

Stevenage and North Herts CTC

Annual Report Thursday 22nd October 2015

This report covers the period 1st October 2014 to 30th September 2015

Stevenage and North Herts CTC is one of the most active groups in the country and has won local, regional and national awards. We enjoy our cycling – have fun and get fit in great company – and are also involved in cycle transport campaigns. CTC membership in our area remained above 400 during the year.

Stevenage and North Hertfordshire is broadly defined by postcodes SG1 to SG8. At the end of September (2015) CTC membership in that area was **407** a decrease of eight (25) since 2014. Our membership was 415 in 2014; 414 in 2013 and 371 in 2012. Any decrease, however small, is unfortunate but we have done well over the past three years when CTC membership nationally has fallen a little.

Our membership density is 1.928 per 1,000 population. That compares with 1.029 for CTC across the UK. In other words we outperform CTC as a whole by 87%. Perhaps this proves that if CTC offers a wide range of local activities it does well. If CTC did as well as our area total membership would be about 125,000.

The main feature of our activities is our comprehensive rides programme. There were no less than 211 rides over the 52 weeks. That's an average of four a week! There were 245 the previous year. Compare that with the 135 in 2010-2011 which was itself the greatest number ever. The statistics are as follows:

Grade	This Year 1 st Oct 2014 – 30 th Sept 2015			Last Year 1 st Oct 2013 – 30 th Sept 2014		
	Rides	Riders	Average	Rides	Riders	Average
A	15	103	6.9	8	80	10.0
B	21	187	8.9	21	149	7.1
C	19	165	8.7	27	293	10.9
D (others)	5	46	9.2	4	37	9.3
Early riser (D)	19	83	4.4	21	134	6.4
Friday Fling (D)	18	194	10.8	20	228	11.4
Saturday Starter (D)	52	780	15.0	53	829	15.6
Evening (D)	52	1133	21.8	56	1494	26.7
Other	10	87	8.7	35	156	4.5
Overall totals	211	2778	13.2	245	3400	13.9

The reduction in the total number of rides seems surprising but the headline totals of 245 in 2014 and 241 in 2013 included local and away events. In addition we did not restart the five mile rides which attracted little support in the previous two years.

Away events count towards the Blazing Saddles partly to encourage participation in the national CTC tourist competition.

Most rides have a leader and a sweeper. The evening rides are so popular that they are linked by radio. We have a middle radio on some evening rides. The radios have also been useful on many Saturday rides and on some Sundays.

Although CTC nationally have not promoted the Spring Rides since 2011 we did our own and got good turnouts. We were very busy in Bike Week.

At least 89 different people rode with us at least five times during the year. Not bad but we are aware that consisted of 65 men and 24 women. Looking at the core who ride with us once a month or more on average the numbers fall to 47 men and 12 women. In the past we had some rides with more women than men and many with a roughly 50/50 ratio. It would be good to recruit a few more regular female cyclists in 2016.

Awards

Lauren Higham was first junior girl in the 2014 national tourist competition. Kieran Higham was first junior boy. Group Secretary Jim Brown was fifth overall out of several hundred. Our team were second. The awards were presented in London on 18th July. Jim won the Hertfordshire competition.

Jim Brown is one of the two CTC representatives for the East of England, and is a member of the Herts Sports Partnership Executive Board.

Ride Leaders and Committee (2014-2015)

Jim Brown was the group secretary; Paul Boielle the treasurer; Kelly Baker the Welfare Officer; Tina Walker the Chair; Jackie Cooper the social secretary; and Jill Borchers the registration officer in 2014/2015. Tina Walker, Luke Peters, Dan Moore and John Crouch are the website team. Jim also acted as press officer. The ride leaders and event organisers made up the rest of the committee.

We have built up a good team of volunteers who are listed at national office. Several new people including James Partington were recruited last year. The full list is below:

2015 Ride Maker List

The following were on the list at CTC national office and thus are insured to lead and sweep rides in 2014/2015.

First Name	Last Name	Role Code	Role Description
Kelly	Baker	MGRL	MG Rides Leader
Alan	Baxter	MGRL	MG Rides Leader

Paul	Boielle	EO	(1a) Event Organiser
Paul	Boielle	MGRL	MG Rides Leader
Lynn	Bonnici	MGRL	MG Rides Leader
Jill	Borcherds	MGRL	MG Rides Leader
Jim	Brown	EO	(1a) Event Organiser
Jim	Brown	MGRL	MG Rides Leader
Richard	Button	MGRL	MG Rides Leader
Jackie	Cooper	MGRL	MG Rides Leader
Jackie	Cooper	(SocSec)	MG Social Secretary
Loyd	Davies	MGRL	MG Rides Leader
Robert	Finney	MGRL	MG Rides Leader
Bill	Hayes	MGRL	MG Rides Leader
Stuart	Higham	EO	(1a) Event Organiser
Paul	Hill	MGRL	MG Rides Leader
Christina	Meade	MGRL	MG Rides Leader
Daniel	Mann	MGRL	MG Rides Leader
John	Nye	MGRL	MG Rides Leader
James	Partington	MGRL	MG Rides Leader
Luke	Peters	EO	(1a) Event Organiser
Luke	Peters	MGRL	MG Rides Leader
Gary	Spicer	MGRL	MG Rides Leader
Andy	Walker	MGRL	MG Rides Leader
Elaine	Walker	MGRL	MG Rides Leader
Tina	Walker	MGRL	MG Rides Leader
Pete	Woolmer	MGRL	MG Rides Leader

John Crouch took over the website gallery during the year. Thanks for everyone's efforts. Ride leaders meet about every two months to plan the next programme. The dates of meetings are announced on our programme and on the website.

General (2015)

The £200 payment from CTC is welcome and has helped pay for some of the costs of running the group.

We have continued to offer an option for online entries to our events which has proven popular with over two third of entrants choosing that option over the traditional postal entry.

Many of our club rides attract more than twenty people. We have very few problems but recently we have recirculated our essential guide to group cycling and pointed to the guidance on ride leading and riding in a group that's available on the CTC website. That was partly in response to comments that riders were not passing on road calls

such as “easy” and “stopping” and some were not responding to warning. Several of our ride makers are taking advantage of the CTC ride leaders training course which will be in Stevenage on Saturday 7th November.

Emitremmus Desrever 20th Edition 2014 (26 October 2014 – Jim Brown)

A total of 343 cyclists completed End of Summertime celebration. 285 rode the 100 kilometres Emitremmus and 58 Emit Lite. That was an increase compared with 2013 but not quite up to the fantastic record in 2011 when 337 finished the 100K and the 57 the Lite. The Lite option has been available since 2011.

There have been extras at Emitremmus for several years e.g. the frame numbers and the polo shirts or hoodies for helpers. This time we “went to town” as this was our group’s 25th Anniversary, the 20th Emitremmus and we had been inspired by the Tour de France coming to the East of England. Having been inspired by the Olympics in 2012 in 2014 our ride makers looked like they just might have had something to do with the Tour de France. Rewind, a local community film company, made a fantastic seven minute video of the event.

Our feather banners, event signs, Tour de France bunting and other material helped to give the event a “buzz. About three hundred people setting off from Fairlands Valley Park on the same ride is quite spectacular.

Most people now enter online. We will review whether working with AUK is best way for our events in the future.

Our special events are an effective way of introducing new people to our regular rides. For example Dave Hall is currently leading our Blazing Saddles competition – he first rode on the 2014 Emitremmus

Christmas Lunch and Presentations 2014 (Sunday 14 December - Jackie Cooper)

Fifty two of us enjoyed our Christmas Lunch and Blazing Saddles presentations on Sunday 14th December. We returned to the King George IV in Baldock with a ride from Costello’s Café.

Alan Baxter defended his Blazing Saddles with an amazing 236 points. Jim Brown was second with 206 and Robert Finney third with 117. The women’s competition was tight. Jackie Cooper with 106 to beat the previous year’s winner Lynn Bonnici who had 103. Jill Borchers was third on 82.

Lauren Higham defended her junior title beating her brother Kieran by 41 points to 34. Zoe Nuttall was third with 30.

The 2014-2015 Blazing Saddles competition continues to the end of November with the presentations made at this year’s lunch which will be on 13th December.

Stevenage Start of Summertime Specials (29 March 2015 – Luke Peters)

As the clocks leapt forward into spring we again gathered at Fairlands for our annual celebration of the start of British Summertime. Unfortunately due to some poorer weather in the preceding months entries were significantly down and due to extremely high winds, only 197 people completed one of the three distances, down from 308 in 2014. The event still made a healthy profit of around £450 though despite the much lower turnout.

Help from a smaller but still very helpful team of volunteers made this event possible and we are looking at options and improvements for 2016 following feedback from riders and volunteers this year.

CTC Spring Rides (9 to 17 May 2015)

CTC launched the Spring Rides as a new initiative in 2011 but it only lasted one year. However the timing is idea, just as we are really starting to appreciate the longer evenings, we have continued and got good turnouts every day in 2015.

Bicycle Barbecue (Wednesday 10th June 2015– Jackie Cooper)

With the closure of the Fox in Woolmer Green we needed a new venue for our BBQ. The Robin Hood and Little John in Rableyheath was up to the job of catering for forty of us.

Bike Fortnight (13 to 28 June 2015 – Jim Brown)

Generally Bike Week was from 13 to 21 June but locally we had so much do and with some activities displaced by the Street Velodrome and Women's Tour that we went for a whole fortnight with at least one ride every day.

As always with activities such as Bike Week we are largely dependent on the national website being effectively promoted. That way new people know where to look for information about local rides. We did of course do our bit through local newspapers, local radio and posters.

Street Velodrome (Sunday 14th June).

The Circular Cycle would have been on Sunday 14th June. However as the Street Velodrome was coming to Stevenage Day we decided to push that event back to 28th June, the other side of the Baldock Cycle Challenge. The Street Velodrome gave us an opportunity to display a CTC banner; show off our new jerseys and give out some local publicity.

Whether or not the number of new contacts made and riders recruited justified moving our event and “losing” a ride was worthwhile is debatable. The velodrome will not be visiting in 2016.

Women’s Tour (Saturday 20 June 2015 – All)

Cycling in Stevenage was given a huge boost with Stage Four of the Women’s Tour finishing in the old town on Saturday 20th June. CTC were involved in many ways. We had a very different “Saturday Starter” which attracted 63 riders and included the last five kilometres of the race route.

This was the first big opportunity to wear our new jerseys and we took it right up to our ride up the High Street though rain forced us into waterproofs before the race arrived. We were pleased to get our feather banners in an ideal position for photos from the finish line and CTC acknowledged on the stage four posters.

Many in the old town got in the spirit of the event by displaying yellow, pink, blue bikes and banners.

Baldock Cycle Challenge (21 June 2015 – Jim Brown and Baldock Town Partnership).

We put a lot of effort into helping to organise the Baldock Cycle Challenge with the Baldock Town Partnership. That included designing the routes and arranging CTC listing and insurance. The rides counted towards the Hertfordshire and national CTC tourist competitions and have become very popular. For the last couple of years the partnership have gone for a mixture of sportive and audax style formats which is perhaps a bit confusing. There were 228 riders. Pretty good for what is still a fairly new event.

Stevenage Circular Cycle (Sunday 28 June 2015 – Luke Peters)

The Circular Cycle was displaced from its usual Bike Week slot by the Street Velodrome. A drizzly day saw 75 complete the ride. 93 finished in 2014. This populaire is deliberately about the same distance as the London to Brighton and often about the same date.

Hertfordshire Birthday Ride (Sunday 26 July 2015 – Paul Boielle)

We try to maintain contact with others groups originally in the old Hertfordshire District Association by participating in events like the Birthday Ride. Usually we will meet the others in Vanstone Park, Codicote and ride with them to lunch. This time the plan was to cycle to Codicote but then head off to Welwyn Garden City for the Petit Tour. However the heavens opened so our ride retreated home after the elevenses stop.

Free Cycle and Ride London (1 and 2 August – Pete Woolmer).

As Jim was horizontal in the Lister Hospital Pete Woolmer took over our Free Cycle ride and made a really good job of it. Not only did fourteen cycle to Finchley but we provided ride marshals for the link ride to the Free Cycle and back. The whole day totaled about 80 miles – not bad for an eight mile free cycle!

Off-Road Ride (9 August 2015 – Paul Boielle)

Avoiding Ride London our Off Road Challenge was on Sunday 9th August. In 2014 25 riders had completed one of four distances. We decided this was far too complicated for the fairly limited numbers and simplified the event to just a 50 kilometres event. The usual route including Benington and Tewin was used. This time eleven people rode. There does not seem to have been a huge interest in off road rides this year.

Cecil Cooke Trophy (Sunday 13th September 2015 – Stuart Higham).

There were three elements – a hill climb (cycling against the clock); a pace judging session (where the challenge was to cycle the same seven mile route in opposite directions in the same time without the use of a watch, computer or similar); and freewheeling. The whole event could be done with less than 25 miles of cycling.

Seventeen was a reasonable number and enough to make the event enjoyable but there were no entrants from elsewhere in Hertfordshire and difficulties getting the event registered with CTC gave little opportunity for those from further afield to make plans to travel to Stevenage.

The trophy is won by the achieving the best positions across all three events. Lauren Higham put all the men, and seniors, to shame by winning. She tied with James Partington on points but won on count back with the highest positions in the hill climb and free wheel.

Delays around the national tourist competition may also have affected entries for Emitremmus which takes place just after our AGM.

Event Summary

	2014-2015	2013-2014
Emitremmus (Oct)	343	305
SSoSS (Mar)	197	308
Circular (June)	75	93
Off Road (Aug)	11	25
Cecil Cooke (Sep)	17	19

Cyclists' Curry Crawl (Wednesday 30 September 2015 – Jackie Cooper)

After many years going to Benington we tried something different this year and went to the White Lion in Walkern.

Thirty nine people, most on bikes, came to the meal. This was organised by Jackie Cooper. The curry crawl has become the traditional end of the summer season of easy evening rides though now we carry on riding all winter.

We did not organise a bicycle barn dance (the cyclists' ceilidh) again this year but never say never. We are exploring various other options for social activities.

Early Risers (2015)

Two different ideas, at opposite ends of the time on the bike scale were first tried in 2013. 8a.m. on a Sunday may not be everyone's cup of tea but there was some feedback that some wanted a ride but could not stay out until after lunch time. So we put two early risers a month from May to October. They left the old town at 8a.m. and gave people a two hour ride without a planned stop. There were nineteen rides with an average of just over four people in 2014 – 2015.

“Accessible” A Rides (2015)

Accessible “A” rides was another initiative introduced in 2013.. This was based on the observation that several B riders could “move up” to group rides of 100 kilometres or more. The concept is for A ride distances with an on the road average speed of between 12.5 and 15mph, and some care ensuring the ride is together after road junctions.

We have continued to offer Accessible A rides as part of our programme through 2015 giving some of the more leisurely riders an opportunity to complete much longer rides although this appears to have come at a detriment of the shorter C rides which decreased by roughly the same number as the As increased. The committee have tried to address this in the latest rides programme meetings but work will be ongoing for this to get a fair balance throughout the year.

Friday Flings (2015)

There were eighteen well supported Friday Flings this summer. The third summer of flings. We thought that Fridays, with less people needing to get up for work or college the next day, offered a chance to cycle a bit further. Indeed we got to places like Apsley End, Ashwell and Buntingford.

When inspiration for destinations flagged we could always follow one of the local Morris Men sides!

The last fling was on the first Friday in September.

Saturday Starters (2015)

Our Saturday Starter offering has continued every week with a slight reduction in the average number of riders but still we are seeing 15 riders riding on average each week.

The decision was made not to restart the beginner biker rides where we aimed to get the younger and less experienced riders joining us and riding in a group before making the step up to a full Saturday Starter. Unfortunately the uptake was low over the trial period in 2013 and did not improve in 2014 and we felt that it was not a good use of our resources to start this up again. We will review other ways of attracting the less experienced riders in 2015-16.

Our 10a.m. winter starts worked well in making sure the ride finished in daylight however it did mean that we often caught the end of morning frosts. A decision has already been made to push the start back 30 minutes during the winter months to 10:30AM in an effort to beat the frost.

No Off Road starters took place in 2015 due to there being no leaders available to offer one. This will be discussed again next year if there are leaders available.

Wonderful Wednesdays (2015)

With the exception of special events our Wednesday evening rides are clearly the most popular rides that we organise. We rode all year round on all 52 Wednesdays with an average of about 22 per ride.

There were some extra evening rides on special occasions such as the Spring Rides; Bike Week / Fortnight and the CTC's Birthday.

Away Rides (2015)

Some "away" audax rides and a sportive were included in our programme. These included the Mildenhall, Hertford, Bedford and Henham Audax events and the Steeplechase Sportive.

Website

The website has been maintained through 2014-15 and work has begun recently on a full rebuild of the website which will include a "responsive design" to make it usable on many devices that are available at the current time. The intention is to develop this in tandem with feedback and ideas from the group membership to make it as fully fledged and useful as possible to the committee and to the group.

A replacement is also being sought for the Yahoo Groups system that the committee has historically used to communicate. One option being considered is to integrate a

discussion board into the website. Other options include the use of Facebook and forums for future communication.

Publicity

We've achieved good publicity including pictures in our local papers. The Blazing Saddles and our major events have been good handles for that. In addition there have been local radio interviews and coverage in national magazines. We distributed business cards, leaflets and posters. Our presence at many activities in the town and our new jerseys helped to raise our profile.

New Jerseys (2015)

We had had some Emitremmus jerseys for a few years but several false starts in our attempts to have a jerseys for our group. Having set a target to have them ready for the women's tour Bill with help from Pete and Gary got stuck into the task and many members were "branded" by mid-June.

The jerseys are clearly CTC but include green (from the oak in Stevenage and also used in the North Hertfordshire logo).

Right to Ride

Many of our group's activities enhance cycling as fun. One of CTC's many roles is as a Cycle Transport Campaign. We speak up for cyclists' right to ride on roads, on bridleways, etc., and advocate cycling as environmentally friendly, healthy and a solution to many transport problems. Stevenage is unusual in that the New Town Development Corporation left a legacy of high quality cycleways, partly the result of cyclists' campaigns in the 1950s and partly through the vision of the corporation's chief engineer. These passed to the Borough Council over thirty years ago but responsibility for them was taken over by the County Council in October 2003.

The group has kept in contact with CycleHerts.

Not long ago the Borough Council adopted a green travel plan for its employees. This year a select committee reviewed progress. There is a cycle purchase scheme and mileage rates for the use of bikes on work journeys.

A minor achievement was the installation of wooden bollards to separate the showground car park from the cycleway into the south end of Fairlands Valley Park. This was largely prompted by a crazy incident when a football supporter drove down the cycleway towards a Saturday Starter and then started attacking cyclists. There are still ongoing issues on match days with many cyclists feeling they cannot use the network near the football club.

The County Council has been replaced the street lights on its main routes with LED lamps. They are white rather than yellow and more energy efficient but there has been, what we hope is, an unintended consequence which may reflect HCC's limited understanding of the highway network in Stevenage. Whereas the original lights were designed to also illuminate the footpaths, pavements and cycleways the new ones do not. The angle of illumination is too narrow. After many months plugging away at this HCC have said that they have changed some of the diffusers. How many and to what effect we do not yet know. It may be that we are just going to have to push for "fill in" lights in the really dark spots. A county officer may be prepared to come on an evening site visit so a note of the worst areas would be useful.

The Stevenage cycleway route map was last updated in 2011. We have been dropping hints that it should be refreshed and republished in time for the town's 70th Birthday in November 2016.

Jim Brown was elected to the Borough Council in May 2012 and we are pleased that Tina Walker joined him as a Right to Right representative for Stevenage in 2014.

2015 – 2016 Programme

The timing of our AGM means that one of our flagship events, Emitremmus Desrever, takes place this Sunday, three days after the meeting.

Emitremmus this Sunday, 25th October is our first event for 2015-2016. For 2016 SSoSS will be on Sunday 3rd April (to avoid Easter); the Circular on Sunday 12th June. Baldock maybe Sunday 19th June; and Emitremmus on Sunday 30th October. We need to decide dates for other events like the off road and Cecil Cooke bearing in mind the dates of other major cycling events such as Ride London. We will try to find the dates and locations for the events sponsored by Hertfordshire County Council.

We might want to consider the date of our AGM which has been very close to Emitremmus for the last two years.

With the input from our new ride leaders the next programme of rides and social events could be even more comprehensive.

Views will be very welcome.

Thanks everyone who has led or swept rides, helped with events, organised social activities or promoted the local CTC.

Jim Brown
Secretary
Stevenage and North Herts CTC
2nd November 2015
(As discussed on 22nd October 2015)

Stevenage and North Herts CTC

Hon. Treasurer's Report to the 2015 Annual General Meeting

Set out below is the receipts and payments account for the period 1 October 2014 to 30 September 2015, which summarises the amounts received into and paid out of the member group's Co-operative Bank account during the year. I've laid out the accounts differently this year, to accord more closely with the format of the accounts which I have to submit to CTC headquarters, for incorporation into the CTC's national accounts. I've also set out further below (after the receipts and payments accounts) the accounts I will be submitting in due course to CTC headquarters.

Taking first the Receipts and Payments accounts, I believe the real expenditure on the year is under-stated, because I've received no claims in the year relating to the costs of rides lists or web site hosting, in spite of issuing reminders. For the first time in several years, a deficit on the year (of £680) was made, and that in spite of a grant of £709 from Herts County Council. We've become used to and dependent upon substantial surpluses from our out-door events, and this year the surpluses were not as substantial as in previous years, due to declining numbers of entrants (and, for SSoSS, poor weather). That said, we've nearly £3,000 in the bank, and can stand losses in the shorter term, though without surpluses from events, we'll soon run through the bank balance unless we watch our spend, as our base-line income is just the £200 annual subscription grant from CTC headquarters.

**Stevenage & North Herts CTC
Receipts and Payments Account
for the year ended 30 September 2015**

Item	Payments Receipts		Net	Notes
Outdoor Events				1
Emitremmus	£2,100	£2,631		
Circular	£27	£110		
SSoSS	£148	£455		
Off-Road Challenge	£20	£16		
			£917	
Club Clothing	£535	£428	(£107)	2
CTC Grant		£200	£200	
Bank Interest		£3	£3	
HCC Grant		£709	£709	3
Donations	£250		(£250)	
Medals & Trophies	£858		(£858)	4
Printing	£314		(£314)	
Equipment (inc. Garage fittings)	£621		(£621)	
AGM 2014	£30		(£30)	
2014 creditor	£329		(£329)	5
	£5,232	£4,552	(£680)	
Balance b/f			£3,613	
Balance c/f			£2,933	

Notes

1 Outdoor Events

The receipts and payments relate solely to the amounts passing through the Stevenage and North Herts CTC bank account. The event organisers provide accounts for the events when they pay over the surplus or claim for the deficit of the event.

2 Club clothing.

At the 30 September 2015, there were 3 short sleeved jerseys in stock, valued at £90.

3 HCC Grant

The grant was given towards the purchase of radios and business cards. At 30 September 2015, £93 remained unspent (intended for the purchase of spare batteries for the radios)

4 Medals and trophies

This includes not only the cost of the medals and trophies handed out at the Christmas lunch but also the cost of replenishing the stock of Emmitemmus and SSoSS Medals and date bars, where these are paid for out of Stevenage and North Herts CTC funds

5 2014 creditor

This was the amount owed to me, as treasurer, at the end of the previous financial year. Historically, Stevenage & North Herts CTC expenses were met by me out of the income from the Stevenage Start of Summertime events, which I then organised, At the end of each year, I was invariably out of pocket. Now that the Co-op bank account is fully operational I'm no longer having to dip into my own pocket to pay Stevenage and North Herts CTC expenses.

Looking now at the Statement of Assets and Liabilities and the Income and Expenditure Account, set out below, as required by CTC Headquarters, these are prepared on an accruals basis using templates provided by CTC Headquarters, with the line item headings predetermined, and not changeable by me. The latter is a major head-ache for me, as our pattern of income and expenditure is very different to that assumed by the accounts pro-forma supplied by Headquarters. I do my best, and provide to our lay auditor (Stuart Hammond) a set of notes showing how the figures in the Headquarters accounts are derived from our Receipts and Payments account. The most significant difficulty is that there is no provision for grants to be received other than from CTC HQ, so I'm going to have to list the Herts County Council grant under that heading and write a separate note of explanation.

The deficit shown on the HQ accounts, at £261, is less than half of that of the receipts and payments account, due to differences in the way that receipts and payments and accruals accounts are compiled. In accruals accounts, the payment to the 2014 creditor (me) is discounted, having been shown as a liability in the previous year's accounts. Also, the payment made to purchase the 3 jerseys still in stock (worth £90) is not included, as we've in effect exchanged the asset of cash for an identical value asset of 3 jerseys.

In the notes to the receipts and payments accounts, I reported on the reasons why I was owed money at the end of the previous financial year. I draw to your attention that there is a line item in the CTC HQ accounts called "amount owing to Treasurer", showing that this is, or has been historically, a common occurrence. Member groups have traditionally relied on their Treasurers to personally bank-roll the group. In this day and age, this is not desirable, and should not be necessary.

Stevenage and North Hertfordshire CTC

Member Group

90035234

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2015

Assets & Liabilities

Total Fixed Assets from page 2	Box A	£0
Current Assets from page 2	Box B	£90
Cash and Bank Balances from page 2	Box C	£2,933
Total Assets	Box D	£3,023 Sum Boxes A to C
Total Liabilities from page 3	Box E	£0
NET ASSETS / (LIABILITIES)	Box F	£3,023 Box D minus E
Accumulated Surplus at 1 October 2014	Box G	£3,285
Surplus/Deficit for the year from page 4	Box H	(£261)
FUNDS	Box I	£3,023 Box G plus Box H

(the figures in Box F & Box I should be the same)

FIXED ASSETS AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2015

CLUB HUTS value at 1 October 2014	£0
Plus additions	£0
Less Disposals	£0
Less Depreciation	£0
Value at 30 September 2015	£0
Other Assets (bikes, equipment) value at 1 October 2014	£0
Plus additions	£0
Less Disposals	£0
Less Depreciation	£0
Value at 30 September 2015	£0
Total Depreciation to page 4 EXPENDITURE section	£0
Total of Fixed Assets to Box A (page 1)	£0

CURRENT ASSETS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2015

Stock - Clothing, Badges, Trophies	£90
Deposits with HQ	£0
Amounts due from other groups/ individuals	£0
Prepayments & accrued income	£0
Other Debtors	£0
Monies paid in bank not on statement	£0
Investments	£0
Total of Current Assets to Box B (page 1)	£90

CASH & BANK BALANCES AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2015

	Bank Cur. Ac	Bank Dep. Ac.	Build Soc Ac	Cash
Member Group Sub Group Funds Funds				
Co-operative Bank	£2,933	£0	£0	£0
totals	<u>£2,933</u>	£0	£0	£0
Total Cash and Bank to Box C (page 1)	£2,933			

LIABILITIES AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2015

CREDITORS

Member Group Funds	
Amount owing to Treasurer	£0
Amounts owed to other groups/ individuals	£0
Accruals & deferred income	£0
Goods /suppliers not paid /unpresented cheques	£0
Sub Group Funds	
Amount owing to Treasurer	£0
Amounts owed to other groups	£0
Accruals & deferred income	£0
Goods /suppliers not paid /unpresented cheques	£0
Total Liabilities to Box E (page 1)	£0

INTEREST RECEIVED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2015

	Net amount	Tax paid	Gross amount
Interest received from banks and building societies (if unspecified enter in gross amount)	£3	£0	£3
Other Sources			
Interest received from HQ on deposits	£0	£0	£0
totals	£3	£0	£3
Total Net Interest received to page 4 INCOME section	£3		

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2015

TOTAL INCOME

Outdoor Events	£917
Social Events	£0
Advertising, handbooks, run list sales	£0
Clothing, badges etc sales	£428
Grant from H0	£709
Annual Subscription Allocation from HQ	£200
Donations	£0
Net Interest Received (total from page 3)	£3
Profit on sale of assets	£0
Dividend Income	£0
Total Income	£2,257

TOTAL EVENT EXPENDITURE	
Event hire/accom/room hire	£0
Printing	£314
Food, refreshments	£0
Travel / transport	£0
Trophies/ medals/prizes	£858
Clothing costs/badges etc	£445
Other event expenditure	£0
Total	£1,617
TOTAL GENERAL EXPENDITURE	
Advertising/ website costs	£0
Phones/Internet access	£0
Insurance	£0
Postage	£0
Stationery	£0
Subscriptions	£0
Donations	£250
Equipment/maintenance	£621
Training	£0
Miscellaneous *AGM)	£30
Bank Charges	£0
Depreciation (total from page 2)	£0
Loss on sale of assets	£0
Total	£901
Total Expenditure	£2,518
SURPLUS/DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR total to Box H (page 1)	(£261)

Having presented accounts in CTC HQ format, I need to make a final few observations:-

1. The accounts as presented don't by any means show the total scope of Stevenage and North Herts CTC's activities. It isn't just that the majority of income and expenditure from the outdoor events doesn't pass through the bank account, or that the income and expenditure for the social events, such as the BBQ, the Curry Crawl and the Christmas Lunch don't touch the bank account at all, but also that legitimate claims for expenses and reimbursements aren't made
2. The question is often asked that as the organisation of our outdoor events is a major chore, and Audax-style events seem to be declining in popularity as Sportif-style events increase in popularity, so shouldn't we be looking to turn our outdoor events (where practicable) into Sportifs? The problem with this is two-fold: firstly, we don't have the capital. Putting on Sportifs is not cheap, and although in principle, the costs are recovered from entry fees, which are much higher than we currently charge, up-front costs can be £1,000s, and secondly, we don't have the in-house expertise in managing such a commercial event.
3. Our current web site and general methods of communication have come in for criticism. Improvements are in the pipe-line, but inevitably are dependent on the time availability of a few key volunteers. Accordingly, it has been suggested that we should use a significant percentage of our current bank balance to have our web site and communications delivery set up professionally. Assuming that we can all agree what we want (which is problematic) I have no problem in principle with this idea, if our volunteers really can't do the job (in a more relaxed time-scale than would suit some), but in my experience it is on-going maintenance which is the long term issue, and we'd soon run through available funds if we had to pay for this. The problem with all web sites and means of e-communication is the Marmite effect – whatever you have, some love them and some hate them.

P. L. Boiëlle

Paul Boiëlle
Hon. Treasurer
21st. October 2015