

# **CTC Exeter**

## **SECRETARY'S REPORT - 2011/12**

This year has seen many highs and lows. We have managed an active programme, thanks to the hard work of the committee and rides leaders. We have had a few injuries from falls, fortunately without lasting injury. Unfortunately, Paul Goffron who was part of the winning Exeter team in the county competition last year, succumbed to cancer in July. His funeral was well attended with a large turnout of cyclists.

### **Weekly Rides (Sundays and Wednesdays)**

The main activity continues to be the Rides every Sunday and Wednesday.

Details of Sunday Rides have been agreed at committee meetings every 3 months and have included a wide range of destinations. This year we have labelled the rides as A (faster & longer) or B (slower & shorter). Tim Green has done a good job organising the rides, although finding volunteers to lead B rides has been difficult at times. Numbers on rides have varied from one to 15. Joint rides have been organised with Axe Valley Pedallers and the Blackmore Vale CTC Group.

Sarah Britton and Ian Hennessey have continued to organise the pub rides every Wednesday evening. Numbers are typically 6 – 12. Orders are being taken for "Wednesday Nighter" jerseys.

### **Thursday Coffee Pot Rides & The Bike Bus**

The Coffee Pot runs are organised by Pete Luxton for CTC Devon, but continue to be popular with Exeter riders, with many rides attracting over 50 attendees.

Kirby James has continued to operate the popular 'Bike Bus', for CTC Exeter, to deliver riders to the Coffee Pot stops.

### **Events - Christmas Lunch – December 2011**

The 2011 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 2012**

Various members helped organise the Devon Dirt that continues to grow with a record breaking 347 finishers.

### **Events – The Brecons - May 2012**

In the Spring Tim Green organised a very successful weekend for 20 riders at Brecon. Unfortunately Ian and Janet had an accident that resulted in an ambulance trip to hospital. They are now fully recovered and have just returned from 5 weeks cycling on the west coast of the USA.

## **Events – Map Reading Competition – June 2011**

I organised the CTC Devon Map Reading competition this year. The event started from Escot and attracted an entry of 16.

## **Visit from Chief Executive Officer of CTC – June 2012**

Gordon Seabright, the new Chief Executive Officer (*CEO*) of the CTC, visited us in June on a fact finding mission. He met up with Kirby, John and me for a discussion on how HQ could support our activities and then joined us for a ride around Haldon. He then met Devon County Officers engaged in promoting cycling to discuss the impact of the Cycle Exeter project.

## **Events – First Aid course – August 2012**

Keith Portlock kindly hosted a 3 hour St Johns Ambulance course in First Aid.

## **Events – Overseas – September 2011**

Marilyn Spur, Penny Cockram and Kirby James organised an autumn tour to Provence and the Cevennes. Nine cyclists enjoyed a two week trip and gave a slide show of highlights after the Exeter AGM.

## **Events - Audaxes**

In March Pippa Wheeler again successfully organised the Mad March 100 and 200 km Audax events starting from Exeter. The two events attracted a total of about 150 riders.

In May Roy Russell organised the Coast to Coast event for the third year. This was the first year it had been organised as an Audax. Both 100 km and 100 mile rides were on offer with the longer ride starting from Kentisbeare, heading to the north coast at Watchet and the south coast at Budleigh before returning to Uffculme. 72 people took part.

In July Kirby James together with Joanna Beckett of Axe Valley Pedallers organised Audax rides (50 and 100 km) for the second year based on part of the route taken by the 2010 Great Tour.

## **Individual Trips**

Mike and Sue Booth undertook a tour of Ireland in May and are currently cycling down the west coast of the USA, with Ian and Janet Ashford. The blog of their adventures can be found at <http://suemike-lifecycle.blogspot.com/>

Stephanie and Warren Houghton cycled through Normandy and Brittany in the summer.

## **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 councillors over the design of the Honiton Road M5 junction.

### **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 500 recipients.

### **The Website**

Most potential and new members have discovered the activities of CTC Exeter through the website. The most popular pages being

65,294 hits	Exeter Sunday Ride
26,296 hits	Thursday Coffee Pots
24,768 hits	Exeter Wednesday Rides
23,206 hits	Cafe List
21,497 hits	Exeter Wednesday Reports
17,207 hits	Exeter Rides further ahead

Roy Russell, Secretary