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Supported by



13th & 15th to 20th July 2008



# No 1 January 2008

NEWSLETTER

Dear All

First of all, may we take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy New Year, to congratulate the Ride 2007 participants for their amazing fund-raising and to welcome all newcomers to our special event.

A lot of work has already been done to ensure that the 23rd Ride will be another great year, especially with the new route and continued use of Brittany Ferries, who last year did us proud.

We shall be crossing to St Malo, and visiting Rennes, Laval, Angers and Tours for the first time, with lots of new waystops and new route to enjoy, as well as visiting Hayling's twin town of Gorrion, between Rennes and Laval, on the 6-Day ride.

Very important is the new entry form, which **must be completed and sent in by everyone**, even those who have completed the reservation form. We also need a copy of the personal details in your passport, where we don't already hold them. **We have a record number of entries at this stage, with BOTH RIDES already full!** Reserve lists are being operated.

It looks like we are going to have another great year so, as soon as it gets a bit warmer, let's get on our bikes!

## FACTFILE

1986- 2007

Over £970,000 raised so far

Ride 2007

£103,000 now pledged

Over £58,000 already collected

Ride 2008

218 Riders to date, including 93 newcomers !

## RIDE REUNION NIGHT AT HISC

Hayling Island Sailing Club was this year the venue for a well-attended Reunion Night for riders and supporters on Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> November. A lot of sponsorship money was handed in and the excellent buffet, Dave Collins's new DVD of this year's 22<sup>nd</sup> '£1,000,000 Ride' and music from local group, 'The Kings of Rock and Roll', all contributed to a night enjoyed by all. Additionally, we had the representation of the Bike Ride Awards, accompanied by words of congratulation about the quality of this year's ride and news about next year, from President Pete McQuade and Chairman, Paul Fisher

## BIKE RIDE AGM

A surprisingly well-attended Bike Ride AGM took place at HISC, in advance of the Reunion. All committee members were willing to stand for a further year and were duly re-elected. Vice-Chairmen, Pete Alloway and Tony Hart, stood down in favour of Meryl Browne and Kerry Taylor. The committee is now composed of: Paul Fisher (Chairman); Lynne Harris (Secretary); Will Barnard (Treasurer); Meryl Browne (Vice-Chairman); Kerry Taylor (Vice-Chairman); Pete Alloway; Reg Beacher; Fred Dyer; Sarah Farmer; Rick Gibbs; Mike Harrington; Tony Hart; Rick Hutchings; Kevin Knight; Maryon McQuade; Pascal Pichon; Jon Tawse and Martine Walling. John Adcock, Rod Elliott and Kev Crocker will remain as consultants to the committee on support matters. President Peter McQuade is a life committee member and, as such, is not subject to re-election.

## Road Jerseys, Shorts and Training Tops

We now have the £1,000,000 Road jerseys back from Hong Kong, with much stronger replacement zips. We also have a number of larger sizes for those who couldn't get into them before! Please let us know if you are due a replacement or send in the £20 for this unique item, stating size. Also supplies of standard road jerseys and men's and ladies' shorts, which can be purchased at £25 each. Training Tops at £45. All cheques to 'Paris to Hayling'. Tony Hart and Sarah Farmer are co-ordinating sales and supply, so please call on 07833-601489 or 01329-517591



e-mail addresses: Please keep us informed of any changes to your address.

## e-mailing Newsletters

We are considering the proposal that we could reduce the number of Newsletters we have to print and post, by sending them as pdfs to those riders who are happy to receive them in this format. Please let us know if you are one of them (by e-mail, of course!). They will also be on the website, which is now under reconstruction.

## Channel To Channel Cycle Ride

Plans are well advanced for the 9th Channel to Channel Ride (16th to 18th May) - the ideal preparation for those planning to do the Paris to Hayling or an alternative for those who cannot make the July ride. This year we are back to cycling from Weston-S-M to Salisbury. Entry forms are available on our web site or via Pete McQuade (07825-363076 or mcquadep@aol.com)

## Planning this Year's 'Tour de Tours'

As you may imagine, planning the route, finding the waystops and booking the hotels for this year's ride, is probably the greatest challenge that the Bike Ride has had to face in its history! A great deal of work was done last year, in agreeing the destinations and booking the hotels. We have a rough idea of the routes we wish to take, but these have now to be plotted and any necessary waystops for lunch or refreshments arranged. The 6 days of route have been divided into three of two days, with teams allocated to each. The major recce will take place in March, with several committee members going out to perform their allotted tasks, the route teams liaising with the hotels and waystops team at the end of each day. We have always managed to come up with the goods in the past and look forward to getting it right for this year - but the proof will be in the riding in July!



## 'E-111' Card – the EHIC

As explained in the new entry form, one of these must be obtained by riders and support crew and carried with you on the ride, together with personal insurance documents. The old-style E-111 forms are no longer available or valid. You may apply online for the card at [www.ehic.org.uk](http://www.ehic.org.uk) or call 0845-606-2030. You may also enquire at the Post office, but this will take longer to get it.

## Practice Rides

The practice ride season gets under way on Sunday, 2nd March, with a very gentle ride to the Barley Mow at Walderton. Kev Knight, Jon Tawse, Rick Hutchings and Pete Alloway have been busy plotting the new schedule and hope to ensure that it is to your liking, including some new stuff. The schedule is on the website, with regular updates.



## Ride 2007 DVD

Motorcyclist support Councillor Dave Collins has once again made a good video record of the Ride, which can be purchased for £8, inc p&p. Cheques to 'Paris to Hayling'

## Father Christmas Ride



This took place on 16th December and was a great success, with more Santas than ever, well over 60 having a good day out.

## THE BIG HANDOUT

The amount pledged from last year's ride now exceeds an astonishing £103,000, with Vodafone's Team Sim having achieved matching funding of £350 each from the company, the 15-strong team together raising over £10,000, before this boost. However, there is still over £40,000 of pledges yet to sent in or accounted for, from quite a few riders and Rider Liaison committee member and Islander, Kerry Taylor, is chasing up the laggards, to ensure that we have the funds in before the Charities Evening. This is once more to take place at Seacourt Tennis Club, this year on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March, with the beneficiaries being invited to receive their cheques and be entertained by the committee and riders. We expect to have a showing of Dave Collins's Ride 2007 video and the opportunity for many of the over 100 charities benefiting to 'network' and meet riders, committee and support on the evening.