

Sunday, September 13, 2015

Wheel Easy Ride Report 489

Shortlongmedium Ride

Nice day for a ride. Lots of people seemed to think the same, Hornbean was full of people chatting, despite the lure of an away day somewhere. Thirteen people opted to follow me between Knaresborough and Ripley with goodness knows what inbetween. Sue D kindly volunteered to be back marker. So off we sauntered, along the show ground path and passed the tip to Morrison's. A different route to Knaresborough and a swoop, for most of us, down Knaresborough Road and onwards to Farnham and Occaney. As we waited for everyone to regroup, Graham kindly went to search for lost sheep and Sue T cruised up and announced that Peter B had had a Diana Ross moment....a chain reaction, so had decided to limp home... We meandered on, enjoying a glorious sunny, still day and turning left in Burton Leonard, we cruised forth gently, searching for a photo opportunity with the field of llàmàs or probably alpaccas....unaware of our plans to use their wool for a tasteful addition to the wheel easy outfit. Noone wanted to take any offers of the carefully planned escape routes, and after conquering the mountains of Markington, we all ambled on to have a cafe stop in Ripley Castle Cafe. Certainly not my favourite stop but nice company and a bit of sun play havoc with one's reasoning. Over coming a wasp attack possibly due to a murder attack, and after psychologist Sue downed two cappacinos and sorted out Sue D's sleep patterns we left her with stilettos and a flouncy skirt to gate crash what looked like a very interesting 'do'. The rest of us returned home along the Greenway to have sunday lunch, garden, prepare for a week's work, and win the Vuelta and the tour of Great Britain. Thank you everyone for being so keen and enthusiastic and thank you Sue D for beautiful back marking, I had a lovely morning's cycling. 26 miles at a very civilised pace. CG



Medium Ride

Paul R came up with a new route for today's ride: Knox, Hampsthwaite, Swincliffe, Staupes, Darley, a muddy bit, Birchfield Dairy Farm, Hartwith Toll Bridge, Birstwith, Clint, Greenway, home. It was a ride in four parts for eight riders. First, some climbing, though nothing as taxing as last Sunday, rewarded with great views across Nidderdale on a sunny morning. Second, a ride that Paul claimed he had managed to cycle just days earlier, down Nidd Lane in Darley, then gravel, mud, across the Nidd, more mud, a grassy field, more gravel, rocks. Quite a lot of walking. Hmm. Paul had grossly contravened the new Representation of Wheel Easy Routes regulations, but we gave him the benefit of the doubt. It's very attractive down there, and it certainly made a change. Third, the Dairy Farm, new to me, where it was warm enough to sit outside. Fourth, a familiar route home. Michelle needed to get back for a crucial appointment in

the centre of Harrogate, so she and I headed to Hampsthwaite and Jennyfield. 24 miles for us, around 26 for Les Six. Justin



Medium+ Ride

12 riders opted for this ride to Occaney via Easingwold. 50/50 split of men and women. Chilly to start with but bright and a much nicer day than expected. Out via Knaresborough and Farnham to Aldwark bridge and on to Alne (pronounced Orne apparently).

Pleasant café stop at the Curious Table and onwards on a nice route, one that we usually do in the opposite direction so new to many.

Collette, Sylvia and Trudy were on a training ride for their Tanzanian adventure and 54 miles at a faster than usual pace was no problem to them so they are well on track. Photo at Occaney includes ride leader James, Declan, Scottish Eric, Bill and Alan plus Debbie, Jen and Jeannie. We managed to lose Collette around Lingerfield but Bill guided her in and they beat us to the top of Knaresborough hill. Thanks to James for leading and to all for pleasant ride. Sue C



Long Ride

Five riders took part in today's Long Ride. The route was relatively short for a long ride at approximately 68 miles, but it was going to be very hilly. The weather conditions were practically ideal; we even had a slight tail wind going up Duck Street. We stopped for refreshments at The Tea Cottage, Bolton Abbey. While eating and drinking we were treated to unspoilt views across Wharfedale towards Simon Seat. Now the serious hill climbing commenced as we made our way to Menston via Draughton, Silsden, and East Morton. At Menston three riders decided to return to Harrogate via Otley. The remaining two riders had delightful ride along The Chevin, returning to Harrogate via Weardley and Kirkby Overblow. Peter J



