

## Surrey Hills Spring Bimble

by Steve Rickard

7<sup>th</sup> May, 2024

I arranged this ride as an early spring ride through the AONB of the Surrey hills. Many people think of the Surrey roads as being too much traffic, congested and pot holed, mostly correct.....but if you know where to go you can get away from the majority.

The route was going to be on a mixture of A & B roads plus quite a bit of small country lanes, gravel strewn in places.

Just before the chosen date (7<sup>th</sup> May 2024) a few people dropped out. Mike and Lesley tested positive for the dreaded covid, Mark had to work, Roger was busy and looked like I was going to be "Billy no mates" for my ride. However, in end Larry and Noel put their hands up and last minute a new member (Jack) also joined in. I met Larry on the A3 at Thursley and the other two at Newlands Corner.



The start from here was good, going past West Horsley and Effingham, then the fun starts as we turn onto single track roads across Ranmore common. The lane is quite narrow and tree lined and the previous day the rain was nonstop, so the edges of the lane were quite wet, in fact running water in places.

Stopping at a crossroads, the view the other side was a flooded road but helpfully a cyclist was in front so we let him ride through first, happy there were no pot holes we followed.

On through Abinger common, Holmbury St Mary to "Billys on the Road" at Billingshurst for lunch (Strictly in West Sussex, not Surrey).



After lunch we carried on past Rudgwick, Cranleigh, Dunsfold, Milford and Tilford, where we parted in the Tilford Garden Centre car park.



Thanks to Larry, Noel and Jack for a pleasant day out, see you on the next one.