

CTC Two Mills

Secretary's report to be presented at AGM 18th October, 2011

A highlight for the year 2010/11 was the nomination of the group secretary for CTC national volunteer of the year award. Nominations came from CTC members and member groups, the winners were selected by CTC Council and the awards were presented at the Annual Dinner on 14 May 2011 in Weymouth. I came away in second place overall.

The group has enjoyed a full programme of activities, including:

- A led cycle ride every Sunday, usually from Eureka café and ranging from the harder 'A' grade, to the easier paced C. We have visited new venues and welcomed new leaders.
- Bicycle Belles rides for women once a month on a Saturday morning. The popularity continues as does the funding. This year, we were very pleased to receive a grant from the Rural West Area Partnership Board which is funded by NHS Western Cheshire and Cheshire West and Chester Council. In June, six of our Belles travelled to Clun, Shropshire to spend a weekend cycling with the Fabulous Ladies of Chester
- Tuesday Evening Cyclists who met every week from beginning of May through to end of August in ever increasing numbers. So much so that I am not to advertise! The summer rides operate as a separate group affiliated to CTC
- Treasure Hunt held on the evening of 21st June in poor weather but still attracted 30+ participants including several visitors from North Wales
- Early Season Tourist Trial held 17th April. Once again, volunteers from this group organised the popular 50 mile circuit on behalf of Chester and North Wales CTC. 166 cyclists rode on the day, the largest number to-date. Two Mills retained a share of the profits from the event.
- A short cycle ride held 21st August, designed to encourage newcomers and returners. Our own catering team served an excellent picnic in the grounds of a farm at Guilden Sutton.
- Evening meal held 5th March at the Grange, Thornton Hough. Lunch held on 27th March at Cheshire Cat pub, Christleton.
- The group has promoted cycling and CTC at events throughout the year – Chester Cycling Demonstration Town, Wirral Bikeathon, Liverpool Chester Bike Ride, Health and Wellbeing promotions at Ellesmere Port and Neston. We have invested in a large flag to fly at our stall and leaflet dispensers.
- Semaine Federale at Flers in Normandy, 31st July to 7th August. 18 members made the annual trip to France. Unfortunately, we had a poor campsite and days and days of rain. The DVD records a happier rally experience.

Throughout the year, Two Mills has supported the wider activities of Chester and North Wales including regular attendance at committee meetings, articles for the *Link* magazine and website. In June and again in August, I travelled to London to meet with other CTC group representatives and officers. We have worked together to improve national structures and policies. Our group has submitted responses to local issues affecting cyclists; for example, Wirral's Speed Review and the Local Transport Plan. We have a presence at the Cycle Forum organised by Wirral Council.

52 members have registered Two Mills as their main CTC group. Jill will report on membership and ride issues in more detail at our AGM. Andy will advise you of our healthy finances. It remains for me to thank the many volunteers who have helped to make the past year such a success.

Janet Gregory