

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Wednesday Rides



Short and a bit longer Poddler's report (including "Trevor's lament "and "Chasing El Butler")
Hornbeam, Forest Moor Lane, Bilton Hall Lane, Knox, Grainbeck Lane, Hampsthwaite - group split
with sensible ones going home via Rowden Lane and Ethelberga's to Pinewoods, Rosset and home
to warm their toes (5 at 16.52 miles).
Less sensible ones returned via Kettlesing, blagging their way down Pennypot Lane over the new
tarmac (as yet incomplete) -Ethelberga's and home. (3 at about 21 miles.)

Trevor's Lament
I'm compiling a dossier, he said with no smile;
My list of complaints fills one big file.
I'm taken down roads full of holes and bricks,
Which I have to avoid with skill and tricks,
To protect my shiny new specialised machine
And avoid scratches of which I'm not so keen.
I'm taken mysteriously to I know not where.
I cannot explain the route to get there.
I'm taken up hills that have no end ,
They go up forever and never descend.
Today I was bullied, harassed and told
That when I returned back home to the fold
The report I must write, in traditional style.
We won't hold our breath Trev, it may take a while.

Chasing El Butler (or view from the rear)
Dennis, "recovering from flu and not fit"
Wanted more miles, a fulfilling extra bit
Via Kettlesing, "no further, the climb is the same".
Trev moaned. Big John and I said we're game.

A gentle start, pace increasing by the yard
 I kept up at first, it got increasingly hard.
 The gap opened up as they surged ahead.
 Headline "El Butler again leaves me for dead"
 One day I'll be there, at the top of the hill,
 Along side El B. I promise I will.
 Down Pennypot Lane with its new tarmac top
 Past resurfacing vehicles we did not stop.
 An empty road - how it should be
 Three miles later, home for me. Max G
 Wheel Easy Ride Report

The sun tempted enough of us out today despite the freezing temperatures, and we were all duly cautious of any deadly ice. Nine of us headed to Low Bridge where the EG's were gathering. They all liked the sound of Easingwold so in smaller groups we set off. Jill was pleased to have Eric come to the rescue to release her wedged chain and later on Paul saved Gia from having to change her own tyre after a puncture. I know I have been to Martin's excellent training but still don't have strong enough fingers to do the job. Good excuse??

At Great Ouseburn Martin led Yvonne, Sue and Bridget off to Boroughbridge for coffee, whilst Jill, Paul, Richard and Gia headed off to Tea Hee in Easingwold. Meanwhile Eric and Ben had defected to the EG's and Ben valiantly endured the ribbing he got at Café 21. We think Glynn turned back at Aldwark Bridge to meet his wife.

Returning home we had the Easingwold- Brafferton road to ourselves as it was closed for repairs and Richard then led us on a bridleway out of Brafferton crossing an iron bridge over the Swale built in 1935.

In Boroughbridge the EG's caught us, Jill did circuits round the town, Richard followed her but didn't find her, some EG's went to the Gents but despite all these comings and goings we all found our way home. 4 x 50 miles Guess EG's the same so 6 x 50 miles for them. An excellent ride. Gia

EG's Ride Report

I arrived at Low Bridge, Knaresborough, to an unusually large number of cyclists. This was due to the Wednesday WE ride from Hornbeam calling here en route to Easingwold. It was then decided that the EGs would also go to Easingwold and therefore some 20+ cyclists set off along Abbey Road, and the streets of Knaresborough.

At the first regrouping stop, we separated into the 2 groups, and 9 EGs set off in the lead to Easingwold via Aldwark Toll Bridge. We were reduced to 8 when Glyn, on his first ride of the year and still feeling the effects of a chest infection, opted for a shorter ride via Wetherby. We arrived at Cafe 21 of Spring Hill Court Residential Home Easingwold at 11.50, only to find this was not a good time as the residents are served lunch at 12. For future reference, the Proprietor requests groups should ideally arrive prior to 11.30 or after 12.30. Nevertheless she did a great job of serving us all in double quick time. Suitably refreshed, we returned via Brafferton and bumped into the Wednesday WE group again at Boroughbridge. Whilst chatting on the bridge over the River Ure, I noticed a commemorative stone announcing the upstream and downstream sides of the bridge were built well over a hundred years apart. One wonders how the good citizens of Boroughbridge managed to cross the River Ure during the intervening years - answers on a postcard please! We arrived back in Harrogate at 3pm. 51 miles. Total EG mileage today approx: 438. EW

2010 Wheel Easy Miles (approx) Today 783 YTD 5516

