

West Surrey CTC

Annual Report 2018

Definition

West Surrey Member Group is the local member group of Cycling UK covering the postcode areas GU1-10, 12, 15-16 and 18-27, KT7-8, 10-16 and 24, and RG45. Total members in these areas in October 2017 were 1122.

Organisation

The committee consisted of the four ex-officio posts of Chair (Mark Waters), Rides Secretary (John Murdoch/Phil Gasson), Secretary (Nick Davison) and Treasurer (Roy Wigmore), plus three additional members, John Child (Website Organiser) Laurie Mutch and Derek Ridyard. Our President is Keith Chesterton. The committee met on five occasions [November, March, May, August and October]. The meeting minutes are available on the website. Early in the year Phil Gasson took over the role of Rides Secretary from John Murdoch. Grateful thanks go to John for his sterling work as Rides Secretary over many years and his help and advice enabling Phil to seamlessly take over his new role. Notwithstanding this John still continues to support the club by organising the Annual Dinner and also keeping rides records etc.

Midweek and Sunday Rides

In addition to groups starting from locations around 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 **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 groups (Grades 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 large attendance, sometimes exceeding 20 riders. Three new starting points have been tried during the year. For our less active members 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 All Day Riders**
- weekly morning rides from Woking by the **Woking Sunday Riders**
- morning rides by the **Guildford and Godalming Wayfarers** which have seen a year of consolidation with typically 9-12 riders turning out on the first and third Sundays of each month
- monthly morning and monthly full-day rides from Farnham by the **Farnham Wayfarers**
- 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 Midweek Woking Grades 3 and 4 had two far-reaching day rides in the Chilterns starting from Pinkneys Green, and the Wiltshire Downs starting at Micheldever. The Isle of Wight is a popular train-assisted ride for the Woking and Farnham groups with 20 club members participating in the IOW Randonnee on the May Bank Holiday Sunday.

There were at least 85 different riders who went out on at least one Midweek Wayfarers ride during 2017/18

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 **50 mile reliability ride**, organised by Roger Philo, took place on 29th April; there were no entries for the 35 mile ride.

Due to bad weather, the **Bicycle Icycle**, organized by Mark Waters, was postponed to 22nd July to coincide with the Chairman's 70th birthday and a barbecue was held in his garden in fine weather at the end of the ride.

The three **Elstead Audax events** [Nearly Stonehenge 200k, Danebury 150k and Elstead 100k], organised by Nick Davison, were run in fine weather on Sunday 3rd June from Elstead Village Hall. There was a reduced entry of 78, but the 200k event remained the most popular with an increased entry of 42 riders. Eight club riders took part.

The **Tour of the Hills 115k Audax** organized by Mark Waters took place on Sunday in ideal conditions with a record entry of 180 riders including eight club riders. Cycling UK again chose the Tour of the Hills as one of their 'Challenge Ride Series' with an entry of seven riders from their Guildford office.

The 51km **Tour of the Greensand** was run concurrently and seven club members took part.

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 in March, and again proved very popular, with over 60 attendees. Club awards were presented. Sincere thanks go to John Murdoch for organising the event.

Wednesday Group 3 riders initiated a short road safety briefing before their rides with two of their members being road safety instructors. It is hoped that eventually this can be rolled out to other groups. Another innovation was the wearing of an orange gilet for the back marker to assist the ride leader with a large numbers of riders.

Unfortunately, one rider in Wednesday Group 3 fell from his bike suffered a head strike on the road after hitting a pothole near Churt. Fortunately experienced medics were in the group, and he received immediate professional attention, and was subsequently taken by ambulance to hospital. Thankfully, the fall did not result in any long-term injuries, but it sparked a debate on the wearing of helmets and the committee issued a strong recommendation for all members to wear helmets on club rides.

A photo competition was held yielding a large range of entries, and the winning photo will be revealed at the AGM.

The implementation of the EU Data Protection Regulations occupied the committee this year resulting in a circular being sent out to the membership requesting their approval for our holding of personal information on a database. With members' approval, ride leaders have access to mobile phone numbers as well as email addresses for ride safety reasons.

The Midweek Wayfarers have successfully adopted WhatsApp as a very helpful messaging service for communications associated with their rides.

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))

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 March:

<i>Bill Inder Trophy</i>	Best Sunday attendance:	<i>Clive Richardson</i>
<i>George Alesbury Tankard</i>	Best Wednesday attendance:	<i>John Child/Neil Eason</i>
<i>Keith Parfitt Memorial Pot</i>	For organising and helping at events:	<i>TBA</i>
<i>The Wooden Crank</i>	Most amusing blunder during the year	<i>TBA</i>
<i>The Golden Crank</i>	Recognition for Outstanding Contribution	<i>TBA</i>
<i>Audax Points Award</i>	Highest points earned over the year	<i>TBA</i>
