

Wednesday, April 21, 2010

## Wednesday Rides

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**Poddlers** **Ride** **Report**  
Despite the bright sunshine only a sturdy few turned up for the Poddlers Mid Week ride perhaps due to the deceptive cold wind. Nine in total set forth 3 x Sue's, Richard, Dennis, Linda, Bridget, Trevor and tall John et al Eric going on ahead to meet up with the EG's at Low bridge. After a delayed start Tall John suggested a route via Burton Leonard. Nothing too distant or strenuous as several members were wanting to be back early for various commitments and after some discussion on Linda's pedal configuration and Bridget's Pedal Cleats off we went into the fairly strong cold headwind. Low Bridge saw us meet with the EG's and for Linda to have a lengthy chat with some of the "elder statesmen" regarding her pedals and after that we set off again down Abbey Road and along the lanes to the old garden centre and onward to Farnham. The EG's by this time had caught us up and were onward bound for Boroughbridge and beyond, but the poddlers decided to take the more scenic route and carried on towards Burton Leonard and off down the bridleway Brearton and Nidd. On arrival at the stream crossing no one was bold enough or could be persuaded to try and cycle across the little Ford, so the bikes were manhandled onto the little footbridge and the crossing completed to emerge into a sheep filled field displaying an ominous warning sign "Beware Bull Loose". No bulls were sighted thankfully and onward we continued to Nidd, and the adrenalin filled excitement of crossing the main A61 to ride down the footpath in Ripley. A husky lorry driver driving a 44 tonne Articulated Tipper Lorry was seen to shake his head in disbelief that cyclists should dare to be seen on this road where he was but notwithstanding his scepticism we all lived to get across the road without mishap. A tea stop was declined in Ripley in favour of returning early, and onward we continued to Knox, (Dennis availing himself of the by now famous "Crawford's Crossing" up the back lane to avoid the perils of the main road through Killinghall). After Knox we made our way onto Skipton Rd without further ado and we all went our separate ways, 20 miles all in all or thereabouts, nothing too strenuous but a pleasant enough trip out with an early finish to suit many of the group, Trevor again managing a "puncture free day" that's 2 in a row a new record!

**EG's** **Ride** **Report**  
8 EG's set off along Abbey Road, hopefully before going too far we would have decided on our destination! Bill seemed to be slightly ahead of the pack and seemed to be headed in the direction of Easingwold. So, Easingwold it was! As we turned right at the T junction at Farnham we saw 2 cyclists at the top of the climb, and when we got there ourselves we could then see they were part of a much larger group of cyclists now on the descent to Occaney. It was the Wednesday Poddlers ride from Hornbeam! They turned left at Occaney for Burton Leonard, we turned right for coffee at Boroughbridge - except Dave R who also turned left. We suspect he was heading for them there hills up Masham way. After the coffee stop, John R headed for home, so 6 of us continued through Milby, Brafferton Helperby and Raskelf to Easingwold for lunch at Cafe 21. We returned via Huby, Tollerton, Youlton, Aldwark Toll Bridge, Great Ouseburn, Arkendale and Knaresborough. Arriving home I'd completed 54 miles. Entry in the Captain's Log: total mileage for the EG's today: 400. EW

2010	Wheel	Easy	Miles	(approx)	Today	580	YTD	33653
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