

Wednesday, November 24, 2010

Wednesday Rides



Poddlers **Ride** **Report**
Despite an early frost 13 (glad it was not Friday) poddlers turned up for their Wednesday morning exercise. We set off in bright winter sunshine along Leadhall Lane, through Pannal along Crimple Meadows, through the snicket to Burn Bridge. The long climb plus a short steep bit up Brackenthwaite Lane brought us to the Otley/Killinghall Road. Caroline who knew what was coming next decided to take an alternative route to Leathley, so 12 of us climbed up the long drag to Little Alms Cliff Crag car park and had a well earned breather. Then across Stainburn Moor forest where Denis reverted to his childhood and promptly rode through all the frozen puddles to make cracking noises in the ice. We reached the tarmac track and Max went on ahead to ensure that Caroline was OK, Another stop for refreshment and of course a photo opportunity. This was followed by a nice section with splendid views and sheep on both sides but our bikes got very dirty picking up animal droppings and mud on the way. No Trevor it is not written in the ride leader's guide that we clean off the dung and mud off everybody's bikes! The long descent down to the valley bottom to Leathley was welcome and enjoyable. Straight across the A 658 through Castley, Weeton, Dunkeswick and onto Kirkby Overblow where we met up with Caroline who was OK thankfully. Up to the bypass, past Rudding Park and back to Hornbeam via the Showground Cycle track. A cold, somewhat hilly but a sunny and enjoyable ride. Total distance - approximately 30 miles.
Peter & Lynda

Wheel **Easy** **Ride** **Report**
On the coldest day so far, Richard led us on one of his magical mystery tours in the direction of Thorner. Twelve of us set off at a cracking pace, well eleven did! Even though Darren suggested I join a slower group I continued at my 'poddler pace' until Sue shouted 'Try and keep up'. Richard led us through Burnbridge, Kirkby Overblow, Sicklinghall and Collingham. After that I am not quite sure where we went and I don't believe Richard knew either. Malcolm and Gia left us at Compton as they had to return home and Darren and Steve shot off on one wheel each towards York.

Eventually we reached the familiar sights of Boston Spa and Wetherby where we stopped for coffee and met up again with Malcolm and Gia. After refreshments we returned home via Spofforth and Rudding Park. Thanks Richard for an enjoyable 35 mile ride! Paul

Darren and I left the group and headed off towards Tadcaster. From there we went out seemingly against the wind through Wighill and Bishopthorpe into York via the racecourse. A quick stop in York centre followed by a muddy off road slip by me and we were home via Overton, Beningborough, Ousebourn, Grafton, Knaresborough. 60 miles x 2. Steve

EG's Ride Report

Well at least it wasn't raining. Some sunshine with dark (snow ?) clouds hanging over the North York Moors. With the weather and the forecasts being somewhat unreliable and together with wind direction it was decided to head for the Spa Gardens Cafe at Ripon. So nine riders including Eric back from cruising the Med and seeing the flooded streets of Venice (no this was not the old joke) they were actually flooded above the canals, headed to Boroughbridge. It was decided to forgo a coffee stop in Boroughbridge and head straight for Ripon, so we could have miles under our wheels just in case the snow came, then a hasty retreat to Harrogate if required. This proved a problem as some EG`s bikes were so used to stopping in Boroughbridge they started turning off of their own accord. Wrestling the bikes back under control the nine headed for Langthorpe, Skelton on Ure and the Caff, Eric, James and Roy having a quick blast to get warmed up. Bill Whale ,who had to do a taxi job before riding was waiting for us in the Cafe. After hot drinks, cake and soup, Norman and Terry headed back to Harrogate via Boroughbridge, the remaining eight to Studley Park where Eric and James left to head for Brimham Rocks, the remaining six to Ripley (comfort stop ?, note cold weather) and home.

Approx mileage say 8 x 38 = 304 miles
 2 x 48 = 96 miles.

Again we were very lucky with good weather and constant wind (I will rephrase that) it stayed in the same direction. Dave P

2010 Wheel Easy Miles (approx) Today 1260 YTD 139806



