

Sunday, November 20, 2016

Wheel Easy Ride Report 550

Medium Plus Ride

Just a few gathered in the cold & wet at Hornbeam this morning. There was a bit of shall we shan't we, but eventually most of us did, banking on the fact that there should be no rain after 11. Around 9 people set off towards Little Almscliffe where we regrouped and reassessed our plans. Alan was dispatched off to Ripon with the fast boys, (lest he should wear his brakes out). The rest of us split into two groups of three opting for slightly different routes and paces but both aiming for coffee in Hampsthwaite. A cold wind blustered sideways at us on the descent from Little Almscliffe and we soon passed Peter, James and Alison having a minor mechanical at the side of the road, (rumoured to be a chain blown off by the wind!). We three ladies carried on; dipping down to the Fewston farm shop, crossing the A59, taking the track through Menwith Hill, and eventually swooping down into Hampsthwaite with very cold fingers and toes, just as it started to drizzle. We were briefly reunited with James' group and Richard who were already enjoying coffee & treats at Sophie's. Jeanie Sue and Leslie eventually headed back towards Knox enjoying a little sunshine until Jeanie's front wheel was punctured with a large thorn. Oh dear, what's a girl, (or three) to do? With rescue lift an hour away and not a man in sight! Well, there was nothing for it but to get on and mend the puncture which we did only to be beset by a second puncture, this time to Sue's back tire. Well at least it wasn't raining. Without further mishap we, eventually got back to Harrogate after doing about 24 miles and 2 puncture repairs, not bad for a very unpromising day. Jeanie, Sue & Leslie – girl power! (sorry). Jeanie

