

Sunday, October 18, 2015

## Wheel Easy Ride Report 494

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### Short Ride

Cycling up to Hornbeam there was a light drizzle but by the time we set off, it had stopped. Seven riders opted for the short ride and just as we were cycling over the railway, another two joined in – welcome back to the new riders from last week and also new, Peter and Sue.

So, it was a return to a familiar old route of mine up to Beckwith Knowle and Cardale Park. "The Hub" café which used to be on Greengate has long gone but a new "Costa Coffee" is open to all for business, opposite Central House but sadly not on a weekend!

This was a new stretch for some riders who hadn't been this way before as we then headed into more familiar territory of Burn Bridge and in to Kirkby Overblow.

Some of us needed a shorter route today - to go to work, some to be home to watch the rugby and myself to meet my family for lunch - so no-one wanted to extend further so we all headed back to Rudding Lane and Crimple. It was my first sight of the new rugby ground actually in action, being used by many, young and old!

Those not having commitments decided Fodder was the last stop of the day.

Thank you all for your company today, maybe un-eventful but a lovely ride nonetheless! Sue T



### Medium Ride

A wet, misty morning was not the most auspicious of starts for a scenic tour of Nidderdale. However, we set off in groups of 6 to make our way to Ripley. Both Peter and Paul B [with an injured knee] had kindly 'volunteered' to lead. However, at Ripley Paul had to turn back. Thanks for coming Paul. We made our way through Holly bank Woods and the rain- on the way Dave P and Roy mysteriously disappeared [maybe the rugby was more tempting]. Geraldine and Joe were lured to Sophie's for coffee. The rest of us continued through the rain at various speeds to Darley. At the bottom of Sheepcote Lane several of us had chain trouble. In my eagerness to catch up with the others, 4 of us took a wrong turn/short cut. We met Peter at the turn to Thornthwaite who explained that a small group were waiting further back for us! However we managed to get re-united. By this time Paul R and John had also set off for home. After a steady climb up from Thornthwaite we had a lovely flat ride along the ridge- the rain had stopped too. My plan was to go to Hampsthwaite without going through Clapham Green. There's quite a warren of roads around Kettlesing, however we made it to Sophie's arriving just after Peter's group. After a cheerful break we came back to Harrogate by Killinghall and the Greenway. The weather was a reminder that winter is on its way, so a hilly 30 [more or less] seemed about right. Welcome to Christine, Steve, Tracey and Andy and hope to see you again. Thank you to everyone for being so friendly and helpful and to Peter for leading. Alison N



### **Medium Plus Ride (1)**

The forecast clearly indicated that it would be a dry day although cloudy. As we cycled out of Harrogate with Peter leading and me designated as back marker the fine drizzle turned into more serious rain as we cycled through Scriven. At Copgrove, Martin, Steve, Neeta and myself opted to miss out Bishop Monkton and headed down the track to Roeccliffe and Boroughbridge. As we arrived at Listers Farm Shop it was clearer and drier but after suitable refreshment we had no appetite to complete the ride so returned via the Dunsforths.

Home and dried out, about 33 miles, Gia.

### **Medium Plus Ride (2) (Faster Group).**

A bit of "off piste" routing, and a mechanical with a saddle of all things put us behind the official ride leader, but we had bonded as a tight knit group and ploughed on despite the quite heavy rain.

Lunch stop in Raskelf came quickly, due to our fast pace, and we enjoyed excellent fare, although not quite enough of it for us bean eaters. Rectified at the till by means of bill reduction and apology. The breakfast in a bap will take some beating; I did actually think it was going to beat one of our team, but Julie battled through in the end.

The weather had cleared by the time we were finished and a swift return to Harrogate ensued. Thanks to Trefor, Dave, Paul, Julie, Tony and Barbara for an excellent day out. Dave S. 60+M.

### **Medium Plus Ride (3)**

Medium Plus is happy to announce the arrival of a new cafe - and a good one too !!!! As usual, far too many people opted for Medium Plus (should we rename it M+, for the convenience of your correspondent's fingers ?). So we split into three groups - some of which we saw later. I guided the bulk of the group (in numbers, - I mean) out of Harrogate via Starbeck, Knaresborough Hill, Scriven, Lingerfield and Farnham to Copgrove. The heavy mist/ drizzle/wet rain was truly depressing and not as forecast. At Copgrove a significant mutiny resulted in half a dozen deserters decamping to Boroughbridge. Half a mile later the cloud base lifted and from the moment when Colin espied the North York Moors we cycled on in good aerial conditions. So the cafe (happy days). We had heard rumours (D. Siswick Esq.) of a cafe in Raskelf so we headed there from Boroughbridge and Helperby. Despite the tiny signage in the village (local signs for local people, I suppose), we found the Purple Partridge cafe as you exit the village towards the A19. The cafe was rammed full of cyclists from across Yorkshire, including our own advance M+ party. The staff struggled to serve repeated rounds of Breakfast-in-a-Bun - but were so nice and friendly and the building contents so interesting that no-one minded really. Eventually the cafe emptied and our own Long Team rolled in (aka Phil and Richard). The photo shows a delighted M+ team eagerly awaiting their baps - blissfully unaware of the 'incident' to come.

Humouring the leader we rode 200 yards to the A19 and back, as I had never ridden along that lane - and won't bother again. We then just missed Easingwold and headed through Alne, Aldwark Bridge, Great Ouseburn and the Dunsforths' before taking the recommended route to Marton Cum Grafton.

Seconds after Colin remarked that 'this road is a bit slippy (slippery ?), we slowed to a halt and turned round to see a heap of Monica and Debbie on the road. Luckily there was no traffic and they had slidden over at slow speed - even so Debbie was winded and had taken a 'road to the face'. The rest of us, the local farmer and passing driver were most concerned, but after a good sit down and clean up Debbie recovered and we walked away from the slippiness (mud mainly) and she remounted the horse (bike) and made it all the way back to Hornbeam despite what I suspect was an increasing headache. Of course we all hope you are OK today. So, a bit too eventful a ride than a mostly flat 54 miles should be. Still, it got us out and we persevered through the rain to have a mainly enjoyable ride. Peter L



### **Long Ride**

No ride report submitted.