

Wednesday, October 6, 2010

Wednesday Rides



Poddlers

Ride

Report

Six poddlers assembled at Hornbeam and at last it was not raining! Without our usual leader who has wandered off to America, David volunteered to lead us on a lovely hilly ride. Not quite sure that those two adjectives went together we followed him to Leadhall Lane where we had our first stop. Linda was seen pushing her bike home with a puncture so the bike was seized by David and ably assisted by the other male riders the puncture was soon fixed. Now there were 7 poddlers who sped off past the Squinting Cat and up to Beckwithshaw, slowing down to negotiate the steep descent to cross the Oak Beck then on to Pennypot Lane where we were warned to stay in single file and concentrate as there was a deep ditch and plenty of nettles! After a brief stop we soon reached Fewston after which we had to start tackling the 'lovely hills'! In no time at all we were at Little Almscliff having endured a very brief shower. One idiot put her waterproof on so it was soon warm and sunny again. At Beckwithshaw, after a fast downhill ride Linda and Dennis left to return straight home while the rest of us decided to tackle a few more hills as we were enjoying them so much. It was up to the top of the World and then through Burn Bridge and back to Hornbeam for 12.30 and 22 miles. At this point apparently the faster riders(aka Big B and Gs) in the other group had only done 21 miles! Sorry about the brief prose but, as I said, the writer of Poddler fairy tales is away for a while! Liz

Wheel

Easy

Ride

Report

Good turnout at Hornbeam, Dave P there to pay off his debts and then he was off to find his mates down at Low Bridge. The Poddlers set off very promptly (Caroline has trained them well, she must have been watching them from North Carolina!) led by Dave while Martin suggested a few hills, Hampsthwaite, Clint Bank and Shaw Mills and coffee at eleven at Cascades. There Sue tried on the "new pink uniform" modelled today by Yvonne and Gia, then left telling us she had to see a Sky man. Sarah from Leeds had never done this route so excellent for her to do it, great views and decent climbs. By now it was a beautiful day so we carried on riding to Bishop Monkton, and Boroughbridge where Martin and Yvonne picked up a picnic and headed towards Great Ouseburn, John had already gone

home, Richard sped off somewhere to get more miles and the rest of us returned home via Aldborough and Arkendale. Lovely day out. Various miles but at least 36 miles for many of us! Plus 30 miles for one late starter. Gia

EG's Ride Report

A bit of a wet start to the day, and with the memory of Sunday's ride still fresh, there was some trepidation as DP headed for Hornbeam Car Park with some map money for Gia. As expected Sunday's weather did figure in the conversation. As DP headed for Low Bridge he met up with Roy, and a decision was taken to have coffee at the Garden Centre (and why not). Seven riders gathered at Low Bridge, including Eric back from his sortie into Lancashire via the Leeds /Liverpool Canal tow path, where he learnt some new words for conversing with scousers. He also completed the extreme plus version of Wheel Easy's Sunday ride entitled "The Waterways of North Yorkshire". Us lesser mortals sticking with Martin and Yvonne's more sedate route, though still battling against the current. At this time Colin was in Northern Ireland cycling in the sunshine, obviously the Irish had very kindly sent us their rain ration. York was chosen as our destination, at Marton cum Grafton we met York Wednesday Wheelers heading for the Harrogate area. Crossing Aldwark Bridge it was on to Beningborough Home Farm cafe, for coffee and cake, as always the cake was well worth stopping for (see photo). Then into York via Sustrans route 65, which was quite good under tyre considering Sunday's rain, here Eric tried a lumpy off road diversion but had to put his foot down which cost him 5 penalty points. We arrived at Dickinsons cafe just after the lunch rush, for pannini's, soup and bacon sandwiches. As we put the world to right and practiced our grumpy old men routine we were enthralled by an incident near Cliffords Tower, a sort of CSI (not New) York. As lip reading is not an EG skill, we had to guess who were the sinners and who were the sinned against, but obviously anybody who wore a trilby hat with trainers had to be arrested by the fashion police. On leaving the cafe rain seemed to threaten but this passed and we were heading out of York in the sunshine, the wind was now in our faces but not strong enough to cause us a problem. A banana break and comfort stop was taken at Marston Moor obelisk. Then it was on to Cowthorpe with Colin leaving the group at North Dighton to head for Scotton. At Follifoot Eric fell over while stationary, this miffed DP as this is his particular party piece. My clips are too tight said Eric, you need Speedplay said Roy, thought they were a pop group, no that's Coldplay, thought that was Foreplay, no that's a different game all together. Forgiveness was in order as it was late in the day, and we are not getting any younger. Mileage approx 59 miles, so 7 x 59 = 413 miles. Excellent days cycling, sunny with a touch of Autumn. Dave P

2010	Wheel	Easy	Miles	(approx)	Today	935	YTD	117515
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