

Wednesday, May 7, 2014

Wednesday Rides

Wednesday Ride

We had a plan but we had not counted on a dodgy forecast becoming extremely dodgy while making up our minds at Hornbeam. Even Richard's group prevaricated! Not Liz though who set off with quite a crowd with the words Brimham on her lips. Our plan to go to Bolton Abbey was under threat as we sheltered from the rain under the trees at Hornbeam. Angela had already taken her bike home, Paul B was off to the dentist as we headed up to Leeds Road to negotiate the roadworks.

Our revised plan was to have coffee at the café at Pool going via Kirkby Overblow, Kearby and Dunkeswick. We sheltered a few times from some heavy downpours and arrived at the cafe as the sun came out. With the threat of more rain, although perhaps we were deceived because we had a dry run home.

Home via Almscliffe Crag and Braythorne. Good ride, 27 miles.

Next week, weather permitting we will be cycling to Bolton Abbey if anyone would like to join us.



Poddlers Ride

It was pouring when the 16 Poddlers left Hornbeam but it had cleared up by the time we reached the Stray and went northwards on the cycle path. Crossing Wetherby Road proved to be an big obstacle with a continuous stream of cars but eventually we managed and reached Claro Road and the Greenway. Hollybank Wood had to be visited before the bluebells disappear for another year. At Clint 5 turned for Hampsthwaite and home while the rest climbed up to Burnt Yates and onward to Brimham. We did have a few showers but no soaking, a few glimpses of the sun were seen and we were cycling through outstanding countryside. Above Brimham we stopped for a banana break and the offered extension to Sawley and Fountains was unanimously postponed for another day! The downhill and dry ride to Ripley was enjoyed by all and 4 of us indulged in a visit to Ripley Church for excellent scones, cakes and hot drinks. (Now available every Wednesday until mid September) About 26 miles. Welcome to John on his first WE ride and thank you to Alison N and Dave G for your assistance. Liz



EG Ride

Not a very good start to the day weather wise. So while waiting at Low Bridge why not have a group photo with a Yellow Bike.

Note two photos, spot the difference, did the man with a happy grin on his face spend a night in the pub.? cellar ?.

On the stroke of Ten, thirteen riders headed for Angela`s cafe, however a quick count (we are good at maths) showed that fifteen had arrived.

After morning coffee it was on to Boroughbridge, where Colin announced he was going to get some money. Unfortunately he announced it as we were passing a Security Van unloading Strongboxes ?.

Fourteen riders sprinted away to Marton le Moor to avoid being named as accomplices.

At Sharow, some fell by the wayside, then on to Wath, where some more fell by the wayside, leaving ten riders taking afternoon tea in Bedale.

Bedale miles seem to be longer than Ripon miles.

After tea it was south to Well and its hill, which is sort of in three parts, like well,well ,well (sorry about that).

South again to West Tanfield, and its Marmion Tower, a reminder of the days when we were regularly invaded by the Scots.

Continuing southerly to Kirkby Malzeard and Winksley and a variety of "lumpy bits".

The climb up Watergate gave added interest, as front man Dave Wilson who had paused to allow a herd of cows pass into the farm yard, somehow startled one.

This was difficult to believe, as his supershoes were covered with overshoes.

The startled cow jumped, then fell, then ran back up the hill followed by the rest of the herd and some dogs.

The cows then refused to descend the hill.

It took a cow psychiatrist with a big stick to get them down again and into the farm yard.

On to Ripley, most riders had now gone their separate ways, but four returned via the Greenway, in believe it or not sunshine.

Not that bad a day, a sort of "coco" one, capes on, capes off, capes on, etc, etc.

The head wind on returning was also not as bad as expected, and mileage domicile dependent between 65 and 70 miles.
Dave P.



