

Sunday, December 8, 2013

Wheel Easy Ride Report 397

Short Ride Report

Only two riders turned up for today's short ride and given the strength of the wind, non-riders made the better decision.

We set off into the murk with lights glowing. All was well until we reached Beckwithshaw and Norwood Lane where the wind turned into a gale and we toiled up to the car park at Little Alms Cliff. After pedalling down the hill towards the Sun Inn, a gust felled one of our party necessitating a taxi ride home, retired hurt. And then there was one, who returned cautiously to Harrogate. Al D.

Sophie's Ride & Christmas Lunch

Martin, Sue, Debbie and Gia rode to Hamsphwaite via Kettlesing and had time for coffee before heading back for the Wheel Easy Xmas Lunch. Martin led us on a route we rarely use and it was perfect for the time that we had today. 21 miles, out with the wind against us and home with a sail!

Huge thanks to James, Sarah, Sue and Monica who masterminded today's Xmas Lunch and all the cooks, washer uppers and clearer uppers!

Once again we feasted well and it was a most enjoyable afternoon.

Thanks too to Angela for her excellent quiz and to Terry our auctioneer of the day. Gia











Medium Ride Report

There was a good turnout for the medium ride to Boroughbridge and Dennis led us a different way to Farnham via the recently resurfaced Beryl Burton and Lingerfield, less busy than the usual route. As most of us were looking forward to the Christmas lunch, we decided to curtail the ride, to give us time to get ready. At Roecliffe two riders were tempted on to Boroughbridge, by the lure of coffee and cake. Alison and Sally took a short cut along the bridle path in order to fulfil their chilli making duties and the rest made their way back via Minskip. A pleasant ride of about 20 miles. Sue W.



Medium Plus Ride Report

Eighteen riders opted for the Medium Plus ride to Thruscross Reservoir but the strong winds tested the resistance of a fair few of us. Keith could not keep up with the first (fast) group that he was trying to lead and Helen’s group of diminishing numbers was some way adrift by the time we all re-grouped at Fewston car park. At that point the fit fast group went on to tackle the left hand side of Thruscross whilst the remaining four did a circuit round Timble and back to Fewston, then crossed the Skipton Road and took the road behind the listening station and on to Hampsthwaite for coffee, er, and a scone. Dave P was already there and as we were leaving the fit fast boys arrived.

We managed to make the Christmas Lunch on time, despite the unpleasant weather – but we think a good time was had by all.

We were so taken with the Website’s ability to turn all our bullet points into little blue bicycles that we were tempted to do the entire report in “bullets”.

- Splendid Christmas lunch
- The Quiz taught us that cycling would keep us wrinkle free and forever young with a dazzling sex life.
- Merry Christmas! Keith and Helen

Medium + Ride Report 2
 or You`re never alone with a bike (apologies to Strand Cigarettes TV advert 1960`s).
 It was into the teeth of the wind as Helen, Colin , Dave P, and Paul B climbed up to Almas (little Armscliffe) Crag.
 Hard pedalling downhill !!! to Bland Hill, Colins returns the way we came, Helen and Paul B pedal down !! to Fewston, for Dave P it was Oh Solo Mio to Menwith and a 30mph freewheel down to Hampsthwaite.
 Bike recognition outside Sophies meant Wheel Easy inside.
 Debbie, Gia, Martin and Sue C having increased their caffeine levels were just about to leave.
 After leaving, Solo DP was joined by non cyclists Pru and Martin very interested in cycling and Wheel Easy.
 A while later in comes Dave S, Helen, Jill and Keith, DP joins their table.
 Before the five leave, in comes, Dennis, Rob (Cookridge), plus A N Other, (sorry).
 I had Amnesia once - maybe twice.
 At Bilton Lane four head for Hornbeam, DP solo again down Bilton Lane to cycle path and Hockey Club.
 Meets with Bridget on way in, out of uniform ready to do comparative analysis between Rocking Rudolf and Old Speckled Hen.

In Hockey Club, what a spread, Chilli., Baked Spuds, many Salads, Crumble and Custard, Mince Pies, Cheeses, biscuits etc, and quiz sheets. As we no longer believe in the Events Fairy, and waving of magic wands, it has been said before but it still can be repeated. Many thanks to the committee and their many helpers for their hard work over the year/years. Wheel Easy success is easy to define. It is how they welcome new riders. Dave P.

Long Ride Report

11 riders left Harrogate for the short long ride to Pateley Bridge with Glynn sporting a lovely new bike which conveniently arrived just after last week's rescue by the Dave Siswick recovery service. The climb from Hampsthwaite to Clint forced a split in the peleton with 4 elite riders (Graham on fixed, Andy Dave and Ian) forming a group and heading off into the distance to the designated stop, Teacups café. Meanwhile Richard advised the rest of us that the auction mart was holding a day of fun filled festivities and should be avoided, so we duly decided that Lemon Meringue would make a better stop. The big question over tea was should we go up Yorkes folly? In the Lemon Meringue group 4 of us voted yes, in the Teacups group 2 voted yes. The strong wind pushed us all home with about half the group heading for the excellent Wheel-Easy Christmas do. Sorry, no photos but it was great to have a dry, warm ride in December. Phil