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CTC Coventry - www.coventryctc.org.uk

CTC Coventry & CTC Rugby - Weekly Bulletin

20th October 2021

Recently

On Saturday Alan Jelly took a group to Sutton Park for an off-road ride. Libby sent me the following report: *We are often not aware of what is on our doorstep. Alan's introduction to the tracks and trails of Sutton Park was an eye opener. We spent 2 hours happily wandering through leafy lanes, muddy puddles, around ponds and over tree roots with barely any tarmac in sight. We circumnavigated the periphery of the park anticlockwise, before heading into the middle to the Bracebridge café for refreshment. A very different ride in good company. The sun was a bonus!*



The long ride on Sunday passed by Chesterton Windmill - I was sorry to see that it currently has no sails. When I got home I tried to find out what had happened to the sails without success. However, I found this picture of some repair works being carried out in 1949 - it was a bit shocking when you think how building sites are organised these days!

We also stopped for a cup of tea at a café in the craft centre on the eastern edge of Little Alne. The staff were very helpful and the quality of the cakes first class - a useful alternative to The Cowshed at Wootton Wawen.

What next?

The **next Clubroom on 2nd October** will start at 2000hrs at the Friends Meeting House in Hill Street, Coventry. It would be nice to see as many people gathering for an informal meeting as possible. Bob Tinley will present the second installment of "Pedalling back in time" when he looks back at highlights of several tours spanning the last 20-years.

Our **Christmas Dinner** will be held on Sunday 12th December at 1630hrs at Time for Tea near the Castle in Kenilworth. There will be some rides coordinating with the dinner - more details later. Please email Dave Hearn: davehearn56@gmail.com



A selection of pictures from Alan's off-road ride in Sutton Park last Saturday.

Rides this week

Remember that the **clocks go back at the end of the month** so now might be a good time to ensure that you have a set of working lights on your bike. Whilst we aim to finish our rides before lighting-up time, it is often sensible to show lights earlier in the day.

At the ride leaders meeting last night it was agreed that we would revert to our old arrangements on a Sunday - we will continue to have short, intermediate and long rides, but they will all start at the War Memorial Park, Park & Ride facility at the same time - 0915hrs. It will be nice to see everyone together again.

Also, we are now able to provide an online copy of our Rides Programme in the 'Whats On' section of the website so you can see well in advance what Rides, Events and Tours we are offering in the coming weeks. This is a link - <https://coventryctc.org.uk/rides-programme>. It should be understood that this is a work in progress document and will be subject to continuous amplification and change.

Sunday 24th October

09.15hrs at WMP, Park & Ride

Marina Friend will lead a **30-mile ride** from WMP to Coleshill for a picnic lunch (refreshments can be purchased from Costa Coffee nearby). Please email Marina: marinafriend@hotmail.co.uk if you want to join the ride and to get full details.

Andy Gilbert will lead a **42-mile ride** from WMP to Wedges Bakery for a fun ride. Please email Andy: andrewgilbert100772@gmail.com if you want to join the ride and to get full details.

Sak Wathanasin will lead a **65-mile ride** to Charlecote Garden Centre for coffee, Vegetable Matters for lunch and back to Coventry via Stratford for tea. Sak says: *We came across "Vegetable Matters" (<https://www.facebook.com/VegMatters1/>) during the 100-mile ride back in June, so it's time for a revisit.* Please email Sak: sak@wathanasin.me.uk if you want to join the ride and to get full details.

Tuesday 26th October

10.15hrs Nigel Hickman will lead a 33-mile ride from Badgers Café, Brandon Marsh to Catthorpe Manor Farm and back to Stretton-on-Dunsmore. Please email Nigel: 22tandn@gmail.com if you want to join the ride and to get full details.

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>

Alan Jelley is leading a **Peak District Trails Weekend** based on Hartington Youth Hostel on the weekend of 28-29 May 2022. You can view more details and how to book at: <https://coventryctc.org.uk/peak-district-trails-weekend-may-28th-29th>

News

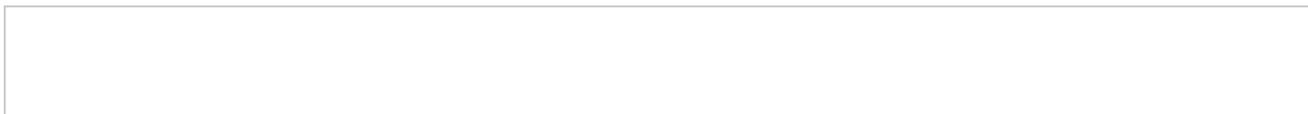
HS2

The latest news can be viewed here: <https://www.hs2.org.uk/in-your-area/local-community-webpages/hs2-in-warwickshire/>. Also, you can subscribe for updates at <https://engagement.hs2.org.uk/join-mailing-list/>

In particular HS2 reports: A new permanent roundabout at the junction of Fosse Way and Welsh Road, and a temporary roundabout at the junction of Fosse Way and Long Itchington Road (National Cycle Route 41), will help us keep local communities, farmers and businesses moving on an improved road network throughout HS2 construction and railway operation. LM has been building the scheme away from roads to reduce disruption, but our final work to 'tie in' the roundabouts and realigned roads needs to happen on the roads themselves – and we need to create safe working zones, keeping road users away from construction. We are due to close the Fosse Way for around 2.5 weeks from mid-November to early December 2021, and again for around 3.5 weeks from early February to early March 2022. <https://www.hs2.org.uk/work-items/road-closures-for-work-on-b4455-fosse-way-in-offchurch/>

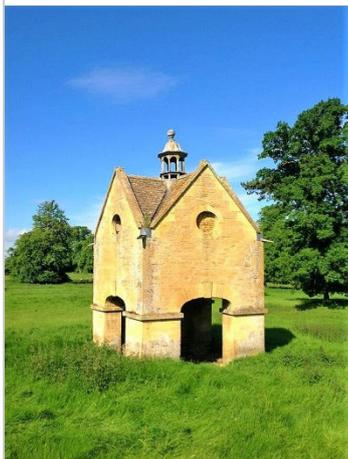
Construction has started on the Lias Line Cycleway

More information can be seen here: <https://www.sustrans.org.uk/find-a-route-on-the-national-cycle-network/lias-line>



Where are we?

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



This dovecote is in the grounds of the National Trust Property Chastleton House near Moreton-in-Marsh.



Here is a group in their Centenary jerseys outside the Transport Museum.

Question: In which year did the Transport Museum first open its doors?

GPS hints - episode 1

There is a growing population of gps units, in particular Garmin Edge devices, being used on our club runs and it has become evident to me that many people are not always getting the best out of them. I hope to be able to improve your confidence in the use of gps devices, but it's not going to be a quick process and we'll take it in small steps over several weeks. I will talk mainly about Windows PCs, Android phones and Garmin GPSs, but would be very pleased to receive any relevant information about Apple PCs, phones, or other GPSs.

I find my GPS is a very handy gadget for navigating and I also like to record mileages and the amount of climbing that I do. However, I wouldn't want anyone to feel they must have a GPS to take part in, or to lead our rides and it is important not to rely solely on technology that can trip you up in many ways – perhaps a flat battery, or something more techy. You should always have a paper map as a backup.

Our PCs use a plethora of different files and it's not always easy to see the difference between a spreadsheet file, a word-processor file, or a gpx file? In Windows Explorer, files are often shown with an icon at the beginning of its name, which belongs to the default application used to open the file, but do you always know what the icon represents?

Tip - I recommend that in the "View" tab of Explorer you enable "File name extensions" – now file names will be displayed with .xlsx, .docx, .gpx, etc. on the end, making it totally clear to see what the file is used for. This is particularly useful for gpx files as you will be using them in several different applications by the time we have finished.

Tip - how do I look at the route contained in a gpx file attached to an email?

On your Android phone:

- Load up Google Play Store and type “GPX Viewer” in the search box.
- Click on “Install” and wait for the process to complete.
- Go to your email and double-click the attached gpx file.
- You will be shown a list of apps you could use to open the file – select “GPX Viewer” and select “just once”. GPX Viewer will open showing the route on a map background and that’s all there is to it - without any extra complications.
- However, spend a bit of time looking at the app as there are other things you can do, like navigating a route and changing the mapping (I recommend CycLOSM). There is, of course, a paid Pro version, which will allow you to record routes, but none of this is necessary at this stage.

On your PC:

- Open the email containing the gpx file attachment and save the gpx file in a folder where you can find it again.
- In the url field of your web browser type: <http://gpxviewer.1bestlink.net/> and press “enter” - good idea to save the url as a "favourite" for future use.
- Press “Browse” and navigate to the gpx file you saved in the first step.
- Select the file and press “Open”, which will cause the route to be displayed on a map background.