



This is what I encountered when I arrived at Hornbeam .....Clearly all the Poddlers are mad....Gordon gleefully set off and led a ride up the ramp now a raging river and off somewhere wet....I went home completely soaked to the skin. Then took Max to Bishop Monkton and Markington when it was dry enough to take out his new bike. Caroline

#### Real Poddlers Ride Report!

Despite the very wet conditions Gordon bravely reported for duty as ride leader and amazingly so did another 9 which quickly reduced to 8 when Caroline chickened out opting for a coffee rather than a good soaking. So we hastily departed before numbers reduced further. Our route took us to Burn Bridge, Kirkby Overblow, Sicklinghall, Wetherby, (no option of a coffee stop - sack the leader!) some interesting driving behaviour was noted when a couple of us were almost knocked off our bikes by a tidal wave from a very considerate driver! Heads down we ploughed on to Kirk Deighton, North Deighton, Spofforth and Follifoot finishing at the showground where we disbanded a very wet 23 miles later. Allison S

#### EG's Ride Report

Wednesday morning, and it did rain. The solitary rider following the streams down to Low Bridge noticed waterproofed clad cyclists at Hornbeam Park, this gave him some comfort when he realised he was not the only member of the Wheel Easy Mad Section out that day. Bill had also had a fleeting conversation with Caroline regarding madness and rain. We had six riders at Low Bridge, with notes from Norman, Roy and Terry (Roy's Rust Phobia being a little suspect especially to them as has metal joints) and Peter B who was going to catch us up. Welcome back to Bill from his holiday in France, where he upset French roadies on lightweight racing machines by overtaking them on his heavyweight tourer. Anybody who upsets Le Froggies deserves our admiration and thanks. Then on to Boroughbridge through rain and large puddles to Morrisons cafe (bikes under cover) for hot drinks and bacon sandwiches (especially good today Roy). Here we were joined by Peter B who very generously gave Bill some Himalayan mud to put on his bike. In other mad moments some of us have tried lifting Peter`s bike, in fact it has been suggested that lifting PB`s bike should be included in the 2012 Olympics weight lifting events. However for us non athletes there is the guess the weight of his bike competition. This is open to all Wheel Easy members and does not have to be too accurate as estimates to the nearest ton will be accepted. The rain had now eased off to pouring down as Bill, Colin, Dave P, Dave W, James, Peter B and Rob headed through more puddles to Langthorpe, Skelton and Ripon and the Spa Gardens Cafe to OD on caffeine and cake. It was now drizzle as we climbed up through Studley Royal Park watched by some nervous deer, shouting out "calm down deer" did not seem to have the required effect. Then came the climbs before the swoop down to Ripley where three

headed for Knaresborough and four for Harrogate. A wet days cycling, but a chance to try out wet weather gear before things get bad this winter. Mileage say 37 miles x 7 = 259 miles. Dave P

2011 Wheel Easy Miles (approx) Today 459 YTD 141329

