

Sunday, August 3, 2008

Wheel Easy Ride Report No. 118



Twenty two riders turned up at Hornbeam car park. Twelve chose the long ride to Bedale. A good number for a jury. So eleven good men and Sue (excuse the pun) set off for Knaresborough. A Dave P ride is usually known for no hills and many rivers. So we stopped at Low Bridge, had a count then up Briggate, this stopped the fast men getting a run at it (getting my own back for last Sunday, sorry Malcolm Y).

The rain came down before Boroughbridge, and a fast breakaway group of four shot off, no sign of them in Boroughbridge so we waited by the weir. Eventually three out of four riders arrived (sheepishly?). They were found guilty by the jury in their absence of leaving the peloton and worse still getting lost.

On to Norton le Clay, Cundall and Topcliffe. Then Catton and Skipton on Swale (noting the WW2 memorial to a RCAF bomber crew). On to Kirklington, Exelby and Bedale. Nice cafe stop in Bedale. The group then split with Malcolm Y taking the hard men back via Masham and "hilly" Nidderdale. The more sedate of us returned the short straight way to Kirklington, Ripon, Knaresborough and Harrogate.

Stats. Car park to Bedale approx 34 miles. Return Bedale to car park approx 28 miles. Though most riders would have done 64 to 68 miles home to home. Back in Harrogate us sedate guys for around 3.15pm, not bad av. speed.

Interesting point every time Dave P took his rain cape off it rained, he was then compelled by the riders to keep it on, arriving at Bedale thoroughly "boiled in the bag". It threatened to be a COCO day, capes on, capes off, capes on etc but the afternoon was quite nice. Dave P

Twelve riders opted for the medium ride, taking a route via Burn Bridge, Kirkby Overblow and Sicklinghall to cross the River Wharfe at Linton and on to Collingham, Bramham, Clifford and Boston Spa. The return ride through Thorp Arch and along the Cycleway to Wetherby, then along the Wetherby/Spofforth Cycle track (where the leader got a puncture, fortunately in the front tyre). A quick change of inner tube saw us on our way again to catch up with some of the group and complete the ride back home. DB

Elderly Gentlemen's Ride Wed 6th Aug, 10am Low Bridge Knaresborough.

Seven riders, Sue C, Jill, Peter B, Malcolm T, Bill W, Terry, Dave P and Paul T who had to leave us early. Warm day but looked like rain could start any time. Out to York via Tockwith, Askham Richard and cycle path to Rowntree Park and lunch break at café. Through York picking up cycle trail to Skelton and drink and snack break at Newton on Ouse.

On to Aldwark Bridge, Great Ouseburn, Marton , Arkendale then Knaresborough, Harrogate. Mileage dependent on where riders started from 56 to 59 miles. A good ride, good pace and in good order. The rain that had threatened held off, but unfortunately for York they had a flash flood around 5/6 pm, we being home for around 3.30pm. Dave P

On Tuesday, Wheel Easy members, together with other cyclists and the CTC Development Officer, Martyn Bolt, attended a celebration hosted by the Mayor, John Fox, of the 130th anniversary of the founding of the CTC in Harrogate on 5th August, 1878. The plaque visible below our club banner was put in place in 1953 on the 75th anniversary.

