

Wednesday, July 18, 2018

Wednesday Rides

Wednesday Ride

Another nice day, and for some of us the pull of Masham was too much to resist. Fountains, Aldfield, Low Grantley, Laverton, Kirkby Malzeard, then straight over the top to Warthermarske, Swinton and Masham.

Bit hazy in the distance, but we saw Roseberry Topping and a hint of the factories on Teesside.

The "long" riders were in Johnny Baghdad's, on their way to Bedale, but we easily got a couple of tables outside.

We deserved an easy route home, so it was out of Masham on the main road, then a short diversion to Well for a picture, before the "standard" route West Tanfield, Wath, Hutton Conyers to Ripon, where John took us on a tour of bridges, waterways and a ford, so that we approached Littlethorpe from the "other" side! I don't know where we went, and I was there!

Farnham, Lingerfield and Scriven, just for a change, and I was back in Knaresborough about 3.30

Colin



Poddlers Ride

Jean B very kindly undertook to plan a superb route - via Cowthorpe, Cattal, Whixley, Boroughbridge, Staveley and Knaresborough.

Tim very nobly joined we three ladies - having been warned by me that I am "Sedate Sue" and would be snail-like. Undaunted, he continued and was led at a very good pace by Jean. Backmarking for me was no problem - gaps for traffic were easily created!! We reached the Bean Cafe in Boroughbridge and were instantly offered waterbottle filling. They even have a "Hydration Table" set with bottles and glasses. Replete with scones for two, Bakewell Tart for Tim and tiffin for me, we returned to Harrogate having completed 35 miles for me and 36 for Margaret who provided moral support and company as we headed up Leadhall Lane and to the comfort of cushions, baths and whatever else to soothe saddlesore extremities. It was a super ride. The sun shone and a refreshing breeze - enough to blow the flags in Boroughbridge - proved very welcome. Thank you, my three compatriots, for your excellent company. Sue D.



Wanderers Ride

There were 20 Wanderers today after Mike picked up 2 en route. Mike Smith took the 1st group with Chris backmarking and I took the 2nd with Jo backmarking to Brimham then Alison taking over. The route was the Greenway to Ripley then Hollybank Lane to Clint and Burnt Yates.

Unfortunately we encountered more comments from walkers who think that cyclists should not be on Hollybank Lane. This time it was 2 women with about 10 white fluffy dogs between them who stood on the path blocking our way. However the weather was glorious as were the views opening up before us as we headed up past Brimham, on to the B6265, right down Sawley Moor Lane, then turning to Risplith. I think Steve finally realised why I didn't want to use his suggested route via Rabbit Farm!

Mike's group were there ahead of us and we were all quickly served as we sat outside in the sunshine. it was definately warm enough for ice cream. Mike's group left first and our group a few minutes later, returning to Sawley then Low Moor Lane and up past the Travellers site where Alison went in search of eggs with Dave escorting her. We returned to Ripley and Harrogate via Markington and the Drovers.

2,153 feet and about 34 miles. Thank you to Mike for leading and to Chris, Jo and Alison for backmarking. Liz Pugh



EG's Ride

With the good cycling weather still available to us we had ten riders at Low Bridge, including Graham a member of Whixley Wheelers, not one of the largest cycling clubs in Yorkshire, but a very active club.

Nice to see Rob again, he had been away most of the winter skiing in France, a lousy job but someone has to do it.

Greetings to and from Wheel Easy Ladies were given before before taking on the obstacle course that was Waterside, passing through house gardens to get round large lorries unloading building things.

Nick and Rob left us to head for Wetherby.

Then on to Taddy, meeting up with the same Ladies, somehow hedges came in to the conversation, then down Rudgate to the Lemon Tree Cafe.

Lots of toasted teacakes then on to Ulleskelf and Cawood Bridge where the river was flowing uphill towards York, on to Ricall for a fluid and banana break taken on the village green.

The hot weather means that our riders were taking on plenty of fluid all the time resulting in a light straw colour (sorry Sue D).

Then North passing the planets to cycle heaven cafe, heaven indeed, like kids in a toy shop, lots of gear, good food and Tour de France on a big TV.

Peter B had to leave us to attend to a matter of motoring.

The "A" team consisting of Dave Wilson, Graham and Marvin headed home via Acomb, the "B" team consisting of Daves Peatfield and Preston supported and paced by Eric and Geoff took the cycle path to Beningborough and Aldwark with banana break at Branton Green (fluid again).

A big thank you to Eric and Geoff for their support, the last lap was the hardest, as Eric said Harlow Hill is the highest point on the ride and like a stage of the Tour de France the ride finished on a summit.

Longest ride of the year for some of us in great weather. Dave P



Long Ride

