



CTC North Hampshire

Annual Report 2014

Andy Watson

22nd October 2014

Version 1.0

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1 Officer's Reports

1.1 Chairman (Frank Pote)

Another year has passed and once again it is time to reflect on the activities of CTC North Hampshire during that period. I am pleased to report that we have continued to actively promote a strong cycling presence in our local area.

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. This year has also seen Fleet section create their own group, so we wish them well and every success for the future. A special thanks also to those who are engaged in trying to ensure that cycling is made safer and easier in our busy towns, perhaps a sometimes thankless task at times but one that is so very important.

We continued to be well supported in our regular (weekly or monthly) road rides starting in Alton, Petersfield and Farnborough. I would like to thank all our ride coordinators and the ride-leaders who volunteer to lead the rides.

A special thanks goes to Dan for kindly agreeing again to organise the Phil Hampton memorial ride and the volunteer helpers for their hard work and giving up the huge amount of time that makes these activities so successful.

Socially we 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, and also to all those who helped to make the BBQ a success, we close to 45 hungry cyclists converging once more at Newton Valance. All were well fed and watered mainly due to the superb efforts of Brian with his 'fire machine' but also thanks to those who kindly made puddings and helped out with the logistics, again producing an excellent feast.

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

Once again I have enjoyed another year as your Chairman and am happy to 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
- Working with Fleet Cycling and CTC HQ in supporting the establishment of the new Fleet Cycling member Group
- Responding to campaigning requests
- 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 CTC HQ was large this year due to our high membership. There is a choice between two amounts that we can apply for next year and we will apply for the higher amount.

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

Heather Rainbow did not want to claim her expenses of £100 carried over from last year. Instead she asked that the £100 be donated to the Cyclists' Defence Fund which we did.

The Phil Hampton Ride raised £594 for the Cyclists' Defence Fund which is a record amount. Thank you Dan for running this event.

The social events were well attended. The lunch was cost neutral, the skittles evening made a small profit and we subsidised the barbeque by £100. Thank-you to Janice and Frank and Dina for organising these events.

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.

I thank Janice Montgomery for all her hard work with the clothing orders. I believe we have just one item left.

In previous reports I have stated that we have money available for cycle campaign work. Heather Rainbow has started a new campaign group called Cycle Basingstoke, strap line/aim: "*helping people cycle in the borough*". Its aim is to promote cycling and obtain cycle friendly infrastructure both in Basingstoke and throughout the borough e.g. Overton, Whitchurch and Tadley. I hope that the Group can help to support this campaign group financially.

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.

1.4 Publicity Officer (Web: Bob Bending)

I have maintained CTC North Hampshire web site during the year and have changed the site so that the News comes up on the front page.

I manned a stand at the Alton Sports Festival in August although there was not a great deal of interest. Some attendees inquired about children's rides which did not require the parents to go on the ride.

1.5 Membership Secretary (Andy Watson)

This year membership information has been provided regularly. The October 2014 membership list, which excludes all lapsed members (temporarily or otherwise) records 1121 fully paid up members. This compares with 1113 in October 2013.

I expect that next year (2105) will see a reduction in reported members because the Fleet Cycling Group will take on a number of postcodes currently covered by CTC North Hampshire.

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 have been well-supported during the past year. Once a month on the first Saturday we offer a faster-paced ride in addition to the regular ride, usually meeting at the same refreshment stop. Last year's new initiative of a leisurely-paced ride on the third Saturday of the month has been successful again and numbers attending have grown this year. Advertising these continues to be a challenge, as they are aimed partly at people who may not be looking at our website. I have put up posters in several locations in Alton and the rides got a mention in the local press in March. The August leisurely ride coincided with Alton's annual Sports Festival and the Alton Herald printed a photo of Bob and Karon on their tandem. Thank you to them for kindly volunteering to man the CTC stand that day.

Saturday riders have supported CTC North Hampshire events during the year, namely the Phil Hampton Memorial ride and the Pace-Judging and Freewheeling Competition, as well as the annual lunch, the barbecue and the skittles evening.

I would like to thank all those who have led rides this year, and I trust our section will continue to thrive in 2015.

2.2 Petersfield (Stephen Olivant)

Another active year of advertised once-monthly rides (shorter rides and longer rides are offered) The shorter rides started as an all-women group, but now it is a happy mixed band of riders. In between our longer monthly rides, most of us meet and go out informally on training routes to keep up our fitness; we have increased our numbers of regular riders slightly.

On alternate months, we have started our longer rides from different locations (eg Petworth, IoW and Salisbury) so we can explore further afield; this has been popular among regular riders. Some of our shorter rides have also used different starting points successfully to vary their route choices.

Other exploits by our group include a training week in the Pyrenees, a tour of Corsica, sportives, night-time rides, short breaks, tandem and MTB events.

3 Right to Ride Representative Reports

3.1 Basingstoke (Heather Rainbow)

Top of Town and Basing View

Cllr Bierman eventually succeeded in securing a meeting in March between BBUG and Basingstoke and Deane Borough project managers for Top of Town and Basing View where Waitrose is to be built. Cyclists' views were well received. Outcome:

- Unfortunately the wide boulevard in front of Waitrose is pedestrian only, with a view to being cycle use at a later date.

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- The wheeling ramp for bicycles beside the steps from the footpath from Eastrop roundabout has been adopted (as requested by Heather)

BBUG sent a list of five priorities for cycling as requested.

Basingstoke Local Plan

There is no SPD (Supplementary Planning Document) or cycle policy which lays down standards for cycle provision. The only requirement is that some, but not all, developments should contain cycle routes within them and have connection to existing cycle routes outside them. There is no requirement for cycle routes to be fit for purpose or for new developments to be connected to the town centre and station as I have requested in the past and also in my reply to this latest development. I am in the process of creating a presentation resource or resource which explain why cycle routes do or do not work.

Basingstoke cycle campaign

I wrote a letter to the Gazette highlighting dangerous cycle routes which go nowhere inviting people to join a cycle campaign and I also canvassed various cyclists. As a result the first meeting of the cycle campaign took place on 20 September attended by 12 people. A big thank you to Brookvale Residents Association and Transition Basingstoke who provided the venue and electronic advertising as part of Basingstoke Green week. Thank you also to members of CTC who both advertised it and gave advice.

Tadley cyclists have been in dialogue with the council on cycle infrastructure, Whitchurch has formed its own BUG and advertises its activities in the Pedlar, space for cycling and the town websites, whilst Overton SeLF has led cycle rides and successfully had cycle stands/hoops installed outside the local Co-op and the local community centre. Colin Carre (CTC Cycling Development Officer for HCC) has already indicated he could provide a website for free and is keen to be involved. This embryo group is already connecting together general public, cyclists, councillors and officers, but as yet lacks support from a cabinet portfolio or a public figurehead/cycle champion. The Basingstoke and district campaign group has yet to formulate its aims and methods for achieving these, however funding and sponsorship is seen as vital to this. I personally envisage the campaign becoming an affiliate group to the CTC and hope CTC North Hampshire can provide some funding and support.

Planning applications

The Tesco application was turned down on appeal. Tesco is now preparing a new application, with the same traffic implications and adverse affects on cycling. I spoke to their representatives in September. They are spending £3 million on revamping Brighton Hill roundabout which will make it more difficult to cycle but do not see why they should also provide cycle facilities on all the adjacent roads, but they did begin to accept why the quality of the cycleway on the pavement in Harroway was not satisfactory.

After receiving approval from Andy and Alice Heaton, Heather replied to a planning application for circa 100 dwellings at Oakley.

New cycle facilities are to be built from junction of Priestley road/ road to the hospital along the A340 to the Ambulance station. They are on the footway and do not connect to any cycle routes or useful destinations.

I have not replied to other planning applications.

Other

- Usual networking activities. Thank you to Stephen Harris for his many communications to both me and the council.

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- The cycleway along Alencon Link has now been completed although it is difficult to get on to at either end (impossible in between) and does not go to the station.
 - I received an award from the Mayor for services to the community which I returned for bestowal on the next recipient during Green Week in September 2014.
 - I am working on reference documents and presentations for Cycle standards and cycle routes with photographic examples from the local area. These can then be used as campaign tools.
 - Councillor Dr Paul Harvey has asked me for photoshops to go on his facebook page as part of his campaign to be elected as MP for the borough.

Conclusion

It would appear from the response to the Basingstoke and district cycle campaign that the timing was appropriate. Only a little can be achieved acting on your own and I look forward to going forward as part of a broad based campaigning group.

3.2 Fleet (Andrew McGill)

An agreement has been reached with HCC to build a cycle path along the A323 Norris Hill Road between Kings Road and Ively Road. Plans have been drawn up and are expected to be made public within the coming months. Some funding has been allocated, but more is needed before work can begin.

We surveyed all 88 District Councillor candidates in the May 2014 election. The survey included information on the Space for Cycling. Of the 33 candidates who were elected as councillors, the majority want cycling to be given the same priority as motoring and were generally in support of *Space for Cycling*.

Access to cyclists on Bramshot Lane (access road to the new Hartland Park) was restored following newly erected fence blocking access to the heath and path between Southwood and Fleet.

A campaign to improve cycle access at Fleet train station is underway. Hampshire County Council have agreed with all of our suggestions and formally submitted them to South West Trains. Leafleting of the station is planned and a meeting has been agreed with South West Trains. (Thanks to Heather Rainbow for the tip off.)

3.3 Rushmoor (Aldershot and Farnborough) (Sarah Wood)

I am now back at work and teach cycling with Cycle Experience and also Surrey County Council. .

My Right to Ride work is largely done through Rushmoor Cycle Forum. These are the issues/agenda items raised in the last 6 months.

1. Cycle parking at the local shops. This has been reduced in the recent past. Charlie Halliday is meeting up with Ward Councillors to discuss the issue on Saturday 1st November.
2. Closure of Blackwater Valley Route between North Camp Station and Lakeside Road. This is an ongoing situation and the result of a dispute between George Boulder, a local business man and the two councils HCC and RBC. His planning permission has been refused and he has closed the permissive path that runs along the Blackwater River through his land. He has diverted a path for walkers. (poor surface, longer, less attractive route)

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3. Space for Cycling, this CTC campaign has been supported by the Forum. Literature has been distributed to Councillors and Officers.
 4. Mayor's Charity Ride, The cycle forum worked with Naya Yuva to help this year's ride happen. This year we had a Dr Bike from The Purple Bike Shed and Colin Carre CTC/HCC came along to discuss Hampshire initiatives with those that came to the ride. Largely thanks to the local Nepalese community the ride was well supported.
 5. Cycle Route to Fleet across Bramshott Lane. This is a good news story. The route was blocked to cyclists across Bramshott Lane. Andrew McGill CTC Fleet Right to Rider was largely instrumental in getting the route reopened.

More detail of these issues can be found on the forum site at [Rushmoor Cycle Forum – Documents](#).

4 CTC North Hampshire Accounts

CYCLISTS' TOURING CLUB NORTH HAMPSHIRE GROUP ACCOUNTS			2013/2014	
	Income/profit	Expenditure/loss	Income	Expenditure
(i) deposit account	£0.80		£0.80	
Events				
Pace-judging and freewheeling competition	£3.00			
Skittles	£18.00			
Off-road event	£2.00			
Bank holiday barbeque		£100.00		
Annual lunch	£0.00			
Sub-totals	£23.00	£100.00		
Overall profit/loss on events				£77.00
Running costs				
Fleet website		£52.76		
Members' expenses		£21.55		
Total running costs				£74.31
Allocation from CTC HQ	£345.23		£345.23	
Donation to Cyclists' Defence Fund	£100.00			£100.00
Sales				
Sale of badges and clothing	£54.50		£54.50	
Totals			£400.53	£251.31
Profit for the year				£149.22
TOTAL ASSETS				
Petty cash			£1.77	
Current account			£1,814.58	
Deposit account			£1,118.25	
Less liabilities(unpresented cheques)			£90.00	
Total assets at 30 Sept.2014			£2,844.60	
Total assets at 30 Sept.2013				£2,695.38
Add profit for year				£149.22
Totals			£2,844.60	£2,844.60
Treasurer's name and signature	M.J.E.BEAUCHAMP			DATE
Auditor's name and signature	R.POULTER			DATE