

Wednesday, January 9, 2013

Wednesday Rides



Poddlers Ride

With a cold but sun coming out morning welcoming us at Hornbeam a large number of riders met. As I was about to lead off I found I had a flat tyre so John W headed off with an advanced group at a slow pace to Low Bridge Knaresborough. Having replaced the tub we all regrouped at LowBridge. Off we went to Farnham but two decided not to continue. Over Okney Beck to Copgrove then via bridle path to Roecliffe, two speeding on ahead for early afternoon commitments. Onto Boroughbridge where four departed to enjoy coffee stop. Ten of us returned home via Marton taking 1st right in village only to meet EGs coming the other way and too many to count (I can't believe they had all managed to stop at Angie's café but why else would they only be 6 miles from starting after nearly 2 hours cycling?). On we went with puzzled looks on our faces

(look forward to reading their report) via Arkendale, Ferrensby and Knaresborough 28miles in total in very pleasant weather. Thanks again to John W for his assistance. Steven Perry.



Wheel Easy Ride

Focussed for 2013 riders once again had a plan, which despite a shaky start with black ice on Brackenthwaite Lane meant that we were going to take full advantage of a bright but cold sunny day. Our route to Wetherby was unusual, taking us to Brackenthwaite Lane, past the honey farm to Almscliffe Crag, Weeton, and a nice climb out of Kearby. Here Paul left us, with most of the climbs of the day done and the mists that had settled over Leeds well behind us. John returned to Harrogate via the Harland Way and the rest of us settled in to the excellent value café, North Street Deli. All day breakfasts and bacon butties gave us the fuel we needed to extend our ride. Sarah led us up towards Whixley via the railway crossing, a first for our veteran rider Colin and more loops to Thorp Underwood. Home via Great Ouseburn with our mileage at 46 miles except for Robert who by the time he got back to Leeds would have notched up 70 miles! A great ride, done "the other way round" and with extra loops. I hope our new member Jeremy will forward the photos he took to us! Dave R, Stuart and William set off for Pateley, so hope that they had a good ride. Gia

Stuart, Terry and I set out on a sunny morning from Hornbeam led by Dave. Eschewing the potential of a Wharfe run we opted for the slightly less onerous(!) destination of Pateley Bridge via York Folly - with a serious amount of low cloud and mist rolling in from the west (see photo) - then coffee and cake at Market Café before setting off home and a few more hills through Smelthouses and Ripley. 32 miles with an elevation gain of 3,143ft at an average speed of 11.5 mph (guess who got a new Garmin from Santa!!) The route can be followed at <http://connect.garmin.com/course/2676663>. William



EG's Ride

The day promised much, and it fulfilled its promise. It was blue sky and sun at Low Bridge and looking at the number of cyclists it looked like Wheel Easy was about to take over Knaresborough (tomorrow the world ?). Away went a profusion of Poddlers, then just after 10-00am away went an expansion of EG`s now up to sixteen riders. At Farnham the distinction became blurred and we had a mass of PoddeEG`s, however at the cross roads the mass bifurcated with the Poddlers heading for Occaney and the EG`s for Ferrensyby. On the way PB punctured but was lent support with Norman`s technical advisor and Roy on communications. The select sixteen arrived at Angela`s cafe in groups of various sizes intent on caffeine and carbo loading. We were later joined by a group from York section CTC, among them was a visitor to York from Wales who knew Theo in the 1960`s. For our younger readers that was an era that if you could remember the 60`s you were not there. Then it was on to Grafton and Lower Dunsforth, through some flood debris only to meet the Poddlers coming t`opposite way, salutations were exchanged on the move as we headed for Boroughbridge were Norman and JR left us (JR always has a grin when he leaves us, someday he will be followed). Sun, blue sky, no wind (had we died and gone to heaven) as we headed for Brafferton, Raskelf and eventually Easingwold. At Temptations cafe technical problems in the kitchen, meant sub contracting food from the golf club. As usual a very pleasant lunch, however the delay meant gallons of tea were consumed before the food arrived (a noticeable effect on EG bladders). It was still sun and blue sky as we said farewell to Easingwold at 2-15pm and made for Aldwark Bridge, Arkendale and home. Groups were made of fast, med and slow as a concession to the odd rider who has to get back before dark, and hence save on batteries. Sun, Blue sky, no wind (well some did have beans) and a beautiful sunset, maximum mileage around 55miles. Dave P







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