

Sunday, May 22, 2016

## wheel Easy Ride Report 524

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### Short Ride

Seven of us set off on the shorter ride. We rode in the direction of Armscliffe crag, then down towards the A59. Across the A59 cycling past the golf balls. We took a right turn signposted - 4 miles to Hampswaite, our coffee stop.

The 4 mile stretch towards Hampsthwaite is one of my favourite stretches of road to cycle. Not sure why although the road surface is smooth, lovely long distance views and this road is long and straight. Of course the fact it takes us ever closer to our coffee stop has to be another positive factor.

We arrived at Sophie's where Dennis waved us goodbye as he continued home for his Sunday lunch.

The remaining six of us enjoyed a drink and amazing scones.

Once refreshed time to cycle towards home. Choices - to cycle left from Sophies up the steep but fairly short climb, then through the woods to Ripley and the greenway home or alternatively to turn to our right and cycle up the more gradual drag to Killinghall, the greenway then home.

We chose the longer drag. The last leg, a leisurely traffic free cycle along the greenway - home.

Although as usual I'd an half hour dive home back. Lynda

### Medium Ride

By the time we reached Low Bridge this morning we had accumulated 18 riders. Paul B took a group of 6 on a shorter route going from Ouseburn to Boroughbridge via the Dunsforths. Martin very kindly took a group of 6 to ease traffic congestion. We passed through Arkendale, Ouseburn and then bumped over Aldwark Bridge. The weather and views just got better, everyone relaxed, there was lots of chat and the route finding only involved turning left! At Myton Bridge we had a break and learnt a bit of history after viewing the various tanning stages among the groups legs! Originally Martin had suggested we follow the bridleway from here but thought better of it. However John decided to try it and we hope he got through the mud! The route was then over Thornton Bridge and into Boroughbridge where Gilchris inside was empty so we filled the seats and had excellent service. All replete the route back was via Minskip and Knaresborough. About 39 miles. Thanks to Martin and Justin.



### Medium Ride Lite

This was the shorter version for wimps and wusses and there were three takers, soon to be increased to six. We turned off at Great Ouseburn to head directly to Boroughbridge, cycling quietly and responsibly through the Dunsforths.

However, noise levels increased as we encountered the Boroughbridge family cycling day coming in the opposite direction. Toddlers, who looked as though they could barely toddle, were zooming along happily (all over the road). A delight to see.

Two riders left us at the caff stop leaving the rest to complete about 30 miles on a gradely day to be out on a bicycle. Paul B



### **Medium Plus Ride**

There were quite a few takers for the Medium Plus ride on a nice Spring morning. Once the faster pace group had departed with David, Sue and I had about 12 riders left so we decided to keep together but in smaller groups. A majority vote decided that the cycle path from Spofforth to Wetherby would be too mucky after the recent rain, so we opted to go to Wetherby via Little Ribston and Kirk Deighton. From there we followed the A1 cycle path to Bramham and met Sarah Radcliffe as we went over the bridge towards Thorner. It was very fortunate to have Sarah on board being a Shadwell girl as not only did we get a nice view of her cottage as we cycled through ( and a promise of coffee at a future date for a smaller group...), she then lead us on to Street Lane where there is a good choice of cafes. Most of us opted for the excellent delicatessen fayre and sat for a good while outside enjoying our lunch and socialising. Sarah then suggested another back route to Eccup through the Leeds suburbs and we even saw the road and sign for Paul Tindle's primary school where he was headmaster for many years. Hopefully good memories were brought back! Our route then took us to Weardly, Kirkby Overblow and home via Walton Head and Burn Bridge. Everyone agreed that it had been a very pleasant day out and we particularly liked the quieter route into Shadwell and Leeds via Carr Lane from Thorner.

The faster group comprised eight gents and a lady. The Spofforth to Wetherby cycle path got the thumbs down so we went via Kirk Deighton. Not all were familiar with the A1 cycle path and there was a chorus of whinging at the off-road section which only subsided when I suggested (wrongly of course) that complaints should be made to Gia! Despite the pleasant riding conditions, the route seemed not to meet with overall approval due to its suburban nature, as some, it seemed had been spoilt by an idyllic ride to Grassington last week! We opted for a coffee stop at Street Lane which was successful, despite my inability to lead the way by the most direct route. Not surprisingly we avoided the off-road path around Leeds Grammar on our way to Eccup Reservoir and on. Weardly Bank was a blast, but by the time we reached Kirby Overblow, yours truly for one was beginning to wilt, unlike the 'sportif' boys, who were just getting into their stride and shot up the hill and onwards like the proverbial greased weasel s---! Amazingly the traffic lights in the valley after Ridding were green as we approached and stayed that way, allowing everyone a decent run up the hill. A fitting end to an enjoyable ride. Monica and David Webber and Sue Couture About 42 miles





**Long Ride**







### **Treasure Hunt**

Thanks to those who turned up for the Treasure Hunt. The weather wasn't so good but It seems everyone enjoyed the ride and trying to work out the clues.

The joint winners were ( pictured):

Team Coctail Cyclists AKA Bridget and Sue. 17/21

LJ's Linda, Linda, Jean and John 17/21

In third place was

Team Coco Richard, Liz and Alison 16/21

Not the same clues wrong either.

Last were the Awkward Squad (Martin and Monica) , who weren't there at the beginning and didn't find the end, plus I've no idea what score they got.

I won't give out the answers in case others want to try it at a later date.

Cheers Paul R

Saturday Treasure Hunt. We know others did the Treasure Hunt on Saturday but three of us started a bit later so we completed it in isolation and it was none the less enjoyable for that. Paul Randall had designed a challenge that had us floundering in Follifoot, amazed on Abbey Road, foxed in Farnham, lost in Lingerfield, and baffled in Bilton. We learned lots of local history and had good fun. Even today, Sunday it was a talking point and one that I was convinced was the right answer was not so. If anyone wasn't able to join us on Saturday I suggest you ask Paul Randall for the clues and have a go. Many thanks Paul. Martin W.





### **Off Road Ride**

Just the two of us for a really scenic ride on a fine, sunny day.

Three good tracks, Foxup Moor from Littondale over to Horton in Ribblesdale, the track round the back of Malham Tarn by the big house (field study centre) and the track from Street Gate to Hawkswick in Littondale. Two photos of Terry on the Foxup track, one clearing a ford, the other with Ingleborough in the background, and a picture of what I think is a wild pansy, the Street Gate track was full of them. Colin



