

Wednesday, December 16, 2009

Wednesday Rides



Waiting for Christmas!

Poddlers Ride Report

This is a brief report, but I think it says it all. 8.30 woke up late, good it is not raining.. 9.10 starts raining....9.11 discover bike mud guard wiggling about.....9.20 Max mended it.... 9.35 set off to Stainburn Forest west of Beckwithshaw.....10. 13 overtaken by some of the big boys and girls....where on earth have they been to..... Easingwold for coffee?.....10.30 bike spoke breaks causing a wiggling wheel.....10.30 El Butler gives Max a bit of plastic and Sue W assists in open spoke surgery with a kitchen knife ...quite normal in the NHS she assures us.....11.15 Peter removes battery more open bike surgery.....11.16 chain drops off.....11.17 Big John has got a puncture.....11.20 fast men are bonding and playing with tyres the ladies are having a relaxed chat as they surge into Kirby Overblow.....11.35 ladies gossip happily as they wait for bonded men.....11.40 Big John has another puncture.....11.41 rescue plan hatched.....recharged Peter will zoom home and get a big car and put John and his bike in and take him home.....11.45 Lynda Peter and Sue head off down Walton Head Road to do rescue mission.....11.46 Max goes back to John and El Butler, Caroline, Sue W, John W, and Richard head of home the easiest way they can think of via Rudding.....12.00 Max and Dennis catch us up.....how does El Butler do it.....it must be lunch time.....12.15 Max takes bike to Bike Shop....never to be seen again, everyone else goes home and hopefully along with the rescue mission arrives safely. 13.00.Lunch and ride report. 25 miles all very jolly, I've been wanting to do that ride for weeks, thank you poddlers for your patience. CG

Addendum to ride report

13.45pm Max arrives home on C's bike fresh from the hospitality of Spa Cycles, having watched the dismantling of rear wheel, the refitting of four spokes, wheel truing, wheel

reassembly and the fitting of two new pedals (to get rid of the nasty little grindy sound when pushing hard in low gears which has been annoying me for weeks)

Wheel Easy Ride Report

Six of us dithered while about 10 Poddlers rode off purposefully to Stainburn Woods despite a rotten forecast and some drizzle. Martin and Yvonne arrived with the intention of heading straight to Fodders for a coffee and if the weather improved to Wetherby, Malcolm sensibly stayed at home but caught up with us later on so in the end we all headed after the Poddlers. Having caught them up after Beckwithshaw we engaged in some good exchange of gossip until Stainburn. From there we took the dog leg loop and came upon an interesting collection of ducks, geese and other assorted birds all perched on a fence. Yvonne mused at the mating possibilities of said birds.

On to the reservoirs and Timble to join the road over the moor towards Otley where we found the road was closed for patch resurfacing. An earnest young man read the Health and Safety Act to us and said we could not proceed. Martin then read the "I have done this in France, Norway and any other country he could think of act" and he beat the guy down so we carried on promising to be very careful. What a fantastic way to ride this climb over the moor with no traffic. On arriving at the Asquith turn met by very jolly workmen we suggested that they could take until next summer working on this road. Downhill then to Asquith and to the Cockpit Farm Café where we were welcomed warmly and several of us took up the soup, bread and coffee meal deal.

The weather had improved considerably during our ride making it worthwhile not being put off by the weather! After Otley our seven split in to two groups, Martin and Yvonne now inspired to do more hills taking Eric and Geoff with them to ride home via Alsmcliff Crag. Paul, Malcolm and Gia took the Castley route home where they met with the EG's who had been to Wetherby for coffee and were heading to Autumn Tints in Otley. After five minutes of Wheel Easy chat we went our separate ways. 34 miles. Gia

EG's Ride Report

A bit of a miserable day, light rain but fortunately no wind to speak of. On the way down to Low Bridge, Roy and Dave P had a wave to Caroline, Martin and Yvonne on their way to Hornbeam Car Park.

Six riders gathered at Low Bridge Bill, Dave P, Dave W, Norman, Roy and Terry then it was on our way to Wetherby for hot drinks and toasted teacakes. Time goes very quickly, and perhaps due to our reluctance to leave the warmth of the cafe we spent a little more time than usual in the cafe before setting off to Otley, but not before we bought some batteries and a packet of plastic shower caps (which are of course the cheapest wet weather helmet covers you can buy).

Then on to Otley via Sicklinghall and Weeton, with there being no flood warnings for Castley it was down the hill to the River Wharfe, there we met Malcolm M, Gia and Paul T travelling in the opposite direction. After a chat it was on to Otley Cycling Club rooms for tea. One of the objects of the visit was to show Roy the Ron Kitchen Cycle Museum but as usual "Its a small world" effect occurred with one of the helpers being on the same Spanish CTC cycling holiday as Roy over seven years ago.

Bill and Norman went to the bakery for for some "goodies" to eat in the club rooms, but couldn't resist looking at the "goodies" in Chevin Cycles, fortunately a fresh pot of tea was made for them.

The six then took a leisurely route and pace back to Harrogate with a "banana break" at Kirkby Overblow.

Not a bad ride for a winters day approx mileage door to door 41 to 43 miles.Dave P

