


Volunteers of the Year 2010

 Kevin Hickman was named CTC Volunteer of the Year for 2010 at the CTC National Dinner on 14 May at the National Sailing Academy in Weymouth. He was presented with the Moss Medallion by ex-pro racer Magnus Backstedt, who heads the UK Youth cycling team.

Kevin took responsibility for the CTC Inclusive Cycling Forum in 2009, when it was a simple email group. Since the first committee meeting in March 2010, he has overseen a full programme of weekend rides, as well as arranging meetings country-wide.

Janet Gregory was second placed CTC Volunteer of the Year, as well as Volunteer of the Year for the North West region. She is a superb secretary for Chester and North Wales CTC, often working into the early hours. She also serves on the rides committee and organises the group's Early Season Tourist Trial.

Paul Parkinson, who was Volunteer of the Year for the South West, was third nationally. He masterminded the 2010 Birthday Rides in Cornwall, organising the publicity, the website and the venue.

Regional winners for Volunteer of the Year were: East of England, Rona Wightman; Yorkshire and the Humber, John Radford; West Midlands, Lyndon Bracewell; Wales, David Naylor; Scotland, George and Agnes Shepherd; and for London, Adam Thompson. Four CTC members were Highly Commended: Ken Jolliffe (East of England); Caroline Waugh (Yorkshire and the Humber); Peter Ralph (also Yorkshire and the Humber); and Deborah Weston (West Midlands).

Volunteer groups & campaigners

The winner of the CTC Volunteer Group of the Year was Stevenage and North Herts CTC. Their standout achievement is their rides programme: they organised 135 rides from October 2009 to September 2010. They have established 'Saturday Starters' rides for beginners every week during the summer.

Stowheath Cycle Group was second. Its ten members have learning disabilities but after acquiring cycle repair skills, the group is now a self-sufficient re-cycled bikes scheme. Richardsons CC in Scarborough, which has promoted cycling locally to everyone from beginners to Brownies to teenagers with behavioural difficulties, was third.

Sarah Sharp received The Gordon Selway Memorial Award for the CTC Campaigning Achievement of the Year. She set up Chichester cycle campaign group Chicycle and has successfully campaigned for Chichester City Council to adopt 20mph limits as council policy.

Southampton Cycle Campaign was named runner-



Magnus Backstedt with Volunteers of the Year (left) Kamila Szewczyk and (below) Kevin Hickman



up for the CTC Campaigning Achievement of the Year, for promoting the early implementation of cycle-friendly plans and policy.

Youth awards

This year, for the first time, there were awards specifically for young cyclists. Kamila Szewczyk won the CTC-Bike Club Young Volunteer of the Year Award. Just 12 years old, Polish girl Kamila is already encouraging teenage girls and women to try cycling. She helps PE teachers with cycle rides in lunchtime sessions and helps out with the after-school bike club.

Second-placed Young Volunteer of the Year was Ben Wilson, who has helped extensively with the Boathouse Youth Group in Blackpool, making cycling accessible to a group of young people who wouldn't normally have access to it.

Year nine school pupil Adam Taylor was third-placed Young Volunteer of the Year. He has taken part in nearly all Bike Club rides since last year, and actively encourages newer riders in the club.

Boathouse Youth won the Youth Club/Project of the Year Award. Based in Blackpool, the organisation signed up as a Bike Club and CTC affiliate group and began offering an exciting cycling programme as a way of helping to develop young people by offering them new challenges and experiences.

There were three runners-up for the Youth Club/Project of the Year: Greenbank High School, Kentisbeare Junior CC, and The Wellhouse Bike Club.

For more details, visit ctc.org.uk/volunteerawards.

EVENT NEWS

RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS IN THE CYCLING WORLD

Showtime at York



York Cycle Show returns to the city's racecourse on 25-26 June this year. The show opens at 10.30am each day, and this year there is a small charge to enter the site: £3 for adults, £2 for children aged 5-16, with under-5s free and family tickets available. The price includes entry to the trade show and exhibition, and car parking is free.

There are organised rides on the Saturday from 25km to 150km (see p30), while Sunday morning sees the Cyclists' Service at the Minster and the Grand Parade through the city to the show. Arena events

will include a mountain bike stunt show, cyclo-cross and grasstrack racing, a veteran cycles display, and events for younger riders.

For bargain hunters, there are a number of options. The cycle auction is on Saturday afternoon in the lounge marquee, while the saddlebag sale opens at 11am on the Sunday. Brand new kit at often-discounted prices will be available from retailers such as Cycle Promotions. Other companies with stands include Dawes, JD



Tandems, Islabikes, Extra and HBR Outdoors Ltd.

For those wanting to stay for the whole weekend, the campsite will have room for everyone and costs £14-£20 per person. There's a wide choice of catering on site, and on the Saturday evening there's on-site musical entertainment.

For more details, tel: 0844 736 8456 or visit the website yorkcycleshow.co.uk.

EVENTS NEWS IN BRIEF

BIRTHDAY RIDES FULL

This year's CTC Birthday Rides are sold out, with 625 CTC members booking. There is enough camp ground but the infrastructure and event venues can't take anymore, said coordinator Tim Jackson. This is the best result by over 200 since CTC Holidays and Tours took over in 2008. Congratulations are due to CTC Suffolk for producing such an attractive programme.'

BIKE WEEK'S BIG FIX

Team Green Britain Bike Week (18-26 June) is this year hosting 'Britain's Biggest Bike Fix' - an attempt to fix as many bikes as possible during one week. The aim of the Bike Fix is to liberate the thousands of unused bikes from sheds across the country, by encouraging people to dig them out and get punctures fixed, brakes adjusted and gears tuned, to get bikes (and the UK) fit for the summer. The opportunity to get your bike fixed is just one of the attractions of Team Green Britain Bike Week events - to find an event near you visit www.bikeweek.org.uk.

POLARIS CHALLENGE 20

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the Polaris Challenge, the UK's first Mountain Bike Orienteering event. The 2011 event will take place on the weekend of 25-26 June in the Peak District, and as well as orienteering, there will be two new off-road sportives. For more information or to enter, visit theomm.com or polarischallenge.com

SANDWICH OR BAGUETTE?

Sandwich in Kent is hosting three organised rides on 11 June as part of a twinning event with Honfleur in France. There are 50, 75 and 100km route options. Entry is £10. For more information, see the Events listings at open-sandwich.co.uk.

ROUGHRIDE RETURNS



The Roughride will take place in the Welsh borders for the ninth time on 12 June with a new headline sponsor, Torq. Like a sportive on road, this isn't a race - it's a long-distance off-road challenge, on well-flagged and marshalled tracks and trails following ancient routes. There are 48km and 75km options, with more than 80% of each route off-road. Around 1,000 riders are expected.

The entry fee is £27 in advance

or £31 on the weekend. This includes camping at Kington, an event T-shirt and post-ride meal. The event is insured through CTC.

'The ground conditions are hard and fast,' said organiser Nick Eve in May. 'It's very dry up on the hilltops, almost dusty. It's probably going to make it a faster year than the last few.' Times are not the priority, however: the challenge is to finish.

For more details, or to enter, visit the website roughride.co.uk.

Celebrating summertime



More than 300 cyclists took advantage of the extra hour of daylight on 27 March to ride the Stevenage Start of Summertime audax rides. The rides were organised by CTC's Volunteer Group of the Year, Stevenage and North Herts CTC (see p13), whose award reflects the breadth and popularity of their events calendar.

There were three route options: a 62km 'Intro to audax riding';

the original 115km 'Ugley Nasty' Ride, which of course takes in the villages of Ugley and Nasty; and a 210km event for hard riders. The start and finish for all three was Fairlands Valley Park.

Certificates were handed out on the day to all those completing any of the rides, and there were 'Start of Summertime' medals on sale too.

For more information, visit the website stevenagectc.org.uk.



Right: by Jim Brown. Above left: by Nick Eve