

Wednesday, June 12, 2013

Wednesday Rides

Poddler's Ride Report

Joe and I were down to lead but he had a meeting and I had been encouraged by others (particularly by Caroline and Liz) to try and overcome my geographical dyslexia and have a go on my own. Max, however, had agreed to help me which he did mainly in French! 12 of us set off for Knaresborough and regrouped at Low Bridge where the EGs were assembling. Caroline had a bad cold and said she would do the ride at her own pace so 11 set off to Farnham. I managed to remember the left turn to Staveley and then on to Minskip and into Boroughbridge. The going was good with the wind behind us and no real evidence of rain. There weren't any takers for coffee and I was in a hurry for a hairdressing appointment in the afternoon so a toilet stop was the only respite before heading off to Roecliffe and Bishop Monkton for a photo stop. John did the honours but managed to get his fingers in the picture so more were taken. By this time the lone rider Caroline came into view so got a picture as she arrived. I was feeling less confident about the way by now but we got to Markington with a little help from those at the front. The slog towards the Drovers led us eventually to Ripley and home by the Greenway. What a good feeling in Ripley that we no longer have to take our life in our hands on the A61 to get back home! Approximately 30 miles and back by 1.45pm. Sorry if the pace was a bit fast and thanks to everyone for helping the hopeless leader! Geraldine



Wednesday Ride Report

The first dilemma was hills or flat, hills or flat and the flat won on the basis that the coffee stop was better. We Wednesday riders have to get our priorities right. So the four of us Sue, Kevin, Colin and myself headed off via low bridge on a "suck it and see ride" our destination being Boroughbridge. There was no initial fixed route but we eventually rode out via Great Ouseburn and Lower Dunsforth to arrive at Boroughbridge without incident. At all times we knew where we were but were not always sure where we were heading next, however as every junction approached it was duly recognised and the correct turning made. Dilemma number two was the correct definition of the word obelisk which we had been debating on route and continued to debate over our coffee. The definitive answer was finally found after other clients in café interjected to help, this is why we all love Yorkshire. Dilemma number three, waterproofs on, waterproofs off. Several stops were made both to don and to take off our kagools the sky was black at times but the temperature was very warm. Needless to say we arrived back in Harrogate via Ripon and Burton Leonard without a drop of rain having fallen on us despite the worrying forecast and ominous presence of cumulonimbus clouds. Lovely little blue cranes bill wildflowers

nodded at us from the hedgerow on Forrest Lane Head but dilemma number four is the identity of the little pink wildflowers which will not be solved until Colin remembers their name. 40 miles at 13 mph. Angela.



EGs' Ride Report

The weather was set fair for a very good do today. Sixteen true and trusty cyclists assembled, sadly without our leader, who had to stay in because he'd been a naughty boy, and organised the Gas Board to come and dig up his drive today. (Don't worry Dave, those blocks will be easy to match up). A very warm welcome to two new EGs', Mike (the Bike), and Tony, as well as a massive "well done" to Eric, and of course his minder, Di. Di, we're a bit short of women in our section, don't you have any mates who might be interested? Hmmm...maybe not a good idea! Eric, you are looking leaner and ever fitter, so full marks from us all for your fortitude with the recuperation and physio. (So sorry, but I forgot the wheelchair AGAIN). We had a most pleasant amble down to Morry's in Wetherby for our customary elevenses, and a catch up on any new news; Eric, Di, Norman and Roy returning homeward bound from here. The rest of us continued on to Roundhay Lakeside café, where there were heard mutterings of the "Yorkshire War Cry"; (How Much?). From here it was home via Weardley, and Kirkby Overblow. Thanks must go to Marvin for an entertaining "short cut"; the entertainment was from the rumblings at the back of the bunch. Thanks to all others for their company; Bill, Peters J & B, Dave W, Bob and Terry. Just a couple of final points; it was quite interesting to see Theo puzzling over what to do up the hills, now that he has a choice of gears, and surprising when it was noted that it was also him swooping down the other side much faster than most. Thanks for leading us, Rob, even though you seemed to be doing it from the back. Another splendid day out, thank you all. Dave S.

