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cycling
UK

CTC Coventry - www.coventryctc.org.uk

CTC Coventry & CTC Rugby - Weekly Bulletin

18th August 2021

This week

Thanks to Alan Jelley for organising Drive & Ride last Sunday to extend our range without having to do an overly long ride and also thanks for sending me this report:

Having been on a few Intermediate rides earlier in the year I was struck by just how excited and positive the riders were at how they had got to be able to cycle up to 40 miles, and how much they wanted to explore the countryside. However, I did feel a certain frustration for them in that the implied 20 mile radius for the rides from WMP meant that some fantastic areas were not going to be rideable for them - and that simply saying, "go on the longer rides", would not be an option.

The concept of a 'Drive & Ride' format is intended to open up those interesting outer parts of our cycling region whilst maintaining the 30 to 40 mile ride distance.

This Sunday was the first time we tried it with the allure of Edgehill and Burton Dassett, done with gentle ascents, being the draw.

Initial signs were good with a very positive 10 people signing up to join Alan to ride out from the Wood Street Car Park in Southam at 10am, aiming for Cropredy, Warmington, Edgehill, Arlescote, Farnborough, Burton Dassett, Bishops Itchington and back to Southam.

Due to an unfortunate incident on the drive to Southam, Lorraine and Janet were not able to ride, so 8 of us set off for the Mulberry Café in Cropredy some 13 miles from Southam.

With stops in the beautiful village of Warmington and to admire the scenery on the eastern side of Edghill we arrived at the Castle Inn...all new experiences for many of the group.



Cake in Cropredy

Stopping on the gentle ascent to the southern side of Edgehill

What can you see from Burton Dassett?

...but maybe not everyone was impressed

After the exhilaration of the descent down Sun Rising Hill we headed out to Farnborough to take the long ride up to Burton Dassett and a good look around... once again a new experience for many of the group.

And finishing up by taking the gated road from Knightcote to Bishops Itchington on a very contented final ride back to Southam after 40 miles.

Was it a success - did it achieve its aims ?

- 1. Everybody enjoyed the ride - the distance, the speed, and stopping to look at interesting 'stuff'.*
- 2. They definitely found it was a way to experience cycling in parts of the country that would normally be beyond their limits.*
- 3. They would like to do it again... but probably on a monthly basis not a weekly occurrence.*
- 4. They agreed that the routes should not exceed the limits of what the long rides would normally do, i.e. we should stay within our 'region'.*

Where now? Alan has pencilled in another Drive & Ride for the 19th September meeting up at Wellesbourne and cycling out deeper into the beautiful Cotswolds to Hidcote, Chipping

Campden and Shipston on Stour. This will confirm if the concept really has a place in our itinerary.

Additionally, a number of people expressed support for doing the Train & Ride proposed by Mike Thomas.

What next?

The annual **Meriden Service** to commemorate cycling servicemen who gave their lives in the two wars is celebrating its centenary this year on **5th September**. This is a National Cycling UK event which we will be fully supporting and will have rides from the War Memorial Park to the service. More details about the service can be found at <https://www.cyclinguk.org/event/meriden-cyclists-memorial-service-2021>

The **100-km Centenary Challenge Ride** will take place on 12th September, but I still need someone who can fit a bike in the back of their car and be prepared to spend the day on standby. Hopefully your services will not be required, but if the phone rings you will be asked to go and pick up a stranded cyclist. There is no requirement to deal with medical, or mechanical emergencies just to ferry someone home. Fuel expenses will, of course, be refunded. The harsh reality is that without this facility anyone needing a motor assist home will have to make their own arrangements.

The route goes into Northamptonshire to the east of our area and will take you along some delightful lanes and gated roads, so please give it a go and I know you will not be disappointed. Just ask me for an entry form by emailing me at Chairman@CoventryCTC.org.uk.

Also on the horizon is the **Centenary Dinner** to be held at Hearsall Golf Course on Friday 1st October. The booking system is open, which works by emailing Keith Jeacock: k.jeacock@btinternet.com, he will book you in and send you an email with details of how to pay - it's pretty good value at £25. Full details can be read on the website: <https://coventryctc.org.uk/club-centenary-dinner>



A map reading moment from pre-gps days.

Air Ambulance Collection

The total collected so far for the Warwickshire Air Ambulance has now passed the £1400 mark. This has exceeded our expectations and we are delighted with the result, which includes the proceeds from the book sale at the BBQ and some other donations. There will be a formal presentation to the Air Ambulance at the Celebration Dinner in October and in the meantime we will continue to ask for a voluntary contribution of £1 from everyone on our rides.

Rides this week

Booking rides: for the time being we are continuing to ask riders to contact the leader by the preceding Friday to reserve a place on their chosen ride. Please check on the **meeting point**, which may be different from what you have become used to.

Saturday 21st August

08.30hrs Helen Tolley will lead a trial ride for the 100-km Centenary Challenge Ride ride from the WMP, Coat of Arms Bridge Road car park. Please bring your own refreshments and email Helen: women@coventryctc.org.uk to book your place and get full details of the ride.

Sunday 22nd August

09.00hrs Andy Gilbert will lead a ride in excess of 60-miles from the WMP, Tennis Court Café to an as yet unspecified destination. Please email Andy: andrewgilbert100772@gmail.com to book your place and get full details of the ride.

09.15hrs Paul Whateley will lead a 30-mile ride from WMP Park & Ride to Lavender Hall Fishery. Please email Paul: paul.whateley@me.com to book your place and get full details of the ride.

09.30hrs Vicky Palethorpe will lead a 50-mile ride from the WMP, Park & Ride Facility to Draycote Water and Wellesbourne. This is a step up ride in preparation for the 100-km Challenge event. Please email Vicky: secretary@coventryctc.org.uk to book your place and get full details of the ride.

Tuesday 24th August

10.15hrs Bob Tinley will lead a 30-mile from Lil Green's, Kenilworth to Snitterfield for a picnic lunch. Please email Bob: chairman@coventryctc.or.uk to book your place and get full details of the ride.

Thursday 26th August

18.30hrs Helen Tolley will lead a ride from Allesley Park Car Park for men and women to Corley. Please bring your own refreshments and email Helen: Women@CoventryCTC.org.uk to book your place and get full details of the ride.

News

HS2

The latest news can be viewed here: <https://hs2inwarwicks.commonplace.is/news>

Reminders

1. Put the Meriden Memorial Service 5th September in your diary. <https://www.cyclinguk.org/event/meriden-cyclists-memorial-service-2021>
2. Enter the 100-km Centenary Ride 12th September. Chairman@CoventryCTC.org.uk
3. Volunteer to run an assistance vehicle for the 100-km Centenary Ride. Chairman@CoventryCTC.org.uk
4. Make a booking for the Centenary Dinner 1st October. k.jeacock@btinternet.com

Where are we?

Here is the answer to last week's puzzle plus another teaser from Dave Hearn:

The Robert Falcon Scott window in St Peter's Church at Binton. In 1908 he married Kathleen Bruce, who was the sister of the Rector, the Reverend Lloyd Harvey Bruce. They had visited shortly before Scott set off for his ill-fated South Pole expedition.



There are a number of restored cider presses around the country, where is this one please?