

Wednesday, September 1, 2010

Wednesday Rides



Poddlers

Ride

Report

Today was a day for an adventure, clear skies, no wind, warm with some sun. The plan was to go down the A1 along the cycle path, (which always makes me think I could go anywhere) to Bramham and then attempt a crossing of the A1 and continue back to Collingham, Linton, Sicklinghall and Kirkby Overblow. Rudding Park and home. The adventure was I have never found a way across the A1. So the ride set off and returned, but due to complete exhaustion after an afternoon of suite and furniture hunting the rides highlights will be in note form.

- 10 riders set off and 10 riders returned in one piece.
- Trevor and El Butler delighted the audience of lady cyclists with their removal of heavy clothing.
- The toilet stop in Wetherby, and short anatomy lesson.
- Speeding along to Bramham with no nasty pushy cars bothering us.
- El Butler finding the right way off to Collingham.
- The speeding down the hill into Collingham.
- A totally new ride for the Poddler's.
- Standing in the sun having a rest and a drink and our snacks.
- The 5 riders who had been out Poddling only 1 time New Blue Sue, 2 times Stephen guilty Dave's friend, 3 times very speedy Caroline B, 5 times Richard's wife Liz, and returning rider Paul who had had a summer break, keeping up with everyone very capably.(Far too capably for my liking)
- Max being nearly shunted by a 4 wheel drive on a speed hump.
- 50 walkers sitting on the seats where I had planned to have a stop and chat before climbing the summit out of Sicklinghall towards Kirkby Overblow.
- Some fantastic views that were not excuses to rest, but stunning clear vistas, along the ridge to Kirkby Overblow.

- Lovely people enjoying a morning out.
- By the way you can have as many coffee stops as you want if you lead the ride!!!!!! Sorry about the dearth in venues! 32miles x 10 people Caroline G

Click on slide show for all today's photos

Wheel Easy Ride Report
Martin and Malcolm were on important campaigning duties concerning the Bilton-Ripley route so they "did their own thing." Glynn quite rightly headed off to join the EG's as he had an all day pass, Richard and Tony had ambitions of Grassington but were tempted by the rest of us who were heading for coffee at Cockpit Farm via Timble and Askwith. The day just got better and better with warm sunshine on our backs and wonderful views all around well worth the climbs and the glorious downhill. John W had his tea then sped off home, Richard and Tony after a very leisurely coffee sitting in the garden at Cockpit Farm set off for Bolton Abbey, whilst Paul, Yvonne, Kevin, Sarah and Gia returned home via Dave Preston's route to Farnley, Stainburn and the top of the world. 31 miles. Gia

After Cockpit and 17miles Tony and Richard continued onto Ilkley, Bolton Abbey, Barden Tower, Stumps Cross and Pateley. After refreshments of pancakes there was a slower ascent out of PB. The journey home was via Hartwith and Birstwith. 57m total on a glorious summers day. 4300 ft. Richard

Martin and Malcolm Ride Report
We wanted to stay close to Harrogate as there was a possibility we would be called to a morning meeting concerning the Bilton to Ripley route. When a message came through on Martin's Blackberry with good news about the path and that we were not needed, we sped off to Boroughbridge to celebrate not with a few pints, but in Wheel Easy style with coffees and an early lunch at one of our favourite cafés, Bowe&Co. We returned to Bishop Monkton and then, with another meeting to attend at 2pm, decided to risk the A61 down to Killinghall Bridge, looked at options for the route to cross the road, and arrived back in Harrogate with time to spare. About 36 miles.

EG's Ride Report
It looked like great cycling weather on the way down to Low Bridge. On the way I was passed by Malcolm M on his son's Cannondale, this had been flat barred. For this he received a severe reprimand for treating a class bike this way. There was a total of thirteen riders at Low Bridge. Martin and Malcolm were doing a short ride before attending a meeting regarding the Ripley Cycle Route (hope this went well with the best wishes of 200 + Wheel Easy Members). The remaining EG's headed up Bland Hill, only to be left standing by Roy (was he on bacon and egg again?). Then on to Kirkby Overblow and Weeton. On the descent to Castley care was taken, the grit on the road (as reported a few weeks back) is still there.

In Otley the split was made four riders to the Garden Centre Cafe and seven riders to Dummies. Here Eric ordered a double sausage sandwich (see photo) now numbers are Eric's forte, so he was pleasantly surprised to find he had four sausages (logic being two is double). We had all finished eating, and some were starting to fancy a second helping, but we were saved from OD'ing on cholesterol by the arrival of the other four riders. Soon we were climbing out of Otley to Chevin End and Menston, here Terry left us to visit an ill relative in Guiseley accompanied by Norman. Terry had not cycled with us for a few weeks, so good to see you back Terry. Then it was on to Burley Woodhead where some of our fitter members pursued a young lady to The Cow & Calf, where the said young lady took our photo. A short break was taken here, and Eric trying his luck asked for a double Magnum ice cream, unfortunately he only got one. Then it was the swoop down into Ilkley to pick up John E and Peter J, who had missed the young lady and therefore had failed to stop at the Cow & Calf. Then it was the return t`other side of the Wharfe to Askwith and the Cock Pit Cafe, our impending approach was given to them by an advance party of Eric and John E, in whom we put our trust to not eat all the cakes (we are trusting some say naive). So it was tea/coffee/milk/ hot water, cakes and loyalty cards. We were told by the lady that Wheel Easy had already been there and were we the long ride, yes we were but we were the EG's ie The Elderly Gentlemen, Oh thats nice said the

lady "its a lot better than Old Gits" now where have I heard that before? Caroline?. The weather had been glorious, and someone remarked about an Indian Summer, to which John E replied "with Apache rain", for that he received his first public warning. It was beautiful in the garden, where there was a tree laden with pears, oh said Eric we will soon be having pear tarts on the menu, a pair of tarts ? said a slightly deaf EG, a pair of tarts said John E, I`am glad I`ve got my loyalty card. For that he received his second public warning. Soon we were climbing out of Otley towards Farnley, at the junction we waited for Roy ,only to be told he was 200 yards back. Soon a young lady in Lycra stormed past us closely followed by Roy, who we were unable to catch till Leathley Bridge, so there are things other than bacon and eggs that enhance Roy`s performance. At Kirkby Overblow John E left us to return via Wetherby. It had been a great ride with super weather and superb views of Wharfedale and all the miles were quality.

Mileages						approx.
2x	say	45	=	90	miles.	
8x	55	=	440	miles.		
1	x	65	=	65	miles	
Total	595	Wheel		Easy	Miles.	

Unfortunately the day was spoiled with Peter Jackson being knocked off his bike by a car near Spacey Houses. Peter is OK and managed to cycle home slowly. The Police and Ambulance were called , so no further comment will be made at this moment. Dave P

2010	Wheel	Easy	Miles	(approx)	Today	1342	YTD	104632
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