

CTC Devon Annual General Meeting – November 2012

Torbay Area RTR report

2012 has been a very busy year for cycling in the area.

One of the main things I have been involved with is the Teign Cycle Forum. The old Newton Area Cycle Group is now defunct, and the quarterly forum has effectively taken its place. The Forum is hosted by Teignbridge DC and chaired by Peter Grainger of Sustrans. This year they have been very positive in promoting all aspects of cycling in the area, with Council leader Jeremy Christophers very much behind it.

A key scheme is the Route 2 development in the area including a new cycle bridge over the river at Town Quay. This should be complete within two months and will link Newton Abbot to Kingsteignton and eventually Teignmouth. Much work has recently been completed in the Dawlish Warren area for Route 2 as well.

In Torbay the Tours Series races took place and the Council were keen to involve all the local clubs in the community events, and indeed in helping to run the races. The Tour Series should be in Torbay again in 2013.

Bikeability has had a great impetus in Devon, with many schools in the area now registering their pupils for Level 1 and Level 2 training. Locally they are looking at delivering Bikeability to another 900 pupils on 2013.

The Kingskerswell Bypass is a controversial scheme which is now going ahead and is going to have a huge impact on cycling in the area, both during its construction and afterwards. The outcomes are not that clear, although there are cycle schemes included within the works.

News on Velodromes/Cycle facilities in South Devon has changed, in as much as the original idea to have something in the Kingsteignton area fell by the wayside, and although Teignbridge are still interested in the project it is now very likely that a new track and other facilities will be going in quite soon in Torbay. This would be a great SW facility eventually with the next nearest being in Bath.

One Local Cycling club has a Junior section with almost 75 youngsters needing traffic free training areas for coaching, and with even more on the waiting list completion of these facilities is now urgent.

The authorities are very keen on Cycling, and in particular "Green" tourism. They actively support events like the Dartmoor Classic Cyclo sportive, which is a massive event over one weekend. I would be interested to see how local CTC groups could benefit, given that we provide "green" touring rides for local people for free each weekend.

Graham Brodie