

we are
cycling
UK

CTC Coventry - www.coventryctc.org.uk

CTC Coventry & CTC Rugby - Weekly Bulletin

15th September 2021

What next?

The last big Centenary Event this year is the **Centenary Dinner** to be held at Hearsall Golf Course on Friday 1st October. It will be a celebration of the Club weathering the ups and downs of the last 100-years and perhaps, more importantly, a celebration of how the Club has gone from strength to strength in the last couple of difficult years and is looking forward to a thriving future.

In addition to enjoying a high quality meal, we have two special guests - Sarah Mitchell the new Chief Executive of Cycling UK and Adam Tranter, Coventry's "cycling mayor". There will also be the auction of a painting of Hatton Locks by Martin Lee to add to our Air Ambulance fund, which will be formally presented to the Air Ambulance Service.

It would be a shame to let an excellent and relaxing evening slip by, so please make sure you have booked your places (partners are very welcome) 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>.

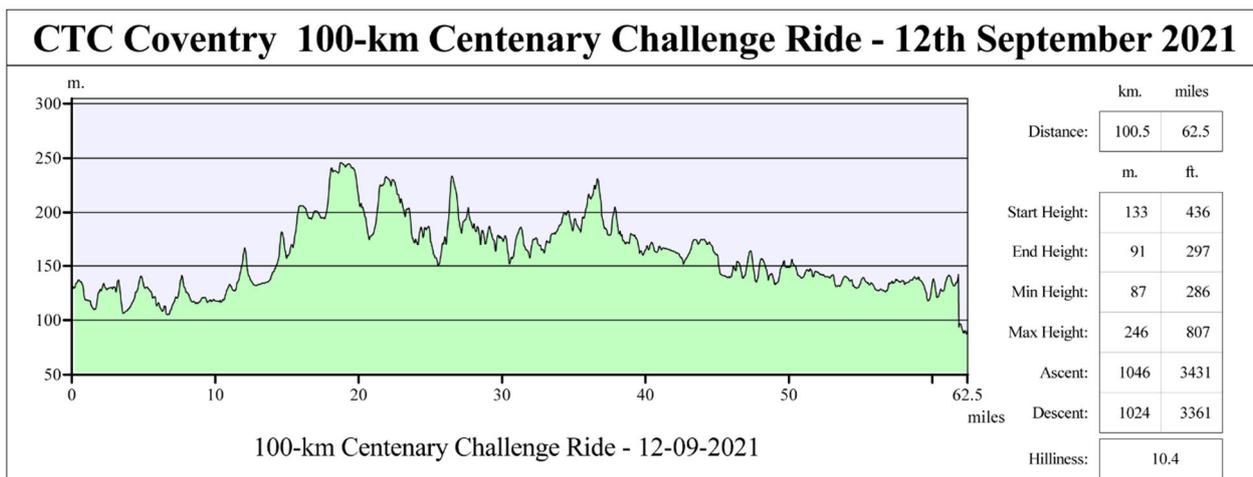
The deadline for booking has been extended a bit, so there is still time for you to make a last minute booking.

In case you have any worries, the usual and full covid precautions will be in place and table service only will be in force.

Recently

Sunday 7th September was the **100th anniversary of the Meriden Memorial service** to commemorate cycling servicemen who gave their lives in the two wars. I have been sent a nice video of the event by Geoff Meade: [Meriden 100th Memorial Cyclists' Service 2021](#)

Last Sunday was our **100-km Centenary Challenge Ride**, with 42-riders starting at War Memorial Park and lurching to breakfast at Long Itchington, lunch at Badby, tea at Clifton-upon-Dunsmore and finishing at The Open Arms in Cheylesmore. Yes it is now confirmed that CTC stands for **C**offee, **T**ea and **C**akes. The Harvester Inn gave us bacon sandwiches to die for; the Women's Institute provided a very efficient lunch service when we enjoyed a variety of quiches and salad, followed by apple pie and cream; we enjoyed home baked cakes at Clifton; and a choice of drinks at The Open Arms - several celebratory gin & tonics could be seen amongst the happy finishers.



I nearly forgot, we did a bit of cycling as well - here is the profile of the route, which I can now reveal and admit that it had rather more climbing than we normally do on a Sunday Ride. The weather was perfect and we rode in groups each with its own a leader and backmarker, so everyone was looked after during the day. At the top of the significant climb up Keys Lane in Priors Marston we had great views over the Warwickshire Feldon, went past the source of the River Leam and then enjoyed the gated road from Helidon to Lower Catesby before arriving in the delightful village of Badby with its thatched cottages and the added attraction of dead-heating with their scarecrow festival.

After lunch we rode through the attractive Northamptonshire village of Newnham to be followed by the biggest hill of the day. This was followed by some very narrow, gravelly lanes - the nearest we got to off-roading - some gated roads to Winwick and onto a welcome tea break at Clifton.

It was a real pleasure to get so many riders together after such a long period of restrictions, although the groups remained separate throughout the ride. The Open Arms made us very welcome at the end of the ride, where we had a bar tab - it speaks volumes for the quality of the day's catering that no-one chose the option of tea and a pudding, but had something less solid!

It should be noted that we had a team of 28-helpers to make this ride possible for 42-people - they managed the check-in at the start and the check-out at the end; were on standby

during the day in case anyone needed motorised assistance; booked the watering holes; arranged the catering; baked a fabulous selection of cakes for the Clifton tea stop; took photographs to make an excellent record of the day; and, of course, the leaders and back markers who looked after the groups of riders. My heartfelt thanks go to everyone in the team but, in particular, thanks go to Dave Hearn who made all the arrangements with the Long Itchington Harvester, Clifton village hall and catering at Badby village hall - it was by no means certain that we would be able to go ahead with the event.



The Harvester;
Badby scarecrows;
Cakes at Clifton; Bridge Cottage, Winwick; Andy at the finish.



War Memorial Park; tea at Clifton
On the way to breakfast
Winwick and Long Itchington



War Memorial Park and Clifton;
 Clifton and Mill Hill, Baginton;
 Keys Lane; lunch at Badby; tea at Clifton;
 Winwick

Rides this week

Sunday 19th September

09.00hrs Paul Whateley will lead an 86-mile ride from WMP, Coat of Arms Bridge Road based on the long ride of the Starley Sportive. Stops will be added with a picnic lunch at Alcester. Please email Paul: paul.whateley@me.com to book your place and get full details of the ride.

09.15hrs Terry Moles will lead a 26-mile ride from WMP, Park & Ride to Knowle with an option of an additional 5-miles. Please email Terry: 22tandn@gmail.com to book your place and get full details of the ride.

09.30hrs Ben Jackson will lead a 40-mile ride from WMP, Park & Ride to Coleshill and Sheldon Country Park. *Coventry to Coleshill & then the Kingfisher, River Cole & Sheldon Country Park greenway routes through east Birmingham. Optional Costa coffee stop available half way just a short detour off our route. The Kingfisher, River Cole & Sheldon Country Park greenway routes allow easy cycling through east Birmingham because they criss/cross many of the main roads on this side of the city.*

If you're cycling for pleasure &/or commuting from Coventry into Birmingham these routes can be handy & are largely paved tarmac. We'll leave Coventry via Coleshill to join the greenway in Chelmsley Wood, then to Small Heath before turning back towards Coventry. A short linking section of unpaved canal towpath near Small Heath will be used and also a gravel section near Hampton in Arden. Ben has done it all on 28mm road tyres. Please email Ben: jacksonb123@hotmail.co.uk to book your place and get full details of the ride.

Tuesday 21st September

10.15hrs Mike Thomas will lead a walk and ride from the Long Itch Diner with lunch at The Two Boats Inn, Long Itchington. *This will feature a WALK on the section of disused railway line arranged by Sustrans at Long Itchington. The 2hr walk starts at 11.00hrs and ends at the Two Boats. The object of the walk is to:*

- *See the Long Itchington section of disused railway line to be adopted as part of the Lias Line.*
- *Help capture wildlife on the network and begin plans for a community-led wildlife plan for this section of the network.*
- *Provide an opportunity to meet Carmen Szeto, the Project Manager for the Lias Line works and ask any questions.*
- *Show a CTC presence and hopefully a willingness for us to provide volunteers to assist with the project as on previous projects by planting trees and hedges.*

After the walk we can have lunch in the Two Boats, and Mike will lead a ride back to Coventry as necessary.

Please email Mike: mike999thomas@gmail.com to book your place and get full details of the ride.

Tours Next Year

We are hoping that the **Mallorca Holiday**, planned for this year will be able to proceed next year. Preliminary information can be found at: <http://coventryctc.org.uk/mallorca-2022-prospectus>

News

HS2

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

Campaigning

George Riches has put a new page on the website about the review of the Local Transport Plan for the area covered by Coventry, Solihull, Birmingham, Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall and Wolverhampton. <http://coventryctc.org.uk/re-imagining-transport>

A new edition of the **podcast dedicated to Active Travel, Streets Ahead** is out! It's about Driverless Vehicles; if they happen, how will they affect cycling?

<https://shows.acast.com/streets-ahead/episodes/the-robo-cars-are-coming>

As you can see from the link, there have been 30 episodes in the series so far. All co-hosted by Adam Tranter, Laura Laker and Ned Boulting.

Reminder

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:



This is Meriden, but two other local places that both claim to be the centre of England are Lillington in Royal Leamington Spa and Fenny Drayton.



This week's 'where is it' is again topical in its location. A clue is the connection in the name given to the last rider in the Tour de France and the position I (Dave) took on the 100-km ride last Sunday)... no more clues.

1. This octagonal grade 2 listed building stands at the edge of which Northamptonshire village?
2. What is it known as?