

Wednesday, January 4, 2017

Wednesday Rides

EGs Ride

The first ride of the year for the EG`s started well with the sun in the sky, a nip in the air, and much handshaking as a Happy New Year was wished to all, and that includes them as was not there, and all of Wheel Easy.

Was it the weather or the New Year, anyway we has a large turnout of a magnificent seventeen.

A warm welcome to Alan who has not ridden with us for a while.

The decision was to ride North, into the wind to Ripon to take breakfast at Wetherspoons.

The men`s downhill challenge to Occaney, was a no contest, despite the headwind nobody got near Dave Siswick, as no extra inches could be detected on his waistline, he must have mini electric motors in his wheels.

Bob, Norman and Terry diverted to go to Boroughbridge for their ride, nice to see you out again Bob, hope it went well.

Then it was in to Wetherspoons for "brekkies".

It was difficult to leave Wetherspoons with its comfortable environment and endless cups of coffee (for free).

But loins were girded and away we went to Wath for starters and maybe Bedale?.

Bill Whale headed for Fountains Abbey (you are too old to be a monk Bill).

It was now we had some communication problem and we misplaced Eric, Dave Peatfield and Glyn, Eric and Dave Preston could have verbally got it wrong, (especially DP), however Eric`s "new" phone took the huff and refused to talk to Dave Preston`s phone (this is too technical to explain here, despite Eric`s long explanation, and me probably forgetting) so we were incommunicado and they made their way to Masham, despite Dave P`s phone trying to make contact.

Dave Peatfield got a thorn in his wheel, but despite this they had a good ride, in good conditions with Eric on a 57 mile max.

Dave Watson took the main group North through Wath to Gallow Hill bypassing Middleton Quernhow to lunch ? (yes that was quick) in the cafe in the Industrial Estate just past Melmerby.

Life was now much better as we were heading South and we had wind assist, this meant the wind chill factor ceased to be on our fingers and nose`s and was now on our bum`s, but who cares the increase in speed and decrease in effort was worth it.

After lunch it was on to Boroughbridge via Thornton Bridge.

Old habits die hard and despite Brekkie and Lunch afternoon tea was taken at Morrison`s cafe by Dave Preston, Geoff and Peter B, the rest continued home, despite a slight hesitation by Marvin.

An excellent days cycling in good weather, what a way to start the year.

Dave P.





Three Lost Sheep

Wednesday Wanderers Ride

A sunny morning forecast, the start of a new year- what could be better than a ride up to Brimham and beyond? There was lots of activity at Hornbeam, so we agreed to make our own way to Ripley and reassemble there. Here we were all congregating when Paul B cycled up to say 3, [Joe, Michael and Alan] were still at Hornbeam busy with a puncture. After some hesitation, Paul generously agreed to wait and guide them on. Martin kindly offered to co-

lead. So, a group of more or less 6 set off first to head for Burnt Yates. The rest of us followed, but soon found ourselves with the others. We agreed to stay together [bearing in mind 'gaps and groups'] and made our way towards Brimham in the face of a strong headwind. Once on the tops, it was beautiful and we cheerfully 'tootled' along. Dennis, Dave G and Andrew bade us farewell to go home via Warsill. We took the scenic route to Risplith via Sawley. Here we had an encounter with a very well managed flock of sheep. As we pulled into G&T's, Martin pointed to a large notice saying closed. Hmm, not what I read on the web site. Undeterred, Martin suggested Fountains. So, down to Grantley, up to Aldfield and thence to Fountains. Suitably refreshed, it was back to Harrogate via Watergate Lane and Ripley. Sadly, we never 'reconnected' with the missing 4. I gather Paul B guided them on his personalised version of the ride. Thank you Paul. Today was a lovely day for a beautiful ride. Thanks to all for your good company and patience. Alison





Wednesday Ride

Paul came up with a ride to Roundhay Park via Eccup which was perfect for a winter chilly but sunny day. 11 of us set off through Pannal and Drury Lane (to remind ex residents of the joys of that hill!)

At Kirkby Overblow having already sorted ourselves in to two small groups we managed to lose Sur John but he found us at The New Inn where we all met up.

Once up Weardley Bank the ride through Eccup is stunning and sitting in the excellent cafe at Roundhay overlooking the lake was perfect. Well fed and watered John had called us to say Linton Bridge was still closed so Angela expertly led us across Shadwell Road to Thorne which is a fine village with an interesting looking deli which Sarah says is good and serves coffee. The picture of us all in front of the gate is to show the trees in the background which we all agreed were a fine specimen of "knots"

Home along the cycle path to Bramham and Wetherby, Little Ribston and Spofforth. Kevin worked his magic to get the lights at Ridding in our favour and we made it home after 43 miles. Some new stretches for some and with little traffic was a great choice of ride.

Next week weather permitting will be Colin's choice, Greygarth. Gia





Long Ride

Only six riders were prepared to do the Long Ride today. As some of them had not ridden since before Christmas a gentle ride to good old Masham was proposed. The ride out to Masham included climbing Scarah Bank which seemed to have got steeper now we are in 2017. We had to put up with a brisk northerly wind against us for most of the outbound journey. We knew the wind was strong when we had to peddle down the hill to Nutwith Common.

After an intake of baked beans at Johnny Baghdad's, Dave Siswick would have been proud of the portions, we set off for High Burton and Snape. We were now assisted by the wind and even more so when we started heading south at Carthorpe. No time for a second stop at Ripon so it was Littlethorpe, Knaresborough and home. Peter J

