

Wednesday, July 18, 2012

Wednesday Rides



Poddlers Ride Report

A select group of seven Poddlers gathered at Hornbeam, including new members Joyce and Philip. The route was out to Goldsboro via Waterside then thro Flaxby, Coneythorpe, Arkendale, Ferrensby. Farnham, Scotton, Brearton Lane, Ripley and home via Knox Lane. We took the right hand fork when leaving Coneythorpe, the two tractors we encountered must have contributed to the state of the road which had a liberal coating of mud. John W.

Wheel Easy Ride Report

We were down on numbers for a Wednesday ride. Terry and Richard headed towards Masham and Gia, Kevin and Paul headed for coffee.

Our route took us to Knaresborough, Goldsborough, Flaxby, up the muddy Clareton Lane and Hill Bank to Arkendale. In Marton we turned right along Thorney Hill Lane towards Lower Dunsforth and then into Boroughbridge. We could not believe Kevin had not stopped at the Old Foundry before! However he has promised to return there with his wife. We returned home via Minskip, Staveley and the cycle paths via Bilton Lane and the Stray. It was another great mornings ride covering 35 miles at an average speed of 10.4. Paul

Only two signed up for the longer ride today, led by Richard with just Terry S in tow. After the hilly excursion of the previous week, we set off in similar vein looking towards Masham in what became a ride of two halves. The hilly first half took in a number of steep bits including Clint Bank, Shaw Mills and

at Fountains, leading to a gentle downhill through Studley Park to a cafe stop at Ripon Spa Gardens. Here the floral tableau, featuring a pair of diver's legs, was finally understood to be a celebration of the Olympics. More hilly bits took us to Masham via Galphay, Kirkby Malzeard, Grewelthorpe, Swinton and Fearby. The downhill to Masham led us past the newly-opened Co-op store, worth noting for essentials like an ATM. Masham gave us a hint of summer as we lunched in the square in sunshine, worrying slightly over the lack of trade enjoyed by the market stalls. The second leg was flatter but more exposed to the stiff breeze which made for slow going up the inclines. A second visit to Grewelthorpe led us to second visit to Ripon and on to the flatter lands to Burton Leonard. Byways, unmade tracks and a swollen ford featured in the stretch from Burton Leonard to the outskirts of Scotton. School-run traffic greeted us through Knaresborough after which we finished the day along Bilton Lane and cycle paths to the packed lorry park next to ASDA. Here a sea of white vans and drivers was champing at the bit ready to clear away the Gift and Home exhibition.

In all, it was a day that gave us fine views across to the North York Moors and Roseberry Topping and settled down into something like summer. Stats: 63.8 miles; 12.7 mph average; height gained 2730 ft. (830 m). Terry Smith

EG's Ride Report

During the gathering at Low Bridge blue gaps could be seen in the clouds, wishful thinking or hallucinations. Soon we were joined by Wheel Easy Wednesdayers, who came, who paused, who went. Dave W and Roy were both not well enough to cycle, best wishes and speedy recovery to you both. Other riders were indisposed due to other commitments, that's what it said on their notes, however our main sympathy must go to Eric who was decorating on what turned out to be a great cycling day in SUNSHINE. (console yourself with the 100 on Sunday Eric). Despite the promise seen in the clouds it was decided to head for Angela's Cafe on the A168 and see how the weather/wind turned out. After the morning toasted teacakes ritual, the clouds parted, the sun shone but the wind promised to be a little naughty on our return. John R and Norman made for Boroughbridge and home, Bill, Bob, Dave P, Dave S, Marvin, Peter J, and Terry headed for Aldwark Bridge in the sun and a cross wind. Then on to Newton-on-Ouse, Shipton and Wigginton with some wind assist, then North to Sutton-on-the-Forest, Crayke and Easingwold to our favourite spot where a table had already been laid out for us. After a nice late lunch it was back to Aldwark Bridge via Alne, the wind was a slight inconvenience but not a problem. As usual a banana break was taken at Branton Green, then Farnham and home. It seemed the weather forecasts were a bit out but who cares when it is out the right way. I keep

wanting to write this word sunhine. Mileage for most around 62/64 miles.
Dave P.





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