

## CTC Coventry Women

### ZOOM Meeting June 21st 2021

#### Notes from discussion

**1. Welcomed:** Jill, Terry, Libby, Vicky, Annie, Marina, Marisa, Moe

**2. Bike Week Review.** Vicky: the 100 miles a week challenge was very attractive and encouraging. It involved 50 riders, including 15 riders who are not currently active club members or even non Cycling UK members from other clubs. Jill: 43 participants completed the challenge, including 15 women.

Vicky: The Sunday 100mi ride was also successful. Peggy and Elena rode 117 miles on the Cathedrals route. **Congratulations** on their achievement!

Marina: the Stoke Aldermoor rides attracted 4 new members. It was a challenging area of the city to work in. Many lessons have been learnt, including a necessity of early and wider advertising and publicity.

Vicky : Facebook is a valuable medium for advertising.

All 3 radio interviews with Vicky were very encouraging but its not clear if they actually attracted anyone

**Congratulations** to Terry and Vicky on completing the 7 days tour from York to Edinburgh!

#### Forthcoming events

### 3. Women's Festival of Cycling 18th July - 1st August 2021

There will be an Interview with Vicky about the Festival on BBC Cov and Warwickshire on 20th July!

A proposed programme has been discussed.

Rides to Fillongley BBQ 18 July. There will be a 30mi Women only ride with the BBQ stop at Fillongley. The short 20 mi ride will be a mixed group (lead by Helen) due to many leaders being involved with the setting up the event.

There are offers of midweek Evening rides (Thursdays) and Short rides ( Wednesdays) from the city centre, North and West of the city (Helen and Marina).

Discussion of the Challenge Ride between Coventry and Birmingham Cathedrals on 25th July. Riders of the shorter 25mi route will return back to Coventry by train (Libby to look at details of connecting the route with the train station). The rest of the participants will ride back to Coventry (Vicky to look at the return route).

Celebratory picnic 1st Aug. The originally proposed place at Lavender Hall Park was dismissed due to a lack of facilities and refreshment points. Kenilworth Abbey Fields have been chosen instead for a

joint picnic of 3 different lengths rides. (Jill, Marina and Terry to develop the routes and lead (+Vicky) Short, Intermediate and Long rides). This will be a “bring and share” picnic. Everyone is welcome to join.

The programme of the Festival to be finalised and published on CTC Coventry website by 1st July 2021.

**4. Women on tours. Discussion** Only women with partners went on the York tour, Why don't more women tour?

Time off work

Time from family

So many things could go wrong

What if I am at the back and hold people up

A choice of shorter and longer tours, centre based and riding on tours may attract more women

**5. How are we doing?**

Generally, all the Women Only rides are successful and popular: short and long, Sunday and midweek. There are many new members. The new members feel welcomed.

Booking a ride helps you to make the commitment and turn up on the day (for all club rides).

There might be a need for:

- Even shorter Short rides (5 - 10) miles
- Rides starting from various parts of the city, so the riders don't need to travel through the city to join the ride, OR rides with an additional pick -up point
- More detail of rider to ensure first timers are on the right route with respect to road surfaces, ride length and pace.

Marisa: Rides with stops at some points of interest (e.g historic places) could be more appealing.

**Action:** Ride leaders to try to develop and offer shorter routes, including routes from different starting points.

Plan a round the city route with several pick up points to include riders from different parts of the city

Consider cycling buddies where riders have particular access issues

There is a proposal of running a bike repair/maintenance shop during winter months. To be discussed and organised later in the year.

