

Wednesday, April 3, 2013

## Wednesday Rides

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### **Poddlers Ride**

Due to a slight blip in communications a ride had not been planned in advance but after a quick confab it was decided to head for Wetherby via Burnbridge and Kirby Overblow. 16 poddlers set off Geraldine (Joe had a sick note), Dave G, Caroline, Max, Sue D, Kevin K, Jenny, Glyn, Fiona, Katie ( on her first WE ride)John W, Dennis, Gordon, Alison, James and Liz. The sun shone, there were wonderful views over the Wharfe valley so we turned off to Linton and Collingham and up onto the ridge towards Bramham, with only a few moans about the hill. Then it was back to Wetherby via the cycle track and on to Spofforth and the showground. James left us at Wetherby as the temptations of North Street Deli were too strong! About 31 miles. Liz



### **Wheel Easy Ride**

The sun was shining and a cold easterly wind greeted us at Hornbeam. So the logic was ride east into the wind to start then we have an easier warmer ride for our return. About 14 of us headed for Beningborough Farm Shop, and took a route in a big sweep south through Spofforth, Cattal, and Whixley. Then it was across to Aldwark Bridge and Beningborough. The farm shop can be a little overwhelmed with a big group of cyclists but the food and coffee is always great. We were happy to linger a while out of the cold wind and enjoy an inside seat in the enlarged cafe area. Then it was home the quick way via Arkendale, Ferrensby and Knaresborough, and it was lovely with the wind on our backs. Our new member John kept well on the pace and got into a longer ride than he intended but seemed to enjoy it and we hope to see him again soon. A great sunny ride of 45 miles.

### **EG's Ride**

An early (7.24am) from Dave P., our regular leader caused constipation amongst the "twelve just men" gathered at Low Bridge. Rob had rejoined the group after three weeks winter sports, Colin had at last managed to dig himself out of the snow drifts up Nidderdale & J.R was out on a short pass. Regrettably Theo was still missing. Rumour has it he's spending time on the turbo as some sort of therapy. One very keen member, Glynn, had cycled all the way from Leeds to join us as the weather was so promising. Sunshine & dry roads were the order of the day but the icy easterly winds continue. Marvin, who'd also been missing during the bad weather, suggested we should head outwards into the easterly wind so off we set for "Angela's" cafe on the A168. What it is without our leader. The committee agreed we'd continue east for Aldwark, Beninborough & York. Norman and John R. left us to head for Boroughbridge, the remaining 10 pushing into the wind in wonderful sunshine in two groups of 5 to minimise disruption to motorists. Entering York along the riverside cycle path a late decision was made to call in at "Wetherspoons" for lunch at about 1.30p.m. to refuel our reserves. Rob decided to give lunch a miss and continued on his return journey alone. The last time we visited Wetherspoons we were met by severe snow storms as we gathered to depart for our return journey. This time thankfully the weather continued to buck the recent trend of wintery showers, so a heading was agreed for Bilborough, along the most direct route, the A1036, joining the cycle path alongside the A64 by-pass. Peter B nearly overshot the intended route home presumably his satnav was set on auto for a heading for Askham Bryan/Richard. This time we turned south towards Colton, Bolton Percy circling west to Tadcaster. From here we set a course for Wetherby dropping off Glynn at Walton for his return route to Leeds. We reckoned that by the time he'd got home he'd have completed 75 - 80 miles That's dedication for a prospective E.G. A short pause on the entry to Wetherby saw four members of the "peloton", led by Eric, dash forth for a further tea/coffee break at guess where, yes, Morrisons. The remaining four Dave W., Colin P., Peter J. etc? (sorry) decided to forgo further refreshment and dash off through Little Ribston where we were reduced to three. We arrived in Knaresborough

about 4 p.m. and Colin & Peter peeled off along Abbey Road leaving Dave W. to continue on his way. A great ride at a good pace at times, excellent company and on average most of the group will have covered about 60 miles. --- Dave W.