

Club Runs 2012

December 30th

16 riders met at town end on a very blustery morning. This included new rider 60+ year old Ron and also Wayne Randall sporting his brand new shiny helmet which he had got from Father Christmas! We departed for a short run to Langsett via Cawthorne, Col de Gunthwaite, Ingbirchworth and Hade Edge. Just before the windmills new rider Ron turned back for home having to get back for a prior arrangement. 7 riders decided not to take a cafe stop because of the short run and carried on doing a loop around Thurgoland and Pilley. The remaining 8 stopped for a cuppa at Langsett Cafe. The 8 departed the cafe and were almost blown back home without a pedal stroke due to the strong tailwind. A short but tough enjoyable ride. Well done Ron.

December 23rd

11 riders met at town end for the clubrun to Blythe cafe. They departed in cool, cloudy conditions and were aided by a strong tailwind. At Stairfoot the club were joined by Rich Dean who tucked into the peleton. No sign of Barney at Wombwell as he is spending Christmas in Egypt, lucky beggar (must be visiting his mummy)! Just before Conisbrough we had a mechanical with new member Graham snapping his chain. Mechanics to the stars, aka Dek and Wayne fixed the problem and soon had him back up and running. At the foot of Col du Conisbrough the club were joined by Martin Sanders. On the long stretch to Tickhill the side wind forced the peleton into echelons. It was like watching a classic on Eurosport! ha ha ! We arrived at the cafe at the side of the A1 and enjoyed fast service and good grub. The return leg was a tough affair into the strong headwind. Just before Stainton Dave picked up a puncture but Sir Chris was quick with his repair foam and we were soon on our way again.

Big welcome to new member Graham who coped fine with the pace.

December 16th

Despite missing celebrity riders – Posh and Becks and Prince Harry on royal duty, 13 riders met at Townend.

After the recent cold spell, the group set off in what seemed to be balmy conditions for the run to Shelley. Roads towards Holmfirth were a bit slippery, so caution was taken especially on descents. A steady pace was set by a mysteriously quiet peloton. A pleasant lunch break was taken and nobody could understand why it was so quiet, but hoped Zoe would be out next week. We all departed the café and set back home. Paul Rutta taking a different route back home for his Yorkshire puddings (just like mamma used to make). A nice steady ride was had and it was good to see some fresh faces, who all had a good ride.

December 2nd

13 riders met at town end on a very cold but sunny morning for the club run to Braithwell. This included the return of Alan Charlesworth after nearly a 2 year lay off. The peleton departed taking extra care as the roads were slippy and icy in places. At Wombwell bypass the club were joined by Wombwells infamous pirate.... Captain Ginger Beard, (aka Barney)!! The club rolled on until we got to the end of Manvers where Dave Schofield picked up a puncture. Wayne the Pump did his duty and yes he still had his compo hat on! Just after Conisbrough young Prince Harry realised he didn't have any money but only living a few miles away decided to nip home and get his pocket money and meet us at the cafe. The rest of us carried on doing a loop round to Tickhill, Stainton and Braithwell. Zoe, Rich, Paul and Ginger Beard decided to carry straight on without a stop. The rest stopped and bacon butties were ordered all round. At the cafe they were greeted by new member Peter Townsend and friends, Peter resplendent in his new BRC kit! On leaving the cafe the group split into 2 with Pencil, Neil, Gary T and Gary Laight opting for the more scenic route through Thrybergh, Wentworth. The remaining 5 went the traditional way home. A very cold day but an enjoyable ride with no major mishaps.

Nice to see you back out Alan.

November 25th

Heavy rain and strong winds put off all but one BRC member for the clubrun to Grindleford. Posh n Becks of Broadway were decorating by 8.30am, other members were hitting the gym while others just climbed back into bed. But as the rain stopped Cudworth hardman Rich Dean decided to turn up at town end. After 10 minutes and nobody else arriving he decided to go it alone also having to cut his ride short due to some roads being flooded. Rumour has it that he is after the Club Runs trophy to add to his growing palmares!!

November 18th

14 riders met at townend for the clubrun to Sherburn in Elmet. The B group riders, Pete, John and Dave decided to give it a go on the main clubrun so we all departed together. At Shafton Pete decided that 2 heavy sessions on the weights at the gym had deadened his legs and decided to do his own steady run. The rest carried on enjoying the crisp sunny morning until disaster struck at Pontefract.... CRASH BANG WALLOP!! Wayne Randall took his eye off the ball and made contact with Marks back wheel bringing them both down with a thud. Unfortunately Waynes "Compo" hat didn't soften the blow as he received a nasty gash to his head and ripped his new BRC kit. Mark also suffered a nasty knock to his wrist. Paramedic to the stars Chris Francis whipped out his nursing outfit and was quickly on the scene. It was decided that both needed further treatment so Chris escorted them both the Pontefract A & E where unfortunately it was found that the "Compo" hat had actually survived the impact and will live to see another clubrun. The clubrun was then down to 10 and carried on with the topic being should helmets be compulsory?? Just after Brotherton Paul Ruta picked up a puncture, where is Wayne The Pump when you need him.... oops in A & E having his head glued back together!! We eventually arrived at the cafe where we were all ready for our hot drinks and grub. The return leg was into a headwind and after Ledston Paul carried straight onto Leeds where he was meeting up with his wife and family. The 9 riders carried on and reached their destinations fortunately without any further mishaps. A big well done to John Sheriff and Dave Schofield who rode very well to keep with the clubrun. Both Wayne and Mark are back at home, feeling a little battered and bruised but both ok after some treatment.

November 11th

23 riders gathered at townend on a cool but sunny morning for the rearranged ride to Askern. The air had a slight stench of stale ale from lastnights previous dinner and prize presentation celebrations. The peleton was so big it could be seen from Outer Space and also included our youngest rider 14 year old Harry back for more after his baptism last week in the hills. Definitely one to watch out for in the future if we can keep him off the ale and away from the women! With the club run and B group both departing together a steady pace was set. At Shafton roundabout we were joined by Rich, Pete and BRC Legend John Dean but at this point the peleton came to a halt as James picked up a puncture. A quick change and were back on our way. At Darrington Fast Tony picked up the second puncture of the day but as we were near the cafe he waved the peleton by. Pencil and Gary Thawley waited with him and towed him to the motorbike cafe where George, Peter, Izzy and Eddie the Eagle Gouthwaite were already tucking in to their snap. Exceedingly large bacon butties were the order of the day with the road club lads making short work of them. A quick photo shoot by Photographer to the Stars Andrew Micklethwaite and we were back on our way home. A warm welcome and big well done to all new riders.

November 4th

16 riders turned up on a very cold wintry morning for the clubruns to Hathersage and Braithwell. The clubrun departed in freezing conditions which included James who had jumped across from the

B group after just one week. They were met at Birdwell by Barney and newcomer John. Leading from the front Zoe and Rich kept the group at a good pace with Neil Mountain taking over the reins with Rich halfway up Rivelin. A quick pit stop at the top of Rivelin and we were soon descending into the freezing depths of Ladybower. A change of cafe venue proved to be a good decision given the number of riders. At the cafe James asked if we were going back the same way as he had left his sunglasses on the wall at the Pit Stop!! The return leg was into a cold headwind as we climbed out of Hathersage onto Stannage Edge. At High Green James's eventful day got worse as he suffered a puncture, but Wayne the pump was yet again on hand and we were soon back on our way. A very cold but enjoyable ride.

Meanwhile.... Pencils possi departed for the shorter run to Braithwell. This included new lad Nick. A steady pace was set and the riders were relieved to arrive at a warm welcoming cafe.

Disappointment for Pencil though as the "Braithwell Babes" with their tight white blouses were no longer serving, so they had to settle for a bacon buttie instead. A straightforward run home through Mexborough and Manvers where they said farewell to new lad Nick who had coped easily with the pace. The rest carried on looking forward to getting home in the warmth. October 28th

12 riders met at town end on a cloudy dull morning for the clubruns to Thorne/Askern. Both groups set off together and at Stairfoot the clubruns were joined by Rich Dean and Pete Wall. The club run rode off to leave the B group riding at their own pace. A good steady pace was set taking extra care on the back roads to Thorne due to the muddy greasy conditions. On arrival at the 5 Star Michelin Cafe (NOT) they were greeted by George, a few minutes later new member Peter Townsend and his son joined the gang. Whilst at the cafe Barney phoned home to tell his mother in law to put him some puddings in as he would be home in time for Sunday dinner. The club then departed for the return leg home with the headwind noticeably stronger. Just before Askern tragedy struck with Barney getting a puncture. Wayne the pump did his duty and we were soon on our way again. On crossing the A1 bridge Wayne Randall picked up the second puncture of the day, thus prompting outcry from Barney stating his puddings were now going to be well and truly burnt!! A slight delay at Hampole due to a road traffic accident but Zoe fluttered her eyelashes and the Police Officer let us through the closed road. Arrived back in Barnsley having had a good ride in good company.

Meanwhile back at the ranch...

Pencil once again took up the role as B Rides Tour Guide for the day and the 5 riders set off for the shorter ride to Askern. This included B ride stalwarts Pete and John plus 2 new lads, Matt and James. They arrived at Askern Cafe just before a slight shower. A quick coffee and muffin was the order of the day and then they departed for the return leg into the stronger headwind. Just before Hemsworth bypass the group spotted Eddie Stobarts number 1 fan..... John (Valverde) Dean who must have been on his way to the A1 bridge at Wentbridge with his notepad and pencil. A loop round to Staincross where John and Matt said their farewells with Pencil and James carrying on towards Denby Dale. A nice pleasant ride and a big welcome and well done to Matt and James who coped easily with the pace.

October 21st

11 riders met at townend on a cool crispy autumnal morning for the 2 clubruns to Castleton and Langsett. These included Gary Thawley fresh from his American holiday and Neil Mountain looking somewhat drained from his honeymoon!! ha ha!! 8 riders departed for the ride to Castleton including new member Anthony Schwarzenegger... Arms of Steel!! At Birdwell the group were joined by Barney who jumped on the back. We descended from the summit of Rivelin into the misty valley of Ladybower where it was 10 degrees colder. We arrived at the cafe ready for a hot cuppa. The return leg was in sunnier conditions and we arrived home in bright sunshine just before the fog set in. A big well done to new member Anthony (Arnie) who coped extremely well on his first club run. This being his first ride in preparation for his assault on the Alps 2013.

Meanwhile.... Gary (Pencil) was once again joined by John Sheriff and Peter Wall for the shorter B ride to Langsett. The threesome doing a loop and taking in the foothills of the Penistone area. A

not so quick cuppa (30 mins waiting time) and they were back on their way. After Gary parted company at Cundy Cross he decided to do a George Miles loop and was lucky enough to meet up with the club at High Green where he had a nice ride home with the club run.

October 14th

7 riders met at townend on a cool crisp morning. Also the arrival of John Sheriff who had turned up to go on the B ride. 6 members departed for the flat run to Osgodby near Selby assisted by a tailwind. At Shafton the group were joined by Dave Vingoe who rode as far as Beal before leaving the group. The rest carried on arriving for brunch at Osgodby Cafe. A quick cuppa and snack and we were back on our way for the return journey which was into a headwind. A good ride, good company and good weather.

Meanwhile Gary (Pencil) went on a shorter ride via a loop to Newmillerdam with John. At the cafe they were joined by Malc and Mick before they both went their separate ways. A shorter return leg and well done to John who coped well with the pace and distance.

October 7th

A gloriously sunny but cool morning greeted the 9 BRC riders at townend for the ride to Eyam. This included the Mapplewell Marvel Mr Tony Galvin who has started his training early ready for his assault on the Alps next summer. The 9 soon became 10 when Barney joined us at Birdwell. At the top of Rivelin 10 turned into 11 when Kev Brown who is "back on it" after a few months lay off appeared. A good ride was had to the cafe where 11 turned into 12 as Mark Summerfield who had set off earlier than the club was already in the cafe. Due to the warm day we sat outside soaking up the sunshine in the lovely village. The ride back took up the Col du Grindleford. A lovely ride into Derbyshire and nice to see Tony and Kev back out.

September 30th

A very blustery morning greeted BRC members for their annual hill climb up the infamous Col du Stainborough Lowe. Only 5 riders decided to brave the gale force headwind and the severe gradient of "The Lowe"! The event was made more special by the appearance of BRC Legend and hill climb record holder Mr John (Valverde) Dean!! Barriers were put in place to keep the hoards of cheering fans at bay. The results were as follows:

Richard Dean - BRC - 1min 49secs

Chris Francis - BRC - 2mins

Alex Jones - Team CF - 2 mins

Barney Sanders - BRC - 2mins 54 secs

Andrew Micklethwaite - BRC - 3mins

Well done to all riders on a very tough day.

After the event riders and spectators were treated to some home made goodies courtesy of Zoe Micklethwaite which went down a treat. 10 riders then departed for the short ride to Langsett Cafe, this included guest rider of the day, Martin Dainty. In an effort to keep up with Zoe's blistering pace up the hills Martin managed to break a spoke. Whilst having our cuppas and sausage sarnies Barney announced that it had been the hardest thing he had ever done, mind you this wasn't helped by the fact that he rode with a slow puncture, otherwise the record would have been threatened!! The return leg was effortless being aided by a strong tailwind. Another good day with BRC.

September 23rd

The summer has gone and a chilly autumnal morning greeted 9 riders at townend. Wayne Randall yet again turned up in just his shorts on the coldest day of the year. We set off to a new cafe destination, formally the Little Chef on the A1 near Blythe. En route we picked up Rich Dean at Stairfoot and at the start of Manvers we were also joined by Mik (SESCC) who was guest rider for

the day. We arrived at the cafe to be greeted by George Miles, Izzy and new member Pete who had ridden from Barnby Dunn but minus the loop today. After lunch was taken the swollen peleton of 14 set off for the ride home through Blythe and Stainton. Just before Conisbrough George and pals said their farewells and went on their merry way. An enjoyable ride in good company.

September 16th

5 fearless riders + 1 from the `dark side` travelled into the unknown when they made the trip to Carlton Towers near Snaith. They were without leader Dek and 2nd in command Zoe & Pencil. The `fearless 6` had just made it into the cafe when in came George accompanied by his lovely young friend Izzie. Not long after them, saw the arrival of Pete Townsend & his son Paul. Pete was a B.R.C. member about 50 years ago with a very young George.

The club returned to Barnsley via Gyne Corner – Sykehouse – Askern & Skellow and George & Izzie went mile-eating thro Birkin, Brotherton & Wentbridge to Doncaster. Pete & Paul also returned to Donny but via Sykehouse & Barnby Dun.

September 9th

Ideal conditions for the club run to Beckingham. 6 riders met at Townend including new lad Thomas Brennan. A steady pace was set with a slight headwind, Tom keeping up with no problems. 6 riders became 11 as we met up with the legend himself George Miles and his harem of biking beauties. After taking lunch at the café in Beckingham, we all set off back to Barnsley apart from Dek who decided to ride with George and do a 100 mile loop to avoid a puddle where he got his bike splashed on the way out. A nice ride back with a good tail wind and new lad Tom had an exceptional ride getting stronger as the miles piled on. Great ride Tom look forward to seeing you in future.

September 2nd

8 BRC riders met at townend for the clubrun to Lound. This included the return of our Italian companion, Paulio Rutio who is just paying us a flying visit before returning back to his homeland. We departed in warm and sunny conditions and with the aid of a decent tailwind we soon arrived at Wombwell where we were joined by Barney, fresh from his holiday in Croatia. A good pace was set and we arrived at Lound for brunch. No sooner had we sat down when this manorexic bloke walked in..... It was none other than George Miles's skinny twin!! After a quick chit chat we departed for the return leg home which was a tougher ride into the headwind. We did a slight detour round Stainton due to the bridge closure. Arrived back in Barnsley in warm but darkening skies after a good ride out.

August 26th

It was a cool cloudy morning that greeted 6 riders at townend for the hilly ride to Rowsley in Derbyshire. At High Green the ranks swelled to 7 as we were joined by the late arrival of Neil Mountain who had chased to get on, (new battery needed for alarm clock Neil)!! We were then reduced back to 6 riders when Neil Dyson turned off as he felt unwell. We took in the scenic route of The Steel City and then out into the open countryside riding through the picturesque grounds of Chatsworth House. Rich Dean enquired who lived there and Gary told him it was George Miles's country retreat!! Brunch was taken at Rowsley but we delayed our departure due to a light shower. The return leg took us back through Bakewell and up the infamous Frogget where Rich, Pencil and Neil Mountain stretched their legs (and lungs) from the rest of the peleton. A quick regroup at the top and we were back on our way, arriving back in Barnsley before the afternoons thunder storms.

August 19th

It was a warm sunny morning that greeted 8 BRC members at townend for the changed destination of Blaxton due to the cafe at Wroot now being closed. A steady pace was set and at Manvers we picked up our old friend, Andrew the Mexborough Mountain goat who looked splendid in his new

club colours of Team Muffbox, oops I mean Bikebox. Still not as good as our kit though!! The peleton carried on through Tickhil to Bawtry and then onto Blaxton where brunch was taken in pleasant surroundings. A lady enquired what area in Barnsley we were from and it turned out she was from Worsbrough so had a good chinwag with Zoe as she knew her Dad and Uncle, small world eh!! On the return leg, Dek did his now customary right turn which ended up leading into a gravel lane so we had to about turn. We passed through The Estate of Sir George (Barnby Dun) but he obviously wasn't in residence as the flag wasn't raised. We picked up some nice quiet lanes and the pace increased when the clouds darkened trying to get back before the heavens opened. We arrived back in Barnsley with spots of rain but missed the downpour.

August 12th

It was a mild but cloudy morning as 7 riders departed from townend for the destination of Edwinstowe in Sherwood Forest. En route at Manvers we were joined by John Buckingham and his Dad Brian who was doing his second ride since his knee operation. A steady pace was set into a slight headwind and with the outward leg being well over 40 miles we were all ready for our lunch. The return leg home was yet again a steady affair aided by a slight tailwind and the occasional appearance of the sun. Arrived back in Barnsley after an enjoyable 80+ miles. Hope to see you again soon Brian.

August 5th

7 riders met at townend and the group decided to do a slightly shorter ride to Howden. We set off in mild conditions and with a slight tailwind. At Cudworth bridge we picked up the newly crowned BRC 10 mile TT champ, the one and only Mr Richard Dean. Just before Darrington the peleton had to do through and off to pull back a rider that was spotted in the distance, it was none other than BRC Leg-End "Eddie the Eagle" Gouthwaite!! A quick "eyup Eddie" and we carried on through Beal and Birkin, Selby and Osgodby. A long lunch break was taken due to the slow service but eventually we were on our way home. A slight delay was had on the Sykehouse road due to the bridge being raised over the canal. On approach to Askern Neil Mountain went for a long sprint for the sign with only Wayne Randall taking the bait and jumping quickly onto Neils wheel and taking the sign with ease. A quick pit stop at Askern and then the final 20 mile home, arriving back before the thunder storms.

July 29th

7 riders met at townend (this included the return of Birdwell Basher, Dave Lawrence, this being his first ride for 12 months) at least he had shaved his legs for the occasion. It was decided to do a shorter ride to Oldcotes as the majority of the riders wanted to get back to see the olympic womens road race especially after the disappointment of the mens event. The outward leg was made easier with a nice tailwind. We arrived at the cafe too early even for elevenses but ready for a cuppa. The return ride home was into a headwind but weather stayed dry despite showers forecast.

July 22nd. 150 in 12

Overcast conditions met the riders at Townend for the early morning start to do the long haul to Bridlington. Five riders set off, plus Rich and Neil who were employed as pace makers, riding part of the way before disappearing into the distance of the now blue sky. A good tailwind was taken advantage of, making the seaside café in 3 hours 35 minutes. Gary Thawley taking the sign at Bridlington like the Manx Missile or the Barnsley Bullet. After a 'grand' meal, the wind began to get stronger, both inside the café (thanks to Mark) and outside, making the return leg extremely difficult – with a headwind all the way back home. Everyone took their turn at the front of the train, even Barney for a full 4 seconds, before taking his place behind Ving the Ring. Steady progress was made with three pop stops. Big Ving put in a strong ride, considering that the last time he did this sort of mileage, he was listening to Kajagoogoo on his Sony Walkman in the 80s. 150 miles came up on the lads' computers around Brierley, just after 5 o'clock – easily inside the 12 hours!

A memorable day was had by all 5 riders, Dave Vingoe, Gary Thawley, Wayne Randall, Mark Summerfield and Barney Sanders.

July 8th

7 riders met at town end for the ride to Millington. Dek decided that due to the weather report that we would not take the chance of doing 100 miles and instead decided to go to Two Hoots Cafe near Snaith. We departed under cloudy skies and a slight tailwind and made our way to Askern and then onto the Sykehouse road. Halfway on Sykehouse road we saw as what can only be described as a speeding train heading towards us but it turned out to be George Miles who had also decided against the long ride to Millington. He was going so fast he had tears in his eyes and he did not realise it was his club going in the other direction and so carried on with a quick nod of his head. Lunch was taken amongst other cycling clubs, Team Sportscover and Seacroft Wheelers. We headed for home on the quiet back roads, as we approached the Church at Birkin the road was closed due to flooding so a slight detour to Brotherton and back home through Pontefract. A shorter ride but we managed to keep dry despite the impending dark clouds.

July 1st

It was a cool cloudy morning that greeted 8 riders at townend for the clubrun to Knaresborough. The club departed in blustery conditions with a side/tail wind. At Wakefield a slight detour had to be taken round a picturesque council estate due to road works. Once through Seacroft we picked up some lovely quiet country lanes and rode through some lovely villages. The pace picked up just outside Knaresborough as it wound up ready for the Knaresborough sign which was a fine win for Gary Thawley. Lunch was taken at the side of the River Nidd. The ride home was slightly harder into a side/headwind. Barneys improved fitness was definitely showing and with the aid of his new Boardman bike he ventured to the front of the BRC peleton! An enjoyable ride in good company and lucky to get round without any rainfall in the darkening skies.

June 17th

6 riders met at town end on a cool cloudy morning for the ride to Bevercotes. We departed with the aid of a fairly strong tailwind and we were joined at Stairfoot by Rich Dean and Dave Vingoe. Just a few miles further on at Wombwell we spotted Barney taking an early toilet break in the bushes, but he quickly jumped onto the back. A good pace was set and Dave Vingoe was after the green jersey as he sprinted for every village sign we came across. We arrived at the cafe at 10.30am in time for Sunday brunch. After we had eaten we then departed for the tougher ride home with darkening skies. As if the ride wasn't long enough Dek decided to put an unofficial loop on taking us down a beautiful country lane with no traffic. But after about a mile the lane turned to gravel and then a dead end (oops wrong right Dek)! A quick U-turn and we were back on track which took us through Clumber Park. A tough but enjoyable ride home, arriving in sunshine having dodged the rain.

June 10th

12 riders met at town end for this weeks clubrun. It was decided to change the ride from Storrits and instead do last weeks venue of Monyash. We set off in mild conditions but under cloudy skies ready for the hills of Derbyshire (some looking forward to them more than others). At the bottom of Rivelin Neil D decided that he wasn't happy with his position and stopped to alter his saddle. The rest carried on and waited at the summit of Col du Rivelin where de-robing of armwarmers and gilets was undertaken as the sun started to break through the clouds. The rest of the ride to the cafe was enjoyable over rolling terrain. Lunch was taken in the picturesque village of Monyash. After being fed and watered we departed for the return ride home. A nice descent into Bakewell before once again picking up the hills and the infamous Froggatt. Arrived back in Barnsley in bright sunshine and 80+ miles on the clock. A big welcome to new member Mr Tantastic himself, John "Bucko" Buckingham.

June 3rd

Due to bad weather no-one went on the clubrun to Monyash.

May 27th. 100 in 8

What a scorcher! 8 riders met at townend for the 100 in 8 reliability ride. The peleton departed under clear blue skies and into a slight headwind looking somewhat professional in our new club kit. At Cudworth Bridge we were joined by Rich Dean and John Buckingham. The atmosphere was jovial until we got to Shafton and saw that THEE Wayne Randle was waiting for us! Although into a headwind a good pace was set and from Darrington all the way to Selby we passed hundreds of riders taking part in a sponsored fundraising event. On arrival at the cafe we were met by George Miles. Lunch was taken sat outside by the lake in pleasant surroundings. Our customary photo shoot was done and on the return leg George Miles picked up the reins setting a comfortable pace with a slight tailwind until it came to Wayne and Rich's turn on the front where the tailwind must have got stronger as the pace picked up by 6mph!! On the Sykehouse Road Dek got the first sign with a 1 yard sprint, he was going so fast his glasses flew off his head. As he turned round to get them the hammer went down!! On approach to the Askern sign the pace began to pick up with everyone chompin at the bit to get the sign. Rich Dean and John Buckingham launched their long attack, Pencil just managing to get onto Johns wheel and as John faded Pencil came round and put in a last dig. With 10 yards to go Rich stopped pedalling and looked to his left (schoolboy error Rich) Pencil flying up the right taking the sign by half a wheel reminiscent of Cavendish's Milan San Remo win!! A quick toilet stop was had at Askern before the final 20 mile home. In total we completed the 100 miles in 5 hours and 19 mins ride time on a scorching day. A special congratulations goes to new member Barney who did brilliant with this being his longest ride by more than 40 miles (must be them new shorts Barney)!

BRC Riders were:

Zoe Blackburn
Gary Barnes
Gary Thawley
Dave Vingoe
Derek Crawshaw
Wayne Randall
Barney Sanders
Neil Mountain
Rich Dean
George Miles

Guest riders were:

THEE Wayne Randle
John Buckingham

May 20th

6 riders met at townend for the clubrun to Tadcaster. Dave Vingoe arrived looking resplendent in the new BRC kit. He couldn't wait for our SKY TV launch scheduled for later in the week. We departed in cool conditions and under grey cloud but Wayne assured us the sun was to break out in the afternoon, hence him shivering in his shorts!! On approaching Cudworth bridge we picked up Rich Dean and although into a slight headwind we made good time to the cafe. In the cafe it was embarrassing as other clubs were asking for Daves autograph as they thought he was Andy Schleck!! The return leg was alot easier with a nice tailwind, arrived home in time for Sunday dinner.

May 13th

6 riders left townend for the clubrun to Misterton. This included the return of Paul (Fausto Coppi) Ruta fresh from his Italian training base. We were met on Wombwell bypass by Barney. At Harworth, Gary Laight turned for home with a niggling knee injury. The rest carried on making good use of the strong tailwind. On arrival at the cafe we were met by The Guv'nor Mr George Miles who was already tucking in to his coffee and teacake. We departed from the cafe not relishing the prospect of the headwind home. Just out of Conisbrough Barney picked up a puncture but after a quick change we set off again and arrived back in Barnsley after a tough but enjoyable ride.

May 6th

A cold but sunny morning greeted 6 riders at Townend for the hilly ride to Bakewell. The roads were a lot quieter due to our earlier start of 8.30, en route we were joined at Birdwell by Barney who tagged on the back. A steady pace was set all the way to Bakewell and on arrival we were spoiled for choice with the numerous cafe's. Lunch was taken and as we were about to depart Barney noticed he had a flat tyre so a quick repair and off we set. The ride back was into a slight headwind and Barney had his first taste of the infamous Froggat... the look on his face told us it wasn't his favourite climb. Arrived back home safe and sound after a nice day in Derbyshire.

April 29th

No-one turned up at townend for today's ride to Howden, probably had something to do with the terrible weather all week and the "months worth of rain" predicted to descend from the heavens during the course of the day. Wise move people...

April 22nd

Only 4 riders turned up at townend for the hilly ride to Hebden Bridge, for those members who didn't turn up (smart move). We departed in cool damp conditions with thick clouds up above. At Darton we were joined by Neil M, as we got to West Bretton we discussed the chances of getting to our destination without getting wet. Not much luck as we got to Flockton the day turned to night and the heavens opened, at this point we put on our rain jackets and took a sharp left to Emley. Unfortunately Neil M got detached and missed our left turn, he carried on a few miles before turning for home. The 4 damp squibs carried on for home soaked to the skin. Definitely a character building ride.

April 15th

It was a sunny but chilly morning that greeted 9 riders at townend. We departed for Lound near Retford with a strong tailwind which contributed to a brisk pace. At Stairfoot we were joined by Rich Dean and at Wombwell bypass we were joined by new member Barney Sanders. We arrived at the cafe in good time where lunch was taken, even Paul Ruta dug deep and bought a cuppa. The club was then joined by Sir George Miles. Zoe wasn't the only bird out with plenty of chelp, the caged Parrot had plenty to say as we passed it to use the toilets. We then departed for home into a strong headwind which made for a tough return leg. At Stainton we had to take a small detour due to the road being closed. A quick puncture repair for Rich at Conisborough and we were off again arriving home in good time.

April 8th

A cool cloudy morning greeted 7 riders at townend for the ride to Otley, this included Gary and Zoe fresh from their majorcan training camp with another 500+ miles under their belts. Neil Mountain turned up sporting a brand new carbon road bike, an early wedding present to himself! Off we set and picked up new member Julian West at Staincross. A good ride was had to Otley with the traffic being noticeably lighter due to it being Easter Sunday. Neil Mountain turned back after 30 miles as he was still recovering from a recent illness. Lunch was taken at the cheapest cafe in West

Yorkshire with Dek going for his usual pie, chips and peas but no pudding. Set off back with darkening skies and a slight tailwind but luckily the rain held off. A big well done to new member Julian on his first ever BRC clubrun.

April 1st

Only 4 riders met at townend for the hilly ride to Marsden. On a cold frosty morning they departed into a slight headwind. The cafe was a welcome sight after a tough outward leg although Paul Ruta decided not to stop and rode straight round. Lunch was taken and then departed for home in slightly easier conditions.

March 25th

8 riders met at townend for the hilly ride to Edale Derbyshire this included new lad Barney Sanders. Off we set in foggy cool conditions, Neil Dyson banking on the sun breaking through as he turned up in armwarmers and shorts. At Grenoside he got his wish as the fog lifted to reveal bright sunshine. A nice steady ride was had to the cafe, taking in the sunny picturesque views. Paul Ruta decided not to stop as he had to get home to get puddings in!! Lunch was taken at Edale, new lad Barney must have been impressed with the club as he got out his £6 and made himself a member. On our return leg just after Hope we were met by Mr G Thawley who had not turned up at Town end due to poor visibility out of his bedroom window and decided to climb back into bed. A good ride home in very warm sunshine. A big well done to Barney on his first ever clubrun.

March 18th 50 mls in 4 hrs

A cool cloudy morning greeted the 10 riders at townend for the 50 miles in 4 hours reliability ride. Off we set into a slight headwind and the roads still wet from the nights heavy downpour. At Cudworth bridge we were joined by Rich Dean and the Bucko brothers Mathew and John (the other disciples couldn't make it). Just before Birkin Dek picked up the only puncture of the day, a super fast pit stop and we were on our way. On arrival at the cafe at Osgodby we were met by the governor Mr George Miles, lunch was taken then off we set for the return leg. Having only travelled 100 yds we had an emergency stop due to Dave Vingoe riding into the back of Mark Summerfield. A quick checkover and off we set again this time with a nice tailwind which contributed to a brisk pace. The 50 mile mark was reached in ample time and arrived back home in sunshine. Well done everyone.

Riders were:- Gary Barnes, Zoe Blackburn, Gary Thawley, Neil Mountain, Neil Dyson, Rich Dean, Mark Summerfield, Dave Vingoe, Paul Ruta, Wayne Randall, Derek Crawshaw. Guest riders: Matt and John Buckingham.

March 11th

11 riders met at townend for the hilly ride to Glossop, this included new lad Adam who had travelled all the way from Kent to come on our infamous club run. Well not quite he's stopping at Gateway Plaza. We departed in cool sunny conditions and into a slight headwind. At our usual wee wee stop up Rivelin we were joined by another rider who asked if he could tag on with us to Glossop. Just after Ladybower we passed the GB mountain bike team preparing for their days training, their tongues hanging out in awe of our speeding peleton. The top of Snake Pass was a bit cool especially on the fast descent. Lunch was taken at Glossop then off we set for the return leg with a slight tailwind and in beautiful sunshine. Arrived back in Barnsley after a nice day in the sun.

March 4th

A cold and rainy morning greeted the one and only BRC member who braved these miserable conditions. Wayne Randall turned out in poor conditions for the 50 mls in 4 hrs reliability ride. He made the decision to cancel the event instead opting for a shorter ride and arriving back home well and truly soaked. But happy in the knowledge that he had gained a point in the battle for the club

run trophy. Well done Wayne.

The 50 mls in 4 hrs will be arranged for a future date.

February 26th

Cloudy and cool conditions greeted 6 riders at townend for the hilly ride to Halifax. Wayne Randall turning up on his best bike saying he needed all the help he could get. So off we set into a slight headwind and arrived at the Historic Piece Hall as used in the film Brassed Off. After lunch was taken the Barnsley war cry of "AR MUCH" could be heard for miles, as it was discovered there was a charge of 20p for the use of the toilets. Mark Summerfield dug deep and pulled out a 20p the rest of us using our feet as a doorstep. We then departed with a slight tailwind and arrived home after an enjoyable day.

February 19th

Ten riders met at townend for the hilly ride to Calver in Derbyshire. We departed in cloudy and cool conditions. As we started to climb Rivelin Gary Laight decided he was going to turn back at the top as his knee was sore so he sent us on our merry way. We arrived at this popular cafe and just managed to get seated. Paul Ruta didn't stop and carried straight on for home. After lunch was taken we departed and within a few hundred yards we hit the slopes of Col de Frogget, a good pace being set by Gary Thawley. As we approached Wortley on our way home we caught up with G Laight who had decided to carry on and go to Hope instead. Arrived back home after an enjoyable ride.

February 12th

Tropical conditions greeted 14 riders at townend, well thats what it felt like compared to recent sub zero temperatures. This included a guest appearance from Kev Brown and also BRC leg-end Dave Vingoe. After a couple of miles shock and amazement rippled through the peleton as it was noticed that Pencil was on the SMALL ring this was due to a mechanical and not through choice. At Brierley Kev Brown took a right and headed home. Just outside Norton we had a puncture stop "GUESS WHO" yes it was Neil Dyson and his puncture proof tyres. A quick change and we were off again with a good tempo being set on the Sykehouse Road. Lunch was taken at Too Hoots cafe near Carlton (Snaith). We then departed for the return leg but having only travelled a few miles we had another puncture stop (no prizes for guessing who) yep Neil Dyson. Rich, Matt and Paul carried on as the smell of puddings was in the air. The rest of us followed on after a quick repair, with an enjoyable ride home.

PS; Pencils legs are still spinning.

February 5th

3 riders met at townend for the ride to Lotherton Hall (Posh and Becks of Broadway and Dek the destroyer). It was decided to go to Askern instead via Pontefract Knottingley and A19 staying on the main roads. So off we set in cold damp conditions, the roads were fine till we got to Brierley where the roads turned to strips of tarmac. We carried on taking a right onto Hemsworth bypass where the tarmac strips got narrower and in places totally covered (snow drifts 18ft high) so we pulled over and attached our snow ploughs and as we contemplated our next move a polar bear crossed our path. That was it decision made we turned round and headed back for home. Back so early that my Contador steak hadn't defrosted. But on the plus side we did manage to claw back a point in the battle for the clubrun trophy. (Watch your back Wayne).

January 29th

A cold crisp morning greeted 11 riders at townend for the clubrun to Oldcotes. We were joined at stairfoot by Rich Dean who tucked in at the back resting his legs after his epic 90 mile ride the day before. At the top of Conisbrough hill the club were joined by Andrew (Mexbrough mountain goat). Approaching Tickhill we had a pit stop for Neil Dyson to mend his puncture then off we set. We arrived at the cafe where we were joined by Paul Ruta who had made his own way there recovering

from a recent illness. Lunch was taken then the 14 riders departed for home, at Wombwell Neil Mountain and Chris Frances decided to do a George Miles loop making the most of their Sunday pass.

January 22nd

The phrase "character building ride" seems to be used more often than not on recent clubruns and today was no exception. 4 riders left townend for the short ride to Rothwell. The outward leg was aided by a strong side/tailwind until we took a left at Castleford then it became a block headwind with gusts of up to 200mph, ride speed dropping to 10mph on the flat. We arrived at the cafe looking like we had done the 150m in 12hrs. Lunch was taken, Wayne going for the bacon sarnie instead of his usual beans on toast, saying he'd eaten beans and mushy peas the day before(not the same meal tho) which explains the fierce wind. The return leg was slightly easier with a mainly side wind. Arrived back bruised and battered.

January 15th

Six riders arrived at town end in arctic conditions. After discussing how crackers we all were we still set off for Hope in Derbyshire. Dustpan and brush were needed to sweep up body parts that had frozen and snapped off. Not much talking more teeth chattering. Arrived at the cafe to be welcomed by a roaring log fire. Martin Dainty did his usual trick, ordering more food than he could pay for and taking advantage of Pencils new role as treasurer and tapping him for £1.25!! We eventually dragged ourselves away from the fire for the cold ride home. I wouldn't say an enjoyable but more of a character building ride.

January 8th

Six riders left townend in mild conditions for the ride to Askern. They were assisted with a slight tailwind on the outward leg. On arrival at the cafe they were greeted by George M. Lunch was taken then off they set for the return leg. George waited at the cafe for the arrival of Kath G and her 2 friends, they had just missed the clubrun.