



# La Gazzetta

Newsletter of Rochdale CTC & the East Lancs Road Club



No.52 January 2018



## WELCOME

Welcome to the first newsletter of 2018. We review our annual Club dinner and celebration of the successes of the past year. Darryl tells us about the Youth Hostel weekend at Kettlewell.

## CLUB AUCTION THANKS

Champion Systems donated a collection of great items for the Club's Auction back in December. Our thanks go to them for helping to raise monies for Club funds.

## CELEBRATING 2017

A total of 120 Club members, friends and relatives attended our Annual Presentation Dinner at Rochdale Golf Club on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> January to celebrate the Club's progress and successes over the last year. Following dinner, special guest, Matthew Walls, British Cycling Senior Academy Rider presented the awards with Club President John Howard.

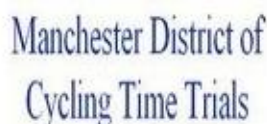
Dave Trippier started the awards by thanking all the people that had offered their time as volunteers over the last twelve months. The Team Awards were then presented starting with the winning Beard Cup Hill Climb team of Chris Green, Ben Trippier and Oliver Huszar. The Girls Team of Niamh Coulter, Nicole Decamps and Sofia Riley received their award for making the National Youth Championship Final. Andy Gorton, Shaun Leonard, Jason Colding, Sam Wilson, Paul Marsh and Gareth Snell were recognised for the 800 mile Spain end to end ride. This epic was undertaken in 6 days and involved 40,000 feet of climbing.

Moving on to the individual awards. Denis Thompson was presented with an Honorary Life Membership as a founder member of the Club. John Howard was presented with the Club Safety Award, the first trophy he has ever won! In his absence David Grogan was presented with a commemorative silver plate for his record breaking performances in 1978 and 1985. Also awarded commemorative silver plates were Sam Walley and Alex Tripper for their record performances in 2014/15/16.

Many riders were awarded certificates and medals for taking part in reliability rides and time trials over the last year. Of particular note were Max Bentley who is the Juvenile Male Time Trial Champion and Fastest Boy Youth at the Beard Cup. Georgina Cape is the Vets Women's Club record holder for the 10 mile time trial. Nicole Decamps is the M & D LCA Schoolgirl Champion, Oliver Makinson is the Junior Boys Triathlon.



John Howard, Nicole Decamps and Matt Walls





# La Gazzetta

Newsletter of Rochdale CTC & the East Lancs Road Club



No.52 January 2018

## A JOB OPPORTUNITY

Decathlon at Eastlands Sport City are currently recruiting for a full-time position in the cycles team. Technical ability isn't essential but they are looking for someone who has a passion for the sport and enthusiasm for the technical side as well.

If you are interested please send a CV to the email address below.

Russell Hurst  
Department Manager  
Cycles, Nature and Roller  
Phone: 0161 230 8928 or  
+44 (0)7446155170  
Mail: [russell.hurst@decathlon.com](mailto:russell.hurst@decathlon.com)

Karen Bailey took a brace of awards. Vets Women's Club record holder for the 25 mile time trial, the inaugural Women's Audax Champion and Women's Time Trial Short Distance Best All Rounder. Matt Hartley was voted the Best Novice and Ben Slater was the Youth Male Road Racing Best All Rounder.

Pat Cooke was voted the Most Improved Rider of the year and also took the dubious award of Crash of the Year. The Senior Ladies Triathlon Champion is Cat Jessop.

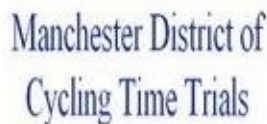
Mike Coulter was recognised for taking part in every time trial discipline with the exception of the 24 hour challenge. This epic achievement resulted in Mike taking the Vets Men's 12 hour Club record with a distance of 195.69 miles. Mike's daughter Niamh also had a fantastic season with winning results in the M&D LCA Junior and Junior Handicap Championships. Niamh also became the Juvenile Female 10 Mile TT Champion and Femaie Road Race Best All Rounder.



John Howard. Niamh Coulter and Matt Walls

In the season long Best All Rounder (BAR) Competition for members taking part in Club Reliability Rides, attending Club Meetings and other events, Suzanne Millar won the Ladies Group, Darryl Nolan won the Men's Competition and Jack Millar took honours in the Under 16's competition. Jack also won the Junior Time Trial Best All Rounder and the Junior Road Race Best All Rounder Awards.

The Club's Senior Men's Short Distance Time Trial Best All Rounder is Paul Ashworth. Chris Green is the Hill Climb Champion for the 4<sup>th</sup> year running. Social Secretary Gareth Snell was voted joint Club Man of the year and is also the inaugural Men's Audax Champion.





# La Gazzetta

Newsletter of Rochdale CTC & the East Lancs Road Club



No.52 January 2018

## POLICE NEWS

PC Eoin Anderson has emailed some encouraging news about cycling safety.

‘Great news on a job from April 2017 where on two separate occasions a driver has almost knocked cyclists from their bikes over in the east of the County at Ashley near Knusford. PC Lee Spencer (A keen cyclist himself) took on the investigation into these incidents of close pass and the offending driver has been dealt with at Stockport Magistrates Court and received 5 penalty points on his licence a £500 fine as well as £600 in court costs. Hopefully this sends a strong message to those drivers out there who pass too closely! Statistically we are still seeing a significant number of collisions being related to a person not looking properly or failing to judge the other persons path or speed. Please make sure that you are as brightly dressed as you can be and use lights whenever you can.

I hope you get plenty of good rides in and around the county this year and wish you all the very best.’

Despite having a quiet year by his own standards, Andy Gorton took awards for the 10 and 25 Mile TT Champion, the Vets Men’s Short Distance Time Trial Best All Rounder and Vets Men’s Road Race Best All Rounder.

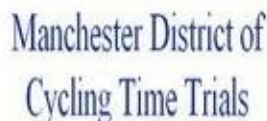
Olver Huszar had a great year at the Velodrome and was the Club’s Track Best All Rounder, the Senior Men’s Road Race Best All Rounder and was also voted joint Club Man of the year.

Rounding up the awards Matt Walls was presented with a silver plate for his 2017 performances on the track and a photograph from his early cycling days.



John Howard with Matt Walls

The evening finished with music from DJ Nigel and dancing. Thanks to Gareth Snell for organising a cracking event. Special thanks also to Heather Codling for the fantastic table decorations and cakes and to Dave Ireland for taking the photographs of the evening.





# La Gazzetta

Newsletter of Rochdale CTC & the East Lancs Road Club



No.52 January 2018

## SATURDAY CLUB RUNS

Rides start at 9:30am from Rochdale Leisure Centre.

### 27<sup>th</sup> January

Beginners – Haslingden/Helmshore  
Medium – Rivington

### 3<sup>rd</sup> February

Beginners – Pavillion Café  
Medium – Longridge

### 10<sup>th</sup> February

Beginners – Summerseat Garden Centre  
Medium – Lyme Park

### 17<sup>th</sup> February

Beginners - Uppermill/Diggle  
Medium – Holmfirth

### 24<sup>th</sup> February

Beginners – Edenfield  
Medium - Tockholes

## KETTLEWELL YOUTH HOSTEL WEEKEND

On the 24<sup>th</sup> November 28 very hardy members made their way to Kettlewell Youth Hostel for the annual hostel weekend. The weather forecast was clear but cold. This year only one brave member Georgina rode there.

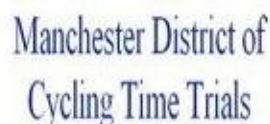


After settling in and several attempts to light the common room fire we had dinner together some members eating more than their share and leaving nothing for the late arrivals.

We split up into 3 groups for the Saturday ride. The A Team tackled the fierce Moss from Hubberholme, having to walk part way up down into Hawes along the valley and dropping down to the hostel via the equally steep Park Rash. They tell me it was a hard icy ride with some pushing. So hard that they forgot to wait for Gareth who made his way back alone stopping at most of the pubs in the Wharfe Valley!



The B Team (against advice) tried for Halton Gill returning via Settle. However they had to turn back beaten by the icy road at the head of the valley. The C Team rode along the back lane to Grassington and then further delightful lanes to Bolton Abbey. On the way back Andy Regan made his usual late entry for crash of the year when he was knocked off





# La Gazzetta

Newsletter of Rochdale CTC & the East Lancs Road Club



No.52 January 2018

## SUNDAY CLUB RUNS

Rides start at 9:30am from Rochdale Leisure Centre.

### 28<sup>th</sup> January

Short – Hebden Bridge  
Medium – New Mills

### 4<sup>th</sup> February

Short – Uppermill/Diggle  
Medium – Bashall Barn

### 11<sup>th</sup> February

Short – Haslingden  
Medium – Bingley Locks

### 18<sup>th</sup> February

Short - Sowerby Bridge  
Medium – Cat & Fiddle

### 25<sup>th</sup> February

Short – Townley Park  
Medium – Bolton by Bowland

by a load of sheep that just happened to be contained in an overtaking trailer! By coincidence the B and C Teams ended up meeting in a cafe in Grassington for afternoon tea.



Saturday night meal was all together in The Bell. Service was a little chaotic but the atmosphere was good.

On Sunday morning some thought it was too icy and headed for home whereas the 'hardy' A Team went for a ride along the valley and the B Team made it to the top of Fleet Moss and some of us had a walk along the Wharfe to Hubberholme and back

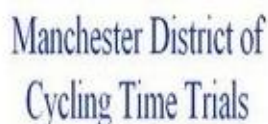
A cold clear weekend enjoyed by everyone. Let's hope it's a little warmer next year.

**Many Thanks to Darryl Nolan for the report**

## A BLAST FROM THE PAST

Following an article in Cycling Weekly, Bob Miller was taken back to 1968 and the National 25 mile Time Trial. The Club had a team in the event which was held on the Chester Road J32 course from Mere Corner. An early morning start at 6am (quite normal at the time) on quiet roads saw the medal winners finish within seconds of each other. In fact, winner, Ray Ward was followed by Joe Mummery and Alf Engers tied for second place. Bob finished in a very credible 59m 38s. Other ELRC riders on the day were Gordon Harling and Neil Platt.

As can be seen from the start sheet below there was a top class field including Chris Boardman's father Keith who had been in the 1964 Olympic squad.





# La Gazzetta

Newsletter of Rochdale CTC & the East Lincs Road Club



No.52 January 2018

## SATURDAY TRAINING RIDES

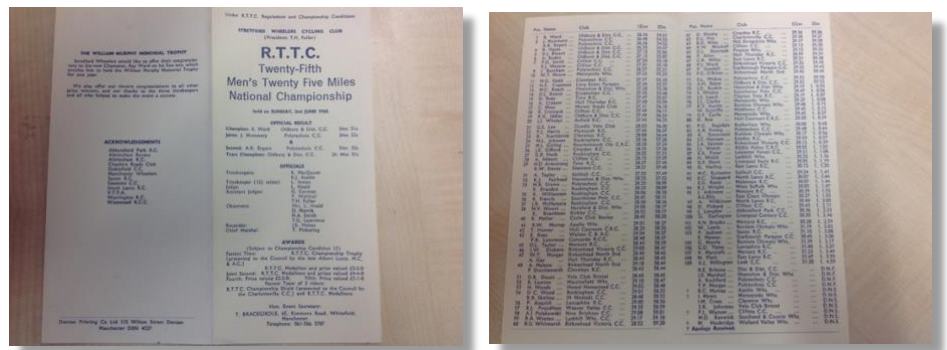
Saturday training rides are run from Rochdale Leisure Centre at 9am.

These are fast rides with no café stop and are approximately 50 miles in distance. Please be aware that unlike our normal Club runs no one will wait if you are dropped.

Check the Facebook page for up to date information on these rides.

For aficionados of TT courses Bob describes the course as follows.

'The course used was the old J32, but I recall a special dispensation to hold the event mainly on the Chester Road with a start/finish near Mere and a far turn at Sandiway just after the Northwich by-pass. There would have been, I think, a short leg down King Street towards Middlewich. The quiet roads reflect a 6am start, usual in those days. By this date, the start/finish of the course was in the B road near Cranage. We used this course for our ELRC Open 25s.'

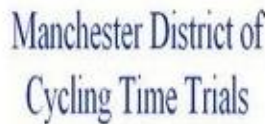


In specific events Nicole rode the 10 mile TT on 29<sup>th</sup> April in 31m 09s and Niamh rode the 1<sup>st</sup> July 10 mile TT in 31m 09s earning them the certificates for Fastest Schoolgirls.

Congratulations to you both.

## CLUB RUN ROUTES & LEADERS

You may recently have seen emails from Club Run Secretary, Pete Matthew ([pete.matthew@talktalk.net](mailto:pete.matthew@talktalk.net)), regarding Club Runs for 2018. As things stand the programme for next year will be similar to this years. However, Pete is always interested in receiving suggestions for new routes. Particularly of interest are routes for the Beginners Rides which, due to their limited distance of 30 miles, can be challenging to find interesting yet safe routes. If you have a route which you would like to propose please send it into Pete with as much detail as possible by the end of November. Don't forget to let him know if you also have a gpx file with cue sheet for the route.





# La Gazzetta

Newsletter of Rochdale CTC & the East Lancs Road Club



No.52 January 2018

## ARTICLES WANTED

As the long winter nights draw in please spare a thought for your poor newsletter editor. Hunched over a laptop with hardly any articles for the off-season issues to keep him warm. Save him from the typing the ramblings of desperation by sending your news or anything of interest to our members to [newsletter@rochdalectc.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@rochdalectc.org.uk).

Thanks, Jon

The Club also requires ride leaders for the Saturday Beginners and Sunday Short Club Runs. Several of the leaders from 2017 are no longer available and new volunteers are welcome. If you can spare some time to help with the running of these rides please contact Pete at the email address above.

## WINTER CLUB RUNS

**Don't forget** that lights and mudguards are **compulsory** winter Club runs. In particular, mudguards offer protection for the rider and also those riding behind them. Please, also ensure that your bike is in good working order and you have the necessary spares and tool required to make small adjustments, change punctures etc. No one wants to be stranded on a country rode in the freezing cold!



Manchester District of  
Cycling Time Trials

