

Sunday, October 22, 2006

Wheel Easy! Ride Report No. 25 Home and Away



The first Wheel Easy! 'Away Day' adventure took place on Sunday, with a fairly challenging 23 mile ride starting and finishing in Grassington. Eleven cyclists arrived in five vehicles as the rain poured down, with one having cycled from near Harrogate. Sadly one member had to return home due to problems reassembling his bike.

The first few miles to Hebden and south towards Appletreewick were seriously wet. But the rain stopped in time for us to enjoy the fabulous views over Wharfedale and the fine bridge at Burnsall and as the sun came out we continued down the Dales Way to Bolton Abbey and our first stop for refreshment.

After the stone arch near the Abbey we turned west for the gentle climb along the lovely, gated (and therefore very quiet) road to Embsay. Here we looped back north east for the hardest part of the ride with a particularly gruelling climb over Barden Moor and then the long descent to Barden Tower.

Finally we headed along the undulating B6160 through Burnsall, to Linton with its magnificent 14th century church and back for another tea stop at Grassington. There was unanimous agreement that the 'Away Day' had been a great success and we look forward to organising more as part of the growing Wheel Easy! repertoire of weekly rides.

MM

Thirteen was the number setting off from Hornbeam on a bright and breezy morning. That included a new tandem pair. We must be doing something right with the two-uppers! Anyway we set off to Knaresborough en route to Wetherby via Little Ribston then it was onwards along the cycle track to Walton, Thorp Arch and Boston Spa. The bridge over the river has been completed since our last visit and there weren't any hazards.

Dennis sets a good pace and had to appeal for the backmarker to take over before the complaints became too serious (a backhanded compliment?). Anyway we were soon at the A1 then found the cycle lane to take us back into Wetherby and the old railway line to Spofforth and home. A good morning's ride of just under 30 miles completed by the surviving nine as we shed the others along the way.

CM



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Wheel Easy! Ride Report No. 25 - More Photos



