

Wednesday, April 18, 2012

Wednesday Rides



Poddlers Ride Report

Nine hardy poddlers turned up at Hornbeam (where was everyone else?) on a cold damp morning. Well this is England in April. Our route took us to Calcutt and up Thistle Hill to cross the A658 bypass and follow the bridleway to the A661. Left and then right along Plompton Road to arrive in Follifoot. Only light rain at this point so thoughts of returning directly to Harrogate were left behind as we continued to Spofforth. Max reported that the Harland Way cycle track was getting muddy on Sunday so as the rain was becoming more persistent and to avoid the sticky stuff (how drought areas must envy us!) we took the road to Little Ribston instead. At Ribston we turned right towards Kirk Deighton where we made a left turn to then join the cycle track to Wetherby. Return route was through Sicklinghall and Kirby Overblow. The true poddler spirit was tested and not found wanting. Thank you Liz, Caroline, Max, Sue, Alison, Gordon, John W and Terry for your good humoured companionship despite getting wet. 27 miles Dave G

EG's Ride Report

The day started off with a damp dismal drizzle and progressed to a persistent precipitation on the way down to Low Bridge. A wave from Caroline (our timekeeper for Sundays Reliability Ride) closely followed by Max. At Low Bridge the Reliability Rides were discussed again, all agreeing they were a success. A previous discussion had taken place in Morrisons cafe after finishing the rides, unfortunately one EG had to keep getting up from the table because of cramp, his statement that when he got cramp his wife rubbed his thighs, seemed to fall on deaf ears amongst other EG`s, riders and cafe customers. Soon we had ten riders with Dave W facing the wrong way as it was decided to head to Boroughbridge, and depending on how the weather turned out, on to Wetherby. The intention being not straying far from Harrogate and Knaresborough and the cafes. The freewheel competition to Occaney was easily won by Dave S with the usual front runners way behind (who blamed their wet weather clothing). Soon we were into to the warmth of Tasty Snacks with hot drinks and Sonia, or was it drinks and hot Sonia. After sustenance the precipitations seemed even more persistent and the prospect of Wetherby for the majority, did not seem to hold the same charm as Eddie Waring`s early bath. But choices have to be made and the mad catered for so it was down the old A1 now the A168, managing to pass Angela`s cafe (very difficult) with Bill, Colin, Dave P, Dave W, Dave S, John E, John R and Terry turning off to Arkendale, leaving Eric and Peter B (of the Himalayas) to seek Shangrila somewhere near Wetherby. An enjoyable ride of around 28 miles despite the conditions. I do not think the EG`s will be able to stand much more of this drought. Dave P



