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## JANUARY 2015 ISSUE

After a dearth of HalfLinks over the past year here is the bumper January 2015 edition including a report with photos on the 2015 Harp Hilly and minutes from the 2014 AGM.

### Harp Hilly Hundred 2015

The 2015 event run on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> January was the latest edition of our ever popular Harp Hilly Hundred.

After forecasts earlier in the week for inclement conditions the day turned out cold but dry. Most of the snow had cleared from Saturday but we did have to re-route the 55km ride to avoid the lane from Berkhamsted to the bottom of Wigginton.

There were only 162 starters, nearly a third of the 200 online entrants were obviously put off by the weather forecasts, but numbers were supplemented by entrants on the day.



### Pre-entered - just sign on and go

All but 3 of the riders were recorded as finishing. Even the Verulam group who persevered in the face of numerous punctures made it back just as we were clearing up. Unfortunately it didn't help them claim

the HHH Shield which this year went to the newly formed club of Berkhamsted CC with a staggering 33 riders completing the 100km route.



### Berkhamsted CC - HHH Shield winners

At the finish as well as the usual, well appreciated, spread of food, organised by Mick C, Bob had set up a tv displaying photos of the riders taken during the day.



### Climbing Ivinghoe - it never gets any easier

Although the numbers of riders was less than last year financially we didn't lose out as 200 had paid in advance so the charity donation was £1100 split

between this years two selected charities, Breast Cancer Care and the Macular Society. And after expenses club funds benefited by just over £290.

Of course thanks must go to everyone who helped make it such a successful event, Mick C, Mick K, Dave and Barbara Le Fevre, Dave P, Terry, Glenn, Jim, Bob and Malcolm.

**Minutes of Harp RC AGM  
held on Wednesday October 15th 2014  
@ The Green Man' Leverstock Green,  
Hemel Hempstead HP3 8QE.**

Present: Mick Clark (Secretary), Graham Holdstock (Treasurer), Pete Cookson, Peter Yates, Dave Pratchett, Richard Hutt (HHH organiser & Editor), Terry Gambles, Mick Konopacki, Tony Woodford, Peter Coombs, Glenn Butterworth, Wally Warren & Dave Lefevre.

Apologies: Jim Williams (Chairman), Don Barrell, Alyn Ross, Andrew Hutt, Malcolm & Alison Putman.

Meeting commenced @ 14.10 hours and in the absence of Jim Williams, Mick Clark chaired the meeting.

- 1) Minutes of 2013 meeting: Read and approved. No matters arising.
- 2) Review of the year: Jim William's comprehensive report was agreed.
- 3) Financial Report: 22 members in total. HHH gave us a profit of £224.15 and the balance (surplus) is £2,369.52. It was therefore agreed £1,000.00 should be donated to the Dave Rayner Fund which supports young riders racing aboard.
- 4) Affiliations for 2015: CTT membership agreed. Joining British Cycling was discussed as Richard Hutt wants to increase his road racing and ride for his first claim club instead of Lampard RC. Mick Clark had enquired about the cost via Mark Doel (Central Region Manager) and Trevor Smith (Edgware RC are BC members, paying £57). On BC's website, the price was £92 for 'new clubs' and thoughts were we should only pay the lower amount, Trevor phoned BC for advice and was told as our affiliation stopped in 2002 we are



classed as 'new' despite using their insurance for HHH. As there's a Central Region meeting on October 26th, this matter will be taken up with Mark Doel by Mick Clark.

- 5) Promotions & Organisers for 2015: Next year's HHH date has been fixed for January 18th. Richard Hutt is willing to organise and looks forward to the club's support. Peter Yates (on behalf of Waverley Shipping) proposed a donation of £200 towards running the event which was accepted with thanks.
- 6) Appointments of Officers & Committee for 2015: All current officers were willing to stand and were duly elected as follows:- Jim Williams (Chairman), Graham Holdstock (Treasurer), Mick Clark (Secretary) & Richard Hutt (HHH organiser & Editor).
- 7) Appointment of Auditor: Mr. J.W. Keighley is willing to continue and was duly elected.
- 8) Charity donation(s) for 2015: Pete Coombs outlined two charities he thought we should support. One was Breast Cancer Care which helps people move forward after treatment and the Macular Society. Age-related Macular Degeneration (AMD) is a blurring of your central vision, haziness & blind spots can develop in the middle of the visual field due to the retinal cells dying off and not being replaced. At the moment there is no known treatment for this form of AMD so it needs to be monitored on a regular basis. Pete's wife Liz has received support from both charities in recent years. The meeting agreed to split monies received from the HHH between both worthy causes.
- 9) A.O.B. Hopefully there will be a photo opportunity can be gleaned when cheques are handed to next year's charities. Last year's discussion at the AGM regarding leisure shirts with the club badge on wasn't



followed up however Richard Hutt 'modelled' a version with an iron-on badge which looked very smart but washing machine survival was questioned and would be more hard wearing if embroidery were used. Dave Lefevre's magic club had clothing supplied by a shop in Watford and he will advise the Secretary of its address. Graham Holdstock advised the meeting that both banks he used have been closed and whilst club subscriptions in the form of cash is acceptable, cheques can't be processed and urgently requested your £5.00 be transmitted by BACS. Details from Graham upon request. Regarding HHH, a meeting in the week before the event should be arranged. Tuesday 14th January was favoured and 'The Chequers' pub on Gaddesden Row was suggested by Mick Clark who met the new owner in 'Hub Loft'. Alec noted many cyclists passing his front door but not stopping so a bike rack will be fitted to encourage same plus Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday are quite days (Sunday's are very successful with over 200 lunchtime covers). The Secretary wants to update the club membership list which will be available as a Word document only. He will contact members individually asking for permission to print addresses and/or phone numbers in view of the Data Protection Act.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 14.40pm

### **Belated Harp Hilly Hundred 2014 Report**

It seems to go without saying, yet another successful event. All but a handful of the 202 riders made it round the Harp Hilly, and most



**The usual queue of riders waiting to sign on**

seemed to enjoy the suffering, especially when they were greeted with the free food and drink after they'd finished.

The Verulam CC claimed the HHH Shield for the 23<sup>rd</sup> time, already the most prolific winners during the 61 editions of the Harp Hilly.



### **Verulam riders en-route to claiming the Shield**

About 20 riders requested certificates via the website after the event, which, as started in 2013, were emailed to them. Bob again took numerous photos of the riders which we posted on the website.

Even after the massive increase in BC insurance, 2½ times the cost of 2013, but helped by some donations on the day, we added over £270 to the club coffers and donated £550 each to our two chosen charities, Enfield Women's Centre and the Heather Club.

My thanks to everyone who turned up to help, Mick C, Mick K, Dave Le Fevre, Jim, Don, Dave P, Terry, Malcolm, Wally, Bob and Glenn.

### **Club Members List**

An up to date list of club members is available from Mick C. Email him if you'd like a copy.

### **Club Subscriptions for 2015**

Club subscriptions are now due for this year. If you haven't yet paid you can pay by direct bank transfer. Email Graham if you need the details.