

Wednesday, May 30, 2012

## Wednesday Rides



Report and photos of yesterday's EG's visit to the Velodrome [here](#)

### Poddlers Ride

13 of us decided to poddle in the morning sunshine, and we headed towards Wetherby via the showground, Rudding and across the ring-road to Follifoot. Dennis wanted to get a move on, and Tall John needed to get back early-ish, so we tried to make progress, although some uncertainty about the best way to get through Wetherby slowed us down a little. 'Old' John (only for reasons of identification, John) knew the best way, and he took us across a field and over the old railway track, and we ended up near the cinema in Wetherby. Dennis left us at that point, and we went through the town centre and over the bridge and roundabout to the A1 path, and along it to Bramham and then across the A1 west towards along the old Roman Road towards East Rigton.



From [Desktop](#)

We stopped for the group photo near Hope Hall and then took the small, quiet road north to Collingham, the one which a previous Poddlers' ride had failed to find. A long descent into Collingham, where we stopped for some shopping for Jennifer. The EGs happened to come along the other way while we waited for Jennifer, and we then crossed the A58 and headed for Linton and Wetherby again. The leader failed to listen to Liz, who knew a short-cut in Collingham, and we headed back to Wetherby and Kirk Deighton, North Deighton (where Gordon and Alison headed off towards Spofforth) and thence to Knaresborough. Along Abbey Road, where Steve left us, and the remnants made their way back up the A59 to Bogs Lane. Jennifer, a relatively recent member, riding her husband's bike, was so pleased with her ride up the hill from Knaresborough that she headed off to the showground to check out how easily she could climb that...

It was diplomatically mentioned at the end that the ride was a little too fast, and it was. As ride leader, I take the blame for this. Having spent the previous couple of weeks cycling in France, and also having just taken possession of our lovely Spa Audaxes, I went too fast (trying to keep up with the faster members of Poddlers...). Poddlers should not be a fast ride; that's not what Poddlers are about. Other members of Poddlers please take note.

About 32 rather-too-quick miles. Joe

### Wednesday Ride

Nice sunny day, Sue suggested Coxwold so with Gia's map in pocket, Colin's local knowledge and Angela's Garmin we cycled a great route at some pace to Coxwold. Caroline from Spa Gardens who is training for a triathlon joined us which was very nice. We stopped for tea in Coxwold and had a good discussion about all our favourite and not so favourite café stops.

Excellent ride, great conditions and home for 3. 55 miles. Gia

### EG's Ride

The weather was still a good as the EG`s headed for Low Bridge, a few still on a high from [our day amongst the stars at the Manchester Velodrome](#) ready to bore the lycra off the rest of the EG`s.

Bill W who had done a good time had a decorating date so missed out.

At Low Bridge we met Caroline from Spa Gardens Cafe riding with Wheel Easy Wednesdayers, "Who's going to make the tea then" was the anguished cry.

Not that it mattered as the EG`s were bound for Wetherby and Morrisons.

We are going to Coxwold said Gia, and away they went.

The dozen EG`s then headed for Wetherby and the delights of Morrisons soon to be caught up by Eric who had a date with a chiro lady.

Then it was on to Collingham where more Wheel Easy Wednesdayers were met, up the climb to Thorner and on to Shadwell (this in our opinion being a safer route than the road up to Slaid Hill).

Here Colin and John R left us to return home, Colin to scrape the barnacles of his boat's bottom before going on holiday and JR conqueror of the East to West route, well who knows?.

Then down to Roundhay Park for a banana break only before setting off on the Wyke Beck Way to Temple Newsam via Gipton and Halton (injun country) where as one EG observed the dog population had changed from Labradors and Spaniels to Pit Bulls and Rottweilers.

Having survived Halton Moor we arrived at Temple Newsam for afternoon tea.

Soon it was heading north for Harrogate.

Time was moving on and it was decided to continue on the ring road (busy but no blind bends) and take the Coal Road to Wyke and instead of descending to Wetherby head for Harewood Bridge and Kirkby Overblow and home.

Still good weather (it cannot last, surely ?) and around 50miles.

Dave P

### Wednesday Away Day Report

Given the good weather forecast four brave souls, Richard P, Peter S, Peter J & Stephen N, decided to take part in the Wednesday Away Day Ride. The ride started out from Osmotherley and we quickly found the steep climbs as we headed off towards Hawnby. The route to Hawnby was a mixture of steep climbs and undulating roads across the tops of the moors. At Hawnby we had a minor incident when Stephen had a minor accident when he fell off his bike while stationary and blooded his elbow. This was quite ironic given the

condition of some of some of the descents we had managed without incident. Then it was off to Bilsdale which provided an excellent road to achieve a reasonable pace. Richard P had intended to take a picture of the Irish telephone box but we were in full swing by that point and did not stop. We also did not stop for refreshments at the pub with the menu all in German. On reaching the top of Bilsdale we took advantage of the view point from which we could clearly see Roseberry Topping and Cook's Monument at Easby Moor. From here we headed off to Kildale for refreshments and found a super tea room that provide the largest tuna mayonnaise sandwiches known to man. Following a discussion regarding the next part of the ride the group decided to head for the sea, the nearest bit being Killingrove. So once more we set of for some hill climbing through Commondale and then across the moors to the A171. We were stopped from crossing the A171 by the police as a huge convoy of high ranking police passed in front of us. We then went to Killingrove (once seen never forgotten) and had a short stop to look at the North Sea. We then took the road out of Killingrove and eventually reached the A171 where it was decided to retrace our steps back to Kildale. It was at this point that it decided to rain and so we crossed the moor in persistent rain, but on leaving Kildale the weather improved and the sunshine returned. After Kildale we took the route along the edge of the moors passing through places such as Ingleby Greenhow, Great Broughton and Carlton in Cleveland. By this time we were looking for a refreshment stop but there did not appear to be any tea rooms on the route. After a quick dash down the A127 we arrived at Swainby and found a tea room and after ordering the refreshments we were informed that we were only 4 miles from Osmotherley. After a day of climbing the ride ended with a sting in the tail as the climb from Swainby to Osmotherley was one of the steepest of the day. A most enjoyable day was had by all and everyone was looking forward to the next Away Day.

Ride Statistics: Departed 09:30, returned 16:30, 69.79 miles, Estimated Ride Time 6 hours, Ascent 4363, Start Elevation 527, Minimum Elevation 59, Maximum Elevation 928. Peter J



