

Sunday, February 10, 2013

Wheel Easy Ride Report 354

As it was forecast snow there was a smaller turn out of members than usual. Some decided to cycle before the snow arrived and some joined Martin as he offered to lead a walk.

Walk Report

It was something of an anticlimax as the long promised snow never arrived. So instead of a white out we enjoyed a mud out on the fields south of Harrogate. Nine of us headed along footpaths to Pannal and on to Burn Bridge. From there with sleety drizzle persisting we turned back north as far as Gia and Malcolm's house where we were treated to coffee and pud. Good to get out in the company of other cyclists even on foot. Martin W



Medium Rides

A cosy little group of six changed the proposed ride to Bramham in favour of a shorter, 20 mile route. You'd not think it possible to lose anyone in such a small group but two went temporarily AWOL on the outskirts of Knaresborough. Not new bug Michael, though; he'd got the sense to stay with the mainstream. On to Farnham, Scotton and Nidd for a photo stop in Ripley. The photo captures the sense of a really gloomy day, none of the threatened snow, but a persistent light rain most of the way. And it was quite parky. Travelling through Ripley gave us a view of the now-tarmacked Ripley end of our new bridleway. In Killinghall, the ride leader abandoned the riders to the care of Sue T to guide them back to Harrogate. We've had better days, Michael, so we hope to see you again. Paul B

Steve, Peter, Richard, Sue, Bill and Paul set off to Wetherby via Spofforth and Cowthorpe. Peter and Steve set a good pace which ensured my average speed was higher than usual. At Wetherby a discussion was held as to whether it was to be Costa, Morrisons or The Deli. Thankfully it was Costa! Peter decided he would rather do an extra loop than go into one of the 'Coffee Chains'. We returned via Sicklinghall and Kirkby Overblow. In the village Peter told us about his recent near accident during the high winds. Returning from Leeds on his bike he stopped for a drink of water and as he set off a large tree came down and landed in the very spot where he was having a drink. A good 31 mile ride.



Medium Ride Plus

Terry and I went to Boroughbridge and back. After some debate as to whether we should ride at all today we eventually set off and soon caught up with Jill's group who we rode with for a while before pressing on for warm drinks at Tasty Snacks. The weather was considerably better than forecast but we stuck to our original plan of taking the most direct route between Harrogate and Boroughbridge and back again maintaining a good pace in both directions whilst talking mainly about bikes, keeping fit and Terry's favourite pastime of shopping. 25 miles and back at Hornbeam just after 12 noon - Martyn B.



Long Ride

With snow forecast from midday it seemed a good idea to ignore the planned route taking us north of Masham & to stay closer to Harrogate in order to make a swift return home if necessary. Four, Phil, Peter, Nick & myself opted for the "long" ride & we headed off in the rain to Boroughbridge. At Low Bridge Martin & Terry, the only 2 medium plus riders caught us, also heading to Boroughbridge. From there we decided to carry on to Ripon, stopping there for coffee. With no improvement to the weather & possibly a slightly colder wind we headed back through Littlethorpe, Bishop Monkton, Markington, Hampsthwaite arriving back in Harrogate just before 1.30pm having done approx 40 miles. Jill