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MARCH 2016 ISSUE

The 2016 Harp Hilly issue including a report from the presentation of our charity donation and dates for this years Harp club runs.

Harp Monthly Club Runs

For your diary - the proposed dates for the monthly Harp club runs are listed below.

April 21st - Ivinghoe Tea Rooms
10am for 10:30am start
May 19th
June 16th
July 21st
August 18th
September 22nd

The other venues will be advised via email and on the website as they are chosen.

Harp Hilly Hundred 2016

For the second time in the last 5 years we were unlucky with the weather and postponed the Harp Hilly from its original January date to early March. On the rescheduled day we were greeted with icy conditions and opted to delay the start by 20 minutes



to allow the lanes to clear. This had the desired effect and although the riders had to be very careful negotiating Rucklers and Bulstrode at the start the rest of the route was ok.

Thanks to the popularity of the HHH the online pre-entries filled in record time, all 200 places were gone within 1 week of entries being accepted. With entries filling so quickly the online entry system was already closed to changes when the decision to postpone was made, so there was quite a bit of work in managing the number of riders nominating substitutes as they were no longer able to ride on the new date. This can be mitigated in the future by allowing changes up until the day of the event.

We only had 104 riders this year including 7 entries on the day. Over 100 of the pre-entered riders did not start because of a combination of the weather, it being Mother's Day and other commitments for the rescheduled date.



The Berkhamsted CC turned out in force to ensure they retained the Harp Hilly Shield which they easily won as the club with the most finishers.

Unfortunately the timing system crashed just as the last few riders were returning and lost all records of riders times so no times will be published on the



website this year but we can still issue certificates for completing the ride.

Yet again, the feedback from the riders was that they had enjoyed the event, especially the free food and drink that greeted them on their return, and we have received several emails thanking us for organising it:

Great event Richard and super grub at the end too.

Jules

On behalf of Berkhamsted Cycling Club I should like to thank you and your team for organising the event today. These things do not happen by accident but inevitably require a spread of activity to support them. The delay to the start was needed - underlined by the accidents on the A41 not much earlier caused by ice. Once again, thank you for organising the event and do pass on the Club's thanks to your team.

Kind regards,

Nick

Just a quick note to say thank you for organizing the event. We had a blast.

Same again next year I hope...

Ryszard Watford Velo

Thanks to Mick C, Mick K, Terry, Dave Pratchett, Wally & Bob for helping on the day.

North London Hospice Donation

On Tuesday March 11th Mick C, Richard, Dave Le Fevre, Dave Pratchett and Pete Coombes together with Mike Dawson met at the Finchley site of the North London Hospice to present them with a cheque for £1000, our donation from the proceeds of this years Harp Hilly.



Time Trial Report

First event, first win. Richard started his defence of the Medium Gear League with a win in the A5 Rangers MG '10' at Towcester. On a day when the event was nearly cancelled because of fog, and then, due to the start being delayed 40 minutes, having to contend with queues of cars trying to get to Silverstone for a half-marathon didn't make for ideal conditions. After riding rather cautiously Richard finished in a time of 26:01, and took the win by the narrow margin of 3 seconds.