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If there is *anything* you need doing to your tandem.  
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## **INDEPENDENT CYCLING HOLIDAYS, FRANCE**

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**CREDITS:** Photos within articles by Authors, unless otherwise stated.  
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Rear Cover: by James O. Jenkins, submitted by the Mayor of London's Press Office

FREE to Members only

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**All copy for next issue before 22nd JULY 2011 please.**

OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN THIS JOURNAL ARE THOSE OF THE CONTRIBUTORS AND NOT NECESSARILY THOSE OF THE TANDEM CLUB. ACCEPTANCE OF ADVERTISEMENTS DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT.

## USEFUL INFORMATION:

[www.tandem-club.org.uk](http://www.tandem-club.org.uk)

**Secretary:** Peter Hallowell  
25 Hendred Way, Abingdon, Oxon OX14 2AN email: [secretary@tandem-club.org.uk](mailto:secretary@tandem-club.org.uk) Tel: 01235 525161

**Renewals & Change of Address:** Caroline Hobbs, 9 Redstone Park, Redhill, Surrey, RH1 4AS  
email: [renewals@tandem-club.org.uk](mailto:renewals@tandem-club.org.uk)

**Membership Secretary:** Sheila Ward  
34 Avenue Road, Lymington, Hants. SO41 9GJ email: [tc.membership@virgin.net](mailto:tc.membership@virgin.net) Tel: 01590 671205

Subscription Rates:	1 year	5 years	
Full Member	£10	£40	
First Joint Member	FREE	FREE	
Second and subsequent Joint Members	50p	£2	All cheques payable to The Tandem Club

Joint members are entitled to all the benefits of the Club except a copy of the Journal. Joint Membership is available to anyone who rides regularly with a Full Member but at least one applicant must take out Full Membership.



In this issue we have all the usual goodies such as Letters, News, Regional Roundup and What's On along with the boring but necessary AGM Report, on page 12. Like all clubs, we are suffering from a lack of volunteers that are so necessary to the running, and therefore existence, of the club. I know that when we join a club it is not with the intention of helping in running it, but with the intention of getting something out of it, otherwise why pay for membership? I belong to some other clubs where the membership is £65 a year and they have paid staff to run the club. Here in the Tandem Club, all the jobs are voluntary, therefore our membership fee still remains incredibly low at only £10 per year and for that we get a wonderful website, a magazine every two months, lots of lovely Rallies and local rides to choose from along with insurance cover on these rides. There are also a few other benefits which become apparent if you look around the web site.

This was the first time for many years that I did not attend the AGM, due to ill health, and I understand the attendance was quite low. I do think that it is important that those who can, attend the AGM, and make their views known and support those that run the club. Even if you cannot attend, you can still support the club by assisting with some of the many jobs that have to happen in order for the club to exist and survive. We desperately need a new Chairman and we still have vacancies for a Club Historian and a Racing Officer. Also, I would dearly love another Editor so that we can Job-share and I suspect that there are a few other Club Officers who would also appreciate another member to step forward and offer to Job-share with them. If we each do a little bit, then that spreads the load so that no one person has more than they can cope with. For more information on job vacancies, please contact Peter Hallowell – see useful information on page 3.

Having got that off my chest, I now hope to tempt you with what else is in this issue. There are still some vacancies at the Lucton Rally – see page 16, and we have some interesting articles, including one about a motorised Tandem. I know of a couple of older members now who have gone down this route and it does seem a good idea as we get older and the legs get weaker! And see if you can spot what the rear cover photo is about, before you check the credits.

I still have some of your articles waiting to go in the magazine, but please don't let that stop you from sending me more, along with nice high resolution photos. The front cover photo this issue is about 5M in size and that gives a really nice quality picture when printed. I would also like to beg for some really short articles, like a half page poem (thanks Ian!) or joke and one page items too. As I create the layout for the magazine, I try to make an article start and finish on facing pages if possible, and I often need a one page item to put in so that I can achieve this. Stand-alone photos are also really useful as I can use them on the covers as well as to fill in blank spaces. Last issue I think I used about 8 photos from Andy Flaxman – on both front and rear covers and both of the Kids Pages (thanks Andy).

**LINDA BAILEY**

**ROYAL WEDDING**

See rear cover for the “official”(?) photo of Boris Johnson with the Cycle Hire tandem bicycle that was given to the Royal couple. (This was sourced by our Publicity Officer – Jane. Many thanks Jane!)

**LAURA MURRAY**

Press Assistant, Mayor of London's Press Office

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**Editors' Comment:** See also: <http://www.metro.co.uk/news/862027-william-and-kate-to-receive-a-boris-bike-as-royal-wedding-gift-from-mayor>

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**BISHOPS CASTLE TANDEM FESTIVAL 30<sup>th</sup> JUNE – 3<sup>rd</sup> JULY 2011**

“The most fun it is possible to have on a Tandem. Anywhere.” Come to Bishops Castle, Shropshire for the greatest tandem event in the UK. You don't even have to have a tandem. Sponsored by The Tandem Shop. For more details see: [http://www.tandeming.co.uk/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=168&Itemid=296](http://www.tandeming.co.uk/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=168&Itemid=296) or Tel: 01952 883249

**THE TANDEM SHOP**

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**THE FORTY PLUS CYCLING CLUB**

The 40+CC is celebrating its sixtieth birthday in 2011 with several special events between May and September. Free membership for the rest of the calendar year is offered to non-members participating in any of our anniversary rides. Our special events include the Herts Hilly 100 km on 26<sup>th</sup> June; the mid-Essex tour (62 m) from Stondon Massey on 21<sup>st</sup> July and the 25 m "Sights of London" ride, July 31<sup>st</sup>, from near the Olympics site (or Gidea Park). Further details of all our anniversary rides and our extensive programme of mid-week rides in Beds, E. Northants, Essex, Herts, Kent, Surrey and Sussex can be found at [www.fortypluscc.co.uk](http://www.fortypluscc.co.uk).

**JUDY ALLFREY**

General Secretary 40+CC

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**CYCLE LIFESTYLE**

Issue 5 of Cycle Lifestyle is now available to view in the online magazine browser at [www.cyclelifestyle.co.uk](http://www.cyclelifestyle.co.uk).

In a fun-packed issue we show how to defend yourself against a leopard, how to get a tramp to carry you up a hill in Norway, and how to 'Velib' in Paris. We showcase the latest version of Simon Parker's London Cycle Map and there are lots of other interesting items too.

**BEN IRVINE**

*Cycle Lifestyle* Editor





Dear Editor

I heard, very second hand, that Boris Johnson gave the Duke & Duchess of Cambridge a tandem at the recent celebration of their nuptials.

What, if anything, has the Tandem Club done about it?

This could be a GREAT opportunity. Could I suggest we offer them honorary membership of the Tandem Club as a bare minimum? Maybe we could offer it AFTER they have learnt to ride it – as we all know that there's more to it than just getting on and going off. Could we perhaps offer them a couple of hours of instruction in how to use it – sometime at their convenience? They might welcome it as they will no doubt be conscious that the eyes of the world will be on them and they wouldn't want to take a high visibility tumble on an early outing.

And can it be mentioned in the magazine? I'm sure it is quite an encouragement to members. We might even think about inviting them to be patrons of the club.

... just some thoughts ...

**IAN HEWITT**

---

Dear Editor

### **PRINCE WILLIAM!**

With the news that Boris Johnson has given a tandem to Prince William and Kate Middleton for a wedding present, perhaps we should invite them to be members (or even patrons) of the Club!

**ALAN PAYNE**

---

**Editor's Comment:** Thanks for bringing this to my attention. As you can see from the previous page and rear cover, some members have got it in hand. The club will also be sending them an application form. See also a lovely short Poem by Ian Cornfiled on page 11.

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Dear Editor

### **TOURING NORFOLK**

Norfolk is great for touring, but not as flat as many think. However much of it is a long way from a bike shop if you have a major breakdown or a wheel problem. Should you be in the NR29 or NR30 areas, basically Yarmouth and above, the following guy might be able to help you. Check out his site and note his contact details if you are planning a trip to this part of Norfolk.

[www.radialtangent.co.uk/](http://www.radialtangent.co.uk/)    <mailto:trevor@radialtangent.co.uk>

I have not used his mobile mechanic services but I did buy a pair of nice wheels for one of my solos from him.

**MICK MONK**

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# FORMATION OF EAST CHESHIRE REGIONAL GROUP

37 Lord Street, Bollington, Macclesfield, Cheshire, SK10 5BN

12 April 2011

Dear Tandem Club Member

I am starting a new regional group of the Tandem Club based in East Cheshire. The emphasis will be on rides of a pace and duration to suit families with young children. However, all members and potential members are welcome to join us on any kind of pedal cycle. I envisage a ride each month with a nominated leader and encourage volunteers to come forward. The first 3 rides, all of around 25 miles distance, will have already occurred by the time you receive this magazine. I will aim to publicise future events in the Tandem Club Journal and on the Tandem Club website. In the interests of cost and convenience I would prefer to use e-mail for subsequent correspondence within the group. Please let me know if you would like to be included in an e-mail circulation list (your address will not be visible to other recipients).

I ride a kiddyback tandem with my 7 year old daughter Amelia. My partner Dinah rides a solo bike. We have participated in Tandem Club rallies and West Country regional group rides for several years. In January we moved to Cheshire. For me, this was a return to familiar territory after a decade away, but it's all new to Amelia and Dinah.

I look forward to an active group. Please get in touch if you want more information.

Yours in cycling

**SIMON PRESTON**

01625 576319

07799496080

[simonpreston@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:simonpreston@tiscali.co.uk)



# THE “FAMOUS” BAD KREUZNACH Tandem meeting

*It's the fifth!!!!*

*We were encouraged at the Easter Rally this year to publicise this and have the honour to invite you to a very small tandem event on the Continent.*

For all Tandems, triplets, quads, recumbent tandems,  
special bikes...

On Sunday, 11<sup>th</sup> September 2011

Where we meet: Playground „Am Spelzgrund“,  
55545 Bad Kreuznach, Germany, 10:00 a.m.

*(Bad Kreuznach is situated 80 km to the west of Frankfurt/Main)*

Please contact Pia Hilgert/Tilman Schmidt,  
ADFC Bad Kreuznach, philgert@gmx.de



Why a quint tandem?

Right, because of five years of tandem meetings!!!

**PIA HILGERT**

# BERNARD WILLIAMSON OBITUARY



It is with great sadness that I report that our former Publicity Officer, Bernard Williamson, died recently, very unexpectedly while out cycling, and I would like to send the club's deepest condolences to his wife, Joan, their children and the rest of their family.

Born in Stockport on 22<sup>nd</sup> August 1935, Bernard became a lifelong cyclist from an early age, shown not least by his organisation, in his teens, of unofficial cycle races round the streets of Stockport and the fact that he still owned and rode a Freddie Grubb, perhaps his first quality bike, that he bought when a teenager.

After he moved to Bristol, Bernard and Joan met through cycling, on Joan's first club run no less, and although their cycling took a back seat whilst raising a family he did not neglect introducing their children to cycling, first in Banbury and then in Reading.

Bernard was much more than just another keen cyclist who took part in club runs and other events. He was always eager to help and to give something back to the activity he loved. As well as being a founder member of the Reading DA when it was formed in 1985, he initiated their mid-week section, meeting on Tuesdays. This has been a long lasting and continuing success which Bernard enjoyed riding with until he and Joan returned to Bristol in 2004.

In addition to his support of the Reading DA, Bernard was an active and influential member of the Reading Cycling Campaign. He was personally responsible for the campaign to have the cycle-paths along the A33 relief road made into a useable, reasonably cycle-friendly facility. Those of us who know the inadequacy of most cycling facilities will recognise this as a notable success.

In October 1999 Bernard and Joan joined the Tandem Club and were soon riding with and then leading some of the monthly runs of the local Thameswey group. Once again Bernard's willingness to help soon came to the fore as in 2003 the club needed a Publicity Officer and he volunteered to take over the post. In this role he proved a diligent and enthusiastic worker for the Tandem Club always looking for new opportunities to promote the club and considering the effectiveness of previous ones. Despite wishing to step down in 2008 he continued to fulfil the post for a further one and a half years until a new volunteer was found.

**PETER HALLOWELL**



*A VERY WARM WELCOME to the following new members:*

## **Tandem Club New Members 25/03/2011 - 27/05/2011**

Simon Alberici and Sarah Milman from Jersey

John Allnutt from Hayle Cornwall

Nick, Serena and Maisie Balsdon from Solihull West Midlands

Harry Bell and Carolyn Clarke from Leeds West Yorkshire

Robert and Karon Bending from Tadley Hampshire

Stephen Bliss from Malvern Worcestershire

Andrew and Jill Buzzard from Stafford

Ian Chadwick from Knutsford Cheshire

Phil and Pauline Coope from Preston Lancashire

Peter and Machteld de Waard from Reading Berkshire

Jilly Du Ross and Andy Coope from Swindon Wiltshire

Philip and Janet Fox from Stoke-On-Trent

Richard Hayes and Claire Ballamy from Chester

Paul and Christine Kaye from Leeds West Yorkshire

Denise, John, Austen and Nathalie Lomas from Robertsbridge

Rebecca Lowe and Michael Winder from Chesterfield

Andrew Mann and Samantha Wells and Lewis Mann from Bradford West Yorkshire

Alistair and Bernadette Melville from Crook County Durham

Ray and Deb Phillips from Melton Mowbray Leicestershire

Keith Shepherd and Susan Gardener from Bristol

Chris and Deborah Smith from Swaffham Norfolk

Molly Thompson and Jesse Dufton from Bath

Hamilton Topping from Lisburn County Antrim

Tim Townsend and Judith Erwee-Townsend from Reading Berkshire

David Vines from Carshalton Surrey

Geraldine Walsh and Murray Banks from York

Anthony and Christine Walton from Tadley Hampshire

Mary Jane Watson from Isle of Man

Amanda and Andrew Weaving from Bathgate West Lothian

# TANDEMS ON TRAINS

By the time you receive this TCJ (or very shortly after) there will be a new page on the Tandem Club Website giving information about taking your tandem on UK trains.

It gives general advice on travelling by train with your tandem together with links to all of the Train Operating Companies' (TOCs) websites where they state their policies on carrying tandems. Links against each TOC will take members to a page giving more detailed information about the trains; their *actual* policies (which often differ from those published on the web) and other useful information.

The web page is still under development, with many blank spaces! If you have any recent, first-hand information which might help me fill in the blanks I would be very grateful to receive it.

Meanwhile please look at and use the website, then try using the train to explore a little further afield.

**PETER SIMPSON**

Rail Liaison Officer, [trains@tandem-club.org.uk](mailto:trains@tandem-club.org.uk)

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## ROYAL WEDDING PRESENT

### THANKS FOR YOUR WEDDING PRESENT, BORIS

**Catherine, Catherine, thanks for your answer, phew!**

**You know I was crazy, all for the love of you**

**It sure was a stylish marriage**

**With a most fantastic carriage**

**But now its done, we'll be as one on a bicycle made for two**

**IAN CORNFIELD (by Appointment ... ?)**

# TANDEM CLUB AGM 2011

## Minutes of the 39<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Tandem Club held at Arundel YH on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2011 at 17:00.

The meeting was opened by the secretary, Peter Hallowell, who welcomed approximately thirty-five members.

### 1. **Appointment of Tellers.**

Jan Prichard and Ian Hewitt volunteered and were appointed.

### 2. **Election of Chairman for the meeting.**

Neil Wheadon was proposed, seconded and elected unopposed.

### 3. **Apologies for absence.**

Received from Dorothy Davenhill.

### 4. **Minutes of the 38<sup>th</sup> AGM held on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2010, see TCJ 229**

Accepted.

### 5. **Matters arising**

None.

### 6. **Report from the Chairman on behalf of the committee.**

Neil read his report, see below (page 14), which was accepted – nem. con.

### 7. **The balance sheet, income and expenditure, trading accounts and Auditor's report thereon.**

Barbara highlighted the major points from the accounts published in TCJ234. It was proposed and seconded that the accounts, the treasurer's report and the continuation of the hardship fund be accepted – passed nem. con.

### 8. **Proposed by David Simpson and seconded by Peter Simpson that in item 11 of the Rules & Constitution "18) Computing/Membership Lists" be changed to "18) Computer Services".**

Passed, 32 votes in favour, 0 against.

### 9. **To set the annual subscription.**

It was proposed and seconded that subscriptions should remain unchanged – passed nem. con.

**10. Election of the following officers to the executive committee:**

The following were proposed, seconded and elected unopposed.

**1 Chairman** Neil Wheadon

*Despite the well-advertised fact that he wanted to stand down there was no-one willing to take over as Chairman, so Neil agreed to continue until a volunteer could be found on condition that he would not be expected to necessarily attend committee meetings.*

**2 Treasurer** Barbara Moir

**Six Ordinary members:**

David Bailey, Peter Crofts, Doreen and Harry Drew, Jan Prichard and Barry Wilson.

**Election of the following ex-officio members of the executive committee:**

**5 Membership Secretary** Sheila Ward

**7 Technical Adviser** Chris Peachey

**9 Racing Secretary**

**11 Touring Events Co-ordinator** Tony Prichard

**13 Regional Officer Co-ordinator** Michael Fuller

**14 Club Historian**

**15 Renewals Secretary** Caroline Hobbs

**19 International Liaison** Leslie Fuller

**20 Webmaster** Stuart Hibberd

**21 New Membership Enquiries** Peter Hallowell

**23 TCJ on Cassette** Anne & Mike Wesson

**25 Rail Liaison Officer** Peter Simpson

**Please note that the positions of Racing Secretary and Club Historian also remain vacant. Will any member interested in taking over either position please contact the secretary.**

**11. Appointment of Auditor** – Pinner Darlington was proposed, seconded and appointed unopposed.

**12. A.O.B.** – David Simpson asked that any member who had not supplied their email address to the club should send it to him as soon as possible so that he could maximise the number of renewal notices that could be sent out via email.

**PETER HALLOWELL**

# CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR AGM 2011

This has been my sixth year as chairman and will be my last.

The journal continues to be a credit to the club but Linda requires help. The committee have authorized £500 per issue to secure a production manager to help with the layout. Initial help was forthcoming, but this has now lapsed, so a solution is sought. The journals are very colourful and full of photographs from local groups. However the number of adverts is dropping, which is probably a sign of the times. Linda needs articles and photos, so please keep sending these.

The largest change this year was precipitated by Neville Frost's untimely death. For many years he had helped look after the clubs' website. Most members will notice little change and this is entirely due to club members pulling together to make it a success. Our thanks should primarily be directed to Tony Prichard and Eric Robertson for keeping this vital resource on track. However changes are afoot, Eric has requested to stand down and an overhaul of the website is anticipated.

As in previous years Barbara Moir's steady hand has kept our finances healthy; one needs only look at the accounts to see this.

Ian Lambert continues to oversee the club shop and sales are quite slow, but there were a few sales after publicity in the journal

Jane Taylor continues with publicity, we continue to advertise in Cycle and a few smaller local CTC magazines, but have stopped using Cycling Plus. Six months free membership is being offered at JD cycles, SJS and Tandem Experience and it is hoped to increase this to other outlets.

The new membership data base developed by David Simpson continues to yield positives for the club. The latest innovation is to remind members via E mail to renew. This will save postage and time.

The core touring events continued to attract plenty of members. Easter was at Ilam and our thanks to Karen Sutton and the Derbyshire group for organizing this. 240 tandemists attended the National Rally at Ringmer. This was ably organized by the 3 local groups in the South East, Surrey and Sussex, Kent and SE London. Having attended, there were plenty of helpers and it was a great success. The family camping event was in Lancashire organized by Andy and Christine Acklam, and it was good to see an event away from the south. Tony and Janet Prichard finished the year with the international in Luxembourg. Over 320 people attended and it was good to see this many tandems abroad again.

Tony Prichard has taken over touring this year and his enthusiasm is very apparent. He is looking forward to the international in 2013 which will be the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary and would like feedback as to location and type of rally required.

At the start of my tenure, my chief concern was the drop in membership, and although we haven't increased, membership is at the same level as it was 5 years ago. I feel that we have kept pace with developments, primarily as regards the web site and IT methodology. The journal has continued to improve, certainly in regards to presentation. The only downside could be conceived as a reduction in numbers at rallies, however as a percentage of membership it far exceeds other cycling organizations. All this is down to a wide base of volunteers and I would like to thank everybody for their help and support these past 6 years.

**NEIL WHEADON**

**Editor's Comment:** I wish to add some explanation to Neil's remarks in paragraph two. The Editors job, like all jobs within the club, is unpaid. The £500 was made available to pay for magazine layout assistance when either ill-health or heavy work commitments made it difficult for me to produce the magazine. I do my utmost to not use that money but I have had to take up the offer a couple of times recently. I did have a nice member working in the capacity of "Project Manager" for a while, who handled the emails and organised pre-proofing. Unfortunately due to personal problems he had to give up, so now I am handling the entire job again. This last year has been difficult for me as I have had some health problems resulting in three operations in a seven month period. I like doing the job, I just find it difficult to fit in all the work around working full time and recently, being ill too. Having tried the "Project Manager" approach, it did work, although I felt like I lost some control over what was forthcoming, as I did not see the articles until they were proofed. Ideally I would like to find another member to share the Editorial job with me, in such a way, that if one of us has a heavy workload one month, is ill, or wants to go on holiday, then the other one can cover those periods. I have heard of a club where each Editor does 6 months each. That sounds good to me – as each Editor then knows that after the 6 months, they can have a rest for 6 months, before they take over again, unless there is an emergency. If anyone thinks they would be interested, then please send me an email with your phone number, so that we can have a chat. My contact details are on page 3.

## EASTER RALLY PHOTOS



# NATIONAL RALLY 2011

Lucton School, Leominster,  
Herefordshire 20<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> August



We make no apology for including the booking form again in this issue of the Journal in an effort to persuade those who might have forgotten or who might still be thinking about coming. The response so far has been good but there's still plenty of room for more. This will be the last reminder you'll get!

The school catering staff, headed by Simon COOK, has come up with a superb varied menu and have kept within the price originally quoted of £3 for breakfast and £4 for a two course evening meal for adults. Packed lunches will be available if ordered and paid for by 10.00am on the day before. On Sunday morning there will be a leisurely start to the week with a brunch followed by the Velocio competition. We have arranged to have a picnic bag for Wednesday evening at Croft Castle in lieu of the evening meal at the school. On Friday evening it will be possible to book a meal in the school but, mindful of those who enjoy carbonized fare, the usual barbecues will be in operation. Now that we are certain of sufficient support we will shortly be emailing or posting a copy of the menu and an order form to everybody who is or will be attending the rally.

We are busy checking and refining the routes and negotiating discounts at various attractions. Some may remember the lunchtime feast at Presteigne Memorial Hall. We couldn't remember who organized it but the lady at the Tourist Office remembered who it was so there's going to be a repeat. Don't forget the cycle jumble – start digging out your unwanted bits and pieces now in readiness.

On the domestic front there is one matter which has been under consideration and that is the disposal of waste. The hiring of skips is becoming increasingly expensive particularly now that local authorities are using specialist firms for waste disposal. The school's capacity is limited and the local council recycling site will not accept our waste. Disposal of recyclable items such as bottles may not be too difficult but creeping down to the tip with 150 black bags will be! Consequently, wherever possible we are going to ask people to take their rubbish home with them. Obviously special consideration will be given to those, such as cycle campers, for whom such an arrangement will be impracticable.

We have arranged with Yarpole Community Shop (our national award winning volunteer run shop) to deliver essential supplies and pre-ordered groceries to the school during rally week. Should you require items on arrival please let us know well in advance. This may be of help to those who are cycling to Lucton.

## Booking

Please use the on-line booking form on the Tandem Club website if possible. Pay on-line or by cheque as you wish. Send cheques made out to 'The Tandem Club' to Norman Taylor, 2 Byecroft Stables, Bircher, Leominster, Herefordshire, HR6 0BP. If you have no email address and no computer access please use the form in the Journal and send it to the above address with a cheque and two SAEs – one for confirmation of your booking and the second for rally routes if you require them in advance.

## LUCTON BOOKING FORM

Please print names as you wish them to appear on the badges	<b>Name</b>				Membership No. of Party Leader only	Junior 0-15 D.O.B. please
<b>Party Leader</b>						
<b>Name 1</b>						
<b>Name 2</b>						
<b>Name 3</b>						
<b>Name 4</b>						
<b>Name 5</b>						
<b>Postal Address and Postcode</b>						
<b>Email Address</b>						
<b>Telephone No.</b>						
<b>Mobile Tel. No.</b>						
<b>Arrival &amp; Departure Dates 20<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> August</b>						
<b>Happy to help with →→→→→</b>	Arrival Desk   Children's Club   Bar   Games Rally Event   End of Rally Clear-up   Anything!					
<b>Children's T shirts - ages</b>	3 - 4		5 - 6	7 - 8	9 - 10	11 - 12
<b>Quantity @£5.00</b>						
<b>Adult T shirts - size</b>	XS34-36	S36-38	M38-40	L40-42	XL43-44	XXL44-46
<b>Quantity @ £6.50</b>						
<b>Notes/Comments</b>						

## PRICES

Item	Unit	Quantity	Cost	Total
Rally fee adult	Per adult		£15.00	
Adult camp fee	Per person per night		£5.50	
Junior camp fee 5 – 15 (under 5s free)	Per person per night		£1.00	
Adult/ Boarding House	Per person per night		£14.00	
Junior/Boarding House	Per person per night		£9.00	
T-Shirts	Each Kids/Adult		£5/£6.50	
<b>Grand Total</b>				

*If you participate in any ride or event organised by the Tandem Club you do so entirely at your own risk. The Club, its officers and ride organizers accept no responsibility for loss, damage to property, accident, injury or death, that may occur, however caused, whether by negligence, deliberate act or otherwise.*

Queries? Contact Norman at [nrtaylor1937@btinternet.com](mailto:nrtaylor1937@btinternet.com) or 01568 780243

# RALLIES AND HOW WE MAKE THEM HAPPEN

For a long time we have held two major events each year: The National Tandem Rally and The International Tandem Rally both attended by several hundred members. There are also three other events: The Easter Rally and new Year Rally, often arranged in Youth Hostels, and The Family Camping weekend which are attended by up to one hundred members.

We depend on volunteer members to find suitable sites and, together with a few other volunteers, take on the organisation. The club has produced some rally guidelines and financial guidelines, which together with support from the Touring Events Co-ordinator helps to make life a little easier. The other important ingredient is, of course, you - the members who come along and make it all work.

Over the last few months I have asked members to let their views on international rallies be known by means of an on-line survey and here are the results so far:

**Q1.** What time of year do you prefer?

**Response.** 50% preferred the last week in May and this reflects in the attendance figures for the last few years. The first two weeks in August scored 40% and 30% respectively with only a few people opting for the last two weeks or some other time. With so many members having school age children school holiday times are to be preferred although finding a week when all schools across Europe are on holiday is impossible.

**Q2.** How far are you prepared to travel to a rally?

**Response.** Surprisingly nearly half didn't have any preference with the rest fairly evenly split between up to two, three and four hundred miles. Normally we try to make it less than a days drive.

**Q3.** What distance do you like to ride each day?

**Response.** Fairly evenly split between 20-30, 30-40 and 40-50 miles. Only a few responders chose the longer rides although we shall continue to provide for them.

**Q4.** What kinds of roads are you comfortable with?

**Response.** This was fairly predictable in that most people preferred cycle paths in some form followed by roads. A sizeable minority are happy with grit and off road trails.

**Q5.** What evening activities do you like?

**Response.** No surprises here! Socialising with friends followed closely by wine tasting. All the other options produced similar high scores.

There is still time to add your views. The questionnaire is available on the club web site [www.tandem-club.org.uk](http://www.tandem-club.org.uk).

You will see from the chart below that there are a few spaces to be filled so if you have any ideas for a rally venue then please let me know. There is no obligation to be the organiser although your local knowledge will be useful.

So how are we set for the next few rallies?

	2011	2012	2013
Easter	Arundel	Volunteer required	Volunteer required
Family Camping	Polstead Paul Molyneaux	Volunteer required	Volunteer required
May Bank Holiday	International Jersey Daniel Hendriksen	International Normandy Neil Wheadon	25 <sup>th</sup> . International Tony Prichard (Site to be agreed)
August	National Lucton Norman Taylor	Volunteer required	National Kettering RFC Bill Groves
New Year	Volunteer required	Volunteer required	Volunteer required
Semaine Federal	Flers Lower Normandy 31 Jul – 7 Aug	Niort Poitou Charentes 5 – 12 August	75 <sup>th</sup> Event Nantes Loire Atlantique 1 <sup>st</sup> . week in August

**TONY PRICHARD**

(Touring Events Co-ordinator)

Tel: 01793 520734 Email [tony@tandem-club.org.uk](mailto:tony@tandem-club.org.uk)

## EASTER RALLY PHOTOS



# TEC TALK

## BUYING A NEW TANDEM

**COMFORT** should be your first priority so a personal visit to your dealer is highly recommended. The style of the machine will be determined by your choice of key components.

**FRAME SIZE** needs careful consideration. Whilst seat pillars can be raised and lowered to suit different leg lengths the reach from saddle to handlebars has very little scope for alteration. Also the possible height variation of the pilot's handlebars will be determined by the amount of steerer tube left uncut. This can be seen by looking at the amount of spacers fitted above and below the handlebar stem

**PILOT'S HANDLEBARS** Drop bars accept Sti/Ergo levers whilst straight bars only accept "mountain-bike" levers. The two types are NOT interchangeable as the bars are a different diameter. Hydraulic brakes only come with straight bar levers. Sti/Ergo levers used with V brakes need "Travel Agents" fitted to pull sufficient cable. The Avid BB7 cable operated disc brake can be used with levers fitted to any style of handlebar.

**TYRE & WHEEL SIZE** are your next major decision. 26" tyres are 35mm wide or more, whereas 700c tyres go from 20mm to 38mm. A 700c wheel is approximately 63mm larger in diameter and would not fit a frame made for 26" wheels only. A few manufactures still offer 48spoke wheels as an option. Replacement rims are commonly available with 32 or 36 holes and a few with 40 holes. 48 hole rims are only obtainable from a few specialist dealers. Rims wear out whereas hubs last a lifetime so consider future availability of spares.

**BRAKES** Disc brakes require frames and wheel hubs specially designed for their use. V brakes and other rim brakes can be used in conjunction with Disc or Drum brakes. A 3<sup>rd</sup> brake should have its own lever either on the Pilot's or Stoker's bars. An Arai drum brake requires a rear hub threading on the non-drive side.

**GEARS** will usually be either a hub gear (Rohloff 14 speeds) or 27 speeds with a 9 speed cassette and triple chain rings. Operation and chain tensioning of the Rohloff works best with frames specially designed for its use. 10/11 speed cassettes do not offer the wide touring ranges favoured by tourists.

**BUYERS** will find all combinations of the above options used by club members with various opinions on what is best. The main thing to remember when you are choosing your new machine is not to plan to make major changes to the key components in the future as this would incur a significant cost.

See the club's website for a list of dealers and manufacturers.

**CHRIS PEACHEY**  
[technical@tandem-club.org.uk](mailto:technical@tandem-club.org.uk)

# TANDEM CLUB EASTER RALLY REPORT

ARUNDEL 21<sup>st</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2011

The South East may be an overcrowded part of the country to some but for the 82 people, who came to this event organised by Ian and Jill Hewitt, here was England by tandem at its best. Everything came together for a wonderful rally. About half of the group stayed in friendly Arundel YH (including 7 families who camped on the front lawn), with the rest off-site. Ages ranged from 18 months to over 80 years, with 9 children. Best of all the weather was perfect all 4 days with not a cloud in the sky.



The rides were simple. Good Friday we went north over the Downs to see close-up the old Sussex; villages of flint and tile-hung houses surrounding cricket greens and small flint churches with wooden towers. Saturday we went east along beside the sea towards Shoreham, then inland via the Adur river valley and through the lovely villages of Steyning and Pulborough. The best came last on Easter Sunday, going west via Chichester, the harbour at Bosham and then inland through Slindon Forest, ending in a long climb followed by a fast drop back into Arundel. A good range of scenery; seaside beaches and promenades, the whale-backed Downs, villages, woods and open countryside. Memories of flowers: the smell of wild garlic, purple wisteria hanging from houses, primroses, honesty and cowslips by the roadside, above all a wild profusion of carpets of bluebells in the woods. Birds too; pheasants, doves and goldfinches by day, owls and the inevitable cuckoo at night and in the dawn chorus. Thanks to well-thought-out routes and clear detailed route sheets with grid refs, few of us got seriously lost, while the roads were surprisingly quiet apart from having to cross the odd busy dual carriageway.

The Sunday ride took some of us past the house under the Downs where Hilaire Belloc lived from 1903, linked with his melancholy poem about nearby Halnaker Mill:

*Sally is gone that was so kindly,  
Sally is gone from Ha'nacker Hill  
And the Briar grows ever since then so blindly;  
And ever since then the clapper is still...  
And the sweeps have fallen from Ha'nacker Mill.*

As you might expect at a TC Rally there were some interesting machines. Mike and Ann Edwards were there with their electrically-assisted tandem trike (see front cover and separate article on page 35) fitted with a 250W motor driving the front wheel. There was a recumbent trike; an ordinary tandem set up for a child using

the simple but effective idea of wooden blocks fitted to the pedals (photo right); and the stars of the rally, Tilman and Pia Schmidt-Hilger with their twin sons Konrad and Enno, on their Santana quadruplet (photo below and also page 19) having come by train and ferry from near Frankfurt. German of course has the precise word for everything, so it was decided this complete family transport should go under the special name we created for it:

**'Familienkomplettmobilitaetskonzept'.**

Says it all really.



Fishbourne Palace was a popular stop to see the beautiful Roman mosaic floors. Our favourite lunch stop was Bosham Harbour where we could look out at the small boats in the creek while eating our sandwiches. Several crews visited Chichester Cathedral on Easter Sunday. The Club AGM took place on Saturday – see separate report. On the Friday evening Mike Edwards gave a talk on cycling in Sri Lanka, there was a noisy mass participation quiz on Saturday evening, and we enjoyed a celebration evening meal on the Sunday for about 65 people.

A good deal of thought and advance preparation had obviously gone into the Rally but Ian and Jill also made the weekend a special one by their warm welcome. Many thanks to Ian and Jill for arranging such an excellent Rally.



Finally several people asked about the route/map roller that Jenny and I have on our tandem (photo right). You can buy this useful accessory from the Vintage Motor Cycle Club online shop at

[www.vmcc.net/vmccshop/mcartfree/product.asp?intProdID=3663](http://www.vmcc.net/vmccshop/mcartfree/product.asp?intProdID=3663)

Group photo taken outside Hostel – see next page.

Additional photos on pages 15, 19 and 42.

Photographic contributions by:  
Peter Weeks, Ian Hewitt and Mike Edwards.  
(The Editor apologises if she has missed anyone out!)



**PETER WEEKS**



## Our bike and us



**Thorn's designer, test pilot and touring Guru, Andy B. (pictured above with partner Fiona) share the experience of riding their very own Thorn Raven Discovery tandem.**

"I have owned many tandems. Some have cost, in real terms, twice as much as our Raven Discovery yet I can honestly say that "this is the best tandem I have ever ridden"

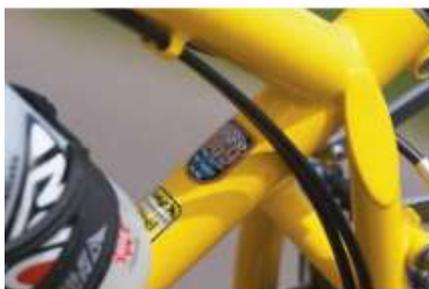
**"this is the best tandem I have ever ridden"**

Fiona and I prefer to take long cycle camping holidays together, on our solos but we also enjoy the immense exhilaration of riding a tandem together, consequently, as you can see, the "banana split" is set up for Audax riding, where the ultra rigid, yet very comfortable, double marathon frame allows us to make the most of our efforts... it also allows Fiona to "fidget" on the back without unintentionally steering the machine. The frame handles so

well that it allows us to out-corner the solos. Although we use ours for Audax rides, we could simply add a front carrier and some big bags and it would be more than ready for one of our major tours.

The Rohloff hub is a revelation for tandem use! When you need a low gear... it's there! If you stop in the wrong gear... you can start in the right one... without fuss! I would hate to have to use derailleur gears on anything other than a cyclosporitif solo bike again.

The XTR V brakes are very powerful and the tandem's long wheelbase allows us to take full advantage of them... we can out-brake any solo.



Because the brakes are so good and the bike handles so well, I am confident to let it roll on most descents... so we don't need the optional disc brake.

The optional S+S couplings enables the bike to easily fit into most medium sized hatch backs, bus holds, solo airline bike boxes or bike racks on trains." Andy Blance July 2006

**Arrange your test ride on a Raven Twin tandem today with Thorns 100 day 100% money back if not delighted guarantee\***



### About the Raven Twins

The Raven Twins are a family of three different tandems; they all use the ultra reliable 14 speed Rohloff hub, which offers many advantages for tandems. They all use our exclusive Thorn 969 (cold drawn, seamless, heat treated double butted) mega size 4130 Cro-Mo tandem-specific tube set, with Reynolds 531 tandem gauge, twin plate crown, forks. The comprehensive cable guides, which allow multiple brake options, are stainless steel, as are the 6mm bosses provided for front and rear carriers. All the frame sizes are available with or without S+S couplings, in a choice of three colours.

**Rohloff** 

14 speed internal hub gear

## Advantages

- > Minimum maintenance... hub totally sealed from grime
- > Low running costs
- > No weight penalty!
- > Rohloff state that nobody has **yet worn out**, or experienced a **total failure** with, one of their hubs... that's over ten years & 50,000 hub units!
- > **14 usable gears** (even spaced @ 13.6%)
- > **Excellent gear range** (526%)
- > Perfect chain line = less wear
- > Dishless rear wheel & shorter spokes make a much **stronger wheel**
- > **Quick, easy, wheel removal and fitting**... No Tools or adjustment required
- > Super **quick** gear change
- > Change as many gears as you want at any time even without pedalling
- > Indexing mechanism within hub so **cable adjustment is not critical**
- > No derailleurs to collect grime, get bashed or cause the chain to come off and jam... **No chain suck!**
- > **Chain slip can't happen** with our frame!
- > Service life **over 160,000km**
- > Much **cleaner** & easier to clean
- > [www.rohloff.de](http://www.rohloff.de)

\* available on all new complete Raven tandems.

[www.thorncycles.co.uk](http://www.thorncycles.co.uk)  
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# TAYLOR MADE

There are three custom frame builders that made 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary bicycles: Schwinn Paramount of Chicago, Toei of Japan and the Taylor brothers of the UK.

There were under 400 Paramount tandems made, only a handful of Toei were made over the years but the Taylor brothers made thousands.

“Think about it, when you make anything the same over and over again, then you get really good at making it”.

In this article I am going focus on the Taylor tandems.

The early Jack Taylors were really not that great, it was a learning curve for the Taylors. The fillet brazing on the frames left a lot to be desired, especially around the bottom brackets and base tube, where it was rather less than smooth and lacking elegance. Some say this was done for strength, I really don't know, but on later Norman frames the joints were perfectly smooth.

The tubing was thin gauge, open frame style tandem without the down tube. If the Tandems came back to the shop, Jack would add an 18 gauge Reynolds down tube to stiffen them up a bit, making it into a double diamond frame. Later



refinements were the addition of an oval tube between the bottom brackets, a heavier tandem fork and an oversize metric headset. Soon to be followed by front and rear pannier carriers, concealed wiring for the lights and fenders. The Taylor Tandems were now all built with special Reynolds 531 tandem gauge tubing which gave Jack Taylor tandems their well-deserved reputation for strength. The hubs and wheels were also a problem; you only have to look in early T C Journals about spoke breakage. That long chain looked so cool, but it added two pounds weight, in order to get a few more gears on a short wheel base tandem. Jack would upgrade every few years as things improved. Just like the V W Beetle they kept the basic design but keep improving on it. Jack said they are always striving for perfection, but it is sometimes difficult having 3 brothers working together for over 50 years. (They must have had a great mother!)



WHY, you may ask, were the Taylor bicycles so popular in America? My list:-

1. First and foremost was the "Bicycle Boom" in the United States in the 1970's. For the first time in years bicycles were in high demand. The only hi-end tandem available in the States was the Schwinn Paramount 10 speed racing tandem at \$425 and a one year's wait – so, we placed our order and waited.

In the UK the only Tandem still in production was the Jack Taylor. Big Wheel Ltd. in Denver Colorado was importing them at \$349.50, listed in their mail order catalogue.

The following year we attended our first tandem rally on our brand new blue Paramount to be greeted by a swarm of Jack Taylors in every colour of the rainbow. This domination would last a couple years, before long everyone was making Tandems. The very first Santana was a spin-off of a Jack Taylor with a longer wheelbase, the way many teams prefer, but was a real drag up the hills.

2. The three brothers were very outgoing; everything would stop when the Yanks arrived from the U.S. to order a tandem. It was like having a suit made by a Saville Row tailor, not really, but the same attention to your wants and details. The brothers were all old enough to remember the War vividly and Norman was very

proud of his Jeep, at any rate there was a real connection. They could not believe we would come all the way from the States to order one of their bicycles. I guess after all we are all bicycle people and we would chat Campagnolo all day.

3. In 1956 an American couple stopped by the Taylors to pick up a tandem to take on their honeymoon, a tour of Europe - they were the first of many American couples to follow. Their names were David and Audrey Radmore. Audrey designed the "Mondarian" style transfers, now with flamboyant colours, so the Taylors had the look they would become famous for. On their return to the States the Radmores took 5 Taylor bicycles back with them. "The seeds were planted".

4. The colours of the bicycles were painted in the richest hues. In Playboy magazine in 1971 the centre spread was a Jack Taylor Tandem painted in Imperial Purple, with white box lining listed at \$375. The flamboyant finish was very difficult to apply, but Jack became a master after trial and error until he got it right. By the end of production, Jack could do an entire tandem frame box lining in less than 15 minutes, with his magic wheel, and carry on a conversation with you at the same time.



5. Most Jack Taylors imported to the States were frames only, as the duty on a bicycle frame was much less than that on a completed bicycle. Campagnolo U.S.A. was here, you could buy Campy parts cheaper than you could in Italy. The first Taylor Tandem frame cost only \$250. If you ordered a Campy drive train it would cost an additional \$300. We were buying Campagnolo Record tandem drive train boxed sets at our local Catholic religious store, the Italian connection. Another factor was the special tandem Phil Wood 48 hole sealed hubs, almost all Taylors in the States had them.

6. The Taylors catalogue did not change for many years and was a simple line drawing presentation. Once you ordered your machine, you received a detailed description and a thank-you note from Jack.

7. No hassle shipping direct to your door step with the package carefully wrapped by Ken. Opening a box from the Taylors was like Christmas, always with a note - "Have a Nice Ride".

8. Karolyn and I attended most of the Tandem Rallies in the 1970's "Bike Boom Years". In recent years at rallies you rarely see a Taylor tandem anymore, I wonder what ever became of all those bicycles? Most young couples now ride racing tandems. We always come in last, riding with the family's with young children, having taken some good photographs.

In closing:

Jack always said he was a 19th century man born in the 20th century. He was truly one of a kind, that you rarely meet in a lifetime. Jack still lives in Stockman in the cottage he had built for his wife Mary, so many years ago.

Footnote:

Jack Taylor home coming at the YORK RALLY in 2011

CTC the rally organizers, are putting together a celebration of Jack Taylor Cycles 75th Jubilee.

Jack founded the company in 1936. There will be a show of Jack Taylor bikes and other items, and a special presentation for Jack and Ken and their wives with rides on both days. A group of Americans will also be there with their J.T. bicycles.

Jack is now 93 years old and Ken is 84 years old.

Norman passed away last year, at 85. Journal # 222

Taylor bicycles are all over the world from Saudi Arabia to South Africa - you may meet a Taylor bicycle coming down the road.



Photos are of a 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Jack Taylor Super Touring Model, made of Reynolds 531 tandem gauge tubes, forks and stays.

**STEPHEN AND KAROLYN REKER**



Photo taken in the Yorkshire Wolds of my wife Sarah on our tandem - a tour of the Wolds, Moors and Dales. **CHRIS INCE**

# TAKE A SEAT BY DOMINIC GILL

## Book Review

To travel from Alaska to the southern tip of South America would be a wonderful adventure. To do the journey solo on a tandem with a trailer in the hope of picking up “stokers” en-route would be a mammoth challenge. It might even be considered foolhardy. Dominic Gill’s book *Take a Seat* charts his battles with the extremes of terrain and climate during his 18,449 mile journey. It also provides plenty of lighter moments when the generosity of strangers banished his weariness during the 26 months it took to complete this epic ride.

As a “stoker” who thought we were doing well to do 50 miles a day for five days and was quite proud of a non-stop ascent of Hartside, I read his account of scaling the mountainous roads of the Americas with awe. The variety of landscapes, the changing atmosphere of countries and cities and the characters of the “stokers” and Dominic’s hosts all make this book a fascinating read.

Along with this is of course the silent hero - Achilles the Tandem. It is the nature of tandems to attract interest and to break down barriers, indeed in the final stages of the journey Achilles became an icebreaker in another sense. Battered by terrible road conditions and burdened by many “stokers” Achilles remained steadfast and bore his rider to his final goal.

Copies of *Take a Seat* by Dominic Gill 2010, published by Mainstream Publishing Edinburgh ISBN 9781845965853 can be obtained from main booksellers and Amazon. Retail price £11.99

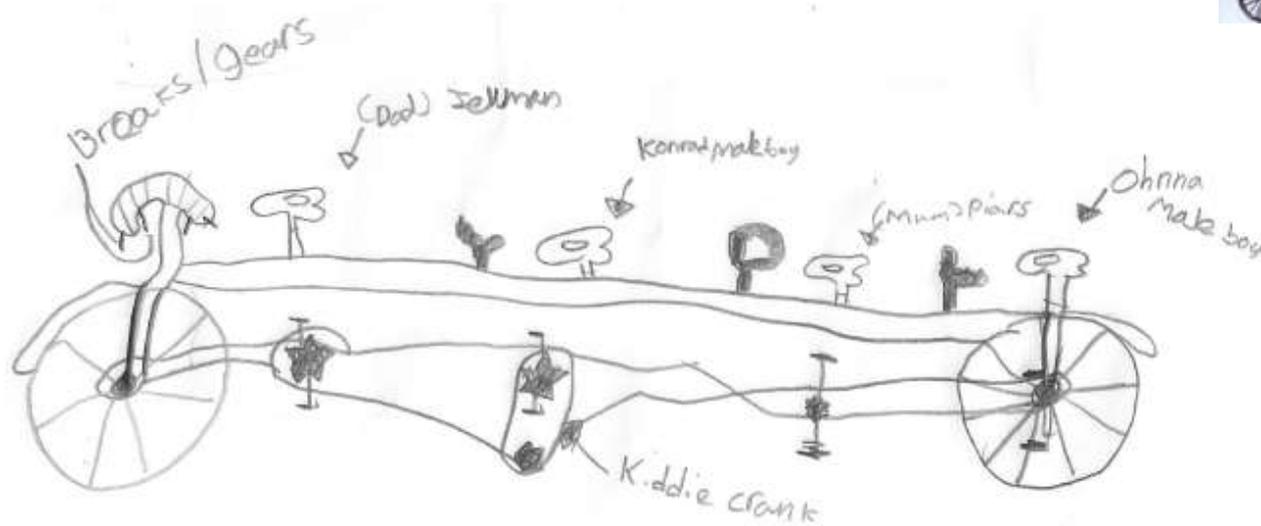
**JANICE MORRIS**

**Editor’s Comment:** Many thanks for this Janice – it is nice to have something a bit different. If any readers have also enjoyed a tandeming or bicycling book, maybe they too would like to write me a lovely short sweet review like this one.

Amazon currently have it on offer at £7.60 and there is a link to this from his website <http://www.takeaseat.org/> where it also states that it is now an award-winning documentary and there is loads of other information too, plus details of a charity that he supports.



I have also checked with my local libraries and they also have one copy between them, so I think I will be making a reservation – it sounds very interesting.



The Easter rally was really exciting. On the way we met a German couple with there two children (Ohnna and Konrad) I enjoyed it so much. Me, my mum and my dad will hold a family camping weekend soon <sup>in Plymouth</sup> so keep a eye on this space!!!  
By Anna Bulloch age 9

Picture drawn by Anna Bulloch (age 9). Her family was one of the Campers at Crossbush (photo below). The text says:

**The Easter Rally was really exciting. On the way we met a German couple with their two children (Ohnna and Konrad) I enjoyed it so much (sic). Me, my mum and my dad will hold a family camping weekend (sic) soon in Plymouth so keep an eye on this space!!! By Anna Bulloch age 9.**

(Ohnna should be Enno)



### EAST CHESHIRE

17<sup>th</sup> April 2011



The first ride of the new East Cheshire group drew eleven participants including four children on a warm and sunny spring day. We started with very steep cobbles out of Bollington, took in pleasant lanes between the villages to the west of Macclesfield and stopped for lunch in Henbury. The party split in two for the afternoon, offering an easier route via the Middlewood Way and a harder route via the hills to the east before tea and cake in the leader's garden.

We look forward to a continued active programme focussed on family riding.

**SIMON PRESTON**

### EAST SOLENT & THE IOW

We have had a most successful series of rides since I last wrote. We started the year with a short ride on the 30<sup>th</sup> January from Mike & Ann's home in Emsworth to Keydell Nurseries in Horndean. The next one in February was hosted by Colin & Kate on Hayling Island and they took us on a most imaginative tour of the island. The island is small but they managed to zig zag around and we must have ridden round almost every road. A minor hiccup was the pub where we were intending lunch. Despite being told we were coming they had no room for our fairly large group. Colin came to the rescue and took us across the road to another pub where they gladly provided food. The March ride started from the home of our ROs Ian & Gill at Rowlands Castle and they took us by a roundabout scenic route to Bosham taking us right round the harbour. Once again we had a good attendance and were pleased to welcome three children on the ride. This was great because we are

mainly an older group and some young families coming along will hopefully encourage more. Lunch was spent by a mixture of picnicking by the water and hot food in the cafe at the craft centre.

Our final event was our annual long weekend held once again at the Milford Hall Hotel in Salisbury. This was our third year running at this venue and was so



successful that we will be going again next year. Twenty two riders attended and we were pleased to welcome Paul & Barbara from the Thameswey Group. We had our own room for the evening meal and this will give us room to expand for the future. I feel that we can easily open it out to any other groups next year. The cost is very reasonable and there is so much to see in Salisbury and the surrounding area. Being only 50 miles from most of our homes about half of our riders rode from home, the others coming by car. Mike & Ann led a short ride on the Friday to the hill fort of Old Sarum. The Saturday ride was led by Barry & Jill and took in the famous Ginger Piggery at Boyton for elevenses. This is a craft centre and cafe built on the site of an old piggery. Mike led a shorter ride from there and the longer ride that Barry intended was shortened due to problems with a chain.



Dave led the ride on Sunday and the twenty two of us completely overwhelmed the small cafe in Fordingbridge.

They rose magnificently to the occasion and managed to fit us into a small space and take care of our eating and drinking needs. We all had a picnic lunch in good weather at Broad Chalk, and then made our way back in time for some to attend Evensong at the Cathedral.



## **DELILAH (OUR LITTLE ELECTRIC HELPER)**

Ann and I have been tandeming for a considerable time and have now reached ages of 80 & 81. Naturally we are not as quick as we once were and for some time we have had some difficulty in keeping up with the group on our George Longstaff tandem trike. I considered fitting a small electric motor and did my research on the internet. At the same time Trevor Jarvis, maker of the famous Flying Gate tandems was looking for a little help, in his case due to a medical condition. He took the plunge and bought an electric motor for his solo. We saw it in action on one of his famous weekends and were immediately sold on the idea. When talking, he told us the make of his motor. However he had discovered that Alien Bikes in Scotland supplied a better model and at a cheaper price. This was one of the sites I had visited and very soon I was talking to Jim Stevenson, the owner of the company. Although he had not supplied one for a tandem, let alone a trike he felt that the larger 35volt model would cope. Eighteen months ago I decided to buy one and fit

it to the trike. We honestly have not looked back. We can now easily keep up and if we really try we can leave the rest standing. Not to be done often because this really drains the battery and would not give us many miles duration. We find that using it sparingly, just when needed on hills or against a strong wind we can get about a 50 mile range. We did once in a relatively flat area get almost 100 miles.



Fitting is relatively easy and anyone who maintains their own bikes would find it easy. I did have to grind out the drop outs of the forks, but notice that on the later models the spindle is thinner so this is not as necessary. I now have one on a solo and on this I had to spring out the forks slightly. The battery fits inside a special carrier which comes with the kit. The electrical wiring is easy, being all supplied and having colour coding or numbered connections. It comes with brakes which switch the motor off when applied, but I dispensed with these. They would not fit on drop handlebars or with brake and gear controls combined. The speed control is spring loaded to switch off when the hand is removed. I do this to apply the brakes on my solo and Ann has the control on the trike.

There is another fitment called a pedalec. This switches the motor on when one pedals. Once again I did not fit it because I do not want to necessarily have the motor running when pedalling. There is a switch which can isolate this but for me why have it in the first place. Not using the pedalec will almost double the mileage obtained from a charged battery. I checked with the CTC and we are allowed to ride with the club providing the motor is legal. This means a maximum of 15mph under power or no limit when not using the motor. The non-fitting of the special brake levers and pedalec is a grey area. They are required in the EU but does this include the UK - I would plead ignorance. How we use it is certainly safe, providing one uses common sense.

Jim Stevenson from Alien Bikes on 01592 780528 is most helpful but orders must be done online and the web site is [www.alienbikes.co.uk/](http://www.alienbikes.co.uk/).

I am prepared to advise TC members who are interested, having now fitted three different models. My email address is [mikeedwardsbike@aol.com](mailto:mikeedwardsbike@aol.com).

See also front cover photo.

**MIKE EDWARDS**

## LANCASTER & BLACKPOOL

10<sup>th</sup> April 2011

Three Tandems and a solo left Matt & Mary's house at Scorton on a glorious sunny Sunday morning. Choosing a low route to minimise climbing they headed through Garstang and Stubbins before tackling the first hill of the day, the drag up to Inglewhite. As the strong spring sunshine banished the overnight chill it was jackets off for the undulating ride across the foothills of the Forest of Bowland to the coffee stop in Chipping. A swift whoosh across the Vale of Chipping to Doeford Bridge was quickly followed by a steady drag up to Cow Ark and Browsholme Hall. It was great to see the young lambs gambolling in the sunshine. Turning onto a narrow lane we followed its winding course through sharp cloughs until it joined the Waddington Fell road for the last rush down into Waddington.

After a picnic in the garden by the stream we took the pleasant lane to Bashall Town and Higher Hodder Bridge but then came the seemingly never ending drag up Chaigley Brow and along the north flank of Longridge Fell. The reward was the superb view of the high Bowland Fells bathed in sunshine and a superb swoop down to Hesketh Lane. A few more undulating miles brought us to Inglewhite from where we followed NCN route 6 back to Scorton for tea completing some 46 sunny miles.

**MATT HODGES**

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## NORFOLK

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> April

Just 2 tandems and a solo set off from Norwich for Reepham on a fine Sunday morning, initially on the excellent Marriott Way cycle path leading out from Norwich city centre. After reaching Drayton the Marriott way was exchanged for roads to avoid all the tandem-unfriendly gates, re-joining a couple of miles short of Whitwell station where a new section of railway has been laid parallel to the original to allow running of the preserved engines. From here we rode directly to Reepham station



for lunch which had to include a piece of the homemade Norfolk Shortcake. Starting off downhill on the return, we passed the rather extraordinary church at Booton and took a different route back to join the Marriott way again at Drayton to return into the City.

At least this time we remembered the camera!

**ROY ABIGAIL**

## THREE COUNTIES

10<sup>th</sup> April 2011

As our April ride started near the most southerly part of our region and was going into Wiltshire we invited members from the West Country region to join us and we were pleased to welcome three crews from there. Eddie and Heather had planned the route and the refreshment stops but illness at the last moment prevented them from taking part in the ride. However, they provided us with a marked map and we completed the ride without difficulty.



The five tandems that started from Aston Down went to Cherington via Minchinhampton where we were joined by another two crews and the fourteen cyclists continued to Tetbury where we had coffee sitting in the garden of the cafe in glorious sunshine. Afterwards we continued south then west through Easton Grey and Foxley to Malmesbury for lunch at The Whole Hog. On the way we met several cyclists, many of whom were taking part in the Chippenham Wheelers White Horse Weekend. After lunch, and ice creams from the tricycle-mounted cold box outside the Poultry Cross, we cycled back along quiet lanes through Hankerton, Chedglow and Rodmarton to Chalford where Heather had arranged tea for us in the garden at Westley Farm. Thanks to everyone who helped to make this an excellent day's cycling.



**8<sup>th</sup> May 2011**

Five tandem crews met at Hayles Fruit Farm near Winchcombe for our May ride, most of whom had ridden from their homes. Graham and Helen led us around the relatively flat area at the base of the Cotswolds thus combining easy cycling with the beauty of this part of Britain. A route through Stanway and Stanton soon brought us to the archetypal Cotswold village of Broadway already thronged with visitors enjoying the mellow stone of the buildings. After further northward progress we entered Bretforton where we were joined by another tandem crew for lunch in the National Trust owned Fleece Inn, now rebuilt after a disastrous fire.



Our afternoon ride into a stiff breeze followed a more westerly route crossing the line of the restored Gloucestershire and Warwickshire railway, although steam engines were not running here on this occasion. There was a final stop at the railway station at Toddington for

tea and cake before the short ride back to the Fruit Farm where we said our goodbyes after another excellent day's cycling.

**ROGER AND JENNY MCNAE**

# WESSEX

20<sup>th</sup> March 2011

Full ride report in previous issue, but photos were rather late arriving.

The ride was north of Wimborne and involved a walk up Blagdon Hill.



PHOTOS BY JANET BEITH

*Please send all items for inclusion in this section to the Editor by the deadline date, which is the 22<sup>nd</sup> of the month prior to production. Contact details and publication dates can be found in the front pages of the Journal. If adverts are not typed or emailed, please write clearly. Copy will be edited to ensure that first line of advert will be highlighted and advertisers name, telephone number and location included.*

**RATES:** For Sale: Under £100 is FREE. Otherwise 10p per word (members)  
20p per word (non-members). Photos £1.50 each  
Wanted: FREE  
Accommodation: 30p per word

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## FOR SALE

### LANDESCAPE TANDEM FOR SALE

All alu frame 44cm captain, 37cm stoker, centre top. Shimano 27spd, Avid disc brakes, straight bars, mudguards, rack.

New in 2005; we've only done 1100, mostly dry, miles. It's well specified, well cared for, in excellent condition: hence our asking price of £1,150.00.

Tel: 01629 734800 Grant and Liz or email: [liz.uplands@uwclub.net](mailto:liz.uplands@uwclub.net) (Derbyshire)



**PENDLE TANDEM CARRIER** for attaching to car roof bars. £50 plus carriage. Bob Edwards. Tel: 01865 407781 or 07889693037 (Barbara's mobile) or email: [edwards@bobandbarbara.co.uk](mailto:edwards@bobandbarbara.co.uk) (South Oxfordshire – OX14)

**CHARTER LEA CUPS** for  $\frac{5}{16}$  balls and some  $1\frac{1}{8}$ " headset parts. Free. Tel: 01933 680454 Pete (Nr Wellington, Northants)

**EMMELLE CADET**, 333 tubing, 15" seat tube, 20" x  $1\frac{1}{8}$  alloy wheels, 5.5" cranks, 6 gears. Spare original steel 20 x  $1\frac{3}{8}$ " wheels included. £50. Tel: 01933 680454 Pete (Nr Wellington, Northants)



**27" WHEELS** – 2 pairs - free.

Tel: 01242 526084 Joan Greenaway (Cheltenham - GL53)

**THORN XTC** metallic cherry red, large 560 medium/long 27 gears, cost £1153, little used due to declining health, £400 ono.

Tel: 01242 526084 Joan Greenaway (Cheltenham - GL53)

**MARIN POINT REYES**, 22" alloy frame, good condition, cost about £800 in 1997, little used, £250 ono. Tel: 01242 526084 Joan Greenaway (Cheltenham - GL53)

**PTO for more**

**LADYBACK TANDEM 21" X 17"**, Shimano 21 speed, wheels 700; used very little, £700. Jim Meredith. Tel: 01507 523320 (Lincs – LN9)  
(Photo: Right)



**DAHON SPEED PRO**, folding bike, 24 gears, yellow, nearly new, cost £750, £375 ono.  
Tel: 01242 526084 Joan Greenaway  
(Cheltenham - GL53)

**MERCIAN SUPER TOURIST TANDEM** VGC 25" x 21" Ruby Red, built early 90's. £750. For more details, contact Myles Tel: 01524 782044 (N. Lancashire, LA6)

## WANTED

**THORN TANDEM WITH S&S COUPLINGS** and Rohloff gears. Contact: Adrian Alexander Tel: 07905 330798 or 01444 230823 or email: [adrian@btinternet.com](mailto:adrian@btinternet.com)

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## EASTER RALLY PHOTOS





**Club-led day rides and other activities. Contact your Regional Officer or the Event Organiser for more information. All welcome to come along and join in.**

*If you participate in any ride organised by or in the name of the Tandem Club, you do so entirely at your own risk. The Club, its officers and the ride organisers accept no responsibility for any loss, damage to property, accident, injury or death that may occur, however caused, whether by negligence, deliberate act or otherwise.*

## GENERAL

*Please let the organisers know when you plan to join a run so that they know who to wait for, etc. If you like to ride with others and are interested in organising a run in your area and would like to know what it takes or how it's done – please feel free to contact your Regional Officer.*

Details of all Regions' contact details and any corresponding websites can be viewed at [http://www.tandem-club.org.uk/\\_regionalgroups.htm](http://www.tandem-club.org.uk/_regionalgroups.htm)

## BIRMINGHAM

Monthly rides most of the year of around 30 - 40 miles and always include at least one stop for lunch at a well-chosen venue with sometimes a morning coffee/tea stop as well. If we start from someone's house, we start and end with a bit of a chat and get-together. If you would like to join us on a ride, then please ring Rob or Elizabeth on 01527 878255

## EAST CHESHIRE

New group has started with emphasis on family rides. See article on page ??.  
Contact Simon Preston Tel: 01625 576319 or 07799496080  
email: [simonpreston@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:simonpreston@tiscali.co.uk)

**EAST LONDON, SOUTH & WEST ESSEX** - Regular monthly rides covering all of Essex to the west and south of Chelmsford. For further details contact Nic Ketley, Tel: 020 8518 8190 email: [nketley@doctors.org.uk](mailto:nketley@doctors.org.uk)  
or visit: <http://www.tandemsinessex.btinternet.co.uk/>

**HERTS** - Join us for a ride 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat/Sun of the month. 30-40 miles.  
Family orientated. Pace to suit. An evening social drink at a local pub on the first Thursday of the month. Kim and Julian Kirby. Tel: (Mobile) 07944 654213 or  
email: [jr.kirby@ntlworld.com](mailto:jr.kirby@ntlworld.com) or [kim.kirby@ntlworld.com](mailto:kim.kirby@ntlworld.com)

**NETHERLANDS** - Contact <http://www.tandemclub.nl/activiteiten.html> for Dutch ride information. The site is entirely in Dutch but emails in English are answered in English. Marten Hoffmann webmaster of <http://www.tandemclub.nl> +31 343 457392  
[info@tandemclub.nl](mailto:info@tandemclub.nl)

**NORFOLK (NR)** - Regular monthly rides, normally second weekend of the month.  
Contact Roy Abigail for details, 01603 612104, [abigail@btinternet.com](mailto:abigail@btinternet.com).

**NORTH WALES** - Regular monthly rides all year. Contact Gerald or Sue Davison for latest information on 01352 752068 or see [www.tandemnw.org](http://www.tandemnw.org)

**NORTH WEST (Liverpool & Preston)** - a new discussion board for collaboration of the North West members. You can check it out here:

<http://tcnorthwest.freeforums.org>

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE** - Regular monthly rides, usually second Saturday. Length can vary with season. For more details contact Pippa and John by email at: [highwheelers@gmail.com](mailto:highwheelers@gmail.com) or Helen and Graham on 0115 841 8811.

**PETERBOROUGH (PS to PE)** rides on the fourth Saturday of the month. For enquiries please contact John or Elaine on 01733 20 24 70 or by email: [joel.black@ntlworld.com](mailto:joel.black@ntlworld.com)

**SHROPSHIRE** - Monthly social rides throughout the county ideal for Tandems. Tel: The Tandem Shop 01952 883249.

**SOUTH EAST LONDON** - For details of our programme of rides and activities, see our website: <http://www.tandemclub-southeastlondon.org.uk> or contact Tricia on 020 8325 8445.

**SOUTH SCOTLAND** - Regular monthly rides. Usually first weekend of the month. Details from Michael & Linda Hamilton, 4 Wilfrid Terrace, Edinburgh EH8 7DH for a runs list and more info. Tel: 0131 661 2516 or email [Michael.hamilton@virgin.net](mailto:Michael.hamilton@virgin.net) or [Linda.hamilton3@virgin.net](mailto:Linda.hamilton3@virgin.net) .

**SUFFOLK** - Rides are first Sunday in each month. For details: Ken and Margaret on 01394 388344 or see our website <http://www.tandemclubsuffolk.co.uk>

**THAMESWEY** - Monthly rides around Berkshire, Hampshire or South Oxfordshire. For details contact Paul or Barbara on 0118 941 2994 or email: [thamesweytandem@googlemail.com](mailto:thamesweytandem@googlemail.com)

**THREE COUNTIES** - Regular monthly rides in Gloucestershire, Herefordshire and Worcestershire. For details contact Roger and Jenny on 01531 637312 or email: [roger@themcnaes.plus.com](mailto:roger@themcnaes.plus.com) or see our web-site for details <http://www.3countiestandemclub.org.uk/>

**WAKEFIELD** - Regular Sunday rides throughout the year. Contact Tony and Margaret for details on 01977 700687.

**WESSEX** - Monthly rides all year. Contact Sheila Ward on 01590 671205, or email [sheilaward@talktalk.net](mailto:sheilaward@talktalk.net) for details.

**WEST COUNTRY** - Regular monthly rides throughout the year. Contact Jackie and Stuart Hibberd. Tel: 01179 695159 or email [stuart.jackie@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:stuart.jackie@tiscali.co.uk). Also regular monthly socials. Contact Jean and Denis on 01454 775786 or email: [denisbradbeer@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:denisbradbeer@blueyonder.co.uk)

**WEST YORKSHIRE** - Rides all year, mostly in the north-west of the region. Go to group web-site from [www.tandem-club.org.uk](http://www.tandem-club.org.uk) or contact Steve & Anna on 01535 658925.

**Notations used for speed/distance: E = Easy, Av = Average, H = Hard**

<b>Thursday 16 June 2011</b>	
<i>East Solent &amp; IOW</i>	Start Racton Nr Emsworth 10:30. 30m, Av. Meet at the leader's home for refreshments and then leave at 11:15 for a ride to Buriton for lunch. Choice of two pubs or a picnic site. Please note that this is a Thursday ride. Barry & Gill, 01243 373 651.
<b>Saturday 18 June 2011</b>	
<i>West Country</i>	Start St. Nicholas' Church Community Cafe, Church St., Radstock 10:30. 25m, E. Ride using NCN to Frome, Nunney and Cranmore. Eugene & Sally, 01761 434229.
<b>Sunday 19 June 2011</b>	
<i>Kent</i>	Start St. Margaret's, Nr Dover 9:45. 45m, Av. This ride will take us into Dover, up to Capel for coffee. Kittiwake Pub for lunch. Then over the north downs for to Sandwich for afternoon Tea or ice cream. Nick and Simon Ferrer, 01304 364657, email: <a href="mailto:ferrer@tiscali.co.uk">ferrer@tiscali.co.uk</a> .
<i>Three Counties</i>	Start Leominster 10:00. 35m. Brian and Sylvia, 01568 612272.
<b>Saturday 25 June 2011</b>	
<i>Milton Keynes</i>	Start Leaders' house, Newport Pagnell 18:00. 15-20m, E. Chip shop ride. Short ride followed by visit to the local chip shop. Alan and Linda Piggott, 01908 613187.
<b>Sunday 26 June 2011</b>	
<i>Derbyshire</i>	Start Etwall, Derbyshire 10:00. 35m, E. TRAIL QUEST. A one day event with participating crews competing for maximum points. Each crew navigates their own route to visit as many "point carrying" venues as possible in a restricted time. Fun for all. Bob Pitt, 01332 723719.
<i>Leicester Charnwood</i>	Start The Leader's Home, Bourne Lincolnshire 10:00. 35-40m, Av. Mike & Lynette, 0771 4730432, email: <a href="mailto:michael@cockerill.org.uk">michael@cockerill.org.uk</a> .
<i>South East London</i>	Start Yalding, Kent 09:15. 40m. Annabelle & David, 01689 835673, email: <a href="mailto:annabelle.sims@btinternet.com">annabelle.sims@btinternet.com</a> .
<b>Thursday 30 June 2011</b>	
<i>West Country</i>	20:00. The Anchor, Church Rd., Oldbury on Severn. BS35 1QA. For last Thursday in month social. Please give Jean and Denis as much notice as possible of your intention to attend so that they can inform the pub of numbers. Denis & Jean, 01454 775786, email: <a href="mailto:denisbradbeer@blueyonder.co.uk">denisbradbeer@blueyonder.co.uk</a> .
<b>Saturday 02 July 2011</b>	
<i>Milton Keynes</i>	Start Bedford 10:00. 20-30m, E. A family ride. Hywel and Jackie Davies, 01234 363453.

**Sunday 03 July 2011**

<i>Wessex</i>	Start 18 Avenue Road, New Milton BH25 5JP 10:00. 20m, E. Morning ride with BBQ picnic after - bring your own food to BBQ and your own drink. Steve and Janet Beith, 01425 638700, email: <a href="mailto:steven@beith.com">steven@beith.com</a> .
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**Sunday 10 July 2011**

<i>East Solent &amp; IOW</i>	Start Emsworth 10:30. 25m, Av. Meet at the leader's home for refreshments and leave at 11:15 for the ride to the Queen Elizabeth Country Park. Ride home. Keith & Diana, 01243 372 841.
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<i>LA</i>	Start Leaders House Rockery House Priest Hutton 9:00. 40m. Coffee at Beetham Garden Centre. Lunch Grange Over Sands. Myles and Sue Tatham, 01524 782044.
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<i>Norfolk</i>	Start Trowse Common 10:00. 35m, Av. Ride to the Norfolk Gliding Club at Tibenham. Roy Abigail, 01603 612104, email: <a href="mailto:abigair@btinternet.com">abigair@btinternet.com</a> .
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<i>Three Counties</i>	Start Woodmancote 10:00. 35-40m. A ride to see the lavender fields in bloom. Howard and Jenny, 01242 672842.
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<i>West Yorkshire</i>	Start Riverside car park, Pateley Bridge 10:30. 13m, Av. How Stean Gorge, on and off-road. Andy, 077900 48065.
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**Sunday 17 July 2011**

<i>Kent</i>	Start Ditton Community Centre 9:45. 40m, Av. Wonderful Kentish lanes for cycling around. With a good pub for lunch. Liz and Mark Noble, 01732 848432, email: <a href="mailto:markonoble@blueyonder.co.uk">markonoble@blueyonder.co.uk</a> .
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**Sunday 24 July 2011**

<i>Milton Keynes</i>	Start Aspley Guise 10:00. 30-40m, Av. John and Deborah Hicks, 01908-281070.
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<i>North East</i>	Start Belsay 09:30. 45m, Av. To Corbridge via Slayley. Cafe lunch at Corbridge. Paul and Pauline Fox, 01670 511995, email: <a href="mailto:paul@cycle-shed.freeserve.co.uk">paul@cycle-shed.freeserve.co.uk</a> .
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<i>South East London</i>	Start TBD 09:15. 40m, Av. Be ready for hills!. Mark & Maggs, 020 8643 5813, email: <a href="mailto:mgladwyn@btinternet.com">mgladwyn@btinternet.com</a> .
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**Sunday 31 July 2011**

<i>Wessex</i>	Start 'Top o' the Town' car park, Dorchester DT1 1RR 10:00. 40m, Av. Coffee stop, bring picnic lunch. Some hills. Alan and Lynne Wakely, 07790 189115, email: <a href="mailto:alan.wakely@agustawestland.com">alan.wakely@agustawestland.com</a> .
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**Sunday 07 August 2011**

<i>Milton Keynes</i>	Start Leaders' house, Newport Pagnell 10:00. 30-40m, Av. Alan and Linda Piggott, 01908 613187.
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**Sunday 14 August 2011**

<i>LA</i>	Start Appleby Station 9:00. 45m. Coffee at Culgaith. Lunch at Melmerby. John & Allison Wild, 01524 421671.
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## Sunday 21 August 2011

North East

Start Phone leader for details 09:30. Bill Wickham, 0191 2844145, 07710390949, email: bill@wickham6379.freeseve.co.uk.

## Saturday 03 September 2011

West  
Yorkshire

Start Dalesman cafe, Gargrave 09:30. 12m, E. A walk to Airton. Steve & Cheryl, 01422 356390.

## Sunday 04 September 2011

East Solent &  
IOW

Start Fareham 10:30. 30m, Av. Meet at the leaders home for refreshments and then ride to Stokes Bay for lunch. Alan & Margaret, 01329 823965.

Wessex

Start Lymington CAB, New Street 10:00. 31 or 62, Av. 31 and 62 mile rides - self-led with route sheet provided. 31 mile ride starts at 10.30 and uses some Forest tracks. Refreshments at end. John Ward, 01590 671205, email: johnontrike@yahoo.co.uk.

West  
Yorkshire

Start Dalesman Cafe, Gargrave 09:30. 60m, Av. Ingleton via Horton in Ribblesdale. Steve & Cheryl, 01422 356390.



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HRH Prince William & Miss Catherine Middleton  
24th April 2011