

Believe it or not, we seem to be a "hardy bunch," as I have already had this year Answer Cards to validate despite the so called 'Beast from the East.' One quest follower even sent me a postcard from a tour of the Isle of Man, where she comments that it might not have been the best month to choose for cycle touring (February) (only one fine day!) Incidentally, many many thanks to all who either sent notes with their answer cards, letters or e'mails. Last year we made 2734 (2016, 2678) visits to checkpoints, and so far 229 this year.

So, here's looking forward to a new year's re-awakening of the sport we all enjoy, and many, many more miles a-wheel.

Jeff.

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## Some practical stuff:

### Data Protection

As you will know, data protection is becoming increasingly complex with the introduction of GDPR (General Data Protection Regulations) which come into force in May. This will change the way Cycling UK can communicate with all our members and volunteers, including how we handle the data of BCQ participants. We are currently consulting with external experts in this field to see what changes we should take, reviewing our BCQ processes to ensure we are totally compliant and have a really smooth and efficient system in place for you. Sarah Merrington at Cycling UK Head Office can be contacted if you want more information about this on [sarah.merrington@cyclingsuk.org](mailto:sarah.merrington@cyclingsuk.org) and we will include some more details in the next issue of Quester.

*(ps. Jeff. never passes your personal data to anyone, for any reason, (with the rare sole exception of occasions when there are confirmations required in respect of the award of a medal).*

### Checkpoints:

Accidentally, when some-one submitted a (previous) T.E.A. Answer Card, last year we found a previously unknown checkpoint, so you may get a glimpse of the hidden side of running the Quest and the task of Jeff. in holding it all together, so please do let us know if a checkpoint you visit, isn't all "it is listed/seen to be." -- At the very least that highly secret document known as "The Answer Book," can be amended to reflect changes/discoveries, but more importantly we want to make sure that you the participant have a positive experience in following the Quest!

### The Future and News:

In a previous edition we hinted at two future developments, ie. A possible Mobile App of the Question Book, and, a possible new award, "The Compass Award." The person looking into these at Headquarters has left Cycling UK staff, so work here has stalled. Sorry but it is a case of "await further developments/thoughts."

(Over)

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### Answer Cards for Validation and Checkpoint problems to:

Jeffrey. R. Eaves

68, Sherrard Close, Whissendine, Oakham Rutland LE15 7HE Tel 01664 474 454 (sorry, no mobile signal),

e'mail: [jeffreaveas456@btinternet.com](mailto:jeffreaveas456@btinternet.com)

Our Volunteer Development Team at Cycling UK has a new member, so a warm welcome to Gjoril Berg who will be working with Sarah Merrington. Claire Ellis left Cycling UK in mid march for pastures new.

Ken. Phillips, Nigel Gooch, Wendy Carruthers and Stuart McEachan have sent in Answer Cards for their first times, and we are pleased to have you join us – Wishing you happy and safe cycle-touring.

Jeff. and radio signals: In December it was announced that Rutland has the worst Mobile Radio signal in the country – at best only 30% of the population getting over 3 gig speeds, (many including Jeff. - nothing at all). Hopefully about now a new local transmitter installed in Whissendine Church Tower will come into use. (Good job that Jeff is not keen on using his 2 mobiles!)

Thanks to Mark Waters again for working on the up-dating of our Website – we are getting there!

Those who have had the first of the New Certificates, have written to say they want the set! They feature pictures of checkpoints around the country and islands (Central, North, East, South, West) with maps on the Regional ones.

We have a **NEW MEDAL**. Stocks of the old Trophies have been exhausted so as a replacement Claire Ellis at Cycling UK has designed a new supersized **PLATINUM MEDAL**, for us. *Many thanks, Claire.*

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**Ideas -** . Work continues on a mobile 'phone downloadable Question Book -though some question if it will be acceptable or is needed (but see earlier).

#### **Extracts from Jeff's postbag -**

Many, many thanks for all your notes/letters to Jeff. Makes my job so much more worthwhile and keeps me longing for those warmer touring days. Note Jacqui's comment in the opening paragraph!

#### **MAJOR COUNTY CHANGES –**

For those considering a visit to **54 South Lanarkshire** and **56 Strathclyde** please note with immediate effect we are making changes, (See Updates). One checkpoint is being abandoned after (now) yearly problems. A new checkpoint has been identified, but the BCQ county boundary here-about is not straight forward so we are making things a little simpler, even though one checkpoint seemingly changes counties! For a short period we will accept ANY TWELVE of the THIRTEEN Checkpoints, (including the now abandoned one), providing you visit any DIFFERENT SIX in EACH county. *This is the first major change in eight years of the present version of the Quest!*

MANY thanks to David from nearby Ayr, (club member and Quester) for help in resolving the problem.

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*Each year during March, the Validator has taken it upon himself to look at all aspects of the Quest, and where necessary revising documents, (eg. The Answer Book or Leader Boards and a yearly cumulative listing of changes), to reflect the current working of the Quest.*

**You, yourself** might find it advantageous to look at our Web Pages for that area you might be visiting this year, just in-case anything might have significantly changed there.

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**Promoted and supported by –**

**Cycling UK, Parklands, Ralton Road, Guildford, Surrey GU2 9JX**

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