

Wednesday, December 30, 2015

Wednesday Rides

Wednesday Ride

Only two riders turned up at Hornbeam this morning. The forecast sounded worse than it actually was. We enjoyed a leisurely ride to Wetherby. However, I wouldn't recommend cycling on the Wetherby /Spofforth cycle path at the moment unless you want a filthy bike! After coffee we returned via Sicklinghall. Luckily we were home before the rain started. Thanks for the company Dave! - Paul



EGs' Ride

The weather forecast, to be "Frank" (or Desmond or Eva or whatever the storms were named) was not that good. Despite all that three riders assembled at Low Bridge, at first thinking themselves to be "Johnny No Mates", but to be fair there seemed a complete absence of riders in Hookstone car park (though they may have been hiding somewhere).

With the information at our disposal, from TV, Radio, and Marvin yesterday in York, we knew there was a bridge down in Taddy, and an "Iffy" one in Linton plus a big wall down in Wetherby plus many "wet" roads resulting from the "Inland Sea" so it was decided to head for Aldwark Bridge, the route being quite high till the bridge.

So the intrepid three, Peter Bradley, Dave Watson and Dave Preston headed for Arkendale and Great Ouseburn, a very pleasant ride with dry roads and quite a bit of wind assist, at the bridge the river was high and the "flood ponds" were full, but they retained the water and the roads were dryish with the odd bit of mud. Through Aldwark Village to Tholthorpe where the daffs were out on the village green (crazy weather) and on to Raskelf and its cafe, the Purple Pidgeon, Parrot?, thingy ?, DP`s memory still not good. All wind assist and rain free.

The coffee and the bacon, sausage and egg buns were excellent and that`s not all. A very charming, mature lady, good looking, asked to join our table for a chat. This caused Peter B to adjust his tie and comb his hair (which one it was we are not sure). The lady was originally from Kent, but that was not a problem as she was a cyclist, a horse rider and kept dogs, can't be bad. Extra coffee was drunk, but eventually we had to say goodbye to the Lady of Kent and return in the wind and rain.

The wind and rain was very much "in yer face" but many thanks to Dave W and Peter B who pushed the wind, making life easier for the "old un". At Thornton Bridge the water on the road was only ankle deep, many times in the past it has been over thigh deep and totally impassable, so the flood defence must have worked here.

Our luck was in again with the bridge at Boroughbridge open to all traffic. So it was steady away to Knaresborough, Harrogate and last but not least Harlow Hill. For the last ride of the year and despite the returning weather it was a good un with mileage in the mid 40`s. Dave P.





