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CTC Coventry - www.coventryctc.org.uk

CTC Coventry & CTC Rugby - Weekly Bulletin

22nd 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 a special guest - Sarah Mitchell the new Chief Executive of Cycling UK (Adam Tranter, Coventry's "cycling mayor" who was going to address us has cancelled at the last moment). 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.

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 may still be 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

Sak Wathanasin sent me this report about the long ride **last Sunday**. This was the 2nd in a series (I hope) of urban adventures by Ben Jackson. There were only 2 of us, the early morning downpour putting people off. I was banking on the Met Office getting it right about the slow-moving eastbound band of rain, and that once past, it would be mostly dry. And so it turned out.

We headed through the usual lanes to Coleshill, by which time the sun had arrived and we had to take off some rain gear; I kept the waterproof socks on though. Then a bit of B-road over the M42 & M6, across the main road via a subway and, joy!, we were in Chelmsley Wood Country Park: cycleway, lots of green and even a lake with swans. The cycle path then followed the course of the River Cole, and if it wasn't for the hum of traffic and the sirens, you wouldn't know you were in a city.



At Small Heath we crossed the A45 using a traffic light-controlled crossing onto a path (still following the course of the river) alongside the dual carriageway that I must have driven along hundreds of times without ever noticing the path. We then turned onto the towpath of the canal, heading back towards Coventry. This was paved all the way and we only had to get off twice to get over those bridges with steps on them.

Then back across the A45, this time into Sheldon Country Park. The post-Sunday-lunch crowd had come out by then, so it was fairly busy, but we managed to find a bench facing one of Birmingham Airport's runways, and sat for a while watching the planes take off. Maybe I should have brought an anorak? We then carried on along the path back towards the A45. We had to follow a pretty bumpy, narrow path along the A45 for about half a mile before it opened out to a proper cycleway; if only they'd extended the cycleway a bit further.

Then towards Catherine de Barnes, Hampton in Arden and home. A most enjoyable day out along paths that I hadn't been on before.

On Tuesday the ride took a different form from usual - we met at the Long Itch Diner (haven't been there for a while) and met representatives from Sustrans who took us on a walk along the canal and along the old railway line towards Snowford. This is the route of the first phase of the Lias Line cycleway project on which construction is due to start soon. Sustrans and the local councils are very much aware of the conservation measures that need to be addressed on a project of this nature and are keen to demonstrate that the environment will have been improved by the completed project.



Iceland in 2016, near Reykjavik

Rides this week

Sunday 26th September

09.00hrs George Riches will lead a 70-mile ride from WMP, Park and Ride bus stop to Atherstone, Shackerstone and Broughton Astley. Bring a picnic lunch and there will be other

stops according to demand. Please email George: George.Riches@CoventryCTC.org.uk to book your place and get full details of the ride.

09.15hrs Alan Jelley will lead a 24-mile ride from WMP, Tennis Courts Café to Hunningham Hill Top Café - there will be a couple of bits of track and the route can be viewed at <https://cycle.travel/map/journey/262774>. Please email Alan: alan_jelley@outlook.com to book your place and get full details of the ride.

09.30hrs Mike Thomas is leading a train and bike ride. The original intention was to take the train to Northampton, but engineering works will only allow us to take bikes as far as Rugby. But never mind, this still allows us to have a 39 mile ride from Rugby Station going into the interesting area eastwards to Yelvertoft, then south to Crick and Ashby St Ledger before heading westwards to Draycote Water for lunch and heading back to Coventry. Meet at the WMP, Tennis court café. For full details email Mike: mike999thomas@gmail.com to book your place and get full details of the ride.

Tuesday 28th September

10.15hrs Bob Tinley will lead a 25-mile ride from La Delicia, Balsall Common to Umberslade, Espresso Farm. The distance includes return from lunch to Balsall Common. Please email Bob: Chairman@CoventryCTC.org.uk 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

Did you see

HQ roll of honour can be viewed at: <https://www.cyclinguk.org/cycling-uk-roll-honour> and includes a picture of **Mike Thomas** being presented with a lifetime appreciation award in 2019.

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.

Where are we?

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



This is The Lantern House in Badby and the last rider in the Tour de France is known as the 'Lanterne Rouge'.



The 100-km Challenge Ride passed through two villages with windmills, one with sails and one without. Both are now dwellings. I want to know:

1. Where is the windmill with sails and
2. Where is the windmill without sails.