



CycleKnutsford

Newsletter

November 2013

Our New Chairman

Our new chairman is Su Russell. Sue has been a lively and enthusiastic member of CycleKnutsford from the very beginning and brings a wealth of energy and experience to the role.

Known to many local cycling families through her work as a *Bikeability* instructor, Su has a teenage family of her own and a number of interests in addition to her love of cycling. She takes up her role with lots of ideas for the future and will be a great asset to the group.

At the same time we say a very big thank you to Jane McHarry for her tireless work as our chairman over the past five years. During that time membership has grown from around a dozen to more than 240 today – a great tribute to Jane's leadership.



Su with her cycling family.

Jane will now be joining the committee and hopes to remain fully involved in the years ahead.

Past and Present

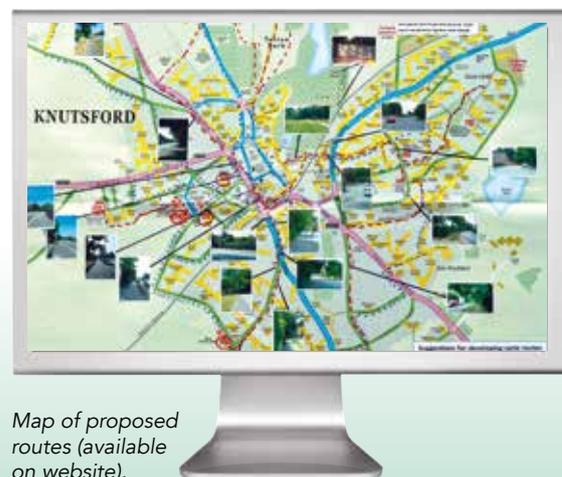
Members carried out a door-to-door survey in two areas of Knutsford, asking the question "Are you in favour of a 20mph speed limit around homes, schools and shops in Knutsford?" 95% of those asked were in favour and this information has now been passed to Cheshire East Highways.

A meeting was organised by Peter Raynes between ourselves, Cheshire East Highways' local transport officer, leisure services officer, local area partnership manager and the police. Agreement was reached to set up a focus group to develop a strategy for safe cycling in Knutsford. This has yet to happen. Peter and Alison also hosted a lunch at their home in August to thank all those who had given active support over the past year. The weather was kind and the event greatly enjoyed by all.

Recent contact with Tatton MP, George Osborne, brought an individual response with the news that his own family are keen cyclists. Promising active support for our current talks with Cheshire East and local transport departments aimed at creating designated cycle routes within the town, George has written to the Cheshire East Chief Executive indicating his personal backing for the initiative.

Following our approach, we hope for a meeting with local landowner Henry Brooks shortly to discuss the question of planned cycle routes within any proposed new housing development for the town.

Our volunteers have attended a variety of events in the past year, including the Lion's Street Fair and Radbroke Hall's family fun day. Lots of interest was generated, with balloons and goodies very popular with the children.



Map of proposed routes (available on website).

Roger's Ride

Committee member, Roger Turner, recently set himself a challenge by completing a coast-to-coast ride accompanied by his son William. This is their story:

Setting off on the 7.30am train from Manchester Piccadilly, with changes of trains at Preston and Carlisle, we arrived at Whitehaven on the Cumbrian coast at 11.00am.

We were to take the Sustrans Sea-to-Sea challenge, following this route up over the Whinlatter Pass and down into Keswick for lunch at Booths' supermarket (31 miles). Our next stage took us on to Penrith and then up through Langwathby to Hartside (H) 624 metres, enjoying a sandwich supper we had brought with us, the bikers' café being closed.



C2C in the sunshine!

Darkness fell as we rode on to Nenthead, where I had a five minute catnap to recharge my batteries. On to Allenhead (86 miles) and Stanhope (7 miles) where we both had a further five minute catnap!

Dawn broke as we rode through Consett and Rowlands Gill (117 miles) and on to Gateshead, where a cyclist riding to work escorted us along the banks of the River Tyne to the Millennium Bridge and where we crossed over to the Newcastle side (126 miles). By 7.15am we were in Tynemouth having completed the entire route in just over 20 hours.

This year's AGM will be held at 7.30pm on Thursday, 14th November in The Angel Inn Function Room, King Street, Knutsford.

Harry Burton will give an illustrated talk entitled 'THE HIGHEST ROAD IN THE WORLD.' Harry has spoken to us before and this should be an enjoyable evening.

...and in 2014

In the coming year we are hoping to work with Cheshire East in organising cycle training for all and cycling activities in school holidays.

Our Bike Night with the scouts was a great success and we hope to organise more of these.



Planning a safe route.

Please Consider Joining Our Committee

We are always looking for new committee members and volunteers, so please do contact us if you think you can help.

Committee Members 2013 – 2014

Chairman	Su Russell 01565 649396
Vice Chairman	Peter Raynes
Secretary	Sally Bennett 01565 631080
Membership Secretary	Barbara Pountney 01565 651078
Treasurer	Jim McHarry
Committee:	Patrick Jones Jane McHarry Paul Thomson

The formal part of the meeting will be as brief as possible.

CycleKnutsford does not have a subscription. However, we do suggest that members consider an annual donation of £5 to help with our running costs.