

Sunday, July 28, 2013

Wheel Easy Ride Report 378

Short Ride Report

11 riders left Hornbeam for the start of the (extended) short ride, predicted to be about 20 miles. The sky was questionable and the wind was gusty – but we were up for an adventure! A sort of Enid Blyton job!! Our route out of Harrogate was via St Georges Cycle path, past the Squinting Cat and eventually landing in Beckwithshaw. A right turn up Norwood Lane for the long (slow!) haul up to the car park at Stainburn Woods, where we joined the stony track through Forestry Commission land for 2 miles, passing through fields and forest. A quick check in the pond for newts at the end of the pathway, but sadly, too murky to see!). At the far gate, left turn onto the Tarmac road with fantastic views over Wharfedale!! Absolutely stunning! How lucky are we? Weather fair and sunny. Headed towards Great Armscliffe, but happened to fall into the Honey House at Braythorne, where coffee/drinks and too many fantastic cakes were offered and consumed!!! Funny how that happens! (Definitely an Enid Blyton moment!). Back to Harrogate via Armscliffe, North Rigton and Burnbridge with folk peeling off in their respective directions for home. A fantastic route – Number 36 on the website. Much recommended! Check it out! SE.



Medium RideReport

Thirteen riders opted for the 30 mile ride including Mark, a Wheel Easy member from Cheshire. As we had three leaders Ian and Neil took the group of six who intended doing the loop around Boston Spa and I led the group who intended to return along the cycle track from Bramham. The route took us through Burn Bridge, Kirkby Overblow, Sicklinghall, Linton, up Jewitt Lane and onto Bramham. Here both groups met up as arranged to choose their option. Everyone was keen to do the loop around Clifford, Boston Spa and Thorp Arch. I on the other hand felt tired and was wondering if I was coming down with the bug which has affected my wife and daughter so I kept to the option of the cycle path parallel with A1 to Wetherby. Steve and Neeta came with me to keep me company. Ian and Neil led their group for refreshments to Thorpe Arch where Sue and Sally went flat out to ensure they got a scone before they ran out whilst the three of us went to Fillmore and Union in Wetherby for the most expensive bowl of porridge ever. We returned via Little Ribston and Ian and Neil's group came along cycle path to Spofforth where both groups joined up again for the ride to Follifoot, Ridding Park and home. Paul



Medium + Ride Report

8 punters took off at pace with Terry and followed the ride route to Thorpe Perrow Arboretum for refreshment. A change of plan homeward to enjoy the leisurely Ripley to Bilton Greenway, gave the opportunity for some extra bumps and inclines – Galphay, High Grantley, Sawley. 10 more leisurely riders sought refuge at Camp Hill Orangery Café, Kirklington, (telephone warning advised for larger parties) having enjoyed historic interludes re the St Mary Magdalen Leper Chapel (Ripon); the monument in the form of a cross erected by grateful friends to Lady Augusta Millbank of Thorp Perrow, who died in 1874; and a whistle stop tour of the Chapel used by Catherine Parr prior to her marriage to Henry VIII (both in Snape). The return journey took in Winksley and Aldfield, home to William Powell Frith for 10years at the start of the 19th Century. Thanks to Martin and Keith for navigation and educational support. Oh...2 punctures – 1 for each party. 18 riders @ 53miles. Sarah C





Long Ride Report

The climb out of Lofthouse to Masham is quite tough particularly when it follows a long slog into a headwind over the moors before dropping to Wath. So, unsurprisingly, Eric chose this route for his rehabilitation to the Long Ride. The reward of a long fast descent to Masham certainly justified the effort of the climb and a good lunch outdoors. The wind continued to assist us to Snape, Melmerby and Rainton where we turned to Cundall and arrived at Boroughbridge as the cafes were closing. However a "take out" tea and cake on the War Memorial steps just hit the spot but the delay meant we had not cleared Knaresborough before a cloudburst. But despite this the weather had been much better than forecast for an excellent day out. 75 miles, and slightly more for some.