



CTC North Hampshire

Annual Report 2013

Andy Watson

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Version 1.0

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1 Officer's Reports

1.1 Chairman (Frank Pote)

It doesn't seem like a whole year has passed since I last reported on CTC North Hampshire activities. However I am glad to be able to share what we have achieved over the last 12 months and how we are continuing to actively participate in and promote all aspects of cycling.

Firstly I must thank all the committee members for their enduring support, hard work and dedication over the last year. It is due to the continued efforts of this small group that enables us to continue as a Member Group and therefore I would like to propose that a formal vote of thanks be recorded in recognition of their work.

Turning to our activities we have held well supported, regular (weekly or monthly) road rides starting in Alton, Petersfield, Farnborough and Fleet. A small number of off-road rides have been held regularly starting at a variety of locations. I would like to thank all our ride co-ordinators and the ride-leaders who volunteer to lead the rides. This year we have also refreshed the CTC North Hampshire web site, hopefully to everyone's approval as it now has not only a more modern style but is easier to maintain, so a special thanks to Bob Bending for all his work on this.

The changes to the web site were not the only changes to occur this year. Thanks to Dan for kindly agreeing to organise the Phil Hampton memorial ride that not only offered two new routes but managed to include a 'blizzard' as part of the course. Also the volunteer helpers for their hard work and giving up the huge amount of time that makes these activities so successful.

Socially we organised a weekend away to the Cotswolds that saw a select few enjoy three days of rain free cycling over some glorious if at times challenging countryside. We also held a skittles evening last November, the annual lunch in January and the annual BBQ in late August. All events provided an opportunity for members and old friends to spend time off their bikes and catch up on all things cycling or not. I would like to thank Janice for organising the skittles and the lunch at a new venue, and also to all those who helped to make the BBQ a success, we had 52 hungry cyclists converge at Newton Valance, and all were fed mainly due to the superb efforts of Brian and his helpers who again produced an excellent feast.

So while we continue with a large and generally active membership we do still have vacancies within our structure for assistance which would enable us to function more effectively and maintain our profile.

Once again I have thoroughly enjoyed another year as your Chairman and offer myself for re-election again and I hope that you will continue to support me in the future.

1.2 Secretary (Andy Watson)

My main secretarial activities over the year have been:

- Annual submissions associated with the AGM.
- Contributing to the committee meetings
- Replying to new riders contacts and advising them on what we have on offer and then following up

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- Interfacing with HQ – seeking clarification on new policies, filtering and redistributing information, answering directly or by proxy requests for help.
 - Registration of ride leaders

I would like to thank all the members who have contributed to the successful running of CTC North Hampshire events and rides.

1.3 Treasurer (Mark Beauchamp)

The year ended with the accounts in a healthy state. Our allocation from the CTC was large this year due to our high membership and we will apply for the same amount for next year.

The amount of interest paid on the deposit account is a little higher than last year's amount.

The Phil Hampton ride raised £400 for the Cyclists' Defence Fund and I thank Dan Montgomerie for organising it. The pace-judging and freewheeling event was well supported. The off-road event was not so well supported this year but was enjoyed by those who took part.

The social events were very well attended. The skittles evening made a small profit and we subsidised the barbeque by £72 which is about £100 less than last year.

On the CTC Member Group Accounts form £5 appears as a donation. On my spreadsheet this £5 appears as reimbursement of the Wiggle affiliation fee for which a cheque was written last year and recorded in last year's accounts. It was not required to pay this fee so this year I have put the £5 back into the accounts. It is not a donation but I could not find anywhere else on the form to record it.

I thank Janice Montgomerie for all her hard work with the clothing orders and for arranging the annual lunch. We still have some clothing left which is listed on our website.

I thank all of the organisers for sending me detailed accounts and I will be asking Robin Poulter to audit the accounts before the AGM.

We have money available for cycle campaign work.

1.4 Publicity Officer (Web: Bob Bending)

The website has been rebuilt using a Content Management System (CMS) in the form of Wordpress. This has allowed us to update the site but more importantly it can now allow access for editing by others who don't necessarily have 'web' skills.

It's my intention to give a basic introduction and tuition to any of the key members of NHCTC who wish to gain access to the site for editing or adding news. Anyone familiar with Wordpress should be able to find their way around the control panels.

I'd like to note that the relevant Facebook pages have also become more used in the past year or so. This has had two main effects: it means that there's more information which is current available to a wider audience, so we are less dependent on the website. However, this also means that there is no longer a 'one-stop-shop' as there will be posts/information on Facebook that are not replicated on the site and vice-versa.

I'm not unduly worried by this as what's important is our overall presence and accessibility on the web, which has definitely increased. It may be possible to link up the site to Facebook and Twitter so that posts are replicated or at least flagged.

1.5 Membership Secretary (Andy Watson)

This year membership information has been provided regularly. The October 2013 membership list, which excludes all lapsed members (temporarily or otherwise) records 1113 fully paid up members. This compares with 985 in October 2012.

1.6 Welfare (Frank Pote)

This is a formal welfare role required by HQ. There have been no issues this year that have required any formal welfare response.

2 Ride Co-ordinators' Reports

2.1 Alton: (Janice Montgomerie)

Our weekly rides from Alton and other meeting points have been well-supported during the past year, with rides in Sussex and Surrey as well as around the local area. We have continued to offer an additional faster-paced ride once a month which always attracts a good number. A new initiative this year was the introduction of a leisurely-paced ride once a month during the summer. Thanks to the support of the Alton Sports Officer these were advertised in the local press and proved popular enough to plan a repeat for next year. This series of rides attracted its own new regular group, which included some new faces as well as several long-standing club members.

Saturday riders have supported various CTC North Hampshire events during the year, including the Phil Hampton Memorial ride, the Cotswolds weekend, and the Pace-Judging and Freewheeling Competition, not forgetting social events such as the skittles evening, the annual lunch and the barbecue.

I would like to thank all those who have led rides this year, and I trust our section will continue to thrive in 2014.

2.2 Fleet (Colin Waters)

Fleet has continued to offer medium paced rides every Sunday morning and all day every Thursday. A rides programme was published for the rides every four months and rides were led by approved CTC ride leaders except for a small minority of rides. More ride leaders have been recruited and trained and we are now in a fairly healthy position. Best turn outs continue to be on Thursdays where we have had up to 14 riders.

During the year Jack Watts and Dave Moseley introduced an easy paced ride every Friday morning. These rides are of about 15 miles and at a pace of about 9 mph. They have proved popular and have attracted a new contingent of riders.

We held one Thursday ride from a New Forest start and this again proved very popular and thanks to Alan Holbrook for leading this ride and providing coffee at his home in Ringwood.

The group supported the Hampshire CC launch of the Hitches Lane cycle path, which runs from the centre of Fleet to Calthorpe School and Fleet Leisure Centre. This path is mostly off-road with a good quality metalled surface. We manned 4 "cycle stations" along the route where cyclists could learn about tyre pressures, brakes, negotiate an obstacle course and identify a series of faults on a specially set-up bicycle. We also distributed leaflets, about Fleet CTC, in the main arena of the event in Calthorpe Park.

We are concerned that we are not attracting younger riders interested in touring and would like to promote our group in a more modern and dynamic way in the future. For example, Farnborough and Camberley cycling club have expanded very considerably over the last couple of years and we are not seeing the growth that might be expected with the up-turn in cycling generally in the UK. We hope to address this concern over the coming year.

2.3 Farnborough (Charlie Halliday)

The Farnborough section has taken part in two events to promote cycling in Rushmoor.

The section held leisurely paced regular monthly Sunday cycle rides until April 2013. These have been stopped due to lack of ride leaders who have either moved away or have other commitments.

2.4 Petersfield (Stephen Olivant)

The Petersfield-based group has experienced a very enjoyable year and an increased membership. Encouragingly, we now have well-supported 30 mile rides for women, as well as our faster 50 mile rides, each month. In addition to these monthly rides, we have gone further afield with all-day rides, mountain biking, velodrome sessions, circuits of the Isle of Wight (daytime and night-time), long weekends in Herefordshire and Dorset and a hilly week in the Vercors (limestone massif near Grenoble). On the social side, we staged a popular family bike ride to the Flowerpots Inn Beer Festival at Cheriton and we are now taking bookings for our annual club ride and family pub lunch in November.

3 Right to Ride Representative Reports

3.1 Basingstoke (Heather Rainbow)

Tesco's planning application

Heather continued her campaign opposing the Tesco's planning application because of lack of suitable infrastructure for cycling. She joined with Tesco Action Group (TAG) in November and represented them on issues on walking and cycling at the Appeal which took place in February 2013. There was strong support from Lib Dem and Labour councillors for improved cycle friendly infrastructure. It was quite an education attending the Appeal which lasted over a week and was very exciting as leading barristers and their witnesses argued their case, often using witty humour. The Queen's Silk representing the borough and opposing Tesco was another Heather and a London cyclist. She was very complimentary of the professionalism of TAG. The Tesco application was conclusively turned down in April and TAG had a lively and noisy celebration at the Pizza Hut. As a result there will not be the forecasted huge increase in traffic and the subways across the notorious Brighton Hill roundabout will not be filled in. Basingstoke RtR sent the detailed cycle audit and cycle review of the local area to the county planner with a request for more cycle infrastructure and cycle routes to be on both sides of the road if a footway is converted. These requests were accepted which means that future developers will have to fund/build them and include them in any Travel Plan.

Infrastructure

The long awaited cycle path from Victory roundabout to the station is now under construction, an expensive project funded by developers as it involves cutting away the hillside on the north side of Alencon Link.

Cycle parking in the Malls has not materialised and cycle parking outside the Malls has not been increased despite intensive campaigning by BBUG. Unused wheel benders outside the Anvil have been replaced by bike pods, these are usually all full. Racks outside M&S have been replaced by pods thereby preventing motor bikes from using cycle space. A cycle compound has been built at the station. A cheap swipe card to this can be purchased at the station. Many people who work in town use this secure park even if they do not commute by train. All the other bike racks at the station are full. Heather has replied to the Station Green Travel Plan including a request for official cycle access to the station forecourt along the ramp to the Anvil car park.

Other

Heather's draft Basingstoke Cycle Policy has been incorporated in the Labour party manifesto and policies, but it is not in the Local Plan or adopted by the ruling conservative party which is very anti-bike.

The effectiveness of BBUG is very much hampered as officer support (both county and borough) has been axed so there is nobody to pass on requests. There is no longer anybody to analyse data from the automatic cycle counters or even collect the data. I used some of this data in my presentation to the Tesco Appeal.

Our cycling mayor has saved the borough many thousands of pounds and he has been successful in earmarking these savings for sustainable transport.

Breeze has been successful in getting ladies out on their bike and getting publicity in the media. Sarah Walker is also asking for volunteers to lead novice rides for ladies to include our local MP.

Lastly a big thank you to Andy and Bob Bending for publishing RtR issues on the website

3.2 Rushmoor (Aldershot and Farnborough) (Sarah Wood)

My main personal accomplishment is to become a NSI cycling instructor. I recently had a post course assessment and am now fully qualified. This is not wholly related to being a right to ride representative. However, I use a combination of bike and train to commute to the schools I instruct at and learn quite a bit about cycle infrastructure in the process as well as barriers to cycling.

As a RTR representative I have been involved in manning stalls at two events:

- Go Green in Rushmoor, Saturday 7th September. This was an all-day event in Aldershot Town Centre. Our main activity was to collect data on cycling issues around Rushmoor. Members of the public pinned mapping pins into the cycle map or Fleet and Rushmoor and then made comments on post stick notes to go with the pin. The collated data was sent to Rushmoor Borough Council.
- I helped Colin Walters man a CTC stall at the opening of cycle route connecting Hart Council Offices to Calthorpe Park School.

Together with the Rushmoor Cycle Forum I was involved in two public bike rides: The Mayor's Charity Cycle Ride. This ride also involved a Nepalese Youth Group (Naya Yuva); and a ride around Rushmoor during bike week.

All the rest of my RTR activities have been as a part of Rushmoor Cycle Forum <http://rushmoorcycleforum.btck.co.uk/>. Listed below are some of the relevant tasks that have been tackled:

- Comments on planning documents for road 'improvements' from the point of view of cycling
- Comment on the state of play for the AUE (Aldershot Urban Extension)
- Prior to the local elections asked potential councillors to state their ideas to promote cycling using a set of questions.

Charlie Halliday went to the recent CycleNations conference and came back with a useful campaign tool: CycleScape interactive campaigning tool. Members of the forum are now trialling this.

4 CTC Hampshire Cycling (Heather Rainbow)

This is a network of CTC RtR reps. which makes regular email contact. John Edwards continues to be a hub of information but has returned funds held for reps expenses to the three CTC Groups in Hampshire as there has been no demand over the last two years.

The New Forest section is active to get cycling permitted more widely, despite opposition from the verderers and a request to ban cycle events such as the Gridiron.

Sue Coles is still trying to get the route out of Winchester recognised as a ROW cycle route. Proposed changes by HCC and the Highways Authority to junction 8 on the M3 will prohibit cycling into Easton and also make it dangerous for pedestrians as lorry wing mirrors will overhang the footway.

Various members of CTC have liaised with the county for cycle promotion under “My Journey”, a project funded by the Local Sustainable Transport Fund. Sarah Walker is implementing a number of cycle promotion projects in Winchester, Basingstoke and Farnborough.

5 CTC North Hampshire Accounts

	CYCLISTS' TOURING CLUB NORTH HAMPSHIRE GROUP ACCOUNTS		2012/2013	
	Income/profit	Expenditure/loss	Income	Expenditure
Bank interest				
(i) deposit account	£0.98		£0.98	
Events				
Pace-judging and freewheeling competition	£13.00			
Skittles	£5.50			
Off-road event	£3.00			
Bank holiday barbeque		£72.00		
Annual lunch	£19.95			
Sub-totals	£41.45	£72.00		
Overall profit/loss on events				£30.55
Running costs				
Reimbursement of Wiggle fee	£5.00			
Members' expenses		£82.69		
Total running costs				£77.69
Allocation from CTC HQ	£370.23		£370.23	
Sales				
Sale of badges and clothing	£105.00		£105.00	
Totals			£476.21	£108.24
Profit for the year				£367.97
TOTAL ASSETS				
Petty cash			£1.77	
Current account			£1,576.16	
Deposit account			£1,117.45	
Total assets at 30 Sept.2013			£2,695.38	
Total assets at 30 Sept.2012				£2,327.41
Add profit for year				£367.97
Totals			£2,695.38	£2,695.38
V.A.T. section				
Total receipts from social events and sales		£1,351.40		
Total receipts from outdoor events		£23.00		
Total for V.A.T.		£1,374.40		
Treasurer's name and signature	M.J.E.BEAUCHAMP			DATE
Auditor's name and signature	R.POULTER			DATE