

Wednesday, October 13, 2010

Wednesday Rides



Poddlers

Ride

Report

My last ride with the Poddlers (29 09 10) was memorable for many things including the fashionable touches provided by Caroline's shorts and Dave G's headwear. Today was no different in that, resplendent within the throng gathered for departure, were three magnificently. (maybe more) bejacketed ladies. Gia, Sue and Yvonne were stunning in what the Dulux "Colour Guide" describes as "Stallion Red" with maybe a touch of "Raspberry Bellini" but definitely more subtle than "Sexy Pink". A triumph for sartorial cycling splendour... And so to business - Dennis, with his usual kindness, led six very gentlemanly gentlemen and self through 26 miles of magnificent countryside. As the chilly and dull start gave way to glorious sunshine, we did a very fair pace via Low Bridge and out to Coneythorpe. Somewhere along the road to Goldsborough, a garment fell from Dave G's bike. It was of a magnificent hue and great was the speculation amongst the gentlemen as to its nature and purpose. Upon reaching Arkendale by a credit-worthy 10 27am, Dennis suggested carrying on to Staveley, Copmanthorpe, Burton Leonard and Ripley so bananas were hastily consumed and off we zoomed. We negotiated the off-road section across Viscount Mountgarret's land with aplomb with Richard and Kevin cycling through the ford like advancing Vikings bent on doing whatever... My thanks to Dennis for not making the wet route compulsory. Having seen Kevin to his Killinghall driveway, we reached the top of Knox and said farewell to our excellent leader and hope he had the usual good lunch awaiting. Richard and Dave also took their own routes home and Trevor issued the immortal words, "You're in charge, Sue, I'll just follow!" As luck and traffic would have it, we returned without incident to Hornbeam having had a superb ride.

STOP PRESS: news from the Grahams currently visiting daughter and new granddaughter in N Carolina - Caroline has attended a SHAG. 26 miles. Sue D

Click on slide show for all today's photos

Wheel Easy Ride Report
The decision, by public acclamation, was to ride to York. After further discussion we set out for Arkendale, Aldwark Bridge, and Beningborough where we hoped for coffee and to pick up a sandwich for lunch by the river in York. But the best laid plans Beningborough Farm Shop was in disarray as cabinets and fridges were on the move. We got some coffee but sandwiches were going to be difficult. So Gia said "I know a place - it is a convent in York". Oh yes Gia - now pull the other one! But there was agreement from Malcolm that it existed so off we went along the NCN route by the river to York.

Gia just paused for an argument with some dog poo (she lost), but we made it to the convent in York. Susie was concerned that the bare men's legs might cause some shock horror among the Nuns but there was not a habit in sight. So with no Rosaries to fondle we ate our fill, and continued along the NCN to the Racecourse. By now the sun was out and it felt like riding on a summer's day. So it was homeward via Askham Richard, and Tockwith. From there the pace hotted up with something of a dash to the finish.

Tony had never ridden the route before so it was new ground for him, and also along for a first ride was Vanessa covering the route for the first time. No doubt Vanessa will get the hang of it before long - bikes, coffee, cakes, tea, lunch, chatting, sunshine, brilliant company, brisk riding. Arranged in any order, a typical Wheel Easy ride.

The lads were well outnumbered by the lassies on this ride with 7 females setting the pace much of the way. Most boys made it back unscathed but it was scary!! 11 riders did 56 miles = 616 miles. Martin W.

The Bar Convent is one of the oldest in England. It was established as a school for Catholic girls in 1686 on the current site and the surviving Grade 1 listed Georgian building dates back to the 1760's. Paul T

EG's Ride Report
It was a cold misty morning as Wheel Easy, comprising EG`s , Poddlers and Double W`s converged on Low Bridge. Although the weather forecast was not that good, it looked like sun might get out later in the day. The double W`s headed for York via Beningborough, the EG`s having done that route last week headed for Wharfedale and Otley. Though still cold the weather started to brighten on the way to Wetherby, and of course Morrisons Cafe.

Whilst making polite conversation it came to light that Eric and John R had been asked to leave Wetherspoons, imaginations raced, with some envy from those who`s age and rheumatism makes misbehaving difficult," well it was after midnight", envy and admiration then ceased. After caffeine , cholesterol and cake it was the climb on to the Sicklinghall ridge in the Autumn sunshine. At Kearby mist could be seen hanging over Otley, "its rain " said a pessimist, fortunately he was wrong. Then it was the 40mph descent into Netherby before the climb up to Wescoe Hill and the next descent into Castley. At Otley it was a large majority decision to to visit Dunny`s, John R not having being initiated into their delightful cuisine. Here Eric had the "New" breakfast. The writer may have been accused in the past of giving to much detail , but this needs reporting. The "breakfast" consisted of, 2 Rashers Bacon, 2 sausages, 2 eggs, 1 slice fried spam, 1 piece black pudding, tomatoes, beans, chips and toast, and after that he still was amongst the fast climbing group, after eating that DP would not be able to mount his bike never mind cycle. Intellectual conversation never ceases with the EG`s, as they pondered why the plain teacakes were dearer than the currant teacakes, the reason was not as suggested by an EG that it was the manhours taken in plucking the currants out of the currant teacakes to make them plain, but size. Ah well size is everything. Crossing Otley Bridge on foot (due to road works) it came as a surprise to see the Wharfe so clear,

in fact a mountain bike could be seen on the river bed, did this belong to a budding Evel Knievel who`s timing and luck was out ?. Riders stomachs reminded them of their sins in Dunnys as we climbed up to Farnley for the swoop down to Lindley Bridge before the climb up to Lindley, then on to Stainburn Forest where shots could be heard, as it was not open season on cyclists we proceeded past the clay pigeon shooting club with confidence to the road before another swoop down to Beckwithshaw and Harrogate. It had been fantastic cycling weather, with sunshine and a slight Autumn chill, and although a shortish ride the miles were quality with lumps and views. Aprox mileage taken as average of nine riders. 40 miles x 9 = 360 miles. Dave P

2010 Wheel Easy Miles (approx) Today 1184 YTD 121330



