



BEDFORDSHIRE NEWS



No 149 May 2013

EDITORIAL

PAT OWEN

Glancing out of the window as I prepare this edition of the newsletter, I notice that it is blowing a gale out there, so it does not seem like May at all – I’m just glad I’m *not* cycling today; luckily I had a beautiful ride a couple of days ago, riding out to meet the 40+ group in Salford. I decided to take the long way home, heading for Turvey, Carlton, Stevington etc. The road between Astwood and Newton Blossomville was perfect on a day like that, no wind, no traffic, just tranquil countryside and plenty of spring sunshine, making me realise why I love cycling. but before I start getting poetic, let’s press on:

Now that we are into the summer season, evening and starter rides are back on the menu (see below for more details), but the committee do have problems finding leaders for these extra rides. If you think you could lead a ride – regular easy rides, classic, evening or starter, do get in touch with a member of the committee, who can tell you what it involves. Your help will be greatly appreciated.

Veronica Brown, our long standing President has given us advanced warning that she will not be seeking re-election at the AGM in October. Veronica has contributed so much to CTC Beds that her shoes will be extremely difficult to fill, but we do need to give this some thought before the autumn – you may not aspire to be president, but are there other tasks you could help with? Any committee member would be happy to fill you in with details of what we do.

Key Contacts:

Veronica Brown, President	01234 344922
Neville Hobday, Chairperson	01234 360068 neville.hobday@ntlworld.com
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WEBSITE

The website continues to improve; members to whom we have spoken agree that ride information is now easier to read, but the committee is not complacent and is anxious that the site not only fulfils members' needs, but also attracts new members/cyclists, who will be encouraged to seek us out and join group activities. Three

members of the committee have formed a sub group who meet regularly to monitor the website and upload information and photos. If you have any comments or suggestions about the site, they will be most welcome – just phone or email one of the contacts on the front page of this newsletter.

BRIAN BRAYBROOKE

As you know, Brian sadly died in February. We have had notification from John Lewis, Thames Valley Regional Secretary of the Tricycle Association that Brian's cycles and accessories are being sold and it is hoped that they will go to members of the various clubs to which he belonged. The list is too long to print in full here, but it includes two tricycles, three road bicycles and a single fixed bicycle. Sizes

vary between 19¾ and 21½ inches. Prices range from £350 to £1500. If you would like more details, please contact me (Pat Owen) or telephone Chris Hewitt on 01582 763622.

You may also be interested in reading John Lewis' obituary, prepared for the Tricycle Association. This can be forwarded to you if requested.

EVENING/STARTER RIDES

- From May until September short evening rides have been organised. Please look on the website for details or contact one of us to find out more.
- As mentioned in my editorial, finding ride leaders has become increasingly difficult, so we have decided to

incorporate our 'starter' rides into the Saturday Easyriders' programme – one ride per month will be of an appropriate length for beginners or perhaps those wishing to take up cycling after a break and will be advertised as such. It may also be possible to organise some rides on demand, if there is an interest.

TEAM CTC RACING IN BEDFORDSHIRE

CTC announced their sponsorship of an elite women's road racing team at the Bike Show on the 19th January this year. Over the May Bank Holiday the team took part in a 3 day event in Beds, competing against UK teams and guest teams from overseas. The

event culminated at the vehicle testing ground at Millbrook. For full details and information on future activities, go to the main CTC website and search for 'Team CTC'.

SAM LEVEY

In the February edition of the newsletter, we mentioned the above named young man who was raising money for Children's Air Ambulance by cycling between all the Olympic gold post boxes. Beds CTC supported him by giving him accommodation on the 3rd and 4th April (thanks to

Veronica Brown's generosity) and donating, through the committee, £50 – this was in addition to £140 collected from CTC and Forty Plus members. Well done to Sam! Let us know of any other individuals or groups, cycling for good causes.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- **25th May:** Cycle Jumble Sale at Markyate Village Hall, 9 – 12.30 pm. Further details from Jack on: 01582 476136.
- **15th – 23rd May:** CTC Bike Week – if you haven't been out for a while, why not join us this week? See Bike Week website for all activities, including our own local rides list.

16th October: Advance warning of our AGM, to be held at the Wingfield Club, Church Street in Ampthill. Further details to follow in next newsletter and on the website.