

## **Chester and North Wales CTC Annual Report**

### **Introduction**

In his Annual Report last year, our out-going Secretary (Bryan Wade) predicted a challenging year ahead and so it proved to be. With several new Committee Members and the task of examining and implementing changes outlined in the new CTC Policy Handbook for local groups, the Committee approached the year with enthusiasm and some trepidation. As the new and updated CTC Constitution will be formally adopted at our AGM 2008, there remain many issues to be considered by the Committee during 2009.

As well as our 2008 planned programme of rides, which have all been very successful, several important unplanned events have injected an air of excitement and optimism amongst the Committee, our CTC members, and the Chester and North Wales area.

One of the most exciting moments this year was the announcement on the 10th December 2007 that the Sustrans Connect2 project had secured £50 million from the Big Lottery Fund's Living Landmarks: The Peoples Millions by public vote. In June, we heard that Chester will be one of eleven Cycling Demonstration Towns (CDT) across England, sharing £100 million.

These two important projects will be taking place in a time of complex political change in Cheshire. We are unsure as yet how the transformation of Cheshire into two unitary Councils of 'Cheshire West and Chester' and 'Cheshire East' will affect the development and implementation of the Sustrans Connect2 project and Chester as a Cycling Demonstration Town. However, we are delighted that our votes and efforts by Councillors and others helped to achieve the prospect of such positive opportunities for cycling in our area. We understand that work will commence on the extension of the Greenway from Upton to Mickle Trafford during the winter with tree clearance and bridge works. The major expense of the Sustrans and CDT projects is the bridge over the existing railway line. Hopefully by this time next year this work will be complete.

In addition, cycling has achieved a huge boost by the successes of our GB cycling teams at both the Olympic and Paralympic Games, and we in Chester and North Wales CTC are making every effort to build on the momentum generated by these events.

Our riding groups have continued with their planned programmes of rides throughout the year in good weather and bad, and many members have volunteered their help at our events. The year began as usual with New Year's Day lunches at McLean's pub and the Carden Arms - both events were reported as being a good start to the year. We were very pleased that the Wrexham Group has continued with Lowri Evans as their representative on the DA Committee. We now have eight active riding groups of varying sizes covering a wide geographical area. In addition, some of these groups operate family, beginners' and ladies' rides, thus providing opportunities for expanding our membership base and increasing our appeal to different kinds of cyclists.

Chester and North Wales members have attended a variety of events this year. Lowri Evans (CTC Cymru) attended an NHS Cycling Awareness Day at Glan Clwyd Hospital and five members attended a first aid course at Ellesmere Port organised by Two Mills Secretary Janet Gregory. Other members went to the York Cycling Show, the Birthday Rides at Moreton-in-Marsh and a B&B camping weekend to Oakham near Rutland Water, and other events too many to list. Many members went on cycling holidays and weekend rides. Cycling in Chester and North Wales is clearly flourishing!

We were sorry to report the deaths of several members during the year – Harry Appleton, Keith Parry, Peter Stockton and Kath Chadderton. We extend our sympathies to their families, friends and fellow riders who will surely miss their company in many ways.

Our website is established and working well. Members are sending digital images and texts to the Webmaster so that on-line members are kept informed of news, rides and other activities. Our magazine, 'The Link', fills in some of the gaps with stories, reports and other worthy information for members not in possession of a computer.

## **Membership**

Our CH&NW CTC Membership Secretary has welcomed new members at sixty addresses up to July 2008. Some of these addresses include more than one person; families, partners and friends etc. Membership has increased this year from 868 in September 2007 to 910 in September 2008. Approximately three hundred members have email addresses and have received five News Sheets to date.

## **Chester and North Wales CTC Committee 2008**

The Committee has focussed on several key issues this year, the most important being the implications for the DA of the new CTC Policy Guidelines for Groups. Three Committee members formed a Working Party (WP) comprising Arthur Miller (Convenor), Mike Cross, and Brian Lowe to fulfil this task during the spring. At a Committee Meeting in May, the WP Report and its recommendations were accepted. To comply with the new CTC rules, Groups were asked to hold Special General Meetings (SGM) to decide the new status and name of their groups - to be ratified at the DA AGM in November.

In accordance with the new Policy Guidelines, all Member Groups (formerly DAs) must appoint a Welfare Officer, Registration Officer and a Promotions/publicity Officer. The Secretary (Glennys Hammond) is the current Registration Officer for Chester and North Wales CTC.

In February, the Chair of the CH&NW CTC Committee (Mike Cross) attended the 'CTC Local Groups Conference' in Derby. Delegates were urged to consider ways in which individual Groups might encourage diverse types of cycling in their area and give further thought to innovative ways of promoting and publicising cycling and the CTC. To enhance our determination to broaden our influence and appeal across our area, Sue Booth has taken on the role of Chester and North Wales CTC Development Officer (promotion/publicity). She will undertake to promote the club with local organisations, and widen the scope of our activities. Sue has been working successfully throughout the summer to fulfil the objectives of her development role and has established new rides for families and ladies in the Chester area as a result of the '5 Miles to Fabulous' initiative.

We extend our congratulations to David Robinson, one of our North West CTC Councillors and Right to Ride representative, who was elected Chair of CTC Council. He has attended several of our Committee meetings during the year and continues to make a valuable contribution to Chester and North Wales CTC on campaigning issues. David Butler was also elected as our second North West Councillor. We hope to welcome him to our DA AGM and our DA Committee meetings in the future.

Next year is the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year of Chester and North Wales CTC. We are delighted, therefore that the CTC AGM and Dinner is being held at the Queen Hotel in Chester on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2009. Several members of the Committee have met to decide how best to promote our 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The winning design in our 70th Anniversary logo competition which took place earlier this year will be incorporated into memorabilia, event certificates and prizes throughout 2009.

## **Awards Committee**

In its second year of operation, the Awards Committee has considered recommending three members of the CTC for the award of Certificates of Merit. It is not too late to nominate someone for the Volunteer of the Year award. The Award will be presented at the CTC's Annual Dinner in 2009, to be held in Chester and hosted by Chester and North Wales CTC.

A Certificate of Commendation to the Eureka Café, Two Mills, for services to cyclists was presented to the Eureka on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2007.

As 2009 is the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Chester and North Wales CTC, the Awards Committee feels that individual member's contributions towards the work and welfare of Chester and North Wales CTC should be recognised. For 2009 only, there will be seven awards for 'Meritorious Service to Chester and North Wales CTC'. These awards are open to all members, and are intended to reflect the vital and often unsung efforts put in by members as marshals, tea makers, or car park attendants for example. The awards will be presented at a suitable DA event next summer.

## **DA Activities**

### **New Years Day Meets, Carden Arms and McLean's Pub**

There was a good turn out of almost forty cyclists at the Carden Arms at Tilston on a warmish wind free day, representing Wrexham, Chester, Mold, Café Hoppers, Two Mills and Wednesday groups, as well as some of our friends from Wales and Wirral. They were well-provided with a hearty meal, cooked food and drinks. During the ride home the group encountered the Hunt on the lanes and exchanged greetings to all they chanced upon. After a cold, damp start, twenty-five members arrived at MacLean's pub and had an excellent meal. By the time lunch was over, the weather had improved for an easier ride home. Once again, CH&NW CTC had welcomed the New Year in style.

### **16<sup>th</sup> March Spring Tourist Trial**

Early Season Tourist Trial (Spring 50) 16<sup>th</sup> March 2008. There were 106 riders. The youngest was six years-old Cameron Boyd who rode 'tug-a-long' behind his father and two other juniors. Entrants included 39 veterans, 16 ladies and 2 tandems as well as some potential new members. Whilst it is not a competitive event, it is well known as a 'get fit' ride for the faster element and this year we saw Frank Kinlan record a time of 3 hours 5 minutes. One couple were sponsored in aid of The Cats Protection League. There was the usual large Welsh contingent and 'across Dee water' was well-represented by the Anfield group and the Prescot Eagles. Everyone survived, only a few out of time, a broken chain, a puncture or two, and only one incident when a large dog unseated a rider. The catering was deemed excellent.

### **19<sup>th</sup> April CTC Winged Wheel restoration**

Thanks to the efforts of Roy Spilsbury, a unique century-old CTC 'Winged Wheel', a very rare 'repairer' type, was fully-restored and displayed in its original position on the wall next to Astley's Ironmongers in Corwen. About fifty members from many parts of our CH&NW area attended the re-dedication ceremony. Mike Cross (CH&NW CTC President) dedicated the wheel to Graham Mills, our previous and sadly-missed President. Afterwards several riders rode to Bala for lunch.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> May Treasure Hunt and Map Reading Competitions**

#### **Treasure Hunt**

This year's event was based at Caffi Florence in Loggerheads Country Park near Mold. The Cafe had opened early and many riders started to arrive shortly after 9am to register for the event (and have the first refreshment stop of the day). After a week of unsettled weather and pessimistic weather forecasts, the morning started overcast, then gradually improved to a sunny spring day. The Treasure Hunt attracted 21 riders, riding as individuals or in teams. The route was about 13 miles long, although the majority of the riders covered a far longer distance as they retraced their steps to find clues they had missed. This year there was an *optional* off road section; apologies to competitors who spent many hours cleaning their bikes after the event. As in previous years, the scores were very close: joint first were Mike Batchelor (West London) and Andy Polokowski (CH&NW); joint third were Peter Dilworth (CH&NW) and Mark Beauchamp (North Hampshire); and joint 5<sup>th</sup> were Richard Delf (North Yorkshire) and Chris Delf (North Yorkshire). The team competition was won by Pam and Mike Cross.

### **Map-reading**

Eleven riders who entered the map-reading competition were back in action by 1 pm. Competitors had 15 minutes to locate grid references, then 2 hours to collect as many points as possible by finding information. This year targets were numbers on selected water hydrants. Everyone arrived back without incurring time penalties, marks were calculated and checked, winners announced and prizes handed out. Mike Batchelor was 1st, Peter Dilworth was 2<sup>nd</sup>, Andy Polakowski was 3<sup>rd</sup> and joint fourth were Andy Ankers (Chester & N. Wales) and Mark Beauchamp (North Hampshire). Thanks are due to everyone who took part, to Caffi Florence for accommodating the event and to Chris Jones and others from the Wrexham Group who helped with time-keeping and checking results.

### **31<sup>st</sup> May Aqueduct Audax 170k**

Thirty riders set out on the Aqueduct Audax this Saturday (31st May). All reported an enjoyable day on the bike, helped by the great weather. Twenty seven completed the route, all comfortably within the time limit. The fastest time for the 174km was 7h28m and the slowest 10h30m, although they did confess to stopping for a pint in Rhewl. There were some minor difficulties with directions on the descent from the Ceiriog ridge to the Chainbridge Hotel with some people ending up on the A5 closer to Llangollen. Fortunately, everyone had the good sense to head for the Horseshoe Pass. Froncysyllte Community Centre provided excellent hospitality at the finish.

### **Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June '5 miles to Fabulous'**

'5 Miles to Fabulous' took place on 7<sup>th</sup> June. It's a CTC initiative aimed at encouraging ladies to come for short rides on their bikes. Despite advertising the event as widely as possible, only two turned up. The weather was superb, and the ladies enjoyed a ride up Mannings Lane, through the Zoo, along the canal and back up the Millennium Cycleway. The group finished at the Kingsway cafe for refreshments. Both riders were very keen to come out again, and one did make it to a Wednesday evening ride. As a result of the '5 Miles to Fabulous' initiative, regular monthly fortnightly Saturday morning rides have been arranged.

### **6<sup>th</sup> July Bert Bailey Memorial Vets 100**

This popular event attracted 95 entries aged from 50 to 88. Only 77 riders started on a wet, gloomy and cool Sunday morning. The weather matched the forecast at the start, but near lunchtime, the weather improved. Two riders retired with mechanical problems one of whom required the assistance of the 'sag wagon'. Everyone seemed to have enjoyed the ride and the caterers were much praised for their efforts. It was disappointing that a large number of riders failed to stay for the presentation of the certificates by David Robinson, Chairman of CTC Council, but some had a long way to travel home. A big thank-you is due to all the volunteers who freely gave of their time to assist in running the event.

### **15<sup>th</sup> June Bob Clift Memorial Cheshire Cycleway Rides**

Forty-eight riders entered the 50 mile ride and 33 rode the 100 mile ride. Everyone finished. The day was good for cycling with light rain in the morning and dry in the afternoon. Both rides took advantage of Cheshire's lovely lanes, the longer ride including a few hills around Macclesfield. Catering was much appreciated by riders with stops at the Carriers Inn, Hatchmere; Great Budworth Ice Cream Farm; Bollington; the primary school in Eaton; and the Ring O' Bells in Christleton. One in six of the riders were women but no children took part this year. The organisation and catering of both rides were highly praised by the riders who took part.

### **6<sup>th</sup> Sept DA lunch**

The annual informal CH&NW CTC Lunch took place on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September at The Red Lion, Dogleston near Chester. It was the usual convivial occasion in spite of the fact that only just over two dozen members attended, considerably less than in former years. Annual holidays and family commitments of some of our most loyal members undoubtedly contributed. Heavy rain of the previous day, which continued into Saturday morning, may also have discouraged others from setting out. Let's hope we can do better in our Anniversary Year.

### **28<sup>th</sup> Sept President's Ride**

Riders met for a photo-call at Christleton Pond at 10.45am for an 11.00am start. Sixty riders rode the Cheshire lanes for a lunch at the newly-built Jessie Hughes Institute in Eaton. The weather improved throughout the day. The return journey concluded with afternoon tea at the restored Walk Mill Bakery and Café near Waverton.

### **4<sup>th</sup> Oct Lllysfasi Hill Climb and Freewheel**

In spite of a very bad weather forecast, intrepid riders and supporters gathered at Lllysfasi for the two events. A record numbers of helpers and supporters added to the fun and atmosphere. Ten riders took part setting off at one minute intervals to ride about a mile to the top of the hill. The first four riders were within twelve seconds of each other. Graham Darlington from Wrexham was the fastest Vet and Super Vet! Janet Gregory put in a great ride to be the 1<sup>st</sup> Lady and 2<sup>nd</sup> over all, closely followed by Ken McDonald then Andy Polakowski. Riders moved on to Graigfechan in the unexpected sunshine for the Freewheeling. Eleven riders freewheeled down the hill and then as far as possible up the other side. Dave Statham was the clear winner. Next was Peter Dilworth with Andy Polakowski a close third. Lowri Evans was first lady in the Freewheeling. Prizes were presented in The Three Pigeons after lunch by Mike Cross, President of Chester and North Wales CTC.

### **5<sup>th</sup> October Mills Hills**

Thirteen riders set out from a damp and cool Chirk with 150km and 2450m of climbing ahead of them. Fortunately, the rain soon stopped and the skies cleared after about a third of the route. From Corwen, it became a pleasant autumn ride in weak sunshine. Twelve finished the event, all within the time limit, the other abandoning after Corwen: the general consensus being 'a hard but enjoyable day out'. Stan Thomas (organiser) was most pleased by the comment: "Graham would have been proud of that route".

## **Groups Reports**

### **Anglesey**

The Anglesey rides take place on the first and third Sunday in the Month starting at 9.30am from the car park near the Post Office in Llanfairpwll except when the weather is bad or riders are participating in Chester and North Wales CTC events or nationally-organised events. Riders usually ride about 40 miles. Although Anglesey is a small group, members take part in many rides out of their area. Riders entered the reliability rides from Kinnerton, the Treasure Hunt and Map-reading from Loggerheads Country Park and the 50 mile Cheshire Cycleway ride. They attended the York Rally and the Ron Kitchin 50km ride as well as the Vets 100. One person attended the CTC Cymru rally held at Rhaeadr and two people attended the Birthday rides held in the Cotswolds.

### **Chester**

No report received at the time of writing

### **Eryri**

Despite the bad weather this year Eryri Group riders have managed a ride on nineteen occasions. Two rides were cancelled due to bad weather. Riders have occasionally ridden with North Wales Tandem Club and in April members attended the White Horse Rally based in Chippenham Wilts. In May they shared a weekend at the Tyn y Cornel Youth hostel with North Wales Tandem Club to commemorate the memory of their late secretary Geoff Russell. In early March riders took part in the Snowdon Loop Charity Cycle Event to raise money for local charities and members rode the Ynys Mon 100km Audax event and the Energy Cycles 100k Audax. In July members attended the Welsh Festival of Cycling in Rhayader. Eryri members led a ride from the new Coed y Brenin centre to Dolgellau and back for the Forestry Commissions contribution to National Bike Week and two members successfully completed the DA Vets 100 mile event enjoying riding on the flat Cheshire roads. Members and friends organized refreshments and checkpoints at the Brian Chapman 600km Audax event for Merseyside CTC Wild Wales Challenge. One of Eryri's members sent activity reports to the local newspaper which resulted in

several enquiries from potential new members. Eryri Group has a social meeting on the first Thursday of every month at the Harp pub Llandwrog.

### **Mold**

Mold Group has continued to provide an extensive programme of challenging, hilly rides with frequent off-road stretches. With poor weather conditions this has sometimes been difficult but they have really enjoyed their travels none the less. Attendances have been consistently between 3 and 6 riders. The biggest turnout was for the ride to 'Graham's Wood' where they picnicked while sitting on Graham Mills' memorial bench surrounded by bluebells. Riders have particularly enjoyed some new territory with one ride reaching Llanberis Pass, another starting in Caernarvon, some off-road rides around Alyn Lakes, and have tried to find new cafes along the way. Members have not travelled so far overseas this year, visiting only European destinations. As usual Mold Group supported the Welsh Festival of Cycling and the superb Wild Wales Challenge, some Audax rides in Wales and events in the wider North West area. Mold Group will become an Informal Group this autumn, and will not be so involved with Chester and North Wales activities, but look forward to producing a rides list that will tempt the more adventurous away from the comforts of cycling the Cheshire Plain.

### **Wednesday**

Undoubtedly the highlight of the year was the lunch held on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2008 at The Grange, Thornton Hough to celebrate Wednesday Group's Silver Jubilee. Sixty people attended, including many past members. Guests of Honour were the Group Life President and joint founder member Angus McCulloch and his wife Marie. The celebratory ride from Eureka Café to Thornton Hough stopped at Hadlow Road Station on the Wirral Way where the memorial seat to the late founder, Charles Allan, and the memorial stone commemorating Laurie McCabe, a stalwart of the Group its early days, are situated. The future status of the Wednesday Group was considered at a Special General Meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2008 when the group voted to become an Informal Activity. Subject to ratification at the CH&NW CTC Annual General meeting in November, the Group wishes to be known as the 'Wednesday Riders'. Throughout the year, the usual programme of weekly rides took place. Those in winter months were particularly well attended. Sad to say Wednesday Group members said their final farewells to five of their past members, Kath Chadderton, Barbara O'Brien, Harry Appleton, Peter Stockton and Keith Parry.

### **Two Mills**

Two particular highlights stand out over the past 12 months. First, the impressive number of people attending the weekly Tuesday evening summer rides, of all ages and abilities, keen to ride their bikes for a couple of hours in good company. Second, at a well attended Special General Meeting held 7<sup>th</sup> July, 2008, members voted to become a Member Group subsidiary to the parent body of Chester and North Wales CTC. After ratification at Chester and North Wales AGM in November 2008, the group will be known as 'CTC Two Mills'. There has been a varied weekly programme of rides on Sundays throughout 2008 supplemented by weekends away. Members attended a very successful trip to Rutland Water, Leicestershire, and camping ventures to North Shropshire in May and late August. A larger, more diverse group than last year travelled to the French Semaine Federale held during early August at Saumur, part of the Loire Valley region. Riders also attended the annual CTC York Rally. The group wishes to support the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration of Chester and North Wales CTC in 2009 as well as strengthening the Two Mills membership base.

### **Watsons Wanderers**

No report received at the time of writing

### **Wrexham**

Last year's report suggested that the Wrexham Group would cease to exist after November 2007. The good news is that the Group is still riding, and by the time this is published a new name will have been agreed. The Group has a new secretary, but most tasks are shared on an informal basis by members. At an SGM in July, members voted to become an Informal Activity group.

There have been two rides per month (on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday) except when rides have coincided with events arranged by Chester and North Wales CTC. Thanks are due to leaders for providing varied rides throughout the year, and for stepping in at short notice when changes were made to the programme. Leaders' local knowledge was invaluable as routes were adapted to take account of the weather, and cafes were found to ensure a variety of refreshment stops. Members rode and competed in many CH&NW CTC events. In addition, they have led groups in the Vet's 100 and helped to organise and run many of this year's competitions. The 2009 rides list is being prepared as we look forward to next year.

## **The Link**

No report received at the time of writing.

## **Roads and Routes**

At the time of writing, the new pedestrian/cyclists bridge link at the Lodge Lane crossing of the A5117 into Woodbank is waiting for a final surfacing. The route from the new bridge crossing will eventually extend past Sealand to join with the Millennium and the River Dee cycle ways, a welcome development in a crucial interchange for cyclists to and from the Eureka Café and Wirral. Thanks to David Robinson, our National Councillor, we have maintained a healthy dialogue with contractors during the ever-changing traffic flow arrangements.

Good news also in the campaign to open access across Burton Marshes. Sustrans advised that work has progressed over the summer to sort land agreements with Network Rail and Flintshire County Council with the intention of formally approaching the RSPB. The Ministry of Defence has agreed in principle.

Chester and North Wales CTC retains a link with both Merseyside Cycle Campaign and Chester Cycle Campaign. A particular area of concern for the Wirral group is, for example, more regular cleansing of local cycle routes, especially stretches in Eastham and Port Sunlight. The Campaign continues to press for traffic-calming measures on Lever Causeway and an off-road separate pathway track for cyclists and walkers either side of the boulevard. Following a very unpleasant incident earlier in the summer where a wire was stretched across Millennium Cycleway at Blacon, police Community Safety Officers continue to monitor the situation.

Liverpool's annual Cycle Festival was held in Williamson Square on 21<sup>st</sup> June. Various Bike to Work initiatives took place throughout the region on or around 24<sup>th</sup> June. In 2009, Liverpool will host the national annual conference for the Cycle Campaign Network.

## **CTC Tourist Competition**

In 2007 the Chester and North Wales CTC team gained 621 points in the competition which put them into second place, only one point behind the winners, South Bucks DA. Several local riders did well in individual competitions, with the tie breaker rule being used to sort out final results. John Hamblett was 3<sup>rd</sup> overall with 108 points narrowly beating Peter Dilworth who also gained 108 points. There have been several changes to the competition for 2008. The name is changed from the DATC to the CTC Tourist Competition, and twelve rides are now required to reach the maximum score. Chester and North Wales CTC is leading at the moment with 709 points (on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2008) but there are still a large number of rides to be added before the final results are known. In the individual competition (on 12<sup>th</sup> October) Andy Polokowski (V) and David Statham (V) are joint 4<sup>th</sup> with 121 points; Peter Dilworth (V) is one point behind in 6<sup>th</sup> place; John Hamblett (V) is one point behind Peter in 7<sup>th</sup> place; and Lowri Evans (L) is lying in 8<sup>th</sup> place with 116 points.

## **CTC Cymru**

During 2008 CTC Cymru held the very successful Welsh Cycling Festival in Rhayader with a range of rides to suit all abilities. Planning is already under way for next year's event which will be based in Rhayader over the last weekend in July 2009. In August 2008 the Gladstry Weekend took place and included several Audax events. The weekend events went well although the

weather was wet. The Committee is hoping to organise a similar event next year. Gwenda Owen was appointed as Cycling Officer for Wales this year and will take up her post on 5<sup>th</sup> of October 2008 and will be based in Cardiff. Her main role is to encourage cycling for children and adults through the development of cycle-training in Wales. CTC Cymru AGM will be held in Llandrindod Wells at 11am on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2009. Members from the region are welcome.

### Programme of 2009 Events

Date	Event	Organiser
1 <sup>st</sup> January	New Year's day – McLean's Pub Carden Arms	Arthur Miller Dave Hill
21 <sup>st</sup> March	The Clwydian Audax 205k	Dave Matthews
21 <sup>st</sup> March	The Clwyd Gate Audax138k	Dave Matthews
5 <sup>th</sup> April	Spring Tourist Trial 50m	Janet Gregory
25 <sup>th</sup> April	CTC AGM and National Dinner, Queen Hotel, Chester	CTC
26 <sup>th</sup> April	Chester Rides (CTC AGM 25 <sup>th</sup> April)	<i>To be decided</i>
1 <sup>st</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> May	CH&NW CTC 70 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Rally Vale of Clwyd	Arthur Miller
2nd May	Treasure Hunt and Map Reading Competition Vale of Clwyd, Bodfari	Lowri Evans (CTC Cymru)
6 <sup>th</sup> June	5 Miles to Fabulous	Sue Booth
14 <sup>th</sup> June	Bob Clift Memorial Cheshire Cycleway Rides, 100m, 50m, 25m.	Dorothy Clift Hazel McDougall
15 <sup>th</sup> -18 <sup>th</sup> June	Holyhead to Chester Coastal Ride	Sue Booth
5 <sup>th</sup> July	Bert Bailey Memorial Vets 100	David Ackerley
19 <sup>th</sup> July	70 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Challenge Rides, 80m,50m,25m.	David Ackerley
23 <sup>rd</sup> Aug- 6 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Coffee, tea and cakes, group rides	Group leaders
12 <sup>th</sup> September	DA Lunch, Red Lion, Dodleston	Mike Cross
20 <sup>th</sup> September	Mills Hills Audax ( <i>not a CH&amp;NW CTC event</i> )	Stan Thomas
27 <sup>th</sup> September	President's Ride, Vale of Clwyd	CH&NW President
3 <sup>rd</sup> October	Llysfasi Hill Climb and Freewheel Competition	Lowri Evans
1 <sup>st</sup> November	DA AGM Kinnerton	DA Secretary

#### 25<sup>th</sup> April 2009 CTC AGM 2009

The CTC AGM and Dinner will take place on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2009 at the Queen Hotel, Chester, an important event in our 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations. We are planning a display of CH&NW CTC archive material and on the following day rides are being planned to suit cyclists of all abilities.

#### Chester and North Wales CTC 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 2009

Next year is Chester and North Wales CTC 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Apart from the very successful events that are a part of our usual programme, the Committee has devised a comprehensive



programme of events for 2009 to celebrate our 70 years of history. The programme includes Challenge Rides of varying lengths organised by David Ackerley, starting at a new location in Cheshire at Bickerton Village Hall, and a coastal ride from Holyhead to Chester led by Sue Booth on 15<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> June 2009. We hope that many CTC riders will join Sue at various points along the ride. During 2009, all event publicity, certificates and memorabilia will carry the winning logo in our Design-a-Logo competition won by Glennys Hammond. The founding of the Chester and North Wales DA was 29<sup>th</sup> August 1939. Between 23<sup>rd</sup> August and 6<sup>th</sup> September 2009, to celebrate the founding day, individual riding groups will be encouraged to commemorate the '70<sup>th</sup> birthday' with coffee, tea and cakes or in their own special way. To be more inclusive to our Welsh members, in May 2009 we are holding a 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Rally in the Vale of Clwyd, to include a variety of rides, and incorporating the Treasure Hunt and Map-reading Competitions. The President's ride in 2009 will also be held in the Vale of Clwyd.

### **The Coming Year 2009**

The coming year promises to be a very busy one. CTC organisation is changing and we will have to make many adjustments to implement the new Policy and revise our Local Regulations. In addition, we have many events planned for our 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year including, most importantly, the CTC AGM in Chester in April. I am sure that the 2009 elected Committee will continue to work hard on behalf of the membership and members will continue to offer their much appreciated support in 2009.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone who has supported me during my first year as Secretary.

Glennys Hammond  
21<sup>st</sup> October 2008