

# CTC West Surrey Group

## Annual Report 2017

### Definition

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. Total CTC members in these areas in October 2016 were 1146 with 33 of these joining in the last three months.

### Organisation

The committee consisted of the four ex-officio posts of Chair (Mark Waters), Rides Secretary (John Murdoch), Secretary (Nick Davison) and Treasurer (Arthur Twiggs), plus three additional members, John Child (Website Organiser) Laurie Mutch and Roger Philo. Due to his moving up North, in October our President, Chris Juden, resigned. The committee met on four occasions [March, June, August and October]. The meeting minutes are available on the website.

### 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 programme. All groups had rides scheduled throughout the year.

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 three or four groups (Grades 1, 2, 3 & 4) of differing speeds en route to the coffee stop and thereafter to lunch. The Grade 3 group have continued to benefit from a number of different ride leaders, bringing variety and new ideas to the riding programme. We would certainly benefit from new volunteers to lead the Grade 1 and 2 rides, particularly on the retirement (as leader, not as a rider) of Rico Signore. Rico has been a true stalwart of the Midweek Wayfarers for many years, and our grateful thanks go to him for all that he has done for the Club. A separate group has gone to meet the **Paragon Lunch Group** for those members who like to socialise but do not want a long ride.

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 and this has been very popular.

An extensive programme of rides has been on offer on Sundays: weekly full-day rides from Elstead, Farnham, Godalming or Guildford by the **Sunday All Day Riders**; weekly morning rides from Woking by the **Woking Sunday Riders**; 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 (Grade 4 Sunday All-Day Riders). The Farnham group have annual extended rides in the New Forest and Test Valley and the Midweek Woking Grades 3 and 4 visited the Chilterns. The Isle of Wight is a popular train-assisted ride for Woking and Farnham groups.

## Events

Thanks to the dedication of the various organisers and the willingness of numerous members to act as helpers and marshals the Group staged its regular programme of events.

The **Bicycle Icicle**, organised by Chairman Mark, took place on the 19th March. The weather was mild and dry resulting in a good number of entries, namely 16 West Surrey members and two guests from other CUK groups. Most completed the 68km event, with Julian Allen returning in 3 hours, 39 minutes - a record. The usual comments about the attractiveness of the ride were gratefully received.

The three **Elstead Audax events** organised by Nick Davison, were run mainly in sunny conditions on June 4<sup>th</sup> from Elstead Village Hall. There were 96 entries with 86 riders, which is similar to last year.

The **Tour of the Hills Audax** took place on Sunday 20th August with Mark taking over organisation, starting as usual at Shere Village Hall. Entries this year increased to 150. The day was fine and not too warm, so conditions were perfect. There was one major issue in that White Down Lane was closed owing to water main replacement work. This resulted in a lot of extra work but the outcome was very positive: the lane proved passable and so the route didn't have to be changed, which would have been very difficult. Four club riders completed the event. It's possible that the increase in numbers entering the event may be attributed to the fact that Cycling UK chose the Tour of the Hills as one of their 'Challenge Ride Series', so we received more publicity than we might normally have got.

This event requires numerous marshals to make it happen and thanks must go to all 21 West Surrey members who stepped forward to help. We received many messages thanking us for organising and running the event so well, with particular mention being made to Heidi and her catering crew for providing such excellent food.

The 54km Tour of the Greensand is run concurrently and was ridden by nine club members and two guests. We were disappointed to learn that Carol Moore, who was hoping to ride the event, pulled out as a result of assisting a fallen horse rider shortly after the start; in so doing, she somehow lost her wallet and hearing aids; life can be very unfair sometimes. The items were never handed in. Our commiserations go out to Carol.

The 50 and 35 mile rides took place on 9<sup>th</sup> April. There were 4 riders for the 50mile and 6 for the 35. The 100 and 75 mile rides took place on 16th July 2016. There were 6 riders on the 100mile ride but none on the 75. Thanks to Roger Philo for organization of both events.

## Other Activities

The traditional New Year's get-together was held at Squire's garden centre at Badshot Lea.

The Club Dinner was held at The Princess Royal at Runfold on 4<sup>th</sup> March, and again proved very popular, with 61 attendees. Club awards were presented. Sincere thanks go to John Murdoch for organising the event.

A three day tour based at a hotel near Wells was held in early May was organised by Hilary Stephenson with 11 riders taking part.

An eight day tour in the Vosges region of France was organised by John Murdoch in June for the Group 4 riders with eleven riders taking part with a support car.

Mark Waters and Chris Juden ran touring events in Europe for CTC Holidays.

Club members again took on some impressive cycling challenges this year, with Don Gray and Martin Vinson riding the Marmotte Sportive in the Alps and Russel Johnson rode the Deloitte Ride Across Britain [Fast LEJOG].

A ride leaders' workshop was run this year on the 20<sup>th</sup> April facilitated by Laurie Mutch. The event was very successful with a high turnout.

## **Club Items**

**Website.** The website is central to all the club's activities and communications and John Child, our webmaster, continues to do an excellent job. Accounts of recent rides with photos are regularly posted together with notice of events and changes to rides. There are 63 people currently signed up to receive email notifications of new Blog or Latest News postings. If you haven't done so and would like to receive a notification when these are posted please sign up on the Blog page. Additional communication is by e-mail to members of the various different groups, and if you wish to receive such e-mails, please ensure that you sign up via the website (Welcome page, "Sign up for announcements etc. Everyone is also invited to submit articles for the website - please email them with photos to John Child ([webmaster@westsurreyctc.co.uk](mailto:webmaster@westsurreyctc.co.uk)))

## **Annual Award of Trophies**

The following awards should be noted, with the Wooden and Golden Crank trophies to be presented at the Club Dinner in February:

<i><b>Bill Inder Trophy</b></i>	Best Sunday attendance:	<i>Clive Richardson</i>
<i><b>George Alesbury Tankard</b></i>	Best Wednesday attendance:	<i>Neil Eason</i>
<i><b>Bert Bartholomew Trophy</b></i>	Oldest rider to complete the 100-mile Reliability Ride within the time limit:	<i>Peter Hackman</i>
<i><b>Keith Parfitt Memorial Pot</b></i>	For organising and helping at events:	<i>Roger Philo</i>
<i><b>The Wooden Crank</b></i>	Most amusing blunder during the year	TBA
<i><b>The Golden Crank</b></i>	Recognition for Outstanding Contribution	TBA
<i><b>Audax Points Award</b></i>		Don Gray

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