

Sunday, October 23, 2016

Wheel Easy Ride Report 546

Short Ride

Five takers for the short ride including new rider Mike. Quite lanes and villages to Knaresborough and Ripley. 22miles admiring the wonderful autumn colours. Thanks to all for the help with my rear wheel puncture. Dennis B.

Medium Plus Ride

16 riders set out looking forward to a lovely sunny Autumn ride. We were not disappointed. The pleasant sunshine picked out the golds and browns . Up to Little Almscliffe and over the A59 to a wiggle through the Naval Base, the wind got up as we made our way along Duck Street , doesn't it always! More climbing to the top of Yorke's Folly followed by whizzing down to Pateley, Tea Cups for the café stop , sunny enough to sit outside initially but a bit too chilly so in we went. Another reason to go inside was Bianchi Bob's statement that 'His tights were coming down ', we weren't sure if this was a warning or a promise! Suitably refreshed we headed out on the Lofthouse road and on to Wath and a very steep hill for most of us to walk up, stunning views of the valley, reservoir and Autumn colours made it all worth while. Down then up to Brimham followed by far the best route home to Ripley nearly all down hill to the Drovers. 10 ladies chaperoned by 6 men excellent company for this 40 mile ride. Thanks to Colin for leadership qualities while I back marked . Sue C





Medium Ride

"There were no shipwrecks and nobody drowned, in fact nothing to laugh at at all. "

Thus it was with today's unremarkable yet gentle and pleasurable ride to Spofforth and Wetherby via a not-particularly-mucky Harland Way. We were ten (I think), then twelve then eleven.

On to Walton and Cowthorpe to Knaresborough where everyone opted for the caff stop (must be a record). And Joe back-marked. Except when he didn't. 28 miles. Paul B



Long Ride

8 riders set out on the long ride today. Masham being the intended lunch time destination. The regular "Sunday" group were pleased to be joined by Terry who said he was out as he had been granted a "furlough". This confused a number of the regulars until Terry explained its meaning. (Look it up if you don't know).

The idea was to get to Lofthouse in good time. With the shorter daylight hours we wanted to allow plenty of time for the climb of Trapping Hill. A good speed was maintained out of Harrogate and along Penny Pot Lane into a slight head wind. We then swooped down into Nidderdale passing Darley and then onto Summerbridge.

We all enjoyed the sun, the stunning Autumn colours and the clear views. We took the quiet road from Glasshouses up the valley to Pateley. Peter left from home for "important baking duties ...". The remaining riders worked their way further up Nidderdale at a more leisurely pace. We said goodbye to Jill at that point and briefly stopped to plan our ascent of Trapping Hill. We all made it up without stopping. The maximum gradient recorded by Garmin was 22% and it felt it! Trefor got all the points on the climb and was soon out of sight. We had a brief photo stop at the top and admired the views to Great Whernside. The 8 miles to Masham was despatched even though in the main a strong headwind was experienced. We were caught by a very heavy shower 5 minutes from Masham but pressed on for a well earned cafe stop.

Refuelled we all enjoyed the ride up over the common and then onto Ripon. A slow ride up through the deer park was rewarded by more sun. Tiring legs resulted in a slow pace back to Ripley, compensated by taking in the views on what was on balance a nice Autumn day.

As we approached Harrogate from Ripley riders split off in various directions.

We did 62 miles and 1700 metres of climbing. Great company, pretty good weather, beautiful countryside and a group objective for some long rides to slow the pace and enjoy the ride!

Martin D

