



Poddlers Ride Report

There was definitely a chill in the air this morning, (will there be an Autumn or do we just go straight to Winter this year?) but 15 riders opted to go to Studley Park with various options for early returns. Welcome to Jane, who was just getting back into cycling after her injuries received when she tangled with killer Kev from Killinghall. We managed to traverse the Stray without interrupting traffic flow too many times. The Asda path and several sneaky ginnels and minor roads took us to Knox. As we crossed the A61 before the ascent of Grainbeck Lane, Trevor (bedecked in day glow yellow) did a wonderful impersonation of a road white lining operative, much to the concern of one inconsiderate motorist. We progressed via Crawford's couloir to return to the A61. Here Jane left us pleading that we should take the evil Kev as far as possible whilst she regained her strength. This we did ploughing a straight, but single filed, furrow to Ripley where Sur John surged off to his sick bed, and onwards to the dizzy heights of the last resting place of the forlorn, fire riddled Drover's Inn. (What will we call this marker when it becomes a private residential palace?). Here Linda and Allison opted for the shorter route home via Markington and hopefully Bishop Monkton. The rest of us proceeded to Studley Park. Here, most resisted the coffee siren's wistful call with only Paul opting for a break and a leisurely return. On the descent through the park the peloton was confronted with two deer, travelling at twice the speed of sound, which managed to get through a small gap between riders - a wonderful sight but it could have so easily have been a disaster! Steady progress was made on the return route via Ripon, Bishop Monkton, Occaney and Knaresborough, without incident. Finally we had the enormous pleasure of travelling from Granby corner on one of the many, new, magnificent and wide trans-strayinnental cycle-ways to Walker's passage. Thanks to all for a good ride.

For the Captain's Log 1 x 10, 1 x 15, 2 x 24 and 11 x 31.5 (419.5 total stellar miles). Max

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Wheel Easy Ride Report

Nine out today most on shortish timescales so a ride to Martin's newly discovered café in Otley was our target. At Pool three of us took the direct route, not knowing that the other six had taken the hilly route arriving at the café with more miles and hills under their belts, therefore possibly more deserving of their coffee. Dave R took off to Ilkley. We returned home via Lindley reservoir, Martin added the Almscliffe route and the rest of us arrived home for about one o'clock. Good morning, good company and quite mild with lovely views. 27 miles give or take a few for the extra loops. Gia

After a lovely ride to Otley with the main group I continued to Ilkley for coffee and cake. I then went onto Bolton Abbey, Barden Tower, Stump Cross Caverns, Greenhow, Little Almscliff and back to Harrogate for 2.30pm. I had enough time to do a longer ride and couldn't resist the chance to do one of my favourite rides through Wharfedale, so a total of 59 miles. David R

EG's Ride Report

After the grim mist and fog the weather and the forecast looked hopeful. As the riders gathered at Low Bridge, Colin appeared on his new winter bike. A Genesis, Reynolds steel tube frame, carbon forked, a delight in red (see photo of admiring looks). With apologies to the bike's name. In the beginning there were fourteen riders at Low Bridge, when order was created out of chaos the group headed for Farnham, Colin putting in a few fast hill climbs to test the Genesis, however on the downhill freewheel challenge to Occaney his Cannondale seemed the better descender. At Bishop Monkton it was left turn to Markington except for Norman and Terry who headed straight to Spa Gardens cafe for the pick of the toasted teackes. At Markington greetings were exchanged with two lady WEW's coming the other way. The freewheel challenge down Studley Park was spoiled by two motorists who seemed unaware that they were not the only people on the road.

Then a fast pace to the Cafe, but not before Rob asked the vital question "was this going to be a two stop ride ??". As the older riders know anything less could result in a breakdown of law and order. After refreshment it was Sharow and Marton le Moor then Boroughbridge, Tasty Snacks Cafe, Sonia, other cyclists and the Army Air Corps. The hill climb points to Farnham were taken by Colin closely pursued by John R. On the climb out of Knaresborough up the cycle path Theo never ceases to amaze people on his fixed wheel. Another lucky weather Wednesday excellent cycling for winter. Total mileage guesstimate 14 x say 44 ave = 616 miles. Dave P

2011 Wheel Easy Miles (approx) Today 1311 YTD 162835



