

CYCLISTS' TOURING CLUB
FIFE AND KINROSS D.A. NEWSLETTER

Autumn 1991

Annual General Meeting

The A.G.M. will be held at 6 p.m. on Saturday, 16th November, at the Baldridgeburn Community Centre, Dunfermline. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be available after the meeting.

Extra Runs

17th November	-	Ladybank Tavern	12.30 p.m.
30th November	-	Cycle Tavern, Auchtermuchty	12.30 p.m.

1992 Runs List

Not happy with the 1991 runs list? Now is the time to submit your suggestions for inclusion in the 1992 list. Contact the Runs Secretary, Gordon Patterson on 0577 63140.

Mid-Week Runs

The mid-week runs have now got off the ground and are being supported by a few regulars. Runs take place on the second Wednesday of each month. Here is the list up to March 1991. All runs meet at 1 p.m. for a pub lunch.

9th October	-	Lomond Hotel, Falkland
13th November	-	Balgedie Toll Inn
11th December	-	Pine and Oak, Kincardine
8th January	-	Cycle Tavern, Auchtermuchty
12th February	-	Kings Seat, Dollar
11th March	-	Balgonar Inn.

Unexpected Meeting

The 14 Fife and Kinross D.A. riders present at the Airth Pineapple on 27th July found themselves in an unscheduled inter-D.A. meet which included 7 from Lothians, 3 from Falkirk and even 1 rider from Tayside, Alex Brown, who was on a small tour. A friendly gathering in a pleasant manner.

Dickson Nimmo

Members will have seen the obituary notice in the C.T.C. D.A. news in June/July. At KM 151 John Roxburgh showed a few slides featuring Dickson with his companions in the Glasgow D.A. Fife and Kinross D.A. have also enjoyed Dickson's company for the past few years. He will be sadly missed by all his many friends.

A Successful Claim for Compensation

Syd Robertson reports the following experience which highlights one advantage of C.T.C. membership.

"I was cycling from Scone on Saturday, 16 March. On the Duncrevie to Milnathort Road I hit a large pothole 34" x 22" x 3.5" deep. It was raining, the pothole was filled with water and it was dark, approximately 8 p.m. I returned a week later, took a few photos and then wrote to Tayside Roads Dept. claiming compensation. I had a witness - a lady in a cottage nearby, but she was not very specific on how long that hole was there. I was sure it had been there from November last year and that it had grown to its present large size since then. Anyway, I received a reply from the Roads Dept. that a report had been passed on to their insurers along with my claim. I then received a reply from the insurers that my claim was turned down! They said that under the Highways Act they were not liable and that the road had been inspected on 24th January 1991.

By this time, my photos had turned out great and with a copy of my letter to Tayside and their reply, I sent them to the C.T.C. Legal Dept. I also needed a written statement from the witness but I found it difficult to find her at home. Then by chance, I was cycling towards Perth and met a cycling friend, Jimmy Hamilton, on that very road where

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the pothole was. Jimmy knew of that hole and had dates to prove it. I told Jim what had happened and that I was claiming for two wheels from Tayside Roads. Jim said he would write a report to the C.T.C. about that hole. This did the trick! I soon had a reply from the C.T.C. along with a copy of Jim's letter and a copy of the letter the C.T.C. had sent to the Roads Dept. insurers.

Well, I received a cheque last Tuesday, 25th June!

What really prompted me to claim was that I had only recently rebuilt my wheels after previous damage. I was really annoyed! Anyway, my experience shows that it is worth persevering with a claim if you damage your bike.

One last piece of advice. When taking photos, place a known object beside the hole to show its size."

Fife Cycle Routes

Fife Regional Council have published a proposed list of cycle routes which are listed in this newsletter. If you have any comments on any of these routes or consider there are important omissions, contact either Robert Mason (0592 262944) for Kirkcaldy and North East Fife or John Sumpter (0383 722119) for Dunfermline. Alternatively, send your comments directly to Peter Milne, Cycling Officer, Fife House, Glenrothes, Fife, KY7 5LT.

ROUTE

PRIORIT

DUNFERMLINE DISTRICT

- | | |
|---|---------------|
| 1. Dunfermline - Alloa railway line (Halbeath to Milesmark) | High Priority |
| 2. Dunfermline - Alloa railway line (Milesmark to Oakley to Blairhall) | Medium Term |
| 3. Forth Road Bridge - Ferrytoll interchange | High Priority |
| 4. Ferrytoll Interchange - Dunfermline | Medium Term |
| 5. Blairhall - Culross (connection to Dunfermline - Alloa railway line) | Long Term |
| 6. Coastal Route - Kincardine to Culross to Rosyth | Long Term |
| 7. Coastal Route - Dalgety Bay to Aberdour | Medium Term |
| 8. Dalgety Bay - Cowdenbeath - Lochore Meadows | Long Term |

KIRKCALDY DISTRICT

- | | |
|---|---------------|
| 1. Coastal Route - Aberdour/Burntisland to Kirkcaldy | Medium Term |
| 2. Kirkcaldy Esplanade | Medium Term |
| 3. Kirkcaldy - Esplanade to Den Road | Medium Term |
| 4. Coastal Route - Kirkcaldy to East of Leven | Long Term |
| 5. Boblingen Way, Glenrothes | High Priority |
| 6. Links between South Parks, Picoudie, Cadham and Whinneyknowe, Glenrothes | High Priority |
| 7. Glenrothes - Markinch Station | Medium Term |

NORTH EAST FIFE

- | | |
|--|---------------|
| 1. St. Andrews - Leuchars | High Priority |
| 2. Viaduct Walk, Lade Braes, St. Andrews | Medium Term |
| 3. Leuchars - Tentsmuir - Tayport | Long Term |
| 4. Coastal Route - East of Leven to Anstruther | Long Term |

Kiersbeath Opencast Mine

Readers in the Dunfermline and Cowdenbeath areas will remember a useful side road that ran between Halbeath and Cowdenend. This was lost when the Kiersbeath opencast mine came into operation. It was intended that this road would be reinstated when mining finished. However, a notice has just appeared seeking that this condition be lifted and that the road should be replaced by 'an agricultural track and pedestrian way'. It is suggested that local C.T.C. members write to 'The Secretary of State, Room No. 6/79, New St. Andrews House, Edinburgh', requesting that this new track have a width and surface suitable for cycle traffic. Emphasise the danger of the alternative route between Dunfermline and Cowdenbeath.

Contributions to the next issue by November 30th please. John Sumpter, 23 Linburn Road, Dunfermline.