



La Gazzetta

Newsletter of Rochdale CTC & the East Lancs Road Club



No.58 September 2018

WELCOME

There is an Autumnal feeling in the air signalling the start of Hill Climb Season. It's time to pit your talents against those lightweight climbers who relish ascending. You never know, you may get a taste for it!

Why not get your name in print? Articles for the newsletter are always in short supply and very welcome. If you have something to say you don't have to be Shakespeare just put a few words together and email me at newsletter@rochdalectc.org.uk.

CLUB SUMMER HOLIDAY

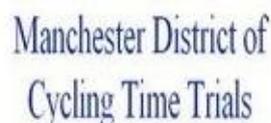
Another enjoyable holiday was had by all on the annual summer club trip. This year we stayed in Can Picafort resort in Majorca at an all-inclusive hotel close to the beach with the usual mixed group of cyclists and non-cyclists.

Rides left the hotel daily for anyone who wanted to join, with various route combinations and café stops via Sa Pobla, Muro, Petra, Arta, Santa Margalida and Puerto Pollensa. We also climbed to the Emta de Betlem and Santa Magdalena Monasteries.



Suzanne Millar

The heat was a little extreme this year and it was a struggle at times to go on longer rides, but Suzanne Millar, David Ireland, Andrew Kovacs, Jason Codling and Alex Wiseman rode to the lighthouse and kudos to David Ireland, Andrew Kovacs and Alex Wiseman climbing Sa Colobra on an 80 mile loop and Jason Codling carrying on to do a 90 mile loop via Soller.





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SUMMER EVENING CLUB RUNS

Now that shorter days are upon us the time has come to cease the Tuesday evening Club run and the Wednesday evening mountain bike rides.

You may have seen an email from Pete Matthew asking for comments and suggestions regarding these two rides. Your comments will be considered when planning next summer's rides. Contact Pete at runs_sec@rochdalectc.org.uk.

Sharon, who voluntary led the MTB rides, is planning daytime rides over winter subject to the weather and other commitments. Check your inbox for more details as they are announced.

Don't forget that our Saturday and Sunday Club Runs continue throughout the year.

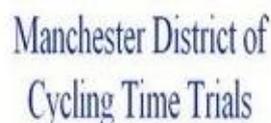


Andrew Kovacs

We had a great ride along the lanes with a café stop in Sa Pobla with the 'non-cyclists' who hired e-bikes for the day and joined us on the 25 mile loop. All enjoyed it and it was hard work for the 'cyclists' keeping up on the hills.



A Ride Out on E-Bikes





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SATURDAY BEGINNERS RIDE

The turnout for Saturday Beginners Rides continues to be excellent with a mixture of male, female, young and old taking part. In particular the ride of the 18th August had to be split into two groups. So many in fact that the Watergate Tea Rooms in Hebden Bridge couldn't cope!



A Great Turnout at
Rochdale Leisure Center

Away from cycling we went on a boat trip, off road buggy trip and a visit to the water park and enjoyed a meal on the beach to celebrate Ben Trippier's birthday.



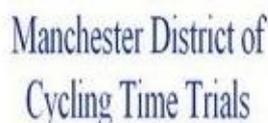
Enjoying the Holiday Atmosphere

Thanks to Ian Millar for the report.

RIDING BRITAIN'S TOUGHEST ROAD?

Darryl Nolan takes us on a ride over one of Britain's toughest roads.

I have just spent a few weeks travelling round the south of England. One of the stops was in Bridport Dorset which coincided with a recent article in Cycling Weekly about the toughest roads in Britain. One was Bridport to Abbotsbury given a rating of 8 out of 10. The road has a length of 8.75 miles and climbs 258 meters. You know what? I just had to give it a go. Before reaching Abbotsbury, I took the NCN 2 route from Bridport through the Bride Valley. A beautiful traffic free road but with a steep climb out of the valley. A fast downhill to Abbotsbury and the route proper began with a gradient of 20% out of Abbotsbury.





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HILL CLIMBS TO ENTER

Withington Wheelers are holding their Jim Forbes Memorial Hill Climb on Sunday 30th September. This will be their 80th anniversary event and they are hoping for a good turnout.

It is a relatively short climb of 980 yards up course J9/1, Peaslow Hill, Chapel-en-le-Frith. The start time is 2:30pm.

Closing date for entries is the 18th September via the CTT website (www.cyclingtimetrials.org.uk/race-details/16328).

However, If you fancy a more local climb, the West Pennine Club are running their competition up Blackstone Edge on the same day.

Closing date for entries is the 18th September via the CTT website (<https://www.cyclingtimetrials.org.uk/race-details/16392>).



The Bride Valley

A fast downhill to Abbotsbury and the route proper began. 20% out of Abbotsbury. At the top great sea views and then it's a rolling descent into West Bay (the setting for the TV series Broadchurch) and on to Bridport. For rolling descent read ramps of 20% with some swoops down. In all 20 miles of riding 2,000 feet of climbing.



Abbotsbury Hill

Britain's toughest road... well it's not easy but I've ridden harder! The Strava segment for Abbotsbury Hill Climb KOM is 5m 07s male 7m 12s female...me you don't want to know!

