel Easy Ride Report 534

Short Ride

A scratch team of four set out via Beckwithshaw into the wind at a gentle pace up to Little Almscliffe and on past the Sun Inn, turning right into Penny Pot Lane then first left through to the A59. Here Dennis took over the leading role, taking a delightful route through Kettlesing and Tang turning right at Clapham Green down to Hampsthwaite where Dennis departed for home via Clint Bank and three of us settled for coffee in the garden at Sophie's. Having fully revived, we three departed via Lund Lane to Killinghall, where Sue continued on to the Greenway, leaving two of us to return by the direct route through Knox to Bilton and home. A very enjoyable ride...22 miles, home by 12.45. Thanks to all, Peter B

Medium Ride

Fourteen riders opted for the medium ride. John, Gordon and Alison who were intending to leave the ride early kindly offered to lead a group of seven to Bramham where the remaining four would join my group. The 37 mile route took us to Burnbridge, Kirkby Overblow, Sicklinghall, Wetherby, Bramham, Tadcaster, Wighill, Wetherby, Spofforth and Follifoot. At Kirby Overblow Paul B joined us which was just as well as he was able to help Kevin repair a puncture at Sicklinghall. Unfortunately Kevin decided to return home as his tyre was damaged. We decided to stop for coffee at Tadcaster as it was half way. On the return journey six chose to return on the cycleway from Wetherby and five on the road via Little Ribston. Once again another excellent ride with good company. Thank you everyone.
Paul T.



Medium Ride (Slower Pace)

11 riders for the slower ride today. It was a super day weather wise.

We rode from Hornbeam to Bramham via Burn bridge, Kirkby Overblow, Sicklinghall, Wetherby.

At Wetherby Sue Oliver took over the reins and let us brilliantly through the cycle tracks to Thorp Arch, Boston Spa, Clifford, Bramham and back to Wetherby for a cafe stop in The Shambles.

The route home from Wetherby was via the Harland Way, Spofforth, Follifoot and the showground. Mileage about 31 miles.

Well done to everyone and especially our recent new riders Toni, Oliver, Karl and John. Thanks to Sue for her excellent assistance with the route. Jean



Medium Plus Ride

We were a Baker's Dozen, leaving Hornbeam in near perfect conditions - a light fresh breeze and a deep blue sky with evenly spaced white cumulus clouds. It was a delight to travel along the Wharfe Ridge to Wetherby and we soon reached Bramham where Dave P introduced us to the charms of the Bramham Senior Citizens' refuge in the village. We all had a little sit down!

After Stutton we elected to go through Grimston Park and did encounter the locked gate but all bikes were swiftly handed over. We executed the loop through Ulleskelf village and then paused briefly at Cawood Castle where we had "a chat" about Cardinal Wolsey and the history of the castle.

Our lunch stop was once again taken at the Greyhound Inn in Riccall where you can get a roast beef/roast pork sandwich with roast potatoes and gravy for £3.50. We finally summoned the energy to get back on the bikes for the into wind section back home. The Selby/York railway track and the planet route was new to many and it is pleasantly sheltered. We decided to return by the Askham Richard, Marston Moor, Cowthorpe Little Ribston, Spofforth route that was noticeably directly into wind and was quite calorie sapping. However we all made it to the end, still cheerful, and all looking forward to our tea! Thanks to all for a most convivial day. Keith





Medium Plus Olympic Training Ride

Having lost two members early on to Sciatica and "hip problems", eight of us belted enthusiastically round the route in great style and speed and rocked up to a welcome break at the excellent Strawberry Fields cafe on the A19.

Departure was all too soon for one or two of us; I accidentally left with a different pair of legs cos the ones I picked up weren't anywhere near as good as the ones I left home with this morning.

However, the ride continued and the "younger end" kindly waited for the stragglers as necessary, until we prevailed on them to leave us to our fate at Cowthorpe, after which they were never seen again.

What an splendid day out we had in weather that could not have been better. Thanks lads for your company. I'm hoping to be out of hospital before next Sunday. Dave S.



Off Road Ride

Just three of us met at Ribbleshead for a day of high tracks and long distance views. Tea from the van before we set off, an idyllic picnic spot in Widdale, tea and a cake in Dent village.....three long, high tracks, only one rider up to the axles in peat bog, and views of the Yorkshire three peaks, Pendle hill, the high fells of the Lakes, and the rounded contours of the Howgills. Smooth grassy tracks to horribly eroded washouts, and everything in between passed under our wheels....mostly riding, often pushing. Back to the cars about five, a full day. CT.





Long Ride Report

Initially eight riders left Hornbeam Park but this increased to nine with the addition of Dan H at Knox Bridge. The numbers were reduced by two as Jackie and Andy returned home half way up Duck Street, Jackie having suffered a problem with the gear change. Despite the vicious headwinds we eventually made it to The Tea Room at Bolton Abbey, where Richard L left the group. On the way to Halton we met Peter Robert's who had been searching high and low trying to find us. Although invited to join us he declined the offer. Whilst all this was going on one of the Glyn's had cycled on ahead of the group and was never to be seen again. The climbs around Draughton, Silsden and East Morton lived up to their reputations. At East Morton it was Dan H's turn to leave us. Now down to four riders we headed towards the Chevin where the other Glyn left the ride. The remaining three riders crossed the Chevin, onto Bramhope, down Weardley Bank and headed for Kirkby Overblow by which time the legs were really feeling the effort of all the hills. Eventually we arrived in Harrogate with a "cor that was tough, but we did enjoy it now it is over".

