



Poddlers Ride Report

The day was definitely autumnal, a grey nip hung in the air, but still a multitude turned out for a Scottish classic. Our leader, however, had obviously been whisked away by whatever secret team Cavendish has decided to ride for next year. He would be needed to give Mark some one to one classic Scottish training on gaining power on big hills. (They had obviously gone to Pateley Bridge -- and without us.) El Butler gallantly stepped in and he decided on some classic Bulter training on the hills west of Hampsthwaite. I think he was aiming to show Mick, a nice gentleman from Kings Lynn, what hills were. Only he and I knew what was in store, everyone else followed trustingly. The route had been described in Pubs..... and perhaps members of A.A. knew what was going on. The Squinting Cat to Beckwithshaw turn right avoiding the Beckwith Arms and on via Penny Pot towards the Joiner's Arms where we turned left, but not before witnessing the Batz on their never ending mission, searching for new ways with cakes. And despite being led by the legendary El Butler, who is going to be the first W.E. member to get an ASBO for leading Poddlers' rides at excessive speed, these Battenburgers were so keen to get to their weight of two eggs in butter(or vegetable oil), sugar and flour (plus flavouring of choice) that they over took at the speed that shocked even El B. Anyway after a bit of up and down we reached the Queen's Head, and started to attack the delightful hill.....Yes I know some people don't think it is a hill, but I know it is, up to the Black Bull, where we crossed Skipton Road again. Onwards along Penny Pot and left to the Sun Inn, where Sur John surged on home. We too surged up to Little Armscliff where Mick admitted these Yorkshire hills were hillier than those of King's Lynn, and thus was allowed to go back to base for a quiet afternoon of bridge. We swooped gloriously down into Beckwithshaw passed the Beckwith Arms, split into several groups to speed back into Harrogate, but not before witnessing newer Kevin throw himself gracefully in front of a car in the feotal

position, as the 'we want more hills group' turned right to the Squinting Cat again. Dr. Trevor (and what a joy it is to be back in the saddle again with this medical icon at our sides), checked the victim as the victim checked the bike...no bits were missing from either the bike or Kevin both were pronounced fit to continue. As we passed the first and last Pub of the Day, The Squinting Cat, I sighed a sigh of relief that we had finished the ride before the pubs opened and thus had kept our cycling A.A. members out of trouble for another morning. A short 24 miles at speed by 13, with Arms Heads and other bits still intact. Caroline

Click on slide show for all today's photos

Wheel Easy Ride Report

Setting off from Hornbeam and heading for Brimham I received a call from Gia saying they were catching us up. So we said we would wait at Hampsthwaite, and guess what is at Hampsthwaite - Sophie's! Coffee and croissants set the mood for the morning and seven of us then headed up through Burnt Yates to Brimham where Paul turned back to take the short way home and get on with the painting. I thought it was pretty good weather for a November, shame we are still in August, but there was no wind and we were soon zooming down through Sawley to Fountains and Studley Park before having lunch at Spa Gardens. Then it was home to Harrogate with David departing on the way back at Copgrove. A brisk 42 miles by seven riders. MartinW

EG's Ride Report

A cold grey day at Low Bridge though the weather forecast promised better things (promise`s, promise`s) as the EG`s started to gather. However the stars of the show were (waggon train) Rob back from his trek across America, 5,300 and some miles in 102 days, camping, carrying his own gear and cooking for himself Davy Crockett could not do better. Eric back from the Himalayas the oldest person and an EG to reach the 18,000 foot summit, sunburnt lips meant breakfast hurt (curried cornflakes), exit of said curries also uncomfortable, no hedges or bushes just rocks. Failed to find Shan gri lah (land of everlasting youth) meant no mass migration of the EG`s. Congatters also to Peter B who due to a bit of a cough and failure to find his bike cleaning manual was unable to make it today. Then it was 14 riders away to Aldwark Bridge destination Benningborough Home Farm Cafe, as usual a fast group was sent ahead to warn of impending hungrycyclists for once Eric was allowed special dispensation to remain in the slower group. After refreshment and an update on America and the Himalayas Eric, Norman, Roy and Terry retraced the route back to Harrogate. Bill, Colin, Dave P, Dave W, Glyn, James, John E, Peter J, Rob and Theo headed for York via Skelton. The EG`s were impressed by Rob, look at his thighs said Dave W, you can`t say things like that said Dave P, he only has thighs for you said Glyn (first warning), I wish I had said nothing said Dave W. The Skeldergate Bridge Cafe was full, people sitting in the sun, so it was on to the cafe in Rountree Park, a sort of York Dunnies, at the mention of the magic name Rob (suffering from the privations of America) asked to visit Dunnies soon. It was very pleasant sitting in the sun on the terass, but all good thing have to end and soon we were on our way to Askham Richard. My bum hurts said Rob, you are not getting enough miles in said John E, no but he has got magnificent thighs said Dave P, thighs isn`t everything said Glyn (he then got a final warning). A banana break was taken at Marston Moor then on to Cowthorpe, at the climb to the B6164 Bill was expecting Dave W (our answer to Pantani) to launch an attack, due to Dave in deep conversation this did not occur leaving a disappointed Bill who had planned a few counters to Dave. The group then split to to return to Knaresborough, Harrogate and Hornbeam. A good days cycling, a kind wind, some sun and sometimes cold but no b...dy rain. Mileage say $58 \times 10 = 580$ miles. guessing here $38 \times 4 = 152$ miles. Dave P

2011 Wheel Easy Miles (approx) Today 1338 YTD 120519



