

Sunday, December 2, 2007

Wheel Easy! Ride Report No. 83



WET OR WHAT!

"Can anyone possibly want to ride in this downpour?" I speculated as I pedalled to Hornbeam Park. Well, yes, 14 people actually!

The long ride to Coxwold was definitely not on so we decided to make the first stop the café on Waterside (under the cliff) at Knaresborough. Despite dripping all over the place we were warmly welcomed, and set about consuming hot drinks etc., because even after 3 miles we were all soaked. Thinking that was it for the day, I stood up and announced that we could head back now, only to be met with astonishment that we were not pressing on to Boroughbridge. So, ever willing, I led an intrepid party of nine riders through sheeting rain, easing to heavy drizzle, to Boroughbridge.

Three of us decided a warm up with a bowl of Morrison's soup was in order while the rest decided to get back home. After a warming respite we soon followed, and made our way back to Harrogate.

So the distance reduced a bit, but we got out there. The Wheel Easy spirit lives on!

HIGHLIGHT: The fast ride back with Malcolm and Bill - we really moved along.

LOWLIGHT: The fast ride back with Malcolm and Bill - do you know just how much wheel spray you can swallow at 18 mph?

MW

And the view from Dave P.

"Just a few words to add to Martin's report.

What a morning to set off on.

Mindset being, get to car park show willing, may be two or three there (at the most), then go home.

However 12/14 "hardy" not foolhardy Wheeleasers arrived. Still waiting for "Go Home" command. Talk of Ripon's all weather rides/record changed the mindset.

Just go to Knareborough, have a coffee/tea and see how it works out.

Friendly welcome at cafe, two mugs of steaming coffee, to get the cold out of the bones (without thinking of the diurectic effect it would have later).

If not done before perhaps we could recommend this cafe to our friends in Ripon and York.

By now even the rain began to look less cold, so the majority decided on to Boroughbridge.

On the way we had a competition to see who could ring most water out of their gloves.

Regarding the WW1 problem of "trench foot" I think we had "trench fingers".

At B/Bridge some turned back to Harrogate and some went to Morrisons cafe. Four riders Sue C, Bridget, Dave W and Dave P returned via Marton cum Grafton and Arkendale. A total of approx 27 miles carpark to carpark.

Glad I did it, ride title "see the underwater world of Yorkshire".

Thanks Martin pity about the weather, but the company was good and we had a few laughs."

Not surprisingly, the wettest Sunday since the start of Wheel Easy! put paid to the planned launch of the Super Easy rides. We will try again in January. MM

