

Wednesday, December 22, 2010

Wednesday Rides



Wheel Easy held another very successful Xmas Lunch at the Hockey Club on Sunday. Over 70 members, partners and family members enjoyed a hearty lunch, including waistline threatening desserts and cheese, followed by Martin's fiendish quiz. Congratulations to the winning team who I think were called Bright Sparks! Martin was MC for the day adding to the nice and easy atmosphere. Well done to those who despite the weather braved the elements for a walk or a ride and many thanks to all the helpers, cooks and shoppers for the day. Happy New Year to you all and as Martin said we should thinking about our Wheel Easy 5th anniversary celebrations which will be on Sunday May 8th 2011. Any ideas??? We would like to do something that included all rides. Gia

EG's Ride Report
It was going to be a good day for cycling. It was much warmer, only minus two degrees Celsius. The sun was going to shine. The winter solstice had passed, and the days are getting longer. On the way to Low Bridge it was a cheery good morning from two Wheel Easy walkers, before a sly stop for DP into Morrisons cafe for a quick coffee (well it was early). At Low Bridge it was two Dave`s P & W soon to be joined by Eric and James, but where was Norman? Norman eventually arrived, with the instructions go to Rascals cafe and meet with Terry, ah said Dave W there`s a good winters scene further on Waterside, so Norman headed for the scene the rest headed for the cafe, there to find Terry (who was not riding today) in warm and comfortable surroundings. What a civilised way to start a ride (in a cafe), one riders feeling of guilt on having extra caffiene soon passing. This start was made more civilised by Dave W`s hip flask, which added that little something to the hot drinks. Where was Norman again, had he gone to York? Were Dave`s directions a bit out? Eventually he arrived with his camera full of scenes. It was hard to leave the warmth of the cafe, but difficult decisions have to be made, so it was cheerio and Merry Christmas to Terry as the five headed for Boroughbridge where Norman left us to enter the top cafe, where he is always assured of a warm welcome (not a word to Rosemary about this). The remaining four heading for Skelton on Ure, except for Eric who after all the years on this route seemed to be drawn towards Kirby Hill, must have been a blip on his high tech

handlebars. The Warehouse cafe in Ripon was a warm cosy haven as the four got steaming hot Scotch Broth`s inside themselves, closely followed by hot puds with custard and tea. Outside the occasional flurry of snow could be seen, but these passed and the sun still shone. Then it was back to Harrogate via Bishop Monkton and Farnham in the sun with what wind there was behind us and the roads in excellent condition. Dave W left us in Knaresborough and Eric and James put an extra loop on by heading for Kirk Deighton. So for Malcolm M One x say 28 miles. One x say 33miles one x say 36 miles two x say 45 miles. Lastly from the EG`s (a small part of Wheel Easy) to the rest of Wheel Easy and anybody else who reads the website a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and you can`t mention the web site without saying a special thanks to Paul T. Dave P

2010	Wheel	Easy	Miles	(approx)	Today	187	YTD	143252
------	-------	------	-------	----------	-------	-----	-----	--------

Short Walk Report

It was another day well below freezing, so a group of six opted for a brisk walk from Hornbeam Park rather than a bike ride. The route took us along the bridleway at the bottom of Hornbeam, along Fulwith Mill Lane, and on into Stone Rings Lane before heading along footpaths northward. I had to deliver something to Malcolm and Gia, and in the process obviously disturbed Malcolm's beauty sleep as he answered the door in dressing gown and sleeping hat. Sue Couture realised, as I returned to the group who were stood at the end of the road, that I was in shock, and so she decided that to overcome the deep trauma I needed a break at Bettys Harlow Carr Coffee Shop. And what a delightfully warm sanctuary from the cold this was. After feeling it necessary to ensure they were maintaining standards by trying various delicacies (I think standards are being kept up, but I will go again soon to confirm), we all walked back through Valley Gardens and made our way homeward. So another Christmas Party was completed and this was one just for the walkers. To Everyone at Wheel Easy - Seasons Greetings and here's hoping to get more warm cycling done in 2011. Martin W



