

Minutes - Exeter CTC AGM 2015

Held at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday 3rd November 2015 at Aylesbeare Village Hall, EX5 2BS

Members present (32): Jim Beed, Sam Bhullar, Chris Blasdale, Mike and Sue Booth, Mike Bowden, Chris Brightman, Don Buteux, Liz Charles, Penny Cockram, Stephen Coe, Richard Eales, Pauline Gibson, Judy and Tim Green, Alan Harding, Stephanie Houghton, Ian Holding, Jenny and Tom Ingram, Kirby James, Wolf Jenett, Lyndsay Kyrke-Smith, Dave Martin, Glenis Pewsey, Hugh Roberts, John Rowland, Roy Russell, Sheena Ryan, Marilyn Spurr, Ken Smith and Julian Turnbull.

Non-members present:

Maggie Beed, Liz Bowden and Gill Edwards.

1 Opening Remarks by Chairman:

Steph Houghton welcomed everyone to the meeting, especially our Regional Councillor, Stephen Coe.

Firstly: vacant post. Need someone with computer skills.

Admiration of spirit of CTC members : The Met Office said that the UK Summer 2015 was the coldest and wettest in 3 years. Parts of Scotland approached double the normal rainfall amounts in July. Whereas France, Italy, Spain, Belgium, Netherlands, Switzerland enjoyed a heatwave. Train tracks between Paris and Toulouse buckled in the heat.

So CTC Exeter members naturally went ahead and planned their tours in mainland Scotland, Orkneys, Shetland, and Outer Hebrides. Not to mention Wolf's trek across Iceland or the lady tourer finding herself alone in Albania with signs around her warning her of Bears in the vicinity!!

"The pleasure of travel is in this answer of the whole earth, potentially, to our steps, so that every good journey must have in it some measure of exploration, and, if possible an effort of our own. There is no need to go far; a John Gilpin day is enough: imagination only is needed – and an awareness of the horizon rim beyond which the world is new." Perseus in the Wind, Freya Stark.

I want to just say a huge thank you at this point to our ride Leaders. Without you, there wouldn't be anything to offer our members. We are fortunate to be able to offer two grades of rides every Sunday with a vast array of routes, landscapes not to mention the coffee stops etc!

Thanks to Bike Bus & sunday leaders and for Roger Spurr for stepping in for Mike.

Thanks to Sarah Britten for the Wednesday rides

Thanks to Pete and Jean for continuing to organise the Thursday coffee pots and to Tom Dunn and Jean for producing The Highwayman.

Marilyn has done a good job coordinating the Sunday rides.

I would particularly like to thank Roy for his personal services throughout the year.

Review and update of our safety and leaders guidance: Ironically this has led to an unusually high incidence of injuries this year – but thankfully mostly not bike related. I will therefore be submitting our safety guidance to The Football Association, England Hockey and Devon County Council who I think should now put leaflets through peoples doors warning of the hazards of pavement walking.

We would like to thank Ted for the huge amount of work he did in drawing up the guidelines and also in initiating the Bike Handling and Roadcraft sessions over the summer. Feed back included:

- Very good insights into cornering, correct braking, weight distribution in different situations.
- Although a cyclist for many years, I feel I have learnt [even] more from the course.
- There really is content here for all ages and skill levels, nobody will come away without additional knowledge, skills to practise, very worthwhile.
- Well worth doing. Highlights, safe descending and cornering.
- Most useful to me was emergency stopping and group riding skills. Even a basic increase in these skills has raised my confidence level.

Sadly I have to report that there has been one tragic cycling accident just recently. You may have read in the local press that a female cyclist died after colliding with another cyclist on a cycle path in Western Way, Exeter. Liz Hoare was known to some of us as she had ridden with the Bike Bus a few times. Our thoughts naturally go out to her family and friends.

Its been a good year with lots of activities but we always interested in members ideas/initiatives for rides and activities.

2. Apologies for Absence:

Apologies for absence were received from Edward and Susan Gameson, and Pippa and Robin Wheeler.

3 Approval of Minutes and Actions Arising from the 2014 AGM:

The 2014 minutes were approved unanimously (*Proposed: Robin Wheeler, Seconded: Don Buteux*). There were no actions arising.

4 Secretary's Report (Roy Russell):

Roy presented the Secretary's Report which had been circulated before the meeting and is attached below.

5 Treasurer's Report (Alan Harding):

We have spent less this year than I expected, because we did not have to pay for the training sessions which have taken place.

This resulted in a rather high balance of around £537.00 as at 30th September 2015. In addition, a grant of £200.00 will be due next year, therefore once again suggestions how to sensibly spend this money for the benefit of CTC Exeter will be welcome.

The Treasurer's report was accepted unanimously (*Proposed: Tim Green, Seconded: John Rowland*).

6. Election of Officers and Committee for 2015/16:

Stephanie Houghton was proposed as Chairman by Glenis Pewsey, seconded by Tim Green and voted into post with unanimous approval

The remaining Committee positions were proposed by Chris Brightman, seconded by Pauline Gibson and voted into post with unanimous approval.

Thus the 2015/16 Committee is as follows:-

Chairman	Stephanie Houghton
Secretary / Registration Officer	Lyndsay Kyrke-Smith
Treasurer	Alan Harding
Sunday Runs Coordinator	Marilyn Spurr
Promotions Officer	Lyndsay Kyrke-Smith
Committee members	Ian Holding, Roy Russell
Welfare Officer	Tim Green

Glenis Pewsey was proposed as Honorary Auditor by Marilyn Spurr, seconded by Tim Green and voted into post with unanimous approval.

Non Committee roles:

Away Weekends	John Rowland
Bike Bus Coordinator	Roger Spurr
Honorary Auditor	Glenis Pewsey
Website	Kirby James
Wednesday Rides Coordinator	Sarah Britton

8. Special Events:

The following Special Events were discussed:-

- CTC Devon AGM at Ashburton – Sunday 15th November
- Christmas Lunch – Sunday 13th December
- Wednesday Rides Christmas Meal – Wednesday 16th December
- Coffee Pot Christmas Lunch – Thursday 17th December
- Exeter Mad March Audaxes – 20th March 2016 (*Sarah Britton*)
- Curry Night – 5th April (*Tim Green*)
- Brecon Weekend – 20 to 22nd May (*Hugh Roberts*)

9. Any Other Business:

5 members have bought a bike trailer that is available for hire for £10 for first day and £5 for subsequent days. Details on website.

Meeting closed at 20.00hrs.

The formal meeting was followed by a slide show by Wolf Jenett about his recent cycle trip across Iceland.

Roy Russell
Secretary CTC Exeter 2014/15

Appendix

CTC Exeter SECRETARY'S REPORT - 2014/15

This year has seen an active programme, thanks to the hard work of the committee and rides leaders.

Weekly Rides (Sunday, Wednesday and Thursday)

Our main activity continues to be Rides every Sunday, Wednesday and Thursday.

Details of Sunday Rides have been agreed at committee meetings every 2 months and have included a wide range of destinations. Two rides have been organised most Sundays to cater for a variety of abilities. Marilyn Spurr has done a good job organising the rides and finding volunteers to lead. Numbers on rides have varied from one to 15.

Sarah Britton has continued to organise the pub rides every Wednesday evening with numbers typically 6 to 12. The official start has now moved from Pinhoe to Cranbrook.

Sue Booth and Roger Spurr have operated the popular 'Bike Bus' to deliver riders from Woodbury, West Hill and Exeter, to the Thursday Coffee Pots. Numbers fluctuate but are usually 10 – 15.

The Coffee Pot meets are organised every Thursday by Pete Luxton for CTC Devon, but continue to be popular with Exeter riders, with some cafes attracting over 50 members. When the venues are restricted in space the Bike Bus goes to a separate café.

Christmas Lunch – December 2014

The 2014 Christmas Lunch was organised by Lyndsay Kyrke-Smith at the Red Lion in Broadclyst. The event was well supported and is planned to be repeated this year.

Curry and Slides Evening – January 2015

Tim Green organised a successful evening at Woodbury Church Rooms.

Mad March Audax – March 2015

Pippa Wheeler organised the Mad March 100 and 200 km Audax events starting from Exeter, with a total of over 200 entries. These events are organised by Exeter Wheelers, with support from Exeter CTC.

Group Safety and Bike Handling workshop – March 2015

Workshop held in Woodbury to discuss group safety and bike handling. The output from this workshop was used to shape Leaders Guidance and advice on Group Riding, that were published on the website.

Website refresh

Ted Gameson and Kirby James updated the Exeter CTC website with a new front page, photos and guidance.

Training Courses

Bike Handling and Roadcraft courses were arranged during the summer.

The Bike Handling course was arranged by Ted with ExeCel following the earlier Bike Handling workshop. It attracted 17 people split between 3 sessions at Westpoint. This included skills such as cornering and fast descents. We were fortunate that this was sponsored by Devon County Council as a pilot project for supporting existing cycling groups.

The Roadcraft course was arranged as part of an ongoing programme already sponsored by DCC. The course was tailored for experienced CTC members and included looking at awkward junctions, best place on the road to position the bike etc

Coast to Coast Audax – May 2015

In May, Roy Russell organised the Coast to Coast Audax with a total of 85 entries. Unfortunately this event has been cancelled next year.

Forest of Dean weekend - May 2015

John Rowland organised a successful weekend in the Forest of Dean.

Cornish Tour – June 2015

Kirby organised a successful tour from St Ives to Exeter.

Devon CTC Events

Members helped organise and take part in a wide variety of Devon CTC events throughout the year. These included the Devon Dirt from Ashburton with about 400 entries and various Audax events.

Advocacy

Roy Russell and Kirby James regularly attend the Exeter Cycle Forum meetings which are held every three months. These allow local cyclists to meet Council Representatives to review and comment on new developments in and around Exeter.

Roy responded to various consultations and planning applications, in his role as Right to Ride Representative for Exeter.

Highwayman Magazine

Tom Dunn and Jean Brierly continue to produce the Highwayman magazine to a high standard for CTC Devon, 10 times a year.

Publicity

Roy Russell gave a talk at St Sidwells Centre about the CTC.

Steph Houghton attended a presentation of 2 trikes to "Ride On", which were provided by National CTC as part of the Wheels for All Project.

Other Activities

CTC members were engaged in a wide variety of other activities through the year including bike films at the Picturehouse, Velo Vintage rides, and 2 weeks in the Jura Mountains.

Resignation

Finally, I am resigning as Secretary due to personal commitments.

Roy Russell, Secretary