

Wednesday, February 11, 2015

Wednesday Rides

Poddlers' Ride

Eight Poddlers set off from Hornbeam, the weather grey and very cold. Unlike the past two brilliant warm sunshine days, at least it was not icy. The group cycled over the Stray and down the Greenway, picked up Pete, and rode on to where the new board had been erected by the Sustran Rangers. After viewing the board and officially declaring it open we carried on down the Greenway to Ripley. At the Tour de France monument a new plaque had been placed depicting who had made the monument and its sponsors. Now the chill getting in to our toes and hands we headed through Ripley and up the woodland path to Clint Bank. Three departed for home via Hampswaite and six of us went down into Birstwith, then up a very steep hill towards Kettlesing reaching the A59, dicing with death we crossed the road and headed to Pennypot Lane. The group decided to head back down to Beckwithshaw and home. 26 miles approximately. Elizabeth F





Wednesday Ride

It was a cold dull morning but I had a plan and despite some reservations about the proposed coffee stop being further than thirteen miles we set off!

Nine of us set off at a decent pace and soon we were building up the miles en route to Listers Farm Shop at Langthorpe near Boroughbridge. The route through Spofforth, Little Ribston included a detour in to Hunsingore which is a very pretty village which is mostly bypassed. On then to Cattal, Whixley and Thorp Underwood and Great Ouseburn. By now very slight mutterings were still evident about the lack of coffee but we were in the groove and arrived at Listers Farm Shop, which a. was open, b. had bike spaces, c. was warm, enormously inviting and welcoming and according to Sue our pace had been very good.

Phew I was no longer in the doghouse! Large cafetieres of coffee which were filled up, excellent sandwiches and cakes, this is a great new café stop for Wheel Easy.

Despite having "dragged" my team out on a longish ride there was no stopping the enthusiasm to extend the ride by returning via Skelton-on-Ure, Littlethorpe, Bishop Monkton and the Greenway. Here we paid homage to the new Sustrans interpretation board installed by our very own Rangers yesterday.

Excellent ride, new sections for some, thanks for all the banter, all well received and a good February ride of 49 miles. Gia M





EGs' Ride

There was no snow, ice or frost, but by heck yon day were cold.

But we still had a dozen riders at Low Bridge, as Eric was early (9.55am) it was decided to get away before the number rose to thirteen, and fortune was tempted.

As we were in dire need of hot coffee and crumpet (don't laugh its the laughter that hurts the old men) it was away as fast as possible to Wetherby and Morrisons cafe, the group splitting up in to three groups of four because of the busy road.

Whilst consuming caffeine and calories, Dan arrived to increase Morrisons profits, with a full English and a pud, just to show the EG`s are not yet past it, Eric responded with a full English but no pud (well we are not in the first flush of youth). In these hi tech days we have the self parking car, Dan is working on the self parking bike, with robot hands (see photo).

After the warmth it was out in to the cold, with Norman and Terry heading back home, the remaining eleven down the cycle path to Taddy. Here Colin P hung a right and the remaining ten straight on to Bolton Percy. Just before Appleton Roebuck we had a photo stop. and despite the cold weather only one EG availed himself of a comfort stop.

For Bill, Dave P and Peter B it was then a left turn to Bilborough, Angram and Long Marston, the magnificent seven continuing on to York, we look forward to reading about this episode.

After a brief stop a Marston Moor, to discuss Civil War tactics it was on to Harrogate and home. Although we had some idea where the battle lines were drawn, we could not agree on where about`s the camp followers camp would have been, and time team have not been able to find any red oil lamps or red candles in the vicinity.

Those who who came to rest on a grey, cold Harlow Hill would have just done over 50 miles.

A nice little ride, but t`were still cold. Dave P



