

Photos by Allan Luxton and Edward Shirley



CTC'S 134TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

FIVE HUNDRED CTC members attended the Birthday Rides at Ellesmere College in Shropshire this August, to enjoy a week of cycling and mark the anniversary of CTC's founding in 1878. Predictable wet weather for 2012 meant that the traditional Birthday Tea and cake cutting had to be held inside, but there was plenty of opportunity to explore the quiet lanes of the Welsh Borders.

For the first year, gpx files for the daily rides were offered alongside printed route sheets, and digital versions of both were emailed to participants beforehand so that they could plan their days. The route instructions were supplemented by guide-book-style information on the local area.

The rides ranged from under 40km (25 miles) to more than 300km (186 miles). All were very popular, due not just to the scenery but the lack of traffic of the local roads. The only downside was that cafés were further apart! Twenty-seven cyclists took a coach trip to Plowden in the south of Shropshire, making their way back to the college



venue via the Long Mynd or the Stiperstones.

Social occasion

The social events of the week, which ran from 13-19 August, benefited from the fact that everyone was on the same site. Campers and caravanners were on the college grounds and those who chose indoor accommodation were in the college buildings.

Evening entertainment included a jazz band and a final night ceilidh. Ken Knight gave a presentation of old slides, which he'd digitised, showing Shropshire CTC members from 1928 to the 1950s. He was afterwards presented with a Certificate of Merit by CTC Council Chairman David Cox.

On the Friday afternoon, there was a ride through Ellesmere by about 350 CTC members. This was organised and marshalled by the Ellesmere Chamber of Commerce. It was a great spectacle, with local residents and businesses waving and cheering us on our way.

This was followed by the Birthday Tea, where a presentation was made to Ted King, a former long-serving President of the Club.

The Birthday Rides were organised by CTC Cycling Holidays and Tours with help from local CTC members. The coordinator was Peter Mathison who thanks all those CTC members who helped, as well as college staff and the Chamber of Commerce members.

- 1 The cake was cut by Chairman David Cox, assisted by the youngest and oldest attendees
- 2 The Welsh Borders provided miles of lightly trafficked lanes
- 3 Former CTC President Ted King's long CTC service was formally recognised by Chairman David Cox
- 4 All guests stayed at Ellesmere College
- 5 CTC Chief Executive Gordon Seabright attended the traditional Birthday Tea



Doors open at Dalby Forest

THE OFFICIAL opening of the Dalby Bike Barn in North Yorkshire's Dalby Forest is on Saturday 13 October. To mark the occasion there will be a mini cycling exhibition called Dalby 13. It's a chance to get a sneak preview of 2013 off-road and on-road bikes and accessories. Brands exhibiting include Fox, Lezyne, 661, Hope, Lapierre, DT Swiss, SRAM, Exposure, Scott, Teva, Shimano, Maxxis, Osprey, North Face, Santa Cruz and of course Pace. Demo bikes will be available.

CTC will be on hand offering free taster courses, and cycling teams and cycling personalities will also be in attendance. Keep up to date with what's going on by following Dalby Bike Barn on Facebook and Twitter (search for 'Dalby Bike Barn' on either site). You can also get details from dalbybikebarn.co.uk

The exhibition is free, although if you drive into Dalby Forest there is a fee for using the toll road.



(Top) The drop over Worry Gill is very much optional (Above) There's a big fleet of hire bikes available at the Dalby Bike Barn

SIGN UP FOR CYCLECLIPS

CTC's free weekly email newsletter: send your CTC membership no. to membership@ctc.org.uk

5

Photos: Joolize Dymond

(Below) Riders on the CTC Phil Liggett Challenge Ride and Sportive, which this year took place on 19 August (Right) Le Col bib tights and winter jersey that you could win – see below

Photo: Phil O'Connor



WORCESTER COURSE

TWO HUNDRED and seventy cyclists tackled the toughest Peak District road climbs on 19 August as they took part in the Phil Liggett CTC Challenge Ride and Sportive. Two weeks later, 120 cyclists were in Clitheroe for the Witch's Curse Sportive, the penultimate event in CTC's sportive calendar.

The final event is the Tour of Worcester on 14 October. There are two routes: 92 miles and 60 miles. Each sets off from Worcester racecourse, initially following the route of the 2007 Tour of Britain. Some extra bits have been added, however, such as Stanhope Bank before Tenbury Wells and – for those who want to do it – the 1-in-4 ascent of Wynniatt's Way.

Winter gear up for grabs

Entries are open at ctcchallengerides.co.uk, while on-the-day entries are available for a £5 surcharge. There's a £10 discount for CTC members and any group of four can enter for

£60. The routes are fully marked and have feed stops, on-course support including spare wheels, and a hot meal at the finish.

The Tour of Worcester is being supported by Le Col clothing. To celebrate this partnership, we're giving away a Le Col 2012 B3 Winter Jacket worth £249.99 and Le Col Bib Tights worth £159.99 – so you'll be able to carry on getting the miles in over winter without worrying when the temperature drops.

Le Col clothing is both technical and fashionable. From the stitch to the cut, to the fabric and design, every detail has been hand chosen to perform at its peak. Each garment design has undergone over 10,000 miles of continuous R&D before being released to the customer, making a range of clothing which provides a quality experience to the wearer in every way. 'We feel we have created clothing that you will want to wear and be seen wearing,' they say. [Find out more at lecol.net](http://lecol.net)

NEWS IN BRIEF

► CTC AGM 2013

Next year's CTC AGM and National Dinner will take place at Guisborough Hall in East Cleveland on 11 May. For the first time this will be combined with a Member Groups Conference, which will take place ahead of the AGM at the same venue. This will be an opportunity for different member groups to share ideas and solutions. The AGM itself will be less formal than in previous years and will conclude with a Q&A session. Further details and booking form will follow in the next magazine. On the Sunday morning, CTC Teesside will lead rides into the hilly 'Heartbeat' country and out towards the coast, while mountain bikers can take advantage of the trails in Guisborough Forest right outside the hotel. Visitors staying longer are also welcome to join CTC Teesside's other weekly rides – details of which are at communigate.co.uk/ne/ctctsda.

► END OF SUMMERTIME CHALLENGE RIDE

On 28 October, Stevenage CTC is again running its 'Emitremmus Desrever' ride to mark the end of British summertime. There are two rides: a 101km route that last year attracted 457 entries, and a shorter 'Emit Lite' route of 67km. Emitremmus is an audax event and part of the CTC Tourist Competition. Entries in advance are £6 (£2 discount for CTC and AUK members). For more information, visit the website stevenagectc.org.uk.

► NEW FOREST SUCCESS

The New Forest Cycling Week 2012 at Avon Tyrrell Manor attracted around 200 cyclists, many of them family cyclists. Some were newcomers, others regulars from Chippenham Wheelers or East Sussex CTC. Events included daily rides as far afield as the Isle of Wight, a visit to Calshot velodrome, children's cycling skills sessions, raft building, a barbecue, and more. The August weather was bright and sunny for the whole week, in stark contrast to the rest of the summer. Next year's event will run from Friday 26 July to Friday 2 August. For details, see newforestallycc.org.uk.

HOW TO ENTER

Complete the coupon below, or a photocopy, and send it to: Le Col Prize Draw, CTC, Parklands, Railton Road, Guildford, GU2 9JX.



Name

Membership no

Address

Daytime telephone number:

Email:

Preferred size: **Jacket:** S M L XL **Bib tights:** S M L XL

I do not wish to receive offers from Le Col.

I do not wish my details to be passed onto any third party.

CTC PRIZE DRAW RULES

1. This is a prize draw open to CTC members. One entry per person. 2. Entries must be received by 31 October. 3. The draw will be made on 7 November. 4. The winner will be notified by email or telephone and may be required to take part in publicity. 5. There is one prize of two garments as described, donated by Le Col. 6. No cash alternative. 7. Clothing sizes subject to availability. 8. Employees of CTC, James Pembroke Publishing, Le Col and their agents cannot enter. 9. Entry coupons will become property of Le Col after the draw, unless indicated otherwise on the coupon.