

Sunday, July 10, 2016

## Wheel Easy Ride Report 531

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### Short ride

There was no-one, nil, zero takers this morning for the short ride!!  
I joined up with the medium ride instead SueT

### Medium Ride

Lynda N, Sue O and myself were taking the medium ride today. We were joined by Dennis and Sue T as there were no other riders for the short ride.  
We took the proposed medium route at a leisurely pace. Sue T and Dennis left us at Marton and the remaining 3 ladies carried on to Great Ouseburn and on to Beningbrough for a cafe stop.  
We had delicious scones before retracing our route back to Harrogate.  
About 42 miles travelled today. A very enjoyable ride. Jean



### Another Medium Ride

A group of twelve, then eight then nine, depending on who left and joined, set off in decent weather, hoping we'd be nearly home by the time the forecast rain arrived. Fortunately the forecast was wrong and we enjoyed a dry ride.  
Apart from one of us having the misfortune of a bee sting near Marton-cum- Grafton, we swept through Great Ouseburn and Thorpe Underwood and arrived at our coffee stop at Tankred Farm Shop where we had an enjoyable chat over brunch.

Onwards across the A59 to Cattal, Walshford and Little Ribston where we turned off, into an increasingly strong breeze, for Spofforth and the route back into Harrogate. The show ground was very busy with preparations for this week's show but we got through without problems. A final pull up the show ground hill and we were home in good time, and in the dry. 34 miles. Al D.



### **Medium Ride2**

9 happy riders made up our group today. Superb conditions, quiet roads and convivial banter as we cycled to Tancred Farm via Farnham, Marton cum Grafton & Great Ouseburn. Gordon pointed out sites of local historical interest along the way & Gill & Neil kept us entertained with tales of their recent Wheel Easy Cycling Holiday in Germany. Great value refreshments fuelled our return via Cattal, Whixley & Hunsingore. Great company. Hope Maggie & Charlie join us again soon. 35 miles. Nicky H

### **Medium Plus Moderate Pace Ride:**

As I write this watching Murray's tortured expressions I have to say he cannot possibly be having nearly as much fun as we did. Six of us made up a moderate pace group but we were frequently caught up by Liz's group who seemed to be cracking on nicely. All went well up past the Stonehouse Inn until Bob then missed the turning. Jamie chased him but obviously he was on a promise at Greenhow because he disappeared. Jamie was the hero of the day for doing the chasing. Eventually both arrived at Teacups in Pateley and we were all happily reunited. The Leader, being notably lazy, then opted for a moderate climbing route out of Pateley but it still meant we all opted for a walk on the steepest section up Silver Hill onto Wath Road. Then it was over the moors to Fallback before heading for Brimham Rocks and turning down Rabbit Lane. Martin Weeks



### **Medium Plus Ride**

23 Medium plus riders today, Michael kindly volunteered to take a group of 9 faster boys, while Martin W did the same with a group of 5 moderate pace riders, which left a group of 9 willing to cycle at my slow pace. The route was Little Almscliffe, Cobby Syke, Menwith Hill Road and

Greenhow Hill Road. It was all very pleasant with views opening up. At Braithwaite Lane a concerned Martin was waiting for us as Bob had been in front and missed the turning. We knew Bob could look after himself but were worried about Jamie who had gone chasing after him (and was also completely capable of looking after himself!). Martin waited a bit longer with Christine, Maris and Justin while the rest of us headed at various paces but I gather no Chris Froome descents down Yorke's Folly and into Teacups.

Here our plan to sit outside was thwarted by a few drops of rain. Most of us tucked into bacon sandwiches and soon most of the others including Jamie joined us. Bob eventually turned up and was sentenced to be back marker! The groups split again after Teacups with Martin heading up to Pateley Old Church while mine headed along the road to Wath, being determined to try the steep hill with drainage ditches.

Maris was the only one who attempted to ride further than the first few yards, the rest of us just walked, taking in all the glorious views that were opening up. Unfortunately at this point Jamie decided his knee would not take any more so he and Christine rang home for a lift. The views just got better, looking back to Gouthwaite and forward towards Dallowgill. The map needed checking a few times but soon we were back in familiar territory as we neared Brimham and headed back to Ripley past Rabbit Farm. We thought we had lost Keith a couple of times but he had just zoomed off ahead enjoying the fast downhill!

About 40 miles and into new territory for most of us. Thanks to Justin for back marking and Michael and Martin for volunteering to lead. Liz Pugh



### **Faster Medium Plus Ride**

An eventful ride today plus a good turn out for the faster ride as a merry band of ten set off for Pateley Bridge with voluntary leader Mike Inglis in the seat. A good pace was being set as we sped down whinney lane past the Squinting Cat out to Beckwithshaw and the long climb up norwood lane towards Little Almscliff. 1st laugh of the day was as we approached the barrier at the old RN wireless station it remained firmly down most of us had cycled through the side gate when it opened I'm sure someone enjoys the little game!! but it "raised" a laugh. We lost Paul just before Yorks Folly had to be away home for a family commitment. After the twitchy decent of York's Folly it was into teacup's for a welcome brew minus our esteemed leader and Dave who were apparently fixing a puncture on the tops,nobody seemed very keen on going back up the Folly to check if all was ok!! After the Sportman pub we decided to avoid storm drains and go on a different hill, the hill with no name, Mark did assure us that it was fine no problems!!.... steep and then steeper seemed to be the best way of describing it. After regrouping at the top of wath lane we very quickly reached Fellbeck via an arrow straight decent and

back up towards Brimham. Homeward bound now, left down everyone's favourite lane towards the fountain's abbey road past rabbitt hill farm on the wonderfully named Careless House Lane.

Soon it would be into Ripley but not before the 2nd puncture of the day our leader's front tyre went at the bottom of fountains rd hill. The group started to split up for town going along the greenway with the elected "bell" ringer leading the way.

All in all a good ride with some tired legs to take home and we missed the rains to boot. Tony P

### **Long Ride**

Richard was our ride leader for today and six riders set off in sunny conditions. The plan was to meet Terry at Piccadilly Motors but when we arrived an embarrassed Terry had forgotten his saddle and seat post! So still only six. I don't know what Richard had for breakfast but he was off! Thirsk was reached in quick time at an average speed of 17.3mph! A first for me. After a stop at the Arabica Cafe we were off again. Slightly slower as Boltby Bank was on our route and not one for tired legs to attempt. Three made it to the top in one go with the others having to dismount and walk at various points. No shame in that as it is a beast! Lunch was taken outdoors in the sun at the Hawaby Post office cafe. Always a delight to stop here due to the wonderful countryside, value and standard of food. All roads lead up from here and we made our way back via Sutton bank and Boltby. We then retraced our route out hoping to stop in Staveley for tea and strawberries but we arrived just too late. We had been lucky with the weather up to now but a shower caught us out just after our stop. Bad timing as we had to stop for Phil to repair a puncture in his rear tyre. Fully sorted, off we went again to arrive in Harrogate in sunshine. Another great ride - thanks to all and especially to Richard for leading, (76 miles at 14.3mph). Glynn



