

Wednesday, October 21, 2015

Wednesday Rides

Wednesday Wanderers' Ride

The car park at Hornbeam was quieter than normal this morning. Either the weather forecast or the away trip to the Wolds had reduced numbers. The Wheel Easy Wednesday Wanderers set off towards Knaresborough via Kingsley Drive and Bogs Lane. Having carefully negotiated a slippery descent on the Beryl Burton cycle track all proceeded uneventfully till we encountered a very large puddle (or small lake) on Bar Lane. Everyone managed to ride through it without any serious mishaps. It was onwards to Farnham, Staveley, Minskip, Aldborough and Boroughbridge. The sun was shining and the autumn colours were at their best. Coffee in Boroughbridge was rejected on a split decision, so we continued to Roelcliffe, Bishop Monkton, Markington, and Ripley where Glynn, Jen and Mike stopped for coffee. The rest of the group returned via the Greenway. A total distance 35 miles. Thanks to Steve for back marking. Keith M.

Wednesday Awayday Ride

Wednesday Wandering in the Wolds- A Ride in 4 Acts

Act One -6.45am in a bedroom in Harrogate

An alarm goes off and the rain is hitting the window. Do I turn over and go back to sleep?-I can't as last night we agreed the Awayday ride would go ahead. Out of bed and ready to go as my wife turns over and mumbles..'you are all mad'...

Act Two -9.30am Stamford Bridge Public Car Park

Colin and I arrive in the Car park and see a few souls who have already arrived so we, with relief, won't be on our own. A group from the full range of Wheeleasy groups assemble in a variety of gear from shorts (Gia and Colin) to full wet weather gear (the majority)-who will be right as the day pans out?

A cast of eleven including Eric (an escapee from the EG's), three happy Wanderers (Liz, Liz and Andrew) plus the majority of the usual Wednesday Medium ride crew (Sue, James, Malcolm and Charlie) are all raring to go and we marvel at the brilliant turn out given the weather forecast the day before.

Act Three- 9.30am to 4.30pm – Various Locations throughout the Wolds

An early decision was made to make straight for the first coffee stop in Pocklington as the skies were still overcast and that went down well with the group as we rode a short circuitous route to the One Mile cafe and a warm welcome, good service and good food varying from a full breakfast to tea loaf.

We looked out of the window and the skies were clearing and a small patch of blue skies appeared and those fully toggged up began to shed layers. We rode on to Millington and through the dry valley and then on to Huggate and Wetwang and all the time with improving weather and with the great Wolds' views appearing on both sides.

The lunch stop was Sledmere House and again, we had good fayre and we would have sat out if there had been more tables. Before setting off more adjustment of clothing and the shorts brigade were now looking smug as we went out to inspect the War Memorials (really interesting) and a team photo.

The next stage was towards Kirby Grindalythe, Duggelby and Wharram le Street where we missed a turn and so varied our route through Leavening (where we had another short break as I had a puncture!) and then on to Leppington, Bugthorpe, and back into Stamford Bridge along the main road.

We arrived back after 48 mile with considerably less clothes on than we started having had a great ride out in the great Wolds countryside and we had been surprised at the warm sunny conditions and clear views (we even managed the now traditional Power Station Spotting game!)

Act 4 Driving Back to Harrogate- 4.45 to 5.30pm

We all set off back home with a certain smile on our faces knowing that today's decision to make the effort to get up and go on today's ride had been a good one and that it had been well worth the effort for the great company, chat and enjoyment of a great area to ride.

Credits

Thanks to Colin for a great route and leading the group, for everyone who turned out on what could have been a wet ride and to all those who transported us. Finally to the BBC Weather site- who got the weather forecast spot on! A great days wandering! Kevin









EGs' Ride

The weather forecast for Wednesday (as stated on Tuesday evening) was not good, and of late the forecasts have been quite accurate. However at Low Bridge there was no sign of the forecast rain??

We had eight riders today due to some playing away at Stamford Bridge, which could be either against Chelsea or the Danes.

As we sped towards Taddy and the Lemon Tree Cafe patches of blue sky could be seen, this could only be good, us been born optimists Ha Ha, but it twas. Whilst tucking in to Tea and Toasted Tea Cakes we were joined by Helen and Keith T who were heading sort of towards York, always a nice route but not a friendly wind today for the return journey.

On the way to Bramham various riders left us till there was only four of us (Bob, Colin and Dave`s P & S) climbing towards East Rigton, before the big swoop down to Collingham and Linton. Then the climb on to the ridge to Kirkby Overblow (still in the sunshine) before another

swoop down to Harrogate centre and home. On the way down we again met up with Nick, who had left early to check up on his plumber?? (answers on a postcard). Orders of merit awarded to Bob who must have been close on 50 miles with a fair few hills and Theo who rode in the middle of the peloton, non-stop, both recovering from those unpleasant things which occur in life, besides filling in tax forms. Brilliant weather again (who are lucky boy`s then?) Dave P.

