

CTC West Surrey Group

Annual Report 2011

CTC West Surrey Group is the local representative body of the CTC covering the postcode areas GU1-10, 12, 15-16 and 18-27, KT7-8, 10-16 and 24, and RG45. In addition to several special events, e.g. Reliability Rides and Audaxes, the Group organises morning and full-day on-road rides on Wednesdays and Sundays throughout the year plus a monthly tow-path ride. Rides start from various locations and provide the opportunity for riders of all abilities, ranging from those seeking light exercise to the fit and experienced cyclist, to explore the country lanes of Surrey and bordering counties. Details of rides and events are published on the Group's website (www.ctcwestsurrey.org.uk) and in its quarterly magazine, *The West Surrey Cyclist*.

Organisation

The committee consisted of the four ex-officio posts of Chairman (Roger Philo), Rides Secretary (John Murdoch), Secretary (Dane Maslen) and Treasurer (Arthur Twiggs) plus two other members (Peter Hackman and Claire Hooper). Peter and Dane have announced their intention to stand down at the AGM.

Members elected to honorary posts at the last AGM in recognition of their long support and services to the Group were Bill Thompson (President) and Harold Coleman, Liz Palethorpe, Clive Richardson, Rico Signore and Geoff Smith (Vice Presidents).

Events and competitions were organised by Nick Davison (Stonehenge 200, Danebury 150 and Elstead 100 audaxes), Don Gray (Tour of the Hills audax and Tour of the Greensand Hills), Dane Maslen (Pace-Judging and Freewheeling competitions), Roger Philo (50-, 75- and 100-mile Reliability Rides), Arthur Twiggs (Summer Navigator) and Mark Waters (Bicycle lcycle). Thanks go to them and to the volunteers that assisted them, namely Chris Boggon, Marion Davison, Libia Gomez-Jupe, Christine Hackman, Peter Hackman, Phil Hamilton, Martin Hine, Paul Holmes, Chris Jeggo, Lynette Jeggo, Don Jones, David Jupe, Alan Mayger, Bob McLeod, Pauline McLeod, John Morris, John Murdoch, Clive Richardson, Sue Thorne and Jonathan Walters.

Midweek and Sunday rides were organised by Peter Fennemore, John Murdoch, Liz Palethorpe, Clive Richardson, Rico Signore and David Wood and Angela Byrne, and led by them and various other ride leaders too numerous to mention. Other volunteers provided the following important services to the Group: Chris Jeggo as Archivist, Peter Clint as Auditor, Phil Hamilton as Magazine Distributor, Claire Hooper as Magazine Editor and Mark Waters as Website Manager.

Midweek and Sunday rides

In addition to groups starting primarily from Woking, Guildford, Godalming and Farnham, other groups have operated from variable start points to give the widest scope for rides. Several of the groups have also included a selection of train- and car-assisted rides in their programmes. All groups had rides scheduled throughout the year, but several fell victim to icy conditions during the winter and had to be cancelled.

Wednesdays has seen a weekly programme of full-day rides from locations around Woking by the **Woking Midweek Wayfarers** and monthly full-day rides from Farnham by the **Farnham Wayfarers**. Both groups have continued to be well attended, the former usually splitting into two or three groups of differing speeds en route to the coffee stop and thereafter to lunch. Often one group has gone to meet the **Paragon Lunch Group** for those members who like to socialise but do not want a long ride. This has become more popular recently.

Another opportunity for our less active members has been the **Evergreens** ride on the first Thursday of each month along the tow-path from Brewery Road Car Park in Woking to the Cricketers in Pirbright for lunch.

An extensive programme of rides has been on offer on Sundays: weekly full-day rides from Elstead, Farnham, Godalming or Guildford by the **Sunday Riders**; weekly morning rides from Woking by the **Woking Sunday Intermediates**; fortnightly full-day or morning rides from Godalming or Guildford by the **Guildford and Godalming Wayfarers**; monthly morning and monthly full-day rides from Farnham by the **Farnham Wayfarers**; and full-day rides once or twice a month from a variety of locations by the **All-day Sunday Intermediates**. These have provided members with opportunities for rides ranging from 15-20 miles at about 8mph (morning rides by Farnham Wayfarers) to 60-90 miles at about 14mph (Sunday Riders).

Events

Thanks to the dedication of the various organisers and the willingness of numerous members to act as helpers and marshals the Group not only staged its regular programme of events, but also added a new one, namely the Summer Navigator, a treasure hunt. Participation in several of the events was once again slightly down on the previous year.

The Bicycle Icycle (03.04.11) for once failed to live up to its name. 10 entrants, all except one from West Surrey, rode this 70km event.

The **50-mile Reliability Ride** (10.04.11) had 14 starters, again mostly from West Surrey, with most opting for the Pirbright start. The replacement of the former roadside control in Kirdford by the café in the village seemed to work well and will be retained next year.

The **Stonehenge 200**, **Danebury 150** and **Elstead 100** (15.05.11) saw generally fine weather but with a cold wind. Perhaps this contributed to the fewer than usual entrants on the longer rides. This was counterbalanced by considerably more than usual on the Elstead 100, at least in part due to a large contingent from the South Western Road Club. The number of finishers were 13, 19 and 34 respectively for the three rides.

In its first year the **Summer Navigator** attracted six West Surrey riders and four from elsewhere. All bar one rider returned to the start within the allowed four hours, the odd one out picking up penalty points as a consequence of overrunning by two minutes.

The new format of the **75- and 100-mile Reliability Rides** (17.07.11) that was introduced last year, namely giving entrants the option of being led round the route, evidently continued to be popular as 12 riders – mostly from West Surrey and all bar one on the longer route – braved the rain. Unfortunately two were not suitably prepared for such a 'summer's' day and had to abandon the ride. The remainder suffered a plague of punctures.

For the first time online entries were accepted this year for the **Tour of the Hills** (21.08.11). This proved popular with 90 of the 108 advance entries being made this way. A further 22, many of them proving to be the fastest riders, entered on the day. The total of 130 entrants, mostly from outside West Surrey, was up on last year, but despite pleasant weather there was a surprisingly large number of no-shows, so fewer starters. The **Tour of the Greensand Hills**, held on the same day, again proved popular with West Surrey riders.

The **Pace Judging** and **Freewheeling** competitions (18.09.11) attracted seven West Surrey riders, of whom one entered only the latter event.

Annual award of trophies

The following awards are to be made at the AGM:

Benstead Challenge Cup	Best overall result in Benstead Cup	Clive Richardson
Benstead Ladies Shield	Best result in Benstead Cup by a lady	Anne Etherington
Bernard Howell Trophy	Best result in Benstead Cup by a veteran (55 or over on 01/10/10)	Clive Richardson
Junior Benstead Cup	Best result in Benstead Cup by a junior (under 18 on 30/09/11)	(Not awarded)
Bill Inder Trophy	Best Sunday attendance	Clive Richardson
George Alesbury Tankard	Best Wednesday attendance	Neil Eason
Junior Attendance Cup	Best overall attendance by a junior (under 18 on 30/09/11)	(Not awarded)
Bert Bartholomew Trophy	Oldest rider to complete the 100-mile Reliability Ride within the time limit	Don Jones
Keith Parfitt Memorial Pot	For organising and helping at events	Roger Philo
The Wooden Crank	Most amusing blunder during the year	TBD at AGM

Other Activities

New Year's get-together in Seale: Many members rode to Seale Craft Centre on 1st January where the tea room, ever popular with our members, opened especially for cyclists to celebrate the New Year.

Right to Ride: We currently do not have a Right to Ride representative. If anyone would be willing to take on this role, please contact the committee.

Club shirts: After a lengthy period with no sales, the committee decided to sell the remaining stock of club shirts by a sealed-bid auction.

First-aid: A short training session was organised for some ride leaders and regular riders.

Dane Maslen, Secretary

24th October 2011