

Sunday, October 6, 2013

Wheel Easy Ride Report 388

Short Ride Report

Nine shorties today for the ride past the Squinting Cat towards the Sun Inn and home via Penny Pot. Three riders were adamant that they were only out for a 15mile short ride and no more. However at the top of Fewston Bank a cafe stop was discussed. Al mentioned Sophies and that was too much to resist so we all sped off to Hampsthwaite where we met Martin nursing a poorly knee. Three left us at Hampsthwaite and Malcolm led the rest of us back to Harrogate via Clint Bank and the Greenway. A lovely ride of around 25 miles. Thanks Malcolm for back marking and assistance with the route. Jean B

Medium Ride Reports

It was a perfect morning...for modelling and the wanna be Wheel Easy models,starlets, matinee idols, mega stars, George Clooney, Helen Mirren, Julia Roberts, Brad Pitt look-alikes were out in force....Make up done, hair done, wheel easy shirts draped gloriously over perfect bodies...everyone wanted to follow in the career footsteps of the new super models Yvonne and Martin.....with a million hits on YouTube. The photographer however was still in bed.... 9.30 apparently is not the time to be super modelling. So we all decided to go cycling instead. Thankfully some very nice people decided to join me in a mini jaunt to Brimham Rocks the easy way.....that is in comparison to the prescribed route, which in theory looked super, but in the cold dawn of reality was not for me.So eleven set off round the houses to Knox Bridge for a bit of real modelling and then on to Hampsthwaite where we picked up Chris and Julie...escapees from a proper medium ride. So having scaled Clint Bank, and another bit of hill by Burnt Yates, thirteen of us were ready for a touch of downhill, which we thoroughly enjoyed, before another drag up to the turn off to Brimham Rocks. Trail-Blazers Darren, Steve and ten more were overtaken by Monica's medium people, whilst waiting at the leaders' to catch up and modelling point two, by the wall facing a stunning view of what seemed like the whole of Yorkshire. Then at last the whole point of the jaunt (apart from the bit of modelling) the perfect ride finish into Ripley and the Greenway and home. Janet decided Steve needed a bit of shopping in Ripon and headed off in an upwardly direction, and just as we were about to set off having checked everyone's chains, a Land Rover Rally powered past, moving me unsuccessfully to another photographic disaster. As we all gracefully glided(gled, glid, glode) down to Ripley,the Land Rovers passed us again and Darren picked up a nice lady who had escaped from the medium much faster group turning us into twelve. Sadly the church café was not open in Ripley, so Monica, Miriam, Maggi, Linda M, and wonderful backmarker Charlie made their ways to the only, no doubt crowded café in Ripley and Sarah rushed off gleefully to get an ice cream, leaving six to get home by 12.30. Suddenly, as we passed the Greenway sloe bushes, we were seven as Glyn joined Jen from a lightening tour of all points north, south, east and west of Yorke's Folley. Thus everyone was accounted for and home ready for Sunday lunch and a free afternoon. 25 gentle balanced miles on a perfect modelling, sorry cycling day. Caroline G



A glorious early autumn morning meant all twelve riders were in good spirits as we rode to Knox and then Hampsthwaite. Max suggested a stop at Sophie's but the whip was cracked and we had to earn our coffee with a few hills before Ripon. We all appreciated the lovely view at the top after the climb up Stripe Lane and had a rest and photo stop there. On on past Brimham Rocks, Risplith and then a group decision at Aldfield to have our coffee at Fountains Abbey. We said goodbye to Dennis at this point and after Ripon, had a steady and sociable ride back through Littlethorpe, Bishop Monkton and Markington. The last hill climbed with some relief, we enjoyed the descent into Ripley and the ever pleasant Greenway back home. Thanks to all for good company and to Sally for being back marker. 40 miles. Monica W





Medium-Plus Ride Reports

Everything about today's ride was sublime. The weather, the views, the route and being out in Yorkshire with Wheel Easy. Even the ride up Little Snowden seemed to pass in a dream as we ambled up to the top in the sunshine. In Ilkley we went to the Italian café at the station where everyone had a teacake farl of some description and all were rated excellent. Good strong coffee too! We had a good speedy ride along to Castley where the road was really quiet back to Dunkseswick. Riding to Ilkley was a first for three of the group and well done to Peter's daughter who made it round to the end with great enthusiasm and thanks to everyone for a lovely ride. Gia M 42 miles.

I was asked to deputise Dave Preston but failed miserably. I followed Gia's instructions to the letter but it was not enough. It all started well with a group of seven and I even managed to recruit Sarah who was loitering in Howhill Lane. We arrived together at Askwith but then the mutinous plotting started with rumours of an extra loop. I managed to arrive at Ilkley with eight but lost five to a preferred cafe who then devised a preferred route back to Harrogate via Bolton Abbey and Stumpcross Caverns. I returned with two loyal companions one had to finish a wardrobe for his wife and the other's pass did not extend to Stumpcross Caverns. C'est la vie Bill

Long Ride Report

Here is the beginning of my ride report from two weeks ago "Perfect summer-like weather, beautiful scenery, great company, cycling doesn't get much better than this and it's all on our own doorstep". So, more of the same then, it was another fantastic autumn day. We began, thanks to Richard, with an interesting route through Harrogate to the Bilton to Ripley cycle path. Real cycling began at Ripley with the climb to Bishop Thornton allowing all eleven riders to warm up their muscles. This exertion caused Nick to realize he wasn't feeling too well (we all hope you've recovered now Nick) so he and Jill deserted us. The route to Middleham went according to plan with the ride splitting into two groups on the road. The dreaded hedge cutters had been out on the tiny road between East Witton and Coverham leaving unavoidable debris strewn across our path. It is a testament to modern tyres that no punctures occurred; I hope all rides are that lucky. A good lunch was taken at the Keep Café in Middleham where the owner was very welcoming despite being short staffed. The return ride was a breeze, all the hard work being done before lunch. Apologies for not including Well as the ride details had suggested but to make up for this omission a loop round Copt Hewick was added. Thanks to all for another great day of cycling. Phil S

