

Wednesday, January 11, 2012

Wednesday Rides



Poddlers Ride Report

Pannal>Follifoot>Spofforth>LittleRibston>Knaresborough>Scriven
>Lingerfield>Scotton>Brearton>Nidd>Ripley>Knox>Hornbeam 25 miles

BUT - O, where, tell me where

Have my lovely Poddlers gone?

Surely, not to Scotland

That was not on my route...

Nineteen Poddlers exited Hornbeam via the hairpin route to Hookstone Road and thence to St Robert's Church Car Park, Pannal, to meet Lynda = 20. Surge-on was already showing his getaway skills so a split seemed a good idea. However, the words uttered by Jason Donovan - Pugh caused a slight panic - "You won't see me again". Gosh, well it may not have been the most exciting route but surely it wasn't bad enough to leave me working on an epitaph. Undaunted, we swep' on towards Follifoot taking a right turn , crossing the bypass and coursing across Spofforth Haggs . By this time the Pughdlers were out of sight and none of them was seen again but thanks to roving reporter, Max Clifford Graham I am able to confirm the following - Och

nae, it wasna Scotland - phew or should it be Pugh! Alison felt unwell and left at the bypass - hope all well now, Alison. Surge-on left at Abbey Road. John W apparently turned left as the Pughdlers turned right at Scotton leaving six trying to keep up with Jason Donovan-Pugh as he went through a few moves before disappearing in "a flurry of sequins for belly-dancing". Apparently, Dennis and Gordon managed to outstrip Max and the Kevins before Kevin K returned to await his lovely Jane. They then returned via Abbey Road to Killinghall. An impressive ride by Jane - grim determination! Max and t'other Kevin then found themselves alone but managed to be of good cheer and arrived home safely. Meanwhile back with the more sedate posse of eight, a very pleasant ride continued with harmonious loquacity - subjects ranging from good auld Scottish vocabulary to the misuse of the subject and predicate in Spanish, to the existence of a stained glass window depicting one of the Knights Templar in Ribston Hall. The physical and intellectual skills of the Poddlers are only to be challenged by the EG's and Martin's annual quiz, of course! A careful totting up would suggest that twenty people were accounted for - well, that is assuming Dave G returned home in one piece. The weather was kind. My calibrator showed an average of 10.3 mph and I think J D-Pugh's would probably have an off the score record of demi plies, side steps and hops! Sue D

Click on slide show for all today's photos

Wheel Easy Ride Report ([Route 82](#))

Fine weather and little wind suggested that cycling to Brimham and Fountains would make a good ride. Dave R, Julie and William set off ahead, Paul T ventured south to recce a route for Sunday which left Dave the dentist to accompany five ladies. He was later joined by Malcolm so we now had two mechanics with us. Wonderful views from Brimham and a great ride down to Warsill and in to Fountains. Here we used the splendid new cycle stands (there are 12 of them) and we are told there will be CCTV cameras installed soon. We also were very pleased to see a new brochure about Fountains with an excellent picture of Wheel Easy members when we rode there in September 2010 to present the director with the Sustrans Way of The Roses map as the route goes through the deer park. Home before it started to drizzle. 40 miles, a great January ride. Gia

Will and Julie dipped out on the hills at Masham due to work and kids' birthday party commitments and headed back via Wath, Ripon, Littlethorpe, Burton Leonard and Knaresborough. Still 48 miles (2146 feet) only then to be delayed by a puncture just a mile away from finishing! I continued from

Masham to Lofthouse, Pateley Bridge then Harrogate. I had enough time to do a longer ride and couldn't resist the chance to do one of my favourite rides a total 52 miles. I enjoyed wonderful views of the East coast from the top of Ouster Bank 1407 feet, this is featured in the 'Compendium of High Roads and Road Passes in Great Britain' website see <http://www.oed.org.uk/uk/HighestRoads.html> David R

The medium plus ride this Sunday was supposed to be going to York and Beningbrough. Visiting York last weekend the cycle track to Beningbrough was under water so I took the opportunity today to recce a new route. After a hilly ride to Kettlewell on Monday I needed a flat ride and as there were no volunteers to accompany me I set off all by myself!

Between Follifoot and Spofforth I met up with the Poddlers who were definitely following a training programme as they quickly left me and peddled at great pace into the distance. Keith and Helen took the opportunity to rest and cycle with me for a few miles before they also shot off towards Knaresborough. I continued over the A1, to Cowthorpe, Tockwith, Marston Moor Memorial, Long Marston, Hutton Wandesley, Angram and Askham Richard. Rather than continue to York I took the route to Bilbrough, Catterton, Healaugh, Wighill, Wetherby, Sicklinghall, Kirkby Overblow and Harrogate. It was a great 43 mile flat ride.

If you decide to do the ride on Sunday we will have a break at Askham Richard (so bring something to eat) and have a coffee stop at Wetherby. We will be back in Harrogate by 2pm. Paul

EG's Ride Report

The weather forecast was quite good compared with what we had been having, but a little unseasonably warm and the wind was quite reasonable. Soon we had enough riders for a cricket team but before we could set off it became a rugby team. Moving along Abbey Road Norman punctured, slight delay then on to Ferrensby and Arkendale and Angela's cafe on the A168 passing The Little House on the Prairie, this put a Wild West Theme in to our ride, quite apt really as amongst the EG's we have the following braves.

Dances with Difficulty.

Runs with Tortoises.

Wind in (what remains of) his hair.

Sits in Cafe.

Goes Behind Hedges.

Also many braves called (due to past weather) Rain in his Face. Angela saw the fifteen of us were fed and watered in record time, perhaps Home Farm Cafe staff should come here for work experience. Then it was on to Grafton and Lower Dunsforth, here Bob and Roy left us to return home via

Boroughbridge. At Aldwark Bridge Norman and Terry left us to return home via Aldwark Village. We were now back to a cricket team consisting of Bill, Colin, Dave P, Dave S, Dave W, Eric, John E, John R, Peter B, Peter J and Theo who made it in good order to Easingwold and Temptations Cafe for an excellent lunch in their comfortable dining room. It is hard to move yourselves from nice comfortable surroundings but we limited ourselves to around a dozen cups of tea each before we headed for home via Aldwark Bridge, which is the way we came but it is shorter than going via Boroughbridge. Up to now the weather had been good but was down to change later, which though correct was hard to believe as we cycled back with the sun, yes the sun, in our eyes. Coming out of Knaresborough on the A59 cycle path it was noted that Wheel Easy had done a great job cleaning it up, "Enjoy" said Eric however for Dave P there is never much to enjoy on that path especially after a long ride. An excellent winters day ride of around 52 miles maximum with a kind wind and we managed to get Bill home before dark. Dave P.



