

Energetics "Name that Road" ride

6th February 2013

Report by Richard Thomas (leader)

I was pondering on a route that would result in a nice steady ride from the "T" stop at the "Happy Days" cafe at Holmes Hill to lunch at "The Star" in Waldron. As it transpired, I had recently been asked by "El Supremo" Dave Hudson, in connection with a route for a future Audax event he was organising, to find out the name of a lane near Cowbeech that had recently changed it's name.

Aha, thought I, a cunning route could go right past the turn where the new sign is located. So about nine of us headed off up to Horam via Hale Green and Marle Green, all in the lanes, then up to Cowbeech and into Trolliloes Lane.

Wending our way towards my target, being the junction of this recently renamed road with Iwood Lane, at this junction I first came across a sign for Trolliloes Lane. I thought, it has not changed it's name, as I could not see any other sign.



I then looked in the verge, and there it was, the new sign, all in pieces on the ground, as in this photo. Perhaps someone ran into it, or deliberately destroyed it, not liking it's new name of "Shriecks Lane".

Our merry band stood there in awe and amazement at the vandalism encountered, such that I was able to take this photo of the disparate members of the group.



We then turned round and climbed Iwood Lane to Rushlake Green, then up to Punnetts Town. By now some of the group were getting a bit techy about how much uphill they had been required to do. So, looking at the time and the fact we had to be at the pub by 1pm, I cut short the rest of the ride and went straight through Heathfield and rapidly downhill (this does

not allude to our cycling abilities) towards Waldron on the road to Lions Green (ie immediately left at Cross in Hand). The final weapon in my armoury of delights for the day was to miss the first right turn to Waldron, much to the disappointment of some of the group who then realised there was one more mountain to climb to get to the pub. And so it transpired, dear readers, that we took the next right at Lions Green, where the short downhill was followed by the undoubted pleasure of the final climb up past the left turn to Foxhunt Green and thence to our destination. With impeccable timing, we arrived there at 12:59, having done 34km in the two hours, a fair pace when considering the stop for the "Name that Road" competition.

I then spent a pleasant hour or so chatting to Esther, and Ron and Marion Ball, over a pint of the local best (Harveys) and a BLT ciabatta sandwich. By this time all of the other riders had sneaked out and gone home, so I rode back alone (how sad is that) via Foxhunt Green, Chiddingly, Hailsham and then the Cuckoo Trail to Polegate thence to home. About 75km door to door. Ave 21.6km/hr. J'espère que la forme va bientôt arriver!

Richard Thomas (aka "Captain Slow")