

## **CTC Exeter**

### **SECRETARY'S REPORT - 2012/13**

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 or 3 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 and Ian Hennessey have continued to organise the pub rides every Wednesday evening. Numbers are typically 5 – 12.

Kirby James has continued to operate the popular 'Bike Bus' to deliver riders from Woodbury, West Hill and Exeter, to the Thursday Coffee Pots. Numbers fluctuate (on each ride) but are usually 10 – 15. Mike Booth is taking over as Bike Bus Executive after the AGM. Thanks to Kirby for all his work in founding and maintaining the Bike Bus for the last 5 years.

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.

In addition, informal rides are rumoured to occur every Monday (ladies only) and Tuesday (hard). I won't mention the climbing club on Fridays that doesn't include any cycling!

#### **Events - Christmas Lunch – December 2012**

The 2012 Christmas Lunch was organised by Don and Iris Buteux at The Ruffwell near Thorverton. The event was extremely well supported and was a welcome opportunity to catch up with friends old and new.

#### **Events - Devon Dirt - April 2013**

Various members helped organise the Devon Dirt from Ashburton with about 350 entries.

#### **Events – Star Rides - May 2013**

These were 6 rides from across Devon leading to the opening of the new cycle bridge in Newton Abbot. The Exeter ride was the longest and hardest via Dawlish and Teignmouth but still attracted a dozen new riders.

### **Events – Forest of Dean - May 2013**

In the Spring Stephanie Houghton organised a successful weekend for 16 in the Forest of Dean.

### **Events – Bere Regis weekend - July 2013**

John Rowland organised a successful weekend for 21 at Bere Regis. This was postponed from last year due to wet weather making the campsite unusable. This year the sun shone on us with a ride to Lulworth Cove for a swim.

### **Events – Overseas – May and September 2013**

14 cyclists took part in two trips to the Pyrenees this year. The May trip encountered some cols still closed with snow and the September trip saw the destructive results of the sudden thaw that flooded Lourdes. Tim and Judy Green, and Ted and Susan Gameson also visited this area over the summer.

### **Events - Audaxes**

Pippa Wheeler again successfully organised the Mad March 100 and 200 km Audax events starting from Exeter. The two events attracted a total of over 200 riders.

In June Roy Russell organised the TriVets and the Coast to Coast Audax. Following the unexpected closure of the cafe at Coldharbour Mill, the route for these was substantially changed to start from Uffculme School. A total of 110 people took part.

### **Advocacy**

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

Roy Russell responded to various consultations and planning applications, in his role as Right to Ride Representative for Exeter. This included engagement with the Highways Agency over their future strategy for trunk roads in the southwest.

### **CTC Exeter Newsletter**

Kirby James and Roy Russell produce a bi-monthly Newsletter which summarises cycle related activities and developments in the Exeter area. The Newsletter is sent electronically to over 750 recipients.

### **Highwayman Magazine**

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

Roy Russell, Secretary