



Ripon Loiterers
Cycle Club

Cycling shorts

🚲 NEWSLETTER OF THE RIPON LOITERERS CYCLE CLUB 🚲

🚲 Ride Report 🚲

GARROWBY HILL

This is the highest point in the Wolds, 246 metres (807 feet) above sea level. The opportunity to cycle to somewhere different was just too good to miss, so I was at the leisure centre on Sunday morning, to meet Nigel and Martin.

It had been raining in Thirsk, so I was on my heavy bike with mudguards and somewhere to carry a waterproof. My steel frame was rather out classed by titanium (Nigel) and full carbon fibre, including the wheels (Martin).

We scouted around the northern side of York, to Stamford Bridge, which sparked a conversation about King Harold, the battle of Stamford Bridge, and whether they really did hide under the bridge and stab the Vikings. Seems a bit unlikely to me, you think you would glance underneath the bridge for hairy Saxons armed with large stabbing implements, but who knows.

Cracking climb to the top of the hill. On the climbs is where bike lightness and technology really comes into play, and I was left for dead by Nigel and Martin. On the descent we stopped to admire the view, fascinating hilly chalk landscape and great views (OK, there would have been great views except for the grey clag and mist, warm though).

After that we were in the desert of Easy Yorkshire, loads of villages but no shops or

pubs, or cafes. Passing through one village we saw a hand written sign for afternoon teas, this looked good. However, as we got closer we saw the small print, served 3pm to 5pm; it was only about 1pm.

We stopped, and as per the club name, loitered in the general vicinity, until we saw someone. Could we have an advance afternoon tea? There was a consultation in the kitchen, yes! It was charity event for Help the Aged; it certainly helped us as we were all starting to run on empty.

Then it was steady run back via Sutton the Forest, where we managed to get further supplies of cake at the shop for the stately home.

We arrived back at the leisure centre about 5pm; it had taken us 8 hours to cover just over ninety miles, including stops. A very good day, the sure joy of cycling somewhere different and interesting like the Yorkshire Wolds is not to be underestimated. Congrats to Nigel for organising a new destination.

Information

PLEASE NOTE EARLIER START TIMES FOR RIDES OVER THE WINTER.

Easy and **Average** rides depart Ripon Leisure Centre at **10.00am**.

Challenging rides depart R.L.C. **9.30am**, or when advertised.

Wheel Easy! <http://www.wheel-easy.org.uk/>

Edited by H.G. Wheels