

Wednesday, November 25, 2015

Wednesday Rides

Poddlers Ride

Oh glorious, glorious, summer has resprung itself. A perfect day for a ride.....not too much wind, no rain, no snow, no frost.... totally brilliant. So by way of a change we set off up Hookstone Road...only to be merged with Paul T, Sue C, and Gia's group....flashing off somewhere steep and far away. We finally regrouped, a select triad.....(grandchild sitting and lunch dates seem to have got in the way of the honing the body beautiful for some) and headed to Beckwithshaw. With spring in our wheels we took the rarely used route through the park (rarely used because it is a private road) each of us feeling it should be a legal cut though. The route continued as ever to Little Almscliff, the Sun Inn, Menwith, and the heavenly swoop down to Hampsthwaite, where siren Sophie lured us into a cosy sofa by the fire and a decent cup of coffee and some nutty scones. Surprisingly there were no other W.E. riders taking advantage a not too full cafe. As we started to leave Martin greeted us and said he had to order a sausage roll and coffee to sit with outside, as he had abandoned the rest of his group in favour of Sophie. By the time we had finished chatting made several abortive attempts at taking a selfie, the photographer royal popped round the corner and took a photo for us. Sadly I can find no evidence of this on the camera..... We returned to Harrogate via the old route up Knox Lane and the strangely declining hill. Thank you for your company Jen and Monica, a very jolly ride of 25 miles at a gentle pace. CG

Wednesday Wanderers Ride

The Wanderers are wandering further each week and today was no exception. Sixteen set off and by the time we hit Linton, we were down to thirteen. I thought more might decide to peel off the group as we started to hit a few hills, but to my great pride and satisfaction it didn't happen. Most made the coffee stop at Thorp Arch, while some headed home. At the top of the show ground hill more went their separate ways, but I would venture to suggest that most who cycled today will have done in the region of 36 to 38 miles in glorious sunshine. It makes you feel good to be alive. I attach a map for those who are interested in where we went and also because I forgot to take a photo (slapped wrists!). I suspect also that most of the thirteen who made it to the cafe stop, covered about 3.5 miles of previously un-wanderer'd road. Glyn



Wednesday Ride

After the last two weeks of wet or foggy rides today with a wonderful forecast of sunshine there was plenty to celebrate. Venturing south of the Wharfe was too much for Martin who left us at Dunkswick, the rest of us taking the Pool road. Instead of going up Weardley Bank our plan was to take the next left but speedy Anne, missed our intended turn, chivalrous Kevin chased her and we all ended up on a new piece of road and rejoined the Pool Road, intending to cycle up Creskeld Lane. Here we met Sarah doing her own loop with plans to meet us at the coffee stop. Some bright spark thought it would be a good idea to climb Black Hill instead of Creskeld Lane, good decision, great views and much satisfaction in getting to the top.

In Bramhope Sarah joined us for our very generous café stop Chez Angela, beautiful and warm house, delicious home baking, tea and coffee. Here Sarah and Janet who had already done their miles left for homes in Leeds and the rest of cycled a beautiful route through Castley, Almscliffe Crag, Stainburn and Burn Bridge. 30 miles on a glorious autumn day, Gia



EG's Ride

I don't think it is THE record turnout, but 16 is certainly the November record for the EGs. Listers in Boroughbridge was the target elevenses break, and it was soon Hell for Leather and everyman for himself. Some acquitted themselves better than others in this scramble; that'll teach you to miss a few outings!

Quality sustenance having been consumed, and paid for by most (you know who you are, Dave P), it was more of the same; H4L for Easingwold where the Curious Table was curiously unable to accommodate us but Clarke's Tearooms across the road was more than adequate.

More chat, and a comment regarding the high density of tea stops to miles (well we are the EGs) preceded a more leisurely ride home via the Aldwarke Bridge.

A warm welcome to Vanessa (I hope you enjoyed our ride and that we see you again), welcome back to Dave Wilson, Eric, Colin, Ian and Marvin; you've been missed. Good also to see Theo out with us looking pretty sprightly, and thanks also to Bob, Norman, John R and Rob, not to mention Dave W our stand in leader. A good do. Dave S.



Long Ride

With a forecast of sunshine for Wharfedale four riders Richard P, Richard Leak, Terry and myself were setting off for Bolton Abbey when Terry had to abandon the ride due to a faulty front wheel. Unfortunately when we reached Little Almscliff Richard L had to abandon the ride due to a previous injury. Now down to 2 riders we encountered ice on the roads near Fewston but managed to enjoy a great ride in sunshine via Askwith to Bolton Abbey for an early lunch stop. We returned via Stump Cross in brilliant sunshine then had a coffee and scones at Pateley Bridge. As we approached Harrogate we met Terry who had managed to buy a new wheel and was returning from a ride to Ripon. As we returned to Harrogate and crossed the Stray the 3 riders were greeted by an amazing sky over Harrogate. The photo was taken on the Stray near Slingsby Walk. David R

