

January - February 2021 Newsletter

Bike news, Rides, Club Events and more . . .

Chairman's Foreword

These have been testing and trying times for the last year with events and races being cancelled and restrictions in numbers of riders due to Covid 19.

The clubs AGM also needed to be cancelled, but the committee members agreed to remain their present positions, and as circumstances allow we will have another AGM, although this may even be in November 2021.

It was great to be able to hand out the awards on New Year's Day, even if some were a little unprepared for the early awakening. When we next do the awards it will be on a much bigger scale as there are a few awards, shields and cups to hand out.

The last few months have seen a lot of members working together to maintain their fitness through Sam's Zwift meet-ups and choosing ride partners, plus the arrangement of the trips aboard.

The committee are working on plans for the future to improve rides, their formats and the building of race teams. Those interested in these (Road, criterium, MTB) be it taking part or helping out, should contact the rides and race captains. These are a great way of getting involved further in the club and find out what's involved.

Let's hope we can get back to normal soon, and we can ride as a club together soon.

All the Best and stay safe

David Wales

Club Chairman

Easy Fundraising

With most of the highstreet still closed, many of us will have turned to online shopping. You can help the club out by signing up for the EasyFundraising app. Like other cashback sites, when you make a purchase, the club receives a % of the sale price and you pay no more! What's more, you get that warm happy feeling inside that you've helped the club carry on while indulging your retail therapy!! If you need further information, please email us on info@harlowcc.org and a member of the committee will contact you to answer any questions you may have.

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk>

The club has raised a whopping £194 towards future projects for when lockdown ends, a huge thanks to all those who have helped!!

General Cycling

We are actively looking at encouraging schools to run Bike Safety courses and for the council to keep our cycle paths in good repair. The government are encouraging people to use their bikes and have [promised a £2m package](#) to make it easier for people to use bikes to get around. HCC want to ensure that Harlow with it's existing cycle path structure are part of the dialogue for the area.

Committee Member Yasmin Gregory has been hard at work championing Harlow's cycle infrastructure. Pressuring local politicians and councillors across the spectrum to improve the much neglected state of the town's paths.

Club Awards

The Committee decided start our own New Years Honours List in recognition of key members that have gone above and beyond to raise the level of the club and to make it an all inclusive, fun place to be when riding out with us.

Each award winner was proposed by a committee member and unanimously agreed by the committee and the Committee would like to thank these award winners for being such all round, good eggs!

A big thanks to Vin Denson for additional prizes of signed copies of his book - The Full Cycle!!

And don't forget if you fancy reading Vin's book you can pick up a copy at Lee Valley Cycles.



Best Rider - Kev Champion

Champion by name and Champion by nature - Kevin Champion! What can you say about Kev? He manages to take a wrong turn and still wins the time trial. He gives 100% to every ride and has a never say die attitude. His enthusiasm for cycling is infectious and he always wants to learn; a great rider to have within the club and to ride with.



Chairman's Choice - Richard Elven

Richard has always been an energetic member of the club and when the club needed someone to take on the responsibilities of Ride Captain earlier this year, he put his head above the parapet and took on the role. He not only did this at the height of the Covid crisis but kept everyone informed of what was required and continued to update everyone with each new government announcement. Richard managed to increase the popularity of the club by finding new ways to get more involvement for all levels throughout the lockdowns and we are excited about what plans he has in store for 2021. He is a very well respected member of the club & committee and continues to encourage all members irrespective of their abilities and backgrounds.

All Round Rider (male)

David 'Collarbone' Harris (Road, mtb and track)

Dave has been a consistently improving rider on road and has taken on the responsibility of arranging off-road rides introducing members to this discipline. Dave has also been a great help in the organisation of club rides to help Richard maintain the quality and inclusion of the rides both on and off-road. Dave has also started the process of getting his Track Accreditation and has been fundamental in making funding applications for the club. Dave is a great asset to the club and a deserving winner of the All Round Award.



Most Improved Rider – Ray Levy

Ray Levy is a new member, only joining us this year. He started out as a “social” rider but within a relatively short space of time now cycles 50-60 mile rides at a nice pace. Ray has come on in leaps and bounds due to his great attitude towards the sport and gives it his all every time.

Most Helpful Member - Andrew Goodman

Andrew always manages to capture the essence of any ride or event he records with his magic lens. His enthusiasm has helped raise the profile of the club with his fabulous photos of the club rides and riders making an impact on the Social Media platforms. The end of year video Andrew created has been used to support a fund application for the club and has helped raise the profile of the club enormously.



Ride Captains Choice - Sam Faulkner

Sam joined HCC this year and has embraced it with both arms. Sam has willingly stepped forward to lead rides on a Tuesday and Sunday and was the force behind the successful club time trial. In between doing all of this, Sam also raised £4,600 for Isobel Hospice by cycling from John O’Groats to Lands End and completed a 24-hour cycle raising over £1600 for Edie’s Fight. Sam is an all-around asset to the club and an inspiration to us all.

All Round Rider (female) – Debbie Barry

Debbie has been a member of the club for a few years and although not seen on many of the organised club rides due to her other commitments, Debbie's name is consistently at the top of the leaders' charts on Strava for furthest and highest climbing. Debbie is a deserving winner of this award for 2020 and we hope to see more of Debbie on Strava in 2021.



Fursty Fridays/ Racing / Time Trialling /Sportives / Audax UK and all things club rides

Rides Capt. Richard Elven

Just a quick bit from me with regards to the current rides situation. As you are probably aware under the current restrictions we are only allowed to ride with one other person from outside of our household, could all members please adhere to this so we may be able to ride together sooner. Recently I've received an email from British Cycling, they are hopeful that as from 23rd March we may be able to ride in groups of 6 again, so let's keep our fingers crossed for that.

In the meantime we have Sam running the TT segment time, we are hopeful that as a club when we can we can make our TT event a regular thing and perhaps we could even get a competition going where we can award a prize at the end of the season!!

Going forward the plans are to run our usual Tuesday evening road rides, the aim will be to split into speed groups as I think this was a successful formula last year. The off road rides will be organised by Dave Harris still on a Friday. Sunday's we hope to mix up a bit with some longer rides and some shorter social rides including cafe stops- any suggestions gratefully received- and it will be great to get some good turnouts for these. Currently Sam is running Zwift rides on a Tuesday and Thursday so if you've not joined in yet here's your opportunity.

If anyone has any routes or ideas for rides please don't hesitate to contact me and we will see what we can do.

Please keep an eye on the social media platforms for further messages in the meantime

Thanks

Richard

Membership

Make sure your details are up today, if you've changed your email or phone number please drop us a note at the below email and get in touch.

The membership can be paid by Bank Transfer, Standing Order or Paypal. Details of how to pay for your membership can be found on the Membership form, which is hosted on the FB page under documents.

Please remember that all members must take out liability insurance to join on club rides. If you are a member of British Cycling or Cycling UK you will get automatic insurance.

British Cycling

Liability insurance, legal support, weekly members emails, training and nutrition advice, discounts at select retailers. For full details see website.

Membership from £41 per year, £36.50 if paid by direct debit. 1st year members get discount bringing price to £20.50 using code *newcmrd*

Cycling UK

Liability insurance, legal support, 6 cycle magazines a year, discounts at select retailers. For full details see website.

£48 per year or £26 per year using club code; 90139236 (note this does not include legal support or magazine)

For any membership enquiries please email - harlowccmembership@gmail.com

The club will need to carry out checks to ensure that adequate insurance is in place and to protect all members on the rides.