

CTC-Cambridge AGM – 04 November 2018

RUNS SECRETARY REPORT

I am going to talk about two things today. I'll start with a quick summary of the year (a "runs run down" if you like). I'll then introduce some suggested topics for discussion over tea and beyond. These are ideas for possible changes next year.

Summary of the year: The membership secretary has made an interesting summary of all rides undertaken throughout the last year based on the Rider Registration Forms received. Many thanks to all our Ride Leaders for completing & returning this information. Data is Oct 2017 to end September 2018. The figures are all in my written report, but let me just summarise here.

	Riders	Rides	Ave
Sunday	401	41	9.8
Sunday pm	345	35	9.9
Saturday	277	26	10.7
Thursday Village	572	46	12.4
Thursday City	417	47	8.9
Wednesday	152	28	5.4
Special	22	2	11.0
TOTAL	2186	225	9.7

The figures show that Thursday, Saturday and Sunday rides all get an average of 10-12 riders per ride. Wednesday evenings average a bit less. The averages probably hide some variations between rides but overall this is a good result and I'd like to thank all the leaders who have made these rides a success. A particular thankyou to the select group of regular leaders who "go the extra 1000 miles" and have each led more than 10 rides this year.

I would like to encourage more people to lead some rides. We struggle to get enough leaders, especially for the Sunday rides. But we are managing to get a leader for most rides.

The Thursday rides have been slightly modified following our trials of some changes. The first trial of different speed rides and different start times was not popular and were not adopted. But the second trial of split coffee or split lunch stops seems to have worked well. The combined group is often too large for some stops and the split stops have reduced queues and delays at these smaller stops. So we will continue with split stops.

Our first "Festival of Cycling" ride in association with Camcycle went well. The weather was poor so we only got a modest number of riders. But we got some good feedback from them. It was a good learning exercise and it should be easier next time. Thanks due to the CTC team (Ian W, Ian B, John S and myself) we will likely try and do this again next year.

====

I am now going to introduce four topics for discussion at this AGM. We don't have time for a proper discussion now, but I would welcome discussion over tea or after this meeting.

CTC-Cambridge AGM – 04 November 2018

Topic 1: Asking leaders to book the coffee and lunch stops.

Topic 2: Having fewer of the longer Sunday rides (both day and afternoon).

Topic 3: Finding a new starting point for the Thursday village rides.

Topic 4: Do we need a new type of ride? Any suggestions?

Topic 1: Asking leaders to book coffee and lunch stops. Currently the stops are booked by Edward E for Thursday rides and by Rupert for Sunday rides. It would be simpler if the leader makes the booking directly with the stop. This has the benefit that the same person makes the booking and later contacts the stop on the day with updated numbers. And it is not a difficult job: the website has most of the contact information for the stops. The runs secretary can give guidance on the numbers to book for each ride and can still do some of the booking if needed – e.g. booked teas, home tea or in case of any problems.

Topic 2: Having fewer of the longer Sunday rides: Currently we alternate between longer and shorter rides on summer Sundays. The shorter rides seem to be more popular so perhaps we should have fewer of the longer rides – e.g. just one longer ride each month. This is a separate decision for the day ride and the afternoon rides, but in both cases there seem to be fewer people who like to lead the longer rides and a lower numbers of riders. In short, the shorter rides seem more popular. A particular issue this year was a very late return to Cambridge for a long afternoon ride. The long distance means a late return anyway, but it can get very late when slower riders join the group.

Topic 3: Thursday village starting point: The change of the village start to Shelford Rec has been unpopular with some riders. Gt Shelford is busy at 9:30am and parking can be difficult nearby. I have also had some requests to “go back to Greta’s house” which I have resisted because I think all our listed rides should start at a public location. I accept that Shelford Rec is busy and I am happy to consider alternative public places. There are other possible locations in Shelford; e.g. the war memorial (junction of High Street and A1301) or the junction near All-Saints church. A more radical idea is to abandon Shelford and have all village starts from Haslingfield.

Topic 4: Do we need a new type of ride: Over the last few years we have only introduced one new ride – the Saturday Social which has proved very popular. Are there any other types of ride that you would like to lead or join? For example, we could try to bridge the gap between the 20 mile Saturday ride and a 40-50 mile Sunday afternoon ride with a new longer Saturday ride or a shorter Sunday ride. Alternatively, we could try a completely new ride, for example a slower, shorter midweek ride or a women-only ride? Yes, we will need leaders for any new rides – but is there a new type of ride that you would like us to try?

===

Lastly, a reminder about the new runs committee. Another year means that I am looking for new people who would like to join the runs committee. Please talk to me, or any of the existing runs committee over tea if you are interested. The current committee includes Alex, Ian, Ray, Sarah, Simon and Susan.