

## Two Mills (Wirral) part of Cycling UK

**Secretary's report to be presented at AGM held 7.30pm 1<sup>st</sup> November, 2018, at Lever Club, The Pavilion, Greendale Rd, Birkenhead, Wirral CH62 4XB**

Two Mills (Wirral) is a recognised member group of Cycling UK. Our postcode areas cover the whole of Wirral including Neston, Ellesmere Port and parts of Chester. We do have individual members who live outside of those boundaries.

Highlights of the year:

- Your rides committee met twice during the year (in November and May) to draft the weekly Sunday rides programme. We welcomed Chris Smith to that group alongside longer standing members. Currently, there are 36 members of our group registered as ride leaders. We thank each and every one of those volunteers for giving their time and expertise to lead you during the past year. New GDPR (General Data Protection Regulations) have meant some changes to the way we communicate with you and hold personal details.
- Our women's group, the Wirral Bicycle Belles, continue to meet every month on Saturday morning at Port Sunlight for short, introductory rides. On average, 20 women join those rides. There are regular faces but each month we welcome newcomers' thanks in part to the new glossy flier that Jane Marshall kindly put together. 16 Belles enjoyed their first weekend away cycling Bay Cycle Way which hugs the coast for 80 miles from Barrow-in-Furness, through Morecambe and Lancaster, to the canal port of Glasson. And all in glorious sunshine. Thank you Janet Atherton. I think there is a desire for more of the same next year. Several of our volunteers helped with an extra celebratory bike ride on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> August as part of Cycling UK Women's Festival using the Wirral Circular Trail. Again, it was extremely popular with both seasoned club riders and complete beginners.
- Early Season Challenge Ride took place on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> March, 50 miles or 50 km route centred on Farndon Sports and Social Club. It is the key annual fundraiser for our group. This year, amongst the 200+ participants, we welcomed Dan Joyce, editor of *Cycle* who gave us a positive write-up in the magazine. The date for next year's event is Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April.
- We have arranged bulk orders of Two Mills group jersey both summer and winter style kit. Your committee agreed generous subsidies which we feel is money well spent when members are seen riding together both locally and much further afield.
- Two Mills members regularly support Chester and North Wales CTC events alongside our own busy rides programme. A large number attended CUK Birthday Rides held this year at Yarnfield, Staffordshire. We and Wednesday Riders also enjoyed a cycle tour in the Isle of Man in July.
- It was particularly pleasing to see Chris Harris recognised amongst CUK volunteer awards announced at the annual national club get together in

Harrogate, 6<sup>th</sup> October. Winning Exceptional Individual Cycling Group, for his growth of the Tuesday Evening Cyclists who meet at Willaston during the summer months. Over 100 people join those weekly rides – splitting up in to smaller, manageable numbers, of course! Read more [here](#). Eureka Cyclists café, which is our groups' regular meeting place, also won Lifetime Achievement. Known to many as the Mills, it has been serving cyclists since 1929.

- Your committee has met formally during the year to steer arrangements. At our last AGM, we agreed to expand membership to include our social secretary and welfare officer which has helped to bring fresh ideas. Our Chair, Brian, has represented us at Chester and North Wales CTC committee meetings. Two Mills again gave £200 towards our continued presence on Chester and North Wales website.
- David Collinson has when he can written reports to help promote our Sunday cycle rides which Glennys has uploaded to the website. Chris Lamb has kindly done similar using Facebook.
- Volunteers from this group have helped me to promote cycling and Cycling UK at a variety of local events including: Wirral Bikeathon 10<sup>th</sup> June; New Ferry Butterfly Park open day 6<sup>th</sup> May; regular learn to cycle sessions for families with young children held at Port Sunlight River Park and funded as part of CUK Big Bike Revival.
- Peter Williams attends monthly meetings of Chester Cycle Campaign. He also represents you at the Active Travel Forum hosted by Wirral Council. We congratulate him for working with Highways England to see significant improvement this year to the junction of A540 with Welsh Road at Two Mills.

Janet Gregory, Secretary CTC Two Mills (Wirral), part of Cycling UK

16<sup>th</sup> October, 2018

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