

Wednesday, September 2, 2015

Wednesday Rides

Poddlers' Ride (1)

A very select group set off through the Showground, past Rudding to Follifoot, Knaresborough, Farnham, Scotton and on to Ripley where we stopped at the church for coffee. After a good gossip we returned via the Greenway, and arrived back in Harrogate as a few spots of rain dropped on us. A leisurely 25 miles at a steady pace in good company. Jen A

Poddlers' Ride (2)

On the way up the ramp it was clear that we needed a second leader/group and with no notice at all Alison N stuck her hand up. What a star! We headed to the hills at first and had some lovely swooping descents (and only a couple of hilly challenges). Beckwithshaw, Hampsthwaite, Shaw Mills and Markington came and went, and then we had an easier, flatter ride back through Burton Leonard and on down to Hay-a-Park. Martin said it would rain at 12. It didn't. It was 12:03. Then the call was heard, "Money!" The road was strewn with coins, one member collecting all of 69p. Those who eschewed the cafe stop on Waterside will have avoided the soaking that 10 of us got afterwards.

So we did 29 miles. Does that mean it was a Poddlers' Ride or one of the new Poddlers' Enhanced Experiences? Probably the latter so next week we can, if we wish, chose to have a PEE. Paul B



Wednesday Ride

Where were all the "medium" riders?

Only four set off past Little Almscliffe and Menwith, further depleted to three as Martin made his excuses and turned for Sophie's. The heather was out by Duck Street, it was almost a shame to drop down Love Lane to Thornthwaite, but the views of Nidderdale were good. We took the little lane past Thornthwaite church and over the beck near the packhorse bridge, then climbed up to reach the road to Yorke's Folly, amongst the heather again. Then down to "Teacups" for tea and tea bread (or 3 halves of a teacake.....I don't think Jeannie believed me until it turned up)

Suitably fortified, we set off on the return leg via Brimham, with more heather in flower, and a lovely run down to Ripley, we saw showers of rain falling to the left and to the right, we rode on wet roads, but no rain fell on us.until we were in the church, drinking tea again, when we heard rain of truly Biblical proportions beating on the roof.

It stopped raining just long enough to lure us out of the church and on our way home, then it rained on us on the Greenway. Colin T

Wednesday Long Ride

Four set out for Hawnby in dry, sunny conditions and returned sodden after three downpours. White Horse Bank earned a coffee stop at the gliding club where we were treated to a discussion on types of lift. Ominous black clouds threatened, but we made it to lunch at Hawnby still dry. Master baker Martin declared his scone the worst he had ever had, and in fact not a scone at all. This provided much amusement, if little nutritional value. Then the heavens opened, so we took cover inside. After the slog up Murton Bank, we made it to Boltby before another downpour. Richard P and Terry took refuge at Boroughbridge, correctly anticipating another soaking, while Martin and Richard L pressed on on the basis that we couldn't get any wetter ... but we did.

73 hard, soggy but scenic miles. Richard L



EGs' Ride

The weather forecast was not good, with rain set to commence at 1-00pm.

Unfortunately, of late these forecasts have been quite accurate.

We had eleven riders at Low Bridge, the plan being straight to Easingwold for the first coffee stop (quite a distance for EG`s before getting our caffeine fix) and take it from there.

The men`s downhill at Occaney looked a foregone conclusion as Dave S had some new wonder-wheels, however he was pipped at the post by Bob (on his winter bike).

Bob and Norman left us at Boroughbridge, the remaining eleven sped on to Easingwold and the Curious Table cafe, there to be met by Ian.

Refreshment was taken outside, however after a good break the odd spot of rain was felt (right on time).

This then developed, and Bill, Nick and Terry W headed for home.

Dave P, Dave Watson, Dave Wilson, Dave S, Ian, Peter J and Terry C, headed for Husthwaite, strangely the rain stopped and it was dry roads into Husthwaite and Coxwold, however in Coxwold the rain it did a raineth, and shelter was taken for a time under the greenwood trees (see photos) very relaxing. Unfortunately the rain managed to get onto the camera lens, or is that a halo around DP's head?

The rain then sloweth and eventually stoppeth, and no more of it was seeneth.

On to Carlton Husthwaite , Hutton Sessay and Thornton Bridge.

Again strangely quite a few of the roads were bone dry.

Dave S paced and pushed wind (sorry pushed the wind) to Boroughbridge, here no second break was taken, quite unusual for EGs on a high fifties ride.

Dave S then paced us again into Knaresborough, much appreciated by the weakest rider in the group.

We must have been good lads because the weather gods smiled on us, the rain that really fell on us was only in Coxwold, and that was just for a short time.

A good ride with good company. Dave P



