

Sunday, March 15, 2009

Wheel Easy Ride Report No. 151



On a gloriously sunny morning 10 people opted for the long ride. Our route took us out past Little Almscliffe, down to Fewston, Timble & then up over Askwith Moor. In spite of the sunshine there was still a stiff breeze which made it a bit harder going. When we reached Askwith Paul left the group to head back to join the medium ride at Otley.

The rest of the group, including Martin who had been planning to go straight to the café in Ilkley, carried on, turning off towards Middleton. It was then a steady climb up to the moors, through Langbar before the descent to Beamsley. A quick run along the back road took us to our café stop at Ilkley where it was even warm & sheltered enough to sit outside - not bad for March.

Martin headed off to spend some money at J.D. Cycles to be joined shortly afterwards by the rest of the group. A few minutes were spent browsing & admiring tandems before setting off for home. At Askwith Roy decided he hadn't done enough hills for the day so he headed back up the hill we had come down this morning. The remaining 7 riders continued back via Otley where due to the volume of traffic we lost a couple of members of the group for a while and then on to Castley and Weeton. After Kirkby Overblow the group split as everyone chose their most direct route home.

A good ride of just over 50 miles. Jill

Today we rode the first of the Five Ride Challenge Series for medium riders. Destination Otley via a good number of testing hills. Malcolm took a faster group on the same route and arrived at the café stop before 11.30. Gia's group of nine enjoyed the sunshine and the

views and steadily climbed the hills to the top of the world and on to North Rigton and Almscliffe Crag where we gathered up Alison, Chris and Dave.

The sunny weather had us all in a sunny mood and the café stop at Stephen Smith's Garden Centre was no exception. Paul joined us having done a speedy diversion with the long riders to Timble and Askwith and proceeded to be our back marker and bike mechanic until he sped off at Kirkby Overblow. Steve took us on a little diversion out of Otley along the old road and alongside the fishing lakes which was new to most of us.

Malcolm, Sue and Michael rode home via Timble and Norwood adding a few more miles and hills to their day. About 29 miles for the day, lots of hills but everyone made it comfortably. Gia

Long short ride! Nine riders set out to Knaresborough via the Beryl Burton cycle path. Continuing towards Boroughbridge, we turned left to Lingerfield, and left again towards Brearton. Here Denis decided to take the path to Burton Leonard, so seven riders continued on to Nidd and Ripley.

At Ripley the temptation of tea was too much for 2 riders, so the 5 headed back to Harrogate. The route took us on the ringway footpath through Jennyfields and Oakdale. Here the party split again, two heading for Pannal, and three home via Harrogate town centre. Phil H

John Fanning, our honorary member in Toronto, sports his new Wheel Easy jersey:



