

Wednesday, April 18, 2018

Wednesday Rides

Wednesday Wanderers Ride

Although there was an away day plenty of riders turned up at Hornbeam keen to take advantage of the good weather forecast. Dave gave the announcement of rides on offer and as no Wednesday Ride a quick count indicated 16 for the Wanderers Ride. A prompt start at 9-30am with regrouping at Low Bridge picking up another cyclist. On we went via Farnham and Staveley where 2 left to make their own way back. Through Minskip and onto Aldborough where I made a quick call to warn Tancred's of numbers. Then photo was suggested with May Pole on such a lovely spring day. Best behaviour was requested on next section through the Dunsforth's safely arriving at Tancred's for refreshments. Steady ride back via Whixley, Cattal, Hunsingore, Little Ribston where I and another rider headed home to Knaresborough. Dave led the ride back into Harrogate via Spofforth and Follifoot. Lovely cycling conditions (about 38mls) thanks to Dave Griffin for support at the back and final lead in arriving back just before 2pm as some had requested so all happy. Steven Perry



Poddlers Ride

Decided on a gentle ride to Ripley Church tearoom via St George's, Whitney Lane, Beckwithshaw, Norwood, Menwith, Hampsthwaite.

Monica left us at Hampsthwaite and Ann and I poddled on to the tearoom to enjoy home made cake and scone. 25 miles ridden. Jean



Long Ride

Spring seems to have sprung with temperatures of 20° C promised for the afternoon. Six riders left Hornbeam heading for Burnsall via Timble, Askwith and Ilkley. On leaving Harrogate it was noticeable that there was quite a strong south westerly wind blowing, this made the climb up to Little Alms Cliff a bit of a challenge. As four of us turned left to Timble Richard P and Stuart A left us to head for Nidderdale. After an uneventful ride we arrived at The Tea Cottage, Bolton Abbey. Dave R decided to have porridge, his second breakfast of the day, and was surprised to be presented with porridge Tropicana i.e. porridge surmounted loads of fruit. The refreshments were accompanied by a discussion about dukes and earls and who owned most of England. Suitably refreshed we headed to Burnsall to check on the progress of the new tearooms. Then it was onward to Appletreewick and the climb up New Road and then onto Stump Cross. Half way up the climb Richard L and PCJ decided to rest awhile and admire the views across to Simon's Seat. A second stop at Stump Cross was called for before we tackled the brisk headwind on Duck Street. The final return leg was across to Birstwith, Hampsthwaite and Knox Bridge. PCJ





Easingwold Awayday

Awaydays have developed a reputation for being just the right distance, just the right amount of hills and lovely scenery. This was no exception. My Strava says it was just over 40 miles with 819 metres of climbing.

It was the first time the Awaydays have been split into groups of 12 and it worked very well for us. I led a group of 12 with Liz Pugh as the very able back marker. If you look carefully you can see 11 of them in the photo below. It should have Castle Howard in the background and it should be better composed - but hey, it's a photo. We followed the route that Colin

and Kevin had worked out between them. Well done guys - a fabulous ride. And you arranged the weather perfectly.

We had coffee and cakes at Ampleforth Abbey and a lovely lunch at Yorkshire Lavender at Terrington. And we followed some delightful hidden side roads.

A memorable day out. Well worth doing again.

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Thanks to everyone for their company today. Steve Wright



Kevin's Awayday

Blue skies, clear views and bright sun on a Wednesday - it must be an Awayday Wednesday! 24 riders turned up for the first Awayday of the year in Easingwold for a jaunt in the Howardian Hills.

Early coffees were enjoyed at the Curious Table whilst the first group set off under the stewardship of Steve and Liz and 15 mins later the second group departed at a steady pace. It had been difficult to decide what gear to wear and the first few miles saw several riders hastily shed layers as we climbed towards Coxwold. Just after Newburgh Priory we took a gated road which was traffic free and headed to Ampleforth Abbey for coffee.

The first group were just finishing and about to set off as we ordered and consumed giant scones and everyone was reminded that we needed to end up in calorie deficit after the ride!

Setting off again we tackled some stiff climbs when we felt the snacks we had consumed and made our way towards the wonderful swooping ride past Castle Howard- a real joy on such a lovely day.

Our next stop was Yorkshire Lavender for lunch and we had a brief word with the other group as they were finishing (superb organisation or what?). Again decent meals were consumed (some with chips!) and we took on valuable fluids for the last leg back to Easingwold.

Another stiff climb straight after lunch kept us quiet but we revived with a ride down another small lane on the way back which gave us fine views.

With the skies clear we had more great views of the Power Stations and York Minster and the whole of the Vale of York as we rode along the ridge back towards Crayke and the final hill before we arrived back at Easingwold.

The other group had dispersed but it was a relief the new arrangements had worked and the groups had spread out on the country lanes to make passing etc easier.

A great route and a great day out in excellent company. Thanks to Colin for another great route and thanks to Steve and Colin for leading the groups and James and Liz for excellent back marking.

38 miles and around 700m of climbing so we all came back with tired legs but all had a smile on their face. Thanks to all the riders for taking part- we hope its the start of a great summer of Awayday rides. Kevin





EG's Ride

The forecast promised a "change" in the weather which was to prove correct later. We had ten riders at Low Bridge, and whilst looking at the sky, it was suggested that it would be nice to visit Dave Watson, so a quick phone call was made to see if that was OK by Dave.

and it was, so ten riders visited his house to shake his hand and wish him and Pamela all the best, then it was on to Wetherby and Morrison`s cafe for our first coffee stop, this time in the seating outside in the "arcade" ?.

Then it was on to Tadcaster via Boston Spa, it had been decided not to travel via the ex railway line and bridal path cycle tracks because of the past wet weather.

Eight riders, Chris, Dan, Daves Peatfield, Preston and Wilson, Geoff, John R (nice to see you with us John) and Peter B headed for Boston Spa, Bill and Norman took a shorter route and headed for Walton.

On the way Dan vanished only to return to our group after visiting Newton Kyme (something he had always wanted to do, it makes a change from the other exotic places throughout the world), then on to Taddy and on to Catterton, Bilborough and in to the cafe at Askham Richard, now we were back to ten riders.

The cake portions were enormous must be one of the few times any EG felt outpaced by a cake (see photo).

Then it was home via Long Marston, Tockwith, Cowthorpe,

The fellowship of the Ten was dissolved at the B6164 some riders returning via Spofforth others via Knaresborough.

The weather had been great along with the company, The question to be asked is ? "Summer is a coming in" cue for a song Dan ?.

Dave P.



