

Wednesday, April 25, 2018

Wednesday Rides

Poddlers' Ride

I wandered lonely as a cloud..... what rubbish.... I am not a Wanderer, the clouds certainly weren't lonely today, as there were loads of them, and I was not lonely despite no one wanting to Poddle. Leaving Hornbeam, I chatted with a Wanderer or two, at Low Bridge the E.G.s waved noisily, and by the time I reached Farnham I had found an old bloke who had told me I faded on hills and he thought electric bikes were good. By Arkendale I'd been told a life story and by Stainley he had thankfully immersed himself in litter picking and I headed for Mountgarrett's garden. At the ford my bike almost got itself onto the bridge and in the large field there were six guinea fowl scaring sheep and reminding me of an ex Harrogate primary school teacher's hat. Then through Lord M's place and a quick visit to the ladies of Ripley on a sadly futile mission to buy a bit of cheese and onion pie. After a quick dash down the Greenway I arrived home for an early lunch and the Tour of Romandy. A lovely peaceful ride in parts.... look forward to the Poddlers' returning from climbing Welsh mountains, shopping for visitors, eating more lunches, going to Scotland and more. 25 Miles.CG

Wednesday Wanderers' Ride

Well, that was a lovely ride. I expected around 3 people to be at Hornbeam for the Wanderers ride today because I thought everyone would have gone on the away day at Grewelthorpe. So, it was a bit of a shock to find we were 18. We split into groups of 4 on the Greenway and then into 2 groups of 9 from there. Angela did a great job as back marker and thanks to Liz for leading the second group. Rain was a surprise too. It wasn't expected until the afternoon but it changed its mind. And the wind was expected but surprisingly strong.

Holly Bank Lane was delightful through the bluebell woods and the wood anemones were out too.

We worked our way through Darley, along Low Lane and up Day Lane to the listening station. Then on to Fewston Farm shop.

This was a hilly ride and with such a large group, we were running a bit late for most people. So, we took a photo of the whole group and then split up. Liz, Anne, Zoe and I took the long route and everyone else headed back up Norwood Lane to Beckwithshaw and home.

They missed the best views from Jack Hill Lane - see the second photo. Then via the gated road into Leathley, North Rigton and the final cruise down Brackenthwaite Lane.

We did 35.7 miles and climbed 951 metres.

Thanks to everyone for making my job of leading such a pleasure. Aren't we lucky to have such a great club? Steve W



Wednesday Ride

April showers forecast, April showers we had. A rather fluid group set off and proceeded to fragment at irregular intervals. It was great to see Sarah Radcliffe back on her bike. Most went to Brimham via Burnt Yates and several adjourned to various Ripon cafes. Colin, James and I continued on the intended route to Pateley via Fellbeck. Superb views across the valley and down to Gouthwaite reservoir made the very windy ride worthwhile. Tea Cups for refreshments and home via the Toll Bridge. Thanks to Colin and James for convivial company, 37 wind buffeted and hilly miles. Sue C



EGs' Ride

Tuesday weather had been a washout, but Wednesday forecast looked better but with rain due at 2-00pm (analogue not digital).

But we had six riders at Low Bridge, kitted out in winter gear comprising Colin P, Peatfield and Preston Daves, Geoff, Nick (great to see you out on your bike) and Peter B.

Whilst waiting to depart, Caroline swept passed hailing us before departing for a solo Poddle.

The best optioned seemed to be in a northerly direction so Spa Gardens Cafe was our first stop. Here we were joined by fellow Wheel Easiers John R, Martin and Sarah?

After Caffeine, Calories and Chat, Martin kindly took a Wheel Easy team photo.

The super six then headed for Wath, where two Dave P`s and Peter B headed for Melmerby, Colin, Geoff and Nick headed north towards Kirklington.

After Melmerby Peter B and 66.6% Daves headed for Baldersby, Asenby, Cundall, and Norton -le-Clay as Boroughbridge

came in to sight Peter B (bless `im) said "anybody fancy a cuppa", the decision was straight into Morrisons cafe, soon to be joined by Colin, Geoff and Nick who arrived via Ainderby Quernhow and, Skipton on Swale and Catton.

While in the cafe we met another Elderly Gentleman, in CTC gear from Stokesley, who told us he had been a member of CTC for 74years, having joined at the age of 14 years.

He asked us what we thought of the present conditions of our roads.

Here comes the "punch line" he stated that in all his years of cycling he had never seen our roads in such bad condition. Perhaps this might be repeated to those persons who seek our support on Thursday 4th May.

Then it was back to Knaresborough in blue sky and sunshine the 2-00pm (again analogue not digital) rain had not arrived, however the wind was a little inconsiderate, but Colin and Geoff (star rating) pushed it for us. For one DP the longest ride of the year. Dave P



Wheel Easy Abroad

Only two for today's long ride away day from Girona to the coast of Catalonia, but the sun shone, the roads were pothole-free and the scenery was spectacular. Throw in a big climb, a glorious spaghetti descent overlooking the sea and quality ice cream at the end and it was an epic day out. Richard L



